



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1978

## CONTENTS

## PAGE NO.

ALEX WU TO REPRESENT HK AT PARLIAMENTARY SEMINAR IN LONDON .....	1
PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR JANUARY .....	1
TENDERS INVITED FOR SUPPLY OF SAND TO GOVERNMENT .....	3
77 NEW BUILDING PLANS APPROVED LAST MONTH .....	4
OPENING OF NEW SECTION OF HOI BUN ROAD .....	4

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ALEX WU TO REPRESENT HONG KONG AT PARLIAMENTARY  
SEMINAR AT WESTMINSTER  
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UNOFFICIAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR, MR. ALEX WU SHU-CHIH, IS TO REPRESENT THE HONG KONG BRANCH OF THE COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION (C.P.A.) AT THE 27TH ANNUAL PARLIAMENTARY SEMINAR TO BE HELD AT WESTMINSTER IN LONDON.

THE SEMINAR, ORGANISED EACH YEAR BY THE COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION, IS ON PARLIAMENTARY PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE. IT WILL RUN FROM FEBRUARY 28 TO MARCH 21.

A TOTAL OF 24 DELEGATES FROM VARIOUS BRANCHES OF THE C.P.A. HAVE BEEN NOMINATED TO ATTEND THIS YEAR'S SEMINAR.

MR. WU, ACCOMPANIED BY HIS WIFE, WILL LEAVE FOR LONDON TOMORROW (MONDAY).

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PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR JANUARY  
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THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS FOR LAST MONTH (JANUARY) WAS \$2,721 MILLION, EXPORTS WERE WORTH \$4,288 MILLION AND RE-EXPORTS \$882 MILLION, ACCORDING TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT'S PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES PUBLISHED TODAY (SUNDAY).

THE FIGURES FOR THE PERIOD BETWEEN NOVEMBER 1977 TO JANUARY 1978 SHOWED INCREASES, BY VALUE, OF 9.1 PER CENT FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS, 16.6 PER CENT FOR IMPORTS AND 10.3 PER CENT FOR RE-EXPORTS, COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD BETWEEN NOVEMBER 1976 TO JANUARY 1977.

COMPARED WITH THE SAME MONTH IN 1977, INCREASES, BY VALUE, OF \$31 MILLION OR 1.2 PER CENT IN EXPORTS, \$457 MILLION OR 11.9 PER CENT IN IMPORTS AND \$41 MILLION OR 4.9 PER CENT IN RE-EXPORTS WERE RECORDED.

THE SHORT TERM CHANGES, JANUARY 1978 COMPARED WITH DECEMBER 1977, SHOWED DECREASES OF \$856 MILLION OR 23.9 PER CENT FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS, \$628 MILLION OR 12.8 PER CENT FOR IMPORTS AND \$93 MILLION OR 9.5 PER CENT FOR RE-EXPORTS.

SUCH DECREASES APPEAR TO BE IN LINE WITH THE SEASONAL PATTERN AFTER THE PEAK IN LAST DECEMBER.

THE FIGURES FOR THE 12-MONTH PERIOD FROM FEBRUARY 1977 TO JANUARY 1978 COMPARED WITH THOSE OF THE PREVIOUS 12-MONTH SHOWED INCREASES, BY VALUE, OF 7 PER CENT FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS, 12 PER CENT FOR IMPORTS AND 9.2 PER CENT FOR RE-EXPORTS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT REMINDED IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS THAT FROM JANUARY 1978, THEY SHOULD COMPLETE THEIR DECLARATIONS ACCORDING TO THE 1978 REVISED HONG KONG IMPORTS AND EXPORTS CLASSIFICATION LIST WHICH IS BASED ON THE UNITED NATIONS STANDARD INTERNATIONAL TRADE CLASSIFICATION (SITC) AND CONTAINS MORE DETAILED COMMODITY BREAKDOWNS.

## FOLLOWING ARE COMPARATIVE TRADE FIGURES :-

<u>LATEST THREE MONTHS</u>	NOVEMBER 1977 TO JANUARY 1978	NOVEMBER 1976 TO JANUARY 1977	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	9,353	8,573	+ 780	+ 9.1
IMPORTS	13,530	11,599	+1,931	+16.6
RE-EXPORTS	2,725	2,470	+ 255	+10.3
<u>SAME MONTH LAST YEAR</u>	JANUARY 1978	JANUARY 1977	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	2,721 (75.5%)	2,690 (76.2%)	+ 31	+ 1.2
IMPORTS	4,288	3,831	+ 457	+11.9
RE-EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	882 (24.5%)	841 (23.8%)	+ 41	+ 4.9
<u>LAST MONTH</u>	JANUARY 1978	DECEMBER 1977	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	2,721 (75.5%)	3,577 (78.6%)	- 856	-23.9
IMPORTS	4,288	4,916	- 628	-12.3
RE-EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	882 (24.5%)	975 (21.4%)	- 93	- 9.5
<u>LAST 12 MONTHS</u>	FEBRUARY 1977 TO JANUARY 1978	FEBRUARY 1976 TO JANUARY 1977	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	35,035	32,736	+2,299	+ 7.0
IMPORTS	49,158	43,888	+5,270	+12.0
RE-EXPORTS	9,871	9,039	+ 832	+ 9.2

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1978

- 3 -

TENDERS INVITED FOR SUPPLY OF SAND TO GOVERNMENT  
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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE SUPPLY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF 200,000 CUBIC METRES OF MANUFACTURED SAND A YEAR.

SUCCESSFUL TENDERERS WILL BE AWARDED A FIVE-YEAR CONTRACT TO SUPPLY SAND SUITABLE FOR BUILDING PURPOSES.

ONLY CONTRACTORS CURRENTLY HOLDING GOVERNMENT QUARRY CONTRACTS OR THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN INVITED TO TENDER FOR THE OPERATION OF THE QUARRY AT TAI SHEUNG TOK, ANDERSON ROAD, WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO TENDER.

MR. DICK PILLING, P.W.D.'S CHIEF GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEER OF THE MATERIALS DIVISION, SAID THAT THE SAND, WHICH WOULD BE MANUFACTURED FROM ROCK, WOULD BE SOLD TO THE PUBLIC THROUGH THE GOVERNMENT SAND MONOPOLY AS AT PRESENT.

+THERE HAS BEEN A HEAVY DEMAND FOR ALL BUILDING MATERIALS, INCLUDING SAND, AND THE LETTING OF THIS CONTRACT SHOULD HELP MEET THE INCREASING DEMAND,+ HE SAID. +WE ARE SELLING ALL THE MANUFACTURED SAND WE CAN GET JUST NOW.+

REFERRING TO THE QUALITY OF MANUFACTURED SAND, MR. PILLING SAID THAT IT WAS SUPERIOR TO THE MARINE SAND IN CERTAIN ASPECTS.

+IT HAS THE ADVANTAGES OVER NATURAL SAND OF HAVING NO SALT CONTENT, NO SHELLS AND VERY CONSISTENT GRADING CHARACTERISTICS.

+THE MANUFACTURED SAND WE ARE SELLING NOW IS SUITABLE FOR CONCRETE AND WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR IN THE NEW CONTRACT IS THE TYPE OF SAND FOR PLASTERING AND MORTAR,+ HE ADDED.

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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1978

- 4 -

77 NEW BUILDING PLANS APPROVED LAST MONTH

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A TOTAL OF 77 NEW BUILDING PLANS WERE APPROVED LAST MONTH (JANUARY) BY THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, COMPARED WITH 57 IN THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR.

OF THE NEW PLANS APPROVED, 35 WERE FOR BUILDINGS ON HONG KONG ISLAND, 17 FOR KOWLOON AND 25 FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THEY INCLUDED PLANS FOR A SCHOOL IN SHA TIN NEW TOWN, A HOTEL ON CHEUNG CHAU AND AN ELECTRICITY SUB-STATION AT YUEN LONG.

THE TOTAL DECLARED COST OF NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED DURING THE MONTH WAS \$322.57 MILLION, COMPARED WITH \$237.3 MILLION LAST YEAR.

THE TOTAL USABLE FLOOR AREA OF NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED DURING LAST MONTH AMOUNTED TO 287,354.5 SQUARE METRES, COMPRISING 183,619.6 SQUARE METRES OF NON-DOMESTIC FLOOR AREA AND 103,734.9 SQUARE METRES OF DOMESTIC FLOOR AREA.

DURING THE MONTH, THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE GAVE CONSENT FOR WORK TO START ON 64 NEW BUILDING PROJECTS, INCLUDING A TEMPLE AT WONG TAI SIN, A CHURCH AND KINDERGARTEN AT TAI PO AND A BUS DEPOT AT PUI O, LANTAU ISLAND.

A TOTAL OF 49 NEWLY COMPLETED BUILDINGS WERE CERTIFIED FOR OCCUPATION DURING THE MONTH, INCLUDING A HOTEL AT THE JUNCTION OF NATHAN ROAD AND KIMBERLEY ROAD, A TELEPHONE EXCHANGE IN CLEARWATER BAY ROAD, A SCHOOL AT KWAI CHUNG AND A SPORT CENTRE AT YUEN LONG.

THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE ALSO ASSENTED TO THE DEMOLITION OF 36 BUILDINGS.

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OPENING OF NEW SECTION OF HOI BUN ROAD

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A NEW SECTION OF HOI BUN ROAD, WEST OF LAI YIP STREET IN KWUN TONG WILL BE OPEN TO TRAFFIC FROM 10 A.M. ON TUESDAY (FEBRUARY 28).

WITH THE OPENING OF THIS SECTION OF THE ROAD, TRAFFIC FROM LAI YIP STREET TURNING INTO HOI BUN ROAD MUST GIVE WAY TO TRAFFIC ON HOI BUN ROAD.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS AND CARRIAGEWAY MARKINGS WILL BE PROVIDED TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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