



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 1978

CONTENTS

PAGE NO.

CONSULTANTS TO ADVISE ON KCR ELECTRIFICATION	1
ROLE OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION	2
WORK COMPLETED ON MACLEHOSE DENTAL CENTRE	4
LOCAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE SETS UP MORE BRANCH OFFICES	5
BUDGET DEBATE RESUMES TOMORROW	7
NT LAUNDRY LICENCES TO BE ABOLISHED	7
SPORTS DAY FOR DISABLED PEOPLE	8
TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENT AT SECTION OF PO TUNG ROAD	8

TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 1978

- 1 -

CONSULTANTS TO ADVISE ON
HOW ELECTRIFICATION OF KCR TO BE CARRIED OUT
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THE GOVERNMENT HAS ACCEPTED IN PRINCIPLE RECOMMENDATIONS BY A FIRM OF CONSULTANTS THAT THE HUNG HOM TO LO WU SECTION OF THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY SHOULD BE ELECTRIFIED. A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY A FINAL DECISION WOULD BE MADE AFTER THE CONSULTANTS HAVE ADVISED HOW THIS SHOULD BE CARRIED OUT.

THE CONSULTANTS PREDICT A MASSIVE INCREASE IN PASSENGERS USING THE RAILWAY OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS AND ADVISE THAT THIS INCREASED DEMAND FOR SERVICES CAN ONLY BE MET IF THE LINE IS ELECTRIFIED.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE ESTIMATED COST OF ELECTRIFICATION WOULD BE ALMOST \$400 MILLION.

HE SAID THE CONSULTANTS WERE BEING ASKED TO DRAW UP A PROGRAMME OF PROJECTS ASSOCIATED WITH ELECTRIFICATION AND TO RECOMMEND HOW EARLIEST POSSIBLE COMPLETION WOULD BE ACHIEVED.

HE SAID THEY WERE ALSO BEING ASKED TO IDENTIFY THE MOST SUITABLE LOCATIONS FOR MAINTAINING, STABLING AND SERVICING ROLLING STOCK= TO AGREE PROTECTIVE MEASURES TO BE TAKEN AGAINST ELECTRICAL INTERFERENCE= TO AGREE THE FUTURE SIGNALLING AND COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM= AND TO SPECIFY ROLLING STOCK REQUIREMENTS.

THE COST OF THIS STUDY WILL BE JUST UNDER \$600,000.

THE CONSULTANTS ESTIMATE 153 MILLION PASSENGER TRIPS A YEAR BETWEEN HUNG HOM AND LO WU BY 1991 COMING MAINLY FROM THE EXPANDING NEW TOWN OF SHA TIN. ACCORDING TO THE CONSULTANTS A DAILY SERVICE OF 180 TRAINS WILL BE NEEDED TO COPE WITH THIS DEMAND.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID AN ELECTRIFIED KCR WOULD PROVIDE THE CAPACITY REQUIRED TO CARRY THE HEAVY INCREASE IN PASSENGERS PLUS A FASTER AND MORE FREQUENT SERVICE AND AN IMPROVED STANDARD OF TRAVEL.

HE SAID THAT, PROVIDING NO UNFORESEEN PROBLEMS AROSE, THE FIRST CONTRACTS FOR THE PROJECT COULD BE LET IN THE SECOND HALF OF THIS YEAR.

+IF THIS TARGET IS MET,+ HE SAID, +ELECTRIFIED TRAINS WILL BE RUNNING BY 1981.+

HE SAID THAT THE \$400 MILLION RAILWAY ELECTRIFICATION SCHEME WOULD BE ADDITIONAL TO THE CONSIDERABLE CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME ALREADY IN HAND TO ASSIST THE KCR TO SERVE THE INCREASING POPULATION OF THE NEW TERRITORIES AND TO SUPPORT EXPANDING FREIGHT TRAFFIC FROM CHINA.

/THERE WERE ALREADY

TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 1978

- 2 -

THERE WERE ALREADY 12 PROJECTS IN THE PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME COSTING MORE THAN \$240 MILLION, THE PRINCIPAL OF WHICH WERE DOUBLE-TRACKING ALL 34 KILOMETRES OF SINGLE LINE TRACK FROM HUNG HOM TO LO WU INCLUDING A NEW DOUBLE-TRACKED BEACON HILL TUNNEL= CONSTRUCTION OF A MARSHALLING YARD AT LO WU= AND A LOOP LINE AND STATION TO SERVICE THE NEW RACECOURSE AT SHA TIN.

HE SAID THE CONSULTANTS HAD BEEN ENGAGED TO CONSIDER FURTHER MODERNISATION BECAUSE, IN SPITE OF THESE IMPROVEMENTS, THE GOVERNMENT WAS CONCERNED THAT THE EXISTING TRACTION SYSTEM AND ROLLING STOCK MIGHT NOT BE SUFFICIENT FOR THE FUTURE ROLE ENVISAGED FOR THE KCR AS A MODERN, MULTI-FUNCTIONAL RAILWAY PLAYING AN ESSENTIAL ROLE IN HONG KONG'S OVERALL TRANSPORT REQUIREMENTS.

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ROLE OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION

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TECHNICAL EDUCATION IS A MOST IMPORTANT ASPECT OF EDUCATION AS A WHOLE, MR. KENNETH TOPLEY, DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION SAID TODAY.

SPEAKING AT A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE FEDERATION OF HONG KONG INDUSTRIES, MR. TOPLEY SAID THE MODERN SYSTEM OF EDUCATION GRADUALLY ÉVOLVED RATHER THAN ANALYTICALLY DESIGNED. IT WAS NECESSARY TO CONTINUOUSLY ADJUST THE EDUCATION SYSTEM AND CURRICULUM TO PRESENT NEEDS, HE ADDED.

MR. TOPLEY SAID TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN ITS BROADEST SENSE COULD BE CONCEIVED AS A FULL EDUCATION, DESIGNED FOR SOMEONE ENTERING INDUSTRY. MORE SPECIFICALLY, IT COULD BE VIEWED AS THE TEACHING OF TECHNICAL SUBJECTS MAINLY WITH A VIEW TO AN INDUSTRIAL VOCATION.

+BUT TECHNICAL EDUCATION CAN ALSO BE CONCEIVED AS EDUCATION THROUGH TECHNOLOGY — AND IN THIS FORM IT IS A PART OF EDUCATION VALUABLE FOR EVERYONE.+ HE SAID.

/MR. TOPLEY

TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 1978

- 3 -

MR. TOPLEY NOTED THAT A NUMBER OF GENERAL OR ACADEMIC SUBJECTS HAD IMPORTANT VOCATIONAL USES. KNOWLEDGE OF LANGUAGES, OF MATHEMATICS, WAS VITAL IN ORDER TO WORK EFFECTIVELY IN THE WORLD.

HE SAID THAT EDUCATION NEEDED TO PREPARE THE YOUNG FOR LIFE AND NOT ONLY FOR WORKING LIFE.

+IT IS NECESSARY TO LEARN TO UNDERSTAND AND RELATE TO ONE'S ENVIRONMENT, TO LEARN TO GET ON WITH OTHER PEOPLE, TO MANAGE ONE'S PERSONAL AND FAMILY AFFAIRS, TO CONTRIBUTE TO SOCIETY AND ITS GOVERNANCE AND TO LEARN TO ENJOY ONE'S LIFE,+ HE ADDED.

THE DIRECTOR POINTED OUT THAT IN TRADITIONAL TIMES AGRICULTURE ABSORBED THE MAJORITY OF THOSE WORKING, AND THERE WERE FEW OTHER VOCATIONS. EDUCATION IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES WAS LARGELY VOCATIONAL AND LEARNING WAS FROM ONE'S FAMILY OR THE MASTER TO WHOM ONE WAS APPRENTICED. IT WAS OFTEN CLEAR AT BIRTH WHAT VOCATION A CHILD WOULD FOLLOW.

+TODAY,+ HE SAID, +OUR FATES ARE NOT SEALED AT BIRTH OR EVEN WHEN WE LEAVE SCHOOL. MANY MORE OPPORTUNITIES ARE OPEN AND MANY CHANGES IN THE ECONOMY WILL TAKE PLACE DURING A LIFE TIME. THUS WE MUST EDUCATE FOR CHANGE AND AS FAR AS POSSIBLE PREPARE PUPILS WITH A BROAD BASIS OF UNDERSTANDING.+

AS REGARDS TECHNICAL SUBJECTS IN SECONDARY SCHOOL, MR. TOPLEY SAID THAT THE OBJECTIVE WAS TO GIVE TO AS MANY PUPILS AS POSSIBLE THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN THROUGH TECHNOLOGY, TO MAKE INTELLIGENT CHOICES ABOUT THEIR SCHEMES OF STUDY AND TO PROVIDE AN ENLIVENING MIXTURE OF SUBJECTS IN SCHOOLS.

HE POINTED OUT THAT COURSES IN TECHNICAL INSTITUTES WERE DEVISED IN CLOSE COOPERATION WITH THE HONG KONG TRAINING COUNCIL. THERE WAS ALSO CLOSE LIAISON WITH THE POLYTECHNIC TO ENSURE THAT TECHNICAL INSTITUTE COURSES WERE CONSISTENT WITH POLYTECHNIC COURSES AND THAT STUDENT TRANSFER WAS FULLY POSSIBLE. COURSES IN TECHNICAL INSTITUTES CONVEYED SPECIFIC SKILLS BUT WITH A BASIS OF THEORETICAL UNDERSTANDING SO THAT STUDENTS COULD LATER ADD NEW SKILLS TO THEIR REPERTOIRE.

COURSES IN PRE-VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS WERE INTENDED TO BE PRE-VOCATIONAL AND TO READY THE PUPILS BOTH FOR LIFE AND FOR WORK IN INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE, HE ADDED.

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/4

TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 1978

- 4 -

WORK COMPLETED ON MACLEHOSE DENTAL CENTRE

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COMMUNITY LEADER AND WELL-KNOWN PHILANTHROPIST, SIR SHIU-KIN TANG, TODAY PERFORMED THE TOPPING-OFF CEREMONY ON THE ROOF OF THE MACLEHOSE DENTAL CENTRE TO MARK THE COMPLETION OF THE NINE-STORY BUILDING.

CONSTRUCTION OF THE DENTAL COMPLEX, WHICH WILL BECOME THE NERVE CENTRE OF THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT'S DENTAL SERVICE, BEGAN IN LATE JANUARY 1976 AFTER THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, HAD LAID THE FOUNDATION STONE OF THE BUILDING.

THE BUILDING ON MORRISON HILL, WAN CHAI WILL HOUSE A TRAINING SCHOOL FOR DENTAL NURSES AND A SCHOOL CHILDREN DENTAL CLINIC, BOTH OF WHICH WILL BE NAMED AFTER SIR SHIU-KIN, WHO HAS DONATED MORE THAN \$1.5 MILLION TOWARDS THE CONSTRUCTION COST OF THE PROJECT.

IT WILL ALSO ACCOMMODATE THE HEAD OFFICE AND DENTAL SURGERIES OF THE GOVERNMENT DENTAL SERVICE, PRESENTLY LOCATED IN THE WAN CHAI DENTAL CLINIC AT KENNEDY ROAD.

THE CAPITAL COST OF THE PROJECT HAS BEEN ESTIMATED AT \$7 MILLION AND AN ADDITIONAL \$1 MILLION TO EQUIP AND FURNISH. IT WILL COST ABOUT \$5 MILLION A YEAR TO RUN THE CENTRE.

THE PROJECT IS ONE OF THE ACCEPTED RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE 1974 WHITE PAPER ON THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES IN HONG KONG. IN THE WHITE PAPER, THE MEDICAL DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOGNISED THE NEED FOR A SCHOOL DENTAL CARE SCHEME TO PROVIDE A BASIC DENTAL SERVICE AT PRIMARY SCHOOL LEVEL.

THE PROPOSED SCHEME, WHEN IMPLEMENTED, WILL PROVIDE REGULAR EXAMINATION AND SIMPLE TREATMENT, INCLUDING FILLINGS AND EXTRACTIONS.

THE DENTAL CENTRE WILL PROVIDE FACILITIES FOR THE TRAINING OF DENTAL NURSES AND DENTAL HYGIENISTS WHO WILL BE RUNNING THE DENTAL CONSERVATION SERVICE FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN ENTERING PRIMARY ONE.

THE FIRST TRAINING OF DENTAL NURSES AT THE CENTRE WILL START IN SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR AND THE SCHOOL DENTAL CARE SCHEME WILL START IN 1980.

IT IS ENVISAGED THAT AS THE SCHEME GETS INTO ITS STRIDE FOUR MORE SCHOOL DENTAL CLINICS WILL BE BUILT, TWO IN KOWLOON AND TWO IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

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TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 1978

- 5 -

LOCAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE SETS UP MORE BRANCH OFFICES

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT WILL EXTEND ITS EMPLOYMENT SERVICES WITH THE OPENING OF TWO MORE OFFICES OF ITS LOCAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE (L.E.S.) ON THURSDAY (MARCH 30).

THE NEW BRANCHES -- IN MONG KOK AND HUNG HOM -- BRING TO 12 THE NUMBER OF SUCH OFFICES, WHICH SERVE BOTH JOB SEEKERS AND EMPLOYERS REQUIRING STAFF. TWO MORE BRANCHES, AT WONG CHUK HANG AND CHAI WAN, WILL ALSO BE OPENED IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

THE NEW MONG KOK OFFICE IS ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF 185, FA YUEN STREET, AND IT WILL SERVE NOT ONLY THE MONG KOK AREA BUT ALSO TAI KOK TSUI.

THE HUNG HOM BRANCH IS ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF 125, DOCK STREET, WHAMPOA ESTATE, PHASE 1, AND IT WILL COVER THE MA TAU CHUNG, MA TAU WAI, HO MAN TIN, TO KWA WAN AND HUNG HOM AREAS.

A LABOUR DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID: +THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE TWO NEW OFFICES MARKS ANOTHER EFFORT OF THE LOCAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE TO REACH OUT AS FAR AS POSSIBLE TO ITS CLIENTS.+

HE EXPLAINED THAT THE L.E.S. IS A FREE EMPLOYMENT SERVICE AND REMINDED THOSE WHO WISH TO REGISTER WITH THE SERVICE FOR JOBS TO BRING ALONG THEIR IDENTITY CARDS AND A RECENT PHOTOGRAPH.

EMPLOYERS WANTING TO RECRUIT STAFF NEEDED ONLY TO TELEPHONE ANY OF THE L.E.S. OFFICES AND GIVE DETAILS OF THEIR REQUIREMENTS.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT ALL L.E.S. OFFICES, EXCEPT THE SAI KUNG SUB-OFFICE, ARE MANNED ON WEEK-DAYS FROM 9 A.M. TO 5.30 P.M., INCLUDING THE LUNCH HOUR. THE SAI KUNG SUB-OFFICE OPENS ONLY ON MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS.

/FOLLOWING ARE

TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 1978

- 6 -

FOLLOWING ARE THE ADDRESSES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF THE OTHER L.E.S. OFFICES:

HEAD OFFICE: NEW RODNEY BLOCK, QUEENSWAY, GROUND FLOOR, HONG KONG, TELEPHONES 5-270276, 5-270515/6 AND 270622=

NORTH POINT OFFICE: WAH HOI MANSION, GROUND FLOOR, 264, ELECTRIC ROAD, HONG KONG, TELEPHONES 5-711351/4=

CANTON ROAD OFFICE: CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, FOURTH FLOOR, KOWLOON, TELEPHONES 3-695525/8=

SHAM SHUI PO OFFICE: POST OFFICE BUILDING, FIRST FLOOR, UN CHAU STREET, KOWLOON, TELEPHONES 3-700293/5=

SAN PO KONG OFFICE: PARIS THEATRE BUILDING, GROUND FLOOR, 7, KING FUK STREET, KOWLOON, TELEPHONES 3-265121/4=

KWUN TONG OFFICE: KWUN TONG DISTRICT BRANCH OFFICE BUILDING, SECOND FLOOR, TUNG YAN STREET, KOWLOON, TELEPHONES 3-420486 AND 3-424251/3=

TSUEN WAN OFFICE: CHARTERED BANK BUILDING, THIRD FLOOR, SHA TSUI ROAD, NEW TERRITORIES, TELEPHONES 12-420154/6=

TAI PO OFFICE: 52, KWONG FUK ROAD, GROUND FLOOR, NEW TERRITORIES, TELEPHONES 12-665183/5=

TUEN MUN OFFICE: 31, TAK CHING COURT, GROUND FLOOR, NEW TERRITORIES, TELEPHONES 12-819300/2= AND

SAI KUNG SUB-OFFICE: 63, MAN NIN STREET, GROUND FLOOR, TELEPHONE 3-2813793.

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/7

TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 1978

- 7 -

BUDGET DEBATE RESUMES TOMORROW
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THE BUDGET DEBATE WILL RESUME IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) WHEN NINE UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS SPEAK ON THE BUDGET PROPOSALS. IT WILL CONTINUE ON THURSDAY WITH TEN MORE UNOFFICIALS SPEAKING.

TOMORROW'S SPEAKERS ARE THE HON. SIR SZE-YUEN CHUNG, THE HON. Q.W. LEE, THE HON. JOHN BREMIDGE, THE HON. ROGER LOBO, THE HON. JAMES WU, THE HON. HILTON CHEONG-LEEN, THE HON. F.W. LI, DR. THE HON. HARRY FANG AND THE HON. MRS. KWAN KO SIU-WAH.

THE SPEAKERS ON THURSDAY ARE THE HON. T.S. LO, THE HON. FRANCIS TIEN, THE REV. THE HON. JOYCE M. BENNETT, THE HON. S.L. CHEN, THE HON. LYDIA DUNN, DR. THE HON. HENRY HU, THE REV. THE HON. PATRICK MCGOVERN, THE HON. WONG LAM, DR. THE HON. RAYSON HUANG AND THE HON. CHARLES YEUNG.

RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG WILL GIVE LIVE BROADCAST TO THE TWO-DAY DEBATE ON RHK2 (CHINESE) AND RHK4 (ENGLISH) STARTING FROM 2.30 P.M. ON BOTH DAYS.

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LAUNDRY LICENCES WASHED OUT
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LAUNDRY LICENCES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WILL BE ABOLISHED FROM NEXT MONTH. THIS FOLLOWS THE ABOLITION OF LICENCES IN THE URBAN AREAS LAST AUGUST.

AS LAUNDRIES ARE INSPECTED QUARTERLY BY A DISTRICT HEALTH INSPECTOR, THE MOVE WILL RELEASE OTHER CLERICAL STAFF AND HEALTH INSPECTORS WHO HAVE TO CARRY OUT INSPECTIONS AND PROCESS LICENCES.

THERE ARE 46 LAUNDRY AND 17 DEPOT LAUNDRY LICENCES IN FORCE IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, AND THE \$10,000 INCOME FROM LICENCES MERELY COVERS THE ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.

LICENSING WAS ORIGINALLY INTRODUCED TO STOP THE SPREAD OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES THROUGH LAUNDERED ARTICLES, BUT THE USE OF SOPHISTICATED AUTOMATIC WASHING MACHINES, STEAM PRESSERS AND EFFECTIVE DETERGENTS, ALONG WITH HIGH LABOUR COSTS, HAVE REDUCED HAND WASHING IN LAUNDRIES TO A MINIMUM.

THE POSSIBILITY OF CONTAMINATION BY UNHEALTHY WORKERS CAN NOW BE DISCOUNTED, ESPECIALLY AS LAUNDERED ARTICLES DO NOT SUPPORT BACTERIAL GROWTH, AND ARE NOT LIKELY TO TRANSMIT INFECTION.

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/8

TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 1978

- 8 -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

SPORTS DAY FOR DISABLED PEOPLE
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FOUR HUNDRED DISABLED PEOPLE FROM THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S 15 REHABILITATION CENTRES WILL COMPETE IN A SERIES OF SPORTING EVENTS TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AT THE MONG KOK STADIUM, KOWLOON.

THE EVENT, THE SECOND TO BE ORGANISED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S REHABILITATION DIVISION, AIMS AT GIVING THE DISABLED A DAY OF RECREATION AND FUN. ABOUT 1,000 FELLOW-INMATES OF THE CENTRES WILL WATCH THE GAMES.

THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE, WILL OFFICIALLY OPEN THE SPORTS DAY AT A CEREMONY STARTING AT 10 A.M. PRIZES WILL BE PRESENTED AT 4 P.M.

PARTICIPANTS WILL COMPRISE THE PHYSICALLY DISABLED, THE DEAF, THE MENTALLY RETARDED AND EX-MENTAL PATIENTS.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO ATTEND THE OPENING CEREMONY AND COVER THE DAY'S EVENTS.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENT AT SECTION OF PO TUNG ROAD
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT FROM 10 A.M. ON APRIL 3 (MONDAY), PO TUNG ROAD IMMEDIATELY NORTH OF THE SAI KUNG BUS TERMINUS LEADING TO THE ROAD NETWORK IN SAI KUNG PENINSULA WILL BE DESIGNATED A PUBLIC LIGHT BUS RESTRICTED ZONE.

PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES, UNLESS AUTHORISED IN WRITING BY THE AUTHORITY, WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM ENTERING THIS SECTION OF PO TUNG ROAD.

THE MEASURE TO RESTRICT THE TRAFFIC FLOW IN THIS PART OF SAI KUNG PENINSULA IS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GAZETTING OF THE SAI KUNG COUNTRY PARK.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP TO INDICATE THE RESTRICTION.

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