



MAURITIUS

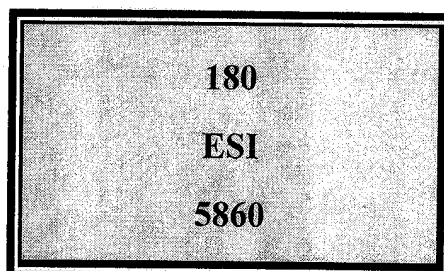
# Economic Indicators

An Occasional Paper

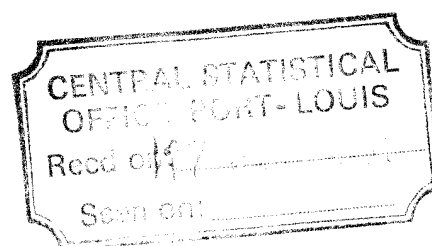
ISSUE NO. 127

May 31, 1991

1. EXPORT PROCESSING ZONE - 1st QUARTER 1991
2. INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL AND TOURISM - 1st QUARTER 1991
3. EXTERNAL TRADE - 1st QUARTER 1991



MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT  
PORT LOUIS  
MAURITIUS



## The Export Processing Zone (EPZ) - 1st Quarter 1991

### 1. Introduction

This first issue of economic indicators on the EPZ sector for 1991 presents detailed information on the evolution of employment in the EPZ enterprises during the 1st quarter 1991. Provisional trade figures for the period January to March 1991 are also included.

### 2. Employment evolution, 1st quarter 1991

During the first quarter of 1991, 18 new companies were set up whereas 8 closed down which brought the total number of active companies operating in the EPZ sector as at March 1991, to 578 compared to 568 as at December 1990.

Total employment, however remained at December 1990's level of 89,900 with 28,300 male and 61,600 female workers. Although at aggregate level, the workforce has remained constant, an analysis of the survey data at firm level shows that there was a high mobility of workers among EPZ firms. A total of around 5,100 workers or 6% of the workforce have changed jobs during the three-month period, January to March 1991. Of these, 700 joined the 18 new enterprises whilst 900 were laid off following closures of 8 firms. For more details, please refer to table 3.

It is also observed that out of the new 18 enterprises which started operation, 9 were in the textile sector. Also textile enterprises have recruited some 200 foreign workers during the first quarter 1991.

### 3. Employment evolution, March 1990 - March 1991

An analysis of employment evolution during the 12-month period ending March 1991 shows that employment in the EPZ sector has stabilized around the 90,000 mark. In fact, only 150 additional workers were recruited between March 1990 and March 1991. It is also noted that there were some 2400 'out-workers' i.e. persons working at their home on materials provided by enterprises and 950 foreign workers (500 male and 450 female workers) employed by the EPZ enterprises as at March 1991.

Comparative figures given in table 5 show a reduction of workforce in the following 4 sectors during the last twelve months: "Wearing Apparel" (-1324), "Watches" (-101), "Jewellery" (-194) and the residual sector "Other" (-97). The other sectors have each recorded small increases of around 100, with the exception of "Textile yarn and fabrics", which has recruited some 1150 additional workers, following the setting up of one large enterprise and expansion of activities in the existing companies.

#### 4. EPZ Exports & Imports

Provisional trade figures show that during the first quarter of 1991, EPZ enterprises have exported around Rs 2,300 mn worth of goods compared to Rs 2,000 mn in the corresponding quarter of 1990 and Rs 3,000 mn in the previous quarter. Imports totalled around Rs 1,700 mn of which Rs 1,500 mn were paid for raw materials and Rs 200 mn for machinery and equipment. Net EPZ exports therefore resulted in Rs 600 mn representing some 26% of its exports.

Central Statistical Office,  
Ministry of Economic Planning  
& Development,  
PORT LOUIS.

May 1991

Main Indicators of EPZ Sector 84-91

Particulars	Year								1st Qr. 1991
	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1990	
1. No. of enterprises as at December	195	290	408	531	591	563	568	578	
2. Employment as at December	37,522	53,951	74,015	87,905	89,080	88,658	89,906	89,908	
3. Exports for calendar year (Rs mn)	2,151	3,283	4,951	6,567	8,176	9,057	11,400	2,292	
4. Imports for calendar year (Rs mn)	1,650	2,530	3,863	4,801	5,890	7,502	7,400	1,702	
5. Net exports for calendar year (Rs mn)	501	753	1,088	1,766	2,286	1,555	4,000	590	
6. Net exports % exports (%)	23.3	22.9	22.0	26.9	28.0	17.2	35.1	25.7	
7. Value added (Rs mn)	865	1,333	1,860	2,585	3,125	3,450	4,070	4,615*	
8. Growth rate (%)	+32.9	+30.0	+34.9	+22.0	+12.0	+6.0	+9.0	+7.0*	

\* Forecast for year

Table 1 - EPZ : - Employment as at December 1990 and March 1991 by category of enterprise and by sex

Category of enterprise*	Number of enterprises as at end of .....			Employment as at end of .....								
	December 1990	March 1991	Net change	December 1990			March 1991			Net change		
				Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Large <sup>1/</sup>	476	482	+ 6	28,763	58,408	87,171	27,916	59,120	87,036	- 847	+ 712	- 135
Small	89	93	+ 4	264	197	461	278	209	487	+ 14	+ 12	+ 26
Outworkers <sup>2/</sup>	3	3	-	249	2,025	2,274	88	2,297	2,385	- 161	+ 272	+ 111
TOTAL	568	578	+10	29,276	60,630	89,906	28,282	61,626	89,908	- 994	+ 996	+ 2

\* Category of enterprise :

Large : Enterprise employing 10 or more persons

Small : Enterprise employing less than 10 persons

Outworkers : Persons working at their home, on materials provided by enterprise

<sup>1/</sup> Employment data include around 750 expatriates at December 1990 & 950 at March 1991

<sup>2/</sup> Number of enterprises relate to enterprises employing exclusively outworkers, whilst employment refers to total number of persons employed as outworkers

Table 2 - EPZ : - Employment as at March 1990 and March 1991 by category of enterprise and by sex

Category of enterprise*	Number of enterprises as at end of .....		Employment as at end of .....						Net change		
	March 1990	March 1991	March 1990			March 1991			Male	Female	Total
			Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total			
Large <sup>1/</sup>	473	482	28,426	58,589	87,015	27,916	59,120	87,036	-510	+531	+ 21
Small	73	93	247	163	410	278	209	487	+ 31	+ 46	+ 77
Outworkers <sup>2/</sup>	2	3	74	2,256	2,330	88	2,297	2,385	+ 14	+ 41	+ 55
TOTAL	548	578	28,747	61,008	89,755	28,282	61,626	89,908	-465	+618	+153

\* Category of enterprise

Large : Enterprise employing 10 or more persons

Small : Enterprise employing less than 10 persons

Outworkers : Persons working at their home, on materials provided by enterprise

<sup>1/</sup> Employment data include around 600 expatriates at March 1990 & 950 at March 1991

<sup>2/</sup> Number of enterprises relate to enterprises employing exclusively outworkers, whilst employment refers to total number of persons as outworkers

Table 3 - Employment evolution in the EPZ sector during the 1st quarter 1991

Description	Number of enterprises	Employment
1. SITUATION AS AT END OF DECEMBER 1990	<u>568</u>	<u>89,906</u>
2. Total employment creation of which through : Expansion <u>1/</u> of existing enterprises New enterprises	...	5,108
	(44)	4,415
	18	693
3. Total loss	...	5,106
of which through :		
Reduction in activities of existing enterprises	(51)	4,245
Closing down of enterprises	8	861
4. Net change	+ 10	+ 2
5. SITUATION AS AT END OF MARCH 1991	<u>578</u>	<u>89,908</u>

1/ No. of enterprises relates to those which have increased their workforce by 25 or more employees whilst employment relates to total expansion

Table 4 - EPZ:- Analysis of net change in employment during period December 1990 -  
March 1991 by product group

Product group	Employment as at end of .....		Net change in employment
	December 1990	March 1991	
1. Food	1,161	1,052	-109
2. Flowers	544	561	+ 17
3. Textile yarn and fabrics	4,789	5,536	+747
4. Wearing apparels	75,709	74,913	-796
of which (a) pullovers	(28,802)	(28,367)	(-435)
(b) gloves	(458)	(431)	(- 27)
(c) other garments	(46,449)	(46,115)	(-334)
5. Leather products and footwear	1,336	1,438	+102
6. Wood and paper products	517	481	- 36
7. Optical goods	570	540	- 30
8. Watches, electronic watches & clocks	850	839	- 11
9. Electric & other electronic products	408	441	+ 33
10. Jewellery & related articles	1,380	1,482	+102
11. Toys and carnival articles	978	1,030	+ 52
12. Other	1,664	1,595	- 69
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>89,906</b>	<b>89,908</b>	<b>+ 2</b>



Table 5 - EPZ:- Analysis of net change in employment during period March 1990 - March 1991 by product group

Product group	Employment as at end of .....		Net change in employment
	March 1990	March 1991	
1. Food	969	1,052	+ 83
2. Flowers	473	561	+ 88
3. Textile yarn and fabrics	4,387	5,536	+ 1,149
4. Wearing apparels	76,237	74,913	- 1,324
of which (a) pullovers	(29,415)	(28,367)	(- 1,048)
(b) gloves	(482)	(431)	(- 51)
(c) other garments	(46,340)	(46,115)	(- 225)
5. Leather products and footwear	1,295	1,438	+ 143
6. Wood and paper products	474	481	+ 7
7. Optical goods	465	540	+ 75
8. Watches, electronic watches and clocks	940	839	- 101
9. Electric and other electronic products	254	441	+ 187
10. Jewellery and related articles	1,673	1,482	- 191
11. Toys and carnival articles	896	1,030	+ 134
12. Other	1,692	1,595	- 97
<b>T O T A L</b>	<b>89,755</b>	<b>89,908</b>	<b>+ 153</b>

Table 6 - EPZ:- Employment evolution by product group and sex, (March 1989 - March 1991)

Product group	March 1989			March 1990			March 1991		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
	1. Food	349	395	744	46	553	969	353	699
2. Flowers	199	201	400	227	246	473	271	290	561
3. Textile yarn and fabrics	2,624	1,399	4,023	2,722	1,665	4,387	3,601	1,935	5,536
4. Wearing apparels	23,310	52,728	76,038	21,936	54,301	76,237	20,703	54,210	74,913
of which (a) Pullovers	(6,688)	(24,437)	(31,125)	(6,115)	(23,300)	(29,415)	(5,619)	(22,748)	(28,367)
(b) Gloves	(131)	(423)	(564)	(117)	(365)	(482)	(106)	(325)	(431)
(c) Other garments	(16,591)	(27,868)	(44,359)	(15,704)	(30,636)	(46,340)	(14,978)	(31,137)	(46,115)
5. Leather products and footwear	303	929	1,232	320	975	1,295	369	1,069	1,438
6. Wood and paper products	324	180	504	283	191	474	282	199	481
7. Optical goods	366	247	613	302	163	465	318	222	540
8. Watches, electronic watches and clocks	216	665	881	214	726	940	218	621	839
9. Electric and other electronic products	74	72	146	138	116	254	208	233	441
10. Jewellery & related articles	1,127	506	1,633	1,156	517	1,673	1,014	468	1,482
11. Toys and carnival articles	83	750	833	79	817	896	113	917	1,030
12. Other	1,276	963	2,239	954	738	1,692	832	763	1,595
T O T A L	30,251	59,035	89,286	28,747	61,008	89,755	28,282	61,626	89,908

Table 7 - EPZ:- Number of enterprises by product group, quarterly series, (year 1990, 1st quarter 1991)

Product group	1990				1991
	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.
1. Food	13	13	13	13	14
2. Flowers	36	42	43	43	44
3. Textile yarn and fabrics	31	31	31	32	37*
4. Wearing apparels	340	344	346	339	337
of which (a) Pullovers	(58)	(58)	(59)	(56)	(54)
(b) Gloves	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)
(c) Other garments	(277)	(281)	(282)	(278)	(278)
5. Leather products and footwear	12	13	13	13	13
6. Wood and paper products	14	15	16	15	16
7. Optical goods	4	5	5	6	7
8. Watches, electronic watches and clocks	5	5	6	6	6
9. Electric and other electronic products	9	12	13	12	14
10. Jewellery	17	18	19	19	19
11. Toys and carnival articles	8	8	8	8	8
12. Other	59	60	61	62	63
T O T A L	548	566	574	568	578

\* Increase is due to a change in classification

Table 8 - EPZ :- Employment by product group, Quarterly Series, (year 1990, 1st Quarter 1991)

Product group	1990				1991
	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.
1. Food	969	971	955	1,161	1,052
2. Flowers	473	477	499	544	561
3. Textile yarn and fabrics	4,387	4,360	4,221	4,789	5,536
4. Wearing apparels	76,237	76,397	74,798	75,709	74,913
of which (a) pullovers	(29,415)	(29,591)	(28,837)	(28,802)	(28,367)
(b) gloves	( 482)	(458)	(431)	(458)	(431)
(c) other garments	(46,340)	(46,348)	(45,530)	(46,449)	(46,115)
5. Leather products and footwear	1,295	1,424	1,402	1,336	1,438
6. Wood and paper products	474	511	539	517	481
7. Optical goods	465	479	494	570	540
8. Watches, electronic watches and clocks	940	966	851	850	839
9. Electric and other electronic products	254	349	465	408	441
10. Jewellery and related articles	1,673	1,589	1,336	1,380	1,482
11. Toys and carnival articles	896	1,031	1,000	978	1,030
12. Other	1,692	1,657	1,698	1,664	1,595
<b>T O T A L</b>	<b>89,755</b>	<b>90,211</b>	<b>88,258</b>	<b>89,906</b>	<b>89,908</b>

Table 9 - Distribution of EPZ enterprises by employment size - as at March 1991

Employment size	No. of enterprises			No. of persons employed		
	Number	%	Cum. %	Number	%	Cum. %
Under 10	95	16.5	16.5	487	0.5	0.5
10 - 50	227	39.3	55.8	5,772	6.4	6.9
51 - 100	69	11.9	67.7	4,841	5.4	12.3
101 - 300	103	17.8	85.5	18,248	20.3	32.6
301 - 500	43	7.4	92.9	16,347	18.2	50.8
501 - 1000	27	4.7	97.6	18,853	21.0	71.8
1000 and above	14	2.4	100.0	25,360	28.2	100.0
TOTAL	578	100.0	100.0	89,908	100.0	100.0

Table 10 - EPZ :- number of enterprises and employment - quarterly series (1984 - 1991)

YEAR	Number of enterprises as at end of				Employment as at end of			
	March	June	September	December	March	June	September	December
1984	153	161	184	197	28,954	32,686	35,748	37,532
1985	215	237	257	290	43,134	46,669	50,218	53,951
1986	321	343	377	408	63,010	66,000	70,519	74,015
1987	437	472	500	531	78,007	82,740	85,605	87,905
1988	554	579	586	591	90,590	91,617	90,738	89,080
1989	573	575	564	563	89,286	89,265	88,669	88,650
1990	548	566	574	568	89,755	90,211	88,258	89,906
1991	578				89,908			