



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1977

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PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR DECEMBER 1976

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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY PUBLISHED THE PROVISIONAL FIGURES FOR HONG KONG'S EXTERNAL MERCHANDISE TRADE DURING DECEMBER 1976. THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS FOR DECEMBER WAS \$3,092 MILLION, IMPORTS WERE WORTH \$4,067 MILLION AND RE-EXPORTS \$812 MILLION.

THE FIGURES FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 1976 (LATEST THREE MONTHS) SHOWED INCREASES, BY VALUE, COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1975 OF 33.7 PER CENT FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS, 20 PER CENT FOR IMPORTS AND 27.3 PER CENT FOR RE-EXPORTS.

COMPARED WITH THE SAME MONTH IN 1975, INCREASES, BY VALUE, OF \$800 MILLION OR 34.9 PER CENT IN EXPORTS, \$629 MILLION OR 18.3 PER CENT IN IMPORTS AND \$186 MILLION OR 29.7 PER CENT IN RE-EXPORTS WERE RECORDED.

THE SHORT TERM CHANGES, DECEMBER 1976 COMPARED WITH NOVEMBER 1976, SHOWED INCREASES OF \$301 MILLION OR 10.8 PER CENT FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND \$365 MILLION OR 9.9 PER CENT FOR IMPORTS. THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS DECLINED BY \$6 MILLION OR 0.7 PER CENT.

THE FIGURES FOR THE WHOLE YEAR OF 1976 COMPARED WITH THOSE OF 1975 SHOWED INCREASES, BY VALUE, OF 42.7 PER CENT FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS, 29.3 PER CENT FOR IMPORTS AND 28 PER CENT FOR RE-EXPORTS.

LATEST THREE MONTHS	OCTOBER- DECEMBER 1976	OCTOBER- DECEMBER 1975	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$MN.	PERCENTAGE
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	8,807	6,586	+ 2,220	+ 33.7
IMPORTS	11,715	9,762	+ 1,953	+ 20.0
RE-EXPORTS	2,437	1,914	+ 523	+ 27.3
SAME MONTH LAST YEAR	DECEMBER 1976	DECEMBER 1975	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$MN.	PERCENTAGE
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	3,092	2,292	+ 800	+ 34.9
(PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	(79.2 PER CENT)	(78.5 PER CENT)		
IMPORTS	4,067	3,438	+ 629	+ 18.3
RE-EXPORTS	812	626	+ 186	+ 29.7
(PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	(20.8 PER CENT)	(21.5 PER CENT)		

/LAST MONTH

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<u>LAST MONTH</u>	DECEMBER 1976	NOVEMBER 1976	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$MN.	PERCENTAGE
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	3,092	2,791	+ 301	+ 10.8
(PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	(79.2 PER CENT)	(77.3 PER CENT)		
IMPORTS	4,067	3,702	+ 365	+ 9.9
RE-EXPORTS	812	817	- 6	- 0.7
(PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	(20.8 PER CENT)	(22.7 PER CENT)		
<u>LAST 12 MONTHS</u>	JANUARY- DECEMBER 1976	JANUARY- DECEMBER 1975	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$MN.	PERCENTAGE
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	32,629	22,859	+ 9,770	+ 42.7
(PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	(78.5 PER CENT)	(76.6 PER CENT)		
IMPORTS	43,294	33,472	+ 9,822	+ 29.3
RE-EXPORTS	8,928	6,973	+ 1,955	+ 28.0
(PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	(21.5 PER CENT)	(23.4 PER CENT)		

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PRINCESS ALEXANDRA TO WATCH U.C.'S VARIETY SHOW

SOME 5,000 RESIDENTS OF TSZ WAN SHAN WILL BE TREATED TO ONE OF THE URBAN COUNCIL'S REGULAR OPEN AIR VARIETY SHOWS ON THE EVENING OF FEBRUARY 5 BUT THIS TIME THEY WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE THE EVENING WITH A DISTINGUISHED VISITOR.

HRH PRINCESS ALEXANDRA, WHO WILL BE ON HER FOURTH DAY OF VISIT TO HONG KONG, WILL JOIN THEM AT THEIR LOCAL PLAYGROUND AND WILL DOT THE EYES OF A LION TO START A 45-MINUTE PROGRAMME OF POPULAR LIGHT ENTERTAINMENT.

BESIDES THE LION DANCE, RESIDENTS WILL BE ABLE TO ENJOY A SELECTION OF THE BEST ACROBATICS IN HONG KONG AND PERFORMANCES BY LOCAL SINGERS AND FOLK DANCERS IN TRADITIONAL COSTUMES.

MR. KENNETH T.C. LO, CHAIRMAN OF THE URBAN COUNCIL'S RECREATION AND AMENITIES SELECT COMMITTEE, WILL BE AT THE PLAYGROUND TO WELCOME THE ROYAL VISITOR.

VARIETY SHOW IS ONLY ONE ASPECT OF THE COUNCIL'S YEAR-ROUND POPULAR ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMME. THERE ARE ALSO CANTONESE OPERAS AND POP CONCERTS, FILM SHOWS, BAND CONCERTS, PUPPET SHOWS, COMEDY SKETCHES AND SPECIAL ATHLETIC AND ACROBATIC DISPLAYS.

ON OCCASIONS SUCH AS THE MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL AND THE LUNAR NEW YEAR, THE COUNCIL ORGANISES FUN FAIRS AND CARNIVALS IN THE LARGER PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS FOR THE ENJOYMENT OF YOUNG AND OLD ALIKE.

THESE EVENTS ARE PACKED WITH SIDE SHOWS AND GAME STALLS AND OFTEN LAST FOR THE WHOLE AFTERNOON AND EVENING AND SOMETIMES FOR DAYS.

+ON AVERAGE SOME 50,000 TO 60,000 PEOPLE COME TO THE POPULAR SHOWS EVERY MONTH,+ SAID MR. ALBERT CHAN, STAFF OFFICER (ENTERTAINMENT) OF THE COUNCIL.

+ABOUT FIFTY EVENTS ARE ORGANISED EACH MONTH AND IN SOME OF THEM, ESPECIALLY THE MORE POPULAR POP CONCERTS, THE AUDIENCE ON ONE EVENING MAY WELL SWELL TO TWO OR THREE THOUSAND,+ HE SAID.

THESE ARE HELD IN PUBLIC PLAYGROUNDS AND A MOBILE VAN WHICH CAN EASILY BE CONVERTED INTO AN OPEN STAGE IS USED IN PLACES WHERE THERE ARE NO ADEQUATE FACILITIES.

THE PROGRAMME IS SO ARRANGED THAT AT LEAST ONE SHOW IS HELD IN A PARTICULAR PLAYGROUND EVERY MONTH. ADMISSION IS FREE.

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SNAKE YEAR GOLD COINS OVERSUBSCRIBED

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OVER 27,000 APPLICATIONS FOR THE GOLD COINS TO MARK THE YEAR OF THE SNAKE WERE RECEIVED FROM HONG KONG RESIDENTS WHEN APPLICATIONS CLOSED NINE DAYS AGO (JANUARY 17).

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY THAT THERE WERE MORE THAN 20,000 APPLICATIONS FOR 10,500 UNCIRCULATED AND 7,000 APPLICATIONS FOR 5,000 PROOF ISSUES - 1.75 TIMES THE NUMBER OF COINS TO BE ISSUED LOCALLY.

AS A RESULT OF OVERSUBSCRIPTION, A BALLOT WAS HELD ON COMPUTER.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS WERE BEING NOTIFIED BY LETTER AND THE COINS WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION FROM NEXT TUESDAY (FEBRUARY 1).

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EXHIBITION ON PROBATION AND CORRECTIONS SERVICE

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THE CHIEF JUSTICE, SIR GEOFFREY BRIGGS AND THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF AN EXHIBITION ON +PROBATION AND CORRECTIONS SERVICE+ AT THE MAIN CONCOURSE OF THE OCEAN TERMINAL AT 11 A.M. ON SATURDAY (JANUARY 29).

ORGANISED BY THE PROBATION AND CORRECTIONS DIVISION OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, THE THREE-DAY EXHIBITION WILL SHOW THE PUBLIC THE WORK ON REHABILITATION OF OFFENDERS - THE PROBATION SERVICE, THE CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND THE AFTERCARE SERVICE.

THE EXHIBITION WILL FEATURE SLIDE SHOWS, CHARTS, PHOTOGRAPHS, CARTOON AND HANDICRAFT MADE BY RESIDENTS OF THE CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

CONTEST QUIZ WILL ALSO BE ORGANISED FOR THE SPECTATORS.

THE EXHIBITION WILL BE OPENED TO THE PUBLIC UP TO 9 P.M. AFTER THE OPENING CEREMONY ON SATURDAY= 9 A.M. TO 9 P.M. THE FOLLOWING DAY AND 9 A.M. TO 3 P.M. ON THE LAST DAY.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO HAVE THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE EXHIBITION COVERED. IT WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE MAIN CONCOURSE OF THE OCEAN TERMINAL ON SATURDAY (JANUARY 29) AT 11 A.M.

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FIREMEN TO COMPETE IN PEAK RELAY RACE
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THE HONG KONG COMMAND OF THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS TO HOLD A FIRST-EVER INTER-DIVISIONAL PEAK RELAY RACE TOMORROW (THURSDAY).

FIVE TEAMS, EACH CONSISTING OF FIVE RUNNERS, ARE TAKING PART. THEY ARE FROM THE CENTRAL, WESTERN, EASTERN AND MARINE DIVISIONS AND THE COMBINED TACTICAL RESERVE AND CONTROL STAFF.

THE 11-MILE RACE WILL START FROM AND END AT THE PEAK CAFE. EACH OF THE FIVE RUNNERS WILL HAVE TO CIRCLE THE PEAK ONCE (2.2 MILES), PASSING HARLECH ROAD AND LUGARD ROAD.

A TROPHY DONATED BY THE ASSISTANT CHIEF FIRE OFFICER (HONG KONG), MR. JOHN MARCH, WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE WINNING TEAM. ANOTHER TROPHY WILL BE AWARDED TO THE RUNNER WHO COVERS THE DISTANCE IN THE FASTEST TIME.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND MEMBERS OF YOUR STAFF TO COVER THE EVENT WHICH WILL START AT 3 P.M. FROM THE PEAK CAFE.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN TSIM SHA TSUI
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE SECTION OF CARNARVON ROAD BETWEEN NATHAN ROAD AND BRISTOL AVENUE WOULD BE RE-ROUTED ONE WAY EASTBOUND FROM 10 A.M. ON FRIDAY (JANUARY 28).

THIS IS TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE MTR STATION AT TSIM SHA TSUI.

TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE PUT UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

AT THE SAME TIME, PARKING RESTRICTIONS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED ON SECTIONS OF MODY ROAD, CARNARVON ROAD, HUMPHREYS AVENUE AND CAMERON ROAD TO FACILITATE MTR CONSTRUCTION.

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SURVEYOR GENERAL OF SHIPS RETIRES

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THE SURVEYOR GENERAL OF SHIPS, MR. ROBERT BLACKLOCK, WILL GO ON PRE-RETIREMENT LEAVE THIS SATURDAY (JANUARY 29) AFTER 25 YEARS' SERVICE WITH THE MARINE DEPARTMENT.

HE WILL BE SUCCEEDED BY MR. PERCY DAVY.

MR. BLACKLOCK FIRST JOINED THE DEPARTMENT AS A SURVEYOR OF SHIPS IN 1952. HE WAS PROMOTED TO SENIOR SURVEYOR OF SHIPS IN 1965, TO PRINCIPAL SURVEYOR OF SHIPS IN FEBRUARY 1967 AND TO THE PRESENT POST IN JULY THE SAME YEAR.

LAST WEEK, THE DIRECTOR OF MARINE, MR. ALAN FLETCHER, PRESENTED MR. BLACKLOCK WITH A RETIREMENT GIFT.

MR. AND MRS. BLACKLOCK WILL FIRST ATTEND THEIR DAUGHTER'S WEDDING IN JOHANNESBURG BEFORE RETURNING TO THEIR HOME IN NORTH YORKSHIRE, ENGLAND.

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WATER CUT

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WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN KOWLOON CITY WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR FIVE HOURS FROM 1 A.M. ON FRIDAY (JANUARY 28) TO ENABLE THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT TO CARRY OUT A NIGHT LEAKAGE TEST.

PREMISES TO BE AFFECTED WILL BE THOSE IN JUNCTION ROAD AND WANG TAU HOM EAST ROAD, INCLUDING BLOCK NOS. 1 TO 4 AND 10 TO 13 OF THE WANG TAU HOM ESTATE AND JUNCTION ROAD RESITE AREA.

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