



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1978

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GOVERNOR OPENS SOCIAL SERVICES EXHIBITION

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, SAID TODAY THAT SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES WILL CONTINUE TO EXPAND OR EVEN ACCELERATE AS NEW PROGRAMMES ARE IMPLEMENTED.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE MOBILE SOCIAL SERVICES EXHIBITION ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE IN THE CITY HALL, SIR MURRAY SAID DETAILS OF THE NEW PROGRAMMES WILL BE SET OUT IN A COMPREHENSIVE WHITE PAPER ON SOCIAL WELFARE POLICY NOW BEING DRAFTED.

HE SAID THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR HAS PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES AND ADDED THAT THE GOVERNMENT SUBVENTION TO VOLUNTARY AGENCIES IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS HAS INCREASED BY 160 PER CENT FROM \$38 MILLION TO \$110 MILLION A YEAR AND OTHER ANNUAL EXPENDITURE (CAPITAL AND RECURRENT) IN THIS FIELD BY 94 PER CENT FROM \$224 MILLION TO \$435 MILLION.

FOLLOWING IS THE FULL TEXT OF THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE MOBILE SOCIAL SERVICES EXHIBITION IN THE CITY HALL:

+WE HAVE GONE A LONG WAY IN IMPROVING OUR SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES. WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DO SO MAINLY AS A RESULT OF THE CLOSE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR.

+THE GOVERNMENT HAS THE PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR ENSURING THAT SATISFACTORY SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES ARE PROVIDED. IT DOES THIS IN A NUMBER OF WAYS: IT PLANS FOR AND CO-ORDINATES SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES AS A WHOLE- IT PROVIDES THE GREATER PART OF THE FUNDS- IT PROVIDES SUBSTANTIAL DIRECT SOCIAL SECURITY AND SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES.

+VOLUNTARY AGENCIES PLAY AN EQUALLY IMPORTANT ROLE. THEIR WORKERS GIVE VALUABLE SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY, PARTICULARLY IN THE AREAS OF FAMILY WELFARE, CHILD CARE, YOUTH WORK, SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY AND REHABILITATION OF THE DISABLED AND THE SOCIALLY HANDICAPPED.

+IN PARTICULAR VOLUNTARY AGENCIES HAVE DEMONSTRATED THEIR APTITUDE FOR EXPERIMENTING WITH NEW PROJECTS AND FOR MEETING RAPIDLY CHANGING NEEDS. THEY HAVE ALSO ASSISTED THE GOVERNMENT IN PLANNING FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS AND IN CARRYING OUT NEW POLICIES. THE OUTCOME OF THIS MUTUAL CO-OPERATION IS EVIDENT IN THE RECENT FORMULATION OF GOVERNMENT POLICY PAPERS AND PROGRAMME PLANS WHICH ENDEAVOUR TO CHART THE COURSE OF SOCIAL WELFARE IN THE NEXT DECADE IN THE MAJOR FIELDS OF REHABILITATION, SOCIAL SECURITY, SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY, AND PERSONAL SOCIAL WORK AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE.

/+IN THE LAST

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+IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS THE TOTAL GOVERNMENT SUBVENTION TO VOLUNTARY AGENCIES HAS INCREASED BY 160 PER CENT FROM JUST OVER \$38 MILLION A YEAR TO \$110 MILLION A YEAR. OTHER ANNUAL EXPENDITURE (CAPITAL AND RECURRENT) HAS INCREASED BY 94 PER CENT FROM \$224 MILLION TO \$435 MILLION. WE EXPECT THIS RATE OF EXPANSION TO CONTINUE OR EVEN ACCELERATE AS THE NEW PROGRAMMES ARE IMPLEMENTED. THEIR DETAILS WILL BE SET OUT IN A COMPREHENSIVE WHITE PAPER ON SOCIAL WELFARE POLICY NOW BEING DRAFTED.

+IT IS ONLY TOO CLEAR THAT WITH THE TASKS WE HAVE SET OURSELVES, WE NEED A VIGOROUS AND PROGRESSIVE VOLUNTARY SECTOR WORKING SIDE BY SIDE WITH THE GOVERNMENT, AND I KNOW THAT WE CAN RELY ON YOU TO DO YOUR BEST IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE OUR COMMON GOAL. THE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR AND THE GOVERNMENT, DEVELOPED OVER THE YEARS, IS A SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENT OF OUR COMMUNITY, AND I AM SURE IT WILL BE MAINTAINED AND DEVELOPED TO FACE THE RAPIDLY CHANGING NEEDS OF HONG KONG.

+THIS EXHIBITION IS AIMED AT THE PROMOTION OF A BETTER PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING OF THE ROLE OF THE VOLUNTARY AGENCIES IN THE PROVISION OF SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES IN HONG KONG. THIS IS A VERY WORTHWHILE OBJECT AND I AM VERY GLAD TO BE HERE TODAY TO OPEN THE EXHIBITION AND TO WISH THE COUNCIL EVERY SUCCESS IN ITS FUTURE WORK.+

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SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE SCHEME GROWING
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THE GOVERNMENT IS SPENDING MORE THAN \$3 MILLION A YEAR TO SUBSIDISE THE INCREASINGLY POPULAR SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE SCHEME WHICH HAS BEEN INTRODUCED TO COMPLEMENT THE EXTENSIVE SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

THE SCHEME IS DESIGNED TO PROVIDE ECONOMICAL MEDICAL TREATMENT FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN.

IT IS A VOLUNTARY SCHEME, AND PARTICIPATING DOCTORS ARE PRIVATE MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS WITH CLINIC OFFICES NEAR THE SCHOOLS.

UNDER THE SCHEME, EACH ENROLLED PUPIL HAS TO PAY ONLY \$5 A YEAR WHILE THE GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTES \$30 FOR EACH PARTICIPATING PUPIL.

/THE SECRETARY

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THE SECRETARY OF THE SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE BOARD, MR. FRANCIS CAREY, SAID ENROLMENT IN THE SCHEME HAD BEEN INCREASING AT THE RATE OF FIVE PER CENT A YEAR FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

MORE THAN 112,000 PUPILS FROM 750 SCHOOLS HAVE NOW BEEN ENROLLED WITH SOME 200 DOCTORS PARTICIPATING IN THE SCHEME, HE SAID.

MR. CAREY SAID THE RATE OF INCREASE IN ENROLMENT WAS +ENCOURAGING+ AND MORE PARENTS WERE REALISING THE +TREMENDOUS+ VALUE OF THE SERVICE.

+PARENTS HAVE COME TO BELIEVE THAT IT IS USEFUL TO HAVE THEIR CHILDREN IN A MEDICAL SCHEME WHICH ALLOWS FOR AN UNLIMITED NUMBER OF VISITS TO A DOCTOR, AND MEDICINE FREE OF CHARGE, ALL FOR \$5 A YEAR,+ HE SAID.

THE SCHEME COVERS ALL THOSE PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND THOSE FROM FORM 1 TO FORM 3 IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

+THIS PRINCIPLE IS IN LINE WITH THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY OF PROVIDING NINE YEARS OF AIDED EDUCATION,+ SAID MR. CAREY.

HE SAID THAT ALTHOUGH THE ENROLMENT KEPT ON INCREASING EVERY YEAR QUITE A LARGE NUMBER OF SCHOOLS HAD NOT TAKEN A MORE ACTIVE PART IN ENCOURAGING THEIR PUPILS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCHEME.

HE ADDED THAT OF ALL ELIGIBLE SCHOOLS ONLY HALF WERE AT PRESENT PARTICIPATING.

MR. CAREY EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT MORE AND MORE SCHOOL PRINCIPALS, WHO HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF CHOOSING A DOCTOR IN THEIR RESPECTIVE AREA, WOULD COME TO REALISE THERE IS VERY LITTLE ADMINISTRATIVE WORK INVOLVED IN THE PARTICIPATION.

HE EXPLAINED THAT ENROLMENT IS SIMPLE, AND THERE ARE NO RESTRICTIONS.

PUPILS MAY JOIN AT ANY TIME OF THE YEAR AND QUALIFY FOR 12 MONTHS' MEDICAL ATTENTION FROM THE DAY THEY ENROL.

ALSO, SHOULD A PUPIL IN A SCHOOL WHICH IS NOT PARTICIPATING IN THE SCHEME WISH TO JOIN, ALL HE HAD TO DO IS TO CALL AT THE BOARD'S OFFICE AT ROOM 505 LEE GARDENS. UPON PAYMENT OF \$5, HE WILL BE ENROLLED AND GIVEN A PARTICIPATING CARD VALID FOR 12 MONTHS.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS FOR HO MAN TIN AND
KOWLOON TONG IN PREPARATION FOR SHA TIN RACES
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NEW TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS AIMED AT IMPROVING THE TRAFFIC SITUATION IN HO MAN TIN AND KOWLOON TONG WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN STAGES IN THE NEXT FOUR WEEKS IN PREPARATION FOR THE START OF THE RACING SEASON AT SHA TIN.

THE FIRST STAGE, WHICH WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE COMING WEEK, INVOLVES THE BANNING OF RIGHT TURNS FROM WATERLOO ROAD SOUTHBOUND INTO ESSEX CRESCENT.

INSTEAD, MOTORISTS WILL HAVE TO DO A G-TURN VIA DURHAM ROAD, CAMBRIDGE ROAD AND LANCASHIRE ROAD OR PROCEED ALONG WATERLOO ROAD AND U-TURN UNDER THE FLYOVER NEAR BOUNDARY STREET.

THE RIGHT TURN FROM PERTH STREET INTO PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD NORTHBOUND WILL ALSO BE BANNED. THE ALTERNATIVE ROUTE WILL BE PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD SOUTHBOUND, HO MAN TIN INTERCHANGE, PUI CHING ROAD AND WATERLOO ROAD NORTHBOUND.

IN THE SECOND STAGE, WHICH WILL BE IMPLEMENTED DURING THE THIRD WEEK OF SEPTEMBER, NORTHBOUND VEHICLES ON PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD FLYOVER WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO LEAVE THE TRAFFIC LANE BEFORE REACHING PRINCE EDWARD ROAD FLYOVER.

MOTORISTS WISHING TO GO TO THE MONG KOK AREA FROM PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD WILL HAVE TO USE THE GROUND LEVEL ROAD. AT THE SAME TIME, SOUTHBOUND VEHICLES TURNING LEFT FROM PRINCE EDWARD ROAD INTO WATERLOO ROAD AND VEHICLES EMERGING FROM THE U-TURN LOOP UNDER PRINCE EDWARD ROAD FLYOVER WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO JOIN THE PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD FLYOVER. THEY WILL HAVE TO PROCEED ALONG THE GROUND LEVEL ROAD.

DURING THE THIRD STAGE, TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE LAST WEEK OF SEPTEMBER, THE GROUND LEVEL JUNCTION OF PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD, ARGYLE STREET AND WATERLOO ROAD WILL BE MODIFIED TO IMPROVE THE NORTHBOUND CAPACITY ALONG PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD TO WATERLOO ROAD.

NO VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO TURN RIGHT FROM WATERLOO ROAD SOUTHBOUND INTO THE WESTERN SECTION OF ARGYLE STREET AND WATERLOO ROAD.

THE WESTERNMOST LANE OF WATERLOO ROAD SOUTHBOUND BETWEEN THE LOOP ROAD UNDERNEATH THE PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD FLYOVER AND THE JUNCTION OF WATERLOO ROAD AND ARGYLE STREET WILL BE DESIGNATED A +BUS ONLY+ LANE.

IN THE FOURTH AND FINAL STAGE, TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE FIRST WEEK OF OCTOBER, MOTORISTS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO TURN RIGHT FROM WATERLOO ROAD NORTHBOUND INTO JUNCTION ROAD.

THE ALTERNATIVE ROUTE WILL BE VIA HEREFORD ROAD, RENFREW ROAD AND JUNCTION ROAD.

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DURING THE FINAL STAGE, A TRAFFIC LIGHT SIGNAL WILL BE ERECTED TO ALLOW VEHICLES TO RIGHT TURN FROM WATERLOO ROAD INTO HEREFORD ROAD AT THIS ROAD JUNCTION.

BUS ROUTES 3C, 7A, 70 AND 103 WILL BE DIVERTED TO OPERATE ALONG HEREFORD AND RENFREW ROADS.

A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY THAT CONTINGENCY TRAFFIC PLANS HAS ALSO BEEN DRAWN UP FOR RACE DAYS IN SHA TIN.

HE SAID THAT IF TRAFFIC CONGESTION IS SERIOUS DURING RACE DAYS, THE POLICE MAY ARRANGE FOR THE TEMPORARY BANNING OF THE RIGHT TURNS FROM RUTLAND QUADRANT INTO WATERLOO ROAD AND FROM WATERLOO ROAD NORTHBOUND INTO CORNWALL STREET.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT IF SUCH CHANGES TAKE PLACE THEN MOTORISTS WISHING TO GO TO THE WEST WILL BE DIRECTED TO USE THE SLIP ROAD LINKING THE SOUTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF WATERLOO ROAD WITH THE WESTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF LUNG CHEUNG ROAD AT THE LION ROCK INTERCHANGE OUTSIDE THE LION ROCK TUNNEL.

HE ADDED THAT FOR THE TWO HOURS BEFORE THE FIRST RACE AT SHA TIN, THE NORTHBOUND BUS STOPS IN WATERLOO ROAD BETWEEN ARGYLE STREET AND PRINCE EDWARD ROAD WOULD BE SUSPENDED.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT PUBLIC TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SHA TIN RACE COURSE ARE NOW BEING FINALISED AND THAT FULL DETAILS WILL BE ANNOUNCED LATER THIS MONTH.

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AUCTION OF CAR NUMBERS REALISES \$545,000

TWENTY-TWO SPECIAL VEHICLE REGISTRATION NUMBERS WERE SOLD BY AUCTION THIS (SATURDAY) MORNING FOR A TOTAL OF \$545,000 WHICH WILL GO INTO THE GOVERNMENT LOTTERIES FUND FOR CHARITY PURPOSES.

THE AUCTION, HELD IN THE LECTURE HALL OF THE CITY HALL, SAW THE REGISTRATION NUMBER 8787 FETCH THE HIGHEST PRICE OF \$80,000.

ANOTHER NUMBER HK333 WAS SOLD AT THE SECOND HIGHEST PRICE OF \$70,000 WHILE THE LOWEST PRICE WAS \$1,000 FOR BV 418, BV 519, BV 1508 AND BU 9793.

THE OTHER SPECIAL REGISTRATION NUMBERS WERE SOLD AT THE FOLLOWING PRICES:

208 - \$38,000	BV 128 - \$ 7,000
6886 - \$27,000	BV 138 - \$40,000
AA 80 - \$40,000	BV 168 - \$21,000
BB 222 - \$31,000	BV 218 - \$ 9,000
BU 8888 - \$46,000	BV 180 - \$ 8,000
BU 1 - \$55,000	BV 238 - \$ 8,000
AV 15 - \$18,000	BV 328 - \$15,000
BU 8228 - \$25,000	BV 6368 - \$ 3,000

THE NUMBERS AUCTIONED WILL BE ASSIGNED ONLY TO VEHICLES REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS WITHIN 12 MONTHS OF THE DATE OF AUCTION.

TODAY'S SALE, THE 38TH ORGANISED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SINCE MAY 1973, BROUGHT THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF MONEY REALISED SO FAR TO \$7,925,632.

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BIG IMPROVEMENTS UNDERWAY AT KAI TAK AIRPORT

TRAVELLERS TO AND FROM HONG KONG WILL BE ABLE TO MOVE, IN FUTURE, MORE FREELY AND SPEEDILY THROUGH KAI TAK AIRPORT BECAUSE OF NEW FACILITIES BEING PROVIDED.

MANY OF THESE FACILITIES ARE BEING INSTALLED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE VARIOUS TERMINAL BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS TAKING PLACE.

THE LATEST EXPANSION WORK BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN UNDERTAKEN TO MEET THE ANTICIPATED INCREASE IN PASSENGER GOODS VOLUME IN THE EARLY 1980S AND TO PROVIDE MORE ROOM FOR ADDITIONAL AMENITIES WITHIN THE AIRPORT.

TENDERS HAVE BEEN CALLED FOR A NEW CHECK-IN AREA, MODERNISING OF THE DEPARTURE AREA, FITTING OUT OF THE NEW ARRIVAL HALL, AND INSTALLATION OF ADDITIONAL SECURITY FACILITIES AT THE AIRPORT. THE EXISTING BUFFER HALL WILL BE EXTENDED TO THE WEST. THE NEW ARRIVAL HALL, AT PRESENT NEARING COMPLETION, WILL BE FITTED OUT, AND THE EXISTING ARRIVAL HALL REFURBISHED TO MAKE AN ENLARGED ARRIVAL HALL. A NEW SNACK BAR WILL ALSO BE BUILT.

THE WORK ON THE DEPARTURE LEVEL WILL INCLUDE MODERNISATION OF THE EXISTING WAITING AREA ON THE TARMAC SIDE AND THE INSTALLATION OF NEW, BULLET-PROOF, SECURITY FACILITIES.

TO MINIMISE DISRUPTION OF NORMAL AIRPORT OPERATIONS, ALL THESE WORKS ARE BEING PHASED OVER THREE YEARS.

ANOTHER IMPORTANT ASPECT OF AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT BEING UNDERTAKEN IS THE IMPROVEMENT IN BAGGAGE HANDLING FACILITIES.

THE LABOUR INTENSIVE TROLLEY CONVEYORS OF YESTERYEARS ARE BEING REPLACED WITH NEW FACILITIES IN PHASE WITH THE VARIOUS STAGES OF AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT.

IN THE SUMMER OF 1977, A SEMI-AUTOMATIC BAGGAGE HANDLING SYSTEM WHICH MAKES USE OF A COMPUTER, WAS COMMISSIONED AND PUT INTO OPERATION AS THE FIRST PHASE OF THE NEW TERMINAL BUILDING EXTENSION WAS COMPLETED.

IN THIS SYSTEM, ITEMS ARE CHECKED-IN ON TWO +ISLANDS+ IN THE DEPARTURE HALL AND EACH OF THE ISLANDS HAS 24 AIRLINE AGENT COUNTERS CAPABLE OF HANDLING UP TO A PEAK RATE OF 3,500 BAGS AN HOUR. A CONVEYOR NETWORK TAKES THE BAGGAGE TO THE MARSHALLING AREA IN THE BASEMENT. IN THE MARSHALLING AREA, BY MEANS OF COMPUTERISED CONTROL, ITEMS OF BAGGAGE ARE CODED BY THE OPERATOR AND AUTOMATICALLY SORTED TO THEIR APPROPRIATE LOADING BAYS WHERE THEY ARE LOADED INTO CONTAINERS.

TWO MORE +ISLANDS+ AND A GROUP HANDLING SYSTEM ARE BEING DESIGNED FOR HANDLING DEPARTURE PASSENGERS' BAGGAGE. WHEN THEY ARE INSTALLED THE TOTAL BAGGAGE HANDLING CAPACITY IN THE DEPARTURE AREAS WILL BE INCREASED UP TO ABOUT 7,000 ITEMS AN HOUR.

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ONCE THE TWO NEW +ISLANDS+ ARE COMPLETED, THE ENTIRE SYSTEM WILL BE CONTROLLED BY A SINGLE COMPUTER.

IN THE ARRIVAL AREA, TWO LARGE INCLINED +RACE-TRACKS+ WERE COMMISSIONED IN 1977, AND WERE ABLE TO OFFER MORE CAPACITY (3600 BAGS/HOUR) AND WERE QUIETER IN OPERATION. THE TRANSFER OF BAGS IS AUTOMATIC AND DOES NOT REQUIRE MANUAL TRANSFER.

WHEN FURTHER REFURBISHING OF THE AIRPORT TAKES PLACE OVER THE NEXT THREE YEARS, TWO MORE INCLINED +RACE-TRACKS+ WILL BE ADDED TO REPLACE THREE OLD FLAT +RACE-TRACKS+ WHICH WERE INSTALLED IN 1970.

IN THE CUSTOM AREA OF THE AIRPORT, ALSO, SEVERAL NEW FACILITIES ARE BEING PROVIDED SUCH AS ADDITIONAL CONVEYOR BELTS.

FURTHERMORE, IN THE AIRPORT'S NEW MULTI-STOREY CARPARK, THERE WILL BE MODERN FACILITIES, INCLUDING A SEMI-AUTOMATIC TOLL COLLECTION SYSTEM TO ENABLE VEHICLE OWNERS TO CHECK-IN AND OUT WITHOUT UNDUE DELAYS.

THE TERMINAL BUILDING WORKS ARE BEING HANDLED BY THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT. MANY OF THE PASSENGER BAGGAGE HANDLING FACILITIES ARE BEING DESIGNED AND INSTALLED UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT'S ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL OFFICE. ALL WORK IS BEING CARRIED OUT IN CLOSE LIAISON WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION.

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FIREMEN TO STEP UP CHECKS ON FACTORIES

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THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL SHORTLY STEP UP THEIR INSPECTIONS ON ALL INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS TO ENSURE THAT THEIR MEANS OF ESCAPE ARE FREE FROM OBSTRUCTION.

THE INSPECTIONS WILL BE CARRIED OUT BY FIREMEN ON A REGULAR AND CONTINUOUS BASIS, AND WILL CONCENTRATE ON STAIRCASES AND OTHER COMMON AREAS OF EVERY INDUSTRIAL PREMISES.

WHEN OBSTRUCTIONS ARE FOUND, OWNERS WILL BE ASKED TO REMOVE THEM IMMEDIATELY. FAILURE TO DO SO MAY INVOLVE THE REMOVAL OF GOODS BY THE DEPARTMENT UNDER THE FIRE SERVICES ORDINANCE.

A FIRE SERVICES SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY: +THIS ACTION IS BEING TAKEN BECAUSE OF THE INCREASING HAZARDS TO LIVES AND PROPERTIES CREATED BY OBSTRUCTIONS TO COMMON AREAS IN FACTORY BUILDINGS.+

+THESE OBSTRUCTIONS NOT ONLY PREVENT OCCUPANTS OF THE BUILDINGS FROM ESCAPING IN THE EVENT OF A FIRE, BUT ALSO ALLOW THE FIRE TO SPREAD TO OTHER FLOORS THUS MAKING IT EXTREMELY DANGEROUS AND DIFFICULT FOR FIREMEN TO FIGHT THEIR WAY UP THE STAIRCASES,+ HE SAID.

BEFORE THIS NEW INSPECTION MEASURE IS TAKEN, FIREMEN WILL MAKE STREET BROADCASTS TO THIS EFFECT IN INDUSTRIAL AREAS FOR A FEW DAYS.

THE SPOKESMAN URGED ALL FACTORY OWNERS TO OBSERVE FIRE SAFETY REGULATIONS AND ENSURE THAT THEIR GOODS ARE NOT OBSTRUCTING THE STAIRCASES, LOBBIES AND COMMON AREAS.

AND HE WARNED: +THESE VISITS BY FIREMEN WILL BE CONDUCTED REGULARLY TO MAKE SURE FIRE HAZARDS WILL NOT REAPPEAR AS SOON AS THEY LEAVE THE BUILDINGS.

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LEGAL YEAR CHURCH SERVICE

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A CHURCH SERVICE TO MARK THE OPENING OF THE LEGAL YEAR WILL BE HELD AT 9.30 A.M. ON TUESDAY (SEPTEMBER 12) AT ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH.

THE SERVICE WILL BE ATTENDED BY JUDGES, MAGISTRATES, MEMBERS OF THE BAR ASSOCIATION, THE LAW SOCIETY AND THOSE WORKING IN THE COURTS.

THE COURTS WILL RECOMMENCE SITTING AT 11 A.M. ON THAT DAY AFTER THE SERVICE IS OVER.

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MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL -- A STATUTORY HOLIDAY
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THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR. NEIL HENDERSON, TODAY REMINDED EMPLOYERS THAT SEPTEMBER 18, THE DAY FOLLOWING THE MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL, IS ONE OF THE 10 STATUTORY HOLIDAYS APPOINTED UNDER THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE.

MR. HENDERSON EMPHASISED THAT THE PROVISIONS OF THE ORDINANCE APPLY NOT ONLY TO EMPLOYEES IN INDUSTRY BUT ALSO TO THOSE IN THE ENTIRE COMMERCIAL SECTOR, INCLUDING THE SERVICES AND CATERING TRADES.

IRRESPECTIVE OF THEIR EARNINGS, ALL MANUAL EMPLOYEES, INCLUDING DOMESTIC SERVANTS AND ALL NON-MANUAL EMPLOYEES EARNING NOT MORE THAN \$2,000 A MONTH ARE ENTITLED TO THE HOLIDAY. THEY MUST ALSO BE PAID FOR THE DAY OFF IF THEY HAVE WORKED CONTINUOUSLY FOR THEIR EMPLOYERS FOR THREE MONTHS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE STATUTORY HOLIDAY.

IF THE EMPLOYER REQUIRES AN EMPLOYEE TO WORK ON A STATUTORY HOLIDAY, HE MUST GIVE THE EMPLOYEE AT LEAST 48 HOURS' NOTICE AND MUST ALSO GIVE AN ALTERNATIVE HOLIDAY WITHIN 60 DAYS OF THE STATUTORY HOLIDAY.

IF THE EMPLOYER INTENDS TO GIVE THE ALTERNATIVE HOLIDAY BEFORE THE STATUTORY HOLIDAY, HE MUST NOTIFY HIS EMPLOYEE 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THAT ALTERNATIVE HOLIDAY. AND IF AN ALTERNATIVE HOLIDAY IS TO BE GIVEN AFTER THE STATUTORY HOLIDAY, THE EMPLOYER MUST INFORM HIS EMPLOYEE OF THE ARRANGEMENT AT LEAST 48 HOURS BEFORE THE STATUTORY HOLIDAY.

ENQUIRIES OR COMPLAINTS REGARDING STATUTORY HOLIDAYS MAY BE MADE TO THE NEAREST BRANCH OFFICE OF THE LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE. THE TELEPHONE NUMBERS ARE : FOR HONG KONG ISLAND 5-282523 EXT 60- KOWLOON EAST 3-205638- KOWLOON WEST 3-201652- KWUN TONG 3-898520- TSUEN WAN 12-422096- TUEN MUN 12-818443.

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WATER CUT
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THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN WAN CHAI AND KOWLOON CITY WILL BE STOPPED FOR SEVERAL HOURS ON MONDAY (SEPTEMBER 11) NIGHT TO FACILITATE LEAKAGE TESTS.

THE AREA TO BE AFFECTED IN WAN CHAI IS BOUNDED BY THE SOUTH SIDE OF HENNESSY ROAD, CANAL ROAD WEST, GLOUCESTER ROAD AND MARSH ROAD. IT WILL HAVE NO WATER SUPPLY FOR SEVEN HOURS FROM 11 P.M. ON MONDAY.

IN KOWLOON CITY, THE AREA BOUNDED BY GRAMPAN ROAD, PRINCE EDWARD ROAD, NGA TSIN LONG ROAD AND CARPENTER ROAD INCLUDING JUNCTION ROAD, FUK LO TSUN ROAD, LION ROCK ROAD, HAU WONG ROAD AND NGA TSIN WAI ROAD, WILL BE WITHOUT WATER FOR SIX HOURS FROM MIDNIGHT MONDAY TO 6 A.M. ON TUESDAY.

MEANWHILE, FLUSHING WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN TAI KOK TSUI WILL BE CUT OFF FOR TWO DAYS FROM 10 A.M. ON MONDAY TO FACILITATE SALT WATER MAIN CONNECTION WORK.

THE PREMISES TO BE AFFECTED ARE IN FUK LEE STREET, WAI ON STREET, MEI ON STREET, CHUNG WUI STREET, TAI TSUN STREET, IVY STREET BETWEEN TAI KOK TSUI ROAD AND KOK CHEUNG STREET, LI TAK STREET, FUK CHAK STREET, KA SIN STREET, POK MAN STREET, FOO KWAI STREET, KOK CHEUNG STREET, HOP KWAN STREET, LOK KWAN STREET, MAN ON STREET, TAI CHING STREET, HOI KING STREET, CHUN WING STREET, TAI KOK TSUI ROAD AND BEECH STREET.

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HOLLYWOOD ROAD TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENT
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT TRAFFIC ON THE SECTION OF HOLLYWOOD ROAD BETWEEN LADDER STREET AND SHING WONG STREET WILL BE REDUCED TO ONE-LANE FROM 11 P.M. ON MONDAY (SEPTEMBER 11) TO 6 A.M. ON TUESDAY AND FROM 11 P.M. ON TUESDAY TO 6 A.M. ON WEDNESDAY TO FACILITATE ROAD RESURFACING WORK.

DURING THESE PERIODS MOTOR VEHICLES OF OVER TWO TONS ARE ADVISED TO AVOID USING HOLLYWOOD ROAD.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP TO ASSIST MOTORISTS.

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FIRING PRACTICE
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FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE AT CASTLE PEAK RANGE ON FIVE DAYS NEXT WEEK.

THE PUBLIC ARE REMINDED THAT IT IS DANGEROUS TO ENTER THE AREA WHEN THE RED FLAGS ARE FLYING DURING THE TIME OF FIRING PRACTICE.

THE PRACTICE TIMES ARE:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>HOURS</u>
SEPTEMBER 11 (MONDAY)	8 A.M. - 6 P.M.
SEPTEMBER 12 (TUESDAY)	8 A.M. - 6 P.M.
SEPTEMBER 13 (WEDNESDAY)	8 A.M. - 6 P.M.
SEPTEMBER 14 (THURSDAY)	8 A.M. - 6 P.M.
SEPTEMBER 15 (FRIDAY)	8 A.M. - 6 P.M.

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