



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

TUESDAY, MAY 23, 1978

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TUESDAY, MAY 22, 1978

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EMPLOYERS URGED TO HIRE MORE DISABLED PERSONS

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A SENIOR SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT OFFICER TODAY APPEALED TO EMPLOYERS TO PLAY A MORE ACTIVE ROLE IN HIRING DISABLED PERSONS IN ORDER TO HELP INTEGRATE THEM INTO THE COMMUNITY.

MRS. ROSE GOODSTADT, HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT'S REHABILITATION DIVISION, SAID THAT WHILE EMPLOYMENT PROSPECTS FOR THE DISABLED HAD IMPROVED CONSIDERABLY OVER THE PAST YEARS, MORE NEEDED TO BE DONE.

ADDRESSING A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE LIONS CLUB OF LION ROCK, MRS. GOODSTADT SAID EXPERIENCE SHOWED IT WOULD BE WRONG TO REGARD HIRING THE DISABLED AS CHARITY EFFORTS WHICH INEVITABLY ENTAILED LOSS.

IN FACT, MOST DISABLED PERSONS HAVE MORE ABILITIES THAN DISABILITIES AND TO EMPLOY THEM CAN BE MOST REWARDING, SHE STRESSED.

SHE CALLED ON EMPLOYERS TO GIVE THE DISABLED A CHANCE BY DISCARDING ANY PREJUDICE OR DOUBTS THEY MIGHT HAVE ABOUT THEIR ADAPTABILITY TO WORK, OR ANY WORRY THAT HIRING THEM MIGHT GIVE RISE TO MANAGEMENT PROBLEMS.

+I AM QUITE SURE THAT IF GIVEN A FAIR COMPETITION ON THE BASIS OF SKILLS, MANY DISABLED PERSONS WHO HAVE RECEIVED ADEQUATE TRAINING STAND A VERY GOOD CHANCE OF BEING RECRUITED,+ SHE SAID.

MRS. GOODSTADT SAID THE DISABLED SHOULD BE GIVEN EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO LEAD THE LIFE OF A NORMAL PERSON, AND THERE WERE ADVANTAGES IN TAKING IN THE DISABLED AS WORKERS.

ON THE ONE HAND, SHE EXPLAINED, THEIR MOBILITY IS RELATIVELY LOW AS THEY TEND TO BE MORE LOYAL TO THEIR EMPLOYERS AND THEY CAN GET ON WELL WITH THEIR FELLOW WORKERS.

+ON THE OTHER HAND, TO HAVE THEM ON THE STAFF WOULD SHOW THAT THE EMPLOYER IS A PUBLIC-SPIRITED PERSON AND THIS WOULD COMMAND RESPECT AND HELP PROMOTE A SENSE OF LOYALTY AND GOOD WORKING RELATIONSHIP,+ SHE ADDED.

SHE SAID MANY HAD COME TO REALISE THAT THE DEAF AND PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED WERE ABLE TO DO A WIDE RANGE OF JOBS, ALTHOUGH SOME STILL HAD RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE ABILITY OF THE BLIND, THE MENTALLY RETARDED AND THE EX-MENTAL PATIENT.

+IN FACT, IF GIVEN THE CHANCE, ALL DISABLED PERSONS CAN VERY WELL FIT INTO A SUITABLE JOB. FOR INSTANCE, THE BLIND CAN BE A GOOD TELEPHONE OPERATOR, A TYPIST OR A METAL ASSEMBLING WORKER= WHILE THE MENTALLY RETARDED CAN BE GOOD ENOUGH AT PLASTIC ASSEMBLING AND PACKAGING WORK.+

/ADMITTEDLY,

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ADMITTEDLY, MRS. GOODSTADT SAID A PERIOD OF ADJUSTMENT IS NECESSARY IN SOME CASES, BUT THE TIME TAKEN FOR A DISABLED PERSON TO SETTLE DOWN IN HIS JOB IS FAR SHORTER THAN SOME MAY HAVE IMAGINED.

+I TRULY BELIEVE THAT IF EMPLOYERS COULD SHOW TRUST AND A BIT OF PATIENCE DURING THIS SHORT PERIOD, THE DISABLED WORKER CAN PICK UP VERY QUICKLY AND SATISFY THEIR REQUIREMENTS,+ SHE SAID.

MRS. GOODSTADT SAID THE JOB PLACEMENT UNIT OF HER DIVISION WOULD CONTINUE ITS EFFORTS TO PROVIDE JOB GUIDANCE FOR THE DISABLED AND TO DISPEL DOUBTS AMONG EMPLOYERS AS TO THEIR ABILITY.

+SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN 1967, THE UNIT HAS FOUND JOBS FOR MORE THAN 3,100 DISABLED PERSONS IN THE COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL SECTORS, THE JOBS RANGING FROM OFFICE CLERK, BOOK-KEEPER, TYPIST TO MECHANIC,+ SHE SAID.

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GOVERNOR VISITS HONG KONG SEA SCHOOL

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, THIS (TUESDAY) AFTERNOON VISITED THE HONG KONG SEA SCHOOL AT STANLEY AND UNVEILED A COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE TO MARK THE OPENING OF THE BRADBURY PIER IN THE SCHOOL.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY, SIR MURRAY PRAISED THE SCHOOL FOR ITS ENVIABLE REPUTATION BUILT UP OVER 30 YEARS OF DEVOTED WORK AND DESCRIBED THE PIER AS +ANOTHER MILESTONE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SCHOOL.+

THE BRADBURY PIER WAS BUILT WITH \$1 MILLION DONATED BY THE BRADBURY TRUST FUND.

THE GOVERNOR, ACCOMPANIED BY THE SCHOOL'S CHAIRMAN, CAPTAIN M.D. BURBIDGE, AND THE SUPERINTENDENT, BRIGADIER N.G.A. NOBLE, LATER TOURED THE SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND SAW BOYS AGED BETWEEN 14 AND 18 UNDERGOING TRAINING IN SEAMANSHIP.

THE SCHOOL PROVIDES GENERAL EDUCATION AND PRACTICAL TRAINING FOR BOYS FOR A CAREER AT SEA. IT HAS ACCOMMODATION FOR 572 BOYS.

THE FOLLOWING IS THE FULL TEXT OF THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH:-

+IT GIVES ME GREAT PLEASURE TO BE HERE TODAY TO VISIT THE HONG KONG SEA SCHOOL AND THE BRADBURY PIER. THIS IS ANOTHER MILESTONE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SCHOOL.

+THE HONG KONG SEA SCHOOL PROVIDES EDUCATION AND RESIDENTIAL CARE FOR BOYS WHO IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER HAVE BEEN DOWN ON THEIR LUCK. ITS PROGRAMME COMBINES GENERAL EDUCATION WITH PRACTICAL TRAINING IN SEAMANSHIP AND IT THUS PREPARES BOYS FOR AN INDEPENDENT AND ACTIVE LIFE. IT HAS AN ENVIABLE REPUTATION BUILT UP OVER 30 YEARS OF DEVOTED WORK.

+BUT IT CONTINUES TO IMPROVE ITS PROGRAMME. THE EXTENSION OF THIS PIER AND THE INSTALLATION OF NEW EQUIPMENT ARE TWO IMPORTANT FURTHER CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS THE QUALITY OF EXPANSION OF SEAMANSHIP TRAINING. THIS HAS BEEN MADE POSSIBLE BY THE GENEROUS DONATION OF \$1 MILLION FROM THE BRADBURY TRUST FUND.

+BEFORE I OPEN THIS PIER, I SHOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE THE BOARD OF MANAGERS AND STAFF OF THE HONG KONG SEA SCHOOL FOR ITS ACHIEVEMENTS AND TO WISH THEM AND THE BOYS EVERY SUCCESS IN THE FUTURE.

+I HAVE MUCH PLEASURE IN DECLARING THE BRADBURY PIER OPEN.+

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LEGCO MEETING

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SEVERAL UNOFFICIAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLORS WILL COMMENT ON THE GREEN PAPER ON +DEVELOPMENT OF PERSONAL SOCIAL WORK AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE IN HONG KONG+ AT THE COUNCIL MEETING TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

THE SECRETARY FOR SOCIAL SERVICES, THE HON. E.P. HO, WILL REPLY.

DURING QUESTION TIME, THE UNOFFICIALS WILL RAISE A TOTAL OF 17 QUESTIONS ON VARIOUS MATTERS OF PUBLIC CONCERN.

THE HON. LYDIA DUNN WILL ASK THE GOVERNMENT TO STATE THE CAUSES OF THE COLLAPSE OF THE TWO BUN TOWERS AT THE CHEUNG CHAU BUN FESTIVAL ON MAY 9 AND WHICH GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE STANDARD, SPECIFICATIONS AND STRUCTURAL SOUNDNESS OF THESE TOWERS.

MISS DUNN WILL ALSO ASK WHAT STEPS ARE BEING TAKEN TO LAY DOWN SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR SUCH TEMPORARY STRUCTURES FOR MASS PUBLIC GATHERINGS AND TO ENSURE THAT THESE REQUIREMENTS ARE STRICTLY ENFORCED.

THE HON. HILTON CHEONG-LEEN WILL ASK THE GOVERNMENT ABOUT THE NUMBER OF LEGAL AND ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS ESTIMATED TO HAVE ARRIVED IN HONG KONG FROM JANUARY 1 THIS YEAR, AND TO WHAT EXTENT THE SOCIAL SERVICES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES ARE COPING WITH THE PRESENT RATE OF INFLUX OF IMMIGRANTS.

THE HON. PETER C. WONG WILL ASK WHEN DETAILS OF THE PROGRAMME FOR THE ELECTRIFICATION OF KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY WILL BE PUBLICISED AND WHEN THE PROJECT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED AND COMPLETED.

IN A SEPARATE QUESTION, MR. WONG WILL ASK IF THE GOVERNMENT IS SATISFIED WITH THE EXISTING PASSENGER ARRIVAL ARRANGEMENTS AT KAI TAK AIRPORT AFTER THE NEW BUFFER ARRIVAL HALL HAS BEEN IN USE FOR TWO MONTHS AND IF NOT, WHAT MEASURES GOVERNMENT WILL TAKE TO RECTIFY THE SITUATION.

THE HON. CHARLES YEUNG WILL ASK THE GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE A BREAKDOWN OF THE PERSONS WHO HAVE BEEN OR WILL BE AFFECTED BY CLEARANCE OPERATIONS IN CHOI YUEN TSUEN, SHEUNG SHUI, SHOWING THE NUMBER OF SUCH PERSONS AFFECTED AND THE NATURE OF THEIR ENTITLEMENT TO USE OF LAND.

MR. YEUNG WILL ALSO ASK ABOUT THE BASIS AND AMOUNT OF COMPENSATION AND/OR OTHER BENEFITS, WHICH WERE OR WILL BE PAID TO THEM IN RESPECT OF LAND OWNERSHIP AND OCCUPANCY.

/OTHER QUESTIONS

OTHER QUESTIONS TO BE RAISED BY THE UNOFFICIALS CONCERN THE RE-INTRODUCTION OF FIVE-DOLLAR NOTES, THE CONDITION OF THE OPEN NULLAH IN THE JORDAN VALLEY ESTATE, THE NUMBER OF REGISTERED MOTORCYCLES IN HONG KONG AND THEIR RATE OF INCREASE OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

THREE BILLS -- THE MOTOR VEHICLES (FIRST REGISTRATION TAX) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1978, THE STAMP (AMENDMENT) (NO. 4) BILL 1978 AND THE DUTIABLE COMMODITIES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1978 -- WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE COUNCIL FOR FIRST AND SECOND READINGS.

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CONSUMER PRICE INDICES FOR APRIL

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THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) FOR LAST MONTH (APRIL) WAS 125, UP BY THREE POINTS, AND THE INDEX (B) WAS 124, UP BY TWO POINTS COMPARED WITH THOSE FOR THE PREVIOUS MONTH.

THE INDEX FOR FOODSTUFFS ADVANCED BY THREE POINTS IN C.P.I. (A) AND BY TWO POINTS IN C.P.I. (B).

THE AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF FRESH-WATER FISH AND FRESH VEGETABLES ROSE AS A RESULT OF REDUCED SUPPLIES.

FOLLOWING HIGHER PRICES FOR ORANGES, APPLES, PEARS, GRAPES AND WATER-MELONS, THE AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE FOR FRESH FRUITS WENT UP. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF SALT-WATER FISH DECLINED OWING TO INCREASED SUPPLIES.

MOVEMENTS IN RETAIL PRICES OF OTHER FOOD ITEMS WERE INSIGNIFICANT.

HIGHER PRICES FOR CHINESE HERBAL MEDICINES AND FRESH FLOWERS PUSHED THE INDEX FOR MISCELLANEOUS GOODS UP BY TWO POINTS IN BOTH C.P.I. (A) AND C.P.I. (B).

THE INDICES FOR HOUSING AND DURABLE GOODS ROSE BY ONE POINT EACH IN C.P.I. (A) AS A RESULT OF HIGHER PRICES FOR MATERIALS FOR HOUSE MAINTENANCE, ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES, CAMERAS AND OPTICAL GOODS.

PRICE MOVEMENTS IN OTHER COMMODITY AND SERVICES SECTIONS WERE INSIGNIFICANT.

/THE C.P.I.

THE C.P.I. (A) IS BASED ON WEIGHTS DERIVED FROM THE EXPENDITURE OF HOUSEHOLDS SPENDING BETWEEN \$400 - \$1,499 A MONTH AND THE C.P.I. (B), BETWEEN \$1,500 - \$2,999 A MONTH IN THE HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY, 1973/74.

THE SECTION INDICES FOR APRIL 1978 COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS MONTH AND THE CORRESPONDING MONTH IN 1977 ARE INDICATED BELOW:-

SECTION	C.P.I. (A)			C.P.I. (B)		
	APR. 78	MAR. 78	APR. 77	APR. 78	MAR. 78	APR. 77
FOODSTUFFS	122	119	113	122	120	114
HOUSING	129	128	123	127	127	122
FUEL AND LIGHT	135	135	135	134	134	134
ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO	140	140	131	136	136	128
CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	101	101	100	100	100	99
DURABLE GOODS	113	112	109	110	110	107
MISCELLANEOUS GOODS	132	130	125	129	127	121
TRANSPORT AND VEHICLES	119	119	114	123	123	119
SERVICES	135	135	129	136	136	129
ALL ITEMS	125	122	117	124	122	117

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(OTHER QUESTIONS)

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TUEN MUN SITE SOLD FOR \$2 MILLION
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A COMMERCIAL SITE AT THE 17 MILESTONE IN CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TUEN MUN WAS SOLD FOR \$2 MILLION AT A PUBLIC AUCTION TODAY.

THE 2,000 SQUARE METRES SITE LOCATED IN A HIGH CLASS RESIDENTIAL AREA WITH GOOD ROAD ACCESS TO KOWLOON AND TUEN MUN NEW TOWN BY WAY OF THE NEW TUEN MUN ROAD IS FOR SUPERMARKET OR RESTAURANT DEVELOPMENT.

IT WAS THE FIRST AUCTION FOR A COMMERCIAL SITE HELD FOR TUEN MUN.

THE SENIOR ESTATE SURVEYOR OF TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICE, MR. VINCENT CHU, WHO CONDUCTED THE AUCTION AT THE ST. SIMON LUI MING CHOI SECONDARY SCHOOL IN TUEN MUN, INVITED AN OPENING BID OF \$1.5 MILLION AND STEADY BIDDINGS QUICKLY FOLLOWED.

THE HAMMER FELL ON THE HIGHEST BID OF \$2 MILLION — ABOUT \$93 PER SQUARE FOOT OR \$1,000 PER SQUARE METRE — OFFERED BY KIT LING ENTERPRISES LTD.

MR. CHU SAID AFTER THE AUCTION THAT THE SALE PRICE WAS SATISFACTORY.

+THE BIDDINGS AT TODAY'S AUCTION REFLECTED THE CONTINUING INTEREST IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW TOWN.

+THE HIGH LAND PRICE OFFERED BY THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER ALSO INDICATED THE CONFIDENCE OF ENTREPRENEURS IN THE INVESTMENT PROSPECTS OF TUEN MUN.+

THE SITE CARRIES A BUILDING COVENANT OF \$1 MILLION TO BE FULFILLED WITHIN THREE YEARS. UNDER THE CONDITIONS OF SALE, THE GROSS AREA OF THE SUPERMARKET OR RESTAURANT SHALL NOT BE LESS THAN 465 SQUARE METRES. BUILDINGS TO BE ERECTED ON THE SITE WILL BASICALLY BE RESTRICTED TO TWO STOREYS.

IN ADDITION, A BASEMENT MAY BE BUILT FOR THE PURPOSE OF STORAGE OF GOODS.

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AREAS UNDER ELEVATED ROAD IN
WEST KOWLOON TO BE LANDSCAPED
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AREAS UNDER THE WESTERN END OF THE WEST KOWLOON CORRIDOR -- AN ELEVATED ROAD FROM GASCOIGNE ROAD TO TONG MI ROAD -- WILL BE REINSTATED SHORTLY UNDER A \$617,000 LANDSCAPING CONTRACT.

MR. PANG HO-CHE, SENIOR ENGINEER (CAPITAL WORKS) OF THE P.W.D.'S HIGHWAYS (KOWLOON) DIVISION, SAID TODAY THAT THE MAJOR PART OF THE AREA TO BE REINSTATED WAS AT THE WESTERN END BETWEEN CANTON ROAD AND FERRY STREET.

+THIS AREA WILL BE LANDSCAPED AND TERRACES AND FLOWER POTS CONTAINING DIFFERENT TYPES OF PLANTS AND SHRUBS WILL BE PROVIDED,+ HE SAID.

+AT THE SAME TIME, ANOTHER AREA, WHICH IS NOT DIRECTLY UNDER THE ELEVATED ROAD, WILL BE TURFED.+

MR. PANG POINTED OUT THAT THE CONTRACT WOULD ALSO COVER THE PAVING OF AREAS UNDER THE ELEVATED ROAD BETWEEN CANTON ROAD AND SHANGHAI STREET WHICH MIGHT POSSIBLY BE TURNED INTO REST AREAS FOR THE PUBLIC.

WORK ON THIS CONTRACT WILL BEGIN NEXT MONTH AND TAKE ABOUT FOUR MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

MEANWHILE, WORK ON ANOTHER CONTRACT FOR THE \$300 MILLION WEST KOWLOON CORRIDOR IS UNDERWAY.

THE CONTRACT INVOLVES THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN ELEVATED ROADWAY FROM TAI KOK TSUI TO SHAM SHUI PO AND THE ASSOCIATED GROUND-LEVEL ROADS. IT IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED EARLY IN 1980.

WHEN COMPLETED, THIS NEW FLYOVER WILL PROVIDE A VERY DESIRABLE BY-PASS FOR TRAFFIC TRAVELLING THROUGH THE HEAVILY CONGESTED TAI KOK TSUI AREA.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

FIRE OFFICERS TO INSPECT FACTORIES
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THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL CARRY OUT INSPECTIONS OF FACTORY PREMISES IN TAI YAU STREET, SAN PO KONG, TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) WITH THE AIM OF ABATING POTENTIAL FIRE HAZARDS.

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE SURVEY WHICH BEGINS AT 9.30 A.M. THOSE COVERING THE ASSIGNMENT ARE ASKED TO MEET DIVISIONAL OFFICER KEN HODGKINS OUTSIDE SAN PO KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES, TSUK LUK STREET NOT LATER THAN 9.15 A.M.

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CLOSURE OF HOMESTEAD ROAD
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT FROM 10 A.M. ON THURSDAY (MAY 25), THE SECTION OF HOMESTEAD ROAD BETWEEN HOMESTEAD FLATS AND THE JUNCTION WITH MT. KELLETT ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO ALL TRAFFIC EXCEPT THOSE AUTHORISED IN WRITING BY THE AUTHORITY.

MEANWHILE, THE DEPARTMENT ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT A SECTION OF ROAD IN EDINBURGH PLACE BETWEEN H.M.S. TAMAR AND STAR FERRY PIER WILL BE CLOSED TO ALL TRAFFIC FROM 8 A.M. UNTIL 6 P.M. ON THURSDAY FOR THE 'FIGHT VIOLENT CRIME CAMPAIGN'.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP IN THESE AREAS TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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WATER CUT
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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO THE SILVER STRAND AREA IN SAI KUNG WILL BE STOPPED FOR 11 HOURS FROM 9 P.M. TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

THIS IS TO ENABLE STAFF OF THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT TO CARRY OUT WORK ON WATER MAINS IN THE AREA.

THE AREAS TO BE AFFECTED WILL BE THE NORTHEASTERN SIDE OF CLEARWATER BAY ROAD BETWEEN SHAW BROTHERS STUDIO AND HANG HAU ROAD, INCLUDING A KUNG WAN, SILVER STRAND NORTH AND SILVER STRAND BEACH.

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