



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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PROVISIONAL RESULTS OF JANUARY RETAIL SALES SURVEY RELEASED

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THE VALUE OF TOTAL RETAIL SALES IN JANUARY 1991, ESTIMATED AT \$10,541 MILLION, REMAINED ALMOST UNCHANGED WHEN COMPARED WITH JANUARY 1990 WHILE THEIR VOLUME DECREASED BY 7%, ACCORDING TO THE PROVISIONAL RESULTS OF A SURVEY RELEASED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE DROP IN SALES VOLUME WAS, HOWEVER, MAINLY ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE TIMING OF THE LUNAR NEW YEAR, WHICH TOOK PLACE IN FEBRUARY THIS YEAR BUT IN JANUARY LAST YEAR.

SIMILAR PHENOMENON DUE TO THE TIMING OF THE LUNAR NEW YEAR WAS ALSO OBSERVED IN PAST YEARS.

CHANGES IN THE VOLUME OF RETAIL SALES REFER TO CHANGES IN THE VALUES OF RETAIL SALES AFTER DISCOUNTING ESTIMATED CHANGES IN PRICES.

THE INDICATORS OF PRICE CHANGES USED FOR THE PURPOSE ARE THE RESPECTIVE COMPONENTS OF THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX WHICH CORRESPOND TO THE BROAD CATEGORY OF GOODS IN QUESTION.

COMPARING WITH JANUARY 1990, RETAIL SALES OF FUELS ROSE BY 32% IN VALUE AND 1% IN VOLUME, WHILE THOSE OF FOODSTUFFS, ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO DROPPED BY 7% IN VALUE AND 13% IN VOLUME.

ON THE SAME BASIS OF COMPARISON, RETAIL SALES OF CONSUMER DURABLES INCREASED BY 3% IN VALUE BUT DECREASED BY 3% IN VOLUME. CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR AND ALLIED PRODUCTS DROPPED BY 5% IN SALES VALUE AND 13% IN SALES VOLUME.

RETAIL SALES OF OTHER CONSUMER GOODS REMAINED ALMOST UNCHANGED IN VALUE BUT DECREASED BY 5% IN VOLUME.

ANALYSED BY SELECTED TRADES, RETAIL SALES OF CONSUMER DURABLES OTHER THAN MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS INCREASED BY 6% IN VALUE BUT REMAINED ALMOST UNCHANGED IN VOLUME.

ON THE OTHER HAND, RETAIL SALES OF MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS DECREASED BY 2% IN VALUE AND 9% IN VOLUME, WHILE THOSE OF DEPARTMENT STORES DROPPED BY 10% IN VALUE AND 17% IN VOLUME. SUPERMARKET SALES DECREASED BY 13% IN VALUE AND 22% IN VOLUME.

COMPARING WITH DECEMBER 1990, AND BEARING IN MIND THAT THIS COMPARISON MAY BE AFFECTED BY SEASONAL FACTORS, TOTAL RETAIL SALES FOR JANUARY 1991 DROPPED BY 4% IN VALUE AND 3% IN VOLUME. FUELS DECREASED BY 3% IN SALES VALUE AND 1% IN SALES VOLUME. RETAIL SALES OF FOODSTUFFS, ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO WENT DOWN BY 10% IN VALUE AND 11% IN VOLUME.

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ON THE SAME BASIS OF COMPARISON, RETAIL SALES OF CONSUMER DURABLES WENT UP BY 3% IN VALUE AND 2% IN VOLUME. CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR AND ALLIED PRODUCTS REMAINED ALMOST UNCHANGED IN SALES VALUE BUT ROSE BY 4% IN SALES VOLUME.

RETAIL SALES OF OTHER CONSUMER GOODS DROPPED BY 5% IN VALUE AND 3% IN VOLUME.

ANALYSED BY SELECTED TRADES, RETAIL SALES OF MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS INCREASED BY 7% IN VALUE AND 6% IN VOLUME. CONSUMER DURABLES OTHER THAN MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS WENT UP BY 1% IN SALES VALUE BUT REMAINED ALMOST UNCHANGED IN SALES VOLUME.

SALES IN DEPARTMENT STORES DECREASED BY 10% IN VALUE AND 6% IN VOLUME WHILE SUPERMARKET SALES DROPPED BY 12% IN VALUE AND 13% IN VOLUME.

TABLE 1 PRESENTS THE REVISED TOTAL RETAIL SALES FIGURE FOR DECEMBER 1990 AND THE PROVISIONAL FIGURE FOR JANUARY 1991.

TABLE 2 SHOWS THE VALUE AND VOLUME INDEXES OF RETAIL SALES IN DECEMBER 1990 AND JANUARY 1991 (A) FOR ALL RETAIL TRADES, (B) BY MAJOR TRADE GROUPS AND (C) BY SELECTED TRADES (WHICH FORM PART OF THE RELEVANT MAJOR TRADE GROUPS), WITH AVERAGE RETAIL SALES FROM OCTOBER 1984 TO SEPTEMBER 1985 TAKEN AS 100. COMPARISONS OF JANUARY 1991 RESULTS WITH THOSE FOR DECEMBER 1990 AND WITH THOSE FOR JANUARY 1990 ARE ALSO GIVEN.

THE REPORT CONTAINING THE ANALYSIS OF JANUARY 1991 SURVEY RESULTS IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL AT \$1.50 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL. NO. : 802 1258).

NOTE TO EDITORS:

TABLES 1 AND 2 WILL BE SENT BY FACSIMILE. COPIES CAN ALSO BE COLLECTED FROM THE GIS NEWSROOM.

TABLE 1 : TOTAL RETAIL SALES

Total Retail Sales for January 1991 (Provisional Figure) = HK\$10,541 million
for December 1990 (Revised Figure) = HK\$10,974 million

TABLE 2 : VALUE AND VOLUME INDEXES OF RETAIL SALES
FOR DECEMBER 1990 AND JANUARY 1991

(Monthly average of Oct. 84 - Sept. 85 = 100)

Item	Index of Retail Sales	December	January	January 1991		January 1991	
		1990	1991	compared with December 1990	compared with January 1990	compared with January 1990	compared with January 1990
		(Revised figures)	(Provisional figures)	Points	%	Points	%
(A) FOR ALL RETAIL TRADES							
	Value	196	188	-8	-4	-1	‡
	Volume	138	133	-4	-3	-10	-7
(B) BY MAJOR TRADE GROUPS							
Foodstuffs, alcoholic drinks and tobacco	Value	180	162	-18	-10	-13	-7
	Volume	130	116	-14	-11	-17	-13
Fuels	Value	166	160	-6	-3	+39	+32
	Volume	118	116	-2	-1	+2	+1
Clothing, footwear and allied products	Value	230	230	‡	‡	-12	-5
	Volume	145	151	+6	+4	-22	-13
Consumer durables	Value	172	177	+5	+3	+6	+3
	Volume	123	126	+2	+2	-3	-3
Other consumer goods	Value	213	203	-10	-5	‡	‡
	Volume	150	145	-5	-3	-8	-5
(C) BY SELECTED TRADES							
(see note 1 below)							
Supermarkets	Value	235	207	-28	-12	-31	-13
	Volume	160	139	-20	-13	-39	-22
Motor vehicles and parts	Value	241	257	+16	+7	-4	-2
	Volume	143	152	+9	+6	-16	-9
Consumer durables other than motor vehicles and parts	Value	150	152	+2	+1	+8	+6
	Volume	117	117	‡	‡	‡	‡
Department stores	Value	320	289	-31	-10	-32	-10
	Volume	208	195	-13	-6	-39	-17

NOTES : 1. In order to analyse the sales of certain trades WITHIN major trade groups, the value and volume indexes in respect of the following selected trades are compiled :

(a) "Supermarkets" - a trade in the "Foodstuffs, alcoholic drinks and tobacco" group.

(b) "Motor vehicles and parts" - a trade in the "Consumer durables" group.

(c) "Consumer durables other than motor vehicles and parts" - a trade in the "Consumer durables" group.

(d) "Department stores" - a trade in the "Other consumer goods" group.

2. Figures denoting changes are derived from the unrounded index figures.

3. "‡" denotes a figure within ± 0.5 .

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FINALS OF SCHOOLS DRAMA COMPETITIONS

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STUDENTS COMPETING IN THE FINALS OF THE SCHOOLS CHINESE DRAMA PROJECT WILL BE PERFORMING UNDER THE CRITICAL EYE OF VETERAN ACTRESS, MS FUNG BO-BO, AND ANOTHER VETERAN OF THE THEATRE, MR CHUNG KING-FEI.

FORTY-TWO SCHOOLS TOOK PART IN THE SCHOOLS CHINESE DRAMA PROJECT WHICH MADE ITS DEBUT THIS YEAR FOLLOWING THE SUCCESSFUL LAUNCHING OF THE SCHOOLS ENGLISH DRAMA PROJECT LAST YEAR.

ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, THE TWO PROJECTS THIS YEAR RECEIVED ENTHUSIASTIC SUPPORT FROM SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

FINALISTS WILL COMPETE FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLES TOMORROW (SATURDAY) FOR ENGLISH DRAMAS AND NEXT SATURDAY (APRIL 13) FOR CHINESE DRAMAS AT THE SHOUSON THEATRE OF THE HONG KONG ARTS CENTRE.

TWENTY-SIX SCHOOLS TOOK PART IN THE ENGLISH PROJECT COMPARED WITH 12 LAST YEAR. THE THREE SCHOOLS IN THE FINALS ARE ST JOAN OF ARC SECONDARY SCHOOL, KWUN TONG GOVERNMENT SECONDARY SCHOOL AND BUDDHIST KOK KWONG SECONDARY SCHOOL.

THE FIVE FINALISTS IN THE CHINESE PROJECT ARE QUEEN'S COLLEGE, HO LAP COLLEGE, KOWLOON TRUE LIGHT MIDDLE SCHOOL, TUEN MUN CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL AND THE TAOIST ASSOCIATION YUEN YUEN INSTITUTE NO. 2 SECONDARY SCHOOL.

THE ENGLISH DRAMA JUDGES WILL COMPRISE MR BRIAN BLOMFIELD, MR TONY O'BRIEN, MISS CHRIS JOHNSON AND MR LAM LAP-SAM. JUDGING THE CHINESE DRAMAS WILL BE MR CHUNG KING-FEI, MS FUNG BO-BO, MR YUEN LUP-FUN, MR HARDY TSOI, AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY CORPORATION AND THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION, THE SPONSORS OF THE CHINESE PROJECT.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE FINALS OF THE SCHOOLS ENGLISH DRAMA PROJECT TOMORROW (SATURDAY) WHICH WILL START AT 2 PM AT THE SHOUSON THEATRE OF THE HONG KONG ARTS CENTRE IN HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI.

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SWD FOSTER CARE UNIT ON MOVE

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THE CENTRAL FOSTER CARE UNIT OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT WILL OPERATE FROM ITS NEW OFFICE AT FOURTH FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL FROM TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO ARE INTERESTED IN FOSTERING CHILDREN ARE WELCOME TO MAKE ENQUIRIES AT THE UNIT OR CALL 852 3113 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

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SAI KUNG DB REPORT PUBLISHED

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THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD REPORT, WHICH DETAILS THE BOARD'S WORK IN THE PAST THREE YEARS, HAS BEEN PUBLISHED.

IN THE PREFACE OF THE 72-PAGE REPORT, THE DISTRICT OFFICER MR FREDERICK TONG SAID SAI KUNG HAS ALWAYS BEEN KNOWN FOR ITS TRANQUILITY AND SCENIC BEAUTY.

MOST OF THE AREAS IN THE DISTRICT STILL RETAIN THEIR NATURAL LANDSCAPE AND RURAL CHARACTERISTICS, WHICH IS VITAL TO THE BALANCED DEVELOPMENT OF HONG KONG, HE SAID.

MR TONG ALSO POINTED OUT THAT SAI KUNG IS ONE OF THE FASTEST GROWING ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICTS IN THE TERRITORY.

"TSEUNG KWAN O, AT THE SOUTHERN PART OF THE DISTRICT, HAS NOW BECOME A NEW TOWN WITH OVER 80,000 RESIDENTS, TRIPLING THE TOTAL POPULATION OF THE DISTRICT TO ABOUT 125,000 IN JUST A FEW YEARS.

"FACING SUCH CHANGES, THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD HAS WORKED HARD TO HELP NEWCOMERS SETTLE DOWN, AS WELL AS TO CATER TO THE NEEDS OF THE OLD AND NEW COMMUNITIES SO THAT THE TRADITIONAL HARMONIOUS RELATIONS IN THE DISTRICT ARE MAINTAINED AND STRENGTHENED," HE SAID.

THE REPORT IS DIVIDED INTO EIGHT CHAPTERS, WITH A GENERAL INTRODUCTION ON THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD'S MEMBERSHIP, TERMS OF REFERENCE, SCOPE OF WORK, AND A DETAILED STUDY ON THE WORK OF THE BOARD'S SIX WORKING COMMITTEES.

THE REPORT IS ALSO ILLUSTRATED BY MORE THAN 80 COLOUR PHOTOGRAPHS, INCLUDING A SERIES OF AERIAL PICTURES CAPTURING THE MOST SCENIC SPOTS IN THE DISTRICT.

"THE AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS ARE INDEED A RARE COLLECTION, MAKING THE REPORT NOT ONLY A WORKING RECORD, BUT ALSO A VIVID ILLUSTRATION ON THE VARIOUS FACETS OF THE DISTRICT," MR TONG SAID.

THE REPORT IS NOW AVAILABLE FOR THE PUBLIC'S REFERENCE AT THE SAI KUNG PUBLIC LIBRARY ON THE FIFTH FLOOR, SAI KUNG GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, SAI KUNG TOWN; AND THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE'S PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE ON THE GROUND FLOOR, PO NING HOUSE, PO LAM ESTATE, TSEUNG KWAN O.

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