DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL: 5-233191

TUESDAY, AUGUST 10, 1982

CONTENTS PAGE NO.

REVIEW OF OVERSEAS TRADE IN 1981 1

REVISION OF STANDING COMMISSION'S TERMS OF REFERENCE 2

FINANCIAL SECRETARY VISITS FACTORIES 3

WATER FIGURES 3

ROAD CLOSURE IN MOUNT DAVIS 3

TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE IN TSIM SHA TSUI AND LOK FU 4

RIGHT TURN BAN IN SHEUNG SHUI 4

PARKING POLICY PRESS CONFERENCE 5

SAFETY AT WORK TV PROGRAMME 5

REVIEW OF OVERSEAS TRADE IN 1981

* * * *

THE +HONG KONG REVIEW OF OVERSEAS TRADE IN 1981+ WHICH CONTAINS A BRIEF TEXT ON HONG KONG'S EXTERNAL TRADE PERFORMANCE, 18 GRAPHS AND 35 STATISTICAL APPENDICES WITH COMPARATIVE FIGURES FOR THE PREVIOUS YEARS, IS ON SALE TODAY.

THE REVIEW PRESENTS A BRIEF ACCOUNT OF THE SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN THE DIRECTION AND COMPOSITION OF HONG KONG'S OVERSEAS TRADE IN 1981, INCLUDING A COMPREHENSIVE ANALYSIS OF TRADE BY MAJOR TRADING PARTNERS AND BY COMMODITY CATEGORY.

IN VIEW OF THE INCREASING IMPORTANCE OF HONG KONG'S ROLE AS AN ENTREPOT, A NEW TABLE IS INCLUDED ANALYSING THE PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES RE-EXPORTED BY MAJOR COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN AS WELL AS MAJOR COUNTRIES OF DESTINATION. ALSO INCLUDED ARE STATISTICS ON HONG KONG'S PERFORMANCE IN THE WORLD TRADE AND IN PRINCIPAL OVERSEAS MARKETS, COMPARED WITH THOSE OF MAJOR COMPETITORS.

ACCORDING TO THE REVIEW, SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES WERE NOTED IN IMPORTS FROM CHINA (BY $7 562 MILLION OR 34 PER CENT) AND FROM JAPAN (BY $6 486 MILLION OR 25 PER CENT). AMONG THE OVERSEAS MARKETS WITH THE HIGHEST GROWTH IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS WERE THE U.S. (BY $6 609 MILLION OR 29 PER CENT) AND CHINA (BY $1 319 MILLION OR 82 PER CENT). DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO IRAN AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY DROPPED CONSIDERABLY (BY $225 MILLION OR 49 PER CENT, AND $336 MILLION OR FIVE PER CENT, RESPECTIVELY).

BY COMMODITY, SUBSTANTIAL GROWTH WAS REGISTERED IN THE IMPORTS OF TEXTILES (BY $4 440 MILLION OR 30 PER CENT) AND PETROLEUM AND PRODUCTS (BY $3 004 MILLION OR 39 PER CENT)- WHEREAS THE COMMODITIES WITH THE HIGHEST GROWTH IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS WERE CLOTHING (BY $5 030 MILLION OR 22 PER CENT) AND ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (BY $1 322 MILLION OR 29 PER CENT).

THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORT TRADE ROSE BY 39 PER CENT IN 1981, CONTINUING TWO YEARS OF VERY STRONG GROWTH. RE-EXPORTS OF CHINA ORIGIN INCREASED BY $4 440 MILLION OR 53 PER CENT, WITH THE LARGEST INCREASE REGISTERED IN CLOTHING (BY $544 MILLION OR 42 PER CENT). RE-EXPORTS OF JAPAN ORIGIN ALSO GREW SUBSTANTIALLY (BY $2 510 MILLION OR 43 PER CENT), ESPECIALLY FOR ROAD VEHICLES (BY $1 042 MILLION OR 100 PER CENT).

CHINA WAS ALSO THE LARGEST COUNTRY SUPPLYING GOODS FOR SUBSEQUENT RE-EXPORT. RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA INCREASED BY $3 402 MILLION OR 73 PER CENT AND RE-EXPORTS TO THE U.S. BY $1 700 MILLION OR 55 PER CENT. THE U.S. WAS THE LARGEST MARKET FOR RE-EXPORTS OF CHINA ORIGIN, ACCOUNTING FOR 22 PER CENT OF ALL RE-EXPORTS OF CHINA ORIGIN THROUGH HONG KONG.

THE COMMODITY WITH SUBSTANTIAL GROWTH WAS CLOTHING (BY $1 124 MILLION OR 67 PER CENT). ABOUT ONE THIRD OF THE RE-EXPORTS OF JAPAN ORIGIN WENT TO INDONESIA, WITH THE HIGHEST GROWTH REGISTERED IN ROAD VEHICLES (BY $946 MILLION OR 148 PER CENT).

/THE VALUE .....

THE VALUE OF AIRBORNE TRADE IN 1981, REPRESENTING 22 PER CENT OF TOTAL MERCHANDISE TRADE, INCREASED BY $10 824 MILLION OR 23 PER CENT OVER 1980. IN TERMS OF TONNAGE, AIRBORNE TRADE CONSTITUTED LESS THAN ONE PER CENT OF TOTAL TRADE. AIRBORNE IMPORTS FROM JAPAN ROSE BY $1 351 MILLION OR 29 PER CENT, AND AIRBORNE EXPORTS TO THE U.S. BY $2 956 MILLION OR 44 PER CENT.

ANALYSED BY COMMODITY, IMPORTS OF WATCHES AND CLOCKS SHIPPED BY AIR EXPERIENCED THE HIGHEST GROWTH (BY $1 360 MILLION OR 25 PER CENT), WHILST IN THE CASE OF EXPORTS BY AIR CLOTHING RECORDED THE HIGHEST GROWTH (BY $1 898 MILLION OR 38 PER CENT).

THE REVIEW ALSO PUBLISHES UNIT VALUE AND QUANTUM INDEXES WHICH ARE OFTEN USED TO ASSESS THE MOVEMENTS IN COMMODITY PRICES AND CHANGES IN TRADE VOLUME. DURING 1981, THE TRADE VOLUME FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS INCREASED BY EIGHT PER CENT OVER 1980, THAT FOR IMPORTS BY 11 PER CENT, AND THAT FOR RE-EXPORTS BY 28 PER CENT. SUBSTANTIAL GROWTH WAS RECORDED IN THE EXPORT VOLUME OF WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY 26 PER CENT), IMPORT VOLUME OF CONSUMER GOODS (BY 19 PER CENT) AND RE-EXPORT VOLUME OF FOODSTUFFS (BY 39 PER CENT).

HONG KONG WAS THE LARGEST EXPORTER OF CLOTHING, TOYS AND DOLLS, AS WELL AS ARTIFICIAL FLOWERS IN THE WORLD IN 1980. HONG KONG WAS ALSO THE SECOND LARGEST EXPORTER OF WATCHES AFTER SWITZERLAND, AND OF RADIO-BROADCAST RECEIVERS AFTER JAPAN.

THIS REVIEW, AT $56 PER COPY, IS AVAILABLE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE.

----0----

REVISION OF STANDING COMMISSION'S TERMS OF REFERENCE

*****

THE GOVERNMENT HAS AGREED TO REVISE THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE STANDING COMMISSION ON CIVIL SERVICE SALARIES AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE TO ENABLE THE COMMISSION TO ADVISE ON CONDITIONS OF SERVICE.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT UNDER ITS ORIGINAL TERMS OF REFERENCE, APPROVED IN 1979, THE COMMISSION CANNOT ADVISE ON CONDITIONS OF SERVICE UNLESS THESE ARE SPECIFICALLY REFERRED TO THE COMMISSION BY THE GOVERNOR, OR THE SENIOR CIVIL SERVICE COUNCIL, OR THE STAFF SIDE OF THE SENIOR CIVIL SERVICE COUNCIL ACTING ALONE.

AS A RESULT OF THE REVISIONS NOW AGREED, THE COMMISSION WILL BE ABLE TO TAKE THE INITIATIVE TO REVIEW CIVIL SERVICE BENEFITS, AND ADVISE ON THE INTRODUCTION OF NEW BENEFITS AND CHANGES TO EXISTING BENEFITS.

----0----

/3 .....

FINANCIAL SECRETARY VISITS FACTORIES

XXX

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR JOHN BREMRIDGE, TODAY (TUESDAY) CONTINUED HIS REGULAR PROGRAMME OF FACTORY VISITS BY TOURING A WATCH MANUFACTURER AND AN ALUMINIUM FACTORY IN KWUN TONG.

MR BREMRIDGE, ACCOMPANIED BY THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR ALEX PURVES, AND ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR HUGH BOYLE, ARRIVED AT SUNCITI MANUFACTURERS LTD IN HUNG TO ROAD, WHERE HE WAS MET BY THE DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER, MR K. NUMATA.

ESTABLISHED IN 1970 WITH JAPANESE INTEREST, THE COMPANY PRODUCES ELECTRONIC AND MECHANICAL WATCHES, AND WATCH ASSESSORIES WITH IMPORTED COMPONENTS AND MOVEMENTS. THE PRODUCTS ARE FOR EXPORT TO THE MIDDLE EAST, SOUTH EAST ASIA, EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA.

MR BREMRIDGE ALSO VISITED MEYER MANUFACTURING CO LTD IN KWUN TONG ROAD, AND WAS CONDUCTED ON A TOUR OF THE FACTORY BY THE MANAGING DIRECTOR, MR CHENG WING GEE AND THE GENERAL MANAGER, MR STANLEY CHENG.

SET UP IN 1951, THE LOCALLY-OWNED LIMITED COMPANY PRODUCES NON-STICK COATED ALUMINIUM COOKWARE, ELECTRIC COOKWARE, ASHTRAYS, FLASHLIGHTS AND STEEL HINGES FOR MARKETS IN THE UNITED STATES, UNITED KINGDOM, FAR EAST, SOUTH AMERICA AND BELGIUM. IT IMPORTS ITS RAW MATERIALS SUCH AS TEFLON COATINGS, ALUMINIUM AND ALLOY INGOTS, WHILST ALUMINIUM SHEETS, PLATES AND CIRCLES ARE SUPPLIED MAINLY BY ITS ASSOCIATED COMPANY, MEYER ALUMINIUM LTD.

MEYER ALUMINIUM LTD WAS GRANTED A SITE OF 12 000 SQUARE METRES TO ESTABLISH AN ALUMINIUM PLANT IN TAI PO INDUSTRIAL ESTATE. THE PLANT, WITH A TOTAL INVESTMENT AMOUNTING TO $80 MILLION, IS EXPECTED TO START PRODUCTION IN JULY 1983.

----0----

WATER FIGURES

* * *

STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (TUESDAY) STOOD AT 70.7 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 408.464 MILLION CUBIC METRES, EQUIVALENT TO 257 DAYS' CONSUMPTION.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 259.663 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 45 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

----0----

ROAD CLOSURE IN MOUNT DAVIS

* * *

THE ACCESS ROAD TO MOUNT DAVIS AT ITS JUNCTION WITH VICTORIA ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO ALL TRAFFIC FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (AUGUST 13).

----0----

/4 .....

TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE IN TSIM SHA TSUI AND LOK FU

* * *

A NUMBER OF ROAD SECTIONS IN TSIM SHA TSUI WILL BE TEMPORARILY CLOSED TO TRAFFIC BETWEEN 1 AM AND 6 AM ON FRIDAY (AUGUST 13) FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF FOOTBRIDGES.

THE SECTIONS INCLUDE:

* SALISBURY ROAD BETWEEN MODY LANE AND CHATHAM ROAD SOUTH;

* MODY ROAD BETWEEN A POINT ABOUT 50 METRES WEST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH MODY LANE AND OUTSIDE SHANGRILA HOTEL; AND

* THE SLIP ROAD LEADING FROM CHATHAM ROAD SOUTH INTO SALISBURY ROAD EASTBOUND.

DURING THE CLOSURE, EASTBOUND TRAFFIC ON SALISBURY ROAD HEADING FOR THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL AND HUNG HOM AREAS WILL BE DIVERTED VIA CHATHAM ROAD SOUTH, WHILE THOSE HEADING FOR TSIM SHA TSUI EAST WILL BE DIVERTED VIA CHATHAM ROAD SOUTH, CAMERON ROAD, CARNARVON ROAD AND GRANVILLE ROAD.

TRAFFIC ON SALISBURY ROAD WESTBOUND HEADING FOR TSIM SHA TSUI SOUTH OR CHATHAM ROAD SOUTH WILL BE DIVERTED VIA MODY LANE, MODY ROAD, SCIENCE MUSEUM ROAD, GRANVILLE ROAD AND CHATHAM ROAD SOUTH.

TRAFFIC ON MODY LANE SOUTHBOUND HEADING FOR TSIM SHA TSUI SOUTH WILL BE DIVERTED VIA SALISBURY ROAD EASTBOUND, SCIENCE MUSEUM ROAD, GRANVILLE ROAD AND CHATHAM ROAD SOUTH.

ACCESS TO WING ON PLAZA, MIRROR TOWER AND SHANGRILA HOTEL WILL BE MAINTAINED VIA MODY ROAD EASTBOUND, AND THAT TO ROYAL GARDEN HOTEL AND THE METERED PUBLIC CAR PARK OUTSIDE THE HOTEL WILL BE VIA MODY ROAD WESTBOUND.

MOTORISTS ON CHATHAM ROAD SOUTH HEADING FOR THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL AREA ARE ADVISED TO USE GRANVILLE ROAD, SCIENCE MUSEUM ROAD AND HONG CHONG ROAD.

MEANWHILE IN LOK FU, WANG TAU HOM EAST ROAD BETWEEN JUNCTION ROAD AND FU MEI STREET EAST WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 1 AM TO 5 AM ON WEDNESDAY (AUGUST 11) FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FOOTBRIDGE.

- - - - 0 - - - -

RIGHT TURN BAN IN SHEUNG SHUI

* * * *

VEHICLES TRAVELLING ALONG FU HING STREET IN SHEUNG SHUI WILL BE BANNED FROM TURNING RIGHT INTO JOCKEY CLUB ROAD FROM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

- - - - 0 - - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

PARKING POLICY PRESS CONFERENCE
* * *

A PRESS CONFERENCE ON THE GOVERNMENT'S PARKING POLICY AND ITS FUTURE PLANS FOR THE PROVISION OF CAR PARKS WILL BE HELD TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AT 11.30 AM.

IT WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE GIS THEATRE, 5TH FLOOR, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

THE PRESS CONFERENCE WILL BE GIVEN BY PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, MR MICHAEL CLANCY, CHIEF ESTATE SURVEYOR, MR JOHN DILLEY AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, MR STEPHEN LAM.

A LIST OF THE PROPOSED CAR PARKS IN THE GOVERNMENT'S SALES AND BUILDING PROGRAMME, IN ADDITION TO A PRESS RELEASE, WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE.

- - - - 0 - - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS :

SAFETY AT WORK TV PROGRAMME
* * *

A PRESS CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD IN THE FACTORY INSPECTORATE DIVISION OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT ON THE THIRD FLOOR OF THE CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, KOWLOON AT 3 PM ON THURSDAY (AUGUST 12) TO ANNOUNCE DETAILS OF THE SECOND +SAFETY AT WORK+ TELEMATCH/QUIZ TV PROGRAMME.

THE HALF-MILLION DOLLAR PRODUCTION, JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, RTHK AND THE FEDERATION OF HONG KONG INDUSTRIES AND CO-SPONSORED BY SHUI ON CONSTRUCTION CO. LTD., IS DESIGNED FOR WORKERS OF BOTH THE MANUFACTURING AND CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRIES TO INCREASE THEIR AWARENESS OF INDUSTRIAL SAFETY.

SPEAKING AT THE CONFERENCE WILL BE MR YIU YAN-NANG, ACTING ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR WILLY NGAI, SENIOR PRODUCER OF RTHK, MR STANISLAUS TSAO, CHAIRMAN OF THE FEDERATION'S INDUSTRIAL SAFETY CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE, AND MR VINCENT LO HONG-SUI, CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF SHUI ON GROUP.

MEMBERS OF THE WINNING TEAM IN THE COMPETITION WILL BE FLOWN TO BRITAIN FOR AN EIGHT-DAY, ALL EXPENSES PAID HOLIDAY.

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE PRESS CONFERENCE.

- - - - 0 - - - -