



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

FRIDAY, JANUARY 3, 1975

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TOUGH MEASURES TO CURB HEROIN MANUFACTURING IN H.K.
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NEW LEGISLATION DESIGNED TO CONTROL THE USE OF CERTAIN CHEMICALS, WHICH ARE ESSENTIAL FOR MANUFACTURING HEROIN, WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SHORTLY.

THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION -- THE ACETYLATED SUBSTANCES (CONTROL) BILL 1975 -- WAS PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GAZETTE FOR INFORMATION.

THE CHEMICALS CONCERNED ARE ACETIC ANHYDRIDE, ACETYL BROMIDE, AND ACETYL CHLORIDE.

AT PRESENT, IT IS AN OFFENCE TO IMPORT ACETIC ANHYDRIDE WITHOUT A LICENCE. HOWEVER, ONCE THE CHEMICAL HAS BEEN IMPORTED, IT IS NOT AN OFFENCE TO POSSESS IT. NEITHER IS IT AN OFFENCE TO MANUFACTURE IT NOR DEAL IN IT. THE IMPORT OF THE OTHER TWO CHEMICALS IS NOT RESTRICTED.

IF ENACTED, THE NEW LEGISLATION WILL MAKE IT AN OFFENCE TO IMPORT AND EXPORT, DEAL, MANUFACTURE, TRANS-SHIP AND POSSESS, EXCEPT IN DIRECT TRANSIT, THE CHEMICALS WITHOUT A LICENCE OR PERMIT ISSUED BY THE DIRECTOR OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY.

ON CONVICTION, AN OFFENDER MAY BE FINED UP TO \$1 MILLION AND IMPRISONED FOR 15 YEARS ON INDICTMENT WHILE ON SUMMARY CONVICTION HE MAY BE FINED UP TO \$500,000 AND SENT TO PRISON FOR THREE YEARS.

UNDER NEW REGULATIONS WHICH WILL BE MADE AFTER THE BILL HAS BEEN ENACTED, HOLDERS OF A LICENCE OR PERMIT ARE REQUIRED TO KEEP RECORDS OF THEIR STOCK OF CHEMICALS AND TO STORE THEM SECURELY IN APPROVED PLACES.

COMMENTING ON THE NEW LEGISLATION, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID: +THE THREE CHEMICALS WHICH ARE ESSENTIAL AS AN ACETYLATED AGENT IN THE MANUFACTURE OF HEROIN, ARE NOT REQUIRED FOR INDUSTRIAL USE IN HONG KONG AND NONE OF THEM IS MADE LOCALLY BY NORMAL INDUSTRIAL PROCESS.

+LOCAL ILLICIT REQUIREMENTS ARE SMUGGLED INTO HONG KONG FROM OVERSEAS OR ARE DIVERTED FROM TRANS-SHIPMENT CARGOES STORED IN HONG KONG.

+ACETIC ANHYDRIDE IS THE CHEMICAL INVARIABLY USED IN THE HEROIN MANUFACTURING PROCESS AS IT IS EASIER TO HANDLE. NEVERTHELESS, THE DANGER OF VIOLENT EXPLOSION FROM HEROIN MANUFACTURE IS HIGH.+

THE SPOKESMAN WAS CONFIDENT THAT THE NEW LEGISLATION WOULD STRIKE A SUBSTANTIAL BLOW AT HEROIN MANUFACTURERS IN HONG KONG AND WOULD HELP THE POLICE AND PREVENTIVE SERVICE IN THEIR FIGHT AGAINST CLANDESTINE HEROIN MANUFACTURING.

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PROPOSED CHANGES IN LANDLORD AND TENANT LEGISLATION

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THE LANDLORD AND TENANT (CONSOLIDATION) (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1975 WAS PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GAZETTE FOR GENERAL INFORMATION.

THE MAIN OBJECT OF THE BILL IS TO PERMIT LANDLORDS AND PRINCIPAL TENANTS OF PRE-WAR PREMISES, CONTROLLED UNDER PART 1 OF THE LANDLORD AND TENANT (CONSOLIDATION) ORDINANCE, TO INCREASE RENT EITHER WHERE RATES BORNE BY THEM ARE INCREASED OR WHERE RATES ARE NEWLY IMPOSED AND BORNE BY THEM.

COMMENTING ON THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID, +LANDLORDS AND PRINCIPAL TENANTS OF PRE-WAR PREMISES SUBJECT TO THE RENT CONTROL LEGISLATION WILL BE ABLE TO OFFSET ANY INCREASE IN THEIR FUTURE RATES LIABILITY, AFTER APRIL 1, 1975, BY MAKING A CORRESPONDING INCREASE IN RENT.

+OCCUPIERS OF PRE-WAR PREMISES WILL THUS BE BROUGHT INTO LINE WITH OCCUPIERS OF POST-WAR PREMISES IN RESPECT OF THEIR LIABILITY FOR RATES WHICH, BASICALLY, ARE A CHARGE ON OCCUPIERS.+

HE POINTED OUT HOWEVER THAT TENANTS AND SUB-TENANTS LIABLE FOR SUCH RENT INCREASE HAD TO BE SERVED WITH A NOTICE SPECIFYING THE AMOUNT OF THE INCREASE AND THE DATE FROM WHICH IT BECAME EFFECTIVE.

THE COMMISSIONER OF RATING AND VALUATION WILL MAKE THE NECESSARY FORMS AVAILABLE TO LANDLORDS AND PRINCIPAL TENANTS FREE OF CHARGE.

+WHERE PREMISES ARE NOT SEPERATELY ASSESSED TO RATES ASSISTANCE WILL BE GIVEN BY THE COMMISSIONER OF RATING AND VALUATION IN DEALING WITH APPORTIONMENTS OF RATES CHARGES AND ANY OTHER PROBLEMS WHICH MAY ARISE,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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PRE-WAR BUILDING IN N.T. DECLARED DANGEROUS

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY TODAY DECLARED THE STORE OF THE OLD KWONG PUI SCHOOL PREMISES, TAI PO TSAI, CLEARWATER BAY ROAD, HANG HAU, NEW TERRITORIES, TO BE IN A DANGEROUS CONDITION.

THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT BUILDING SURVEYOR SAID THAT THIS SMALL TWO-STOREY PRE-WAR BUILDING WITH SINGLE STOREY ADDITIONS HAD BEEN UNDER OBSERVATION FOR SOME TIME IN VIEW OF ITS ADVANCED AGE AND SERIOUSLY DETERIORATED CONDITION.

AS THE BULGED MAIN LOAD BEARING STONE WALLS OF LOOSE CONSTRUCTION SHOWED SIGNS OF RECENT MOVEMENT AND OF NEW FRACTURES, HE ADDED, IT WAS NOW NECESSARY TO CLOSE AND DEMOLISH THE BUILDING WHICH IS ON CROWN LAND AND WHICH UNTIL RECENTLY HAS BEEN IN USE AS A SCHOOL STORE AND CARETAKERS QUARTER.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A CLOSURE ORDER IN KOWLOON DISTRICT COURT AT 10 A.M. ON FEBRUARY 3, 1975 WAS POSTED TODAY.

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PEAK-HOUR URBAN CLEARWAY SYSTEM FOR CENTRAL DISTRICT

THE FIRST STAGE OF A SCHEME TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC IN CENTRAL DISTRICT, FEATURING A PEAK-HOUR URBAN CLEARWAY SYSTEM FOR A SECTION OF DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL, WILL START ON SUNDAY (JANUARY 5).

STAGE TWO - A PROPOSED BAN ON PRIVATE CARS ALONG THE SAME SECTION OF THE ROAD - WAS ORIGINALLY PLANNED TO START IN MID-FEBRUARY BUT WILL NOW BE INTRODUCED ONLY AFTER MONITORING OF THE WORKING OF STAGE ONE HAS BEEN CARRIED OUT.

WITH EFFECT FROM 4 P.M. ON SUNDAY, CLEARWAY RESTRICTIONS BANNING VEHICLES FROM STOPPING WILL BE IMPOSED ALONG THE WESTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL BETWEEN JACKSON ROAD AND JUBILEE STREET, AND THE EASTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY BETWEEN PEDDER STREET AND JUBILEE STREET.

ALL VEHICLES, EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES AND TRAMS, WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM STOPPING ALONG THIS SECTION OF THE ROAD TO PICK UP OR SET DOWN PASSENGERS, AND TO LOAD OR UNLOAD GOODS DURING THE PEAK HOURS OF 7 A.M. TO 10 A.M. AND 4 P.M. TO 7 P.M.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY THESE MEASURES, SUPPLEMENTED BY CHANGES IN TRAFFIC ROUTING AND TURNING MOVEMENT, SHOULD HELP IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW IN THE BUSY AREA.

HE SAID THE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT HAD BEEN PLANNED AS PART OF A CONTINUING PROCESS TO REDUCE CONGESTION IN CENTRAL DISTRICT, AND TO PREPARE MOTORISTS FOR ANY LATER DIVERSIONS ONCE WORKS ON THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY START.

HE SAID THAT, AT THE REQUEST OF UMEICO MEMBERS AND FOLLOWING REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE CENTRAL RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION, THE DEPARTMENTS CONCERNED WITH THE SCHEME HAD AGREED TO CARRY OUT MONITORING OF THE EFFECTS OF THE PEAK-HOUR URBAN CLEARWAY SYSTEM IN DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL BEFORE INTRODUCING THE PROPOSED BAN ON PRIVATE CARS.

FURTHER CONSULTATIONS WILL BE MADE WITH UMEICO, AFTER WHICH A DECISION WILL BE MADE ON A DATE FOR THE INTRODUCTION OF STAGE TWO, HE SAID.

ALSO WITH EFFECT FROM SUNDAY, ICE HOUSE STREET BETWEEN DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL AND QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY NORTHBOUND. THIS WILL PROVIDE AN ALTERNATIVE ROUTE FOR MOTORISTS USING WYNDHAM STREET AND PEDDER STREET.

TRAFFIC ON QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO TURN RIGHT INTO ICE HOUSE STREET.

EXCEPT ON SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS WHEN THE CHATER ROAD PEDESTRIAN PRECINCT IS OPEN, ALL NORTHBOUND VEHICLES IN ICE HOUSE STREET WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM TURNING LEFT OR RIGHT INTO DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE POSTED TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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MAIL SERVICES TO GIBRALTAR

THE POST OFFICE ANNOUNCES THAT DUE TO INDUSTRIAL ACTION WHICH IS DISRUPTING POSTAL SERVICES, NO FURTHER SURFACE PARCEL DESPATCHES WILL BE MADE TO GIBRALTAR UNTIL NORMAL SERVICES ARE RESUMED.

AIR MAILS, AIR PARCELS AND OTHER CLASSES OF SURFACE MAILS WILL CONTINUE TO BE FORWARDED, BUT DELAYS ARE INEVITABLE.

THE PUBLIC ARE ADVISED TO RESTRICT THE POSTING OF ALL CLASSES OF MAIL TO GIBRALTAR UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

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DIRECTOR OF FIRE SERVICES
PRESENTS LONG SERVICE MEDALS AND CLASPS

A TOTAL OF 42 SERVING AND RETIRED MEMBERS OF THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT, WITH ALMOST 1,000 YEARS OF SERVICE BETWEEN THEM, WERE TODAY (FRIDAY) PRESENTED WITH COLONIAL FIRE BRIGADES LONG SERVICE MEDALS AND CLASPS BY THE DIRECTOR OF FIRE SERVICES, MR. HARRY WOOD, AT A CEREMONY HELD AT THE TSIM SHA TSUI FIRE STATION.

SEVENTEEN OF THE RECIPIENTS WERE AWARDED LONG SERVICE MEDALS RECOGNISING 18 YEARS OF SERVICE, WHILE THE REMAINING 25 WERE AWARDED FIRST CLASPS TO THEIR LONG SERVICE MEDALS IN RECOGNITION OF 25 YEARS' SERVICE.

THE RECIPIENTS CONSISTED OF A CHIEF FIRE OFFICER, TWO ASSISTANT DIVISIONAL OFFICERS, ONE STATION OFFICER, SEVEN PRINCIPAL FIREMEN, 22 SENIOR FIREMEN, TWO SENIOR AMBULANCEMEN, SIX FIREMEN AND ONE AMBULANCEMAN.

47 MORE MEMBERS OF THE SERVICE WILL BE PRESENTED WITH LONG SERVICE AWARDS AT A CEREMONY TO BE HELD AT CENTRAL FIRE STATION ON JANUARY 10.

NOTE TO EDITORS : -A PICTURE SHOWING THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER, NEW TERRITORIES, MR FRED JACKSON RECEIVING A FIRST CLASP TO HIS COLONIAL FIRE BRIGADES LONG SERVICE MEDAL FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE FIRE SERVICES, MR. HARRY WOOD, WILL BE BOXED THIS EVENING.

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SEVERANCE PAY DISPUTE SETTLED

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THE SEVERANCE PAY NEGOTIATIONS INVOLVING 55 RESTAURANT EMPLOYEES OF ON LOK YUEN COMPANY LIMITED ENDED YESTERDAY.

THREE MANAGEMENT REPRESENTATIVES AND EIGHT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE WORKERS SIGNED AN AGREEMENT IN THE PRESENCE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT CONCILIATOR, MR. TO SAU-HONG.

THE TERMS OF AGREEMENT WHICH COVER OLD AGE GRATUITY, SPECIAL GRATUITY YEAR-END BONUSES, SEVERANCE PAYMENT AND AN EXTRA MONTH'S PAY WERE REACHED AFTER A FOUR-HOUR MEETING IN THE LABOUR RELATION OFFICE.

PAYMENT WILL BE MADE TO ALL WORKERS CONCERNED WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

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PRESENTATION OF COMPENSATION AWARD

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A CHEQUE FOR \$22,650 WAS PRESENTED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT TODAY TO THE WIDOW OF A POLICE SERGEANT WHO WAS KILLED BY AN ARMED ROBBER IN MARCH 1973.

THE MONEY WAS AWARDED TO MADAM TSE SHUM SHUI MUI AS COMPENSATION UNDER SECTION 95 (1) OF THE INTERPRETATION AND GENERAL CLAUSES ORDINANCE IN A RESOLUTION PASSED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL LAST NOVEMBER.

HER HUSBAND, SGT TSE YUEN CHUNG, WAS SHOT WHEN HE WENT TO INVESTIGATE AN ARMED ROBBERY AT THE KOWLOON CITY BRANCH OF THE KA WAH BANK ON MARCH 27, 1973 AND DIED THE SAME DAY.

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FULL SUBSIDY TO 36 ASSISTED PRIVATE SCHOOLS
STILL BEING DISCUSSED

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THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL HAS APPROVED IN PRINCIPLE THE CONVERSION IN STAGES OF 36 ASSISTED PRIVATE SCHOOLS TO FULLY SUBSIDISED STATUS UNDER THE UNIFIED CODE OF AID FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

THIS APPROVAL IN PRINCIPLE WAS GIVEN ON DECEMBER 18, 1974. HOWEVER, FUNDS HAVE NOT YET BEEN ALLOCATED BY THE GOVERNMENT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SCHEME, AN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY WHEN ASKED TO COMMENT ON REPORTS IN AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND A CHINESE LANGUAGE NEWSPAPER THAT +THE GOVERNMENT HAS APPROVED THE APPLICATION OF 36 ASSISTED PRIVATE SCHOOLS TO BECOME FULLY SUBSIDISED.+

THE SPOKESMAN CONFIRMED THAT OFFICERS OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT MET THE PRINCIPALS OF THE 36 SCHOOLS ON DECEMBER 21 WHEN THEY EXPLAINED TO THEM THAT WHILE THE SCHEME HAD BEEN APPROVED IN PRINCIPLE FUNDS FOR ITS IMPLEMENTATION WERE STILL BEING SOUGHT.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT IT WAS NOT CORRECT AS REPORTED THAT THE FIRST STAGE CAME INTO EFFECT ON JANUARY 1, AND THAT THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WOULD INITIALLY PAY 50 PER CENT OF THE TEACHERS' SALARIES IN THESE SCHOOLS.

HE SAID OFFICIALS OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE COLONIAL SECRETARIAT WERE STILL DISCUSSING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO THESE 36 ASSISTED PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

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DECLARATION OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

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IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS WERE TODAY REMINDED OF THEIR OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE IMPORT AND EXPORT (REGISTRATION) REGULATIONS TO LODGE TRADE DECLARATIONS AND PAY AD VALOREM CHARGES WITHIN 14 DAYS OF TRANSACTING BUSINESS ON ALL IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OTHER THAN THOSE WHICH ARE EXEMPTED.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT SAID THAT PROSECUTIONS WOULD BE INITIATED AGAINST THOSE WHO, WITHOUT REASONABLE EXCUSE, FAILED TO LODGE THE NECESSARY TRADE DECLARATIONS.

TRADE DECLARATIONS SUBMITTED OUTSIDE THE PRESCRIBED PERIOD OF 14 DAYS WILL BE LIABLE, WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE, TO PENALTY CHARGES WHICH RISE AFTER TWO MONTHS TO A MAXIMUM OF \$50 PER DECLARATION WHERE THE TOTAL VALUE OF ARTICLES SPECIFIED DOES NOT EXCEED \$20,000.

WHERE THE VALUE EXCEEDS \$20,000, THE PENALTY CHARGES RISE AFTER TWO MONTHS TO A MAXIMUM OF \$100 PER DECLARATION.

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GENERAL HOLIDAYS FOR 1975 AND 1976

TWO LISTS OF GENERAL HOLIDAYS FOR 1975 AND 1976 ARE PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GAZETTE.

THE LUNAR NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS THIS YEAR FALL ON FEBRUARY 11 UNTIL FEBRUARY 13. THE EASTER HOLIDAYS WILL STRETCH FROM MARCH 28 TO MARCH 31.

THE FOLLOWING IS THE LIST OF GENERAL HOLIDAYS FOR 1975 :-

EVERY SUNDAY	
THE FIRST WEEK-DAY IN JANUARY	WEDNESDAY, 1ST JANUARY
LUNAR NEW YEAR'S DAY	TUESDAY, 11TH FEBRUARY
THE SECOND DAY OF LUNAR NEW YEAR	WEDNESDAY, 12TH FEBRUARY
THE THIRD DAY OF LUNAR NEW YEAR	THURSDAY, 13TH FEBRUARY
GOOD FRIDAY	FRIDAY, 28TH MARCH
THE DAY FOLLOWING GOOD FRIDAY	SATURDAY, 29TH MARCH
EASTER MONDAY	MONDAY, 31ST MARCH
CHING MING FESTIVAL	SATURDAY, 5TH APRIL
THE BIRTHDAY OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN	MONDAY, 21ST APRIL
TUEN NG (DRAGON BOAT) FESTIVAL ...	SATURDAY, 14TH JUNE
THE FIRST WEEK-DAY IN JULY	TUESDAY, 1ST JULY
THE FIRST MONDAY IN AUGUST	MONDAY, 4TH AUGUST
THE LAST MONDAY IN AUGUST, WHICH SHALL BE LIBERATION DAY	MONDAY, 25TH AUGUST
THE SECOND DAY FOLLOWING THE CHINESE MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL	MONDAY, 22ND SEPTEMBER
CHUNG YEUNG FESTIVAL	MONDAY, 13TH OCTOBER
CHRISTMAS DAY	THURSDAY, 25TH DECEMBER
THE FIRST WEEK-DAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY	FRIDAY, 26TH DECEMBER

/GENERAL HOLIDAYS

GENERAL HOLIDAYS FOR 1976

EVERY SUNDAY	
THE FIRST WEEK-DAY IN JANUARY	THURSDAY, 1ST JANUARY
LUNAR NEW YEAR'S DAY	SATURDAY, 31ST JANUARY
THE THIRD DAY OF LUNAR NEW YEAR ..	MONDAY, 2ND FEBRUARY
THE FOURTH DAY OF LUNAR NEW YEAR	TUESDAY, 3RD FEBRUARY
THE DAY FOLLOWING CHING MING FESTIVAL	MONDAY, 5TH APRIL
GOOD FRIDAY	FRIDAY, 16TH APRIL
THE DAY FOLLOWING GOOD FRIDAY	SATURDAY, 17TH APRIL
EASTER MONDAY	MONDAY, 19TH APRIL
THE BIRTHDAY OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN	WEDNESDAY, 21ST APRIL
TUEN NG (DRAGON BOAT) FESTIVAL	WEDNESDAY, 2ND JUNE
THE FIRST WEEK-DAY IN JULY	THURSDAY, 1ST JULY
THE FIRST MONDAY IN AUGUST	MONDAY, 2ND AUGUST
THE LAST MONDAY IN AUGUST, WHICH SHALL BE LIBERATION DAY	MONDAY, 30TH AUGUST
THE DAY FOLLOWING THE CHINESE MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL	THURSDAY, 9TH SEPTEMBER
THE DAY FOLLOWING CHUNG YEUNG FESTIVAL	MONDAY, 1ST NOVEMBER
CHRISTMAS DAY	SATURDAY, 25TH DECEMBER
THE FIRST WEEK-DAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY	MONDAY, 27TH DECEMBER