Domestic wholesale trade down 3.8% in Q4 last year

Drop attributed to lower sales of petroleum; foreign trade up 2.5%

By NISHA RAMCHANDANI

DOMESTIC wholesale trade slid 3.8 per cent year-on-year in 4Q12, partly due to lower sales of petroleum & petroleum products, while foreign wholesale trade increased 2.5 per cent from the corresponding quarter in 2011, according to the Department of Statistics.

The domestic wholesale trade index measures wholesale sales in Singapore, while the foreign wholesale trade index records wholesale sales outside Singapore, such as domestic exports, re-exports, transhipment cargoes and offshore re-exports.

Taking inflation into account, the domestic wholesale trade index was up 1.2 per cent higher year-on-year in 4Q12, while the foreign wholesale trade index jumped by 8.6 per cent from 4Q11.

Quarter-on-quarter, domestic wholesale trade dipped by just 1.7 per cent, while sales of petroleum & petroleum products dropped 6.3 per cent from 3Q11 at current prices but was one per cent lower at constant prices.

Taking inflation into account, the domestic wholesale trade index was up 1.3 per cent against 3Q11, while the foreign wholesale trade index was up 8.4 per cent quarter-on-quarter.

Foreign wholesale trade increased 3.4 per cent year-on-year in 4Q12 and 1.1 per cent quarter-on-quarter while that of household equipment & furniture was down 7.9 per cent.

There are some indications that the electronic slump may be coming to an end, as shown by a strong surge in the foreign wholesale trade index in 4Q12, although the recovery had a weaker showing, as evidenced by falling domestic sales of food, beverages & tobacco, noted Tan Khay Boon, senior lecturer at SIM Global Education.

Foreign wholesale trade of timber, paints & construction materials was up 12.9 per cent year-on-year and 16.5 per cent quarter-on-quarter while that of household equipment & furniture was up 4 per cent year-on-year and 3.5 per cent quarter-on-quarter.

Domestic wholesale trade for the same category rose 3 per cent year-on-year and 2.3 per cent quarter-on-quarter.

There are some indications that the electronic slump may be coming to an end, as shown by a strong surge in the foreign wholesale trade index in 4Q12, although the recovery had a weaker showing, as evidenced by falling domestic sales of food, beverages & tobacco, noted Tan Khay Boon, senior lecturer at SIM Global Education.

Foreign wholesale trade of timber, paints & construction materials was up 12.9 per cent year-on-year and 16.5 per cent quarter-on-quarter while that of household equipment & furniture was down 7.9 per cent.

There are some indications that the electronic slump may be coming to an end, as shown by a strong surge in the foreign wholesale trade index in 4Q12, although the recovery had a weaker showing, as evidenced by falling domestic sales of food, beverages & tobacco, noted Tan Khay Boon, senior lecturer at SIM Global Education.

Foreign wholesale trade of timber, paints & construction materials was up 12.9 per cent year-on-year and 16.5 per cent quarter-on-quarter while that of household equipment & furniture was down 7.9 per cent.

There are some indications that the electronic slump may be coming to an end, as shown by a strong surge in the foreign wholesale trade index in 4Q12, although the recovery had a weaker showing, as evidenced by falling domestic sales of food, beverages & tobacco, noted Tan Khay Boon, senior lecturer at SIM Global Education.

Foreign wholesale trade of timber, paints & construction materials was up 12.9 per cent year-on-year and 16.5 per cent quarter-on-quarter while that of household equipment & furniture was down 7.9 per cent.

There are some indications that the electronic slump may be coming to an end, as shown by a strong surge in the foreign wholesale trade index in 4Q12, although the recovery had a weaker showing, as evidenced by falling domestic sales of food, beverages & tobacco, noted Tan Khay Boon, senior lecturer at SIM Global Education.

Foreign wholesale trade of timber, paints & construction materials was up 12.9 per cent year-on-year and 16.5 per cent quarter-on-quarter while that of household equipment & furniture was down 7.9 per cent.

There are some indications that the electronic slump may be coming to an end, as shown by a strong surge in the foreign wholesale trade index in 4Q12, although the recovery had a weaker showing, as evidenced by falling domestic sales of food, beverages & tobacco, noted Tan Khay Boon, senior lecturer at SIM Global Education.

Foreign wholesale trade of timber, paints & construction materials was up 12.9 per cent year-on-year and 16.5 per cent quarter-on-quarter while that of household equipment & furniture was down 7.9 per cent.

There are some indications that the electronic slump may be coming to an end, as shown by a strong surge in the foreign wholesale trade index in 4Q12, although the recovery had a weaker showing, as evidenced by falling domestic sales of food, beverages & tobacco, noted Tan Khay Boon, senior lecturer at SIM Global Education.

Foreign wholesale trade of timber, paints & construction materials was up 12.9 per cent year-on-year and 16.5 per cent quarter-on-quarter while that of household equipment & furniture was down 7.9 per cent.