



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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HK'S EXPORTS UP BY 10 PER CENT IN FIRST FIVE MONTHS THIS YEAR  
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HONG KONG'S DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF THIS YEAR INCREASED BY 10 PER CENT, IMPORTS ROSE BY 19 PER CENT AND RE-EXPORTS BY 28 PER CENT AS COMPARED WITH THOSE FOR THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD LAST YEAR.

ACCORDING TO EXTERNAL TRADE FIGURES RELEASED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY, DOMESTIC EXPORTS FROM JANUARY TO MAY 1978 WERE VALUED AT \$14,130 MILLION, IMPORTS WERE WORTH \$23,135 MILLION AND RE-EXPORTS \$4,858 MILLION.

DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO 10 MAJOR OVERSEAS MARKETS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

|                                 | JAN.-MAY 77<br>(HK\$ MN.) | JAN.-MAY 78<br>(HK\$ MN.) | INCREASE/<br>DECREASE<br>(HK\$ MN.) | PERCENTAGE<br>CHANGE |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| U.S.A.                          | 4,838                     | 5,367                     | + 529                               | + 11%                |
| F.R. OF GERMANY                 | 1,350                     | 1,461                     | + 111                               | + 8%                 |
| UNITED KINGDOM                  | 1,130                     | 1,258                     | + 128                               | + 11%                |
| JAPAN                           | 488                       | 554                       | + 66                                | + 13%                |
| AUSTRALIA                       | 493                       | 504                       | + 11                                | + 2%                 |
| CANADA                          | 436                       | 467                       | + 31                                | + 7%                 |
| SINGAPORE                       | 322                       | 381                       | + 58                                | + 18%                |
| THE NETHERLANDS                 | 291                       | 308                       | + 17                                | + 6%                 |
| NIGERIA                         | 149                       | 272                       | + 123                               | + 82%                |
| SWITZERLAND AND<br>LIECHENSTEIN | 231                       | 265                       | + 35                                | + 15%                |

DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE U.S. MAINTAINED A MODEST GROWTH RATE OF 11 PER CENT. DESPITE A SHARP DECLINE IN EXPORTS OF RADIO BROADCAST RECEIVERS (\$225 MILLION, - 35 PER CENT) TO U.S.A., SHIPMENTS OF ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES (\$2,143 MILLION, + 11 PERCENT) AND WATCHES AND CLOCKS (\$251 MILLION, + 51 PER CENT) GAINED SIZEABLE INCREASES.

DELIVERIES TO F.R. OF GERMANY AND U.K. SHOWED A SIGNIFICANT UPTREND, LARGELY REFLECTING AN IMPROVED DEMAND SITUATION FOR ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES WHICH INCREASED BY NINE PER CENT AND 19 PER CENT FOR F.R. OF GERMANY (AT \$829 MILLION) AND U.K. (AT \$667 MILLION) RESPECTIVELY.

AN ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY MAJOR  
COMMODITY DIVISIONS IS PRESENTED BELOW:

|  | <u>JAN.-MAY 77</u><br><u>(HK\$ MN.)</u> | <u>JAN.-MAY 78</u><br><u>(HK\$ MN.)</u> | <u>INCREASE/<br/>DECREASE</u><br><u>(HK\$ MN.)</u> | <u>PERCENTAGE</u><br><u>CHANGE</u> |
|--|---|---|--|------------------------------------|
| ARTICLES OF APPAREL<br>AND CLOTHING<br>ACCESSORIES   | 5,071                                   | 5,371                                   | + 300  | + 6%                               |
| MISCELLANEOUS<br>MANUFACTURED ARTICLES<br>(MAINLY PLASTIC TOYS<br>AND DOLLS)   | 2,070                                   | 2,233                                   | + 164  | + 8%                               |
| PHOTOGRAPHIC<br>APPARATUS, OPTICAL<br>GOODS, WATCHES AND<br>CLOCKS   | 677                                     | 1,033                                   | + 355  | + 52%                              |
| TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS,<br>MADE-UP ARTICLES AND<br>RELATED PRODUCTS   | 1,047                                   | 1,023                                   | - 23   | - 2%                               |
| TELECOMMUNICATIONS<br>AND SOUND RECORDING<br>AND REPRODUCING<br>APPARATUS AND<br>EQUIPMENT                                 | 1,032                                   | 1,010                                   | - 22   | - 2%                               |
| ELECTRICAL MACHINERY,<br>APPARATUS AND<br>APPLIANCES (MAINLY<br>TRANSISTORS AND DIODES<br>AND HOUSEHOLD TYPE<br>EQUIPMENT) | 645                                     | 761                                     | + 116  | + 18%                              |

IN TERMS OF INDIVIDUAL COMMODITIES, ABOUT HALF OF THE INCREASE IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS WAS ATTRIBUTED TO HIGHER EXPORTS OF WATCHES AND CLOCKS (\$836 MILLION, + 60 PER CENT) AND ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES (\$5,371 MILLION, + SIX PER CENT).

SALES OF TEXTILE PRODUCTS SHOWED SOME GRADUAL IMPROVEMENT OVER THE SIGNIFICANT DECLINES RECORDED IN EARLIER MONTHS OF THE YEAR.

DEMAND FOR RADIO BROADCAST RECEIVERS (\$561 MILLION, - 29 PER CENT) RETREATED CONSIDERABLY DUE TO A SHRINKAGE OF DELIVERIES TO THE U.S.

INCREASED SHIPMENTS OF PLASTIC ARTIFICIAL FLOWERS (\$166 MILLION, + 33 PER CENT) OUTWEIGHED THE DECLINE IN EXPORTS OF PLASTIC TOYS AND DOLLS (\$808 MILLION, - FOUR PER CENT).

A SIZEABLE INCREASE IN EXPORTS OF HOUSEHOLD TYPE, ELECTRICAL AND NON-ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT (\$264 MILLION, + 38 PER CENT) WAS REGISTERED, A MAJOR FACTOR ACCOUNTING FOR THE INCREASE IN EXPORTS OF ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES.

THE CHANGES IN IMPORTS FROM 10 MAJOR SOURCES ARE SUMMARISED AS FOLLOWS:

|                                 | JAN.-MAY 77<br>(HK\$ MN.) | JAN.-MAY 78<br>(HK\$ MN.) | INCREASE/<br>DECREASE<br>(HK\$ MN.) | PERCENTAGE<br>CHANGE |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| JAPAN                           | 4,510                     | 5,248                     | + 738                               | + 16%                |
| CHINA                           | 3,033                     | 3,742                     | + 709                               | + 23%                |
| U.S.A.                          | 2,604                     | 2,964                     | + 360                               | + 14%                |
| TAIWAN                          | 1,380                     | 1,500                     | + 120                               | + 9%                 |
| SINGAPORE                       | 1,165                     | 1,212                     | + 47                                | + 4%                 |
| UNITED KINGDOM                  | 835                       | 1,004                     | + 169                               | + 20%                |
| SOUTH KOREA                     | 680                       | 692                       | + 12                                | + 2%                 |
| F.R. OF GERMANY                 | 567                       | 758                       | + 192                               | + 34%                |
| SWITZERLAND AND<br>LIECHENSTEIN | 505                       | 710                       | + 205                               | + 41%                |
| AUSTRALIA                       | 361                       | 443                       | + 82                                | + 23%                |

IMPORTS FROM JAPAN ROSE BY 16 PER CENT, CONTRIBUTED MAINLY BY INCREASED ARRIVALS OF ROAD VEHICLES (\$335 MILLION, + 66 PER CENT), WATCHES AND CLOCKS (\$415 MILLION, + 25 PER CENT), TEXTILE FABRICS (\$717 MILLION, +14 PER CENT) AND TEXTILE YARN (\$234 MILLION, + 34 PER CENT).

IMPORTS FROM CHINA GAINED AN IMPRESSIVE 23 PER CENT, REFLECTING MORE DELIVERIES OF TEXTILE FABRICS (\$378 MILLION, + 63 PER CENT) AND PETROLEUM AND PETROLEUM PRODUCTS (\$262 MILLION, + 85 PER CENT).

GREATER DELIVERIES OF PEARLS, PRECIOUS AND SEMI-PRECIOUS STONES (\$259 MILLION, + 55 PER CENT) CONTRIBUTED TO ONE QUARTER OF THE INCREASE IN IMPORTS FROM THE U.S.

IMPORTS FROM THE OTHER SOURCES ATTAINED FAVOURABLE GROWTH RATES, WHICH WERE PARTICULARLY REMARKABLE IN THE CASE OF F.R. OF GERMANY AND SWITZERLAND.

/THE FOLLOWING .....

THE FOLLOWING TABLE ILLUSTRATES THE CHANGES IN IMPORTS BY COMMODITY SECTIONS:

|  | <u>JAN.-MAY 77</u><br><u>(HK\$ MN.)</u> | <u>JAN.-MAY 78</u><br><u>(HK\$ MN.)</u> | <u>INCREASE/<br/>DECREASE</u><br><u>(HK\$ MN.)</u> | <u>PERCENTAGE<br/>CHANGE</u> |
|--|---|---|--|------------------------------|
| MANUFACTURED GOODS<br>CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY<br>BY MATERIAL (MAINLY<br>TEXTILE PRODUCTS<br>AND DIAMONDS) | 5,787                                   | 7,327                                   | +1,540   | + 27%                        |
| MACHINERY AND TRANS-<br>PORT EQUIPMENT   | 3,878                                   | 4,510                                   | + 632  | + 16%                        |
| FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS<br>CHIEFLY FOR FOOD  | 2,901                                   | 3,179                                   | + 278  | + 10%                        |
| MISCELLANEOUS MANU-<br>FACTURED ARTICLES<br>(MAINLY WATCHES AND<br>CLOCKS, ARTICLES<br>OF APPAREL)   | 2,278                                   | 3,025                                   | + 747  | + 33%                        |
| CHEMICAL AND<br>RELATED PRODUCTS   | 1,470                                   | 1,680                                   | + 210  | + 14%                        |

IMPORTS OF TEXTILE FABRICS (\$1,946 MILLION, + 24 PER CENT), WATCHES AND CLOCKS (\$1,033 MILLION, + 31 PER CENT), ROAD VEHICLES (\$534 MILLION, + 43 PER CENT), IRON AND STEEL (\$692 MILLION, + 22 PER CENT), OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (\$463 MILLION, + 36 PER CENT) AND ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES (\$420 MILLION, + 41 PER CENT) ADVANCED MOST SIGNIFICANTLY, REFLECTING PRONOUNCED UPTRENDS IN DOMESTIC DEMAND FOR CONSUMER GOODS, RAW MATERIALS AND CAPITAL GOODS.

DEMAND FOR FOODSTUFFS GAINED A MODEST GROWTH RATE DESPITE A SHARP DROP IN IMPORTS OF COFFEE, TEA, COCOA, SPICES AND MANUFACTURES THEREOF (\$88 MILLION, - 47 PER CENT).

RE-EXPORTS GAINED A PHENOMENAL INCREASE, ATTRIBUTING CHIEFLY TO REMARKABLE ADVANCES OF RE-EXPORTS TO THE FOUR MAJOR MARKETS, JAPAN (\$821 MILLION, + 36 PER CENT), INDONESIA (\$519 MILLION, + 80 PER CENT), SINGAPORE (\$528 MILLION, + 30 PER CENT) AND U.S.A. (\$448 MILLION, + 34 PER CENT).

MORE THAN ONE-HALF OF THE INCREASE IN RE-EXPORTS TO JAPAN WAS DUE TO HIGHER DELIVERIES OF PEARLS, PRECIOUS AND SEMI-PRECIOUS STONES (\$280 MILLION, + 70 PER CENT).

MORE RE-EXPORTS OF ROAD VEHICLES (\$76 MILLION, + 519 PER CENT) TO INDONESIA AND OF WATCHES AND CLOCKS (\$137 MILLION, + 57 PER CENT) TO SINGAPORE WERE RECORDED.

/THE GAIN .....

THE GAIN IN RE-EXPORTS TO U.S.A. WAS CAUSED BY AN UPSURGE IN DELIVERIES OF PEARLS, PRECIOUS AND SEMI-PRECIOUS STONES (\$145 MILLION, + 33 PER CENT) AND WATCHES AND CLOCKS (\$60 MILLION, + 68 PER CENT).

THE TRADE INDEXES FOR MARCH 1978 (1973=100) WERE RELEASED AS FOLLOWS: -

|                  | <u>VALUE INDEX</u> | <u>UNIT VALUE INDEX</u> | <u>QUANTUM INDEX</u> |
|------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| DOMESTIC EXPORTS | 176                | 135                     | 131                  |
| IMPORTS          | 202                | 139                     | 145                  |

(THE TRADE INDEX FOR MARCH WAS 97.)

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SHA TIN HOUSING ESTATE TO HAVE ITS OWN +MINI COUNTRY PARK+  
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THE LATEST HOUSING ESTATE PLANNED FOR SHA TIN WILL HAVE A UNIQUE FEATURE -- A +MINI COUNTRY PARK+.

THE ESTATE AT TIN SAM WILL BE BUILT AROUND THE WOODED SPUR OF A SLOPE AND THIS SLICE OF COUNTRYSIDE WILL BE RETAINED AS THE FOCAL FEATURE OF THE DEVELOPMENT.

THE +MINI COUNTRY PARK+ WILL ADD 3.4 HECTARES TO THE SPACIOUS 13.5 HECTARE SITE FORMATION OF WHICH IS DUE TO BEGIN EARLY NEXT YEAR, ACCORDING TO MR. ROBERT JORDAN, THE ENGINEER (INVESTIGATION) OF THE PWD'S SHA TIN NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT OFFICE.

MR. JORDAN SAID TODAY THE USE OF THE WOODED AREA WOULD GIVE THE TIN SAM ESTATE A DISTINCTIVE CHARACTER.

+THE WOODED AREA WILL BE LEFT IN ITS NATURAL STATE AND THE 28,000 RESIDENTS WHO WILL EVENTUALLY LIVE IN THE ESTATE WILL BE ABLE TO USE IT FOR PASSIVE RECREATION,+ HE SAID.

+IT WILL CERTAINLY ADD AN ATTRACTIVE NEW DIMENSION TO PUBLIC HOUSING DEVELOPMENT.+

THE ESTATE IS DUE FOR COMPLETION IN 1983.

/APART FROM .....

APART FROM THE ESTATE, TWO LARGE AREAS IN TIN SAM ARE TO BE DEVELOPED FOR GOVERNMENT, INSTITUTION AND COMMUNITY USES, THE DISTRICT OPEN SPACES AND ASSOCIATED ACCESS ROADS AND SERVICES.

WORK ON SITE FORMATION IN THESE AREAS IS SCHEDULED TO START IN DECEMBER THIS YEAR AND WILL TAKE 18 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

TO FACILITATE THE WORK, THE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR. GERRY HIGGINSON SAID THE GOVERNMENT WILL HAVE TO RESUME A TOTAL OF 170,529 SQUARE METRES OF PRIVATE AGRICULTURAL LAND, 40 SQUARE METRES OF BUILDING LAND AND 232 SQUARE METRES OF LAND REGISTERED AS +GRAVE+.

THREE MONTHS' NOTICE OF THE LAND RESUMPTION WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE ON JULY 21.

THE RESUMPTION WILL INVOLVE THE CLEARANCE OF 123 TEMPORARY DOMESTIC STRUCTURES OCCUPIED BY 121 FAMILIES COMPRISING ABOUT 540 PEOPLE. OF THESE TEMPORARY STRUCTURES, 103 ARE ON PRIVATE LAND AND 20 ON CROWN LAND.

A TOTAL OF 350 OTHER TEMPORARY STRUCTURES WILL HAVE TO BE CLEARED.

IN ADDITION, FOUR VILLAGE HOUSES ARE SITUATED WITHIN THE RESUMPTION LIMITS AND WILL BE RESITED UNDER VILLAGE REMOVAL TERMS.

DEPENDING ON THEIR ELIGIBILITY, DISPLACED FAMILIES WILL BE OFFERED EITHER PUBLIC HOUSING OR TEMPORARY PUBLIC HOUSING IN SHA TIN.

+GENUINE CULTIVATOR FAMILIES MAY OPT FOR A RESITE TOGETHER WITH AN EX-GRATIA REHABILITATION ALLOWANCE OF \$5,000, BUT WILL FORFEIT THEIR PRIORITY FOR PUBLIC HOUSING,+ MR. HIGGINSON SAID.

AS THE LAND TO BE RESUMED LIES WITHIN THE SHA TIN OUTLINE DEVELOPMENT PLAN, LANDOWNERS CONCERNED WILL BE OFFERED THE NEW COMPENSATION PACKAGE COMPRISING CASH AND LAND EXCHANGE.

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COLOUR BOOKLET ON HIGH ISLAND WATER SCHEME ON SALE

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A COLOUR BOOKLET ON THE \$1,348 MILLION HIGH ISLAND WATER SCHEME - THE LARGEST THAT HONG KONG HAS UNDERTAKEN - IS NOW ON SALE, AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AT GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE.

THE 24-PAGE BOOKLET IS THE THIRD OF THE SERIES OF PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT'S BOOKLETS ON WATER PROJECTS. IT COSTS \$9 PER COPY.

THE FIRST BOOKLET IN THE SERIES - ON PLOVER COVE - WAS PUBLISHED IN JANUARY THIS YEAR, FOLLOWED IN APRIL BY ANOTHER BOOKLET ON THE LOK ON PAI DESALTING PLANT.

THE HIGH ISLAND RESERVOIR, CARVED OUT OF THE SEA, CAN HOLD 273 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF FRESH WATER. IMPOUNDING OF WATER STARTED LAST SUMMER AND THE RESERVOIR NOW HOLDS ABOUT 64 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER.

THE BOOKLET, WITH SEVERAL AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS AND PICTURES OF THE RESERVOIR UNDER CONSTRUCTION GIVES DETAILS OF THE WORKS CARRIED OUT AT VARIOUS STAGES OF THE PROJECT.

COMMENTING ON THE NEW BOOKLET, MR. TOMLINSON, ACTING DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLIES, SAID THAT HE HOPED THE PUBLICATION WOULD BE USEFUL TO THE MANY PEOPLE WHO HAVE EXPRESSED INTEREST IN THE DETAILS OF THE MOST SPECTACULAR WATER PROJECT THAT HONG KONG HAS UNDERTAKEN.

+I WOULD PARTICULARLY LIKE YOUNG PEOPLE IN COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE PROJECT,+ HE SAID.

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NEW TELEPHONE SYSTEM FOR P.W.D.

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A NEW TELEPHONE SYSTEM AT THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS IN MURRAY BUILDING WILL COME INTO OPERATION AT THE END OF THIS MONTH.

THE \$120,000 SYSTEM WILL MODIFY THE EXISTING PABX UNIT AND PROVIDE DIRECT DIALLING ACCESS TO 800 TELEPHONES IN THE DEPARTMENT.

THE INCOMING LINE CAPACITY WILL BE INCREASED FROM 46 TO 50 WHILE THE EXISTING 48 OUTGOING LINES WILL REMAIN THE SAME.

ENGINEERS FROM THE HONG KONG TELEPHONE COMPANY ARE CURRENTLY INSTALLING THE WEST GERMAN EQUIPMENT, WHICH WILL COME INTO USE AT NOON, ON SUNDAY, JULY 30.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT SAID THE MODIFICATIONS HAD BECOME NECESSARY BECAUSE OF THE HEAVY WORKLOAD THE PRESENT SYSTEM IMPOSED ON THE DEPARTMENT'S TELEPHONE OPERATORS. THIS FREQUENTLY CAUSED LONG DELAYS TO OUTSIDE CALLERS AND COMPLAINTS HAD BEEN NUMEROUS.

+THE NEW SYSTEM WILL ENABLE A CALLER TO RING DIRECT TO THE DESK OF THE OFFICER HE IS TRYING TO CONTACT WITHOUT GOING THROUGH THE SWITCHBOARD,+ HE SAID.

THE DEPARTMENT CURRENTLY EMPLOYS FOUR SWITCHBOARD OPERATORS AND IT IS HOPED THAT AFTER THE NEW SYSTEM BECOMES FULLY OPERATIONAL IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO RELEASE TWO OPERATORS FOR DUTIES IN OTHER DEPARTMENTS.

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REGISTRATION TEAM TO OPERATE IN KWUN TONG

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A TEAM FROM THE REGISTRATION OF PERSONS OFFICE WILL CONDUCT REGISTRATIONS IN KWUN TONG ESTATE COMMUNITY CENTRE FOR RESIDENTS AND PERSONS LIVING NEARBY FROM JULY 31 TO AUGUST 9.

REGISTRATIONS WILL BE CONDUCTED BETWEEN 9.30 A.M. AND 4.30 P.M. DAILY.

THE VISIT IS TO ENABLE PARENTS/GUARDIANS TO REGISTER THEIR CHILDREN/WARDS BETWEEN 11 AND 17 YEARS OF AGE FOR JUVENILE IDENTITY CARDS AND HOLDERS OF JUVENILE IDENTITY CARDS TO REGISTER FOR ADULT IDENTITY CARDS ON REACHING 18 YEARS OF AGE.

ALL PERSONS LIVING IN THE AREA ARE REMINDED OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TO REGISTER THEMSELVES AND THEIR CHILDREN FOR IDENTITY CARDS AND TO REPORT CHANGES OF EMPLOYMENT OR RESIDENTIAL ADDRESSES, MARITAL STATUS, OR ANY OTHER PARTICULARS WHICH HAVE CHANGED SINCE REGISTERING FOR THEIR IDENTITY CARDS.

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WATER CUTS

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THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN SHAM SHUI PO WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR SIX HOURS FROM MIDNIGHT ON WEDNESDAY (JULY 26) TO 6 A.M. ON THURSDAY TO FACILITATE LEAKAGE TESTS IN THE AREA.

THE AREA TO BE AFFECTED IS BOUNDED BY CHEUNG SHA WAN ROAD, BUTTERFLY VALLEY ROAD, KING LAM STREET, YEE KUK STREET, WING HONG STREET, YU CHAU STREET, CASTLE PEAK ROAD AND TAI NAN STREET INCLUDING TUNG CHAU STREET.

THE DEPARTMENT ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN NORTH POINT WILL BE CUT OFF FOR SEVEN HOURS FROM 11 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY (JULY 26) TO FACILITATE LEAKAGE TESTS.

THE AREA TO BE AFFECTED IS BOUNDED BY SOUTH SIDE OF KING'S ROAD FROM HEALTHY STREET WEST TO MANSION STREET, TSAT TSZ MUI ROAD AND PAK PUK ROAD INCLUDING MODEL LANE, HEALTHY STREET EAST AND HEALTHY STREET CENTRAL.

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