



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1977

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GOVERNOR APPOINTS WORKING GROUP ON URBAN LAND ACQUISITIONS
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A 12-MEMBER WORKING GROUP UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF SIR Y.K. KAN HAS BEEN APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR TO EXAMINE THE GOVERNMENT'S METHODS OF ACQUIRING LEASED LAND IN THE NEW TERRITORIES URBAN DEVELOPMENT AREAS.

THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE GROUP ARE :
MR. LI FOOK-WO, MR. PETER C. WONG, MR. CHARLES YEUNG, MR. CHAN YAT-SUN, MR. CHEUNG YAN-LUNG, MR. TSANG LIN, MR. LAU WONG-FAT, SIR DONALD LUDDINGTON, MR. GRAHAM BARNES, MR. JOHN CHAMBERS AND MR. MICHAEL M.Y. SUEN (SECRETARY).

THE GROUP'S TERMS OF REFERENCE ARE: TO EXAMINE, IN THE LIGHT OF THE CURRENT AND FUTURE RESUMPTION PROGRAMME, THE METHODS BY WHICH LEASED LAND IN NEW TERRITORIES TOWNS IS ACQUIRED BY THE GOVERNMENT FOR URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND PUBLIC PURPOSES, INCLUDING RATES OF COMPENSATION PAID AND THE LAND EXCHANGE SCHEME= AND TO RECOMMEND TO THE GOVERNOR ANY CHANGES NEEDED.

THE PROPOSAL TO SET UP A WORKING GROUP WAS MADE BY THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR. DAVID AKERS-JONES, IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON NOVEMBER 10, WHEN HE SAID A FRESH LOOK NEEDED TO BE TAKEN AT THE WHOLE QUESTION OF COMPENSATION FOR LAND RESUMED AND THE LAND EXCHANGE SYSTEM.

THE WORKING GROUP HELD ITS FIRST MEETING TODAY (THURSDAY) AND DISCUSSED ITS FUTURE PROGRAMME OF WORK.

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MR. DAVID JORDAN LEAVES FOR BRUSSELS TONIGHT
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THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS, MR. DAVID JORDAN, IS LEAVING FOR BRUSSELS THIS (THURSDAY) EVENING ACCOMPANIED BY THREE MEMBERS OF THE TEXTILES ADVISORY BOARD, MR. FRANK LIN, MR. OLIVER NICHOLL AND MR. STEPHEN LAU.

ANOTHER MEMBER OF THE BOARD, MR. STEPHEN CHEONG WILL LEAVE ON SATURDAY (NOVEMBER 26).

THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT IS ISSUED BY MR. JORDAN BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE :

+OUR TEXTILE NEGOTIATION WITH THE EEC IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT, AND THE MOST DIFFICULT, IN WHICH HONG KONG HAS EVER BEEN INVOLVED.

+BEFORE WE LEFT BRUSSELS EARLIER THIS MONTH WE ASSURED THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION THAT WE WOULD BE READY TO RESUME THE NEGOTIATIONS AT ANY TIME.

/A FEW DAYS

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+A FEW DAYS AGO WE RECEIVED INDICATIONS THAT THE COMMISSION WAS READY TO RESUME SO MR. MILLS, THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE, AND HIS TEAM OF OFFICIALS FROM THE DEPARTMENT, LEFT ON SUNDAY, AND HAVE ALREADY, AS YOU KNOW, RESUMED THEIR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE COMMISSION.

+MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND I ARE LEAVING TO JOIN MR. MILLS AND HIS TEAM TO BE ABLE TO GIVE THEM ON-THE-SPOT ADVICE AND DIRECTION IN THE HOPE THAT THIS WILL ENABLE US TO REACH AGREEMENT QUICKLY.

+MR. TRAN, THE COMMUNITY'S CHIEF NEGOTIATOR, WAS REPORTED IN YESTERDAY'S NEWSPAPERS AS SAYING THAT THE TALKS HAD RESUMED 'WITH THE VIEW OF CONCLUDING AN AGREEMENT ON TRADE IN TEXTILES' AND THAT THE TALKS WERE BEING HELD 'IN AN EXCELLENT CLIMATE OF REALISM'.

+REPORTS THAT I HAVE RECEIVED FROM MR. MILLS INDICATE THAT THIS IS INDEED SO AND I AM NOW MORE HOPEFUL ABOUT THE EVENTUAL OUTCOME THAN I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO BE BEFORE TODAY.

+I SHOULD LIKE TO ASSURE THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG -- FOR THIS NEGOTIATION CAN AFFECT THE ECONOMIC FUTURE OF ALL OF US, NOT JUST THE TEXTILE AND CLOTHING INDUSTRY -- THAT WE ARE WELL AWARE NOT ONLY OF ITS IMPORTANCE BUT ALSO OF THE NEED TO REMOVE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THE UNCERTAINTIES WHICH ARE ALREADY AFFECTING TRADE. THAT IS WHY MEMBERS OF THE ADVISORY BOARD ARE GOING TOO, TO BE ABLE TO ADVISE US QUICKLY IN THE LIGHT OF THEIR DETAILED KNOWLEDGE OF THE TRADE.

+UNFORTUNATELY OTHER MEMBERS OF THE BOARD (WHO HAVE ALREADY SPENT SEVERAL WEEKS IN BRUSSELS) ARE UNABLE TO ACCOMPANY US THIS TIME BUT THEY HAVE TOLD ME THAT THEY HAVE FULL CONFIDENCE IN THE STRONG TEAM THAT IS GOING AND THAT IF THERE ARE ANY ASPECTS OF THE NEGOTIATION ON WHICH WE IN BRUSSELS FEEL WE NEED FURTHER ADVICE FROM HONG KONG, THEY WILL STAND BY READY TO MEET AT ANY TIME UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF MR. BILL DORWARD, WHO WILL BE STANDING IN FOR ME.+

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MR. JORDAN WILL BE PREPARED TO ANSWER QUESTIONS ON HIS STATEMENT AT 10 P.M. IN THE AIRPORT VIP PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM. IF YOU WISH TO ATTEND, YOU ARE REQUESTED TO BE THERE NOT LATER THAN 9.45 P.M.

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YUEN LONG STAGES GRAND PARADE FOR THE
QUEEN'S SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS
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A SPECTACULAR HALF-MILE LONG PROCESSION WILL BE STAGED IN YUEN LONG TOMORROW (FRIDAY), THE CLIMAX OF MORE THAN 100 INDIVIDUAL EVENTS WHICH ARE BEING HELD IN THE NEW TERRITORIES TO CELEBRATE THE QUEEN'S SILVER JUBILEE.

MORE THAN 2,500 PEOPLE WILL TAKE PART IN THE PROCESSION WHICH HAS BEEN ORGANISED AT A COST OF \$300,000 -- MOST OF THE MONEY BEING RAISED IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY.

ORGANISERS EXPECT A CROWD OF UP TO 50,000 AT THE GRAND PARADE.

THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR. DAVID AKERS-JONES, WHO WILL OFFICIATE AT THE FUNCTION, SAID TODAY THE PROCESSION PROMISED TO BE ONE OF THE MOST COLOURFUL EVENTS SEEN IN THE NEW TERRITORIES FOR MANY YEARS.

+IT IS GRATIFYING TO SEE A LOCAL COMMUNITY RESPONDING SO ENTHUSIASTICALLY AND SO GENEROUSLY FOR SUCH AN IMPORTANT OCCASION.+

THE PROCESSION WILL START AT 6.30 P.M. AT THE BUS TERMINUS IN FRONT OF KAI TEI AND PROCEED DOWN YUEN LONG MAIN ROAD TO THE STADIUM AND THEN ALONG KAU YUK ROAD AND HOP YICK ROAD, AND BACK TO THE STARTING POINT. IT WILL LAST MORE THAN ONE AND A HALF HOURS.

THERE WILL BE NINE COLOURFULLY-DECORATED FLOATS, THREE BANDS, LANTERN DANCES BY 60 LOCAL SCHOOLGIRLS IN TRADITIONAL COSTUMES, GYMNASTICS DISPLAYS AND DRAGON, LION AND UNICORN DANCES.

MR. AKERS-JONES NOTED THAT THE QUEEN'S SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, WHICH STARTED ON NOVEMBER 20 AND WILL END ON DECEMBER 4, HAD PROVED A GREAT SUCCESS.

+THE EVENTS HAVE BEEN MANY AND VARIED AND HAVE CATERED EVERYONE FROM THE VERY OLD TO THE VERY YOUNG,+ HE SAID.

+AT LEAST 10,000 PEOPLE HAVE ACTUALLY PARTICIPATED, OR WILL BE PARTICIPATING IN THE 100 EVENTS THAT HAVE BEEN ARRANGED BY THE LOCAL DISTRICT COMMITTEES AND WE ESTIMATED THAT WELL OVER A QUARTER OF A MILLION PEOPLE WILL HAVE WATCHED THE EVENTS BY THE TIME THE PROGRAMME ENDS,+ HE ADDED.

/THIS IS

+THIS IS A GREAT TRIBUTE TO THE HARD WORK PUT IN BY THE LOCAL COMMUNITY LEADERS OF THE NEW TERRITORIES INTO MAKING THE QUEEN'S SILVER JUBILEE YEAR A VERY MEMORABLE ONE FOR SO MANY PEOPLE IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.+

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE EVENT.

PRESS TRANSPORT WILL BE PROVIDED. TWO GOVERNMENT VANS WILL LEAVE FROM BEHIND THE TSIM SHA TSUI SUB-POOL AT 4.15 P.M. TOMORROW (FRIDAY) TO TAKE PRESS REPRESENTATIVES TO AND LATER BACK FROM YUEN LONG. AN INFORMATION OFFICER OF THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST THE PRESS.

PRESS BADGES AND COPIES OF A YUEN LONG CELEBRATION PROGRAMME, WHICH CONTAINS A ROUTE MAP OF THE PROCESSION, WILL BE DISTRIBUTED SEPARATELY IN THE G.I.S. PRESS BOXES.

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OVER 1,000 DOMESTIC UNITS INSPECTED IN
FIRE PREVENTION SURVEY

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THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT THIS (THURSDAY) MORNING CARRIED OUT A FIRE PREVENTION SURVEY ON DOMESTIC PREMISES IN THE WESTERN DISTRICT.

MORE THAN 1,000 UNITS IN 12 DOMESTIC BUILDINGS CHOSEN AT RANDOM WERE INSPECTED.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE FIRE SERVICES SAID THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME A SURVEY OF THIS SCALE WAS CONDUCTED ON DOMESTIC PREMISES.

HE SAID MORE SUCH INSPECTIONS WOULD BE CARRIED OUT DURING THE FORTHCOMING FIRE PREVENTION CAMPAIGN WHICH IS AIMED AT DRIVING HOME THE AWARENESS OF THE DANGERS OF FIRE IN A CROWDED MULTI-STOREY ENVIRONMENT.

DURING THE SURVEY THIS MORNING, SPECIAL ATTENTION WAS PAID TO THE MEANS OF ESCAPE, INSTALLATION OF METAL GATES AND ROOFTOP EXITS OF THE BUILDINGS.

AS A RESULT SEVEN FIRE HAZARD ABATEMENT NOTICES WERE SERVED FOR SERIOUS OBSTRUCTION. THIRTY-FIVE NOTICES WOULD BE SERVED LATER ON TENANTS OF PREMISES WITH MINOR FIRE HAZARDS.

FURTHERMORE, THREE CASES OF ILLEGAL STRUCTURES ON ROOFTOPS WILL BE FORWARDED TO THE BUILDING ORDINANCE OFFICE FOR ACTION.

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PUPILS URGED TO RESPECT TRADITIONAL VIRTUES
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THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR. COLVYN HAYE TODAY (THURSDAY) URGED PUPILS TO RESPECT TRADITIONAL VIRTUES, TO EMULATE AND ADAPT THEM TO THEIR LIVES.

HE WAS ADDRESSING THE AUDIENCE AT THE ANNUAL DISTRIBUTION OF SCHOOL CERTIFICATES AT ST. PAUL'S CONVENT SCHOOL IN CAUSEWAY BAY.

BUT, MR. HAYE SAID, RESPECT FOR TRADITIONAL VIRTUES SHOULD NOT BE BLIND.

+IN A SCIENTIFIC AGE WE ARE RIGHTLY TAUGHT TO QUESTION AND THIS INVOLVED FINDING OUT WHY.

+IN OUR INQUIRY WE SHOULD NEVER LOSE RESPECT FOR THE MOTIVES OF THE PAST. THE PAST, AFTER ALL, SHOULD BE A GUIDE FOR THE PRESENT AND THE FUTURE, AND THE INSPIRATION OF THE PAST SHOULD REMAIN,+ HE SAID.

MR. HAYE ADDED: +AS YOU ENQUIRE INTO HISTORY, ETHICS, PHILOSOPHY, RELIGION AND LAW - THE FOUNDATIONS OF MODERN SOCIETY - YOU WILL FIND GUIDANCE FOR PRESENT CONDUCT. TEACHERS ARE GUIDES IN THIS EXCITING TOUR OF DISCOVERY, AND TEACHERS THEMSELVES ARE AN EXAMPLE FOR PUPILS.+

CHILDREN IN SCHOOL SHOULD RIGHTLY BE TAUGHT TO RESPECT TRADITIONAL VIRTUES, AND IN ST. PAUL'S CONVENT SCHOOL +I KNOW THAT THEY ARE. THEY ARE TAUGHT TO RESPECT THEIR FAMILIES, THEIR TEACHERS, THEIR SCHOOL AND SOCIETY.+

THE HISTORY OF THE SCHOOL WAS ONE OF STEADY PROGRESS. +I AM SURE THAT ST. PAUL'S WILL CONTINUE TO PLAY A LEADING ROLE IN EDUCATION IN THE FUTURE. NEW SCHOOLS LOOK TO OLDER SCHOOLS SUCH AS THIS FOR INSPIRATION AND GUIDANCE. TRADITION IS HARD EARNED AND THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR EXPERIENCE,+ HE SAID.

MRS. HAYE DISTRIBUTED CERTIFICATES AND PRIZES LATER.

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SHA TIN LIBRARY OPENED
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THE EXPANSION OF LIBRARY SERVICES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES MOVED ANOTHER STEP FORWARD TODAY (THURSDAY) WHEN SHA TIN PUBLIC LIBRARY WAS OFFICIALLY OPENED.

THE DIRECTOR OF URBAN SERVICES, MR. BRIAN WILSON, SAID THAT IN RECENT MONTHS THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT HAD OPENED TWO LIBRARIES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, AT TAI PO AND ON CHEUNG CHAU.

+THE SHA TIN LIBRARY IS IN FACT THE THIRD LIBRARY TO BE OPENED THIS YEAR. IT WILL BE FOLLOWED SHORTLY BY NEW DISTRICT LIBRARIES AT SHEUNG SHUI AND TUEN MUN.+

THE SHA TIN LIBRARY OCCUPIES 3,000 SQUARE FEET AND HAS AN INITIAL BOOKSTOCK OF 6,000 VOLUMES.

+IT'S IN THE NATURE OF AN INTERIM SERVICE,+ SAID MR. WILSON +AND WILL EVENTUALLY BE REPLACED BY A LARGER LIBRARY OF SOME 16,000 SQUARE FEET WHEN THE NEW TOWN OF SHA TIN COMES INTO BEING.+

OFFICIATING WITH THE DIRECTOR OF URBAN SERVICES AT THE OPENING WERE THREE LEADING MEMBERS OF THE SHA TIN COMMUNITY, MR. WAI HON-LEUNG, CHAIRMAN OF THE RURAL COMMITTEE, AND MR. HUNG SHING AND MR. LAU HON-KIT, VICE-CHAIRMEN.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE TO ATTEND SOCIAL WORKERS' MEETING
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THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE, WILL ADDRESS THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE HONG KONG SOCIAL WORKERS' ASSOCIATION TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AT 6 P.M.

THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE AUDITORIUM ON THE 2ND FLOOR OF THE DUKE OF WINDSOR SOCIAL SERVICES BUILDING, 15 HENNESSY ROAD.

MR. LEE WILL SPEAK ON THE ROLE OF THE SOCIAL WORK PROFESSION IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE IN HONG KONG.

YOU ARE WELCOME TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE EVENT. COPIES OF MR. LEE'S SPEECH WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION IN G.I.S. PRESS BOXES TOMORROW EVENING.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN CENTRAL

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THE WESTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL BETWEEN ICE HOUSE STREET AND PEDDER STREET WILL BE CLOSED TO ALL VEHICULAR TRAFFIC, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF TRAMS, FOR ABOUT TWO WEEKS STARTING FROM 10 A.M. ON SATURDAY (NOVEMBER 26), IN ORDER TO FACILITATE CONSTRUCTION WORK ON THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY PEDDER STATION.

IN THIS CONNECTION, THE FOLLOWING TRAFFIC AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED :

ICE HOUSE STREET BETWEEN DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL AND QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, WHICH IS PRESENTLY ONE-WAY NORTHBOUND, WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY SOUTHBOUND-

WESTBOUND VEHICLES ENTERING DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL BEYOND BANK STREET FROM QUEENSWAY AND GARDEN ROAD WILL BE DIRECTED TO TURN LEFT OR RIGHT INTO ICE HOUSE STREET.

AT THE SAME TIME, NORTHBOUND VEHICLES PROCEEDING FROM THE UPPER SECTION OF ICE HOUSE STREET WILL BE DIRECTED TO TURN LEFT AT THE JUNCTION WITH QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

AS FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS, NORMAL TRAM SERVICES IN DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL WILL BE MAINTAINED THROUGHOUT THE PERIOD OF THE ROAD CLOSURE.

HOWEVER, FROM 10 A.M. ON SATURDAY, CERTAIN BUS SERVICES WILL BE DIVERTED AS FOLLOWS :

CMB ROUTES 5A, 5B AND CROSS-HARBOUR ROUTES 111, 113 AND 121 TRAVELLING WESTBOUND ALONG DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL WILL BE DIVERTED TO OPERATE VIA ICE HOUSE STREET, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL AND QUEEN VICTORIA STREET TO REJOIN DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL.

CMB ROUTE 10 AND CROSS-HARBOUR ROUTES 101, 104 AND 105 TRAVELLING WESTBOUND ALONG DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL WILL BE DIVERTED TO OPERATE VIA ICE HOUSE STREET, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL AND QUEEN'S ROAD WEST- AND

CMB ROUTES 23A AND 24 AND CROSS-HARBOUR ROUTE 103 TRAVELLING NORTHBOUND ALONG ICE HOUSE STREET WILL BE DIVERTED TO OPERATE VIA QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, PEDDER STREET AND CHATER ROAD.

TWO TEMPORARY BUS STOPS FOR CMB ROUTES 5A, 5B AND 10 AND CROSS-HARBOUR ROUTES 101, 104, 105, 111 AND 113 WILL BE PROVIDED AT 55 AND 66, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL TO REPLACE THE EXISTING BUS STOP AT 24, DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL.

/A SPOKESMAN

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A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY THAT TRAFFIC CONGESTION IS ANTICIPATED IN QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL DURING THE PERIOD OF PARTIAL CLOSURE OF DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL.

THE SPOKESMAN ADVISED MOTORISTS TO AVOID USING QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL WHEREVER POSSIBLE AND THE TRAVELLING PUBLIC TO MAKE USE OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT FACILITIES WHEN TRAVELLING TO AND FROM CENTRAL DISTRICT.

IN PARTICULAR, MOTORISTS FROM THE MID-LEVELS PROCEEDING TO CENTRAL VIA ICE HOUSE STREET ARE ADVISED TO USE WYNDHAM STREET INSTEAD.

APPROPRIATE ROAD SIGNS WILL BE SET UP TO INDICATE THE ARRANGEMENTS AND TRAFFIC POLICEMEN WILL BE PRESENT TO ASSIST.

HOLDERS OF CLOSED ROAD PERMITS FOR DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL WHO WISH TO GAIN ACCESS TO THE SECTION OF THE ROAD WEST OF THE PEDDER STREET JUNCTION MAY PROCEED VIA QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL AND PEDDER STREET BEFORE TURNING LEFT INTO DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL.

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EXTENSION OF PLB RESTRICTED ZONE IN ARGYLE STREET
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE EXISTING PUBLIC LIGHT BUS RESTRICTED ZONE IN ARGYLE STREET WILL BE EXTENDED FROM 10 A.M. ON SATURDAY (NOVEMBER 26).

THE EXTENSION WILL BE FROM THE JUNCTION WITH SAI YEE STREET TO A POINT 33 FT. EAST OF THE JUNCTION WITH PEACE AVENUE BETWEEN 7 A.M. AND MIDNIGHT.

THE ARRANGEMENT HAS BEEN MADE TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC CONDITIONS IN ARGYLE STREET.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP TO INDICATE THE NEW PROHIBITED ZONE.

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