



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1978

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COMMUNICATION --- THE OPERATIVE WORD IN WORK
OF CHINESE LANGUAGE OFFICERS
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COMMUNICATION IS THE OPERATIVE WORD IN THE WORK OF A CHINESE LANGUAGE OFFICER.

FOR THE WORK NOT ONLY ENTAILS TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENTS -- FROM ENGLISH INTO CHINESE, OR THE REVERSE -- BUT ALSO KNOWLEDGE OF THE VARIOUS DIALECTS USED BY PEOPLE FROM DIFFERENT PROVINCES.

AS MRS. PAK CHAN WAH-KING, SENIOR CHINESE LANGUAGE OFFICER OF THE HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, DESCRIBES IT: +THE WORK OF A CHINESE LANGUAGE OFFICER CALLS FOR A HIGH DEGREE OF KNOWLEDGE AND COMPREHENSION OF BOTH LANGUAGES.+

WITH THE GROWING USAGE OF CHINESE LANGUAGE IN THE GOVERNMENT'S COMMUNICATION WITH THE PUBLIC, THE MORE THAN 240 CHINESE LANGUAGE OFFICERS SECONDED TO 31 GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS ARE PLAYING A MORE CHALLENGING ROLE.

EXAMPLE:

MR. LEE YUEN-YAU, CHINESE LANGUAGE OFFICER OF THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION'S YUEN LONG DISTRICT OFFICE, HAS TO LEARN TO SPEAK HAKKA TO COMMUNICATE MORE EFFICIENTLY WITH VILLAGERS.

EXAMPLE:

MRS. JOSEPHINE WONG, CHINESE LANGUAGE OFFICER OF THE LEGAL AID DEPARTMENT, ALSO ACTS AS A COUNSELLOR IN TRYING TO COMFORT APPLICANTS FOR LEGAL AID WHO ARE EMOTIONALLY DISTURBED AND FRUSTRATED BECAUSE THEIR FRIENDS OR RELATIVES HAVE BEEN INJURED OR KILLED IN TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS.

MANY OTHER UNEXPECTED AND MORE CHALLENGING CIRCUMSTANCES MAY ARISE WHEN THESE OFFICERS OF THE CHINESE LANGUAGE AUTHORITY CARRY OUT THEIR DUTIES TO IMPROVE COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE.

+EVEN WITH TRANSLATION ITSELF, A CHINESE LANGUAGE OFFICER HAS TO KEEP ABREAST OF KNOWLEDGE IN VARIOUS FIELDS SO THAT ONE LANGUAGE CAN BEST BE TRANSLATED INTO THE OTHER,+ MRS. PAK POINTED OUT.

+IN ADDITION,+ SHE SAID, +THE OFFICER HAS TO READ MANY CHINESE NEWSPAPERS IN ORDER TO HANDLE PROMPTLY AND EFFICIENTLY PRESS COMMENTS CONCERNING THE SERVICES OF INDIVIDUAL DEPARTMENTS.+

MANY CHINESE LANGUAGE OFFICERS ALSO WORK UNDER EXTREME PRESSURE TO MEET DEADLINES, MRS. PAK SAID.

+THIS HAPPENS WHEN WE ARE PREPARING THE CHINESE VERSION OF IMPORTANT POLICY STATEMENTS SUCH AS THE GOVERNOR'S POLICY SPEECH AND THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S BUDGET SPEECH.

+WE HAVE ONLY A VERY SHORT TIME, AND VERY OFTEN, WE ARE HELD UP BY NEW AND TECHNOLOGICAL TERMS WHICH WE HAVE NEVER COME ACROSS BEFORE. AND WE HAVE TO BE EXTREMELY CAREFUL BECAUSE EVEN ONE VERY MINOR ERROR MAY AFFECT THE MEANING OF THE WHOLE STATEMENT.+

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APPLY EARLY FOR STUDY IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

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STUDENTS WISHING TO ENTER COLLEGES OF FURTHER EDUCATION AND POLYTECHNICS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM SHOULD APPLY THROUGH THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT BEFORE JUNE 30 EACH YEAR FOR ADMISSION IN SEPTEMBER OR OCTOBER OF THE SAME YEAR.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID APPLICATION FOR THE COLLEGES AND POLYTECHNICS START IN EARLY JANUARY AND ALL RELEVANT DOCUMENTS SHOULD REACH THE DEPARTMENT'S OVERSEAS STUDENTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS SECTION BEFORE THE END OF JUNE.

HOWEVER, SPECIAL ATTENTION SHOULD BE PAID TO SPECIFIC APPLICATION DEAD-LINES REQUIRED BY CERTAIN PROFESSIONAL COURSES IN POLYTECHNICS WHICH COULD BE AS EARLY AS MARCH, HE ADDED.

+APPLICATIONS MADE AFTER THE SET DATE WILL BE ACCEPTED ONLY IF THE APPLICANT CAN PRODUCE EVIDENCE THAT THE COLLEGE CONCERNED IS STILL WILLING TO CONSIDER HIS APPLICATION,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

FURTHERMORE, HE SAID, APPLICANTS ON +SANDWICH+ COURSES OFFERED BY POLYTECHNICS SHOULD ENSURE THEY HAVE THE PRACTICAL TRAINING PART OF THE COURSE ARRANGED BEFORE LEAVING HONG KONG.

SANDWICH COURSES INVOLVE ATTENDING CLASSES AT THE POLYTECHNIC AND ALSO PRACTICAL TRAINING AT FACTORIES OR OTHER INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISES.

+MOREOVER, STUDENTS SHOULD NOTE THAT INDUSTRIAL SPONSORSHIP IS EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO ARRANGE AND WHEREVER POSSIBLE THEY ARE ADVISED TO APPLY FOR FULL-TIME COURSES RATHER THAN SANDWICH COURSES,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

IN ADDITION, FOR THOSE STUDENTS WHO WISH TO APPLY FOR ADMISSION TO INDEPENDENT PRIVATE SCHOOLS IN BRITAIN, EARLY APPLICATION IS ADVISABLE, PREFERRABLY ONE YEAR IN ADVANCE.

APPLICATIONS TO PRIVATE SCHOOLS SHOULD BE MADE BY PARENTS OR GUARDIANS DIRECT TO THE SCHOOLS. THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE STUDENT ADVISER IN THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICE IN LONDON DO NOT UNDERTAKE TO PLACE BOYS AND GIRLS IN THESE BOARDING SCHOOLS IN BRITAIN.

+HOWEVER, STUDENTS AND THEIR PARENTS MAY OBTAIN GENERAL INFORMATION AND ADVICE ON THESE SCHOOLS FROM THE OVERSEAS STUDENTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS SECTION,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

WITH REGARD TO APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TO A BRITISH UNIVERSITY, APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE MADE ONE YEAR IN ADVANCE THROUGH THE UNIVERSITIES CENTRAL COUNCIL ON ADMISSION (U.C.C.A.) IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

/U.C.C.A.

U.C.C.A. FORMS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE OVERSEAS STUDENTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS SECTION FROM MID-AUGUST EACH YEAR. APPLICANTS SHOULD RETURN THE COMPLETED FORMS TO U.C.C.A. BEFORE OCTOBER 15 FOR THOSE INCLUDING OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE AMONG THE UNIVERSITY ENTRIES- OR DECEMBER 15 FOR THOSE NOT INCLUDING OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE.

TURNING TO EXPENSES, THE SPOKESMAN SAID: +STUDENTS PROCEEDING TO THE UNITED KINGDOM TO STUDY SHOULD HAVE SUFFICIENT FUNDS TO MEET ALL EXPENSES BECAUSE OVERSEAS STUDENTS THERE CANNOT OBTAIN FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, AND IT IS NOT POSSIBLE FOR STUDENTS TO WORK THEIR WAY THROUGH COLLEGE.+

THE COST OF LIVING IN THE UNITED KINGDOM IS HIGH, AND ANNUAL EXPENSES OF A STUDENT ARE IN THE REGION OF 2,500 POUNDS STERLING, HE ADDED.

APPLICANTS OVER THE AGE OF 18 MAY ALSO APPLY FOR ACCOMMODATION IN THE HONG KONG STUDENTS CENTRE IN LONDON AND THIS SHOULD BE MADE THROUGH THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

STUDENTS WISHING TO APPLY FOR A PLACE IN THE CENTRE AND WHO WISH TO OBTAIN THE HELP AND ADVICE OF THE STUDENT ADVISER IN LONDON SHOULD COMPLETE ALL FORMALITIES WITH THE DEPARTMENT AT LEAST ONE MONTH BEFORE THEIR DEPARTURE.

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TWO +SPECIAL+ INDUSTRIAL SITES FOR AUCTION ON TUESDAY
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A PUBLIC AUCTION WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY (DECEMBER 19) TO SELL THE FIRST TWO +SPECIAL+ INDUSTRIAL SITES IN THE FO TAN INDUSTRIAL AREA OF SHA TIN NEW TOWN.

IT WILL BE HELD AT THE SHA TIN GOVERNMENT SECONDARY SCHOOL AT 11 A.M. AND WILL BE CONDUCTED BY THE SENIOR ESTATE SURVEYOR OF THE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE, MR. ROGER THOMPSON.

THE TWO SITES, MEASURING 2,966 SQUARE METRES AND 2,821 SQUARE METRES, CARRY SPECIAL LEASE CONDITIONS DESIGNED TO HELP INDUSTRIES REQUIRING INCREASED FLOOR LOADING CAPACITY AND HIGHER CEILING CLEARANCES.

THE SALE CONDITIONS SPECIFY THE PROVISION OF A 300 LBS PER SQUARE FOOT LOADING AND A 25-FOOT HEIGHT PER THREE FLOORS OF THE BUILDINGS TO BE ERECTED, INCLUDING THE GROUND FLOOR.

THE CONDITIONS ALSO CARRY BUILDING COVENANTS OF \$4,790,000 AND \$4,550,000 RESPECTIVELY TO BE FULFILLED WITHIN 30 CALENDAR MONTHS FROM JANUARY 1 NEXT YEAR AND A 9.5 PLOT RATIO ALLOWING FOR MULTI-STOREY INDUSTRIAL/GODOWN DEVELOPMENT.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE FO TAN INDUSTRIAL SITE AUCTION ON TUESDAY (DECEMBER 19). TRANSPORT WILL BE PROVIDED. A GOVERNMENT VAN (AM 2088) WILL LEAVE THE KOWLOON PUBLIC PIER, TSIM SHA TSUI, AT 10.15 A.M.

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APPRENTICESHIP DIVISION OPENS BRANCH OFFICE
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A NEW BRANCH OFFICE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S APPRENTICESHIP DIVISION WILL BE OPENED TOMORROW (MONDAY) IN KWAI CHUNG.

THE NEW OFFICE, AT 31 SHING FONG STREET, FIFTH FLOOR, IS THE FOURTH OPENED BY THE DEPARTMENT. ITS TELEPHONE NUMBERS ARE: 12-297908 AND 12-298252.

THE OTHER THREE OFFICES ARE IN NEW RODNEY BLOCK, QUEENSWAY, HONG KONG= 7 KING FUK STREET, SAN PO KONG, KOWLOON= AND SALISBURY ROAD (OPPOSITE SHERATON HOTEL), TSIM SHA TSUI.

THE MAIN FUNCTION OF THESE OFFICES IS TO ADMINISTER THE APPRENTICESHIP ORDINANCE AND TO PROMOTE APPRENTICE TRAINING IN THE 31 DESIGNATED TRADES WHICH ARE OF VITAL IMPORTANCE TO HONG KONG INDUSTRIES.

SAID A LABOUR DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN: +THE AIM OF THE APPRENTICESHIP ORDINANCE IS TO ENSURE THAT PEOPLE BETWEEN 14 AND 18 YEARS OLD WORKING IN THESE TRADES RECEIVE ADEQUATE TRAINING SO THAT HONG KONG WILL EVENTUALLY HAVE AN ADEQUATE SUPPLY OF SKILLED MANPOWER.

+THE APPRENTICESHIP DIVISION WOULD ALSO HELP SETTLE DISPUTES BETWEEN EMPLOYERS AND THEIR REGISTERED APPRENTICES.+

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT ALL CONTRACTS OF APPRENTICESHIP OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN DESIGNATED TRADES SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO THE APPRENTICESHIP DIVISION FOR REGISTRATION WITHIN 14 DAYS AFTER EXECUTION. FAILURE TO DO SO MIGHT RENDER AN EMPLOYER LIABLE TO PROSECUTION.

HOWEVER, THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR HAS THE POWER TO GRANT EXEMPTION IN CERTAIN CASES, IF, FOR EXAMPLE, HE IS SATISFIED THAT THE YOUNG PERSON HAS UNDERGONE SUFFICIENT TRAINING IN A PARTICULAR TRADE.

THE SPOKESMAN INVITED EMPLOYERS IN NON-DESIGNATED TRADES TO SEND CONTRACTS OF APPRENTICESHIP TO THE DIVISION FOR VOLUNTARY REGISTRATION.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE APPRENTICESHIP ORDINANCE CAN BE MADE AT THE OFFICES OF THE APPRENTICESHIP DIVISION MENTIONED ABOVE.

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CLEAN-UP OPERATION IN SQUATTER
AREA IN SHAM SHUI PO
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A SIX-DAY CLEAN-UP OPERATION WILL BE MOUNTED ON A SQUATTER AREA HOUSED MAINLY BY INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS IN SHAM SHUI PO TOMORROW (MONDAY).

THE OPERATION WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE YEUNG MUI HANG VILLAGE IN TAI WO PING.

THE SQUATTER AREA HAS SOME 700 STRUCTURES USED MAINLY FOR INDUSTRIAL PURPOSES. AT PRESENT, INDUSTRIAL WASTES AND DOMESTIC REFUSE ARE DEPOSITED AT UNATTENDED CORNERS AND HILLSIDES OF THE VILLAGE, POSING FIRE AND HYGENIC HAZARDS.

THE CLEAN-UP OPERATION IS AIMED AT REMINDING VILLAGERS OF THE RESPONSIBILITIES IN MAINTAINING A CLEAN ENVIRONMENT.

OVER 100 VOLUNTEERS AND LABOURERS FROM THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL BE MOBILISED IN THE OPERATION.

AN OPENING CEREMONY MARKING THE CAMPAIGN WILL BE OFFICIATED BY DR. P.H. HASE, CITY DISTRICT OFFICER (SHAM SHUI PO) AT 10.30 A.M. TOMORROW (MONDAY).

THE OPERATION IS JOINTLY ORGANSIDED BY THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE (SHAM SHUI PO), URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND THE TAI WO PING MUTUAL AID COMMITTEE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE CLEAN-UP OPERATION AT 10.30 A.M. TOMORROW (MONDAY) AT THE HONG KONG QUARRY COMPANY IN YEUNG MUI HANG VILLAGE AT THE END OF NAM CHEONG STREET FLYOVER NORTH OF LUNG CHEUNG ROAD, SHAM SHUI PO.

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BALLOT TICKETS FOR FAIR SITES ON SALE SOON

BALLOT TICKETS FOR THE 1979 LUNAR NEW YEAR FAIR SITES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WILL BE SOLD BETWEEN WEDNESDAY (DECEMBER 20) AND JANUARY 4, 1979 (EXCEPT HOLIDAYS AND SUNDAYS).

THE FAIRS, WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE IN TSUEN WAN, YUEN LONG AND SHEUNG SHUI FROM JANUARY 21 TO 28, 1979, WILL PROVIDE 554 TEMPORARY STALL SITES FOR BOTH WET AND DRY GOODS -- 254 OF WHICH ARE IN TSUEN WAN, 200 IN YUEN LONG AND 100 IN SHEUNG SHUI.

ALL SITES WILL BE ALLOCATED THROUGH OPEN BALLOT TO FLOWER GROWERS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES AND TO TRADERS SELLING PERMISSIBLE COMMODITIES.

BALLOT TICKETS, AT \$5 EACH, WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE FOLLOWING CENTRES FROM 10 A.M. TO 3 P.M.:

- * TSUEN WAN FAIR -- TSUEN WAN URBAN SERVICES DISTRICT OFFICE AT CHARTERED BANK BUILDING, TAI HO ROAD, FIFTH FLOOR, TSUEN WAN.
- * YUEN LONG FAIR -- YUEN LONG URBAN SERVICES DISTRICT OFFICE AT ROOM 314, YUEN LONG DISTRICT BRANCH OFFICE BUILDING, MAIN ROAD, YUEN LONG.
- * SHEUNG SHUI FAIR -- TAI PO URBAN SERVICES DISTRICT OFFICE AT MEI TAK BUILDING, FIRST FLOOR, 1-17 KWONG FUK ROAD, TAI PO.

APPLICANTS, WHO MUST BE AGED 18 OR ABOVE, SHOULD GO TO THE CENTRES IN PERSON, BRINGING WITH THEM THEIR HONG KONG IDENTITY CARD AND A PHOTOGRAPH.

THE OPEN BALLOT WILL BE HELD ON JANUARY 10, 1979.

SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS WILL BE ISSUED A TEMPORARY HAWKER LICENCE AT \$25 EACH.

DETAILED SITE PLANS OF THE FAIRS WILL BE ON DISPLAY AT THE URBAN SERVICES DISTRICT OFFICES AT TSUEN WAN, YUEN LONG AND TAI PO, FROM WHERE A LIST OF SALEABLE COMMODITIES FOR FAIR STALLS CAN ALSO BE OBTAINED.

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BLIND PEOPLE'S CENTRE OPENED IN SHAM SHUI PO
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THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S REGIONAL OFFICER FOR WEST KOWLOON, MR. LU YU-HUA, TODAY (SUNDAY) CALLED ON MORE PEOPLE TO JOIN AS VOLUNTEERS IN THEIR SPARE TIME TO HELP THE BLIND.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE LUTHERAN CENTRE FOR THE BLIND IN PAK TIN ESTATE, MR. LU SAID THE GOVERNMENT'S REHABILITATION PROGRAMME PLAN HAD POINTED TO THE NEED FOR MORE WELFARE SERVICES FOR BLIND PEOPLE.

THE PROVISION OF SUCH SERVICES, HE SAID, CALLED FOR JOINT EFFORTS BY THE GOVERNMENT AND THE VOLUNTARY WELFARE SECTOR, AS WELL AS VOLUNTEERS.

MR. LU SAID THE BLIND HAD MORE ABILITIES THAN DISABILITIES, AND THEY DID JUST AS WELL, AND SOMETIMES EVEN BETTER, THAN THE FULLY SIGHTED IN PROVING THEIR SKILLS.

+IT SHOULD BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF EVERYONE OF US TO HELP OTHERS IN THE COMMUNITY TO DISCARD ANY PREJUDICE OR DISCRIMINATION THEY MIGHT HAVE TOWARDS BLIND PEOPLE,+ HE SAID.

HE SAID VISUALLY DISABLED PEOPLE SHOULD BE GIVEN EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO DEVELOP THEIR POTENTIALS TO THE FULL AND TO PROVE THEIR REAL USE IN THE COMMUNITY.

+I AM SURE THAT WHEN PEOPLE JOIN AS VOLUNTEERS AND GET IN TOUCH WITH THE BLIND, THEY WILL FIND THAT WHILE THEIR VOLUNTARY SERVICE HELPS PLUG UP THEIR MINOR DISABILITY, THEY CAN AT THE SAME TIME SHARE MUCH OF THE BLIND'S WISDOM,+ HE SAID.

THE LUTHERAN CENTRE FOR THE BLIND, RUN BY THE LUTHERAN CHURCH-HONG KONG SYNOD, IS PARTLY FINANCED BY THE LOTTERIES FUND THROUGH THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT. IT REPLACES THE OLD ONE AT WONG TAI SIN.

THE CENTRE IS THE PIONEER IN ORGANISING OVERSEAS TRIPS FOR BLIND PEOPLE. OTHER SERVICES INCLUDE RECREATIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES, AS WELL AS THE PRODUCTION OF A BI-MONTHLY BRAILLE MAGAZINE. AT PRESENT, IT IS PREPARING A SERIES OF +TALKING MAGAZINES+ WHICH WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR LOAN TO THE BLIND EARLY NEXT YEAR.

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PAYMENT DATES ADVANCED FOR SOCIAL SECURITY RECIPIENTS
BEFORE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

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THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT HAS MADE SPECIAL PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS FOR RECIPIENTS OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AND WELFARE ALLOWANCES WHOSE PAYMENT DATES FALL ON THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (SUNDAY) THE CORRESPONDING ADVANCE PAYMENT DATES FOR RECIPIENTS WITH COUPONS TO BE CASHED ON DECEMBER 24, 25 AND 26 WOULD NOW BE DECEMBER 20, 21 AND 22 RESPECTIVELY.

+THOSE INVOLVED SHOULD TAKE NOTE OF THEIR OWN PAYMENT DATES SO THAT THEY CAN GET THEIR ALLOWANCES BEFORE THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS,+ HE SAID.

AS IN PREVIOUS YEARS, HE SAID, THESE ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE WITH THE POST OFFICES, TREASURY OFFICES AND NEW TERRITORIES DISTRICT OFFICES TO ENABLE RECIPIENTS TO CASH THEIR VOUCHERS EARLIER.

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WATER CUT

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THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (SUNDAY) THAT FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN NORTH POINT WILL BE STOPPED FOR SEVEN HOURS FROM 11 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY (DECEMBER 20) TO 6 A.M. ON THURSDAY (DECEMBER 21) FOR LEAKAGE TESTS.

THE AFFECTED AREA IS BOUNDED BY NORTH POINT ROAD, SEAFRONT SHU KUK STREET AND NORTH SIDE OF KING'S ROAD.

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