



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 1986

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SIR DAVID VISITS HILL FIRE FIGHTERS

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THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, THIS (THURSDAY) AFTERNOON FLEW TO THE SHING MUN COUNTRY PARK AREA TO VISIT FIRE FIGHTERS WHO HAVE BEEN BATTLING THE THIRD STRIKE HILL FIRE THERE SINCE YESTERDAY MORNING.

AFTER ADDRESSING COURSE MEMBERS OF THE SENIOR STAFF COURSE IN MUI WO, SIR DAVID BOARDED A ROYAL HONG KONG AUXILIARY AIR FORCE HELICOPTER TO SEE FROM THE AIR THE DAMAGE WHICH THE HILL FIRE HAD DONE TO THE SHING MUN AND TAI MO SHAN COUNTRY PARKS.

MORE THAN 850 HECTARES OF PLANTATION AREA AND SOME 130 000 TREES HAVE BEEN DAMAGED BY THE FIRE, THE WORST IN HONG KONG SINCE 1979.

HE LATER DROPPED IN AT THE SHING MUN COUNTRY PARK MANAGEMENT CENTRE WHERE HE WAS BRIEFED ON THE LATEST PROGRESS OF FIRE FIGHTING BY THE DEPUTY CHIEF FIRE OFFICER (NT), MR LI KWOK-CHOI, AND THE COUNTRY PARKS PROTECTION OFFICER, MR LAI CHING-WAI.

SIR DAVID THEN WENT TO THE TWISK MANAGEMENT CENTRE WHERE HE CHATTED WITH FIRE FIGHTERS FROM THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT, AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT AND THE BRITISH FORCES.

BEFORE DEPARTING, SIR DAVID SAID CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE COUNTRY PARKS AUTHORITY, THE FIRE SERVICES, THE RHKAFF AND THE BRITISH FORCES IN FIGHTING THE HILL FIRE HAD BEEN GOOD AND WAS IMPROVING.

HE SAID THE IMPORTANT THING IN DEALING WITH SUCH A SITUATION WAS CO-ORDINATION OF EFFORTS, AND THAT EVERYONE INVOLVED HAD SUCCEEDED IN CONTAINING THE FIRE.

BUT SINCE THE DRY WEATHER WAS CONTINUING, SIR DAVID SAID ADDITIONAL MEASURES HAD TO BE TAKEN, NOTING THAT THE TAI MO SHAN, SHING MUN, AND TAI LAM COUNTRY PARKS AND THE TAI PO KAU NATURE RESERVE WOULD BE CLOSED FROM THIS SATURDAY.

+ I'M SURE THE PUBLIC WILL UNDERSTAND THE REASONS FOR THIS AND PUT UP WITH THE MINOR INCONVENIENCE UNTIL THE DANGER HAS PASSED, + HE SAID.

+ I WOULD APPEAL TO EVERYONE FOR THEIR UNDERSTANDING AND CO-OPERATION AND HELP IN PRESERVING OUR COUNTRYSIDE, + HE ADDED.

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HIGH FIRE RISK CLOSES COUNTRY PARKS

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THE TAI LAM, TAI MO SHAN, AND SHING MUN COUNTRY PARKS AND THE TAI PO KAU NATURE RESERVE WILL BE CLOSED TO ALL VISITORS FROM SATURDAY (JANUARY 11) BECAUSE OF THE EXTREMELY HIGH FIRE RISK IN THESE AREAS.

THE CLOSURE ORDER WAS MADE TODAY (THURSDAY) BY THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, DR JOHN RIDDELL-SWAN, WHO SAID THAT THE MOVE WAS REGRETTED BUT WAS NECESSARY IN THE INTEREST OF COUNTRY PARKS PROTECTION AND IN THE INTEREST OF VISITORS' SAFETY.

VISITORS TO THESE AREAS WILL BE ADVISED TO LEAVE BEFORE MIDNIGHT TOMORROW AS CLOSURE SIGNS ARE BEING ERECTED AT ENTRANCES TO THESE PARKS. +NO FIRE+ SIGNS WILL ALSO BE PUT UP AT BARBECUE SITES ON THE FRINGE OF AND INSIDE THESE PARK AREAS.

ALL OTHER COUNTRY PARKS WILL REMAIN OPEN, BUT VISITORS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO BARBECUE. THEY ARE ADVISED TO BRING PRE-COOKED FOOD TO MINIMISE FIRE RISK.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT WARNED THAT IT IS AN OFFENCE FOR ANYONE TO LIGHT A FIRE IN A COUNTRY PARK OUTSIDE A DESIGNATED BARBECUE SITE. THE MAXIMUM PENALTY IS \$5 000 AND ONE YEAR'S IMPRISONMENT.

+ALSO ANYONE FOUND IN THESE AREAS AFTER THE CLOSURE ORDER HAD TAKEN EFFECT WILL BE PROSECUTED AND LIABLE TO A FINE OF \$2 000 AND IMPRISONMENT FOR THREE MONTHS,+ HE SAID.

THE CLOSURE ORDER WILL REMAIN IN FORCE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, SAID THE SPOKESMAN, ADDING THAT +SHOULD THE SITUATION REQUIRED, MORE COUNTRY PARKS WILL BE CLOSED.+

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VISITING MP'S TO MEET PRESS

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VISITING LABOUR MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT, DR JOHN MAREK AND MR NORMAN HOGG, WILL GIVE A PRESS CONFERENCE ON SATURDAY (JANUARY 11) AT 10.30 AM IN THE GIS PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM, FIFTH FLOOR, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, CENTRAL.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

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CAMPAIGNS HAVING IMPACT ON HEROIN PROBLEM  
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THE HONG KONG AUTHORITIES ARE VIGOROUSLY PURSUING ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS AS WELL AS TREATMENT AND PREVENTION ACTIVITIES IN A BID TO FIGHT DRUG ABUSE IN THE TERRITORY, ACCORDING TO THE REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD (INCB) PUBLISHED IN VIENNA, AUSTRIA.

+CAMPAIGNS CONTINUE TO BE TARGETED AGAINST THE ABUSE OF HEROIN. IT IS BELIEVED THAT THE CO-ORDINATED PROGRAMMES OF THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS (ACAN) ARE HAVING AN IMPACT ON THE HEROIN PROBLEM,+ THE REPORT SAID.

REFERRING TO THE 50-PAGE REPORT, COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS, MR GORDON MORTIMER, WELCOMED THE FAVOURABLE COMMENTS MADE ON HONG KONG AND THE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT BY THE BOARD OF THE GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS IN COMBATING THE DRUG PROBLEM.

WITH REGARD TO THE INCB'S OBSERVATION THAT HONG KONG SERVED AS A TRANS-SHIPMENT POINT FOR HEROIN DESTINED FOR AUSTRALIA AND THE UNITED STATES, MR MORTIMER SAID THAT THE DOUBLE RISKS AND COST TO TRAFFICKERS OF HEROIN INTO HONG KONG, STORING IT AND SMUGGLING IT OUT AGAIN, MADE IT DOUBTFUL THAT HONG KONG WAS USED AS A TRANS-SHIPMENT POINT ON A LARGE SCALE.

HE POINTED OUT THAT MOST OF THE HEROIN OF SOUTHEAST ASIA ORIGIN WHICH WAS SMUGGLED INTO THE U.S. AND AUSTRALIA HAD NOT BEEN CONSIGNED FROM HONG KONG.

+CERTAINLY, ARRESTS HAVE BEEN MADE IN THESE TWO COUNTRIES, FROM TIME TO TIME, OF PERSONS SMUGGLING DRUGS FROM HONG KONG, BUT THE QUANTITIES INVOLVED WERE SMALL WHEN COMPARED WITH THE BULK QUANTITIES SEIZED HERE.

+THESE ARRESTS WERE OFTEN MADE AS A RESULT OF INFORMATION PROVIDED BY HONG KONG TO THE AUTHORITIES OVERSEAS,+ HE SAID.

REFERRING TO ANOTHER POINT RAISED IN THE REPORT, MR MORTIMER EXPLAINED THAT THERE WAS A HIGH DEGREE OF CO-OPERATION AND LIAISON BETWEEN LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES OVERSEAS AS WELL AS IN CHINA AND THOSE IN HONG KONG.

+BOTH THE CHINESE AND HONG KONG CUSTOMS OFFICIALS ARE ALERT TO THE EXISTENCE OF THIS INDIRECT ROUTE AND ARRESTS OF SMUGGLERS USING THIS ROUTE HAD TAKEN PLACE IN CHINA AND IN HONG KONG,+ HE SAID.

HE ADDED THAT THE QUANTITIES SMUGGLED INTO HONG KONG BY THIS ROUTE WERE BELIEVED TO BE SMALL WHEN COMPARED WITH AMOUNTS SMUGGLED IN BY SEA AND BY AIR FROM THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE, WHERE THE BORDERS OF THAILAND, BURMA AND LAOS MET.

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DEMAND FOR QUALIFIED CIVIL SERVANTS TO CONTINUE  
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THE GOVERNMENT'S DEMAND FOR SUITABLE, QUALIFIED PERSONNEL IN A WIDE SPECTRUM OF DISCIPLINES WAS LIKELY TO BE SUSTAINED TO KEEP PACE WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF HONG KONG'S DYNAMIC AND PROSPEROUS COMMUNITY, THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS, MR NICKY CHAN, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE POLYTECHNIC'S TWO-DAY CAREERS' EXHIBITION, MR CHAN SAID SUCH DEVELOPMENT WAS REFLECTED IN THE GOVERNMENT'S ANNUAL CAPITAL WORKS BUDGET. THIS AMOUNTED TO \$10 BILLION THIS FINANCIAL YEAR - OR ABOUT \$27 MILLION PER DAY.

+AGAINST THIS BACKGROUND, IT IS NOT SURPRISING TO SEE THAT POLYTECHNIC GRADUATES AT ALL LEVELS AND IN A VARIETY OF DISCIPLINES, RANGING FROM ENGINEERING, BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT TO PARA-MEDICAL AND SOCIAL WORK, WILL CONTINUE TO BE WELL IN DEMAND BY THE CIVIL SERVICE,+ MR CHAN SAID.

IN JOINING THE CIVIL SERVICE, GRADUATES COULD BE ASSURED OF A CAREER WHICH WAS AS FINANCIALLY REWARDING AS THAT IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR, HE SAID.

TO HELP CAREER ADVANCEMENT OF INDIVIDUALS AND ALSO AS PART OF MANPOWER RESOURCES PLANNING, THE LANDS AND WORKS GROUP OF DEPARTMENTS SPENT NEARLY \$1 MILLION EACH MONTH ON TRAINING TECHNOLOGISTS, MR CHAN SAID.

+REWARDING AS IT IS, A CAREER WITH THE CIVIL SERVICE IS BOTH CHALLENGING AND DEMANDING, INVOLVING AS IT DOES FREQUENT CONTACT WITH THE COMMUNITY THE CIVIL SERVICE IS SUPPOSED TO SERVE,+ HE SAID.

+IN PARALLEL WITH THE PACE OF DEVELOPMENT OF OUR COMMUNITY AND IN ORDER THAT HIGH PRODUCTIVITY IS MAINTAINED, CIVIL SERVANTS DO HAVE A DEMANDING WORK SCHEDULE.

+THE JOB IS OFTEN FRAUGHT WITH DIFFICULTIES, WHICH HAVE TO BE OVERCOME WITH DETERMINATION, TACT AND PATIENCE.

+IT IS PERSUASION AND REASONING, RATHER THAN JUST THE MERE USE OF POWER, THAT WILL HELP GET THINGS DONE,+ HE ADDED.

MR CHAN SAID EFFICIENCY AND GOOD ECONOMICAL JUDGMENT WERE KEY FACTORS IN ASSESSING A CIVIL SERVANT'S PERFORMANCE.

ALSO OFFICIATING AT TODAY'S CEREMONY WAS THE POLYTECHNIC'S CHAIRMAN OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON GRADUATE EMPLOYMENT, MR WILFRED NEWTON.

A TOTAL OF 20 GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS ARE PARTICIPATING IN THE EXHIBITION.

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SIR DAVID MEETS STAFF COURSE PARTICIPANTS

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THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, TODAY (THURSDAY) VISITED GOVERNMENT OFFICERS UNDERGOING TRAINING FOR WIDER MANAGERIAL RESPONSIBILITIES AT THE SENIOR STAFF COURSE IN MUI WO, LANTAU.

SIR DAVID WAS GREETED ON ARRIVAL BY THE DIRECTOR OF STUDIES, MR LEN SNEDDON, AND BRIEFED ON THE PROGRAMME OF THE THREE-MONTH COURSE, THE FOURTH HELD SINCE SEPTEMBER 1984.

HE ALSO HAD A DISCUSSION ON LOCAL ADMINISTRATION WITH COURSE MEMBERS.

THE 40 PARTICIPANTS ARE SPENDING THE FIRST WEEK OF THE COURSE AT THE SILVERMINE BEACH HOTEL AND WILL LATER GO ON A WEEK-LONG STUDY VISIT OF A SOUTH-EAST ASIAN COUNTRY.

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DELEGATES FOR COMMONWEALTH STUDY CONFERENCE NAMED

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FIVE DELEGATES HAVE BEEN SELECTED FROM THE GOVERNMENT AND MAJOR ORGANISATIONS IN HONG KONG TO ATTEND THE SIXTH COMMONWEALTH STUDY CONFERENCE TO BE HELD JOINTLY IN INDIA AND AUSTRALIA FROM MAY 10 TO 30.

THE FIVE ARE MR LEUNG SAI-WAH, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO THE DEPUTY CHIEF SECRETARY; MR HO CHO-YING, DIRECTOR OF THE SWIRE SHIPPING (AGENCIES) LTD; MR LAU YIT-HUNG, SENIOR OFFICER OF THE AGENCY FOR VOLUNTEER SERVICE; MR SUEN MING-YEUNG, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT; AND MR KO KAM-CHUEN, DIRECTOR AND GENERAL MANAGER OF JARDINE SHIPPING AGENCIES (HK) LTD.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (THURSDAY), THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HONG KONG MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT COMMITTEE, MR ALEX WU, SAID THE QUALITY OF APPLICANTS WAS VERY HIGH.

+INITIALLY THE CONFERENCE ORGANISERS ONLY LET HONG KONG SEND THREE DELEGATES, AND IT HAS BEEN A TRYING EXERCISE TO CHOOSE THREE OUT OF FIVE FINALISTS,+ HE SAID.

HOWEVER, THE ORGANISERS SUBSEQUENTLY ADMITTED TO HONG KONG'S REQUEST TO DISPATCH MORE PARTICIPANTS, AND NOW ALL FIVE WOULD BE GOING, HE ADDED.

INITIATED BY THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH IN 1956, THE COMMONWEALTH STUDY CONFERENCE IS HELD EVERY SIX YEARS, BRINGING TOGETHER REPRESENTATIVES OF INDUSTRY, COMMERCE, LABOUR AND GOVERNMENT IN AN INTERNATIONAL SETTING TO STUDY AND DISCUSS IMPORTANT MATTERS OF MUTUAL CONCERN AND INTEREST.

/MR WU .....

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MR WU SAID THAT THE THEME OF THIS YEAR'S CONFERENCE WAS +MANAGING CHANGES IN INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY+ WHICH WOULD BE MOST RELEVANT TO HONG KONG, +FOR HONG KONG IS NOT ONLY UNDERGOING RAPID INDUSTRIAL CHANGES, IT IS ALSO EXPERIENCING POLITICAL CHANGES WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SINO-BRITISH AGREEMENT OF HONG KONG'S FUTURE+.

+WHILE OUR POTENTIAL LEADERS OF THE FUTURE WILL BENEFIT THROUGH ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN THIS IMPORTANT CONFERENCE, THEY WILL ALSO BE ABLE TO SHARE WITH DELEGATES FROM OTHER COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES OUR EXPERTISE IN ADAPTING TO CHANGE WHILE SEEKING TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF HONG KONG'S NEARLY SIX MILLION PEOPLE AND PROVIDING THEM WITH THE FUTURE,+ HE SAID.

ABOUT 300 DELEGATES REPRESENTING 51 COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES WILL BE ATTENDING THE CONFERENCE.

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#### BUSY YEAR FOR INSURANCE AUTHORITY \* \* \* \*

THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE INSURANCE COMPANIES ORDINANCE 1983 ENTERED INTO A NEW PHASE OF ITS DEVELOPMENT WITH THE INSURANCE AUTHORITY CLOSELY MONITORING THE OPERATIONS OF INSURANCE COMPANIES IN HONG KONG, THE REGISTRAR GENERAL, MR NOEL GLEESON, SAID TODAY.

THIS HAD RESULTED IN 1985 BEING A VERY ACTIVE YEAR FOR THE INSURANCE AUTHORITY.

THE FINANCIAL POSITION OF EACH INSURER WAS EXAMINED TO SEE IF IT MET WITH THE MINIMUM SOLVENCY AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS, HE SAID.

+THE EXAMINATION OF REPORTS AND ACCOUNTS OF THE INSURERS HAD BEEN FACILITATED BY THE MORE DETAILED RETURNS UNDER THE NEW DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS OF THE ORDINANCE.

+WHERE THE INSURANCE AUTHORITY DISCOVERED THAT AN INSURANCE COMPANY COULD NOT MEET THE STANDARDS REQUIRED OR THAT THERE WAS ANY CAUSE FOR CONCERN, APPROPRIATE INTERVENTIONARY ACTION WAS TAKEN FOR THE BETTER PROTECTION OF POLICY HOLDERS,+ MR GLEESON SAID.

DURING LAST YEAR, 14 INSURANCE COMPANIES WERE AFFECTED BY THE EXERCISE OF SUCH POWERS.

AT THE END OF 1985 THE INSURANCE DIVISION HAD AN ESTABLISHMENT OF 30 AND HAD MOVED TO NEW OFFICES ON THE 12TH FLOOR OF QUEENSWAY GOVERNMENT OFFICES.

/MR GLEESON .....

MR GLEESON SAID THERE WERE 17 NEW APPLICATIONS FOR AUTHORISATION TO CARRY ON INSURANCE BUSINESS IN HONG KONG DURING THE YEAR AND MOST OF THESE APPLICATIONS WERE FROM OVERSEAS INSURERS.

THE INSURANCE AUTHORITY HAD BEEN VERY CAREFUL IN PROCESSING THE APPLICATIONS AND WOULD ONLY ADMIT A NEW INSURER IF ALL THE CRITERIA FOR AUTHORISATION UNDER THE ORDINANCE WERE MET.

DURING THE YEAR, NINE NEW INSURANCE COMPANIES WERE AUTHORISED (THREE INCORPORATED IN HONG KONG, FOUR IN THE U.K., ONE IN THE U.S. AND ONE IN BERMUDA).

OF THESE, FIVE WERE AUTHORISED TO CARRY ON GENERAL BUSINESS AND FOUR WERE AUTHORISED TO CARRY ON LONG-TERM INSURANCE BUSINESS.

DURING THE SAME PERIOD, THE AUTHORISATION OF SIX EXISTING INSURANCE COMPANIES WAS WITHDRAWN, FIVE BECAUSE THEY HAD CEASED WRITING INSURANCE BUSINESS IN OR FROM HONG KONG, AND ONE FOR GOING INTO VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION.

THE WITHDRAWALS WERE ALLOWED ONLY AFTER SATISFACTORY ARRANGEMENTS HAD BEEN MADE FOR THE MEETING OF THEIR INSURANCE LIABILITIES.

THERE WERE 287 AUTHORIZED INSURANCE COMPANIES OPERATING IN HONG KONG AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1985. OF THESE, 129 WERE INCORPORATED IN HONG KONG, AND THE REMAINING 158 WERE FROM 28 COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THE UNITED KINGDOM (48), THE UNITED STATES (31), BERMUDA (10), JAPAN (8), SINGAPORE (7), SWITZERLAND (7), CANADA (6), AND FRANCE (5).

THERE WERE 14 PENDING APPLICATIONS FROM NEW COMPANIES, MOSTLY FROM COMPANIES INCORPORATED OVERSEAS. THESE INCLUDED FRANCE (3), U.S. (2), BERMUDA (2), NETHERLANDS (2), PHILIPPINES (1), SWEDEN (1) AND UNITED KINGDOM (1).

THIS REFLECTED OVERSEAS INSURERS' CONTINUED INTEREST IN HONG KONG'S INSURANCE MARKET, MR GLEESON SAID.

DURING THE YEAR TWO AMENDMENTS WERE MADE TO THE ORDINANCE FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH THE INSURANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

THE INSURANCE COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE NO. 8 OF 1985 WAS ENACTED ON FEBRUARY 7 AND THE INSURANCE COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) ORDINANCE NO. 74 OF 1985 WAS ENACTED ON DECEMBER 19.

+THE FIRST ORDINANCE INTRODUCED A NEW SECTION 58A WHICH ELIMINATES AN OLD PROVISION IN THE LAW WHICH WOULD HAVE RENDERED INVALID ALL THOSE GROUP LIFE POLICIES PROVIDING BENEFITS FOR GROUPS OF PERSONS WHOSE NAMES WERE NOT SPECIFIED IN THE POLICIES,+ MR GLEESON SAID.

+THE SECOND AMENDMENT ORDINANCE INTRODUCED TWO NEW SECTIONS, 35A AND 35B, WHICH PROVIDE FOR THE MAKING OF BANK DEPOSITS IN THE NAME OF THE INSURANCE AUTHORITY BY AUTHORISED INSURERS, AND INVALIDATE ANY CHARGE CREATED OVER SUCH BANK DEPOSITS, + HE ADDED.

MUCH WORK WAS ALSO DONE BY THE INSURANCE AUTHORITY IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROTECTION OF MOTOR TRAFFIC ACCIDENT VICTIMS AFFECTED BY INSOLVENT INSURANCE COMPANIES.

TWO SCHEMES WERE DEvised AND INTRODUCED IN 1985, THE FIRST BEING THE INSOLVENCY FUND SCHEME WHICH WAS INTRODUCED ON NOVEMBER 1.

IT RELATED TO THE ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF A SCHEME TO PROVIDE A FUND TO MAKE PAYMENTS TO VICTIMS OF TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS INVOLVING MOTOR VEHICLES IN THE EVENT OF THE INSURER BECOMING INSOLVENT AT SOME DATE IN THE FUTURE.

THE SCHEME WAS ADMINISTERED BY THE MOTOR INSURERS' BUREAU OF HONG KONG FOLLOWING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE GOVERNMENT.

THE INSOLVENCY FUND WOULD BE FINANCED BY A SURCHARGE ON ALL INSURANCE PREMIA PAYABLE BY MOTOR VEHICLE INSURANCE POLICY HOLDERS, AT AN INITIAL LEVEL OF 2.5 PER CENT OF THE ANNUAL INSURANCE PREMIUM.

THE SECOND SCHEME WAS THE TRAFFIC ACCIDENT VICTIMS ASSISTANCE FUND SUPPLEMENTARY SCHEME, WHICH WAS APPROVED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON DECEMBER 4 AND IS DESIGNED TO PROVIDE EX-GRATIA PAYMENTS TO VICTIMS OF PAST ACCIDENTS INVOLVING MOTOR VEHICLES INSURED WITH FIVE MOTOR VEHICLE INSURERS PRESENTLY IN LIQUIDATION, BY USING THE SURPLUS IN THE EXISTING TAVAS FUND.

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#### NEW WARRANT CARDS FOR LABOUR INSPECTORS \* \* \* \* \*

OFFICERS OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S WOMEN AND YOUNG PERSONS DIVISION HAVE BEEN ISSUED WITH NEW WARRANT CARDS THIS WEEK.

THE NEW CARDS AUTHORISE OFFICERS TO ENTER AND INSPECT, AT ALL REASONABLE TIMES, ANY PLACES OF EMPLOYMENT FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF VARIOUS LABOUR LEGISLATION.

THIS INCLUDES THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE AND ITS SUBSIDIARY REGULATIONS, THE EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION ORDINANCE, AND THE IMMIGRATION ORDINANCE WHICH PROHIBITS THE EMPLOYMENT OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS.

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A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID OFFICERS WOULD SHOW THEIR WARRANT CARDS BEFORE THEY ENTERED ANY PLACES OF EMPLOYMENT.

HE WARNED THAT ANY PERSON WHO OBSTRUCTED OR DELAYED AN AUTHORISED OFFICER IN THE EXERCISE OF HIS DUTIES COMMITTED AN OFFENCE AND WAS LIABLE, ON CONVICTION, TO MAXIMUM FINES RANGING FROM \$5 000 TO \$10 000 AND IMPRISONMENT FOR SIX MONTHS.

EMPLOYERS WHO HAVE DOUBTS ABOUT THE IDENTITY OF ANY OFFICERS VISITING THEM SHOULD CONTACT THE OFFICE OF THE WOMEN AND YOUNG PERSONS DIVISION IN THEIR DISTRICT.

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#### LAUNCHING OF SEWAGE OUTFALL

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THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID AKERS-JONES, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE LAUNCHING OF A 3.4-KILOMETRE SUBMARINE SEWAGE OUTFALL AT JUNK BAY TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

THE OUTFALL IS PART OF A \$168-MILLION SEWAGE DISPOSAL FACILITY FOR JUNK BAY WHICH WILL HAVE A POPULATION OF 180 000 BY THE EARLY 1990'S.

THE OUTFALL WILL CONVEY EFFLUENT FROM THE TREATMENT WORKS TO DEEPER WATERS IN TATHONG CHANNEL.

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#### NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CEREMONY. A GOVERNMENT COACH (AM 5895) WILL LEAVE FROM MURRAY BUILDING IN GARDEN ROAD AT 9.15 AM SHARP.

THOSE USING THEIR OWN TRANSPORT SHOULD WAIT FOR THE PRESS COACH AT THE JUNCTION OF CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD AND HANG HAU ROAD AT 10 AM.

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\$12 MILLION TEMPORARY MARKET FOR TAI KOK TSUI

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THE URBAN COUNCIL HAS APPROVED A \$12.1 MILLION PROJECT TO PROVIDE A TEMPORARY MARKET AT TAI KOK TSUI.

THE MARKET WILL HAVE 220 STALLS OR MINI-STALLS AND BE COVERED BY A LIGHTWEIGHT ROOF WHICH WILL PROTECT STALLHOLDERS FROM RAIN BUT STILL ALLOW IN NATURAL LIGHT AND VENTILATION.

OTHER FACILITIES WILL INCLUDE TOILETS, AN ICE STORE AND A REFUSE COLLECTION POINT.

+THIS PROJECT HAS BEEN DESIGNED FOLLOWING DETAILED CONSULTATIONS WITH THE MONG KOK DISTRICT BOARD, SAID A COUNCIL SPOKESMAN TODAY.

+TO ENSURE THAT THE TEMPORARY MARKET WILL ATTRACT WIDE PATRONAGE THERE WILL BE ENTRANCES FROM TAI KOK TSUI ROAD, FUK TSUN STREET AND IVY STREET.+

WORK WILL START AS SOON AS SQUATTER WORKSHOPS CAN BE MOVED FROM THE SITE. THE PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO TAKE ABOUT A YEAR TO COMPLETE.

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HAWKERS PROBLEM TO BE DISCUSSED

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SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WILL DISCUSS WAYS TO RESOLVE PROBLEMS CAUSED BY ILLEGAL HAWKERS AROUND NAM CHEONG STREET AND APLIU STREET AT THEIR ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

THE ISSUE WAS MOOTED BY A BOARD MEMBER AND THE SHAM SHUI PO LIVELIHOOD CONCERN GROUP WHO CONDUCTED A SURVEY ON 63 HAWKER STALLS IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD EARLIER LAST YEAR.

ACCORDING TO FINDINGS, ON-STREET HAWKERS HAD APPARENTLY MULTIPLIED AND PROLIFERATED IN THE AREA DESPITE INTENSIFIED ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS BY GENERAL DUTIES TEAMS.

ABOUT 60 UNLICENSED HAWKERS TRADING IN JUNK GOODS AND USED SUNDRIES OCCUPY THE PAVEMENT AND PART OF THE CARRIAGEWAY DAILY, CAUSING SERIOUS OBSTRUCTION TO PEDESTRIAN FLOW AND VEHICULAR TRAFFIC, AS WELL AS POSING ENVIRONMENTAL NUISANCE TO RESIDENTS NEARBY.

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AT THE MEETING MEMBERS WILL ALSO GIVE THEIR VIEWS ON THE CONSULTATIVE PAPER PUBLISHED BY THE HEALTH AND WELFARE BRANCH ON THE CONTROL OF POLLUTION CAUSED BY ANIMAL WASTES.

THE FORMATION OF A WORKING GROUP ON THE REDEVELOPMENT OF PAK TIN ESTATE BLOCK 14-16 WILL BE ANOTHER TOPIC FOR DISCUSSION.

THE MEETING, OPEN TO THE PUBLIC, WILL BEGIN AT 2.15 PM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE AT 39 TONKIN STREET.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

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HAWKERS TO REMAIN RESPONSIBILITY OF UC

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THE WORKING PARTY ON HAWKERS WAS NOT ASKING DISTRICT BOARDS TO TAKE OVER THE URBAN COUNCIL'S STATUTORY AND FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES ON HAWKER PROBLEMS, ITS CHAIRPERSON, MRS ELSIE TU, TOLD THIS AFTERNOON'S MEETING OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD.

+THESE RESPONSIBILITIES LIE WITH THE URBAN COUNCIL,+ SHE SAID.

MRS TU EMPHASISED THIS WHILE SHE WAS BRIEFING DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS ON VARIOUS PROPOSALS IN THE REPORT.

THE BOARD DECIDED THAT BEFORE FORMALLY DISCUSSING THE REPORT ON MARCH 20, MEMBERS SHOULD CONSULT RESIDENTS AND HAWKERS IN THEIR RESPECTIVE AREAS.

MRS TU SAID: +WHAT WE WANT IS TO CONSULT DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS ABOUT THE REPORT, AND TO HAVE THEIR OPINIONS SO THAT WHEN WE FORMULATE POLICIES, WE WILL HAVE THEIR CO-OPERATION AND AGREEMENT.+

ON A PROPOSAL FOR DISTRICT BOARDS TO SET UP ADVISORY COMMITTEES ON HAWKERS, MRS TU SAID: +WE DON'T PRESUME TO TELL DB MEMBERS WHAT TO DO. WE JUST WANT TO HEAR THE RESULTS OF THEIR DISCUSSIONS AND CONSULTATIONS WITH PEOPLE IN THEIR DISTRICTS.

+WE WISH TO CO-OPERATE, BUT NOT TO TELL THEM WHAT TO DO.+

/MRS TU .....

MRS TU REITERATED THAT THE HAWKER REPORT WAS NOT AN URBAN COUNCIL DECISION DOCUMENT, BUT SIMPLY A REPORT CONTAINING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WORKING PARTY ITSELF.

+NONE OF THE PROPOSALS CAN BECOME POLICY UNTIL THEY ARE FULLY DISCUSSED BY THE WHOLE COUNCIL,+ SHE SAID.

SHE ALSO STRESSED THAT THE WORKING PARTY HAD INITIALLY CONSULTED ALL DISTRICT BOARDS AND MANY GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, AND WOULD CONTINUE TO LIAISE WITH THEM.

CONCERNING THE CONSULTATION PERIOD, MRS TU SAID THAT WHILE THERE WAS NO DEADLINE, THE SOONER POLICIES WERE FORMULATED, THE BETTER.

+WE HOPE TO HAVE THE DISTRICT BOARDS' VIEWS WITHIN TWO OR THREE MONTHS,+ SHE ADDED.

ALSO TAKING PART IN THIS AFTERNOON'S BRIEFING WERE WORKING PARTY MEMBER MR KWAN LIM-HO, THE DEPARTMENT'S DEPUTY DIRECTOR, MR JOHN HEYWOOD, AND MR OWEN BROADLEY, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (HAWKERS).

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#### DETAILS OF WAN CHAI FESTIVAL

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A PRESS CONFERENCE TO ANNOUNCE DETAILS OF THE 1986 WAN CHAI FESTIVAL WILL BE HELD AT 3 PM TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AT THE FORUM, SECOND FLOOR, LEE GARDENS HOTEL, HYSAN AVENUE, CAUSEWAY BAY.

PRESENT AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE WILL BE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE FESTIVAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE, MR LEE KON; WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MRS PEGGY LAM; CHAIRMAN OF THE PUBLICITY SUB-GROUP OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE, MR STEPHEN WONG HON-CHING; DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ROGER GARCIA, AND ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MISS DONNA WONG.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

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DETAILS OF PRE-PAID TUNNEL TICKET SCHEME  
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THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT, MR PETER LEEDS, WILL ANNOUNCE DETAILS OF THE INTRODUCTION OF A PRE-PAID TICKET SCHEME FOR GOVERNMENT ROAD TUNNELS ON SATURDAY (JANUARY 11) AT 10.30 AM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS, SIXTH FLOOR, 32 OI KWAN ROAD, WAN CHAI.

A CONTRACT WILL ALSO BE SIGNED AT THE SAME OCCASSION BY MR LEEDS AND WILSON PARKING (HK) PTY LTD. FOR THE PRODUCTION AND SALE OF THE TICKETS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT.

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REGIONAL COUNCIL ELECTION PROMOTED  
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A SERIES OF MINI-EXHIBITIONS WILL BE STAGED FROM TOMORROW (FRIDAY) IN VARIOUS COMMUNITY HALLS AND CENTRES IN TUEN MUN TO PUBLICISE THE REGIONAL COUNCIL ELECTION IN MARCH.

ORGANISED BY THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICE, THE EXHIBITIONS WILL FOCUS ON THE WORK, STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION OF THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL, THE NEW REGIONAL COUNCIL TO BE SET UP IN APRIL, AND THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

THE EXHIBITIONS WILL BE AT THE BUTTERFLY ESTATE COMMUNITY CENTRE, ON TING AND YAU OI COMMUNITY CENTRE, AND LATER AT TAI HING COMMUNITY HALL AND TUEN MUN GOVERNMENT OFFICES.

ADMISSION IS FREE.

DATES AND TIMES OF THE EXHIBITIONS ARE:

<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>
BUTTERFLY ESTATE COMMUNITY CENTRE	JAN. 10 TO 14	9 AM - 10 PM
ON TING AND YAU OI COMMUNITY CENTRE	JAN. 17 TO 21	9 AM - 10 PM

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/11 .....

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 1986

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PRIZES FOR MONG KOK COMPETITION WINNERS

\* \* \*

A PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY FOR THE MONG KOK CIVIC EDUCATION ESSAY COMPETITION AND BOOK MARK DESIGN COMPETITION WILL BE HELD TOMORROW (FRIDAY) IN THE CHOW'S CLANSMEN ASSOCIATION SCHOOL.

THE COMPETITIONS WERE JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE SYCAMORE AREA COMMITTEE AND TAI KOK TSUI YOUTH CENTRE IN SUPPORT OF THE CURRENT 'CIVIC EDUCATION 30' CAMPAIGN IN MONG KOK.

SENIOR LECTURER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, DR Y.N. CHAN, WILL ALSO GIVE A TALK ON CIVIC EDUCATION AT THE CEREMONY.

OFFICIATING AT THE CEREMONY WILL BE THE DISTRICT OFFICER; MRS BRENDA FUNG; THE DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR CHOW CHUN-FAI; URBAN COUNCILLOR, MR EDMUND CHOW; AND DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER, MR HO FEI-CHI.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT TOMORROW AT 7.30 PM AT THE ASSEMBLY HALL OF CHOW'S CLANSMEN ASSOCIATION SCHOOL, SYCAMORE STREET, TAI KOK TSUI.

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WAN CHAI COMPLEX TOPPING-OUT

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A TOPPING-OUT CEREMONY FOR A GOVERNMENT OFFICES AND COURT COMPLEX AT HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI, WILL BE HELD AT 3 PM TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

OFFICIATING WILL BE THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS, MR NICKY CHAN; THE SECRETARY FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND INFORMATION, MR PETER TSAO; THE REGISTRAR OF THE SUPREME COURT, MR N.J. BARNETT; AND A REPRESENTATIVE OF SHUI ON BUILDING CONTRACTORS LIMITED, THE GENERAL CONTRACTOR FOR THE PROJECT.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CEREMONY. MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE BUILDING SITE AT HARBOUR ROAD (NEAR THE ARTS CENTRE) AT 2 PM.

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BROWNIES AT CENTRE JOIN THE PACK  
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TWENTY-FOUR REFUGEE BROWNIES OF CAPE COLLINSON CLOSED CENTRE WILL ENROL IN THE 130TH ISLAND PACK AT A CEREMONY ON SATURDAY (JANUARY 11).

THE COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, MR CHAN WA-SHEK, AND THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF THE HONG KONG GIRL GUIDES ASSOCIATION, LADY AKERS-JONES, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY TO BE HELD AT THE CENTRE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT. TRANSPORT WILL LEAVE THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS, GUARDIAN HOUSE, 32 01 KWAN ROAD, WAN CHAI, AT 1.45 PM.

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TRAFFIC CHANGES FOR KOWLOON WALK  
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SPECIAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN KWUN TONG ON SUNDAY (JANUARY 12) TO ALLOW THE COMMUNITY CHEST'S KOWLOON WALK FOR MILLIONS TO BE HELD.

UNDER THE ARRANGEMENTS, THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS OF ROADS WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC:

- \* JUNK BAY ROAD SECTION BETWEEN KAI TIN ROAD AND LEI YUE MUN ROAD- AND KAI TIN ROAD SECTION BETWEEN PING TIN STREET AND LEI YUE MUN ROAD (EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES AND GREEN MINIBUSES) WILL BE CLOSED FROM 7 AM TO 11.30 AM.
- \* KO CHIU ROAD SECTION BETWEEN LEI YUE MUN ROAD AND THE ACCESS ROAD LEADING TO THE COVERED RESERVOIR WILL BE CLOSED FROM 7 AM TO 12.30 PM.
- \* PO LAM ROAD (EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES); THE UNNAMED ROAD LINKING SAU MAU PING ROAD AND THE EXTENSION OF PO LAM ROAD; AND ANDERSON ROAD SECTION BETWEEN PO LAM ROAD AND THE EXTENSION OF PO LAM ROAD (EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES) WILL BE CLOSED FROM 9 AM TO 3 PM.
- \* KAI LIM ROAD WILL BE CLOSED FROM 7.30 AM TO 4 PM.

/FROM 7 AM .....

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FROM 7 AM TO 11.30 AM, THE SOUTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF LEI YUE MUN ROAD SECTION BETWEEN JUNK BAY ROAD AND KO CHIU ROAD WILL BE REDUCED FROM TWO-LANE TO ONE-LANE TRAFFIC.

FROM 9 AM TO 3 PM, THE EXTENSION OF PO LAM ROAD WILL BE REDUCED FROM THREE-LANE TO TWO-LANE TRAFFIC.

VEHICLES HEADING FOR OR DEPARTING FROM LAM TIN ESTATE SHOULD USE SAU MAU PING ROAD, JUNK BAY ROAD AND KAI TIN ROAD (SECTION NORTH OF PING TIN STREET) FROM 7 AM TO 11.30 AM. THE RIGHT-TURN MOVEMENT FROM LEI YUE MUN ROAD NORTHBOUND ONTO TSUI PING ROAD WILL BE BANNED FROM 7.30 AM TO 11.30 AM.

ALL PARKING SPACES ON KAI LIM ROAD WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 8 PM ON SATURDAY (JANUARY 11) TO 4 PM ON SUNDAY (JANUARY 12).

BUSES ON KMB ROUTES NO. 14A, 15C, 15M AND 16 WILL BE DIVERTED BETWEEN 7 AM TO 11.30 AM AS A RESULT OF THE ROAD RE-ROUTEING AND CLOSURE MEASURES.

WHILE KMB ROUTE NO. 90 WILL PROVIDE LIMITED SERVICES ON PO LAM ROAD FROM 9 AM TO 3 PM, NEW TERRITORIES GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES NO. 10 AND 10A WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 8 AM TO 3 PM.

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