



MAURITIUS

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1. External Trade - Fourth Quarter 1986
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MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT  
PORT LOUIS  
MAURITIUS

External Trade - Fourth Quarter 1986

NOTES

Figures for 1986 are provisional and subject to revision

1. COVERAGE

EXPORTS

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| Cover   | 1. Domestic exports (including exports from the Export Processing Zone) |
|         | 2. Re-Exports   |
|         | 3. Export ex Warehouse  |
|         | 4. Returned goods   |
| Include | 1. Government, Parcel Post and Air Freight                              |
| Exclude | 1. Trade with Outer Islands   |
|         | 2. Ships' stores and bunkers  |

IMPORTS

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| Cover   | 1. Landed merchandise sent to warehouse for subsequent delivery    |
|         | 2. Landed merchandise issued for home consumption                  |
| Include | 1. Government, Parcel Post and Air Freight                         |
|         | 2. Donations from other Government and International Organisations |
| Exclude | 1. Trade with Outer Islands  |
|         | 2. Bullion and specie  |

2. VALUATION

Exports are valued F.O.B. and imports C.I.F.

F.O.B. Free on Board

C.I.F. Cost, Insurance and Freight

All figures quoted are in Mauritian Rupees

### 3. COMMODITY CLASSIFICATION

The classification used for the compilation of trade statistics is based on the Standard International Trade Classification (Revised II) or S.I.T.C. (Rev. II). However, imports and export bills of entry are being worked upon according to the Customs Co-operation Council Nomenclature (C.C.C.N.).

### 4. ROUNDING OF FIGURES

Figures have been rounded off to the nearest final digit and in some cases to the nearest one decimal place and as a result in some tables there may be discrepancies between the sum of the constituent items and to the total as shown.

### 5. SYMBOLS

- Nil or negligible

... Not available

-. Not applicable

### 6. ABBREVIATIONS

Rs : Rupees

000 : Thousand

Mn : Million

m.ton : Metric ton : 1,000 kilos

No. : Number

M<sup>2</sup> : Square metres

## External Trade - Fourth Quarter of 1986

### 1. Total Trade

The value of total trade during the fourth quarter of 1986 showed a 5% increase over the previous quarter; in volume terms this represents only a 1% growth. However, compared with the corresponding period in 1985, the real growth works out to about 32%.

The volume of international trade of the country grew by about 34% during the year 1986 over 1985 with relatively high levels of both exports and imports amounting nominally to Rs 9,401 million and Rs 9,090 million respectively. In fact, the total trade value attained Rs 18,491 million in 1986 - a 22% rise in value terms over 1985.

### 2. Balance of Trade

The country registered a surplus of Rs 193 million in its balance of trade during the fourth quarter of 1986, thereby witnessing in 1986 an overall surplus of about Rs 311 million for the first time since 1974.

It is to be noted that in 1986 there has been a shift from a deficit of more than one billion rupees in the previous year to a surplus of more than Rs 300 million.

### 3. Terms of Trade

During the fourth quarter of 1986, the terms of trade have progressed by 7 points from the previous quarter to reach 156. This was in keeping with the general upward trend of the terms of trade since the second quarter of 1985, when they stood at 107.

The terms of trade for the year 1986 have jumped to 146, improving by 33 points from the previous year. This was due to a slight increase of about 2% in the overall prices of exported goods and a significant decline of about 21% in the prices of imported commodities.

### 4. Exports

The volume of exports has contracted by about 9% during the fourth quarter of 1986 with respect to the previous one. In nominal terms the value of exports decreased marginally from Rs 2,843 million to Rs 2,775 million. However, compared with the fourth quarter of 1985, a volume growth of about 19% is noted.

(ii)

For the year 1986, the country has performed remarkably well in terms of exports. In fact, earnings from export proceeds have attained Rs 9,401 million as compared with Rs 7,018 million during the previous year - an increase of nearly 34% in value and about 31% in volume. Exports since 1983 have grown at an annual rate of about 27% at current prices and about 16% at constant prices.

In 1986, 625 thousand metric tons of sugar were shipped for an export value of Rs 3,545 million (40% of total domestic exports) as against 540 thousand metric tons for Rs 2,867 million (44% of total domestic exports) during 1985. The increase in earnings is accounted for by higher volume (+ 16%) and prices (+ 7%).

The performance of the EPZ sector has been impressive during 1986 with a gross exports of Rs 4,960 million as against Rs 3,272 million in 1985. Clothing and textiles remained the bulk of EPZ exports with a share of 83%.

Exports of tea have declined to Rs 104 million in 1986 from Rs 178 million in 1985. This was due to a reduction in both volume (- 7%) and prices (- 37%). In fact, the export price of tea declined to Rs 16.06 per kg in 1986 from Rs 25.48 per kg the previous year.

During the year 1986, just over three quarters of the country's exports went to the E.E.C. Countries (Rs 7,006 Mn). The United Kingdom and France absorbed 38% and 23% respectively. Exports to the United States of America have attained Rs 1,455 million as against Rs 999 million in 1985.

## 5. Imports

Imports during the fourth quarter of 1986 registered an increase of nearly 14% in value over the previous quarter, i.e. rising from Rs 2,267 million to Rs 2,582 million. The level of import prices having only slightly increased over that of the previous quarter, the real growth in imports has been about 11%.

In 1986, the level of imports attained Rs 9,090 million, increasing by about 12% over that of 1985. When the effects of prices are removed, imports are seen to have expanded by about 42% in real terms over 1985. As in the case of exports, imports, too, have shown a persistent upward trend. Since 1983, imports have grown at an annual rate of about 21% at current prices and about 22% at constant prices.

A significant increase was recorded in the imports of raw materials and machinery by the EPZ sector (+ Rs 1,313 Mn). On the other hand, a considerable reduction was noted in the value of imports of petroleum products (- Rs 448 Mn), while less important decreases were obtained in the imports of vegetable oils and fats, rice and wheaten flour. These substantial reductions were mainly the result of lower prices of these commodities on the world market. A summary of these changes follows:-

(iii)

	<u>Rs Mn</u>		
	<u>1985</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>Change</u>
Textile fibres, yarn and fabrics	1,737	2,593	+ 856
Machinery	914	1,259	+ 345
Refined petroleum products	1,096	648	- 448
Rice	280	163	- 117
Vegetable oils and fats	193	86	- 107
Wheaten flour	243	211	- 32

A major proportion (62%) of the import bill for 1986 covers the following three broad groups of commodities: food items (Rs 1,176 Mn), refined petroleum products (Rs 648 Mn) and EPZ raw materials and equipment (Rs 3,837 Mn).

EPZ imports went up in 1986 by over 50% from their level in 1985 to reach Rs 3,837 million. Of this, raw materials constituted 87% (Rs 3,346 Mn) while the rest was machinery and equipment. Out of the Rs 1,313 million increase in EPZ imports from 1985 to 1986, Rs 1,126 million are accounted for by higher imports of raw materials. This gives a good picture of the expansion of the level of EPZ activity in the economy. However, the percentage of EPZ imports to exports has remained at its 1985 level of 77%.

More than one third of the country's total imports for 1986 was supplied by the E.E.C. countries; as usual, the two main suppliers were France (14%) and the United Kingdom (8%). Others were the Gulf Countries (Rs 620 Mn), the Republic of South Africa (Rs 910 Mn) and Japan (Rs 636 Mn).

Central Statistical Office  
Rose Hill

April 1987

Table 1 - Balance of Visible Trade, 1985 - 1986

Value Rs Mn

	1985	1986	1985				1986			
			1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.
Exports of goods	6,644	9,052	1,400	1,299	1,840	2,104	1,883	1,731	2,739	2,700
Domestic exports	(6,533)	(8,931)	(1,378)	(1,277)	(1,808)	(2,070)	(1,853)	(1,704)	(2,717)	(2,659)
Re-exports	(111)	(121)	(22)	(23)	(32)	(34)	(30)	(27)	(42)	(41)
Ships' Stores and Bunkers	374	349	80	106	87	101	91	79	104	75
A. Total Exports (f.o.b.)	7,018	9,401	1,480	1,405	1,927	2,205	1,974	1,810	2,843	2,775
B. Total Imports (c.i.f.)	8,119	9,090	1,755	2,004	2,180	2,180	2,052	2,189	2,267	2,582
Total Value of Trade (A + B)	15,137	18,491	3,235	3,409	4,107	4,385	4,026	3,999	5,110	5,357
BALANCE OF VISIBLE TRADE (A - B)	- 1,101	+ 311	- 275	- 599	- 253	+ 25	- 78	- 379	+ 576	+ 193

Table 2 - Price (Unit Value) indices of total exports and imports and terms of trade, 1985 - 1986  
 (Base year 1982 = 100)

P e r i o d	Unit Value Price Indices		Terms of Trade
	Total exports	Total imports	
1st quarter 1985	128.3	120.1	107
2nd quarter 1985	130.1	121.7	107
3rd quarter 1985	136.9	121.1	113
4th quarter 1985	139.7	114.1	122
<u>Year 1985</u>	<u>136.4</u>	<u>120.8</u>	<u>113</u>
1st quarter 1986	136.1	103.2	132
2nd quarter 1986	138.3	99.6	139
3rd quarter 1986	137.2	92.0	<b>149</b>
4th quarter 1986	147.8	<b>94.7</b>	156
<u>Year 1986</u>	<u>139.6</u>	<u>95.3</u>	<u>146</u>



Table 3 - Domestic exports of main commodities - value, 1985 - 1986

F.O.B. Value Rs Mn

Commodity/Sector	1985	1986	1985				1986			
			1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.
Sugar	2,867	3,545	769	391	753	953	881	380	1,180	1,103
Molasses	89	83	9	-	37	43	3	-	36	44
Tea	178	104	76	56	18	29	44	26	8	26
EPZ	3,272	4,960	505	794	973	1,001	870	1,238	1,434	1,418
Other	127	239	19	36	27	44	55	60	59	68
Total Exports	6,533	8,931	1,378	1,277	1,808	2,070	1,853	1,704	2,717	2,659

Table 4 - Domestic exports of selected commodities, quantity, 1985 - 1986

Commodity	Unit	1985	1986	1985				1986			
				1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.
Sugar	(000)m. ton	540	625	154	75	140	170	165	67	217	176
Molasses	"	151	129	16	-	64	71	5	-	56	68
Tea	m. ton	6,985	6,477	1,978	2,328	1,040	1,638	2,538	1,662	710	1,566

Table 5 - Domestic exports of main commodities, quantity and value, 1985 - 1986

F.O.B. Value Rs Mn

Commodity	Unit	1985		1986	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Sugar	(000) m. ton	540	2,867	625	3,545
Molasses	"	151	89	129	83
Tea	m. ton	6,985	178	6,477	104
EPZ	--	--	3,272	--	4,960

Table 6 - Total exports by main countries of destination, 1985 - 1986

F.O.B. value Rs Mn

Country of destination	1985	1986	1985				1986			
			1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.
<u>1. Preferential Tariff Countries</u>	6,560	8,884	1,377	1,284	1,817	2,083	1,866	1,709	2,668	2,643
(a) <u>E.E.C. Countries</u>	5,276	7,006	1,077	993	1,518	1,688	1,424	1,250	2,167	2,167
of which United Kingdom	(2,899)	(3,415)	(654)	(451)	(913)	(881)	(625)	(468)	(1,228)	(1,095)
France	(1,379)	(2,108)	(300)	(331)	(280)	(469)	(527)	(457)	(487)	(636)
Fed. Republic of Germany	(418)	(661)	(43)	(63)	(154)	(158)	(124)	(131)	(228)	(179)
(b) <u>Other Preferential Tariff Countries</u>	1,284	1,878	300	291	298	394	441	459	501	476
of which United States of America	(999)	(1,455)	(233)	(223)	(235)	(308)	(332)	(350)	(386)	(385)
<u>2. General Tariff Countries</u>	83	167	22	15	24	21	17	22	71	57
Total Exports	6,644	9,052	1,400	1,299	1,840	2,104	1,883	1,731	2,739	2,700

Table 7 - Imports by Section. 1985 - 1986

S.I.F.C. Section	Description	1985	1986	1985				1986			
				C.I.F. Value Rs Ma				C.I.F. Value Rs Ma			
				1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.
0	Food and live animals	1,348	1,176	326	323	346	352	298	294	326	257
1	Beverages and tobacco	26	34	4	7	8	8	8	7	8	11
2	Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	395	366	84	113	104	94	101	105	84	77
3	Minerals fuels, lubricants and related materials	1,145	716	313	306	251	275	244	141	123	207
4	Animal and vegetable oils and fats	262	136	67	65	63	67	52	34	13	37
5	Chemicals	554	597	91	122	178	162	103	137	176	182
6	Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	2,646	3,798	538	656	732	720	785	922	965	1,125
7	Machinery and transport equipment	1,114	1,523	208	275	320	311	305	375	388	456
8	Miscellaneous manufactured articles	624	735	122	135	178	189	154	172	184	226
9	Other commodities and transactions	6	8	1	3	-	3	3	2	1	2
	Total Imports	8,119	9,090	1,755	2,004	2,180	2,180	2,052	2,189	2,267	2,582

Table 8 - Imports of main commodities, value, 1985 - 1986

C.I.F. Value Rs. Mn

Commodity	1985	1986	1985				1986			
			1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.
Rice	280	163	84	41	75	79	43	32	62	27
Wheaten flour	243	211	58	62	67	56	48	65	52	46
Dairy products	236	211	45	66	62	63	54	45	61	50
Textile fibres, etc.	287	255	61	86	74	66	77	79	49	51
Refined petroleum products	1,096	648	305	280	243	268	235	119	115	178
Fixed vegetable oils and fats	193	86	48	56	43	46	38	18	5	24
Textile yarn	592	786	126	190	151	124	174	210	204	196
Textile fabrics	858	1,552	163	184	235	275	327	345	404	476
Cement	182	161	51	30	68	32	38	56	25	42
Iron and steel	235	258	51	63	59	62	57	64	52	85
Manufactures of metal, n.e.s.	158	252	31	36	42	49	32	43	85	92
Machinery other than electrical	439	648	81	114	124	121	140	163	159	185
Electrical machinery, apparatus and appliances	257	329	46	63	68	80	68	74	82	107
Other	3,063	3,530	605	733	869	859	721	876	912	1,023
Total Imports	8,119	9,090	1,755	2,004	2,180	2,180	2,052	2,189	2,267	2,582

Table 9 - Imports of selected commodities, quantity, 1985 - 1986

Commodity	Unit	1985	1986	1985			1986				
				1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.
Rice	000 m. ton	82	65	23	11	23	26	13	13	26	13
Wheaten flour	"	60	62	15	16	15	15	13	18	17	14
Dairy products	"	11	11	2	3	3	3	3	2	3	3
Vegetable edible oils and fats	"	19	17	4	4	4	6	5	3	3	6
Fertilizers manufactured	"	54	48	11	10	15	18	-	10	13	24
Cotton fabrics	Mn M <sup>2</sup>	19	38	4	3	5	7	11	7	10	11
Cement	000 m. ton	221	255	60	39	79	43	58	86	40	70
Iron and steel	"	48	59	11	13	13	11	14	12	10	23

Table 10 - Imports of selected commodities, quantity and value, 1985 - 1986

C.I.F. Value Rs Mn

Commodity	Unit	1985		1986	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Rice	000 m. ton	83	280	65	163
Wheaten flour	"	60	243	62	211
Dairy products	"	11	236	11	211
Vegetable edible oils and fats	"	19	193	17	86
Fertilizers manufactured	"	54	96	48	74
Cotton fabrics	Mh. M <sup>2</sup>	19	339	38	605
Cement	000 m. ton	221	182	255	161
Iron and steel	"	48	235	59	253



Table 11 - Imports by main countries of origin, 1985 - 1986

C.I.F. Value Rs Mn

Country of origin	1985	1986				1985				1986			
		1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.
<u>1. Preferential Tariff Countries</u>	5,427	6,257	1,083	1,370	1,599	1,375	1,350	1,561	1,568	1,778			
(a) <u>E.E.C. Countries</u>	2,656	3,247	502	683	771	700	682	841	842	882			
of which United Kingdom	(642)	(686)	(122)	(180)	(178)	(163)	(157)	(170)	(185)	(174)			
France	(1,056)	(1,248)	(201)	(253)	(330)	(272)	(239)	(312)	(331)	(365)			
Fed. Republic of Germany	(370)	(531)	(65)	(113)	(85)	(107)	(124)	(124)	(154)	(129)			
Italy	(268)	(334)	(46)	(74)	(80)	(68)	(72)	(101)	(64)	(96)			
(b) <u>Other Preferential Tariff Countries</u>	2,771	3,010	581	687	828	675	668	720	727	896			
of which Australia	(353)	(258)	(137)	(65)	(67)	(83)	(64)	(57)	(75)	(62)			
Republic of South Africa	(693)	(910)	(129)	(199)	(199)	(166)	(198)	(225)	(206)	(281)			
U.S.A.	(224)	(163)	(43)	(58)	(94)	(29)	(35)	(51)	(29)	(47)			
<u>2. General Tariff Countries</u>	2,692	2,833	672	634	581	805	703	628	698	804			
of which Bahrain	(374)	(319)	(202)	(1)	(95)	(75)	(87)	(91)	(57)	(85)			
Kuwait	(591)	(284)	(-)	(269)	(137)	(185)	(142)	(13)	(48)	(82)			
China	(434)	(447)	(130)	(64)	(59)	(182)	(130)	(80)	(128)	(110)			
Japan	(481)	(636)	(97)	(120)	(112)	(151)	(127)	(159)	(155)	(194)			
Total imports	8,119	9,090	1,755	2,004	2,180	2,180	2,052	2,189	2,267	2,582			

Table 12 - Net EPZ exports, 1985 - 1986

Value Rs Mn

	1985	1985				1986			
		1985				1986			
		1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.
A. Total exports (f.o.b. value)	3,272	505	794	973	1,001	870	1,238	1,434	1,418
B. Total imports (c.i.f. value)	2,524	507	672	659	685	866	952	964	1,054
Net exports (A - B)	748	- 2	122	314	316	4	286	470	364
Net exports as % of total exports	23%	-	15%	32%	32%	-	23%	33%	26%

Table 13 - EPZ exports by main commodities, 1985 - 1986

F.O.B. value Rs Mn

Description of item	1985	1986				1985				1986			
		1986				1985				1986			
		1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.
Fish and fish preparations	115	97	22	31	38	24	24	22	27	24	24	24	
Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles	86	101	16	32	18	20	24	32	22	25	25	25	
Pearls, precious and semi-precious stones	127	174	18	32	34	42	38	43	46	47	47	47	
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories	2,532	4,015	367	600	787	776	675	991	1,195	1,154	1,154	1,154	
Optical goods, n.e.s.	82	91	20	17	14	31	21	22	20	27	27	27	
Watches and clocks	145	245	24	37	33	51	49	70	55	72	72	72	
Toys, games and sporting goods	44	58	9	12	13	10	12	14	18	14	14	14	
Jewellery goldsmiths' and silversmiths' wares	58	82	9	12	14	22	12	20	25	25	25	25	
Other	83	97	20	21	22	25	15	24	26	30	30	30	
Total EPZ Exports	3,272	4,960	505	794	973	1,001	870	1,238	1,434	1,418	1,418	1,418	

Table 14 - EPZ imports of main commodities, 1985 - 1986

Description of item	1985	1986	1985				1986			
			1985				1986			
			1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.
Synthetic fibres suitable for spinning	46	61	11	17	6	14	21	14	12	
Wool and other animal hair	192	160	48	30	44	55	49	29	27	
Chemicals	59	99	10	21	17	20	23	27	29	
Leather	39	59	5	11	13	13	23	10	13	
Textile yarn fabrics, made-up articles n.e.s., and related products	1,341	2,242	271	358	357	483	531	592	635	
Pearls, precious and semi-precious stones	108	154	15	27	38	30	46	33	44	
Machinery	304	491	60	79	86	122	126	113	129	
Optical goods, watches and clocks, etc.	182	232	36	54	51	55	58	55	64	
Jewellery	60	70	14	12	21	15	18	18	19	
Other	193	269	37	50	52	59	57	73	82	
Total Imports	2,524	3,837	507	672	685	866	952	964	1,054	