



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Thursday, November 30, 1972

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GOVERNMENT USING NEW POPULATION PROJECTIONS FOR FUTURE PLANNING

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New population projections made by the Census and Statistics Department are now being used by the government in planning future towns, transport systems and social services.

The Commissioner for Census and Statistics, Mr. Kenneth Topley, said today that the projections are based on data collected from the 1971 population census.

"The method of projection used is known as the component method. This means that assumptions have to be made about future births, deaths and migration and recent experience is the best guide for formulating the assumptions," he said.

"In fact," Mr. Topley said, "it is impossible to predict exactly the future course of population change and so three projections, high, medium and low are made based on varying assumptions."

The population of Hong Kong is expected to fall within the range 4.7 to 5.0 million in 1981 and within the range 5.5 to 6.3 million in 1991. For planning purposes the medium projection was most frequently used.

Mr. Topley said that the details of the projections and their methodology would be published in a report which was now being prepared.

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DOMESTIC EXPORTS SHOW ANOTHER SUBSTANTIAL RISE

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The value of Hong Kong's domestic exports for the month of October was \$1,488 million -- an increase of \$204 million or 15.9 per cent over the same month last year.

Provisional trade figures released today by the Census and Statistics Department also show that imports were worth \$1,898 million, a rise of 8.3 per cent or \$145 million. Re-exports also rose to \$394 million, up \$56 million or 16.5 per cent compared with October 1971.

During the three-month period, August to October, domestic exports totalled \$4,391 million, imports \$5,697 million and re-exports \$1,158 million.

Compared with the corresponding period last year, these figures represented increases of 14.4 per cent, 14.5 per cent and 28 per cent respectively.

Figures for the 10 months from January to October this year show increases over the same period in 1971 of 10.6 per cent for domestic exports, 6.7 per cent for imports and 20.2 per cent for re-exports.

The provisional trade figures for October are as follows:-

<u>MERCHANDISE:</u>	Domestic Exports:	\$1,488 million
	Imports :	\$1,898 million
	Re-exports :	\$ 394 million

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COMPARATIVE FIGURES:

	<u>October</u> <u>1972</u> \$ Mn.	<u>October</u> <u>1971</u> \$ Mn.	<u>Increase or</u> <u>decrease</u> \$ Mn.    %	
Domestic Exports	1,488	1,284	+ 204	+ 15.9
Imports	1,898	1,752	+ 145	+ 8.3
Re-exports	394	338	+ 56	+ 16.5

	<u>Aug.-Oct.</u> <u>1972</u> \$ Mn.	<u>Aug.-Oct.</u> <u>1971</u> \$ Mn.	<u>Increase or</u> <u>decrease</u> \$ Mn.    %	
Domestic Exports	4,391	3,839	+ 552	+ 14.4
Imports	5,697	4,977	+ 721	+ 14.5
Re-exports	1,158	904	+ 253	+ 28.0

	<u>Jan.-Oct.</u> <u>1972</u> \$ Mn.	<u>Jan.-Oct.</u> <u>1971</u> \$ Mn.	<u>Increase or</u> <u>decrease</u> \$ Mn.    %	
Domestic Exports	12,689	11,471	+ 1,218	+ 10.6
Imports	17,866	16,746	+ 1,120	+ 6.7
Re-exports	3,348	2,785	+ 563	+ 20.2

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PUBLIC OPINION BEING SOUGHT ON DRAFT WHITE PAPER

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For the first time in Hong Kong, public opinion is now being sought before the publication of government policy in a White Paper.

Government departments are now collecting and collating opinion from all sectors of the community on a draft White Paper, or "Green Paper", on social welfare.

The Secretariat for Home Affairs and the Social Welfare Department are working together to obtain as wide a coverage as possible for the Green Paper -- The Way Ahead.

It is the first time the Government has used this procedure although it is common practice in the United Kingdom.

The S.H.A. has in the past month sent out more than 3,500 copies of the paper in Chinese and English, together with comprehensive questionnaires. Targets were churches, kaifong associations, rural committees and 'the man in the street' through the City District Offices.

Copies of these forms are being returned to both the S.H.A. and S.W.D. In addition the S.W.D. is obtaining similar results through a programme aimed at welfare agencies, schools and universities.

It is hoped the full results will be in by mid-December when they will be used in the drafting of the final version of the White Paper.

A spokesman for the S.H.A. said that so far the response had been satisfactory.

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He said that community leaders were taking the project seriously and were consulting with members of their various associations before completing the questionnaires.

He also said the government proposed using the "Green Paper formula" for future policy making.

It was thought that each year, about five or six Green Papers would be published and public opinion sought through the apparatus of the S.H.A. and C.D.Os.

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CIVIL AID SERVICES ANNUAL FIELD DAY

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The people of Hong Kong will have an opportunity of seeing the Civil Aid Services in action during their Annual Field Day at the Government Stadium on Sunday (December 3).

The day's programme will start at 9 a.m. with a review by the Governor, Sir Murray MacLehose, of some 3,000 officers, members and cadets drawn from various units of the Civil Aid Services.

Sir Murray, accompanied by Mr. P.C. Woo, Commissioner, C.A.S., and Mr. R.H. Lobo, Deputy Commissioner, will inspect the parade from a landrover.

This will be followed by a demonstration of various rescue techniques. The highlight of the demonstration will come when four members of the C.A.S. mountain rescue team will descend from a rope from a Royal Hong Kong Auxiliary Air Force helicopter hovering 100 feet above the stadium.

Martial and light music will be played by the band of the Royal Hong Kong Police, under the direction of Mr. C.C. Wood.

Admission will be free and all members of the public will be welcome.

The C.A.S. was formed in 1952 and its aim is to train and maintain a general purpose force of disciplined and skilled personnel to support the professional services and to give practical aid to the general public in any type of emergency or disaster.

Under the present Commissioner, the C.A.S. has expanded its scope considerably. It now has an active strength of over 5,500 volunteer officers, members and cadets.

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It has a number of units, of which the Warden Service forms the major part. The service is divided into 21 warden zones on Hong Kong Island, in Kowloon and the New Territories. Wardens are trained in casualty handling, first aid and light rescue, and are available at all times to deal with emergencies.

Other units include the Rescue Service and the Mountain Rescue Teams which are trained to handle specialist rescue equipment and tools in rescuing people from difficult situations.

The C.A.S. Cadet Corps, formed in 1968, aims at moulding boys between the ages of 14 and 18 into public-minded citizens and to develop their leadership. It now has an active strength of 2,000.

The C.A.S. also has a reserve of trained personnel ready to assist in maintaining minimum public utilities and essential services in an emergency, so that the general public will not suffer unduly.

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Note to Editors: Lapel badges for the C.A.S. Field Day will be available for collection to-morrow (Friday) in the Press Room, Information Services Department, 6th floor, Beaconsfield House, Queen's Road, Central.

To facilitate press coverage of the review, a temporary position has been reserved for photographers and cameramen to the right of the dais to photograph the arrival of the Governor.

Photographers and cameramen should, after the first six bars of the National Anthem are played, withdraw to the front row of Stand No. 27, from where they can move to a vantage position under the stadium clock if they want to obtain a general view of the parade and demonstration.

Reporters and radio commentators will be accommodated at the back of Stand No. 28.

Press representatives are requested to be at the stadium by 9 a.m. sharp. Officers from the C.A.S. and the Information Services Department will be present to assist the press.

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KOWLOON STOCK EXCHANGE RECOGNISED BY GOVERNMENT

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The Governor in Council has approved an application for recognition submitted by the Kowloon Stock Exchange.

The former order made under Section 2A(1) of the Companies Ordinance to give effect to the Governor in Council's decision will be published in the Government Gazette tomorrow (December 1).

The effective date of recognition of the Kowloon Stock Exchange is November 28 and brings the number of recognised stock exchanges in Hong Kong to four.

During a speech to the Legislative Council earlier this month, the Financial Secretary, Mr. C.P. Haddon-Cave, said that under the bill dealing with securities which he hoped to introduce into the Council within a few months, only those stock exchanges approved by the Financial Secretary would be allowed to operate in Hong Kong after the bill goes into force.

He continued: "I intend to approve only those which are recognised for the purposes of Section 2A of the Companies Ordinance. It follows that any exchange which is not recognised cannot continue to operate; and any new stock exchange which may be established between now and the date of the enactment of the Securities Bill will not be recognised."

"In other words , " Mr. Haddon-Cave said, "it is our intention to restrict the number of exchanges allowed to operate and this will be coupled with a system of registration of all dealers."

He then concluded by reaffirming the government's view that there is scope for improving the organisational arrangements and procedures of the existing stock exchanges. "The Securities Bill is designed, among other things, to achieve this," he said.

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#### FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF ADULT EDUCATION

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Expansion of adult education in Hong Kong should be carried out according to a well thought-out, phased programme with maximum community involvement.

This was stated today by Mr. S. Heaven, Senior Inspector of Non-Vocational and Adult Education of the Inner London Education Authority.

Mr. Heaven is at present on a six-week visit to Hong Kong to advise the Government on the future development of adult education.

He believes that the existing system in Hong Kong should be expanded at all levels to impart both skill and knowledge to participants.

"Adult education is a powerful welding force in social integration, because in the classroom, all participants are working on an equal basis towards a common goal regardless of social standing."

He spoke highly of the adult education and recreation centres at present operated by government and voluntary agencies in densely populated areas such as resettlement and housing estates.

The involvement and enthusiasm of the organisers and workers are also heartening, he added.

Mr. Heaven advised that an overall plan to guide their efforts into proper channels would be "most rewarding."

Subjects contained in the curricula for adult education should range from the most academic to all crafts, "from poetry to pottery," he said.

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"This would entail a large number of specially trained staff, because teaching adults is quite different from teaching children, and they must be approached from a different angle."

Mr. Heaven will submit to the government a report which is intended to form the basis of a five-year development plan for adult education.

The plan, if approved, will lead to a considerable increase of better quality provision in the existing system and development into new areas.

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WELFARE AND MEDICAL BUILDING IN WAN CHAI

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A sum of \$3 million has been allocated from the Lotteries Fund to help meet the construction cost of a 14-storey welfare and medical building in Wan Chai.

The building will house the Hong Kong Council of Social Service and its member agencies together with the Federation of Medical Societies to increase efficiency and co-operation among the agencies.

The 7,000 square-foot site in Wan Chai fronting Lockhart Road and Hennessy Road had been granted to the Council by government.

The ground and first floors of the building will be used for common facilities, with the second floor to be used for holding seminars and conferences.

The Medical Federation and other related medical bodies will occupy the third to sixth floors. The rest of the building will be the Council's property.

No rent will be collected for the use of the building, but a management committee will be set up to centralise management costs.

Construction cost of the building is estimated at \$9 million.

Work is expected to begin early next year, and will be completed before 1975.

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SURVEY OF EMPLOYMENT AND VACANCIES IN NON-INDUSTRIAL SECTOR

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The Labour Department is now conducting a survey of employment and vacancies in certain trades in the private non-industrial sector.

These include import and export businesses, hotels and restaurants, banks and money changers, insurance, air and ocean transport and related services, education services, medical and health services, and theatres and cinemas.

Earlier this month, printed employment return cards were sent to managements of all known establishments in these trades and services requesting them to provide the information sought as on November 30, 1972.

A department spokesman said completed cards should be returned to the Labour Department on or before December 4, 1972.

He said it is hoped that all recipients would fill in the cards fully and accurately and return them promptly in the reply-paid envelopes provided.

During the last survey, he said, the extent of cooperation from managements was most encouraging.

The information provided on the cards will be kept strictly confidential and will only be used for the preparation of statistical tables from which individual establishments cannot be identified, he said.

The cards will be destroyed under supervision when all the relevant information is extracted and summarized, he added.

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FIVE LOTS OF CROWN LAND FOR AUCTION

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Five lots of Crown land will be put on sale by auction on Friday, December 22 in the City Hall.

Two lots in New Kowloon and one lot off Chung Hom Kok Road on Hong Kong Island are for private residential purposes.

Another two lots, one in Battery Street and the other in Temple Street in Kowloon, are for non-industrial purposes.

The auction will take place at 2.30 p.m. in the lecture room in the City Hall High Block, 8th floor.

Rural Building Lot No. 954, off Chung Hom Kok Road, Hong Kong, has an area of 17,000 square feet. It is for private residential purposes, with an upset price of \$850,000.

New Kowloon Inland Lot No. 5427, at Ede Road/Beacon Hill Road/Alnwick Road, Kowloon, has an area of 23,330 square feet. It is for private residential purposes. The upset price is \$5,400,000.

New Kowloon Inland Lot No. 4781, at Beacon Hill Road/Alnwick Road, Kowloon, with an area of 43,540 square feet, is for private residential purposes. The upset price is \$6,000,000.

Kowloon Inland Lot No. 10138 (with existing building) at 39C Battery Street, Kowloon, has an area of 727 square feet. It is for non-industrial purposes, with an upset price of \$230,000.

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Kowloon Inland Lot No. 10139 (with existing building), at 118 Temple Street, Kowloon, with an area of 709 square feet, is for non-industrial purposes. The upset price is \$220,000.

Full particulars and conditions of sale may be obtained from, and sale plans inspected, at the Public Enquiry Sub-office, Central Government Offices (West Wing), Ground Floor, Hong Kong; and at the Crown Lands and Survey Office, Kowloon Government Offices, 405, Nathan Road, 10th floor, Kowloon.

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PAY DISPUTE SETTLED

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With the help of the Labour Department, an amicable settlement was reached in a labour dispute in the Winpull Fishing Accessories Company Limited in Kwun Tong. The dispute arose over the retrenchment of five workers employed by the company.

The agreement was reached at a joint meeting held in the Labour Relations Service of the Labour Department on Tuesday (November 28). Under the agreement, the workers received a sum of \$9,145 including severance pay and a pro-rata annual bonus.

Officers of the Labour Relations Service paid a visit to the company on November 24 and conducted a total of three joint meetings for the parties concerned.

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Release time: 7.30 p.m.