



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL.: 5-8428777

MONDAY, APRIL 3, 1989

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GOVERNOR BRIEFED ON PORT AND SHIPPING MATTERS
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THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, STRESSED THE CRUCIAL IMPORTANCE OF HONG KONG'S PORT DURING A VISIT TO THE MARINE DEPARTMENT THIS (MONDAY) AFTERNOON.

"THE PORT CONTINUES TO BE AT THE HEART OF HONG KONG'S ECONOMIC SUCCESS", SIR DAVID SAID. "PORT THROUGHPUT IS LIKELY TO INCREASE BY FURTHER EIGHT TIMES BETWEEN 1986 AND 2011."

"THIS IS COLOSSAL GROWTH. THE GOVERNMENT IS COMMITTED TO IMPROVING FACILITIES IN THE PORT."

"WE MUST BE ABLE TO SUPPORT HONG KONG'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TO PLAY A ROLE IN THE RAPIDLY GROWING ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP WITH SOUTHERN CHINA."

SIR DAVID SHOWED GREAT INTEREST IN THE PROGRESS ACHIEVED IN ESTABLISHING HONG KONG'S OWN SHIPPING REGISTER, WHICH IS DUE TO BE INAUGURATED IN LATE 1990.

HE WAS TOLD THAT HONG KONG CAPITAL OWNED 10 PER CENT OF THE WORLD'S MERCANTILE FLEET, AND THAT THE HONG KONG REGISTER (CURRENTLY A PART OF THE UNITED KINGDOM REGISTER) WAS AMONG THE LARGEST IN THE WORLD.

THE GOVERNOR ALSO NOTED THAT THE NEW HONG KONG REGISTER OF SHIPPING WAS BEING SET UP IN CLOSE CONSULTATION WITH THE INDUSTRY.

"IT IS GOVERNMENT'S AIM," HE SAID, "TO GAIN INTERNATIONAL RESPECT AND CREDIBILITY FOR OUR NEW REGISTER."

"WE WANT EVERYONE IN HONG KONG WHO OWNS OR SAILS ON HONG KONG'S SHIPPING, OR IS OTHERWISE CONNECTED WITH THE INDUSTRY, TO PLAY A FULL PART IN MAKING THE REGISTER A SUCCESS."

ON THE LICENSING AND OPERATION OF LOCAL CRAFT, THE GOVERNOR WAS TOLD THAT THE DEPARTMENT WAS NOW CONSULTING THE PUBLIC ON PROPOSALS IN A DETAILED DOCUMENT PUBLISHED AT THE END OF MARCH.

NEW LEGISLATION AND ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES WOULD BE REQUIRED. UNDER THE PROPOSALS OWNERS WOULD BE REQUIRED TO CARRY GREATER RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SAFETY AND OPERATION OF THEIR VESSELS.

"I TRUST THAT ALL WHO OPERATE OR OWN LOCAL CRAFT WILL RESPOND TO THIS IMPORTANT REVIEW," SIR DAVID SAID.

SIR DAVID WAS THEN BRIEFED ON THE DEPARTMENT'S OPERATIONS TO COMBAT FLOATING REFUSE IN THE HARBOUR.

HE WAS TOLD THAT THE MARINE DEPARTMENT'S SCAVENGING SERVICES WERE BEING EXPANDED.

/HE NOTED

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HE NOTED THAT THE MAJOR SOURCE OF FLOATING REFUSE IN OUR WATERS IS THE LAND-BASED DRAINAGE SYSTEM.

"STEPS MUST BE TAKEN TO PREVENT REFUSE FROM THE LAND POLLUTING THE HARBOUR," SIR DAVID SAID.

THE GOVERNOR THEN VISITED THE VESSEL TRAFFIC CENTRE INSIDE THE MACAU FERRY TERMINAL IN CENTRAL.

HE WAS BRIEFED ON THE NEW SYSTEM WHICH, WHEN IT COMES INTO OPERATION IN AUGUST THIS YEAR WILL ENABLE THE MARINE DEPARTMENT TO CONTROL THE MOVEMENT OF SHIPS THROUGHOUT HONG KONG WATERS, THUS IMPROVING THE SAFETY OF PASSAGE FOR VESSELS.

AFTER SEEING A DEMONSTRATION OF HOW THE SYSTEM WORKED SIR DAVID WAS TOLD THAT, WHEN COMPLETED, IT WOULD PROVIDE HONG KONG WITH THE MOST ADVANCED PORT TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEM IN THE WORLD.

CHEUNG YAN-LUNG RE-ELECTED REGIONAL COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

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MR CHEUNG YAN-LUNG HAS BEEN RE-ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF THE REGIONAL COUNCIL FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM FOR THE NEW COUNCIL SESSION BEGINNING THIS MONTH. HE WAS UNOPPOSED.

IN A SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING TODAY (MONDAY), THE COUNCIL'S VICE-CHAIRMAN WAS ALSO ELECTED. IT WENT TO MR CHAN WAI-YIP WHO WAS THE ONLY NOMINATION.

AS REGARDS THE CHAIRMANSHIP AND THE VICE-CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE COUNCIL'S FOUR SELECT COMMITTEES, THE LIQUOR LICENSING BOARD AND THE NINE DISTRICT COMMITTEES, THE ELECTION RESULTS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

SELECT COMMITTEES	CHAIRMAN	VICE-CHAIRMAN
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ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE	DR PANG HOK-TUEN	MR LAI KAM-CHEUNG
FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION	MR MA NING-HEI	MR NGAN KAM-CHUEN
CAPITAL WORKS	MR CHEUNG HON-KAU, CARLOS	MR TSO SHIU-WAI
RECREATION AND CULTURE	MR TANG PUI-TAT	MR LAU KONG-WAH

/LIQUOR LICENSING

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LIQUOR LICENSING BOARD

MR KAN CHUNG-NIN

MR CHAU CHUN-WING

DISTRICT COMMITTEES

ISLANDS

MR CHONG CHU-CHOI

MR KWONG PING-YAU

KWAI TSING

MR SIN CHUNG-KAI

MR WONG MAN-TAI

NORTH

MR CHEUNG KUEN

MR CHONG KAM-NING

SAI KUNG

MR WAN YUET-KAU

MR WONG SHUI-SANG

SHA TIN

MR CHOY KAN-PUI

MR LAU KONG-WAH

TAI PO

MR TANG PUI-TAT

MR LAI KAM-CHEUNG

TSUEN WAN

MR CHAN LAU-FONG

MR CHAU CHUN-WING

TUEN MUN

MR TSO SHIU-WAI

MR POON CHIN-HUNG

YUEN LONG

MR LAI KWOK-IU

MR NGAN KAM-CHUEN

THE CHAIRMANSHIP AND VICE-CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE SELECT COMMITTEES, THE LIQUOR LICENSING BOARD AND THE DISTRICT COMMITTEES WILL RUN FOR A PERIOD OF ONE YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 1990.

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EX-GRATIA PAYMENT FOR FARMERS AFFECTED BY TUNNELLING WORKS

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS APPROVED A SUM OF UP TO \$15 MILLION FOR GRANTING EX-GRATIA PAYMENTS TO FARMERS AFFECTED BY THE CONSTRUCTION OF A TUNNEL BY THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT FROM TAI PO TO YUEN LONG IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (MONDAY): "THESE FARMERS HAVE COMPLAINED OF SUFFERING CROP LOSS DUE TO REDUCED IRRIGATION WATER FOLLOWING THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE TUNNELLING WORK BY THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT IN MARCH 1986."

AN INVESTIGATION HAS REVEALED THAT THERE IS ENOUGH EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT THE CLAIMS OF THE FARMERS, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

THE AREAS AFFECTED INCLUDE TSIU KENG, YING PUN TSUEN, KOON YAM TEMPLE, PANG UK, TA SHEK WU AND WAI TAU.

/"PAYMENT WILL

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"PAYMENT WILL BE MADE SOON TO AFFECTED FARMERS WHO HAVE SUBMITTED THEIR CLAIMS TO THE TAI PO AND NORTH DISTRICT OFFICES, THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT AND THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT," HE SAID.

THE FARMERS WOULD BE NOTIFIED BY THE RESPECTIVE DISTRICT OFFICES IN DUE COURSE, HE ADDED.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE DIRECTED TO THE TAI PO DISTRICT OFFICE ON 0-6577111 EXT. 172 AND NORTH DISTRICT OFFICE ON 0-6706178.

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GOVERNMENT TO STRENGTHEN CHILD CARE SERVICES

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THE GOVERNMENT WILL STRENGTHEN CHILD CARE SERVICES TO COPE WITH THE CHANGING NEEDS OF SOCIETY AND COINCIDE WITH PARENTAL CARE OF CHILDREN.

THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR ALFRED CHUI, SAID THIS TODAY (MONDAY) AT THE QUARTERLY MEETING OF FAMILY AND CHILD CARE SERVICES OF THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE.

HE SAID THAT REVIEWS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON SERVICES FOR THE NEEDY FAMILIES, NURSERIES AND CRECHES WOULD BE FORWARDED TO THE SOCIAL WELFARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SWAC) AND WELFARE AGENCIES.

MR CHUI SAID: "IT IS HOPED THAT THROUGH CAREFUL PLANNING AND PRUDENT EXPANSION, SUCH SERVICES ON CRECHES WILL BE ABLE TO MEET DEMANDS ESPECIALLY IN NEW TOWNS. A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW WITH RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE EXISTING POLICY WILL BE TABLED TO SWAC LATER THIS MONTH.

"THE PATTERN OF PRESENT AND FUTURE SUBVENTIONS TO NON-PROFIT NURSERIES AS WELL AS AN IMPROVEMENT IN FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO FAMILIES REQUIRING NURSERIES WILL ALSO BE REFERRED TO THE WELFARE AGENCIES AND SWAC FOR CONSIDERATION.

"THE SWD IS EXTREMELY CONCERNED ABOUT CHILD CARE SERVICES AND CONSTANTLY REVIEW THE SITUATION. THEY INCLUDE EXPANSION OF SERVICES WITH FLEXIBILITY TO MEET SOCIAL NEEDS, DIVERSIFICATION OF SERVICES, AND SUPPORTING AND ENCOURAGING VOLUNTARY AGENCIES TO INTRODUCE EXPERIMENTAL PROJECTS TO STRENGTHEN CHILD CARE SERVICES.

"PARENTAL CARE IS IMPORTANT TO CHILD GROWTH ESPECIALLY THOSE UNDER THE AGE OF TWO. IF WORKING PARENTS FOR ONE REASON OR ANOTHER, CAN NOT SPARE THE TIME, THEY SHOULD ARRANGE PROPER CHILD CARE SERVICE."

/DUE TO

DUE TO CHANGING PATTERNS IN SOCIETY, MR CHUI SAID, THERE IS A STRONG DEMAND FOR CHILD CARE SERVICES.

HE SAID: "THE GOVERNMENT IS CONCERNED ABOUT INCIDENTS INVOLVING WORKING PARENTS LEAVING THEIR CHILDREN UNATTENDED AT HOME WHICH HAVE RESULTED IN ACCIDENTS OR DEATH IN RECENT YEARS.

"CHILD CARE CENTRES, COMPRISING NURSERIES AND CRECHES, ARE PROVIDING SUPPORTIVE SERVICES TO PARENTAL CARE."

THE EXISTING PROVISION STANDARD IS TO PROVIDE 100 SUBVENTED DAY CARE NURSERY PLACEMENTS FOR CHILDREN, AGED BETWEEN TWO AND SIX, IN EVERY 20,000 POPULATION.

HE SAID: "THE PROVISION STANDARD IS IN ACCORDANCE WITH A DISTRICT'S ACTUAL DEMAND. UNDER THE EXISTING PLAN, THERE WILL BE 16 NURSERIES WITH 1,600 PLACEMENTS EVERY YEAR.

AS AT THE END OF MARCH THIS YEAR, THERE WERE 163 GOVERNMENT SUBVENTED NURSERIES WITH 17,756 PLACEMENTS FROM VOLUNTARY WELFARE AGENCIES, FIVE SELF-SUFFICIENT NON-PROFIT NURSERIES WITH 686 PLACEMENTS AND 78 PRIVATE NURSERIES WITH 10,016 PLACEMENTS.

MR CHUI SAID THESE CENTRES ARE GOVERNED BY THE CHILD CARE CENTRES RULES AND REGULATIONS IN RELATION TO INFRA-STRUCTURE, STAFFING, PROGRAMMES, HYGIENE AND DIETING, TO ENSURE THE STANDARD OF SERVICES.

ON FINANCING AND IMPROVING CHILD CARE SERVICES, HE POINTED OUT THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO ASSIST BOTH NON-PROFIT AND AIDED CENTRES AND SUBSIDISE LOW INCOME FAMILIES.

IT IS ESTIMATED THAT ABOUT \$54 MILLION WOULD BE ALLOCATED IN 1989/90 FINANCIAL YEAR COMPARED WITH \$45 MILLION THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

AT PRESENT THERE ARE 18 FULLY-SUBVENTED CRECHES WITH 917 PLACEMENTS, ONE NON-PROFIT CRECHES WITH 64 PLACES, AND SEVEN PRIVATE CRECHES WITH 170 PLACEMENTS.

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1989-90 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY PRE-TEST
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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT WILL CONDUCT A HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY FROM OCTOBER THIS YEAR TO SEPTEMBER 1990.

A SMALL-SCALE PRE-TEST FOR THE SURVEY WILL BE CONDUCTED FROM MID-APRIL TO THE END OF MAY, AND THE RESULTS WILL BE USED TO FINALISE THE PLAN AND PROCEDURES OF THE SURVEY.

/THE PRE-TEST

THE PRE-TEST WILL COVER ABOUT 400 HOUSEHOLDS IN SELECTED URBAN AREAS OF HONG KONG.

A LETTER FROM THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT WILL BE SENT TO EACH SELECTED LIVING QUARTER INFORMING THE HOUSEHOLDS THAT THEY HAVE BEEN CHOSEN FOR THE PRE-TEST.

ASSISTANT CENSUS AND SURVEY OFFICERS CARRYING GOVERNMENT IDENTITY CARDS ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT WILL VISIT THE HOUSEHOLDS TO EXPLAIN TO THEM THE PURPOSES AND REQUIREMENTS OF THE SURVEY.

"IT IS HOPED THAT ALL HOUSEHOLDS SELECTED FOR THE PRE-TEST WILL GIVE THEIR SUPPORT AND CO-OPERATE WITH THE OFFICERS," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN STRESSED THAT ALL INFORMATION COLLECTED IN THE PRE-TEST WILL BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL.

ANY HOUSEHOLDS HAVING QUERIES ON THE SURVEY CAN TELEPHONE THE DEPARTMENT ON 5-8234968, DURING OFFICE HOURS.

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GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY FOR APRIL TO JUNE
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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT WILL CONTINUE TO CONDUCT THE GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY IN APRIL TO JUNE.

THE SURVEY, CONDUCTED MONTHLY SINCE AUGUST 1981, COLLECTS INFORMATION ON EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT, AND THE GENERAL SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION.

IN ADDITION, QUESTIONS ON HONG KONG RESIDENTS' EXPENDITURE ABROAD; RESIDENCE ABROAD; UNDERPROVISION OF WORK AND HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE ON RENT WILL ALSO BE INCLUDED IN THE QUARTER OF APRIL TO JUNE THIS YEAR.

SOME 5,000 HOUSEHOLDS ARE SELECTED AT RANDOM EACH MONTH FROM ALL DISTRICTS FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE SURVEY.

ABOUT HALF OF THE HOUSEHOLDS INTERVIEWED THREE MONTHS AGO WILL BE SURVEYED AGAIN TO MEASURE MORE ACCURATELY THE CHANGES THAT HAVE OCCURRED SINCE THEN.

AN OFFICIAL LETTER, IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE, HAS BEEN SENT TO THE SAMPLED HOUSEHOLDS TO EXPLAIN THE PURPOSE OF THE SURVEY AND TO SEEK THEIR CO-OPERATION.

/ASSISTANT CENSUS

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ASSISTANT CENSUS AND SURVEY OFFICERS, EACH CARRYING AN IDENTITY CARD ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT, WILL VISIT THESE HOUSEHOLDS TO COLLECT THE REQUIRED INFORMATION.

ALL INFORMATION COLLECTED WILL BE TREATED CONFIDENTIALLY AND WILL NOT BE REVEALED TO ANY PERSON OR ORGANISATION OUTSIDE THE DEPARTMENT.

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APPLICATIONS INVITED FOR TAI PO DRAGON BOAT RACE

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APPLICATIONS ARE BEING INVITED FOR TEAMS TO TAKE PART IN THE TAI PO DRAGON BOAT RACE ON JUNE 8 TO CELEBRATE THE TUEN NG FESTIVAL.

THE EVENT IS ORGANISED BY THE TAI PO DISTRICT DRAGON BOAT RACE COMMITTEE AND CO-SPONSORED BY THE REGIONAL COUNCIL AND THE TAI PO DISTRICT BOARD.

THE RACE WILL TAKE PLACE ALONG THE WATERFRONT OF TAI PO INDUSTRIAL ESTATE ON THE MORNING OF JUNE 8. IT IS DIVIDED INTO MEN'S OPEN, WOMEN'S OPEN, MIXED INVITATION AND INDUSTRIAL CUP SECTIONS. EACH TEAM SHOULD CONSIST OF 27 MEMBERS COMPRISING 24 PADDLERS, A DRUMMER, A GONG-BEATER AND A COXSWAIN.

COMPETING TEAMS WILL BE PROVIDED WITH DRAGON BOATS AND PADDLING EQUIPMENT AND WILL BE ALLOCATED PRACTICE TIME.

LETTERS WILL BE SENT TO VARIOUS ORGANISATIONS TO INVITE THEIR PARTICIPATION.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE OFFICE OF THE TAI PO RURAL COMMITTEE AT NO. 1 HEUNG SZE WUI STREET, THE TAI PO SPORTS ASSOCIATION'S LI FOOK LAM INDOOR SPORTS CENTRE AT NO. 2 ON CHEUNG ROAD AND THE TAI PO DISTRICT OFFICE AT NO. 1 TING KOK ROAD.

THE DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION IS APRIL 21. ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 0-6577111 EXT. 244.

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TUEN MUN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME OUTLINED

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THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD'S DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME WORKING GROUP WILL MEET ON THURSDAY (APRIL 6) TO DISCUSS THE DISTRICT'S DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME IN 1988.

THE DOCUMENT, COMPILED AND PUBLISHED BY THE TUEN MUN DEVELOPMENT OFFICE, ALSO SETS OUT A WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE NEXT 10 YEARS. ITS OBJECTIVE IS TO PROVIDE A BALANCED DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE HOUSING, JOB OPPORTUNITIES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT BOARD'S DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME WORKING GROUP ON THURSDAY (APRIL 6) IN THE DISTRICT BOARD CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE THIRD FLOOR, GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, NO. 1, TUEN HI ROAD, TUEN MUN. THE MEETING WILL START AT 2.30 PM.

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CHING MING FESTIVAL CLINIC SERVICES

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EIGHT GOVERNMENT OUT-PATIENT CLINICS WILL STAY OPEN FROM 9 AM TO 1 PM ON APRIL 5 (WEDNESDAY), WHICH IS CHING MING FESTIVAL, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH ANNOUNCED TODAY (MONDAY).

THE CLINICS ARE THE VIOLET PEEL POLYCLINIC AND SHAU KEI WAN JOCKEY CLUB CLINIC ON HONG KONG ISLAND; KWUN TONG JOCKEY CLUB HEALTH CENTRE, ROBERT BLACK HEALTH CENTRE AND YAU MA TEI JOCKEY CLUB CLINIC IN KOWLOON; LADY TRENCH POLYCLINIC, YUEN LONG JOCKEY CLUB HEALTH CENTRE AND SHEK WU HUI JOCKEY CLUB CLINIC IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

ALL OTHER OUT-PATIENT AND EVENING CLINICS WILL BE CLOSED.

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TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS AT KOWLOON KCR STATION PODIUM
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT FROM 10 AM ON THURSDAY (APRIL 6), TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED AT THE KOWLOON KCR STATION PODIUM FOR ABOUT TWO MONTHS FOR MAINTENANCE WORK AT THE HONG KONG COLISEUM.

THE UNNAMED ROAD LEADING TO THE STATION PODIUM TO THE SOUTHERN SIDE OF THE KCR TERMINUS WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC.

IN ADDITION, THE LOADING AND UNLOADING AREA, THE COACH PARK AND THE LAY-BY AT THE STATION PODIUM WILL ALSO BE CLOSED.

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TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF PEEL RISE
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT PEEL RISE IN ABERDEEN BETWEEN PUI TAK CANOSSIAN COLLEGE AND THE CHINESE PERMANENT CEMETERY WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 9 AM ON THURSDAY (APRIL 6).

THE CLOSURE WILL LAST FOR ABOUT SIX WEEKS FOR REMEDIAL SLOPEWORKS.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE
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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) (APRIL 3) STOOD AT 32.9 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 193.029 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 239.346 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 40.8 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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