



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 1981

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
EXTERNAL TRADE FOR JANUARY-FEBRUARY 1981	1
COST OF BREACHING LABOUR LAWS	5
HOLIDAY MUSIC FOR PATIENTS	5
EAST KOWLOON WAY OPENS NEXT WEEK	6
NT VILLAGE GETS WATER SUPPLY	6
TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF SECTION OF HILL ROAD	7

EXTERNAL TRADE FOR JANUARY-FEBRUARY 1981

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TOTAL MERCHANDISE TRADE FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 1981, VALUED AT \$36 259 MILLION, SHOWED AN INCREASE OF 28 PER CENT, AS COMPARED WITH THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD IN 1980.

ACCORDING TO FIGURES RELEASED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, DOMESTIC EXPORTS ROSE BY 13 PER CENT TO \$10 284 MILLION, IMPORTS BY 30 PER CENT TO \$19 775 MILLION AND RE-EXPORTS BY 62 PER CENT TO \$6 200 MILLION. DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS TOGETHER SHOWED AN INCREASE OF 27 PER CENT.

THE CHANGES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE TEN MAJOR OVERSEAS MARKETS WERE AS FOLLOWS:

	JAN - FEB 81 (HK\$ MN)	JAN - FEB 80 (HK\$ MN)	INCREASE/ DECREASE (HK\$ MN)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE
U. S. A.	3 490	2 856	+634	+22
F. R. OF GERMANY	1 058	1 133	- 76	- 7
UK	878	946	- 68	- 7
CHINA	365	187	+178	+95
AUSTRALIA	355	318	+ 36	+11
JAPAN	340	315	+ 25	+ 8
CANADA	274	225	+ 50	+22
NETHERLANDS	240	241	- 1	LESS THAN 0.5%
SINGAPORE	236	235	+ 1	+ 1
NIGERIA	228	133	+ 96	+72

DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE U.S. CONTINUED TO GROW. SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN CLOTHING (BY \$432 MILLION OR 43%), ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS AND PARTS FOR COMPUTERS (BY \$168 MILLION OR 129%), ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (BY \$93 MILLION OR 39%) AND WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY \$60 MILLION OR 36%). ON THE OTHER HAND, DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF PLASTIC TOYS AND DOLLS DECLINED (BY \$42 MILLION OR 22%).

DECREASES WERE REGISTERED IN MOST OF THE MAJOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE F.R. OF GERMANY, INCLUDING TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$30 MILLION OR 27%), WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY \$7 MILLION OR 9%) AND CLOTHING (BY \$4 MILLION OR 1%).

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FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 1981

- 2 -

AS FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE UK, INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (BY \$23 MILLION OR 68%), AS WELL AS WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY \$4 MILLION OR 8%). HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE REGISTERED IN CLOTHING (BY \$54 MILLION OR 11%), AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$15 MILLION OR 19%).

DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO CHINA CONTINUED TO GROW, THE MAJOR COMMODITIES BEING WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY \$56 MILLION OR 753%), AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$27 MILLION OR 131%). DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF CLOTHING TO AUSTRALIA ALSO INCREASED (BY \$6 MILLION OR 7%).

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

	<u>JAN - FEB 81</u> <u>(HK\$ MN)</u>	<u>JAN - FEB 80</u> <u>(HK\$ MN)</u>	<u>INCREASE/ DECREASE</u> <u>(HK\$ MN)</u>	<u>PERCENTAGE CHANGE</u>
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	3 811	3 234	+578	+18
MISCELLANEOUS MANU- FACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY PLASTIC TOYS AND DOLLS)	1 380	1 433	- 53	- 4
PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS	1 049	801	+248	+31
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	689	678	+ 10	+ 2
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (MAINLY TRANSISTORS AND DIODES AND HOUSEHOLD TYPE APPLIANCES)	685	560	+125	+22
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT	684	734	- 50	- 7

THE CHANGES IN IMPORTS FROM THE TEN MAJOR SOURCES ARE SUMMARIZED AS FOLLOWS:

/JAN - FEB 81

	<u>JAN - FEB 81</u> <u>(HK\$ MN)</u>	<u>JAN - FEB 80</u> <u>(HK\$ MN)</u>	<u>INCREASE</u> <u>(HK\$ MN)</u>	<u>PERCENTAGE</u> <u>CHANGE</u>
JAPAN	4 768	3 293	+1 475	+45
CHINA	3 712	2 876	+ 836	+29
U.S.A.	2 126	1 823	+ 304	+17
TAIWAN	1 655	1 046	+ 609	+58
SINGAPORE	1 501	1 052	+ 448	+43
U.K.	869	708	+ 160	+23
SOUTH KOREA	850	523	+ 326	+62
F.R. OF GERMANY	532	481	+ 51	+11
SWITZERLAND	425	397	+ 29	+ 7
AUSTRALIA	276	201	+ 75	+37

LOCAL DEMAND FOR JAPANESE GOODS REMAINED STRONG. INCREASES WERE NOTED PARTICULARLY FOR ROAD VEHICLES (BY \$249 MILLION OR 80%), TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$184 MILLION OR 54%), TEXTILES (BY \$156 MILLION OR 38%), ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (BY \$155 MILLION OR 50%), AND WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY \$150 MILLION OR 49%).

AS FOR IMPORTS FROM CHINA, INCREASES WERE RECORDED MAINLY IN TEXTILES (BY \$212 MILLION OR 43%), CLOTHING (BY \$198 MILLION OR 98%), VEGETABLES AND FRUIT (BY \$68 MILLION OR 46%), MANUFACTURES OF METAL (BY \$53 MILLION OR 110%), AND LIVE ANIMALS CHIEFLY FOR FOOD (BY \$50 MILLION OR 25%).

INCREASES IN IMPORTS FROM THE U.S. WERE LARGELY OF OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (BY \$58 MILLION OR 31%), ORGANIC CHEMICALS (BY \$57 MILLION OR 386%), VEGETABLES AND FRUIT (BY \$45 MILLION OR 45%), AS WELL AS PEARL, PRECIOUS AND SEMI-PRECIOUS STONES (BY \$31 MILLION OR 27%).

SIGNIFICANT INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE IMPORTS OF TEXTILES (BY \$306 MILLION OR 81%) FROM TAIWAN, AS WELL AS PETROLEUM AND RELATED PRODUCTS (BY \$406 MILLION OR 61%) FROM SINGAPORE.

THE FOLLOWING TABLE ILLUSTRATES THE MORE IMPORTANT CHANGES IN IMPORTS BY COMMODITY SECTION:

JAN - FEB 81

	<u>JAN - FEB 81</u> <u>(HK\$ MN)</u>	<u>JAN - FEB 80</u> <u>(HK\$ MN)</u>	<u>INCREASE</u> <u>(HK\$ MN)</u>	<u>PERCENTAGE</u> <u>CHANGE</u>
MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIAL (MAINLY TEXTILE PRODUCTS, DIAMONDS, IRON AND STEEL, AND PAPER)	5 854	4 384	+1 470	+34
MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	4 520	3 248	+1 271	+39
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY WATCHES AND CLOCKS, ARTICLES OF APPAREL)	3 120	2 186	+ 935	+43
FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS CHIEFLY FOR FOOD	2 058	1 622	+ 436	+27
MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS	1 499	1 168	+ 331	+28
CHEMICALS AND RELATED PRODUCTS	1 387	1 296	+ 91	+ 7

SUBSTANTIAL GROWTH WAS RECORDED IN RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA (BY \$922 MILLION OR 252%), USA (BY \$287 MILLION OR 78%), INDONESIA (BY \$280 MILLION OR 91%), SINGAPORE (BY \$180 MILLION OR 59%), JAPAN (BY \$97 MILLION OR 31%), NIGERIA (BY \$77 MILLION OR 80%), NORTH KOREA (BY \$59 MILLION OR 288%), MACAU (BY \$48 MILLION OR 37%), IRAQ (BY \$47 MILLION OR 4155%) AND TAIWAN (BY \$44 MILLION OR 14%). ON THE OTHER HAND, DECLINES WERE REGISTERED IN RE-EXPORTS TO THE F.R. OF GERMANY (BY \$34 MILLION OR 30%) AND SWITZERLAND (BY \$64 MILLION OR 48%).

MOST COMMODITIES RE-EXPORTED THROUGH HONG KONG EXHIBITED STRONG GROWTH, THE MORE SIGNIFICANT ONES BEING TEXTILES (BY \$612 MILLION OR 150%), ROAD VEHICLES (BY \$243 MILLION OR 214%), TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$201 MILLION OR 139%), ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (BY \$188 MILLION OR 88%), AND CLOTHING (BY \$161 MILLION OR 91%).

+THE HONG KONG TRADE STATISTICS - SUMMARY+, A SUMMARY REPORT ON HONG KONG'S EXTERNAL TRADE IN FEBRUARY 1981, WILL SOON BE ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AT HK\$3 PER COPY. A MORE COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, +HONG KONG EXTERNAL TRADE+, WITH A DETAILED ANALYSIS OF THE MONTH'S IMPORTS, EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS, WILL BE PUBLISHED IN EARLY MAY AND WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AT HK\$10 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES CONCERNING SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THESE REPORTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT AT BASKERVILLE HOUSE, HONG KONG 5-214375.

FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 1981

- 5 -

COST OF BREACHING LABOUR LAWS

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT TOOK OUT 764 PROSECUTIONS LAST MONTH (MARCH) FOR BREACHES OF LABOUR LEGISLATION, OF THESE 749 CASES RESULTED IN CONVICTION WITH FINES TOTALLING MORE THAN \$626 000.

THE MAJORITY OF THE CASES WERE RELATED TO BREACHES OF THE FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS ORDINANCE AND ITS VARIOUS REGULATIONS, THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE AND THE WOMEN AND YOUNG PERSONS (INDUSTRY) REGULATIONS.

AMONG THEM, 340 CONCERNED VIOLATIONS OF INDUSTRIAL SAFETY REGULATIONS AND FINES AMOUNTED TO MORE THAN \$415 910 INCLUDING 108 CASES FOR BREACHES OF THE CONSTRUCTION SITES (SAFETY) REGULATION WITH \$157 610 IN FINES.

OFFENCES IN CONNECTION WITH EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN AND YOUNG PERSONS ACCOUNTED FOR 371 CASES WITH \$179 900 IN FINES.

OF THE OTHER PROSECUTIONS, FIVE CASES RELATED TO FAILURE TO KEEP EMPLOYEE RECORDS WITH \$3 000 IN FINES.

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HOLIDAY MUSIC FOR PATIENTS

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THE CADUCEUS CHORUS, FORMED BY STAFF OF THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT, WILL BRING EASTER MESSAGE TO PATIENTS IN KWAI CHUNG AND KOWLOON HOSPITALS.

THE CHORUS WILL SING FOR THE IN-PATIENTS A WIDE SELECTION OF HYMNS, CLASSICS AND FOLK SONGS TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AFTERNOON.

THIS WILL BE THE SECOND CONCERT GIVEN BY THE CHORUS SINCE IT WAS FORMED ABOUT A YEAR AGO.

IT MADE ITS DEBUT LAST CHRISTMAS WHEN IT BROUGHT TIDINGS TO PATIENTS IN THE FOUR GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THAT THE OBJECTIVE OF ORGANISING A CHOIR IS TO PROMOTE GOODWILL BETWEEN STAFF AND PATIENTS, TO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FOR STAFF IN COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT, AND TO CULTIVATE MUSICAL INTEREST AMONG THE STAFF.

THE CADUCEUS CHORUS, ORGANISED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES, HAVE A MEMBERSHIP OF 80, CONSISTING OF DOCTORS, NURSES, PARAMEDICAL AND GENERAL GRADE STAFF.

THE CONDUCTOR OF THE CHOIR IS MR C.W.B. OXLEY, A CIVIL SERVANT WITH A KEEN INTEREST IN MUSIC.

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- 6 -

EAST KOWLOON WAY OPENS NEXT WEEK

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TRAVELLING TIME BETWEEN THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL AND KAI TAK AIRPORT WILL BE FURTHER REDUCED WITH THE OPENING NEXT WEEK OF THE \$56 MILLION EAST KOWLOON WAY.

MEASURING ONE KILOMETRE IN LENGTH, EAST KOWLOON WAY IS AN ELEVATED DUAL TWO-LANE ROADWAY RUNNING ABOVE CHATHAM ROAD AND KOWLOON CITY ROAD. IT IS LOCATED IMMEDIATELY TO THE NORTH OF WUHU INTERCHANGE WHICH WAS OPENED TO TRAFFIC SOME NINE MONTHS AGO.

TOGETHER WITH SAN SHAN INTERCHANGE, A DEPRESSED ROADWAY JOINING EAST KOWLOON WAY AND THE AIRPORT TUNNEL, THEY FORM THE WESTERN APPROACHES TO THE AIRPORT TUNNEL WHICH IS PART OF A \$400 MILLION HIGH CAPACITY ROUTE STRETCHING FOR SIX-KILOMETRES BETWEEN THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL AND KWUN TONG.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT SAID, +WITH THE OPENING OF THE NEW ROAD, TRAFFIC TO AND FROM THE AIRPORT WILL NO LONGER BE DELAYED BY THE MANY ROAD JUNCTIONS ALONG THE SURFACE ROUTE AS AT PRESENT.

+AT THE SAME TIME, BY DIVERTING AIRPORT TRAFFIC ONTO THE FLYOVER, TRAFFIC CONGESTION AT GROUND LEVEL IN HUNG HOM AND TO KWA WAN AREAS WILL BE GREATLY EASED.+

NEW TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS TO BE INTRODUCED FOLLOWING THE OPENING OF EAST KOWLOON WAY ARE EXPECTED TO BE ANNOUNCED IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

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NT VILLAGE GETS WATER SUPPLY

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THE 300 RESIDENTS OF PAI MIN KOK VILLAGE IN SHAM TSENG WILL HAVE THEIR OWN WATER SUPPLY NEXT MONTH.

A PUMP AND SUMP SYSTEM, TOGETHER WITH A WATER TANK, HAVE BEEN BUILT IN THE VILLAGE.

BY MEANS OF PIPES, WATER FROM THE MAIN AT CASTLE PEAK ROAD WILL BE PUMPED INTO THE TANK AND THEN FED TO INDIVIDUAL VILLAGE HOUSES.

OFFICERS OF TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS ARE PUTTING FINISHING TOUCHES TO THE SYSTEM, INSTALLING ELECTRICITY IN THE PUMP HOUSE AND SETTING UP INDIVIDUAL WATER METERS IN EACH OF THE 27 VILLAGE HOUSES.

FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS, VILLAGERS HAVE USED A STANDPIPE FOR DRINKING WATER AND WELL WATER FOR WASHING AND OTHER PURPOSES.

BEFORE THAT THE MAIN WATER SUPPLY CAME FROM A NEARBY STREAM, BUT THIS SUPPLY WAS AFFECTED BY CONSTRUCTION OF THE TUEN MUN HIGHWAY.

/SUBSEQUENTLY, THROUGH

FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 1981

- 7 -

SUBSEQUENTLY, THROUGH JOINT EFFORTS OF VILLAGERS, THE DISTRICT OFFICE, THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT AND THE ELECTRIC COMPANY, AGREEMENT WAS REACHED TO PROVIDE THE NEW SYSTEM.

COST OF THE ENTIRE PROJECT IS ABOUT \$80 000, OF WHICH \$15 000 WAS CONTRIBUTED BY VILLAGERS.

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TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF SECTION OF HILL ROAD

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A SECTION OF HILL ROAD BETWEEN DES VOEUX ROAD WEST WILL BE TEMPORARILY CLOSED TO ALL TRAFFIC FOR ABOUT A MONTH FROM 7 AM ON SUNDAY (APRIL 19) TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE HILL ROAD FLYOVER.

DURING THIS CLOSURE, THE FOLLOWING TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE INTRODUCED :

- * THE SECTION OF QUEEN'S ROAD WEST BETWEEN HILL ROAD AND BELCHER'S STREET WILL BE ROUTED ONE-WAY WESTBOUND.
- * ALL WESTBOUND VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM ENTERING THE SECTION OF QUEEN'S ROAD WEST BETWEEN DES VOEUX ROAD WEST AND BELCHER'S STREET.
- * ALL VEHICLES COMING FROM THE SOUTHERN SECTION OF HILL ROAD WILL ONLY BE PERMITTED TO TURN LEFT INTO QUEEN'S ROAD WEST.

CMB ROUTES NOS. 5A, 5B, 5M, 10, 47, 101, 104, 105, 113, 881 AND MAXICAB ROUTE NO. 12 ON THEIR EASTBOUND JOURNEY ALONG QUEEN'S ROAD WEST WILL BE DIVERTED VIA KENNEDY TOWN PRAYA TO DES VOEUX ROAD WEST.

TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE PUT UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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