



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL: 5-233191

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1981

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PUBLIC COMMENTS ON BUS SERVICE INVITED
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MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WERE INVITED TODAY (TUESDAY) TO SUBMIT THEIR VIEWS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE GOVERNMENT TEAMS CONDUCTING THE CURRENT REVIEW OF BUS OPERATIONS.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID FOLLOWING AN APPEAL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ABOUT FOUR MONTHS AGO, A TOTAL OF 47 SUBMISSIONS WERE RECEIVED.

+THIS RESPONSE WAS MOST ENCOURAGING CONSIDERING THAT THIS WAS AT THE INITIAL STAGE OF THE REVIEW,+ THE SPOKESMAN ADDED. +WITH THE SUBSEQUENT PUBLICITY GIVEN TO THE PROGRESS OF THE REVIEW AND THE SUBJECT MATTER INVOLVED, OTHER MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY NOW ALSO WISH TO COMMENT.+

THE REVIEW BEGAN IN MAY WITH THE SETTING UP OF AN INTER-DEPARTMENTAL CO-ORDINATING GROUP TO LOOK INTO WAYS FOR ECONOMIES IN BUS OPERATIONS TO BE MADE, WITH DUE REGARD TO ACCEPTABLE STANDARDS OF SERVICE AND PASSENGER SAFETY.

UNDER EXAMINATION ARE THE ROUTE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES, BUS MAINTENANCE, DEPOT REQUIREMENTS, SPARE PARTS AND PROFIT CONTROL SCHEMES OF THE TWO MAJOR BUS COMPANIES.

FOLLOWING THE COLLECTION OF EXTENSIVE DATA, SITE VISITS AND DISCUSSIONS WITH COMPANY OFFICIALS, THE FIVE SUB-GROUPS CARRYING OUT THE DETAILED WORK IN THESE AREAS ARE COMPLETING THEIR REPORTS ON THE KOWLOON MOTOR BUS COMPANY. THEY ARE NOW ALSO IN THE PROCESS OF STUDYING THE OPERATIONS OF THE CHINA MOTOR BUS COMPANY.

THE WORK OF THESE SUB-GROUPS IS STEERED BY GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS KNOWLEDGEABLE IN THE RELEVANT SUBJECTS, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

THE SPOKESMAN RECALLED THAT TEN MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WITH RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE OR WHO SAT ON DISTRICT BOARDS AND OTHER PUBLIC ORGANISATIONS, JOINED THE SUB-GROUPS IN JULY AT THE INVITATION OF THE GOVERNMENT.

HE SAID THE MEMBERS WOULD BE HAPPY TO HEAR FROM ANYONE WHO HAD SUGGESTIONS ON HOW BUS SERVICES COULD BE IMPROVED.

WRITTEN COMMENTS SHOULD BE SENT TO THE SECRETARY, REVIEW OF BUS OPERATIONS, ROOM 332, EAST WING, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG.

VERBAL COMMENTS, AS WELL AS ENQUIRIES, CAN ALSO BE MADE BY TELEPHONING 5-776866.

ANYONE WISHING TO DISCUSS THEIR VIEWS WITH THE PUBLIC MEMBERS OF THE SUB-GROUPS MAY SEEK AN APPOINTMENT BY TELEPHONING 5-776866.

/THE SPOKESMAN

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE SPECIFIC SUBJECTS ON WHICH THE MEMBERS WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE VIEWS AND SUGGESTIONS INCLUDED THE CLEANLINESS AND SAFETY OF BUSES, THE LEVEL AND COMPETITIVENESS OF SERVICES, THE PARKING OF BUSES ON-STREET, THE PURCHASE OF SPARE PARTS IN BULK AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE CONTROL OF PROFITS.

THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE FIVE SUB-GROUPS ARE :

- * TO RE-EXAMINE THE ROUTE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME WITH A VIEW TO REDUCING UNDER-UTILISED SERVICES AND OPTIMISING EFFICIENCY-
- * TO REVIEW THE PROCEDURES FOR EXAMINING BUSES HAVING REGARD TO THE COST AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS-
- * TO RE-EXAMINE THE PROGRAMME FOR ACQUIRING DEPOT SPACE AND TO RECOMMEND THE MOST ECONOMICAL METHOD OF MEETING THE LAND REQUIREMENT-
- * TO INVESTIGATE THE METHOD OF ACQUISITION OF SPARE PARTS BY THE BUS COMPANIES WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO THE ALTERNATIVE SOURCES OF SUPPLY OF SPARE PARTS WITH A VIEW TO REDUCING COSTS, AND TO RECOMMEND APPROPRIATE LEVELS FOR SPARE PARTS STOCK-
- * TO REVIEW THE SCHEME OF CONTROL APPLICABLE TO THE BUS COMPANIES WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON THE SOURCES OF INCOME CURRENTLY OUTSIDE THE SCHEME.

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CONTRACT TO FORM LAND ON LANTAU

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THE NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TODAY AWARDED A \$32-MILLION CONTRACT TO CHINA CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING CORPORATION FOR THE FORMATION OF SEVEN HECTARES OF LAND IN MUI WO, LANTAU ISLAND.

MR K.K. TANG, GOVERNMENT ENGINEER OF THE NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT BRANCH, SAID THE PROJECT FORMED PART OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF MUI WO.

THE NEW FORMED LAND WOULD BE USED FOR PRIVATE AND PUBLIC HOUSING, GOVERNMENT OFFICES, A CLINIC, A FIRE STATION, A MINI-SOCCER PITCH, A SEWAGE PUMPING STATION AND A HELIPAD.

THE CONTRACT WILL ALSO INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FOOTBRIDGE OVER A RIVER TO REPLACE THE EXISTING ONE, AS WELL AS ASSOCIATED ROADS AND DRAINAGE WORKS.

WORK WILL TAKE ABOUT 18 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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PRIVATE SECTOR EFFORT NEEDED IN NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT

THE GOVERNMENT IS FULLY AWARE OF THE NEED TO ATTRACT PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION TO MAKE THE TAI PO NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME A SUCCESS, SAID THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR NICKY LO, AT A NEW TERRITORIES LIONS CLUB MEETING TODAY (TUESDAY).

+THE GOVERNMENT HAS ALREADY TAKEN THE NECESSARY MEASURES TO MAKE ROOM FOR SUCH INVESTMENT AND I PERSONALLY THINK THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS OFFERING AN AWFULLY GOOD DEAL IN TAI PO,+ MR LO SAID.

WITH REGARD TO INFRASTRUCTURE, HE SAID, GOVERNMENT WAS ALREADY COMMITTED TO A SERIES OF IMPROVEMENTS TO ROAD AND TRANSPORT COMMUNICATION.

+CONTRACT FOR THE SHA TIN-TAI PO SIX-LANE COASTAL HIGHWAY WAS LET IN JULY THIS YEAR. THIS NEW ROAD WILL BE COMPLETED IN 1984.

+WORK ON THE ELECTRIFICATION AND DOUBLE TRACKING OF THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY IS IN PROGRESS AND THE NEW ELECTRIC TRAIN SERVICE WILL BE EXTENDED TO TAI PO IN EARLY 1983.

+WORK ON THE REMAINING PARTS OF THE NT TRUNK ROAD PROJECT LINKING TAI PO TO FANLING IS SCHEDULED TO START IN PHASES WITHIN THE NEXT 12 MONTHS AND WILL BE EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF 1984.

+RESUMPTION OF PRIVATE LAND FOR WORK ON SOME OF THESE SECTIONS HAS BEEN COMPLETED,+ MR LO SAID.

SECONDLY, HE CONTINUED, WITH REGARD TO LEASE CONDITIONS GOVERNING SITES FOR PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT IN THE DISTRICT, THE GOVERNMENT WAS PREPARED TO ADOPT A FLEXIBLE APPROACH WHENEVER POSSIBLE TO ENSURE THAT SUCH SITES WOULD BE ATTRACTIVE TO THE PRIVATE INVESTORS AS WELL AS CONFORMING WITH THE OVERALL REQUIREMENTS AND ACHIEVING THE OBJECTIVES OF THE NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT PLAN.

+THE PRIMARY OBJECTIVE OF GOVERNMENT'S LAND SALES PROGRAMME IS TO ACHIEVE THE DESIRED FORM OF PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT.

+WHILE THE GOVERNMENT HAS A DUTY TO SAFEGUARD PUBLIC REVENUE, THE LAND SALES PROGRAMME IS NOT DESIGNED TO OBTAIN THE MAXIMUM SALES REVENUE AS AN END IN ITSELF.

+THE TAI PO DISTRICT OFFICE REGULARLY MONITORS THE PROGRESS OR LACK OF PROGRESS OF PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT AND WOULD RECOMMEND MODIFICATION OF LAND SALES CONDITIONS WHEN JUSTIFIED.

/+ONE EXAMPLE

+ONE EXAMPLE IS, AS A RESULT OF OUR EXPERIENCE WITH SELLING THE FIRST THREE LOTS IN TAI PO TOWN CENTRE AND CONSULTATION WITH THE INVESTORS CONCERNED, WE SHALL BE AMENDING THE LEASE CONDITIONS OF THE FUTURE TAI PO TOWN CENTRE LOTS TO PERMIT BASEMENT PARKING AS WELL AS SALE OF GROUND FLOOR AND PODIUM LEVEL SHOPS.

+WE EXPECT THAT THESE MODIFICATIONS WOULD PROVIDE GREATER FLEXIBILITY AND THEREFORE ATTRACT A LARGER SPECTRUM OF POTENTIAL INVESTORS WHILE NOT AFFECTING THE OBJECTIVE OF OUR TOWN CENTRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN.+

MR LO SAID TAI PO NEW TOWN HAD, AND WOULD CONTINUE TO HAVE A SOUND ECONOMIC BASE.

THE TOWN HAD BEEN AND WOULD CONTINUE TO BE MAJOR MARKET TOWN CENTRE FOR VILLAGES IN THE NEIGHBOURING AREAS.

+THE EXISTING TOWN ALREADY HAS SUBSTANTIAL PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENT. TAKING HOUSING AS AN EXAMPLE, ONLY ABOUT 25 000 OUT OF THE PRESENT POPULATION OF 72 000 ARE STAYING IN PUBLIC PERMANENT OR TEMPORARY HOUSING.

+CONSIDERING THE TOWN AS A WHOLE, THERE ARE AT PRESENT NO SUBSTANTIAL LACK OF COMMERCIAL AND RETAIL FACILITIES.

+THE FINAL 50-50 SPLIT OF PUBLIC VERSUS PRIVATE SECTOR HOUSING IN TAI PO, COMPARED WITH 70 PUBLIC-30 PRIVATE IN SOME OTHER NEW TOWNS SUCH AS TSUEN WAN, SHOULD ATTRACT A FINAL MIX OF COMMUNITY WHICH WOULD INDUCE A FAVOURABLE INVESTMENT CLIMATE FOR THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

+FURTHERMORE, THE TAI PO INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, WHICH HAS ALREADY BROUGHT SOME OF THE MOST ADVANCED TECHNOLOGIES AND SOUND INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT, IS EXPECTED TO BE ABLE TO CONTINUE TO ATTRACT SUCH INVESTMENT TO TAI PO.

+SUCH INVESTMENT WILL NOT ONLY PROVIDE JOBS OF HIGH SKILL, BUT ALSO HELP GENERATE DEMAND FOR FINANCIAL, LEGAL AND GENERAL COMMERCIAL SERVICES AS WELL AS GENERATE A LATENT DEMAND FOR PRIVATE SECTOR HOUSING BY VIRTUE OF THOSE EXECUTIVES, ENGINEERS, TECHNICIANS WORKING IN THE INDUSTRIAL ESTATES BUT NOT RESIDING IN TAI PO.+

MR LO EMPHASISED THAT THE BALANCED DEVELOPMENT OF TAI PO NEW TOWN DEPENDED MUCH ON PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT.

+CONSIDERING THE USUAL LEAD TIME OF TWO TO THREE YEARS IN OBTAINING RETURN FROM INVESTMENT, I THINK MANY OF YOU WILL CONSIDER THAT NOW, RATHER THAN LATER, IS THE TIME TO CONSIDER SERIOUSLY TO INVEST IN TAI PO,+ HE SAID.

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LEGCO RESUMES TOMORROW

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THE EXTENT OF THE PROBLEM CONCERNING COUNTERFEITING OF HONG KONG COINS AND NOTES WILL BE AMONG QUESTIONS TO BE ASKED BY UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS WHEN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETS AGAIN TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

THE SUBJECT WILL BE RAISED BY THE HON ANDREW SO WHO WILL ALSO WANT TO KNOW ABOUT MEASURES BEING TAKEN TO DEAL WITH COUNTERFEITING ACTIVITIES.

TOMORROW'S MEETING WILL BE THE FIRST REGULAR SITTING OF THE NEW LEGISLATIVE SESSION, AND SEVERAL OFFICIAL MEMBERS WILL ELABORATE ON VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE GOVERNMENT'S ACTIVITIES DEALT WITH BY THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, IN HIS ANNUAL REVIEW LAST WEDNESDAY (OCTOBER 7). SPEAKING WILL BE THE SECRETARY FOR HOUSING, THE HON DONALD LIAO, AND THE SECRETARY FOR SOCIAL SERVICES, THE HON E.P. HO.

AT QUESTION TIME, UNOFFICIAL MEMBER THE HON S.L. CHEN WILL ASK ABOUT THE NUMBER OF ARMED ROBBERIES OF BANKS AND GOLDSMITH SHOPS DURING THE PAST TEN MONTHS, THE NUMBER OF ARRESTS AND SENTENCES IMPOSED ON THOSE CONVICTED.

THE HON MISS LYDIA DUNN WILL ASK ABOUT TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS ON THE TUEN MUN HIGHWAY AND WHAT STEPS, OTHER THAN SAFE-DRIVING CAMPAIGNS, ARE BEING TAKEN TO IMPROVE THE SITUATION.

SHE WILL ALSO ASK THE GOVERNMENT ABOUT ITS PLANS TO RELIEVE CONGESTION IN THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL.

ON TEXTBOOK GRANTS, THE REV THE HON MISS JOYCE BENNETT WILL ASK IF THE GOVERNMENT WILL EXTEND THE PRESENT GRANT FOR NEEDY PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS TO STUDENTS IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

MISS BENNETT WILL ALSO ASK ABOUT ASSISTANCE BEING GIVEN TO SPECIAL SCHOOLS FOR THE BLIND AND TO ORDINARY SCHOOLS INTEGRATING BLIND STUDENTS INTO THEIR CLASSES FOR THE PURCHASE OR LOAN OF BOOKS IN BRAILLE, AND WHETHER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THIS IS ADEQUATE.

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TRAFFIC PLAN FOR FESTIVAL OPENING

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THE SECTION OF EDINBURGH PLACE EAST BETWEEN STAR FERRY AND HMS TAMAR WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 11 AM TO 6.30 PM ON THURSDAY (OCTOBER 15) BECAUSE OF THE OPENING OF THE SIXTH FESTIVAL OF ASIAN ARTS.

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DISPLAY AT NEW MENTAL HOSPITAL

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KWAI CHUNG HOSPITAL, HONG KONG'S SECOND MAJOR MENTAL INSTITUTION, WILL HOLD A TWO-DAY EXHIBITION-AND-OPEN-DAY AFTER THE OFFICIAL OPENING ON THURSDAY BY THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE.

THE EXHIBITION WILL TAKE PLACE FROM 10 AM TO 4 PM ON FRIDAY AND SATURDAY (OCTOBER 16 AND 17), WHEN VISITORS WILL BE SHOWN THE HOSPITAL'S SOPHISTICATED TREATMENT FACILITIES.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT SAID THIS SPECIAL EVENT, AND OTHER ACTIVITIES ORGANISED BY THE DEPARTMENT TO PROMOTE THE AWARENESS OF MENTAL HEALTH, ARE IN SUPPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF DISABLED PERSONS.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO MAKE USE OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO OBSERVE THE NEW TREND IN PSYCHIATRIC TREATMENT.

THE EXHIBITION WILL BE SIMILAR TO THE ONE MOUNTED BY THE DEPARTMENT AT THE CITY HALL EARLIER THIS MONTH, ATTRACTING MANY VISITORS.

THE VENUE FOR THE KWAI CHUNG EXHIBITION WILL BE THE COVERED WALKWAY ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF GH BLOCK, OUTSIDE THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.

TWO OTHER ARTISTIC EXHIBITIONS WILL BE MOUNTED AT THE SAME TIME. THE OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY DEPARTMENT WILL BE CONVERTED INTO AN ART GALLERY TO DISPLAY THE DRAWINGS DONE BY THE PATIENTS THEMSELVES.

A GARDEN SHOW WILL BE HELD ON THE ROOF TOP DISPLAYING THE WORKS OF THE PATIENTS ON POTTED PLANTS.

THERE WILL ALSO BE FOOTBALL AND BASKETBALL MATCHES, AND GAMES STALLS RUN BY THE PATIENTS FOR VISITORS AND PATIENTS ALIKE TO TRY THEIR LUCK AND TO HAVE FUN.

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TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE

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A SECTION OF THE SOUTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF TEXACO ROAD BETWEEN KWOK SHUI ROAD AND SHING MUN ROAD WILL BE CLOSED BETWEEN MIDNIGHT ON WEDNESDAY AND 5.30 AM ON THURSDAY (OCTOBER 14 AND 15) TO FACILITATE CONSTRUCTION OF A FOOTBRIDGE.

DURING THE HOURS OF CLOSURE, SOUTHBOUND TRAFFIC WILL BE DIVERTED VIA SHING MUN ROAD, CASTLE PEAK ROAD AND KWOK SHUI ROAD.

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HK STUDENTS INVITED TO SEND IN DRAWINGS FOR SHANKAR CONTEST
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STUDENTS BELOW THE AGE OF 16 CAN SUBMIT THEIR PAINTINGS AND DRAWINGS TO THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT FOR SELECTION TO JOIN THE SHANKAR'S INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S COMPETITION 1982.

THE COMPETITION IS AN ANNUAL EVENT ORGANISED IN INDIA.

+PAINTINGS OR DRAWINGS IN ANY MEDIUM EXCEPT BLACK LEAD PENCIL CAN BE SUBMITTED. GROUP WORK WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED, AND THE WORK MUST NOT BE MOUNTED,+ AN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

+THE THEME OF THE ENTRIES CAN BE AN EVENT YOU HAVE WITNESSED- ANY ACTIVITY, SPORT OR HOBBY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN- OR HOW TO MAKE YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE IN,+ HE SAID.

THE MINIMUM SIZE OF AN ENTRY IS 300MM BY 400MM, AND EACH ENTRANT CAN SUBMIT UP TO SIX PAINTINGS OR DRAWINGS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE COMMISSION OF INDIA WILL BE REPRESENTED IN THE LOCAL SELECTION, AND THE FINAL SELECTION WILL BE MADE BY A PANEL OF JUDGES IN INDIA. RESULTS WILL BE ANNOUNCED BY THE ORGANISER IN DUE COURSE.

MEDALS AND CERTIFICATES OF MERIT WILL BE AWARDED TO OUTSTANDING ENTRIES.

ENTRIES SHOULD BE SUBMITTED THROUGH HEADS OF SCHOOLS ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 27 TO THE INSPECTOR (ART), EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

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SYNCHRONISED TIMING SYSTEM WANTED
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THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE SUPPLY, INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE OF A SYNCHRONISED TIMING SYSTEM AT ALL RAILWAY STATIONS. THE CONTRACT IS FOR FIVE YEARS, STARTING FROM THE INTRODUCTION OF THE FIRST STAGE OF ELECTRIFICATION NEXT SPRING.

A SPOKESMAN FOR KCR SAID TODAY THAT SUCCESSFUL TENDERERS WOULD ALSO HAVE THE RIGHT TO ADVERTISE THE BRAND OF THEIR CLOCKS.

TENDERS MUST BE ADDRESSED TO THE CHAIRMAN, CENTRAL TENDER BOARD AND PLACED IN THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT TENDER BOX, GROUND FLOOR, GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES (MAIN WING), LOWER ALBERT ROAD, BEFORE NOON ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16.

LATE TENDERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

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