



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1981

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PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR AUGUST 1981

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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY PUBLISHED THE PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR HONG KONG'S VISIBLE TRADE IN AUGUST 1981. THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS FOR AUGUST WAS \$10 951 MILLION, MADE UP OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AT \$7 487 MILLION AND RE-EXPORTS AT \$3 464 MILLION. WITH IMPORTS AT \$11 262 MILLION, THE VISIBLE TRADE DEFICIT FOR AUGUST WAS \$311 MILLION.

COMPARED WITH AUGUST 1980, THERE WERE THE FOLLOWING INCREASES BY VALUE: \$718 MILLION OR 10.6 PER CENT FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS, \$768 MILLION OR 28.5 PER CENT FOR RE-EXPORTS, \$1 486 MILLION OR 15.7 PER CENT FOR TOTAL EXPORTS AND \$1 813 MILLION OR 19.2 PER CENT FOR IMPORTS.

COMMENTING ON THE FIGURES, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT WHILE THE GROWTH RATE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN AUGUST WAS SLIGHTLY LESS THAN IN PREVIOUS MONTHS, THE SEASONAL IMPROVEMENT IN THE VISIBLE TRADE ACCOUNT WHICH USUALLY OCCURS IN AUGUST WAS QUITE SUBSTANTIAL. THE VISIBLE TRADE DEFICIT DROPPED FROM \$1 570 MILLION IN JULY TO \$311 MILLION IN AUGUST AND THE VALUE OF IMPORTS DECREASED RATHER SUBSTANTIALLY BY \$1 052 MILLION OR 8.5 PER CENT, TO THE LOWEST LEVEL FOR SIX MONTHS WHILE EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS BOTH ROSE TO RECORD LEVELS.

PUTTING THE AUGUST TRADE FIGURES INTO CONTEXT, THE GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT COMPARING THE FIRST EIGHT MONTHS OF 1981 WITH THE FIRST EIGHT MONTHS OF 1980, THE GROWTH RATE OF IMPORTS, AT 26.4 PER CENT, WAS FASTER THAN THE GROWTH RATE OF TOTAL EXPORTS, AT 23.3 PER CENT. AS A CONSEQUENCE, THE VISIBLE TRADE +GAP+, THAT IS THE PROPORTION OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS NOT COVERED BY THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS, WIDENED FROM 11.7 PER CENT IN THE FIRST EIGHT MONTHS OF 1980 TO 13.9 PER CENT IN THE FIRST EIGHT MONTHS OF 1981.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT THIS COMPARISON SHOWED A GROWTH RATE OF 14.7 PER CENT FOR THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS. DISCOUNTING FOR THE EFFECT OF PRICE INCREASES, THIS REPRESENTED A GROWTH RATE IN REAL TERMS OF ABOUT 6 PER CENT. THIS HE CONSIDERED TO BE HIGHLY RESPECTABLE AGAINST THE BACKGROUND OF THE VERY UNFAVOURABLE ECONOMIC CONDITIONS PREVAILING IN HONG KONG'S MAJOR MARKETS.

THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT HAS RELEASED THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE FIGURES FOR AUGUST :-

<u>MERCHANDISE</u> :	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	: \$ 7 487 MILLION
	RE-EXPORTS	: \$ 3 464 MILLION
	TOTAL EXPORTS	: \$10 951 MILLION
	IMPORTS	: \$11 262 MILLION
	TRADE BALANCE	: \$ 311 MILLION (IN DEFICIT)

/COMPARATIVE FIGURES

COMPARATIVE FIGURES

<u>LATEST 3 MONTHS</u>	<u>JUNE-AUGUST</u> 1981	<u>JUNE-AUGUST</u> 1980	<u>INCREASE OR</u> <u>DECREASE</u>	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	21 665	18 913	+2 752	+14.6
RE-EXPORTS	10 106	7 489	+2 617	+34.9
TOTAL EXPORTS	31 771	26 402	+5 369	+20.3
IMPORTS	34 985	27 391	+7 595	+27.7
TRADE BALANCE	- 3 214	- 989	-2 225	
<u>SAME MONTH LAST YEAR</u>	<u>AUGUST</u> 1981	<u>AUGUST</u> 1980	<u>INCREASE OR</u> <u>DECREASE</u>	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	7 487 (68.4%)	6 769 (71.5%)	+ 718	+10.6
RE-EXPORTS	3 464	2 696	+ 768	+28.5
TOTAL EXPORTS	10 951	9 465	+1 486	+15.7
IMPORTS	11 262	9 448	+1 813	+19.2
TRADE BALANCE	- 311	+ 17	- 328	
<u>LAST MONTH</u>	<u>AUGUST</u> 1981	<u>JULY</u> 1981	<u>INCREASE OR</u> <u>DECREASE</u>	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	7 487 (68.4%)	7 362 (68.5%)	+ 125	+ 1.7
RE-EXPORTS	3 464	3 382	+ 82	+ 2.4
TOTAL EXPORTS	10 951	10 744	+ 207	+ 1.9
IMPORTS	11 262	12 314	-1 052	- 8.5
TRADE BALANCE	- 311	- 1 570	+1 259	

/CALENDAR YEAR

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<u>CALENDAR YEAR TO-DATE</u>	<u>JAN.-AUGUST</u> 1981	<u>JAN.-AUGUST</u> 1980	<u>INCREASE OR</u> <u>DECREASE</u>	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	50 443 (65.7%)	43 963 (70.6%)	+6 480	+14.7
RE-EXPORTS	26 377	18 351	+8 026	+43.7
TOTAL EXPORTS	76 820	62 314	+14 506	+23.3
IMPORTS	89 184	70 560	+18 623	+26.4
TRADE BALANCE	-12 364	- 8 246	-4 118	
<u>LAST 12 MONTHS</u>	<u>SEPT. 1980</u> <u>TO</u> <u>AUGUST 1981</u>	<u>SEPT. 1979</u> <u>TO</u> <u>AUGUST 1980</u>	<u>INCREASE OR</u> <u>DECREASE</u>	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	74 650	65 504	+9 146	+14.0
RE-EXPORTS	38 098	25 770	+12 328	+47.8
TOTAL EXPORTS	112 748	91 274	+21 475	+23.5
IMPORTS	130 274	103 014	+27 260	+26.5
TRADE BALANCE	-17 526	-11 740	-5 786	

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SHAU KEI WAN BIRTHS AND MARRIAGE
REGISTRY MOVES TO NEW ADDRESS
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THE SHAU KEI WAN BIRTHS AND MARRIAGE REGISTRY AT 142 SHAU KEI WAN ROAD WILL BE MOVED TO ITS NEW ADDRESS AT SHOP P-512-3, 2ND FLOOR, HING ON MANSION, TAI KOO SHING, ON MONDAY (SEPTEMBER 28), A SPOKESMAN FOR THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (SATURDAY).

+IN ADDITION TO NORMAL BIRTHS AND MARRIAGES REGISTRATION, THE OFFICE ALSO PROVIDES FACILITIES FOR THE SEARCH OF BIRTH RECORDS, ADDITION OR ALTERATION OF NAMES ON BIRTH CERTIFICATES AND APPLICATION FOR CERTIFIED COPIES OF BIRTH OR MARRIAGE CERTIFICATES+, HE S'D.

LIKE OTHER BIRTHS AND MARRIAGE REGISTRIES, THE BUSINESS HOURS OF THIS OFFICE ARE FROM 8.45 AM TO 1 PM AND FROM 2 PM TO 4.45 PM ON WEEKDAYS AND FROM 9 AM TO 11.30 AM ON SATURDAY,+ HE ADDED.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO MAKE ENQUIRIES CAN TELEPHONE 5-695770.

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REFUSE BIN BECOMES A MUST AT ALL NT MARKET STALLS
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MARKET STALL HOLDERS, AND COOKED-FOOD CENTRE AND ON-STREET FIXED PITCH OPERATORS WERE TODAY TOLD TO PROVIDE PROPER REFUSE BINS AT THEIR STALLS AND TO KEEP THEIR TRADING AREAS CLEAN AND TIDY.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT SAID IT HAD BECOME NECESSARY TO MAKE IT MANDATORY FOR REFUSE BINS TO BE PROVIDED IN THOSE PLACES, WHICH NUMBERED MORE THAN 4 000.

THE MOVE, HE EXPLAINED, WAS ALSO AIMED AT MAKING THE TRADERS PLAY THEIR PART IN IMPROVING THE STANDARD OF CLEANLINESS OF THE ENVIRONMENT IN CONNECTION WITH THE FORTHCOMING CLEAN HONG KONG CAMPAIGN AND TO MAKE THE NEW TERRITORIES A CLEANER AND MORE HYGIENIC PLACE TO CARRY ON THEIR BUSINESS.

FROM THURSDAY (OCTOBER 1), HEALTH INSPECTORS OF THE NTSD WILL INSPECT ALL STALLS AND FIXED PITCHES TO ENSURE THAT THE MANDATORY REFUSE BIN IS PROVIDED.

PEOPLE WHO FAIL TO PROVIDE THE BINS WILL FIRST BE WARNED, AND, IF NECESSARY, PROSECUTED SUBSEQUENTLY.

+IT IS BOTH AN INFRINGEMENT OF THE LAW AND A BREACH OF THE LEASE CONDITIONS NOT TO PROVIDE A REFUSE BIN,+ HE SAID.

+THIS COULD RESULT IN PROSECUTION AND HEAVY PENALTIES OR EVEN TERMINATION OF THE TENANCY AGREEMENT OF THE MARKET OR COOKED-FOOD STALL,+ HE ADDED.

A REMINDER WAS ALSO GIVEN THAT LITTERING IN A PUBLIC PLACE WAS AN OFFENCE UNDER THE LAW AND COULD RESULT IN A FINE OF \$1 000 ON FIRST CONVICTION.

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+COMPETENCY+ COURSE FOR MARINE ENGINEERS

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APPLICATIONS ARE NOW INVITED FOR A FULL-TIME COURSE STARTING ON OCTOBER 19 AT HAKING WONG TECHNICAL INSTITUTE FOR PEOPLE WITH SOME MARINE ENGINEERING KNOWLEDGE TO PREPARE THEM FOR THE EXAMINATION FOR CLASS FOUR CERTIFICATES OF COMPETENCY.

THE EXAMINATION IS CONDUCTED BY THE MARINE DEPARTMENT IN HONG KONG ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED KINGDOM'S DEPARTMENT OF TRADE.

PARTICIPANTS TO THE COURSE WILL BE REQUIRED TO ATTEND THE INSTITUTE FULL-TIME FIVE DAYS A WEEK FOR THREE WEEKS. CLASSES WILL BE CONDUCTED IN ENGLISH.

FEES FOR THE COURSE IS \$70.

/THIS IS

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME SUCH A SYSTEMATIC TRAINING COURSE FOR MARINE ENGINEERING CLASS FOUR IS CONDUCTED IN HONG KONG, AN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

+AT PRESENT PEOPLE HAVE TO RELY ON SELF-STUDY IN ORDER TO SIT FOR THE EXAMINATION, THUS LACKING A METHODOLOGICAL PREPARATORY PROGRAMME AND FORMAL TRAINING,+ HE SAID.

APPLICANTS TO THE COURSE SHOULD HAVE SOME FORM OF RECOGNISED INITIAL TRAINING AND SEA SERVICE OF NOT LESS THAN SIX MONTHS AS AN ENGINEER OFFICER IN OCEAN-GOING SHIPS. THE PERIOD OF SERVICE SHOULD BE ASSESSED BY THE MARINE DEPARTMENT.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE OBTAINABLE FROM HAKING WONG TECHNICAL INSTITUTE AT 702 LAI CHI KOK ROAD, CHEUNG SHA WAN, KOWLOON.

COMPLETED FORMS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE INSTITUTE BEFORE OCTOBER 12.

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SPECIAL CAR NOS. SALE BY AUCTION

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THIRTY-FIVE SPECIAL VEHICLE REGISTRATION NUMBERS WERE SOLD BY AUCTION THIS (SATURDAY) MORNING FOR A TOTAL OF \$789 900 WHICH WILL GO INTO THE GOVERNMENT LOTTERIES FUND FOR CHARITY PURPOSES.

THE AUCTION HELD AT RECITAL HALL OF THE CITY HALL, 8TH FLOOR, SAW THE REGISTRATION NUMBER CR1 FETCH THE HIGHEST PRICE OF \$190 000.

ANOTHER NUMBER 688 WAS SOLD AT THE SECOND HIGHEST PRICE OF \$180 000 WHILE THE LOWEST PRICE WAS \$1 000 FOR CM1798, CM2286, CM932, BB452, CM3219 AND CM7866.

THE OTHER SPECIAL REGISTRATION NUMBERS WERE SOLD AT THE FOLLOWING PRICES :

CM214	\$1 200	CM8111	\$2 100	BD213	\$1 800
CM8168	\$2 700	CM3900	\$2 500	CP555	\$10 000
CC33	\$143 000	CH28	\$45 000	CM180	\$5 500
CM2228	\$5 500	CM8028	\$1 500	CM328	\$21 000
CP50	\$11 000	CP3993	\$4 100	CR15	\$22 000
CM728	\$5 000	CM3231	\$5 000	CN3238	\$3 500
CJ8888	\$80 000	CM280	\$7 500	CN8823	\$2 000
CN782	\$2 000	CN908	\$3 400	CM732	\$3 000
AL332	\$11 000	CM380	\$8 100	CP320	\$4 500

THE NUMBERS AUCTIONED WILL BE ASSIGNED ONLY TO VEHICLES REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS WITHIN 12 MONTHS OF THE DATE OF AUCTION.

TODAY'S SALE, THE 68TH ORGANISED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SINCE MAY 1973, BROUGHT THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF MONEY FOR CHARITY REALISED SO FAR TO \$21 533 632.

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PEAK ROAD SITE FOR SALE

ANOTHER RESIDENTIAL SITE FOR JOINT VENTURE DEVELOPMENT IS BEING OFFERED FOR SALE BY TENDERS BY THE CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE.

THE 9 022-SQUARE-METRE SITE IS AT NO. 74-76 PEAK ROAD, HONG KONG.

UNDER THE SALE CONDITIONS, THE SUCCESSFUL TENDERER MUST BUILD FOR THE GOVERNMENT, FREE OF CHARGE, SEVEN DETACHED HOUSES.

THE FLOOR AREA OF EACH HOUSE WILL BE 350 SQUARE METRES.

THE REMAINING RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION WILL BE AVAILABLE TO THE SUCCESSFUL TENDERER FOR DISPOSAL IN THE OPEN MARKET IN THE USUAL WAY.

CLOSING DATE FOR TENDERS WILL BE NOON ON NOVEMBER 27.

TENDER FORMS, TOGETHER WITH NOTICES AND CONDITIONS OF SALE MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE ON THE 19TH FLOOR OF MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD AND ON THE 10TH FLOOR OF KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 405 NATHAN ROAD.

THE TENDER PLAN MAY BE INSPECTED AT THESE PLACES.

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NIGHT CLOSURES OF SECTIONS OF WATERLOO AND PRINCE EDWARD ROADS

WATERLOO ROAD, BETWEEN YIM PO FONG STREET AND PEACE AVENUE, WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC BETWEEN 1 AM AND 5 AM FOR THREE MORNINGS FROM SEPTEMBER 28 TO 30 TO FACILITATE THE DEMOLITION OF A KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY BRIDGE, A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED TODAY (SATURDAY).

DURING THE CLOSURE PERIODS, EASTBOUND TRAFFIC ON WATERLOO ROAD WILL BE DIVERTED TO DUNDAS STREET, KWONG WA STREET, YIM PO FONG STREET AND ARGYLE STREET. WESTBOUND TRAFFIC WILL BE DIVERTED TO HO MAN TIN STREET, HO MAN TIN HILL ROAD, WYLIE ROAD AND WATERLOO ROAD.

YIM PO FONG STREET AND WYLIE ROAD WILL REMAIN OPEN TO BOTH NORTH AND SOUTH BOUND TRAFFIC.

PRINCE EDWARD ROAD, BETWEEN EMBANKMENT ROAD AND YUEN PO STREET, WILL ALSO BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC BETWEEN 1 AM AND 5 AM FOR THREE MORNINGS FROM OCTOBER 1 TO 3 TO ALLOW FOR THE DEMOLITION OF ANOTHER RAILWAY BRIDGE.

DURING THE CLOSURE PERIODS, TRAFFIC WILL BE DIVERTED TO SAI YEE STREET AND BOUNDARY STREET. WESTBOUND TRAFFIC WILL BE DIVERTED TO EMBANKMENT ROAD AND BOUNDARY STREET.

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TEN MODEL WORKERS SELECTED

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TEN FACTORY WORKERS IN TSUEN WAN WERE SELECTED AS THIS YEAR'S MODEL WORKERS FOR THEIR INTEREST IN WORK AND CONTRIBUTION TO LOCAL INDUSTRY.

THE 10 WINNERS OF THE MODEL WORKER AWARD SCHEME, HELD RECENTLY IN TSUEN WAN, WILL EACH RECEIVE A CASH PRIZE OF \$2 000 AND A GOLD MEDAL.

THE SCHEME, FIRST LAUNCHED LAST YEAR, AIMS TO CREATE A SENSE OF BELONGING AMONG WORKERS IN THE DISTRICT AND PROMOTE THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS.

THIS YEAR, THERE WERE ALSO A SLOGAN COMPETITION ON INDUSTRIAL SAFETY AND A SONG ABOUT MODEL WORKERS PRODUCED BY RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG.

WINNERS OF THE SLOGAN COMPETITION WILL RECEIVE CASH PRIZES OF \$2 000, \$1 500 AND \$1 000 AND THERE WILL BE FIVE CONSOLATION PRIZES OF \$200.

ACTING TSUEN WAN TOWN MANAGER, MR LUI HAU-TUEN, WILL PRESENT PRIZES TO ALL THE WINNERS AT A VARIETY SHOW TO BE HELD AT TSUEN WAN TOWN HALL ON OCTOBER 4 BETWEEN 7.30 PM AND 10 PM.

THE SCHEME IS BEING ORGANISED BY TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE, RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG, THE FEDERATION OF INDUSTRIES IN TSUEN WAN AND THE INDUSTRIAL SUB-COMMITTEE OF TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD.

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