



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1975

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OCTOBER EXPORTS UP BY 25 PER CENT

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THE VALUE OF HONG KONG'S DOMESTIC TRADE IN OCTOBER CONTINUED TO SHOW AN INCREASE FOR THE SECOND CONSECUTIVE MONTH AFTER 11 MONTHS OF DECLINE.

PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES ISSUED TODAY BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT SHOW THAT DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN OCTOBER WENT UP BY \$416 MILLION OR 25.6 PER CENT BY VALUE COMPARED WITH OCTOBER 1974. TOTAL EXPORTS FOR THE MONTH WERE VALUED AT \$2,041 MILLION.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE VALUE OF IMPORTS INCREASED BY 31.4 PER CENT TO \$3,225 MILLION WHILE RE-EXPORTS WENT UP IN VALUE BY 21.4 PER CENT TO \$632 MILLION COMPARED WITH OCTOBER LAST YEAR.

FIGURES FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY - OCTOBER SHOWED DECREASES BY VALUE OF 5.5 PER CENT FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS, 7.1 PER CENT FOR IMPORTS AND 5.6 PER CENT FOR RE-EXPORTS COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

THE VALUE FIGURES FOR THE 12-MONTH PERIOD FROM NOVEMBER 1974 TO OCTOBER 1975 SHOWED DECREASES OF 6.1 PER CENT FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS, 8.7 PER CENT FOR IMPORTS AND 7.2 PER CENT FOR RE-EXPORTS COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS 12-MONTH PERIOD.

THE FOLLOWING TABLE GIVES THE COMPARATIVE FIGURES:

	OCTOBER 1975	OCTOBER 1974	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	2,041 (76.3%)	1,624 (75.7%)	+ 416	+ 25.6
IMPORTS	3,225	2,453	+ 772	+ 31.4
RE-EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	632 (23.7%)	521 (24.3%)	+ 112	+ 21.4
	AUG.-OCT. 1975	AUG.-OCT. 1974	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	6,448	5,797	+ 651	+ 11.2
IMPORTS	9,233	8,098	+1,135	+ 14.0
RE-EXPORTS	1,870	1,742	+ 128	+ 7.3

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	JAN.-OCT. 1975	JAN.-OCT. 1974	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	18,313 (76.3%)	19,369 (76.3%)	-1,056	- 5.5
IMPORTS	26,934	29,004	-2,070	- 7.1
RE-EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	5,691 (23.7%)	6,031 (23.7%)	- 340	- 5.6
	NOV. 1974 TO OCT. 1975	NOV. 1973 TO OCT. 1974	INCREASE OR DECREASE	
	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	21,856	23,263	-1,407	- 6.1
IMPORTS	32,050	35,109	-3,059	- 8.7
RE-EXPORTS	6,784	7,308	- 523	- 7.2

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UNOFFICIALS TO ASK QUESTIONS ON TEXTILE EXPORTS

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QUESTIONS RELATING TO HONG KONG'S TEXTILE EXPORTS ARE EXPECTED TO BE RAISED BY UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

THE HON. FRANCIS TIEN IS EXPECTED TO ASK THE GOVERNMENT TO MAKE A STATEMENT ON THE RECENT DECISION OF THE EEC'S COUNCIL OF MINISTERS TO CONTINUE TO EXCLUDE HONG KONG'S EXPORT OF TEXTILES TO THE COMMUNITY FROM ITS G.S.P. FOR 1976.

HE WILL ALSO ASK WHETHER THE GOVERNMENT WILL RECONSIDER THE DESIRABILITY OF INVITING SOME EEC OFFICIALS TO VISIT HONG KONG WITH A VIEW TO ACQUAINTING THEM WITH THE REAL STATE OF HONG KONG'S TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

THE HON. ALEX WU WILL ASK WHAT ACTION THE GOVERNMENT IS TAKING TO MODIFY THE QUOTA SYSTEM FOR TEXTILE EXPORTS SO AS TO PROVIDE ACCESS TO NON-QUOTA HOLDERS.

OTHER QUESTIONS TO BE RAISED BY THE UNOFFICIALS WILL INCLUDE THE POSSIBILITY OF APPOINTING A SECRETARY FOR YOUTH TO SUPERVISE ALL GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES AFFECTING YOUNG PEOPLE, MORAL TRAINING IN SCHOOLS, AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SEPARATE UNIT FOR THE SPEEDY AND EFFICIENT ANALYSIS OF FOOD OR BEVERAGES WHICH APPEAR TO CONTAIN POISONOUS INGREDIENTS.

DEBATE WILL RESUME ON A NUMBER OF BILLS, INCLUDING THE DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES BILL, WHICH SEEKS TO PROTECT THE INTERESTS OF DEPOSITORS BY REGULATING THE OPERATIONS OF +DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES+.

THE LANDLORD AND TENANT (CONSOLIDATION)(AMENDMENT)(NO. 4) BILL, WHICH WILL PERMIT INCREASES IN RENTS OF PRE-WAR PREMISES FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MORE THAN 20 YEARS, WILL ALSO COME UP FOR DEBATE.

THE HON. FRANCIS TIEN, WILL MOVE A MOTION SETTING A RATE OF LEVY OF 0.03 PER CENT ON THE F.O.B. VALUE OF THE CLOTHING ITEMS EXPORTED. THE LEVY IS TO FINANCE THE TRAINING SCHEME FOR HONG KONG'S CLOTHING INDUSTRY.

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SPEEDPOST SERVICE TO BELGIUM

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THE POST OFFICE IS TO EXTEND THE SPEEDPOST SERVICE TO BELGIUM ON JANUARY 1 NEXT YEAR FOLLOWING THE SUCCESSFUL INTRODUCTION OF THE SERVICE TO BRITAIN, THE UNITED STATES AND JAPAN.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE POST OFFICE SAID: +UNDER THIS FACILITY, INTERNATIONAL PACKAGES OF BUSINESS PAPERS, DOCUMENTS, COMPUTER DATA AND SAMPLES ARE GIVEN FAST AND RELIABLE DOOR-TO-DOOR COLLECTION AND DELIVERY SERVICE.+

+TIMES OF COLLECTION AND DELIVERY ARE SPECIFIED AND AGREED WITH THE CUSTOMER UTILISING PRE-DETERMINED FLIGHTS, AND SPECIAL FACILITIES ARE GIVEN BY THE BELGIAN POSTAL ADMINISTRATION IN DELIVERING THE PACKAGES,+ HE ADDED.

HE EXPLAINED THAT PACKAGES COLLECTED IN HONG KONG WHEN NORMAL COMMERCIAL BUSINESS WAS COMPLETED FOR THE DAY WOULD BE DESPATCHED ON A FLIGHT LEAVING KAI TAK IN THE SAME EVENING AND ARRIVE IN BRUSSELS IN THE EVENING OF THE FOLLOWING DAY, FOR SUBSEQUENT SPECIAL DELIVERY IN BELGIUM.

THE COST OF THE SERVICE, ARRANGED ON A CONTRACT BASIS, WILL BE \$100 FOR THE FIRST POUND, PLUS \$15 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL POUND OR PART OF A POUND.

FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE SPEEDPOST SERVICE MAY BE OBTAINED BY TELEPHONING 5-245992.

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HELP FOR SCHOOL DROPOUTS

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SOME 150 SCHOOL DROPOUTS BETWEEN 12 AND 13 ARE BEING HELPED TO JOIN SUITABLE COURSES IN EVENING, PRE-VOCATIONAL TRAINING AND TECHNICAL SCHOOLS. THOSE APPROACHING 14 ARE BEING HELPED TO FILL APPRENTICESHIP VACANCIES.

THESE CHILDREN WERE LOCATED BY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEES OF FOUR CITY DISTRICTS : HONG KONG EAST, KWUN TONG, WONG TAI SIN AND SHAM SHUI PO.

CITY DISTRICT OFFICERS, DISTRICT RECREATION AND SPORTS OFFICERS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EDUCATION, HOUSING AND LABOUR DEPARTMENTS, ARE REPRESENTED ON THESE COMMITTEES.

ORIGINALLY, A TOTAL OF 250 CHILDREN WERE LOCATED IN WONG TAI SIN, CHAI WAN, SAU MAU PING AND IN THE UN CHAU STREET ESTATE THIS YEAR.

ABOUT 100 OF THE CHILDREN HAVE NOW EITHER RE-ENROLLED IN SCHOOLS OR TAKEN UP JOBS ON BECOMING 14.

FOR THOSE WHO STILL REQUIRE HELP, A THREE-DAY CAMP, ORGANISED JOINTLY BY THE HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT AND THE FRIENDS OF SCOUTING, WAS HELD LAST MONTH.

THE CAMP PROVIDED RECREATION AS WELL AS COUNSELLING SERVICES FOR THE YOUNGSTERS. SOCIAL WORKERS WERE INVITED TO THE CAMP TO ACT AS COUNSELLORS TO FIND OUT THE NEEDS AND PROBLEMS OF THE CHILDREN.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC IN THE FOUR CITY DISTRICTS WHO HAVE CHILDREN OR KNOW OF NEIGHBOURS WITHIN THE 12-13 AGE BRACKET WHO ARE NOT IN SCHOOL OR AT WORK ARE WELCOME TO CONTACT THEIR CITY DISTRICT OFFICERS.

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AWARD FOR SUGGESTING IMPROVEMENT
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AN ASSISTANT SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER IN THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, MISS LUK YIU-CHEUNG, WAS PRESENTED WITH AN AWARD OF \$500 TODAY (TUESDAY) FOR SUGGESTING AN IMPROVEMENT IN THE PAYMENT SYSTEM OF THE DEPARTMENT'S DISABILITY AND INFIRMITY ALLOWANCES SCHEME WHICH WOULD MEAN THE GOVERNMENT SAVING HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS IN TIME AND MONEY.

THE PRESENTATION WAS MADE BY THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. MORRIS MORGAN, AT A CEREMONY HELD IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE DEPARTMENT'S HEADQUARTERS.

MR. MORGAN SAID HER SUGGESTION THAT PAYMENT BE MADE THROUGH BANKS RATHER THAN CASH ORDER BOOKS MEANT THERE WOULD BE SUBSTANTIAL SAVINGS IN TERMS OF PRINTING COSTS, STAFF TIME AND SPACE AND THOSE RECEIVING THE ALLOWANCES WOULD ALSO FIND IT MORE CONVENIENT AS THEY DID NOT HAVE TO LINE UP AT POST OFFICES OR TRAVEL LONG DISTANCES.

HE NOTED THAT ALREADY MORE THAN 23,000 PEOPLE WERE GETTING THEIR MONEY THROUGH THE BANKS PAYMENT SYSTEM WHICH STARTED IN JULY THIS YEAR.

HE SAID THE AWARD WAS BEING MADE NOT ONLY AS AN INCENTIVE TO OTHER STAFF IN THE DEPARTMENT BUT ALSO TO THOSE IN OTHER DEPARTMENTS AS WELL AND DEMONSTRATED THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS ALWAYS WILLING TO ACCEPT NEW IDEAS FOR IMPROVEMENT.

THE AWARD WAS APPROVED BY THE GOVERNMENT'S STAFF SUGGESTIONS COMMITTEE AND WAS ONE OF THE LARGEST EVER MADE.

MISS LUK, WHO HAS BEEN WITH THE DEPARTMENT FOR JUST OVER FOUR YEARS, IS DEPUTY SUPERVISOR OF A SOCIAL SECURITY FIELD UNIT WHICH DEALS WITH PAYMENTS OF THE DIA ALLOWANCE AND PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.

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REGISTRATION TEAMS TO VISIT PENG CHAU AND MUI WO
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A MOBILE REGISTRATION TEAM FROM THE REGISTRATION OF PERSONS DEPARTMENT WILL VISIT RESIDENTS OF PENG CHAU AND MUI WO AND THOSE FROM ADJACENT AREAS EARLY NEXT MONTH.

REGISTRATIONS AT PENG CHAU WILL BE CONDUCTED AT THE PENG CHAU RURAL COMMITTEE OFFICE FROM DECEMBER 8 TO DECEMBER 10, BETWEEN 9.30 A.M. AND 3.45 P.M. EACH DAY.

AT MUI WO, THE VISITS WILL BE ON DECEMBER 11 AND 12 AND THE BUSINESS HOURS ARE FROM 10.30 A.M. TO 4 P.M. ON THE FIRST DAY AND FROM 10 A.M. TO 4 P.M. ON THE SECOND.

DURING THESE VISITS, PARENTS OR GUARDIANS WILL BE ABLE TO REGISTER THEIR CHILDREN WHO HAVE REACHED THE AGE OF 11 FOR JUVENILE IDENTITY CARDS.

YOUNG PEOPLE WHO HAVE REACHED 18 AND WHO ARE HOLDING JUVENILE IDENTITY CARDS CAN REGISTER FOR ADULT IDENTITY CARDS.

PEOPLE LIVING IN THE TWO AREAS ARE REMINDED OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TO REGISTER THEMSELVES AND THEIR CHILDREN FOR IDENTITY CARDS.

THEY MUST ALSO REPORT TO THE REGISTRATION OF PERSONS DEPARTMENT ANY CHANGE OF EMPLOYMENT OR RESIDENTIAL ADDRESSES, MARITAL STATUS, OR ANY OTHER PARTICULARS WHICH HAVE OCCURRED SINCE REGISTERING FOR THEIR IDENTITY CARDS.

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WATER CUT IN YUEN LONG

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A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN YUEN LONG, NEW TERRITORIES, WILL BE WITHOUT WATER FROM 1 A.M. TO 6 A.M. ON THURSDAY (DECEMBER 4) TO ALLOW A LEAKAGE TEST TO BE CARRIED OUT.

THE AREA AFFECTED IS BOUNDED BY CASTLE PEAK ROAD AND TAN KWAI ROAD, INCLUDING HUNG UK TSUEN, TAN KWAI TSUEN, SHEK PO TSUEN, LEI UK TSUEN, SAI SHAN TSUEN, SAN UK TSUEN, LO UK TSUEN, SIK KONG TSUEN, SIK KONG WAI AND TSEUNG KONG WAI.

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