



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MONDAY, MARCH 19, 1984

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US IMPOSES RESTRAINT LIMITS ON TWO GARMENT CATEGORIES
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THE UNITED STATES, FOLLOWING INCONCLUSIVE CONSULTATIONS WITH HONG KONG IN WASHINGTON LAST WEEK, HAS IMPOSED RESTRAINT LIMITS ON TWO GARMENT CATEGORIES (CAT 652 AND 637) CALLED EARLIER THIS YEAR.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (MONDAY), A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRADE DEPARTMENT SAID THAT DURING THE CONSULTATIONS THE HONG KONG DELEGATION, LED BY THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF TRADE, MR NICHOLAS YEK, REQUESTED THE UNITED STATES TO LIFT THE TWO CALLS AS HONG KONG DID NOT AGREE THAT THE UNITED STATES HAD AN ACCEPTABLE CASE FOR IMPOSING RESTRAINT ON THE TWO CATEGORIES.

THE UNITED STATES ADMINISTRATION DISAGREED WITH HONG KONG'S ARGUMENT AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CURRENT HK-US TEXTILES AGREEMENT, IMPOSED THE FOLLOWING RESTRAINT LIMITS:

<u>CAT. NO.</u>	<u>BRIEF DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>1984 RESTRAINT LIMIT</u>
652	MAN-MADE FIBRE UNDERWEAR	3 513 103 DOZEN
637	MAN-MADE FIBRE PLAYSUITS, ETC.	45 502 DOZEN

THE HONG KONG DELEGATION ACCORDINGLY RESERVED HONG KONG'S RIGHTS OF APPEAL UNDER THE MULTI-FIBRE ARRANGEMENT AND THE HK-US BILATERAL AGREEMENT.

THESE RIGHTS INCLUDE POSSIBLE REFERRAL TO THE TEXTILES SURVEILLANCE BODY IN GENEVA.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT IN 1984 EXPORTS IN THESE TWO CATEGORIES HAVE BEEN SUBJECT TO THE EXPORT AUTHORISATION SYSTEM.

UNDER THIS SYSTEM THERE IS NO SPECIFIC RESTRAINT LIMIT.

HOWEVER, THE LEVEL OF EXPORTS IS MONITORED, AND THE UNITED STATES MAY AT ANY TIME SEEK CONSULTATIONS WITH A VIEW TO REACHING AGREEMENT ON A LEVEL OF RESTRAINT IN THE CURRENT YEAR.

+IN THE EVENT OF DISAGREEMENT DURING THE CONSULTATIONS, THE UNITED STATES MAY IMPOSE A RESTRAINT LIMIT WITH REFERENCE TO A SET OF FORMULAS WHICH ARE DESIGNED TO ENSURE THAT THE IMPOSED LIMIT MUST HAVE REGARD TO THE TRADE IN RECENT YEARS,+ HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT THE TWO CALLS ARE THE ONLY CALLS MADE BY THE UNITED STATES SO FAR THIS YEAR.

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PROFESSIONAL SERVICE STANDARD TO BE MAINTAINED
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VARIOUS ARRANGEMENTS MADE BY THE GOVERNMENT WHEN MODIFYING THE ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ASSISTANT SOCIAL WORK OFFICER (ASWO) GRADE SHOW THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS DETERMINED TO MAINTAIN THE PROFESSIONAL STATUS OF SOCIAL WORKERS AND THE STANDARD OF SERVICES PROVIDED IN THE FIELD OF SOCIAL WELFARE.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE ACTING ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE (SOCIAL SECURITY), MR K.C. KWOK, AT THE SECOND QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE THIS (MONDAY) AFTERNOON.

TO TACKLE THE SHORTAGE OF TRAINED SOCIAL WORKERS, THE GOVERNMENT HAD ASKED HONG KONG UNIVERSITY, THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY AND THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC TO INCREASE THE INTAKE OF SOCIAL WORK STUDENTS, HE SAID.

+HOWEVER, IT WILL TAKE SEVERAL YEARS TO PRODUCE MORE TRAINED STAFF. IN THE MEANTIME, THE MORE IMMEDIATE STAFFING NEEDS REMAIN UNSOLVED,+ MR KWOK SAID.

FOR THIS REASON, THE GOVERNMENT DECIDED TOWARDS THE END OF LAST YEAR TO MODIFY THE ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ASWO GRADE TO ALLOW THE RECRUITMENT OF GENERAL DEGREE HOLDERS WHO WERE INTERESTED IN TAKING UP SOCIAL WORK AND WHOSE CHARACTER AND ABILITIES WERE SUITED TO THIS TYPE OF WORK.

TO ENSURE THAT THE STANDARD OF SERVICE IS MAINTAINED, THE GOVERNMENT HAS ASKED THE TWO UNIVERSITIES TO PROVIDE IN-SERVICE TRAINING FOR GENERAL DEGREE HOLDERS AS SOON AS THEY ARE RECRUITED.

+IT IS EXPECTED THAT OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS, THE UNIVERSITIES WILL EACH PROVIDE 30 PLACES FOR SUCH IN-SERVICE TRAINING EVERY YEAR,+ MR KWOK SAID.

HE ADDED THAT THE PROFESSIONAL TRAINING WHICH THESE NON-SOCIAL WORK GRADUATES WERE TO RECEIVE WOULD BE NO DIFFERENT FROM THAT FOR SOCIAL WORK STUDENTS.

+BECAUSE OF THEIR UNIVERSITY TRAINING AND BECAUSE SOME OF THEM HAVE HELD OTHER JOBS BEFORE, WE BELIEVE THAT THEY WILL BE AS GOOD AS SOCIAL WORK GRADUATES IN TERMS OF MATURITY AND EXPERIENCE,+ HE ADDED.

MR KWOK NOTED THAT THE RESPONSE TO AN ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE LATEST RECRUITMENT OF ASWOS WAS VERY ENCOURAGING, WITH MORE THAN 700 APPLICATIONS RECEIVED.

TO MAXIMISE THE USE OF TRAINED SOCIAL WORK MANPOWER, MR KWOK SAID THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT HAD IDENTIFIED A NUMBER OF JOBS WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT WHICH COULD BE UNDERTAKEN BY STAFF WITHOUT PROFESSIONAL TRAINING.

/+THESE JOBS

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+THESE JOBS DO NOT REQUIRE PROFESSIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS AND UNDER APPROPRIATE PROFESSIONAL SUPERVISION, CAN BE PERFORMED BY PEOPLE WITH SECONDARY EDUCATION.+ HE SAID.

AS A RESULT, A NEW WELFARE WORKER GRADE, SIMILAR TO THAT WHICH EXISTS IN THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR, HAS BEEN CREATED FOR SUCH DUTIES, AND RECRUITMENT IS NOW UNDERWAY.

+THESE WELFARE WORKERS WILL RECEIVE IN-SERVICE TRAINING WHEN THEY JOIN THE DEPARTMENT,+ MR KWOK SAID.

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COMMENTS ON PROPOSED LEGISLATION INVITED
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THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, MR MICHAEL THOMAS, HAS CALLED FOR INFORMED COMMENTS AND CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM ON PROPOSED HIRE PURCHASE LEGISLATION WHICH IS BEING DRAFTED BY HIS CHAMBERS.

IN A SPEECH TO THE HONG KONG EQUIPMENT LEASING ASSOCIATION TODAY, MR THOMAS SAID ANOTHER DEVELOPMENT OF CLOSER CONCERN TO THE ASSOCIATION WAS THE CONSIDERATION CURRENTLY BEING GIVEN BY THE LAW REFORM COMMISSION TO UNFAIR CONTRACT TERMS LEGISLATION.

HE ALSO ASKED INTERESTED PARTIES TO STUDY ITS POSSIBLE IMPLICATIONS AND TO MAKE REPRESENTATIONS AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME TO THE SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE COMMISSION OR AT LATER STAGES.

+I AM CONFIDENT THAT THE CONSULTATIVE PROCESS WHICH WORKED WELL IN RESPECT OF THE CIVIL DEBTORS QUESTION WILL SUCCEED AGAIN IN RESPECT OF OTHER MEASURES INVOLVING THE FINANCIAL SECTOR.

+HONG KONG IS A CLOSE-KNIT PLACE AND COOPERATION AND CONSULTATION IS EFFECTIVE IN ENSURING THE COMMON AIM - GETTING THE LAWS OF HONG KONG 'RIGHT' FOR HONG KONG,+ HE SAID.

ON THE 'LEASING INDUSTRY' IN HONG KONG, MR THOMAS SAID THAT THE SPECIALISED EXPERTISE IT INVOLVED HELPED TO DEVELOP HONG KONG'S ROLE AS A FINANCIAL CENTRE.

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GRANTS FOR MATRICULATION STUDENTS
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THE GOVERNMENT HAS SET ASIDE MAINTENANCE GRANTS FOR NEEDY STUDENTS WISHING TO PURSUE FULL-TIME MATRICULATION COURSES.

THE GRANT AMOUNTS TO ABOUT \$800 PER STUDENT A YEAR.

NEEDY STUDENTS NOW ATTENDING FORM 5 OR 6 WHO WISH TO APPLY FOR THE GRANT CAN OBTAIN THE FORMS FROM THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S OVERSEAS STUDENTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS SECTION, 77 LEIGHTON ROAD, ROOM 1522, LEIGHTON CENTRE, 15TH FLOOR, HONG KONG FROM JUNE 1.

COMPLETED FORMS MUST BE RETURNED THROUGH HEADS OF SCHOOLS TO THE SECRETARY, MAINTENANCE GRANTS COMMITTEE, WITHIN 10 DAYS AFTER THE PUBLICATION OF THE CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION RESULTS FOR FORM 5 STUDENTS AND BY JULY 21 FOR FORM 6 STUDENTS.

+GRANTS ARE AWARDED ON A YEARLY BASIS AND RENEWAL IS NOT AUTOMATIC. IF A RECIPIENT IN FORM 6 WISHES TO BE CONSIDERED FOR A GRANT ON PROMOTION TO FORM 7, HE MUST APPLY AGAIN,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

STUDENTS IN FORM 6 WHO ARE NOT RECEIVING GRANTS IN THE CURRENT ACADEMIC YEAR ARE ALSO ELIGIBLE TO APPLY, HE SAID.

GRANTS WILL BE PAID IN ARREARS AT THE END OF EACH MONTH FOR 10 MONTHS IN THE YEAR, AND THERE WILL BE NO PAYMENTS FOR JULY AND AUGUST.

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STROKE REHABILITATION UNIT OPENED
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THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES (MEDICAL SERVICES), DR S.F. LAM, TODAY (MONDAY) OFFICIALLY OPENED THE PONG WING SHIU STROKE REHABILITATION UNIT OF THE TUNG WAH HOSPITAL.

THE UNIT WITH 46 BEDS IS SITUATED ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE MAIN BUILDING OF THE HOSPITAL.

THE INSTALLATION OF THE UNIT, AT A COST OF ABOUT \$600 000, WAS MADE POSSIBLE BY A GENEROUS DONATION FROM MR PONG WING-SHIU AND A GRANT FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY, DR LAM SAID THAT STROKE UNITS LIKE THE ONE AT THE TUNG WAH HOSPITAL ENABLED PEOPLE WHO SUFFERED FROM STROKES TO GET BACK TO BEING ACTIVE INDIVIDUALS AGAIN.

THE OPENING OF THE STROKE REHABILITATION UNIT WAS THE LAST OFFICIAL FUNCTION PERFORMED BY DR LAM AS HE WILL BE ON LEAVE SOON PRIOR TO HIS RETIREMENT.

DURING THE CEREMONY, HE ALSO TALKED ABOUT HIS HAPPY ASSOCIATION WITH THE TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS.

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FOOTBRIDGES PLANNED FOR WONG TAI SIN

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THE GOVERNMENT IS PROPOSING TO BUILD THREE COVERED FOOTBRIDGES IN WONG TAI SIN TO LINK HOUSING ESTATES IN THE AREA.

THEY WILL EACH BE THREE METRES WIDE.

TWO WILL CROSS LUNG CHEUNG ROAD, WHILE THE THIRD WILL CROSS A NEW ROAD WHICH HAS NOT YET BEEN NAMED.

THE NEW FOOTBRIDGES WILL PROVIDE A COMPREHENSIVE NETWORK OF PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION LINKING HOUSING ESTATES IN THE MA CHAI HANG, WANG TAU HOM AND CHUK YUEN AREAS.

THEY WILL ALSO BE LINKED TO THE RECREATION GROUND IN CHUK YUEN AND THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY STATION IN LOK FU ESTATE.

WHEN THE NEW FOOTBRIDGES ARE READY, THE TEMPORARY ONE ACROSS LUNG CHEUNG ROAD WILL BE DEMOLISHED.

A NOTICE CONCERNING THE FOOTBRIDGES IS PUBLISHED IN THE LATEST GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

THE PLAN AND SCHEME CAN BE SEEN AT CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, CENTRAL ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, MAIN ENTRANCE LOBBY; THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, KOWLOON EAST, 10TH FLOOR, YAU MA TEI CAR PARK BUILDING, 250, SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON; AND AT WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT OFFICE, SAN PO KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, 4TH AND 5TH FLOORS, KING FUK STREET, SAN PO KONG, KOWLOON.

OBJECTIONS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS BEFORE MAY 15.

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TRANSPORT HISTORY BOOK OUT

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DID YOU KNOW THAT THE CHINA MOTOR BUS COMPANY BEGAN ITS OPERATION IN KOWLOON AND THAT THE HONGKONG TRAMWAYS ALSO OPERATED BUS SERVICES IN THE 1920S?

DETAILS ABOUT THE TRANSPORT HISTORY CAN NOW BE TRACED IN A NEWLY-PUBLISHED GOVERNMENT PUBLICATION - +THE DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN HONG KONG+.

THE BOOK, WRITTEN BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT, MR PETER LEEDS, FOLLOWING YEARS OF RESEARCH, REVIEWS HONG KONG'S TRANSPORT HISTORY DATING BACK TO THE 19TH CENTURY.

THE BOOK IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AT \$19 PER COPY.

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BMX BICYCLE FAIR IN WAN CHAI
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A THREE-HOUR BMX BICYCLE FAIR WILL BE STAGED AT THE PLAYGROUND OF THE SHENG KUNG HUI TANG SHIU KIN SECONDARY SCHOOL IN WAN CHAI ON SATURDAY (MARCH 24), STARTING AT 2.30 PM.

AT THE FAIR, THERE WILL BE A COMPETITION FOR CYCLISTS BETWEEN THE AGES OF 11 AND 18, AND A ROAD SAFETY EXHIBITION.

APPLICATION FORMS FOR THE COMPETITION, FREE ADMISSION TICKETS TO THE FAIR AND RAFFLE DRAW COUPONS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICE AT 201 HENNESSY ROAD.

THE FAIR IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICE, THE HONG KONG PLAYGROUND ASSOCIATION, THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, THE ROYAL POLICE AND THE WAN CHAI EAST AREA COMMITTEE.

ATTENDING THE OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE THE ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MR FRANCIS HO; THE WAN CHAI EAST AREA COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, MR HO FOOK-CHU; THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF HONG KONG PLAYGROUND ASSOCIATION, MRS ANN ANDRY; THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT COMMANDER, MR G.P.E. GUEST, AND THE ASSISTANT DISTRICT SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER, MR TIN CHING-LUNG.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE BMX BICYCLE FAIR IN WAN CHAI AT 2.30 PM ON SATURDAY (MARCH 24) AT THE SHENG KUNG HUI TANG SHIU KIN SECONDARY SCHOOL, 9 01 KWAN ROAD, WAN CHAI.

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WONG TAI SIN SEWER TO BE EXTENDED
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A TRUNK SEWER IN WONG TAI SIN WILL BE EXTENDED TO IMPROVE THE EXISTING SEWER NETWORK IN THE AREA.

THE EXTENSION IS NECESSARY AS THE POPULATION IN THE AREA IS EXPECTED TO INCREASE WITH NEARBY DEVELOPMENTS.

THE WORK WILL INVOLVE CONSTRUCTING 700 METRES OF 900-MILLIMETER-DIAMETER SEWER FROM LUNG CHEUNG ROAD NEAR CHING TAK STREET TO CHOI HUNG ROAD.

IT WILL PASS THROUGH CHING TAK STREET, LOWER WONG TAI SIN REDEVELOPMENT PHASE IV, SHEUNG TAK STREET AND SHA TIN PASS ROAD TO LINK UP WITH THE EXISTING TRUNK SEWER IN CHOI HUNG ROAD.

/IN ADDITION,

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IN ADDITION, A SEWER OF 600 MILLIMETERS IN DIAMETER WILL BE LAID IN CHOI HUNG ROAD FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH PO KONG VILLAGE ROAD TO SHA TIN PASS ROAD.

TENDERS FOR THE PROJECT ARE BEING INVITED BY THE CIVIL ENGINEERING OFFICE OF THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, AND THE CLOSING DATE IS APRIL 6.

WORK IS TO START IN JUNE AND WILL TAKE A YEAR TO COMPLETE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

SHA TIN DB TO DISCUSS STRATEGIES

SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WILL DISCUSS THE BOARD'S STRATEGIES AND PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 1984-85 AT THEIR MEETING ON WEDNESDAY (MARCH 21) MORNING.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA WILL INCLUDE CHANGES TO COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS AND PROGRESS REPORTS OF VARIOUS COMMITTEES.

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE WELCOME TO COVER THE MEETING AT 9 AM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE ON THE SIXTH FLOOR OF KCR HOUSE, SHA TIN STATION.

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WATER CUT IN SHAU KEI WAN AND LUEN WO MARKET

FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN AREAS IN SHAU KEI WAN WILL BE TURNED OFF FROM 11 PM ON THURSDAY (MARCH 22) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR LEAKAGE TESTS.

THE AFFECTED PREMISES ARE BOUNDED BY SHAU KEI WAN ROAD, SUN SHING STREET AND TAI ON STREET, INCLUDING TAI ON HOUSE.

FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO ALL PREMISES IN LUEN WO MARKET IN FANLING WILL ALSO BE SUSPENDED FROM 9 PM THE SAME DAY TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR WATER MAINS WORK.

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CAR PARK CLOSURE EXTENDED

THE FIRST FLOOR AND THE ROOF OF THE STAR FERRY MULTI-STOREY CAR PARK WILL REMAIN CLOSED UNTIL 8 AM ON FRIDAY (MARCH 23).

REPAIR WORK ON THE CAR PARK NOW REQUIRES MORE TIME BECAUSE OF THE UNUSUALLY HUMID WEATHER.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

CONSUMER COUNCIL TO OPEN ANOTHER CENTRE

THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR NEW TERRITORIES, MR IAN MACPHERSON, WILL OPEN THE CONSUMER COUNCIL'S ADVICE CENTRE IN YUEN LONG TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

THE CENTRE, THE 10TH TO BE OPERATED BY THE CONSUMER COUNCIL, IS LOCATED ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF YUEN LONG DISTRICT BRANCH OFFICES BUILDING AT 269 CASTLE PEAK ROAD.

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY AT 11.30 AM.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

RECLAMATION CONTRACT TO BE SIGNED

A CONTRACT VALUED AT \$185 MILLION FOR THE RECLAMATION OF 61 HECTARES AT MA ON SHAN WILL BE SIGNED TOMORROW (TUESDAY) IN THE LANDS AND WORKS BRANCH CONFERENCE ROOM, MURRAY BUILDING, 21ST FLOOR, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG.

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SIGNING CEREMONY WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE AT 2.30 PM.

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WATER FIGURE

STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 77.1 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 451.927 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 435.951 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 74.4 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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