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MAURITIUS

Economic Indicators

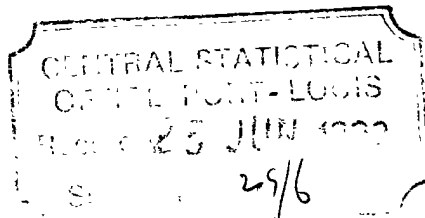
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1. THE EXPORT PROCESSING ZONE
1ST QUARTER 1993
2. EXTERNAL TRADE
1ST QUARTER 1993

MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT
PORT LOUIS
MAURITIUS



The Export Processing Zone 1st Quarter 1993

Introduction

This issue of the "Economic Indicators" presents the results of the "Quarterly Survey of Employment" carried out at the end of March 1993. Provisional EPZ Exports and Imports are also included.

2. Employment evolution, 1st Quarter 1993

At the end of the 1st quarter of 1993, there were 554 enterprises operating in the EPZ sector with a workforce of 87,800 (25,000 males and 62,800 females). There was thus a reduction of 4 companies and a net increase of 900 in employment, mainly due to the additional recruitment of 700 expatriates (50 males and 650 females) working as machinists in textile enterprises. The number of foreign workers employed in the EPZ sector therefore rose to 2,700.

Table 3 on employment evolution between January and March 1993, shows that 4,700 jobs were created: 100 by the 8 new companies and 4,600 by 46 enterprises expanding their activities whilst 3,800 losses were reported: 600 laid off by the 12 enterprises which closed down and 3,200 by companies operating with a reduced personnel.

During the period under review, most of the new enterprises which started operation, i.e. 6 out of the 8, were classified in the miscellaneous "Other" sector while 8 of the 12 closures, were textile companies.

3. Employment evolution, March 1992 - March 1993

For the 12-month period ending March 93, the total number of EPZ companies was reduced by 22 from 576 to 554 and the workforce by 3,600 from 91,400 to 87,800 with male employment declining faster than that of female: a reduction of 2,850 males as compared to 750 females. The decrease in employment has occurred in mainly two product groups: "Other Garment" sector recorded losses of 1,900 workers and "Textile yarn & fabric", 1,400. Employment in the other product groups have remained at almost the same level.

The distribution of employment by product group (Table 6 refers) shows that the textile sector employed 90% or 78,600 of the EPZ workforce. The remaining were engaged in the non-textile sectors: "Leather" and "Jewellery" around 1,400 each; "Food" and "Toys" some 1,000 each and "Flowers", "Wood products", "Optical Goods", "watches" and "Electric & Electronic", about 500 each.

4. EPZ Exports & Imports

Provisional external trade figures show that EPZ exports for the 1st quarter of 1993 totalled Rs 2,815 million, some 4% higher than that of the corresponding period of 1992. As price increases between the two periods are estimated at around 6%, in quantity terms, EPZ exports decreased by 2%. Table 9 on exports by item show that most of the increase occurred in the export of "Wearing apparel", which rose by Rs 100 million.

On the other hand, imports of EPZ companies showed a substantial nominal increase of 21% attaining Rs 2,100 million from Rs 1,750 million in the corresponding quarter of last year. This rise is partly attributable to the effect of price increases estimated at around 10%.

Imports of raw materials, in particular that of "Textile yarn & fabrics" went up by Rs 210 million to Rs 1,205 million and that of capital equipment, by Rs 100 million. It is worth pointing out that whilst the total imports of machinery and equipment last year amounted to about Rs 700 million, imports for the first quarter of 1993 has attained Rs 300 million.

Net EPZ exports during the first quarter of 1993 yielded Rs 700 million only compared to an average of Rs 1,500 million each quarter last year. Consequently, the ratio of Net exports to Exports dropped to 25% from a high ratio of about 45% in the previous two years. This drop may be the result of a replenishment in stock of raw material and a higher investment in machinery and equipment.

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

June 1993

Table 1:- EPZ Sector: Main economic indicators, 1983-1993

Bs Million

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
1. No of enterprises											
-as at December	146	195	290	408	531	591	563	568	586	558	554*
-New	44	55	101	139	114	95	79	62	52	33	12*
-Closures	17	6	6	21	18	35	107	57	34	61	8*
2. Employment											
-as at December	25,526	37,522	53,951	74,015	87,905	89,080	88,658	89,906	90,861	86,937	87,800*
-Net change	+2,050	+11,996	+16,429	+20,064	+13,890	+1,175	-422	+1,248	+955	-3,924
-Growth rate(%)	+8.7	+47.0	+43.8	+37.2	+18.8	+1.3	-1.0	+1.4	+1.1	-4.3
3. Exports	1,307	2,151	3,283	4,951	6,567	8,176	9,057	11,474	12,136	13,081	14,500
4. Imports :	847	1,651	2,530	3,863	4,801	5,890	7,502	7,348	7,067	7,149	8,700
-Raw materials	(785)	(1,491)	(2,280)	(3,427)	(4,296)	(5,056)	(6,539)	(6,554)	(6,348)	(6,472)	(8,000)
-Machinery & spare parts	(62)	(160)	(250)	(436)	(505)	(834)	(963)	(794)	(719)	(677)	(700)
5. Net Exports	460	500	753	1,088	1,766	2,286	1,555	4,126	5,069	5,932	5,800
6. Net Exports to Exports (%)	35	23	23	22	27	28	17	36	42	45	40
7. Value added at current prices	548	865	1,333	1,860	2,585	3,125	3,450	3,975	4,400	4,800	5,300
-Growth rate (%)	+8.8	+32.9	+30.0	+34.9	+22.0	+12.0	+6.0	+7.0	+5.0	+5.0	+6.0
-Share in Manufacturing(%)	32.7	39.6	46.5	48.6	53.4	55.5	54.2	53.3	52.9	53.1	53.0
-Share in GDP(%)	5.2	7.2	9.6	11.3	13.1	13.5	12.7	12.5	12.2	12.0	11.8
8. Investment	74	210	340	560	655	870	900	690	630	560	600
- Machinery	(64)	(165)	(260)	(450)	(530)	(730)	(840)	(640)	(610)	(540)	(580)

* as at March 1993

Forecast

Table 2:- EPZ employment as at March 1993

Category of enterprise	No. of Enterprises			Employment*											
	Enterprises			March 92			December 92			March 93					
	Mar.92	Dec.92	Mar.93	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total			
Large	475	445	447	27,425	61,422	88,847	24,852	59,367	84,219	24,566	60,760	85,326			
Small(<10)	101	113	107	304	217	521	347	220	567	334	196	530			
Outworkers(2)	-	-	-	79	1,952	2,031	48	2,103	2,151	64	1,884	1,948			
TOTAL	576	558	554	27,808	63,591	91,399	25,247	61,690	86,937	24,964	62,840	87,804			

* Note: No. of expatriates as at -Mar.92: 1,200 (550 males,650 females)
 -Dec.92: 2,000 (800 males,1,200 females)
 -Mar.93: 2,700 (850 males,1,850 females)

Table 3:-Analysis of net change in employment , 1st quarter 1993

	Net change March 93-December 92	
	Enterprises	Employment
A. Total employment creation:		
Expansion in existing enterprises*	46	(+4,584)
New enterprises	8	(+98)
B. Total employment lost:		
Reduction in existing enterprises*	32	(-3,198)
Closures	12	(-617)
C. Net change (A-B)		
Male	-4	+867
Female	(-283)
	(+1,150)

* No. of enterprises relates to those reporting expansion/reduction in their workforce by more than 25 while employment is total expansion/reduction

Table 4: - Net change in number of enterprises by product group, 1992-1993

Product group	No. of enterprises			Net change	
	March 92	December 92	March 93	Mar93-Dec 92	Mar93 - Mar92
1. Food	15	13	13	0	-2
2. Flowers	49	51	51	0	+2
3. Textile yarn and fabrics	36	34	33	-1	-3
4. Wearing apparel :	326	307	301	-6	-25
Pullovers	(49)	(46)	(45)	(-1)	(-4)
Other garments	(277)	(261)	(256)	(-5)	(-21)
5. Leather products and footwear	10	11	10	-1	0
6. Wood and paper products	19	20	21	+1	+2
7. Optical goods	6	6	6	0	0
8. Electronic watches and clocks	8	6	6	0	-2
9. Electric and electronic products	15	14	13	-1	-2
10. Jewellery and related articles	18	19	19	0	+1
11. Toys and carnival articles	7	7	7	0	0
12. Other	67	70	74	+4	+7
TOTAL	576	558	554	-4	-22

Table 5:- Net change in employment by product group, 1992-1993

Product group	Employment			Net change	
	March 92	December 92	March 93	Mar93-Dec92	Mar93 - Mar92
1. Food	916	880	944	+64	+28
2. Flowers	605	590	616	+26	+11
3. Textile yarn and fabrics	5,282	4,258	3,867	-391	-1,415
4. Wearing apparel :	76,890	73,643	74,716	+1,073	-2,174
Pullovers	(27,176)	(26,657)	(26,891)	(+234)	(-285)
Other garments	(49,714)	(46,986)	(47,825)	(+839)	(-1,889)
5. Leather products and footwear	1,346	1,467	1,494	+27	+148
6. Wood and paper products	592	534	559	+25	-33
7. Optical goods	457	470	489	+19	+32
8. Electronic watches and clocks	695	603	641	+38	-54
9. Electric and electronic products	423	396	368	-28	-55
10. Jewellery and related articles	1,414	1,312	1,317	+5	-97
11. Toys and carnival articles	1,068	942	935	-7	-133
12. Other	1,711	1,842	1,858	+16	+147
TOTAL	91,399	86,937	87,804	+867	-3,595

Table 6 :-Employment by product group & sex : 1st Quarter 1992,1993

Product group	March 1992				March 1993			
	No of Enterprises	Employment		Total	No of Enterprises	Employment		Total
		Male	Female			Male	Female	
1. Food	15	351	565	916	13	335	609	944
2. Flowers	49	293	312	605	51	304	312	616
3. Textile yarn and fabrics	36	3,428	1,854	5,282	33	2,582	1,285	3,867
4. Wearing apparel :	326	20,602	56,288	76,890	301	18,628	56,088	74,716
Pullovers	(49)	(5,423)	(21,753)	(27,176)	(45)	(4,915)	(21,976)	(26,891)
Other garments	(277)	(15,179)	(34,535)	(49,714)	(256)	(13,713)	(34,112)	(47,825)
5. Leather products and footwear	10	271	1,075	1,346	10	334	1,160	1,494
6. Wood and paper products	19	397	195	592	21	304	255	559
7. Optical goods	6	256	201	457	6	278	211	489
8. Electronic watches and clocks	8	184	511	695	6	190	451	641
9. Electric and electronic products	15	207	216	423	13	213	155	368
10. Jewellery and related articles	18	888	526	1,414	19	864	453	1,317
11. Toys and carnival articles	7	108	960	1,068	7	87	848	935
12. Other	67	823	888	1,711	74	845	1,013	1,858
TOTAL	576	27,808	63,591	91,399	554	24,964	62,840	87,804

Table 7.-New and Closures: 1992 & 1st Quarter 93

Product group	Year 1992						1st Quarter 1993			
	New projects			Closures			New projects			
	Enterprise	Employment	Enterprise	Employment	Enterprise	Employment	Enterprise	Employment	Enterprise	Employment
1. Food	1	3	3	49	-	-	-	-	-	-
2. Flowers	2	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3. Textile yarn and fabrics	2	34	4	918	-	-	1	90	-	-
4. Wearing apparel :	15	1,260	40	6,774	1	29	7	436	-	-
Pullovers	(2)	(715)	(7)	(2,924)	-	-	(1)	(92)	-	-
Other garments	(13)	(545)	(33)	(3,850)	(1)	(29)	(6)	(344)	-	-
5. Leather products and footwear	2	34	2	125	-	-	1	21	-	-
6. Wood and paper products	3	32	3	64	1	11	-	-	-	-
7. Optical goods	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8. Electronic watches and clocks	-	-	2	113	-	-	-	-	-	-
9. Electric and electronic products	1	6	2	31	-	-	1	12	-	-
10. Jewellery and related articles	2	6	2	35	-	-	-	-	-	-
11. Toys and carnival articles	-	-	1	53	-	-	-	-	-	-
12. Other	5	108	2	33	6	58	2	58	-	-
TOTAL	33	1,493	61	8,195	8	98	12	617	8	617

Table 8. -Net EPZ exports, 1991-1993

Rs Million

	1991	1992				1993
		1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	
A. Total exports (f.o.b. value)	12,136	2,699	3,340	3,540	3,502	2,815
B. Total imports (c.i.f. value)	7,067	1,745	1,971	1,730	1,705	2,109
Net Exports (A-B)	5,069	954	1,369	1,810	1,797	706
Net Exports as % of Total Exports	42%	35%	41%	51%	51%	25%

Table 9 :-FPZ exports by main commodities, 1991-1993

Description of items	F.O.B. Value Rs. Mn								Net Change	
	1991	1992	1992				1993	1st Qr.	1st Qr 93- 1st Qr 92	
			1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.			Value	%
Fish and fish preparations	296	295	71	70	74	80	68	-3	-4.2	
Textiles yarn, fabrics, made-up articles	493	468	130	116	115	108	135	+5	+3.8	
Pearls, precious and semi-precious stones	391	320	87	86	77	70	73	-14	-16.1	
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories	9,621	10,476	2,076	2,680	2,861	2,859	2,179	+103	+5.0	
Optical goods, n.e.s	145	164	44	36	44	40	40	-4	-9.1	
Watches and clocks	550	630	143	175	163	149	155	+12	+8.4	
Toys, games and sporting goods	121	167	34	42	48	43	37	+3	+8.8	
Jewellery goldsmiths and silversmiths wares	157	154	32	40	40	42	32	0	0.0	
Other	362	407	82	95	118	111	96	+14	+17.1	
TOTAL	12,136	13,081	2,699	3,340	3,540	3,502	2,815	+116	+4.3	

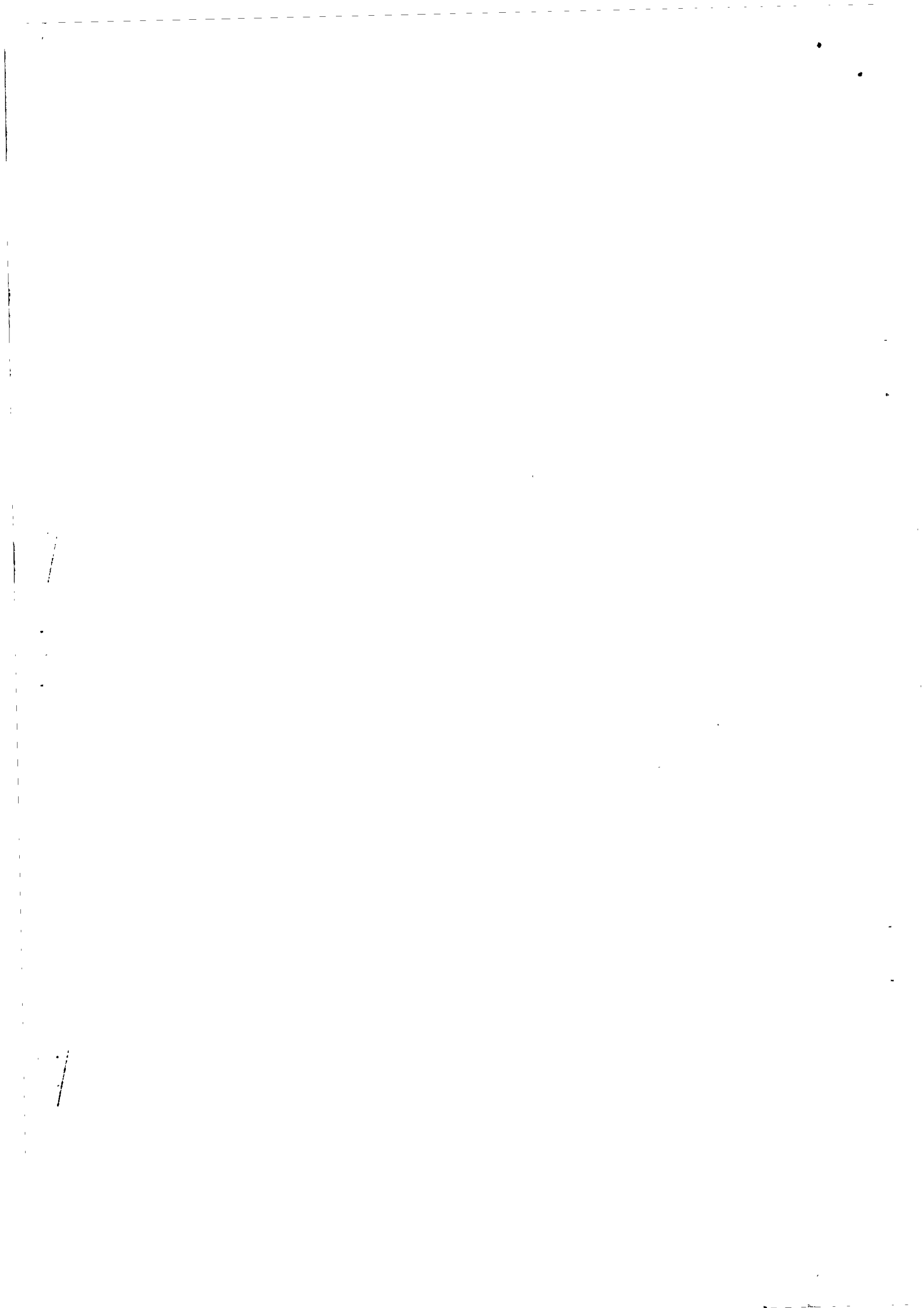


Table 10: -EPZ imports by main commodities, 1991-1993

Description of items	1991	1992	C.I.F. Value Rs. Mn					Net change	
			1992					1993	
			1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	value	%
Synthetic fibres suitable for spinning	58	27	17	7	2	1	2	-15	-88.2
Wool and other animal hair	228	215	59	100	37	19	70	+11	+18.6
Chemicals	292	291	76	76	71	68	68	-8	-10.5
Leather	98	124	24	38	31	31	32	+8	+8.3
Textile yarn and fabrics	3,979	4,202	996	1,174	1,037	995	1,206	+210	+21.1
Pearls, precious and semi-precious stones	355	314	74	84	83	73	95	+21	+23.4
Machinery including spare parts	719	677	196	165	139	177	291	+95	+48.5
Optical goods, watches and clocks, etc.	353	346	86	88	84	90	89	+3	+3.5
Jewellery	122	93	31	28	13	20	18	-13	-41.9
Other	863	860	126	211	233	231	238	+52	+28.0
TOTAL	7,067	7,149	1,745	1,971	1,730	1,705	2,109	+364	+20.9