



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES BECOMING ALIKE, SAYS AKERS-JONES ...	1
BUS SUB-GROUP TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO TAC	3
CAS VOLUNTEERS TO COMPETE IN SPORTS RALLY	4
KEEPING UP WITH TELECOMMUNICATIONS	5
NO DISRUPTION OF PEAK MAXICAB SERVICES	5
INDUSTRIAL SAFETY SEMINAR	6
QUIZ WINNERS TOUR LONDON	6
CONCERT OF CHINESE ART SONGS	7
WATER FIGURES	7

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1981

- 1 -

CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES BECOMING ALIKE, SAYS AKERS-JONES
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DEVELOPMENTS IN HONG KONG HAVE REACHED A STAGE WHEN THE CITY AND THE NEW TERRITORIES ARE BECOMING MORE ALIKE, THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR DAVID AKERS-JONES, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF PAST CHAIRMEN OF THE TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS, MR AKERS-JONES SAID IT WAS SAID RECENTLY THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN ENGAGED IN A SEEMINGLY UNENDING ROUND OF MUSICAL CHAIRS, BUT GOVERNING HONG KONG WAS NOT CHILD'S PLAY.

+THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG EXPECT THE GOVERNMENT TO GOVERN EFFICIENTLY AND EVERY DAY WE RECEIVE FROM A VAST VARIETY OF SOURCES THOUSANDS OF WORDS OF ADVICE AS TO HOW THIS SHOULD BE DONE,+ HE SAID.

+HONG KONG IS A PLACE OF MOVEMENT. YOU WOULD NOT WISH YOUR GOVERNMENT TO STAND ALOOF FROM THIS.

+WE NEED STABLE GOVERNMENT BUT NOT STATIC GOVERNMENT,+ HE SAID.

AND SO, RECENTLY, CHANGES HAD BEEN ANNOUNCED WITH REGARD TO HIS OWN RESPONSIBILITIES AND THOSE OF THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, MR DENIS BRAY.

THESE CHANGES, MR AKERS-JONES SAID, BEGAN SOME YEARS AGO WITH THE ENDEAVOUR TO INVOLVE THE PEOPLE MORE CLOSELY WITH THE GOVERNMENT.

THEY BEGAN WITH THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICER SCHEME IN 1968.

THERE FOLLOWED CAMPAIGNS INVOLVING THE COMMUNITY - CLEAN HONG KONG, FIGHT CRIME, ANTI-NARCOTICS, AND MANY OTHERS. MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES WERE FORMED IN MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS.

AREA COMMITTEES WERE ASSEMBLED TO MAKE A MORE CONCERTED ATTACK ON SOME OF THE LASTING PROBLEMS THAT AFFECT ANY LARGE CITY, BUT MORE PARTICULARLY OUR OWN WITH ITS SURGING, BUSTLING ACTIVITY AND EXTREMELY CROWDED ENVIRONMENT.

+THEN, IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, WE FORMED THE FIRST DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD AS AN EXPERIMENT IN TSUEN WAN TO SEE WHETHER WE COULD DEVELOP A MORE FORMAL MEETING OF COMMUNITY LEADERS, WHICH WOULD NOT ONLY DEAL WITH THE NEGATIVE ASPECTS OF URBAN LIFE, SUCH AS CRIME AND LITTER, BUT GIVE POSITIVE DIRECTION, FOCUS AND INTEREST TO COMMUNITY LIFE,+ HE SAID.

THE TSUEN WAN EXPERIMENT WAS ENTHUSIASTICALLY RECEIVED AND SINCE IT WAS SUCCESSFUL IT WAS INTRODUCED INTO OTHER NEW TERRITORIES DISTRICTS.

/AFTER FURTHER

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1981

- 2 -

AFTER FURTHER THOUGHT THESE BOARDS HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED INTO THE DISTRICTS OF HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, TO PROVIDE A MORE ORGANISED AND RATIONAL BASIS FOR LOCAL CONSULTATION AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

ALL THIS TOOK PLACE WITHIN THE PAST THREE YEARS.

+JUST RECENTLY, TO BRING THESE LOCAL BOARDS YET CLOSER TO THE PEOPLE, WE ARE INVITING THEM TO CHOOSE SOME, BUT NOT ALL, OF THE REPRESENTATIVES ON LOCAL BOARDS THEMSELVES, HENCE REGISTRATION OF VOTERS AND NEXT YEAR'S ELECTIONS,+ MR AKERS-JONES SAID.

+BOTH DENIS BRAY AND MYSELF HAVE HAD A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY FOR THESE DEVELOPMENTS, BUT THEY HAVE NOW REACHED A STAGE WHEN THE CITY AND THE NEW TERRITORIES ARE FAST BECOMING MORE ALIKE: IT WAS A SENSIBLE STEP THEREFORE TO PUT THE WHOLE MACHINERY UNDER ONE COMMAND.+

BUT THESE WERE NOT THE ONLY CHANGES TAKING PLACE.

THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT IN THE CITY AREAS WAS ALSO ORGANISING ITS WORKS PROGRAMME TO DEAL WITH DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT IN A MORE COORDINATED AND SYSTEMATIC WAY, SOMEWHAT AKIN TO THE SO-CALLED 'PACKAGE' SYSTEM OF DEVELOPMENT SUCCESSFULLY ADOPTED IN OUR NEW TOWNS.

CHANGES IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF LAND WERE FOLLOWING THE SAME PATTERN.

DISTRICT OFFICERS HAD BEEN LOCAL LAND OFFICERS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES FOR 80 YEARS.

NOW IT WAS PROPOSED THAT THERE SHOULD BE DISTRICT LAND OFFICERS IN THE DISTRICTS OF THE CITY AS WELL AS THE NEW TERRITORIES BUT, BECAUSE OF THE WEIGHT OF THE DISTRICT OFFICERS' GENERAL POLITICAL RESPONSIBILITIES, THE DAY-TO-DAY WORK OF LAND ADMINISTRATION WOULD BE HANDLED BY THE LANDS DEPARTMENT.

DISTRICT OFFICERS WOULD STAND BACK A BIT, BUT THEY WOULD NOT ABDICATE THEIR GENERAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROMOTING THE GOOD GOVERNMENT OF THEIR DISTRICTS.

+WE SHOULD THUS SEE BEFORE LONG A SYSTEM OF DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION THAT IS CLOSELY INTEGRATED IN ALL ITS ASPECTS WITH THE DISTRICT BOARDS THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE TERRITORY,+ MR AKERS-JONES SAID.

+THIS GOVERNMENT GAME OF MUSICAL CHAIRS, THIS SHUFFLE, HAS A DISCERNIBLE PATTERN TO IT. AND, WHEN THE MUSIC STOPS AND WE ALL SIT DOWN ON OUR CHAIRS IN OUR OFFICES OR AT THE MEETINGS OF THE DISTRICT BOARDS, THE BUSINESS OF THE DAY-TO-DAY GOVERNMENT OF THIS GREAT PLACE WILL HAVE TAKEN ANOTHER SENSIBLE STEP FORWARD TO ENABLE US TO DEAL MORE ADEQUATELY AND EFFICIENTLY WITH THE RADICALLY CHANGED TEMPO OF THE EIGHTIES AND THE ASPIRATIONS OF OUR PEOPLE,+ HE SAID.

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/3

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1981

- 3 -

BUS SUB-GROUP TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO TAC
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THE ROUTE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME SUB-GROUP, SET UP IN MAY TO REVIEW THE OPERATION AND FUTURE EXPANSION OF KMB'S BUS SERVICES, HELD ITS FINAL MEETING TODAY (MONDAY), AND ITS REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS WILL BE SUBMITTED SHORTLY TO THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

THE GROUP COMPRISES OFFICIALS FROM SEVERAL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, REPRESENTATIVES FROM KMB, TWO TAC MEMBERS, MRS ELSIE ELLIOTT AND MR STEPHEN WONG, AND TWO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC, MR WAYNE KWOK AND MR VINCENT KO.

AT TODAY'S MEETING MEMBERS ENDORSED A NUMBER OF PROGRAMMES AIMED AT ACHIEVING OPERATING ECONOMIES, WHICH WILL BE IMPLEMENTED AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE, THOUGH SAFEGUARDS WERE AGREED TO MINIMISE ANY INCONVENIENCE TO THE TRAVELLING PUBLIC.

THE PROGRAMMES OF ECONOMIES TO BE PURSUED ARE A REDUCTION IN THE NETWORK OF COACH SERVICE AND SOME REDUCTIONS IN BUS SERVICES DURING OFF-PEAK PERIODS.

PROPOSALS TO CANCEL SEVERAL MONEY-LOSING BUS ROUTES WERE DISCUSSED AT LENGTH, AND WERE AGREED ONLY ON CONDITION THAT ALL MEANS OF RESTORING VIABILITY WERE EXHAUSTED, AND THAT ADEQUATE ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORT FACILITIES WERE PROVIDED.

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT THE EXISTING MILEAGE-BASED FARE SYSTEM SHOULD BE RETAINED, SINCE ONE-MAN OPERATION WITHOUT TICKETS WAS ECONOMICAL AND EFFICIENT, BUT IT WOULD BE DEVELOPED BY THE ADDITION OF AN+EXPRESS+ CATEGORY TO PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT OF HIGHER SPEED BUS SERVICES, AND THAT FARES HIGHER THAN THE NORMAL SCALE COULD BE IMPOSED ON CERTAIN ROUTES WHERE SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES APPLIED, AND WHERE THE ALTERNATIVE MIGHT BE THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE ROUTE.

THE GROUP CONSIDERED THREE ALTERNATIVE EXPANSION OPTIONS FOR KMB UP TO THE END OF 1983, RANGING FROM 1 709 BUSES IN DAILY SERVICE TO 1 957 BUSES. IN TERMS OF THE LEVEL OF SERVICE, THESE OPTIONS RANGE FROM NO CHANGE IN PRESENT PEAK TRAVELLING CONDITIONS TO A PEAK CAPACITY IMPROVEMENT OF ABOUT 20 PER CENT. AT PRESENT KMB HAS 1 649 BUSES ON THE ROAD EACH DAY.

THE GROUP RECOMMENDED THAT A MODERATE EXPANSION OPTION BE ADOPTED.

THREE OF THE OTHER FOUR SUB-GROUPS ARE ALSO CRITICALLY EXAMINING COSTS IN THEIR RESPECTIVE AREAS OF: DEPOTS, MAINTENANCE AND SPARE PARTS, AND THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS, WHEN IMPLEMENTED, WILL ALSO AFFECT KMB'S COSTS.

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MEANWHILE THE PROFIT CONTROL SUB-GROUP IS DISCUSSING WHETHER THE EXISTING SCHEME OF CONTROL SHOULD BE RETAINED. THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF ALL FIVE SUB-GROUPS WILL NEED TO BE CONSIDERED BEFORE KMB'S TOTAL FUTURE COSTS CAN BE ESTIMATED.

MR RICHARD MEAKIN, ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT SAID AFTER THE MEETING THAT THE ROUTE DEVELOPMENT GROUP'S REVIEW HAD CONFIRMED THAT KMB'S OPERATIONS WERE ALREADY HIGHLY COST EFFECTIVE, AND THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ECONOMIES WITHOUT CAUSING INCONVENIENCE TO THE PUBLIC WERE VERY FEW.

THERE WAS, THEREFORE, A FAIRLY DIRECT RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE LEVEL OF SERVICE, AND THE COST OF THE SERVICE.

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CAS VOLUNTEERS TO COMPETE IN SPORTS RALLY * * * *

MORE THAN 600 VOLUNTEER CIVIL AID SERVICES MEMBERS AND CADETS WILL TAKE A BREAK FROM THEIR REGULAR PUBLIC SERVICE AND EMERGENCY DUTIES ON SUNDAY (NOVEMBER 29) TO COMPETE IN THE SERVICES' ANNUAL SPORTS DAY AT THE KWAI CHUNG SPORTS GROUND FROM 9 AM TO 5 PM.

THE DAY'S EVENTS, ORGANISED WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE, WILL INCLUDE LONG JUMP, SHOT PUT, 100-METRE, 400-METRE, 800-METRE, 1 500-METRE AND 4 X 100-METRE RELAY RACES.

A NUMBER OF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS WILL TAKE PART IN THE INVITATION RELAY.

MR HENRY KU, CAS REGIONAL COMMANDER, NEW TERRITORIES, WILL PRESENT THE PRIZES.

THE ANNUAL SPORTS DAY IS ONE OF THE MANY RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES ORGANISED FOR CAS VOLUNTEER MEMBERS IN ADDITION TO THEIR ROUTINE TRAINING.

AS VOLUNTEERS OF A PUBLIC SERVICE UNIT, CAS MEMBERS ARE TRAINED IN FIRST AID, YOUTH LEADERSHIP, LIGHT AND HEAVY RESCUE, MOUNTAIN SEARCH AND RESCUE, COMMUNICATION AND OPERATIONAL DUTIES SUCH AS CROWD CONTROL, COUNTRYSIDE FIRE PROTECTION AND RURAL AREA PATROL.

CAS MEMBERS TAKE PART IN CHARITY DRIVES, GOVERNMENT CAMPAIGNS AND PRIVATE FUNCTIONS. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WISHING TO USE THE CAS SERVICES SHOULD CALL THE PRINCIPAL TRAINING OFFICER ON 5-763236 DURING OFFICE HOURS.

A TEAM OF TRAINED MOUNTAIN RESCUERS IS STATIONED AT THE CAS KOWLOON TRAINING CENTRE AT 204, ARGYLE STREET, ON SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS FROM 10 AM TO 9.30 PM TO OFFER THEIR ASSISTANCE WHEN NECESSARY. THE RESCUE TEAM CAN BE CONTACTED FOR HELP BY DIALLING 999 OR 3-7116030.

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1981

- 5 -

KEEPING UP WITH TELECOMMUNICATIONS

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THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR J.N. HENDERSON, TODAY (MONDAY) SPENT A WHOLE DAY VISITING THE CABLE AND WIRELESS (HK) LTD, TO KEEP UP-TO-DATE WITH THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, MRS SOO MOK SAU-HA, MR HENDERSON FIRST VISITED THE COMPANY'S HEADQUARTERS IN WAN CHAI IN THE MORNING.

THE VISIT BEGAN WITH A BRIEFING GIVEN BY THE COMPANY'S DIVISIONAL MANAGER, MR B.A. MOUL, TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES AND MARKETING, FOLLOWED BY A TOUR OF ITS VARIOUS CENTRES AND MEETING OFFICIALS OF THE COMPANY'S HONG KONG NON-EXPATRIATE STAFF ASSOCIATION AND THE LOCAL STAFF WELFARE ASSOCIATION.

IN THE AFTERNOON, MR HENDERSON VISITED THE COMPANY'S STAFF RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AT CAROLINE HILL AND THE EARTH STATION AT STANLEY.

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NO DISRUPTION OF PEAK MAXICAB SERVICES

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THERE WILL BE NO DISRUPTION OF MAXICAB SERVICES TO THE PEAK AREA WHEN THE CONTRACT WITH THE PRESENT OPERATOR ENDS IN NOVEMBER 30 THIS YEAR.

+THE MAXICAB OPERATORS' SELECTION BOARD HAS CHOSEN A NEW OPERATOR TO RUN THE THREE PEAK MAXICAB SERVICES,+ A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

IMMEDIATELY AFTER RECEIVING NOTICE FROM THE OPERATOR LAST MONTH OF ITS INTENTION NOT TO CONTINUE ITS SERVICE, THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT INVITED APPLICATIONS FROM PUBLIC LIGHT BUS OPERATORS TO TAKE OVER THE ROUTES, HE SAID.

THE SERVICES ARE ROUTE NO. 1 FROM CENTRAL (HMS TAMAR) TO THE PEAK, NO. 2 FROM CENTRAL (HMS TAMAR) TO OLD PEAK ROAD AND NO. 3 FROM CENTRAL (HMS TAMAR) TO PO SHAN ROAD.

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/6

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1981

- 6 -

INDUSTRIAL SAFETY SEMINAR

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AN INDUSTRIAL SAFETY SEMINAR FOR EMPLOYEES IN HONG KONG WILL BE HELD AT THE WATERLOO ROAD CENTRE OF CHINESE Y.M.C.A. AT 9.30 AM TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

THE SEMINAR, ORGANISED BY THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD'S COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRIAL SAFETY AND ACCIDENT PREVENTION, WILL BE OFFICIALLY OPENED BY MR CHAN KAM-CHUEN, AN UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

SPEAKERS AT THE SEMINAR ARE MR ANTHONY LAI, CHIEF SAFETY OFFICER OF THE HONG KONG UNITED DOCKYARDS LTD= MR LEE WING-KIN, ENGINEER, HONG KONG ELECTRIC CO LTD= MR CHOW WING-CHEONG, DIVISIONAL OFFICER, FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND THREE OFFICIALS FROM THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT - MR YIP YUK-LUN, ACTING CHIEF FACTORY INSPECTOR= MR CHIU KAI-SUN, INDUSTRIAL HYGIENIST= AND MR WOO KIANG-YIU, ACTING LABOUR OFFICER.

IN ADDITION, TWO SAFETY FILMS WILL BE SHOWN AT THE SEMINAR, WHICH WILL LAST FOR TWO DAYS.

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO COVER THE SEMINAR.

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QUIZ WINNERS TOUR LONDON

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THE FIVE WINNERS OF THE +SAFETY AT WORK+ TELEVISION PROGRAMME, WHO ARE NOW IN THE U.K. ON FREE TRIP, BEGAN THE FIRST ROUND OF THEIR OFFICIAL VISITS TODAY (MONDAY) AFTER GETTING SOME FEEL OF LONDON.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE CHIEF FACTORY INSPECTOR OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, MR CHAN SIU-LAP, THE GROUP WENT SIGHTSEEING OVER THE WEEKEND, AFTER ARRIVING BY BRITISH CALEDONIAN AIRWAYS.

LAST SATURDAY, THEY SPENT A FULL DAY TOURING WINDSOR AND HAMPTON COURT, AND WENT CRUISING ON THE THAMES, AND SPENDING A TYPICAL +SCOTTISH EVENING+ IN THE CALEDONIAN SUITE YESTERDAY.

TODAY, THE WINNERS TOURED THE INDUSTRIAL SAFETY TRAINING CENTRE AND LATER HAD LUNCH WITH OFFICIALS OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS.

TOMORROW, THE WINNERS WILL MEET OFFICIALS OF THE BRITISH SAFETY COUNCIL FOR A BRIEFING OF THE WORK OF THE COUNCIL AND WILL LATER INSPECT CONSTRUCTION OF THE LONDON BARRIER.

THE TV PROGRAMME WAS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE DEPARTMENT, RTHK AND THE FEDERATION OF HONG KONG INDUSTRIES TO PROMOTE INDUSTRIAL SAFETY, AND WAS CO-SPONSORED BY THE AIRLINE.

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1981

- 7 -

CONCERT OF CHINESE ART SONGS

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AN EVENING OF CHINESE ART SONGS WILL ADD COLOUR TO THE FOURTH TSUEN WAN ARTS FESTIVAL TO BE HELD BETWEEN JANUARY 22 AND FEBRUARY 13 NEXT YEAR.

THE CREATIVITY AND RICHNESS OF CHINESE ART SONGS WILL BE BROUGHT TO THE AUDIENCES BY SEVERAL LEADING LOCAL VOCALISTS AT THE TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL AUDITORIUM ON JANUARY 26.

THESE VOCALISTS WILL INCLUDE CECILIA CHU (MEZZO SOPRANO), CHOU YUEN-CHEN (BARITONE), YUNG KEUNG (TENOR) AND ANNA CHENG (SOPRANO).

THE TSUEN WAN CHILDREN'S CHOIR, TSUEN WAN GIRL'S CHOIR AND TSUEN WAN CHOIR WILL ALSO PARTICIPATE IN THE CONCERT.

THE FOURTH TSUEN WAN ARTS FESTIVAL WILL BE JOINTLY PRESENTED BY THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD, THE TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL, THE TSUEN WAN CULTURE AND RECREATION CO-ORDINATING ASSOCIATION AND THE MUSIC OFFICE.

TICKETS FOR THE CONCERT AT \$5, \$10 AND \$15 ARE NOW AVAILABLE THROUGH POSTAL BOOKINGS UNTIL DECEMBER 9.

PROGRAMMES AND POSTAL BOOKING FOLDERS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL, HONG KONG ARTS CENTRE, MUSIC OFFICE, BRITISH COUNCIL, ALLIANCE FRANCAISE, GOETHE INSTITUTE, NEW TERRITORIES PUBLIC LIBRARIES, DISTRICT OFFICES OF THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION AND CITY DISTRICT OFFICES.

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WATER FIGURES

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WATER STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 47.5 PER CENT OR 274.758 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THE STORAGE IS EQUIVALENT TO 221 DAYS' CONSUMPTION.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 340.026 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 58.8 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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