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External Trade - Year 1990

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External Trade - Year 1990

1. Total value of international trade - 1990

The total value of trade for the second semester of 1990 attained Rs 24,000 million, some 23% higher than in the corresponding semester of 1989 and 28% higher than in the previous semester. Total trade for the year 1990 therefore amounted to Rs 42,000 million representing an increase of Rs 6,300 million or 18% over the previous year's level of Rs 35,700 million.

2. Balance of visible trade

During the year 1990, the country exported goods worth of Rs 18,000 million compared to Rs 15,500 million in 1989 representing an increase of around 16%. Total imports for the year likewise rose by Rs 4,000 million or 19% to attain Rs 24,000 million. Consequently the trade balance for the year 1990 resulted in a deficit of around Rs 6,000 million compared with Rs 4,700 million for the year 1989. The import figures for both years 1989 and 1990 include the purchase of aircraft and marine vessels. Exclusive of these irregular items, comparative trade deficit figures were Rs 4,200 million and Rs 4,900 million respectively.

The balance of visible trade is only one of the components of the balance of payments which relates to the net value of transactions involving merchandise only. It should not therefore be used as the sole indicator of how the country's balance of payments is behaving; the current account balance which includes merchandise, services and unrequited transfers is a more appropriate indicator.

3. Terms of trade (Base year 1988 = 100)

The terms of trade which show price movements of exports relative to imports improved by 5 percentage points to 98 from 93 in 1989. The favourable terms of trade recorded last year resulted from relatively higher prices of exports. Export prices rose by 12% whilst those of imports by 7%.

4. Exports

Total exports proceeds for the year 1990 went up by 16%, in nominal terms, from Rs 15,500 million in 1989 to Rs 18,000 million. After elimination of the effects of price increases of around 12%, total exports grew by only 3% in volume. A lower volume of sugar was exported: 578,000 m/tons compared to 636,000 m/tons in 1989. The total proceeds from the sale of sugar amounted to Rs 5,100 million compared to Rs 4,950 million in 1989.

EPZ exports registered a nominal increase of 26% from Rs 9,060 million to Rs 11,440 million, (15% in price and 10% in volume).

Goods valued at Rs 384 million were re-exported compared to Rs 500 million in 1989. Fuel and other goods supplied to aircraft and ships amounted to Rs 490 million.

The main markets of the country remained the EEC countries which purchased nearly 80% of the total exports, or Rs 14,000 million worth of goods. Another important market was the U.S.A which absorbed almost 13% of the total.

5. Imports

The import bill for the year 1990 was valued at Rs 24,000 million representing a nominal increase of 19% over the 1989 figure of Rs 20,200 million. The total includes around Rs 1,200 million related to the purchase of ships and aircraft by the government and by the national airline. Exclusive of these irregular items, total imports amounted to Rs 22,800 million. As mentioned earlier, import prices went up by 7% in 1990 after having increased by around 19% in 1989. In volume terms, imports exclusive of aircraft and ships, grew by about 8%. The prices of refined petroleum products went up by around 27% and those of other manufactured goods by 10%. These increases were however offset by substantial drops of around 10% recorded in the prices of raw wool and cotton.

The comparative table below shows items/product groups imported, which have registered major increases in 1990:-

<u>Product Group</u>	<u>CIF Values (Rs Mn)</u>		
	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>Change</u>
Food and live animals	2,347	2,650	+ 303
Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	1,509	2,067	+ 558
Chemicals	1,320	1,613	+ 293
Construction materials -	696	1,113	+ 417
Other manufactured goods	6,884	7,227	+ 343
Road vehicles	808	1,072	+ 264
Marine vessels and aircraft	500	1,177	+ 677
Other machinery	3,331	4,021	+ 690
Other	2,822	3,104	+ 282
Total	20,217	24,044	+ 3,827

Table 9 on imports by country of origin shows that the EEC was the major supplier accounting for 36% of the total imports. Other suppliers were: Republic of South Africa, 9%, Japan, 6%, U.S.A, 5% and China, 4%.

EPZ

EPZ exports recorded a substantial increase of 26% attaining Rs 11,440 million from Rs 9,060 million in 1989. After elimination of the effect of price increases estimated at around 15%, EPZ exports grew by 10% in volume. Textile and made up garments worth of Rs 9,100 million were exported which accounted for 80% of the total.

The EPZ sectors import bill was much lower than expected. The earlier estimate of Rs 8,000 million is now revised to Rs7,400 million which compares with Rs 7,500 million for the year 1989. Imports of machinery and equipment represented Rs 800 million compared Rs 960 million in 1989. The relatively lower import bill resulted mainly from substantial drops of around 10% in the prices of basic inputs of the textile industries namely raw wool and cotton.

Consequently net EPZ exports shot up to Rs 4,050 million from Rs 1,555 million in 1989 and Rs 2,300 million in 1988. The rates of net exports to exports doubled last year's 17% and reached 35%. This ratio calculated as an average of the two consecutive years works out to 27% which is slightly lower than the level (28%) attained in 1988.

Central Statistical Office

Port Louis

March 1991

External Trade - Year 1990

NOTES

Figures for 1989 and 1990 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 III) or S.I.T.C. (Rev. III). However, import and export bills of entry are being worked upon according to the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System Nomenclature, shortly known as the Harmonized System Nomenclature (H.S.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 the total.

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

IMPORTS, EXPORTS & TRADE BALANCE 1985-1990

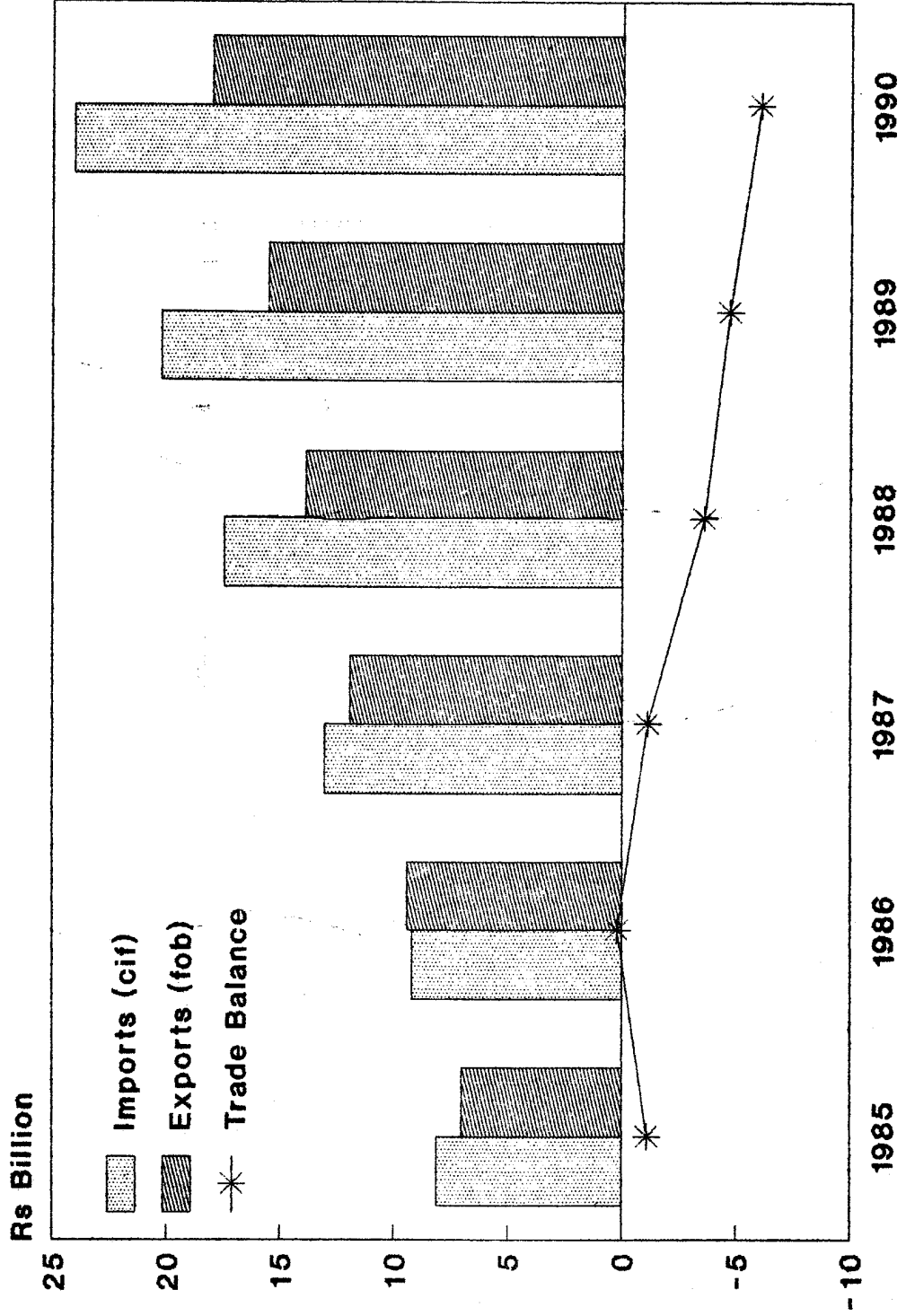


Table 1 - Balance of Visible Trade, 1989 - 1990

Value Rs Mn

	1989	1990	1989				1990			
			1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.
			Exports of goods	15,049	17,499	3,344	3,597	3,928	4,180	3,384
Domestic exports	14,542	17,115	3,276	3,475	3,853	3,940	3,320	4,092	4,903	4,800
Re-exports	506	384	69	123	76	240	65	111	89	120
Ships' Stores and Bunkers	470	488	125	104	122	120	122	122	122	122
A. Total Exports (f.o.b.)	15,517	17,987	3,469	3,701	4,050	4,300	3,506	4,326	5,113	5,042
B. Total Imports (c.i.f.)	20,217	24,044	4,536	4,824	5,112	5,745	4,825	5,779	7,101	6,339
Total Value of Trade (A + B)	35,734	42,031	8,005	8,525	9,162	10,045	8,331	10,105	12,214	11,381
BALANCE OF VISIBLE TRADE (A - B)	-4,700	-6,057	-1,067	-1,123	-1,062	-1,445	-1,319	-1,453	-1,988	-1,297

Table 2 - Price (unit value) indices of exports and imports and terms of trade
1984 - 1990

P e r i o d	Price indices		Terms of trade*
	Export	Import	
	Base Year 1982 = 100		
1984	119	110	108
1985	136	121	113
1986	144	98	147
1987	161	102	158
1988	172	111	156
	Base Year 1988 = 100		
1989	111	119	93
1990	125	127	98
1990 : Qr. 1	119	120	99
Qr. 2	128	120	107
Qr. 3	130	131	99
Qr. 4	124	133	93

* Ratio of export to import price index.

A rise in this ratio indicates that the terms of trade have moved in favour of Mauritius.

Table 3 - Domestic exports of main commodities - value, 1989 - 1990

F.O.B Value Rs Mn

Commodity/Sector	1989	1990	1989				1990			
			1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.
			Sugar	4,946	5,104	1,313	791	1,325	1,516	1,184
Molasses	66	115	4	18	6	39	17	7	34	57
Tea	87	82	27	33	7	20	32	28	9	13
EPZ	9,057	11,442	1,842	2,538	2,423	2,254	1,996	3,341	3,093	3,012
Other	386	372	90	95	92	111	91	114	103	64
Total Exports	14,542	17,115	3,276	3,475	3,853	3,940	3,320	4,092	4,903	4,800

Table 4 - Domestic exports of selected commodities, quantity, 1989 - 1990

Commodity	Unit	1989	1990	1989				1990			
				1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.
Sugar	(000) m. ton	636	578	163	123	160	190	129	60	180	209
Molasses	"	125	177	5	31	11	78	33	11	67	66
Tea	m. ton	4,755	4,237	1,513	1,800	395	1,047	1,309	1,268	820	840

Table 5 - Total exports by main countries of destination, 1989 - 1990

F.O.B. Value Rs Mn

Country of destination	1989	1990	1989				1990			
			1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.
1. <u>Preferential Tariff Countries</u>	<u>14,417</u>	<u>17,052</u>	<u>3,241</u>	<u>3,463</u>	<u>3,830</u>	<u>3,883</u>	<u>3,295</u>	<u>4,080</u>	<u>4,874</u>	<u>4,803</u>
(a) <u>E.E.C. Countries</u>	<u>11,583</u>	<u>14,081</u>	<u>2,714</u>	<u>2,645</u>	<u>3,077</u>	<u>3,147</u>	<u>2,778</u>	<u>3,253</u>	<u>4,064</u>	<u>3,986</u>
of which United Kingdom	5,384	5,910	1,359	810	1,510	1,708	1,063	837	2,157	1,853
France	2,986	4,091	700	950	678	657	752	1,375	922	1,042
Fed. Rep. of Germany	1,391	1,519	238	334	486	334	225	350	495	449
(b) <u>Other Preferential Tariff Countries</u>	<u>2,835</u>	<u>2,971</u>	<u>527</u>	<u>818</u>	<u>753</u>	<u>737</u>	<u>517</u>	<u>827</u>	<u>810</u>	<u>817</u>
of which U.S. of America	2,076	2,262	435	517	639	509	386	616	653	607
2. <u>General Tariff Countries</u>	<u>632</u>	<u>447</u>	<u>103</u>	<u>134</u>	<u>98</u>	<u>297</u>	<u>89</u>	<u>123</u>	<u>118</u>	<u>117</u>
Total Exports	15,049	17,499	3,344	3,597	3,928	4,180	3,384	4,203	4,992	4,920

Table 6 - Imports by section, 1989 - 1990

C.I.F. Value Rs Mn

S.I.T.C. Section	Description	1989	1990	1989				1990			
				1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.
0	Food and live animals	2,347	2,650	570	583	594	600	589	618	745	698
1	Beverages & tobacco	75	82	15	14	23	22	16	13	22	31
2	Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	748	764	178	198	220	151	168	264	182	150
3	Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	1,509	2,067	328	343	396	443	332	396	573	766
4	Animal and vegetable oils and fats	220	233	52	53	46	69	51	55	71	56
5	Chemicals	1,320	1,613	286	301	363	371	327	408	441	437
6	Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	7,580	8,340	1,600	1,865	2,015	2,100	1,902	2,166	2,221	2,051
7	Machinery and transport equipment	4,639	6,270	1,155	1,005	1,019	1,460	1,031	1,373	2,345	1,521
8	Miscellaneous manufactured articles	1,684	1,864	333	436	411	504	383	448	462	571
9	Other commodities and transactions	95	161	18	26	25	26	26	38	39	58
	Total Imports	20,217	24,044	4,536	4,824	5,112	5,745	4,825	5,779	7,101	6,339

Table 7 - Imports of main commodities, value, 1989 - 1990

C.I.F. Value Rs Mn

C o m m o d i t y	1989	1990	1 9 8 9				1 9 9 0			
			1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.
			64	58	48	70	80	55	78	115
Meat and meat preparations	240	328	58	70	80	55	78	115		
Rice	412	398	110	72	68	85	189	56		
Wheaten flour	162	30	94	-	5	-	21	4		
Wheat	114	235	27	33	52	71	50	62		
Dairy products	473	428	104	130	93	133	141	61		
Vegetables and fruits	256	289	82	71	68	81	69	71		
Textile fibres, etc.	466	424	149	81	107	123	106	88		
Refined petroleum products	1,338	1,842	276	387	291	359	525	667		
Fixed vegetable oils & fats	157	166	38	43	30	37	57	42		
Medicinal and pharmaceutical products	248	287	60	67	70	80	75	62		
Textile yarn	1,385	1,471	352	344	366	384	362	359		
Paper, paperboard & articles thereof	287	311	62	84	61	88	79	83		
Textile fabrics	3,235	3,318	798	900	816	875	871	756		
Cement	286	399	78	84	97	94	103	105		
Pearls, precious & semi-precious stones	386	357	142	72	92	93	94	78		
Iron and steel	533	541	99	163	115	150	141	135		
Manufactures of metal, n.e.s.	410	714	88	120	113	185	223	193		
General industrial machinery & equipment	538	676	122	127	119	184	173	200		
Telecommunications and sound recording and reproducing apparatus & equipment	747	529	215	183	101	125	173	130		
Other machinery	2,009	2,370	463	612	479	544	580	767		
Road vehicles	808	1,072	188	235	245	284	234	308		
Watches and clocks	486	430	141	128	120	123	86	101		
Other (incl. of aircraft & marine vessel)	5,241	7,429	1,121	1,739	1,236	1,626	2,671	1,896		
Total Imports	20,217	24,044	4,824	5,745	4,825	5,779	7,101	6,339		

Table 8 - Imports of selected commodities, quantity, 1989 - 1990

Commodity	Unit	1989	1990	1989				1990				
				1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	
Rice	(000)m. ton	91	70	26	24	26	14	14	14	18	26	12
Wheaten flour	"	33	7	20	11	3	-	-	-	-	6	1
Wheat	"	39	81	11	10	6	12	18	22	18	18	23
Dairy products	"	14	14	3	3	4	4	2	4	4	4	4
Vegetable edible oils and fats	"	19	21	5	5	3	5	4	4	4	8	5
Fertilizers manufactured	"	67	59	26	14	12	15	13	15	13	13	18
Cotton fabrics	Mn M ²	69	64	19	15	17	19	16	17	16	16	15
Cement	(000)m. ton	396	419	92	106	85	113	107	101	117	117	94
Iron and steel	"	78	67	18	14	23	23	11	19	18	18	19

Table 9 - Imports by main countries of origin, 1989 - 1990

C.I.F. Value Rs Min

Country of origin	1989	1990	1989				1990			
			1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.
1. Preferential Tariff Countries	13,186	16,880	2,842	3,245	3,461	3,638	3,298	3,970	5,276	4,336
(a) E.E.C. Countries	6,923	8,673	1,582	1,664	1,804	1,873	1,743	2,200	2,591	2,139
of which France	2,746	3,365	595	657	768	726	841	1,127	619	778
Fed. Rep. of Germany	1,462	1,683	392	321	375	372	281	311	726	365
Italy	632	619	101	143	142	245	133	139	182	165
United Kingdom	1,284	1,692	304	310	326	344	299	376	430	587
(b) Other Preferential Tariff Countries	6,263	8,207	1,260	1,581	1,657	1,766	1,555	1,770	2,685	2,197
of which Australia	512	579	136	133	130	113	137	161	141	140
Rep. of South Africa	1,817	2,108	357	429	465	566	419	471	517	701
U.S of America	321	1,145	56	78	74	112	128	121	780	116
2. General Tariff Countries	7,621	7,163	1,694	1,579	1,651	2,107	1,526	1,809	1,825	2,003
of which Bahrain	658	791	162	122	159	216	133	219	132	307
China	1,000	853	284	192	261	264	235	183	220	215
Kuwait	623	418	133	127	209	154	140	131	147	-
Japan	1,843	1,415	544	408	261	630	308	382	316	409
Total Imports	20,217	24,044	4,536	4,824	5,112	5,745	4,825	5,779	7,101	6,339

Value Rs Mn

Table 10 - Net EPZ exports, 1989 - 1990

	1989	1990	1989				1990			
			1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.
A. Total exports (f.o.b value)	9,057	11,442	1,842	2,538	2,423	2,254	1,996	3,341	3,093	3,012
B. Total imports (c.i.f value)	7,502	7,389	1,555	1,928	1,996	2,021	1,894	1,939	1,845	1,711
Net exports (A - B)	1,555	4,053	287	610	427	233	102	1,402	1,248	1,301
Net exports as % of total exports	17%	35%	16%	24%	18%	10%	5%	42%	40%	43%

Table 11 - EPZ exports by main commodities, 1989 - 1990

F.O.B. Value Rs Mn

Description of Item	1989	1990	1989				1990			
			1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.
Fish and fish preparations	190	142	40	51	47	52	32	41	20	49
Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles	361	444	76	90	89	106	103	117	104	120
Pearls, precious and semi-precious stones	325	354	90	102	77	55	58	110	91	95
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories	7,038	9,096	1,349	1,943	1,955	1,791	1,541	2,661	2,519	2,375
Optical goods, n.e.s.	133	125	35	31	37	30	32	30	26	37
Watches and clocks	500	629	140	178	107	75	95	207	173	154
Toys, games and sporting goods	91	124	24	27	20	20	22	34	32	36
Jewellery goldsmiths' and silversmiths' wares	80	155	20	25	13	22	23	38	50	44
Other	340	373	68	91	78	103	90	103	78	102
Total EPZ Exports	9,057	11,442	1,842	2,538	2,423	2,254	1,996	3,341	3,093	3,012

Table 12 - EPZ imports of main commodities, 1989 - 1990

C.I.F. Value Rs Mn

Description of item	1989	1990	1989				1990				
			1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	
Synthetic fibres suitable for spinning	52	48	5	11	18	17	8	13	24	3	
Wool and other animal hair	337	258	92	128	69	47	86	78	49	45	
Chemicals	234	291	52	57	66	59	59	75	73	84	
Leather	97	104	24	21	25	27	22	29	29	24	
Textile yarn and fabrics	4,172	4,187	916	1,032	1,110	1,114	1,095	1,135	1,080	877	
Pearls, precious and semi-precious stones	379	335	75	140	93	71	89	90	83	73	
Machinery including spare parts	963	796	132	229	260	342	170	148	210	268	
Optical goods, watches and clocks, etc.	511	451	105	149	123	134	126	130	91	104	
Jewellery	43	64	10	15	6	12	19	12	12	21	
Other	714	855	144	146	226	198	220	229	194	212	
Total Imports	7,502	7,389	1,555	1,928	1,996	2,021	1,894	1,939	1,845	1,711	