



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

TUESDAY, JUNE 29, 1976

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EXPORTS UP BY \$258 M LAST MONTH

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THE VALUE OF HONG KONG'S DOMESTIC EXPORTS FOR MAY WAS \$2,692 MILLION, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF \$258 MILLION OR 10.6 PER CENT, BY VALUE, COMPARED WITH APRIL.

ACCORDING TO PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES RELEASED TODAY BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, THE VALUE OF IMPORTS WENT UP BY 8.6 PER CENT OR \$299 MILLION AND RE-EXPORTS ROSE BY 14 PER CENT OR \$92 MILLION COMPARED WITH APRIL.

THE FIGURES FOR THE PERIOD MARCH TO MAY 1976 SHOWED INCREASES, BY VALUE, OF 52.2 PER CENT FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS, 40.8 PER CENT FOR IMPORTS AND 29.4 PER CENT FOR RE-EXPORTS COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1975.

THE FIGURES FOR THE 12-MONTH PERIOD FROM JUNE 1975 TO MAY 1976 COMPARED WITH THOSE OF THE PREVIOUS 12-MONTH PERIOD SHOWED INCREASES, BY VALUE, OF 25.5 PER CENT FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS, 20.9 PER CENT FOR IMPORTS AND 16.9 PER CENT FOR RE-EXPORTS.

THE FOLLOWING TRADE TABLE GIVES THE COMPARATIVE FIGURES:-

COMPARATIVE FIGURES

<u>LATEST 3 MONTHS</u>	<u>MAR.-MAY 1976</u>	<u>MAR.-MAY 1975</u>	<u>INCREASE OR DECREASE</u>	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	7,638	5,020	+ 2,619	+ 52.2
IMPORTS	10,735	7,624	+ 3,110	+ 40.8
RE-EXPORTS	2,156	1,666	+ 490	+ 29.4
<u>LATEST MONTH</u>	<u>MAY 1976</u>	<u>APRIL 1976</u>	<u>INCREASE OR DECREASE</u>	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	2,692 (78.2%)	2,434 (78.7%)	+ 258	+ 10.6
IMPORTS	3,768	3,469	+ 299	+ 8.6
RE-EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	751 (21.8%)	659 (21.3%)	+ 92	+ 14.0
<u>CALENDAR YEAR TO DATE</u>	<u>JAN.-MAY 1976</u>	<u>JAN.-MAY 1975</u>	<u>INCREASE OR DECREASE</u>	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	11,970 (77.3%)	7,927 (74.8%)	+ 4,043	+ 51.0
IMPORTS	16,954	12,184	+ 4,770	+ 39.1
RE-EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	3,522 (22.7%)	2,666 (25.2%)	+ 856	+ 32.1

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<u>LAST 12 MONTHS</u>	JUNE 1975 TO MAY 1976	JUNE 1974 TO MAY 1975	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	26,902	21,441	+ 5,461	+ 25.5
IMPORTS	38,241	31,623	+ 6,618	+ 20.9
RE-EXPORTS	7,829	6,698	+ 1,131	+ 16.9

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#### LONDON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EXAMS

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THE NEXT LONDON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EXAMINATION TO BE HELD IN HONG KONG WILL TAKE PLACE BETWEEN NOVEMBER 24 AND DECEMBER 8.

THE SUBJECTS INVOLVED ARE COSTING, ACCOUNTING AND BOOK-KEEPING AT VARIOUS LEVELS, AND THE ENTRY FEES RANGE FROM \$28 TO \$36.

CANDIDATES PREPARING FOR THE EXAMINATIONS BY ATTENDING COURSES IN SCHOOLS SHOULD REGISTER THROUGH THEIR SCHOOLS WHILE CANDIDATES NOT REPRESENTED BY SCHOOLS MAY APPLY AS PRIVATE CANDIDATES.

ENTRY FORMS CAN BE OBTAINED AT THE AUXILIARY MEDICAL SERVICE KOWLOON SUB-OFFICE, CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 393 CANTON ROAD, GROUND FLOOR, KOWLOON FROM NEXT MONDAY (JULY 5).

COMPLETED ENTRY FORMS FOR PRIVATE CANDIDATES, TOGETHER WITH PROOF OF IDENTITY (HONG KONG IDENTITY CARD OR PASSPORT) AND TWO RECENT PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE APPLICANT (SIZE 2-1/2" X 2") MUST BE SUBMITTED IN PERSON, AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS, BETWEEN 9 A.M. AND 4 P.M. FROM JULY 5 TO JULY 9.

CANDIDATES ARE ADVISED THAT NO LATE ENTRIES CAN BE ACCEPTED. ENTRY FEES MAY BE PAID (IN CASH OR BY CHEQUE) TO THE EXAMINATIONS DIVISION, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT ON THE 11TH FLOOR OF CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES NOT LATER THAN JULY 13, 1976.

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REVIEW OF TEXTILE QUOTA SYSTEM COMPLETED  
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A REPORT ON A REVIEW OF THE TEXTILE QUOTA SYSTEM HAS BEEN COMPLETED AND HANDED TO THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, MR. BILL DORWARD.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY A SPOKESMAN FOR THE D C AND I SAID THE REVIEW HAD BEEN CONDUCTED BY A DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE OF EXPERIENCED OFFICERS.

THE INITIAL PRESSURE FOR THE REVIEW HAD COME FROM THE TEXTILES ADVISORY BOARD. LEADING TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATIONS WERE CONSULTED AND THEIR VIEWS PROVIDED MUCH OF THE BASIS FOR THE COMMITTEE'S REVIEW. THE WORK HAD TAKEN SEVERAL MONTHS.

ALTHOUGH IT HAD BEEN THE INTENTION TO PUT THE REVIEW TO THE TEXTILES ADVISORY BOARD IN MAY, ITS CONCLUSION HAD BEEN DELAYED BY THE CONSIDERABLE PRESSURE OF OTHER COMMITMENTS ON THE STAFF CONCERNED.

MR. DORWARD SAID HE WAS PERSONALLY STUDYING THE CONTENTS AND WOULD BE DISCUSSING THEM WITH HIS COLLEAGUES PREPARATORY TO CONSULTING THE TEXTILES ADVISORY BOARD IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE.

+I ENVISAGE THIS CONSULTATION PROCESS TAKING SEVERAL WEEKS,+ MR. DORWARD SAID. +THIS IS A COMPLEX AND IMPORTANT SUBJECT AND NOT ONE WHICH CAN BE DEALT WITH LIGHTLY OR SUPERFICIALLY+.

NO INDICATION OF THE CONTENTS OR RECOMMENDATIONS WAS GIVEN NOR, ACCORDING TO THE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN, WOULD ANY SUCH DETAILS BE RELEASED UNTIL THE REPORT TO THE DIRECTOR HAD BEEN THOROUGHLY DIGESTED AND CONSIDERED BY HIM AND HIS OFFICIAL AND UNOFFICIAL ADVISERS.

+THIS SYSTEM HAS ALREADY BEEN THE SUBJECT OF QUITE A LOT OF PUBLIC COMMENTARY+ MR. DORWARD SAID. +I APPRECIATE THE CONSIDERABLE INTEREST WHICH EXISTS AND I HOPE THAT THOSE CONCERNED WILL NOW BEAR WITH US FOR A LITTLE LONGER. I DO NOT THINK IT WOULD BE CONSTRUCTIVE FOR ME TO MAKE ANY PRELIMINARY COMMENTS AT THIS STAGE.+

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CORNEA TRANSPLANT UNIT FOR PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL  
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THE ROTARY CLUB OF KOWLOON EAST HAS DONATED \$100,000 TO THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT FOR ESTABLISHING A CORNEA TRANSPLANT UNIT AT PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL TO PERFORM CORNEA TRANSPLANT OPERATIONS.

THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (MEDICAL), DR. S.H. LEE, ACCEPTED THE DONATION ON BEHALF OF THE DEPARTMENT DURING THE CLUB'S REGULAR LUNCHEON MEETING THIS AFTERNOON.

THE CORNEA TRANSPLANT UNIT, WHEN IT COMES INTO OPERATION IN A FEW MONTHS, WILL BE THE FIRST SUCH UNIT SET UP IN GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS. THE DONATION FROM THE ROTARY CLUB WILL BE USED FOR PURCHASING SPECIAL EQUIPMENT AND INSTRUMENTS WHICH ARE REQUIRED FOR OPERATION AND ASSESSMENT OF EYE PATIENTS' CLINICAL CONDITIONS.

THIS UNIT, WITH FOUR BEDS FOR CORNEA TRANSPLANT PATIENTS, WILL ENABLE THE DEPARTMENT TO PROVIDE A MORE COMPREHENSIVE OPHTHALMIC SERVICE FOR THE COMMUNITY.

SINCE MARCH THIS YEAR, AN ASSESSMENT CLINIC HAS BEEN OPERATING IN THE YAU MA TEI EYE CLINIC EVERY TUESDAY AFTERNOON FOR THE PURPOSE OF ASSESSING THE SUITABILITY OF EYE PATIENTS FOR CORNEA TRANSPLANT OPERATION.

PATIENTS WHO ARE CONSIDERED SUITABLE FOR CORNEA TRANSPLANT OPERATION WILL BE PUT ON A WAITING LIST. SO FAR, TEN PATIENTS HAVE BEEN PUT ON THE LIST.

ANY PATIENT ATTENDING AN OUT-PATIENT EYE CLINIC MAY BE REFERRED TO THE ASSESSMENT CLINIC TO DETERMINE HIS SUITABILITY FOR TRANSPLANT OPERATION.

LOCAL RESIDENTS WHO BEQUEATH THEIR EYES BEFORE THEIR DEATH ARE USED IN THE TRANSPLANTS.

TO COMMEMORATE THE ROTARY CLUB'S CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS THE MEDICAL PROJECT, THE NEW UNIT AT PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL WILL BE CALLED +ROTARY CLUB OF KOWLOON EAST KERATOPLASTY UNIT+.

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NO ADDITIONAL COMMERCIAL RADIO STATIONS  
TO BE LICENSED FOR THE TIME BEING

SPARE MF FREQUENCIES NOT AVAILABLE FOR TWO YEARS  
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THE GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED NOT TO INVITE TENDERS FOR THE TIME BEING FOR ANY ADDITIONAL COMMERCIAL BROADCASTING STATIONS.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TELEVISION AND FILMS AUTHORITY (THE DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBLE FOR ADMINISTERING THE EXISTING LICENCE OF COMMERCIAL RADIO) SAID THAT IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT COMMERCIAL RADIO'S MONOPOLY EXPIRED IN SEPTEMBER 1975 BUT THE COMPANY'S LICENCE TO BROADCAST CONTINUES UNTIL AUGUST 1979. THIS LEAVES THE WAY OPEN FOR MORE COMMERCIAL STATIONS TO BE LICENSED IF IT WAS GOVERNMENT POLICY TO EXPAND THE RADIO MEDIA.

A DECISION WAS DEFERRED UNTIL THE OUTCOME OF THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION'S EUROPEAN REGIONAL ADMINISTRATION LF/MF CONFERENCE HELD AT THE END OF 1975 WAS KNOWN. THE CONFERENCE APPROVED A NEW BROADCASTING FREQUENCY PLAN FOR MOST OF THE WORLD, EXCLUDING NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA, AND ALLOCATED TWO ADDITIONAL MF FREQUENCIES TO HONG KONG IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST FROM THE GOVERNMENT.

HOWEVER, THE NEW FREQUENCY PLAN AND HONG KONG'S TWO ADDITIONAL FREQUENCIES CANNOT BE BROUGHT INTO USE BEFORE THE END OF NOVEMBER, 1978. ALSO, SHORTLY AFTER THAT DATE, IN AUGUST 1979 COMMERCIAL RADIO'S EXISTING LICENCE EXPIRES. THEREFORE A MAJOR REVIEW OF THE BEST USE WHICH CAN BE MADE OF HONG KONG'S AVAILABLE MF FREQUENCIES WILL HAVE TO BE MADE TO COINCIDE WITH THESE CHANGES AND DEVELOPMENTS. IT IS EXPECTED THAT THIS STUDY WILL TAKE PLACE DURING 1977/78 AND, IN THE MEANTIME, IT HAS BEEN DECIDED NOT TO ENTER INTO ANY SHORT-TERM, INTERIM, ARRANGEMENTS IN RESPECT OF NEW RADIO LICENCES IN THE VHF/FM BAND.

IT HAS ALSO BEEN DECIDED NOT TO PURSUE A SUGGESTION MADE LAST YEAR THAT RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG (RTHK) MIGHT PARTIALLY COMMERCIALISE ITS SERVICE. SUCH A STEP COULD ONLY BE ACHIEVED BY A MAJOR RE-SHAPING OF THE PRESENT PROGRAMME OUTPUT OF THE STATION ALONG 'COMMERCIAL' RATHER THAN 'PUBLIC SERVICE' LINES IN THE COURSE OF WHICH RTHK'S INFORMATIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES AND ITS PROGRAMMES FOR MINORITY AND SPECIALIST AUDIENCES WOULD SUFFER.

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STUDENTS IN PART-TIME FACTORY JOBS URGED TO EXERCISE CARE  
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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT IS CONCERNED ABOUT THE SAFETY PROBLEM OF STUDENTS WHO GO TO WORK IN THE FACTORIES DURING THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS.

LAST YEAR, A NUMBER OF STUDENTS WERE INJURED, SOME QUITE SERIOUSLY, IN INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS, MRS. SOO MOK SAU-HA, ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR SAID.

THIS SHOWED THE NEED FOR EXTRA EFFORT TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF WORKING STUDENTS IN THE INDUSTRIAL ENVIRONMENT.

SAFE WORKING CONDITIONS ARE REQUIRED BY LAW, BUT SAID MRS. SOO, PROPRIETORS SHOULD SEE THAT THE STUDENTS IN THEIR EMPLOY ARE UNDER CLOSE AND PROPER SUPERVISION AND ARE NOT GIVEN JOBS WHICH ARE POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS OR WHICH INVOLVE THE OPERATION OF DANGEROUS MACHINERY.

STUDENTS, SHE SAID, ARE UNTRAINED AND INEXPERIENCED AND VULNERABLE TO INDUSTRIAL HAZARDS.

SHE REMINDED PROPRIETORS THAT A STUDENT HAD THE RIGHT TO CLAIM WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION UNDER THE WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ORDINANCE IF HE WAS INVOLVED IN AN ACCIDENT WHILST AT WORK.

IN ADDITION, AN INJURED STUDENT, JUST LIKE OTHER INJURED WORKMEN, WOULD ALSO HAVE A RIGHT TO CLAIM DAMAGES UNDER THE COMMON LAW.

THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR ALSO REMINDED STUDENTS TO TAKE EVERY PRECAUTION AGAINST WORK ACCIDENTS IN THEIR OWN INTEREST WHEN WORKING IN THE FACTORIES.

+BEWARE OF POWER-DRIVEN MACHINERY,+ SHE WARNED. +IF HANDLED OR OPERATED WITHOUT CARE OR IMPROPERLY, THE MACHINERY COULD INJURE, MAIM OR EVEN KILL A PERSON.+

ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT AND CHEMICALS USED IN INDUSTRIAL PROCESSES SHOULD BE HANDLED WITH CARE IN ORDER TO AVOID ACCIDENTS, SHE ADDED.

+DETAILED AND PERSONAL ADVICE ON SAFETY MEASURES AGAINST INDUSTRIAL HAZARDS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S INDUSTRIAL SAFETY TRAINING CENTRE ON THE THIRD FLOOR OF CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES IN KOWLOON,+ MRS. SOO SAID.

SHE URGED STUDENTS AND OTHERS WHO WANTED TO JOIN INDUSTRY TO VISIT THE CENTRE WHERE A PERMANENT DISPLAY OF A WIDE RANGE OF PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT AND MACHINERY COMMONLY USED IN THE INDUSTRY IS MAINTAINED.

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COMPENSATION FOR ROBBERY VICTIM  
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THE CRIMINAL INJURIES COMPENSATION BOARD TODAY (TUESDAY) AWARDED A SUM OF \$9,400 TO THE FATHER OF HO KAM TING WHO WAS STABBLED TO DEATH IN AN ATTEMPTED ROBBERY AND MURDER CASE WHICH OCCURRED AT ALBERT PATH ON JUNE 15, 1976.

COMPENSATION TO VICTIMS OF CRIMES OF VIOLENCE IS PAID OUT FROM PUBLIC FUND THROUGH THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT AT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE CRIMINAL INJURIES COMPENSATION BOARD, MEMBERS OF WHICH ARE APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD IS MR. ROBERT WEI.

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OPENING OF CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND  
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NOTE TO EDITORS:

THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE LO FUNG LION'S CLUB CHILDREN PLAYGROUND AT THE PO LEUNG KUK TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AT 4 P.M.

YOU ARE WELCOME TO COVER THE EVENT.

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C.A.S. PRESENTATION CEREMONY  
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NOTE TO EDITORS:

ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-FOUR MEMBERS AND CADETS OF THE CIVIL AID SERVICES WHO HAVE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED VARIOUS TYPES OF TRAINING PROVIDED BY C.A.S. WILL BE PRESENTED WITH MEDALS, CERTIFICATES AND OTHER AWARDS ON SATURDAY (JULY 3).

THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY WILL BE HELD IN THE CONCERT HALL OF THE MARINER'S CLUB, MIDDLE ROAD, TSIM SHA TSUI.

OFFICIATING AT THE CEREMONY WILL BE THE CHIEF RECREATION AND SPORT OFFICER OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, MISS E.S. MAIR= THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HONG KONG LIFE GUARD CLUB, MR. KWOK HON-MING= THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE HONG KONG AND KOWLOON VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION, MR. MAK CHUN-YUEN= THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HONG KONG SEA DRAGON SKIN DIVING CLUB, MR. BUNNY LIU= THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION OF C.A.S., MR. T.K. HO AND MR. E.M. LAISHLEY, ENGINEER (TRAINING) OF THE ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO HAVE THE EVENT COVERED.  
IT WILL BEGIN AT 4 P.M.

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DEATH SENTENCE COMMUTED TO LIFE  
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THE GOVERNOR, AFTER TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE ADVICE OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, HAS DECIDED THAT THE DEATH SENTENCE PASSED ON LI CHIK-SANG ON OCTOBER 28, 1975, SHOULD BE COMMUTED TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT.

LI WAS FOUND GUILTY OF THE MURDER OF SO SHAM-PONG.

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