



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Monday, October 1, 1973

CONTENTS

| | <u>Page No.</u> |
|--|-----------------|
| Hong Kong's exports continue to expand | 1 |
| Governor calls for new Outline Zoning Plan for Shatin | 3 |
| Parents urged to help reduce the occurrence of measles | 4 |
| Sale of "lucky" car numbers nears \$2 million mark | 5 |
| Special train services for Chung Yeung Festival | 6 |
| Prize-giving for winners of calligraphy and drawing contest | 7 |
| No mail delivery on Chung Yeung Festival day | 7 |
| Review of hospital visiting hours to avoid congestion | 8 |

Monday, October 1, 1973

- 1 -

EXPORTS CONTINUE TO RISE

The value of Hong Kong's domestic exports in August showed a marked increase over that of the corresponding month last year.

According to provisional trade figures released today by the Census and Statistics Department, domestic exports in August were valued at \$1,946 million --- an increase of \$529 million or 37.3 per cent over August 1972.

The value of imports increased by \$590 million or 31.1 per cent to \$2,485 million.

The biggest increase -- 85.5 per cent -- was in re-exports which were worth \$687 million, a rise of \$317 million over that of August last year.

Commenting on these figures, a spokesman for the Commerce and Industry Department said that during the three-month period, June to August 1973, figures show increases over the same period in 1972 of 28.8 per cent for domestic exports, 26.9 per cent for imports and 60.2 per cent for re-exports.

Figures for the eight-month period, January to August 1973, show increases over the same period in 1972 of 21 per cent for domestic exports, 22.2 per cent for imports and 47 per cent for re-exports.

The provisional trade figures for August are given in the table below with comparative figures.

MERCHANDISE

Monday, October 1, 1973

- 2 -

MERCHANDISE: Domestic Exports : \$1,946 million
 Imports : \$2,485 million
 Re-exports : \$ 687 million

COMPARATIVE FIGURES

| | August 1973 \$ Mn. | August 1972 \$ Mn. | Increase or decrease | |
|------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------|
| | | | \$ Mn. | % |
| Domestic Exports | 1,946 | 1,417 | + 529 | + 37.3 |
| Imports | 2,485 | 1,895 | + 590 | + 31.1 |
| Re-exports | 687 | 370 | + 317 | + 85.5 |

| | June-Aug. 1973 \$ Mn. | June-Aug. 1972 \$ Mn. | Increase or decrease | |
|------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--------|
| | | | \$ Mn. | % |
| Domestic Exports | 5,220 | 4,052 | +1,168 | + 28.8 |
| Imports | 7,211 | 5,680 | +1,530 | + 26.9 |
| Re-exports | 1,755 | 1,096 | + 659 | + 60.2 |

| | June-Aug. 1973 \$ Mn. | June-Aug. 1972 \$ Mn. | Increase or decrease | |
|------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--------|
| | | | \$ Mn. | % |
| Domestic Exports | 11,760 | 9,715 | +2,045 | + 21.0 |
| Imports | 17,192 | 14,063 | +3,128 | + 22.2 |
| Re-exports | 3,765 | 2,561 | +1,204 | + 47.0 |

- - - - 0 - - - -

Monday, October 1, 1973

- 3 -

SHATIN ZONE PLAN TO BE REVISED

The Outline Zoning Plan for Sha Tin has been referred back to the Town Planning Board for replacement by a new plan.

The move was ordered by the Governor on the advice of the Executive Council.

The original plan is out of date. It was based on the 1961 Census which envisaged a population of 7.2 million in Hong Kong by 1986.

This would have necessitated a new town at Sha Tin for a population of 1 million, with parallel developments at Tsuen Wan/Kwai Chung and Tuen Mun.

However, the 1971 Census puts the 1986 population at 5.4 million. In view of this, the Council believes that the three new towns need not be planned for such large populations even though they will be the medium through which the bulk of the 10-year housing target will have to be met.

It is therefore estimated that Shatin should be planned for a population of the order of 500,000 by 1986.

This provides an opportunity to create a better environment in accordance with improved standards for various community uses adopted since approval of the existing plan.

A new major feature in the new plan will be the race course at Sha Tin.

This will necessitate additional reclamation and some of the areas at present in the Green Belt will probably be used as a source of fill for the reclamation.

The new plan will also have to take account of revised major road and possible future mass transit proposals, and a possible site for an army camp,

- - - - 0 - - - -

/4

Monday, October 1, 1973

- 4 -

MARKED RISE IN MEASLES' DEATHS

Five deaths from measles and 101 notifications of the same disease were recorded during August, according to the monthly health returns issued by the Medical and Health Department today.

The deaths brought the total of fatalities from this disease to 11 so far this year -- already exceeding by two the total of nine recorded for the whole of 1972.

A spokesman for the department said the marked rise in deaths was "unfortunate," but he emphasised the need for parents of susceptible children between six months and five years to have them immunised.

He appealed for parental co-operation to prevent the outbreak of a measles' epidemic in Hong Kong. The last epidemic was in 1966-67 when 1,045 children died.

Free measles vaccine is available throughout the year at all government maternity and child health centres.

In August, notifications of all communicable diseases totalled 878. Apart from the five deaths from measles, amoebiasis resulted in one other fatality, and tuberculosis 109, bringing the total for the month to 115.

There was no case of diphtheria. One case of cerebrospinal meningitis and one of poliomyelitis were reported. Typhoid fever accounted for 18 notifications.

No appreciable variation occurred in the notifications of other infectious diseases, and Hong Kong remained free from cholera and other quarantinable diseases in August.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/5

Monday, October 1, 1973

- 5 -

"LUCKY" CAR NUMBERS RAISE \$1.8 MILLION FOR CHARITY

More than \$1.8 million has been raised so far for charity through the sale of "lucky" car numbers.

And it is hoped that the \$2 million mark may be reached this Saturday (October 6) when another 20 of the special car registration plates will be put up for auction in the City Hall Theatre at 11 a.m.

Since the scheme started in August last year, 258 car numbers have been sold at a total cost of \$1,800,550. The highest amount paid for a single number (HK 2) was \$110,000.

Proceeds of the auctions go to the Government Lotteries Fund for charity purposes, after expenses have been deducted.

As before, successful bidders in Saturday's auction will have to pay in cash or by cheque immediately after the bidding. The "lucky" numbers will be assigned only to a vehicle registered in the name of the successful bidder within 12 months of the auction.

The latest registration plates to be auctioned are:

| | | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| AZ 1 | AZ 3 | AZ 8 | AZ 22 | AZ 55 |
| AZ 66 | AZ 77 | AZ 333 | AZ 888 | AZ 2222 |
| AZ 5555 | AZ 2323 | AZ 8989 | AZ 6688 | AZ 8000 |
| AA 232 | AA 33 | AA 99 | AA 818 | AA 1000 |

----- 0 -----

/6

Monday, October 1, 1973

- 6 -

SPECIAL TRAINS FOR CHUNG YEUNG FESTIVAL

Special passenger trains will run between Tsim Sha Tsui and Wo Hop Shek in Fanling on Chung Yeung Festival (Thursday) for the convenience of visitors to the Wo Hop Shek Cemetery.

Eleven up-trains will leave Tsim Sha Tsui station for Wo Hop Shek between 6.15 a.m. and 3.21 p.m. on that day, and eleven down-trains will depart from Wo Hop Shek for Tsim Sha Tsui between 7.34 a.m. and 4.57 p.m.

A spokesman for the Kowloon-Canton Railway said that no passengers would be picked up at the Mongkok station between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. on Thursday.

During this period, passengers who normally board at Mongkok station are asked to use the Tsim Sha Tsui station. Holders of season and monthly tickets will be permitted to board without extra charge.

Concession return tickets valid for the date of issue will be available at the Tsim Sha Tsui station on October 4 for journeys between Kowloon and Wo Hop Shek and between Kowloon and Lo Wu (Sandy Ridge Cemetery).

The spokesman said that special train services would be arranged in the late evening if this became necessary.

He added that all up-trains from Kowloon to the New Territories were expected to be full from 6 a.m. to 3 p.m., and similarly with the down-trains from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/7

Monday, October 1, 1973

- 7 -

YOUNG PEOPLE'S ART COMPETITION

Winners of the Children and Youth Calligraphy and Drawing Competition held in August will receive their prizes on Wednesday (October 3).

The presentation ceremony will take place at 7.30 p.m. at the Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association in Lockhart Road, Wanchai. The winning entries will be displayed.

The competition was a joint project between the Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association, the Y.W.C.A. and the Western District Community Centre of Social Welfare Department.

It was divided into two sections - indoor and outdoor. More than 800 entries were received.

Officiating at the prize-giving ceremony will be Mrs. Gennie Lee, General Secretary, Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association; Mr. Au Kwong-man, Principal Social Welfare Officer, Social Welfare Department; and Miss Agnes Ng, Chairman, Committee of Student and Youth Department, Young Women's Christian Association.

- - - - 0 - - - -

HOLIDAY POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS

The Postmaster General announced today that there will be no mail delivery on Thursday (October 4) which is a public holiday.

All post offices will be closed on that day for the Chung Yeung Festival.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/8

Monday, October 1, 1973

- 8 -

CONGESTION AT GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS DURING VISITING HOURS

Note to Editors: Members of the Press, radio and TV are invited to attend a conference in the headquarters of the Medical and Health Department, Lee Gardens, at 11 a.m. tomorrow (Tuesday), at which Dr. K.F. Chan, Acting Deputy Director of Medical and Health Services (Medical), will review the regulations with regard to visiting hours at government hospitals, and suggest ways by which the public can help to reduce congestion.

- - - - 0 - - - -

Release time: 7.00 p.m.