



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1980

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JUNK BAY NEW TOWN UNDER STUDY
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A NEW OFFICE HAS BEEN FORMED WITHIN THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT TO DEAL WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW TOWN AT JUNK BAY.

ANNOUNCING THIS MAJOR MOVE TODAY, MR JOHN DON, DIRECTOR OF NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, SAID THAT IN LINE WITH THE OTHER NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT OFFICES WITHIN THE PWD, THE NEW OFFICE WOULD BE STAFFED WITH A MULTI-DISCIPLINARY TEAM OF PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL PERSONNEL WHO WOULD WORK CLOSELY WITH CONSULTANTS.

+SOON, CONSULTANTS WILL BE COMMISSIONED TO UNDERTAKE THE VARIOUS SECTOR STUDIES NECESSARY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A TOWN PLAN,+ MR DON SAID.

+THEIR STUDIES WILL COVER SUCH DIVERSE FIELDS AS TERRAIN ANALYSIS, GEOTECHNICAL ASPECTS, LAND USE AND LAND FORMATION, TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT, DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE, SEWAGE TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL, THE ENVIRONMENT (INCLUDING MARINE ECOLOGY, POLLUTION AND LANDSCAPE), POPULATION, EMPLOYMENT, AND COMMERCIAL SERVICES.+

MR DON SAID THAT THE NEW OFFICE WOULD BE HEADED BY MR B.H. NEWMAN, WHO HAS SERVED AS PROJECT MANAGER IN OTHER NEW TOWNS BEING DEVELOPED BY THE PWD.

MR NEWMAN, COMMENTING ON THE PROJECT, SAID THAT PRESENT INTENTIONS WERE TO DEVELOP A TOWN IN JUNK BAY WITH A POPULATION OF ABOUT 300 000 PEOPLE.

+BUT THE PLANNING EXERCISE WILL CONSIDER THE FEASIBILITY OF EXTENDING THIS CAPACITY,+ HE ADDED. +JUNK BAY HAS CONSIDERABLE ATTRACTION AS A NEW TOWN BECAUSE OF ITS PROXIMITY TO THE MAIN URBAN AREAS BUT THERE ARE A NUMBER OF PROBLEMS TO BE OVERCOME IN RELATION TO COMMUNICATIONS, SOURCES OF FILL MATERIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS WHICH MAY LIMIT THE ULTIMATE EXTENT OF DEVELOPMENT.

+BECAUSE OF THE LOCATION AND TOPOGRAPHY OF THE AREA, THE EFFECTS OF THE DEVELOPMENT ON THE HINTERLAND AND THE TOWN'S RELATIONSHIP WITH NORTHEAST KOWLOON AND SAI KUNG DISTRICT WILL ALSO BE EXAMINED IN DETAIL. A STUDY WILL ALSO BE MADE OF THE EXISTING INDUSTRIES AND THEIR COMPATIBILITY WITH AN URBAN DEVELOPMENT,+ MR NEWMAN SAID.

THE DETAILED INVESTIGATIONS ARE EXPECTED TO TAKE ABOUT 21 MONTHS. THE DEVELOPMENT TEAM IS BEING TEMPORARILY ACCOMMODATED IN THE OLD SENIOR NAVAL OFFICER'S HOUSE IN BOWEN ROAD BUT WILL MOVE OUT TO JUNK BAY WHEN DEVELOPMENT WORKS START ON THE GROUND.

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HIGHER PAYMENTS FOR EMERGENCY RELIEF
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THE GOVERNMENT HAS INCREASED BY OVER 15 PER CENT THE PAYMENT RATES UNDER THE EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND WHICH PROVIDES GRANTS AND LOANS TO PEOPLE IN NEED OF RELIEF AS A RESULT OF FIRE, FLOODING, TYPHOON OR OTHER NATURAL DISASTERS.

THE INCREASED RATES ALSO APPLY TO THE TRAFFIC ACCIDENT VICTIMS ASSISTANCE SCHEME AND THE CRIMINAL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT INJURIES COMPENSATION SCHEME AS THEIR SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS IS BASED ON THAT OF THE EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY THE INCREASE IN PAYMENT RATES TOOK ACCOUNT OF THE RISING COST OF LIVING, AND CAME INTO EFFECT THIS MONTH.

UNDER THE FUND, HE SAID, THERE ARE DIFFERENT TYPES OF PAYMENTS WHICH ARE FOR DEATH OR PERSONAL INJURY, DOMESTIC RE-ACCOMMODATION AND RE-EQUIPMENT EXPENSES, REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT OF VESSELS, AGRICULTURAL LOSS, AND SPECIAL CASES.

FOR EXAMPLE, FOR THE DEATH OF A SOLE WAGE-EARNER, THE MAXIMUM GRANT HAS BEEN RAISED FROM \$20 000 TO \$23 000, COMPRISING \$13 800 FOR ONE SURVIVING DEPENDENT FAMILY MEMBER AND \$1 150 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL SURVIVING DEPENDENT FAMILY MEMBER, HE SAID.

IN THE CASE OF LOSS OF THE HUSBAND OR WIFE WHO IS NOT A WAGE-EARNER AND WHERE THERE ARE CHILDREN, THE MAXIMUM DEATH GRANT HAS GONE UP FROM \$14 000 TO \$16 200, HE ADDED.

THE BURIAL GRANT HAS BEEN INCREASED FROM \$1 100 TO \$1 600.

FOR INJURY GRANTS, PAYMENT IS NOW \$160, UP TO A MAXIMUM OF \$4 960 DEPENDING ON THE GRAVITY OF THE INJURY. THE PREVIOUS MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM AMOUNTS WERE \$140 AND \$4 300 RESPECTIVELY.

THE EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND WAS INTRODUCED IN 1962 AS THE COMMUNITY RELIEF TRUST FUND AND WAS RENAMED IN 1973. IT IS MANAGED BY THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE ACTING ON THE ADVICE OF THE EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND COMMITTEE, WHICH COMPRISES BOTH UNOFFICIAL AND OFFICIAL MEMBERS.

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SIR PAUL BRYAN VISITS NEW TERRITORIES
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THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ANGLO-HONG KONG PARLIAMENTARY GROUP, SIR PAUL BRYAN, WHO IS ON A PRIVATE VISIT TO HONG KONG, TODAY SAW DEVELOPMENTS IN SHA TIN AND TAI PO NEW TOWNS.

SIR PAUL, WHO WAS ACCOMPANIED BY LADY BRYAN, FIRST HAD A MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES, AND THE DEPUTY SECRETARY, MR AUGUSTINE CHUI KAM, BEFORE TRAVELLING TO SHA TIN.

ACCOMPANIED BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, DEVELOPMENT, MR JOSEPH WONG, THE VISITORS WERE TAKEN TO A VANTAGE POINT OVERLOOKING THE NEW TOWN FOR A BRIEFING ON THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS BY THE DISTRICT OFFICER SHA TIN, DR PATRICK HASE.

FULL DETAILS OF PLANS TO DEVELOP SHA TIN INTO A BALANCED AND SELF-CONTAINED CITY OF 750 000 PEOPLE BY THE END OF THE DECADE WERE OUTLINED.

THEY WERE THEN DRIVEN TO TAI PO WHERE THEY WERE BRIEFED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR NICHOLAS NG, AND THE PROJECT MANAGER, MR JEFF THOMAS.

RECLAMATION PROJECTS WHICH WILL PRODUCE NEW LAND FOR TOWN CENTRE DEVELOPMENTS WERE POINTED OUT TO THEM. THEY WERE ALSO TOLD THAT THE TOWN WOULD BE LINKED TO SHA TIN NEW TOWN AND KOWLOON BY A NEW COASTAL TRUNK ROAD, WHICH WILL EVENTUALLY BE EXTENDED TO YUEN LONG.

AFTER LUNCH AT ISLAND HOUSE SIR PAUL AND HIS WIFE TRAVELLED TO INTERNATIONAL BUILDING WHERE THEY HAD A MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, MR DENIS BRAY.

SIR PAUL BRYAN AND LADY BRYAN ARRIVED IN HONG KONG LAST SUNDAY (SEPTEMBER 28) FOR A ONE-WEEK VISIT.

TOMORROW THEY WILL MEET OFFICIALS OF THE IMMIGRATION AND TRADE INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS DEPARTMENTS, UMELCO MEMBERS AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, SIR YUET-KEUNG KAN.

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FIRE PATROLS FORMED TO PROTECT LIFE AND PROPERTY
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THE FIRE WATCH SCHEME INTRODUCED BY THE GOVERNMENT LAST YEAR IS GOING FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH, AS 26 MORE PATROL TEAMS WERE INAUGURATED TODAY TO HELP PROTECT THE LIFE AND PROPERTY OF SQUATTERS AND VILLAGERS AGAINST FIRE.

THESE NEW TEAMS ARE MADE UP OF VOLUNTEERS FROM SEVEN URBAN AND 19 NEW TERRITORIES VILLAGES, INCLUDING THOSE ON THE OFF-SHORE ISLANDS OF CHEUNG CHAU AND PO TOI.

THEY ARE THE THIRD BATCH OF FIRE WATCH TEAMS FORMED UNDER THE SCHEME IMPLEMENTED BY THE HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT AND THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT. THEIR TRAINING IS PROVIDED BY THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

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SINCE THE INTRODUCTION OF THE SCHEME IN FEBRUARY LAST YEAR, A TOTAL OF 77 TEAMS HAS BEEN FORMED AND THIS, CHIEF FIRE OFFICER, MR ANTHONY CONWAY SAID AT THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY TODAY, ILLUSTRATES A SIGNIFICANT INTEREST AMONG THE PEOPLE DIRECTLY INVOLVED.

THE FUNCTION OF THE TEAMS IS THREE-FOLD. THEY KEEP A LOOKOUT FOR FIRE HAZARDS- THEY HELP TO INCREASE AWARENESS OF FIRE RISKS AMONG LOCAL RESIDENTS THROUGH PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES- AND THEY ENSURE PROMPT REPORTING OF FIRES TO THE REGULAR FIRE FIGHTERS.

MR CONWAY POINTED OUT THAT THE PRESENCE OF THESE TEAMS, PARTICULARLY IN THE LARGER SQUATTER AREAS, HAD HELPED IN ENSURING THAT DETECTION OF A FIRE IS RELAYED EARLY TO THE FIRE SERVICES. THIS KEEPS FIRE LOSSES DOWN.

+ALL INFORMATION FROM THE VARIOUS DISTRICTS INDICATES THAT THE AIMS OF THE FIRE WATCH SCHEME ARE BEING MET,+ HE SAID.

IN HIS ADDRESS TO THE NEW PATROL MEMBERS, MR CONWAY SAID: +THE FACT THAT YOU HAVE VOLUNTEERED TO SERVE ON A FIRE WATCH TEAM IS VERY COMMENDABLE INDEED, AS THIS PARTICULAR SCHEME IS CONSIDERED TO PLAY A VITAL ROLE IN BRINGING HOME TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC THE NEED FOR VIGILANCE AND GOOD FIRE PREVENTION.

+I FEEL SURE THAT YOUR EFFORTS OVER THE NEXT YEARS AND IN PARTICULAR OVER THE DRY AUTUMN AND WINTER MONTHS ALMOST UPON US, WILL GREATLY ASSIST IN KEEPING FIRE LOSSES AND DAMAGE TO A MINIMAL.+

MR CONWAY LATER JOINED THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF HOME AFFAIRS, MISS ELLE SHUM, THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION SERVICES, MR ARTHUR HACKER, AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER (COMMUNITY AFFAIRS) OF THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, MR ALASDAIR SINCLAIR, IN PRESENTING SOUVENIR PLAQUES TO THE NEW TEAMS.

TODAY'S CEREMONY AT TSIM SHA TSUI FIRE STATION WAS ATTENDED BY SOME 200 GUESTS AND 60 COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB MEMBERS FROM THREE SECONDARY SCHOOLS WHO WERE VISITING THE STATION AS PART OF THEIR EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES.

FOLLOWING A FIRE FIGHTING DEMONSTRATION BY THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT, THE GUESTS WERE TREATED TO A SPECIAL MOBILE STREET THEATRE PERFORMANCE ILLUSTRATING THE IMPORTANCE OF GOOD FIRE PREVENTION.

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HONG KONG-IN-LONDON FESTIVAL DANCE GROUP COMMENDED
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SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES, TODAY PAID TRIBUTE TO A DANCE GROUP FROM THE FUNG KAI SECONDARY SCHOOL, SHEUNG SHUI, WHICH RETURNED TO HONG KONG LAST WEEK AFTER ACCLAIMED PERFORMANCES DURING THE HONG KONG-IN-LONDON FESTIVAL.

AT A TEA RECEPTION AT ISLAND HOUSE, MR AKERS-JONES COMMENDED THE GROUP FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF THE FESTIVAL, THE LARGEST PROMOTION THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT HAS STAGED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

THE GROUP, COMPRISING 18 STUDENTS AGED BETWEEN 14 AND 18, REPRESENTED THE HEUNG YEE KUK AT THE FESTIVAL.

THEY TOLD MR AKERS-JONES THAT THEY PERFORMED CHINESE FOLK DANCES DURING THE TWO-DAY FESTIVAL IN LONDON'S BATTERSEA PARK WHEN MORE THAN 200 000 PEOPLE ATTENDED.

THEY ALSO PERFORMED ON BBC TELEVISION.

THE SUPERVISOR OF THE DANCE GROUP, MR WAN CHI-WAI, SAID THE FOLK DANCES WERE A MAJOR ATTRACTION OF THE FESTIVAL.

MEMBERS OF THE GROUP WERE SELECTED FOR THE LONDON TRIP FROM THE SCHOOL'S DANCE TEAM ESTABLISHED FIVE YEARS AGO.

DANCING IS A POPULAR EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITY AMONG STUDENTS OF THE SCHOOL AND THE TEAM HAS AROUND 50 MEMBERS WHO RECEIVE TRAINING EVERY TUESDAY AND SATURDAY.

THEY HAVE GIVEN MANY PERFORMANCES IN THE PAST FEW YEARS AND WON SEVERAL TOP PRIZES IN COMPETITIONS.

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GREATER SUPPORT URGED FOR CHILD CARE SERVICES
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THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR THOMAS LEE, TODAY CALLED FOR GREATER SUPPORT BY VOLUNTARY WELFARE AGENCIES IN DEVELOPING CHILD CARE SERVICES TO MEET GROWING NEED.

HE WAS SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF A NURSERY RUN BY THE WOMEN'S WELFARE CLUB, WESTERN DISTRICT, IN AP LEI CHAU, ABERDEEN.

MR LEE SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS PROVIDING INCREASED SUBVENTIONS EACH YEAR FOR CHILD CARE SERVICE, APART FROM PROFESSIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDANCE FOR OPERATORS.

GOVERNMENT SUBVENTION FOR CHILD CARE SERVICE IN 1980/81 AMOUNTED TO \$32 MILLION, WHICH INCLUDED FUNDS FOR CREATING AN ADDITIONAL 1 000 CHILD CARE PLACES.

+AT PRESENT, THERE ARE OVER 200 CHILD CARE CENTRES CATERING FOR 16 000 YOUNG CHILDREN,+ MR LEE SAID.

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THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, HE SAID, OPERATES AN ADVISORY INSPECTORATE ENGAGED IN MAINTAINING ADEQUATE STANDARDS OF CHILD CARE SERVICE TO ENSURE THAT CHILDREN ARE CARED FOR BOTH PHYSICALLY AND MENTALLY.

HE NOTED THAT THE AP LEI CHAU NURSERY, FINANCED BY GOVERNMENT SUBVENTION, WOULD HELP MEET THE NEED OF LOCAL RESIDENTS.

HE PRAISED THE WOMEN'S WELFARE CLUB FOR ITS FORESIGHT IN PLANNING THE PROJECT YEARS AGO IN ANTICIPATION OF THE DEMAND FOR CHILD CARE SERVICE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

OPENING OF NORTH DISTRICT SUB-OFFICE AT FANLING
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THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONER NORTHWESTERN NEW TERRITORIES, MR JIMMY SWEETMAN, WILL OPEN A SUB-OFFICE OF NORTH DISTRICT OFFICE AT FANLING ON SATURDAY (OCTOBER 4) AT 10.30 AM.

THE NEW OFFICE, SITUATED NEXT TO FANLING MAGISTRACY IN JOCKEY CLUB ROAD, WILL PROVIDE DISTRICT OFFICE SERVICES TO THE TOWN'S RESIDENTS.

NORTH DISTRICT OFFICER, MR PETER JOHNSON, AND MEMBERS OF THE LOCAL DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD WILL ALSO BE PRESENT.

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO ATTEND THE OPENING AND A RECEPTION TO BE HELD IMMEDIATELY AFTERWARDS. A GOVERNMENT VEHICLE WILL LEAVE KOWLOON PUBLIC PIER AT 9 AM TO TAKE THE PRESS TO FANLING. MR DONALD STRANGE OF THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION PRESS UNIT WILL BE PRESENT TO HELP MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES.

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AIRMAIL TO IRAN AND IRAQ SUSPENDED
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THE POST OFFICE ANNOUNCES THAT OWING TO THE LACK OF AIR SERVICES TO IRAN AND IRAQ, AIRMAIL TO THESE COUNTRIES HAS BEEN SUSPENDED.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS FOR NORTH DISTRICT FESTIVAL
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SAN FUNG AVENUE IN SHEUNG SHUI, BETWEEN FU HING STREET AND JOCKEY CLUB ROAD, WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC ON SATURDAY (OCTOBER 4) FROM 5 TO 6 PM FOR CELEBRATIONS OF THE NORTH DISTRICT FESTIVAL.

DURING THIS PERIOD, THE PUBLIC LIGHT BUS STANDS IN SAN SHING AVENUE AND SAN HONG STREET AND THE BUS TERMINI OF ROUTES 76 AND 77 ALONG SAN FUNG AVENUE WILL BE SUSPENDED. THE TERMINUS OF ROUTE 79 WILL BE RELOCATED TO THE ONE FOR ROUTE 70.

IN ADDITION, BUS ROUTES 76 AND 77 WILL BE DIVERTED VIA FU HING STREET, SAN FAT STREET AND LUNG SUM AVENUE, STOPPING AT FU HING STREET, WHILE ROUTES 73 AND 79 WILL BE OPERATED DIRECTLY ALONG JOCKEY CLUB ROAD.

A SPECIAL BUS SERVICE WILL BRING SPECTATORS TO THE VARIETY SHOW TO BE HELD AT FANLING PLAYGROUND BETWEEN 7 AND 10 PM.

IT WILL OPERATE BETWEEN SHEUNG SHUI (FU HING STREET) AND FANLING SWIMMING POOL AT A FREQUENCY OF EIGHT MINUTES BETWEEN 6.30 PM AND 8 PM FROM SHEUNG SHUI AND 9.30 PM AND 11 PM FROM FANLING. THE FARE WILL BE 50 CENTS.

TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE POSTED AND POLICE OFFICERS WILL BE ON HAND TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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REMINDER ON SALE ARRANGEMENTS IN SCHOOLS
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THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TODAY REMINDED ALL HEADS OF SCHOOLS THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO FOLLOW THE CODE OF PRACTICE RELATING TO THE SALE OF SCHOOL TEXTBOOKS AND SUPPLIES.

THIS CODE, FIRST ISSUED IN 1975, STRESSES THAT SCHOOLS SHOULD NOT RESTRICT THE SALE OF SCHOOL BOOKS, UNIFORMS, AND OTHER SUPPLIES TO ONE SUPPLIER AND THAT PRICES FOR SUCH ITEMS SHOULD BE KEPT AS LOW AS POSSIBLE.

THE CODE ALSO MAKES IT CLEAR THAT PARENTS ARE FREE TO PURCHASE SCHOOL SUPPLIES WHERE THEY THEMSELVES WISH.

IN A CIRCULAR ISSUED TO THE SCHOOL HEADS, THEY WERE ASKED TO HAVE ON PROMINENT AND PERMANENT DISPLAY COMPREHENSIVE PRICE LISTS OF ALL ITEMS FOR SALE IN SCHOOL PREMISES, INCLUDING +TUCK SHOP+ ITEMS. ALL SCHOOLS WERE FIRST ASKED TO DO THIS IN JANUARY 1979.

THE DEPARTMENT WAS CONFIDENT THAT SCHOOL AUTHORITIES WOULD CONTINUE TO ACT RESPONSIBLY BY FOLLOWING THE CODE OF PRACTICE AND BY DISPLAYING THE PRICE LISTS.

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ROADS CLOSED TO LEARNER DRIVERS
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LEARNER DRIVER VEHICLES WILL BE BANNED FROM SEVERAL TSZ WAN SHAN ROADS FROM 10 AM ON SATURDAY (OCTOBER 4).

THEY ARE SHEUNG FUNG STREET, SHUNG WAH STREET, PO KONG LANE, YUK WAH STREET BETWEEN WAN WAH STREET AND TSZ WAN SHAN ROAD, HONG WAH STREET, AND WAI WAH STREET.

TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP TO INDICATE THE PROHIBITION.

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