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1. EXTERNAL TRADE - SECOND QUARTER 1989
2. AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION - (January-June 1989)

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MAURITIUS

EXTERNAL TRADE - SECOND QUARTER 1989

1. Total Trade.

Total international trade during the second quarter of 1989 saw a 10% increase over the previous quarter's figure and attained the value of Rs 8,530 million. This figure is apparently not much different from the value obtained for the corresponding period of last year which was Rs 8,457 million. However it must be pointed out that the latter includes the value of two aircrafts purchased for a total of Rs 1,775 million during the second quarter of 1988.

With exports contributing about 45%, the total trade for the semester reached a level of Rs 16,300 million, that is, 8% higher than the corresponding figure for last year. This however includes the effect of the purchase of the two abovementioned aircrafts, without which a nominal increase of 23% would have been observed.

2. Balance of Visible Trade.

The second quarter is usually an unfavourable period for the trade balance of the country with export earnings from sugar at its minimum. Accordingly, the balance of visible trade of the country registered a deficit of over Rs 1,100 million in the second quarter of 1989, as against Rs 872 million in the previous quarter.

With exports totalling Rs 7,160 million and imports Rs 9,140 million, the first semester of 1989 saw an overall trade deficit amounting to Rs 1,980 million. This compares with the figure of Rs 2,874 million obtained during the first half of 1988, which however takes into account the purchase of the aircrafts. Ignoring the latter, the deficit of the first half of 1988 works out to around Rs 1,100 million.

3. Terms of Trade (1988 = 100):

After a decline of 8 percentage points during the first quarter of 1989, the terms of trade registered another fall of 8 percentage points during the second quarter, relative to the year 1988, which is now the new base for the calculation of import and export unit value indices.

In fact the terms of trade during the second quarter declined to 84 from 92 in the previous quarter, with 1988 as 100. This is mainly due to a fall of nearly 5% in the price level of exported goods, particularly sugar. On the other hand, the level of prices of imported commodities rose by about 6%, resulting from higher prices of petroleum products and manufactured goods.

4. Exports.

Compared with the previous quarter, total exports during the second quarter increased by some 13% in volume to reach Rs 3,710 million. The first semester therefore saw exports totalling Rs 7,140 million, which is 18% higher than the corresponding figure of 1988 in nominal terms. The real increase, on elimination of price effects however, works out to be just over 3%.

A breakdown of total exports, sector-wise, is given below:

Commodity/Sector	Value Rs Mn	
	1st Semester 1988	1st Semester 1989
Sugar	1,870	2,081
Molasses	22	21
Tea	61	60
EPZ	3,616	4,380
Re-exports	111	192
Ships' stores and bunkers	210	240
Other	199	184
Total Exports	6,089	7,158

During the first half of 1989 over three quarters of the country's exports were directed towards the EEC which absorbed some Rs 5,300 million worth of goods as against Rs 4,661 million for the corresponding period of last year. Again the main partners were the United Kingdom (Rs 2,152 million), France (Rs 1,646 million), the United States of America (Rs 952 million) and the Federal Republic of Germany (Rs 572 million). These countries together contributed over 75% in the country's exports.

5. Imports.

From a figure of Rs 4,319 million in the previous quarter, total imports reached Rs 4,820 million during the second quarter, that is, an increase of 12% nominally. Correspondingly, the first half of 1989 saw the imports into Mauritius of Rs 9,140 million worth of goods, barely 2% higher than the Rs 8,963 million (which include 2 aircrafts) imported during the first semester of 1988. Excluding the purchase of the aircrafts, the nominal increase amounts to 27%, almost exclusively accounted for by the effect of price increases.

A breakdown of main changes is as follows:-

Commodity	<u>Value Rs Million</u>		
	1st Semester 1988	1st Semester 1989	Change
Milk and cream	107	179	+ 72
Other food items	693	974	+ 281
Refined petroleum products	405	587	+ 182
Chemicals	481	587	+ 106
Textile fibres, yarn and fabrics	2,080	2,564	+ 484
Pearls, precious and semi-precious stones	107	217	+ 110
Cement, iron and steel	243	355	+ 112
Telecommunications equip- ment and parts thereof	125	253	+ 128
General industrial machinery & equipment	1,156	1,320	+ 164
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	222	244	+ 22

The main sources were: France (Rs 1,253 million), the Republic of South Africa (Rs 786 million), the Federal Republic of Germany (Rs 713 million) and the United Kingdom (Rs 614 million) which together supplied nearly 40% of the country's imports during the first semester. Among the general tariff countries, Japan and China together contributed a further 13%.

6. The Performance of the EPZ Sector.

During the second quarter of 1989, total EPZ exports increased by nearly 40% to reach over Rs 2,500 million. For the whole of the first semester of 1989, EPZ exports amounted to Rs 4,380 million as against Rs 3,616 million in the first six months of 1988. More than half of this 20% rise in the export level of the country is attributable to articles of apparel and clothing accessories.

The main buyers of the EPZ products during the second quarter of 1989 were, as usual, France (Rs 864 million), the United States of America (Rs 508 million), the United Kingdom (Rs 355 million) and the Federal Republic of Germany (Rs 320 million).

On the other hand, the value of EPZ imports reached Rs 1,930 million in the second quarter, bringing the EPZ import bill to nearly Rs 3,500 million for the first half of the year 1989. This is about 20% above the level obtained during the corresponding period of the previous year. The increase is attributed mainly to raw materials, whose value reached Rs 3,100 million as against Rs 2,500 million during the corresponding period last year. Imports of machinery, at the same time, dropped from Rs 450 million to Rs 360 million.

7. Forecasts - Year 1989.

On the basis of data available for the first six months of the year, a forecast has been attempted. It is thus estimated that total exports may reach around Rs 15,800 million during 1989. With imports around the Rs 19,500 million mark, a deficit of the order of Rs 3,700 million is expected for the year 1989 as compared to Rs 3,350 million (including the purchase of the aircrafts) or Rs 1,575 million excluding the purchase of the aircrafts a year ago.

	<u>Value Rs Million</u>	
	<u>Actual Year 1988</u>	<u>Forecast Year 1989</u>
<u>Total Exports (f.o.b)</u>	<u>13,897</u>	<u>15,800</u>
of which		
Sugar	4,449	4,400
EPZ	8,176	9,900
<u>Total Imports (c.i.f.)</u>	<u>17,247</u>	<u>19,500</u>
Trade balance	-3,350	-3,700

Central Statistical Office,
ROSE HILL.

August 1989

External Trade - Second Quarter 1989

NOTES

Figures for 1988 and 1989 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

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3. COMMODITY CLASSIFICATION

The classification used for the compilation of trade statistics is since January 1988 based on the Standard International Trade Classification (Revised III) or S.I.T.C. (Rev. III). Prior to 1988 the classification was based on S.I.T.C. (Rev. II). However, imports and export bills of entry are now being worked upon according to the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System Nomenclature, shortly known as the Harmonized System Nomenclature (H.S.N.). Prior to 1988, the goods items were coded according to the Customs Cooperation 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
- M² : Square metres

Table 1 - Balance of Visible Trade, 1987 - 1989

Value Rs Mn

	1987	1988	1988				1989	
			1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.
			Exports of goods	11,497	13,447	2,923	4,008	3,561
Domestic exports	11,335	13,202	2,872	3,943	3,492	3,258	3,468	
Re-exports	162	245	51	65	69	69	123	
Ships' Stores and Bunkers	430	450	105	105	135	120	120	
A. Total Exports (f.o.b.)	11,927	13,897	3,028	4,113	3,696	3,447	3,711	
B. Total Imports (c.i.f.)	13,042	17,247	5,429	3,970	4,314	4,319	4,820	
Total Value of Trade (A + B)	24,969	31,144	8,457	8,083	8,010	7,766	8,531	
BAIANCE OF VISIBLE TRADE (A - B)	-1,115	-3,350	-473	+143	-618	-872	-1,109	

Table 2 - Price (unit value) indices of total exports and imports and terms of trade, 1986 - 1989

Period	Price (Unit Value) Indices		Terms of Trade
	Total Exports	Total Imports	
1982 = 100			
1st quarter 1986	139.8	103.2	135
2nd quarter 1986	140.7	99.6	141
3rd quarter 1986	142.2	92.0	155
4th quarter 1986	152.8	94.7	161
<u>Year 1986</u>	<u>144.2</u>	<u>98.1</u>	<u>147</u>
1st quarter 1987	160.1	98.1	163
2nd quarter 1987	139.2	100.9	138
3rd quarter 1987	180.1	102.5	176
4th quarter 1987	164.4	102.5	160
<u>Year 1987</u>	<u>160.8</u>	<u>101.5</u>	<u>158</u>
1st quarter 1988	159.8	105.1	152
2nd quarter 1988	168.2	111.2	151
3rd quarter 1988	172.1	114.9	150
4th quarter 1988	181.9	112.1	162
<u>Year 1988</u>	<u>172.0</u>	<u>110.8</u>	<u>155</u>
1988 = 100			
1st quarter 1989	111.2	120.8	92
2nd quarter 1989	106.4	127.2	84

Table 3 - Domestic exports of main commodities - value, 1987 - 1989

F.O.B. Value Rs Mn

Commodity/Sector	1987	1988	1988				1989	
			1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.
Sugar	4,328	4,449	1,223	647	1,480	1,099	1,295	785
Molasses	81	92	19	3	18	51	4	18
Tea	90	88	34	27	9	17	27	33
EPZ	6,567	8,176	1,547	2,069	2,350	2,210	1,842	2,538
Other	269	400	73	126	86	115	90	94
Total Exports	11,335	13,202	2,896	2,872	3,943	3,492	3,258	3,468

Table 4 - Domestic exports of selected commodities, quantity, 1987 - 1989

Commodity	Unit	1987	1988	1988				1989	
				1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.
Sugar	(000) m. ton	656	652	195	96	216	146	163	123
Molasses	"	131	154	34	5	31	84	5	31
Tea	m. ton	6,615	5,501	2,199	1,754	579	969	1,513	1,800

Table 5 - Domestic exports of main commodities, quantity and value, 1987 - 1989

(F.O.B. Value Rs Mn)

Commodity	Unit	1987		1988		First semester 1988		First semester 1989	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
sugar	(000) m. ton	656	4,328	652	4,449	291	1,870	286	2,081
molasses	"	131	81	154	92	39	22	36	21
Tea	m. ton	6,615	90	5,501	88	3,953	61	3,313	60
F P Z	--	--	6,567	--	8,176	--	3,616	--	4,380

Table 6 - Total exports by main countries of destination, 1987 - 1989

F.O.B. Value Rs Mn

Country of destination	1987	1988	1988				1989	
			1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.
1. <u>Preferential Tariff Countries</u>	<u>11,365</u>	<u>12,913</u>	<u>2,881</u>	<u>2,794</u>	<u>3,824</u>	<u>3,414</u>	<u>3,224</u>	<u>3,467</u>
(a) <u>E.E.C. Countries</u>	<u>9,095</u>	<u>10,612</u>	<u>2,342</u>	<u>2,319</u>	<u>3,078</u>	<u>2,873</u>	<u>2,697</u>	<u>2,637</u>
of which United Kingdom	4,076	4,800	1,238	782	1,433	1,347	1,342	810
France	2,945	3,025	618	905	734	768	700	946
Fed. Rep. of Germany	907	1,273	235	336	366	336	238	334
(b) <u>Other Preferential Tariff Countries</u>	<u>2,271</u>	<u>2,300</u>	<u>539</u>	<u>474</u>	<u>746</u>	<u>541</u>	<u>527</u>	<u>830</u>
of which U.S. of America	1,699	1,785	362	397	606	420	435	517
2. <u>General Tariff Countries</u>	<u>130</u>	<u>525</u>	<u>74</u>	<u>129</u>	<u>185</u>	<u>147</u>	<u>102</u>	<u>124</u>
Total Exports	11,498	13,447	2,956	2,923	4,008	3,561	3,327	3,591

Table 7 - Imports by section, 1987 - 1989

C.I.F. Value Rs Mn

S.I.T.C. Section	Description	1987	1988	1988				1989	
				1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.
0	Food and live animals	1,471	1,746	411	389	438	508	570	583
1	Beverages and tobacco	57	66	14	12	16	24	15	14
2	Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	408	523	155	138	123	107	178	198
3	Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	978	1,009	211	277	292	229	328	343
4	Animal and vegetable oils and fats	147	164	19	49	32	64	52	53
5	Chemicals	830	1,083	216	265	298	304	286	301
6	Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	5,211	6,130	1,402	1,409	1,604	1,715	1,600	1,865
7	Machinery and transport equipment	2,886	5,128	794	2,567	847	920	938	1,001
8	Miscellaneous manufactured articles	1,040	1,362	310	315	313	424	333	436
9	Other commodities and transactions	14	37	4	8	6	19	18	26
	Total imports	13,042	17,247	3,534	5,429	3,970	4,314	4,319	4,820

Table 8 - Imports of main commodities, value, 1987 - 1989

Commodity	1987	1988	1988				1989	
			1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.
Meat and meat preparations	205	211	46	37	47	81	64	58
Rice	209	299	87	85	58	69	116	110
Wheaten flour	189	220	63	57	51	48	94	51
Dairy products	255	333	72	59	89	112	108	104
Vegetables and fruits	178	163	41	47	34	41	43	82
Textile fibres, etc.	276	322	107	88	73	54	102	149
Refined petroleum products	881	866	176	229	259	202	311	276
Fixed vegetable oils & fats	100	112	11	28	42	47	35	38
Medicinal and pharmaceutical products	152	207	47	51	59	50	58	60
Textile yarn	1,035	1,120	304	314	293	282	326	352
Paper, paperboard & articles thereof	189	321	60	50	146	65	58	62
Textile fabrics	2,298	2,569	269	291	270	782	686	798
Cement	158	171	41	36	60	36	63	78
Pearls, precious and semi-precious stones	159	246	38	69	61	77	75	142
Iron and steel	288	414	86	78	135	114	115	99
Manufactures of metal, n.e.s.	379	443	157	71	99	116	78	88
Machinery other than electrical	885	1,325	276	320	371	358	370	338
General industrial machinery & equipment	290	405	76	115	117	97	124	122
Electrical machinery, apparatus and appliances	808	823	204	189	96	244	237	87
Road vehicles	563	647	220	134	132	161	172	188
Watches and clocks	295	427	107	115	86	120	103	141
Other	3,250	5,603	1,046	2,657	1,401	1,158	978	1,597
Total Imports	13,042	17,247	3,534	5,429	3,970	4,314	4,319	4,820

Table 9 - Imports of selected commodities, quantity, 1987 - 1989

Commodity	Unit	1987	1988	1988				1989	
				1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.
Rice	(000)m. ton	84	72	20	24	13	15	26	24
Wheaten flour	"	58	59	17	17	14	10	20	11
Dairy products	"	12	14	3	3	4	4	3	3
Vegetable edible oils and fats	"	16	21	4	5	3	8	5	5
Fertilizers manufactured	"	52	40	9	12	15	5	26	14
Cotton fabrics	Mn M ²	66	74	15	19	16	24	19	15
Cement	(000)m. ton	303	308	77	66	100	65	92	106
Iron and steel	"	44	71	15	13	24	19	18	14

Table 10 - Imports of selected commodities, quantity and value, 1987 - 1989

C.I.F. Value Rs Mn

Commodity	Unit	1987		1988		1988		1989	
		1987		1988		1988		1989	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Rice	(000)m.ton	84	209	72	299	44	173	51	226
Wheaten flour	"	58	189	59	220	34	120	30	145
Dairy products	"	12	255	14	333	7	131	7	74
Vegetable edible oils	"	16	100	21	112	9	39	10	74
Fertilizers manufactured	"	52	76	40	84	21	43	40	76
Cotton fabrics	Mn M ²	66	1,047	74	1,324	34	625	34	736
Cement	(000)m.ton	303	158	308	171	143	77	198	140
Iron and steel	"	44	288	71	414	28	165	32	215

Table 11 - Imports by main countries of origin, 1987 - 1989

C.I.F. Value Rs Mn

Country of origin	1987	1988	1988				1989	
			1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.
1. <u>Preferential Tariff Countries</u>	8,352	12,341	2,408	4,269	2,732	2,931	2,842	3,245
(a) <u>E.E.C. Countries</u>	4,281	5,350	1,142	1,296	1,458	1,453	1,582	1,664
of which France	1,699	2,133	522	491	559	560	596	657
Fed. Rep. of Germany	733	902	174	230	239	259	392	321
Italy	426	514	99	127	128	160	101	143
United Kingdom	1,058	1,259	243	316	383	316	304	310
(b) <u>Other Preferential Tariff Countries</u>	4,071	6,991	1,266	2,973	1,274	1,478	1,260	1,581
of which Australia	347	445	130	104	102	110	136	133
Rep. of South Africa	1,110	1,482	286	354	422	420	357	429
U.S. of America	227	2,078	132	1,815	53	78	56	78
2. <u>General Tariff Countries</u>	4,690	4,906	1,125	1,159	1,238	1,382	1,477	1,575
of which Bahrain	328	367	87	103	92	84	162	122
China	692	671	130	127	195	219	284	192
Kuwait	498	439	75	108	155	100	133	127
Japan	1,279	1,281	365	317	267	332	327	404
Total Imports	13,042	17,247	3,534	5,429	3,970	4,314	4,319	4,280

Table 12 - Net EPZ exports, 1987 - 1989

Value Rs Mn

	1987	1988				1989	
		1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.
A. Total exports (f.o.b. value)	6,567	1,547	2,069	2,350	2,210	1,842	2,538
I. Total imports (c.i.f. value)	4,801	1,384	1,543	1,398	1,566	1,555	1,928
Net exports (A - B)	1,766	163	526	952	644	287	610
Net exports as % of total exports	27%	10%	25%	40%	29%	16%	24%

Table 13 - EPZ exports by main commodities, 1987 - 1989

F.O.B. Value Rs Mn

Description of Item	1987	1988	1988				1989	
			1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.
Fish and fish preparations	100	173	37	35	53	47	40	51
Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles	138	180	29	37	44	71	76	90
Pearls, precious and semi-precious stones	185	302	22	67	83	129	90	102
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories	5,407	6,446	1,219	1,644	1,916	1,667	1,349	1,943
Optical goods, n.e.s.	90	88	24	16	21	28	35	31
Watches and clocks	337	563	113	160	129	161	140	178
Toys, games and sporting goods	78	85	19	22	21	23	24	27
Jewellery goldsmiths' and silversmiths' wares	65	69	8	17	20	23	20	25
Other	167	270	76	71	63	61	68	91
Total EPZ Exports	6,567	8,176	1,547	2,069	2,360	2,210	1,842	2,538

Table 14 - EPZ imports of main commodities, 1987 - 1989

C.I.F. Value Rs Mn

Description of item	1987	1988	1988				1989	
			1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.
Synthetic fibres suitable for spinning	50	37	7	9	13	8	5	11
Wool and other animal hair	192	250	93	70	52	35	92	128
Chemical	121	182	32	49	39	62	52	57
Leather	56	68	16	17	16	19	24	21
Textile yarn and fabrics	2,861	3,236	766	829	752	888	916	1,032
Pearls, precious and semi-precious stones	158	239	36	68	60	75	75	140
Machinery	595	834	205	248	178	203	132	229
Optical goods, watches and clocks, etc.	314	443	111	119	89	124	105	149
Jewellery	46	46	10	14	7	14	10	15
Other	408	555	108	120	192	138	144	146
Total Imports	4,801	5,890	1,384	1,543	1,398	1,566	1,555	1,928