



MAURITIUS

# Economic Indicators

An Occasional Paper

25TH JANUARY 1985

ISSUE NO. 14

1. Consumer Price Index - 4th Quarter 1984.
2. Balance of Visible Trade.
3. Government Revenue and Expenditure.

MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT  
PORT LOUIS  
MAURITIUS

## Consumer Price Index - 4th Quarter 1984

The Consumer Price Index (C.P.I.) has registered a small increase of 0.8 point or 0.7% during the fourth quarter of 1984 and stood at 118.2 at the end of December 1984. This compares favourably with the third quarter of 1984 when the C.P.I. rose by 4.2 points or 3.7%. The increase for the corresponding period a year ago was 0.5 point or 0.5%, when the index of December 1983 is compared with that of December 1984 it shows a rise of 10.7 points or 10%.

The main commodities that have influenced the movement of the index during the fourth quarter were fresh vegetables, water charges, soft drinks and soap.

Fresh vegetables have played a prominent role during this quarter. A fall in prices of about 10% has alone checked the rise of the index by 0.7 point.

New tariffs for water charges became effective on 1st October 1984. These tariffs which have risen by about 18% pushed the index up by 0.3 point.

Prices of laundry and toilet soaps were revised upwards by about 14% in October 1984 and affected the index adversely by 0.2 point.

At the end of November 1984 prices of soft drinks were increased. Those price increases ranging from 3.3% to 10.3% contributed 0.2 point to the rise in the index.

Details of all changes in the index during the fourth quarter as compared to September 1984 are as follows:

<u>Commodity</u>	<u>Change</u>
Frozen mutton	+ 0.1
Canned fish	+ 0.1
Eggs	- 0.1
Fresh vegetables	- 0.7
Fresh fruits	+ 0.1
Tea	+ 0.1
Soft drinks	+ 0.2
Other food products	+ 0.3
Water charges	+ 0.3
Soap	+ 0.2
Other goods and services	+ 0.2
Total	<u>+ 0.8</u>

The average of the index for calendar year 1984 is 114.4 so that the inflation rate for 1984 works out to 7.3%, since the average of

the index/

the index for the previous year was 106.6. The inflation rate for the two previous years was 11.4 and 5.6% respectively. The 10.7 points increase from December 1983 to December 1984 is mainly attributable to the following commodities:

<u>Commodity</u>	<u>Change over December 1983</u>
Rice	+ 1.1
Flour, flour products	+ 1.1
Water charges	+ 0.5
Edible oil	+ 0.8
Electricity	+ 0.5
Bus fares	+ 0.4
Petroleum products	+ 0.5
Fresh fruits	+ 0.4
Clothing & footwear	+ 0.3

If the present trend persists, it is estimated that the inflation rate for financial year 1984/85 will be just under 9% as against 7.5 and 5.6 for 1982/83 and 1983/84 respectively.

Central Statistical Office  
Rose Hill.

January 1985

Table 1 - Inflation Rate (%), 1975 - 1984

<u>Calendar Year</u>	<u>Inflation Rate</u>	<u>Financial Year</u>	<u>Inflation Rate</u>
1975	14.7	1974 - 75	20.6
1976	13.4	1975 - 76	14.7
1977	9.2	1976 - 77	9.6
1978	8.5	1977 - 78	10.1
1979	14.5	1978 - 79	8.0
1980	42.0	1979 - 80	33.0
1981	14.5	1980 - 81	26.5
1982	11.4	1981 - 82	13.4
1983	5.6	1982 - 83	7.5
1984	7.3	1983 - 84	5.6

Table 2 - Consumer Price Index (Base: January - June 1982 = 100)

	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>
January	104.6	109.9
February	106.1	110.6
March	106.4	112.4
April	106.7	113.2
May	106.2	113.5
June	105.8	113.2
July	106.4	114.0
August	106.5	115.6
September	107.0	117.4
October	108.1	118.0
November	107.6	117.4
December	107.5	118.2
Yearly Average	106.6	114.4

Table 3 - Sub indices by Major Commodity Group (Base : January - June 1982 = 100)

Commodity Group	1 9 8 3						1 9 8 4				
	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Year	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Year	
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	107.9	108.3	108.6	109.1	108.5	114.2	118.3	120.1	120.8	118.3	
Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	104.6	106.9	107.4	107.0	106.5	107.4	107.8	110.1	111.2	109.1	
Fuel and Light	94.9	94.9	94.9	100.9	96.4	101.6	101.7	107.1	113.5	106.0	
Housing	108.7	109.3	110.4	110.8	109.8	113.2	114.9	117.5	121.2	116.7	
Clothing, Footwear and Bedding	107.4	107.5	107.7	109.5	108.0	111.3	111.1	113.4	116.0	113.0	
Transport and Communication	100.7	100.9	100.9	101.2	100.9	102.2	103.3	106.4	110.1	105.5	
Medical Care	103.6	103.9	104.9	109.8	105.6	114.0	115.0	118.1	120.6	116.9	
Education	102.5	103.2	103.2	103.6	103.1	107.3	108.2	108.3	108.5	108.1	
Miscellaneous	105.4	106.9	107.3	108.8	107.1	111.6	114.4	117.2	121.6	116.2	
All Groups	105.7	106.2	106.6	107.7	106.6	111.0	113.3	115.7	117.9	114.4	

Table 4 - Purchasing power of the rupee (1962 - 1984)

EROSION OF PURCHASING POWER

	1962	1967	1972	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984
1962	100	93.1	79.2	38.1	35.1	30.6	21.6	18.9	17.0	16.1	15.0
1967	107.4	100	85.1	40.9	37.7	32.9	23.2	20.2	18.1	17.1	16.1
1972	126.2	117.5	100	48.1	44.3	38.7	27.2	23.8	21.4	20.3	18.9
1977	262.6	244.5	208.1	100	92.1	80.5	56.7	49.5	44.4	42.1	39.3
1978	285.0	265.4	225.8	108.5	100	87.3	61.5	53.7	48.2	45.6	42.6
1979	326.3	303.8	258.6	124.3	114.5	100	70.4	61.5	55.2	52.3	48.8
1980	463.3	431.4	367.1	176.4	162.6	142.0	100	87.3	78.4	74.2	69.3
1981	530.5	493.9	420.4	202.0	186.1	162.6	114.5	100	89.8	85.0	79.3
1982	591.0	550.2	468.3	225.0	207.3	181.1	127.6	111.4	100	94.7	88.3
1983	624.1	581.0	494.5	237.6	218.9	191.2	134.8	117.6	105.6	100	93.2
1984	686.8	639.4	544.1	255.5	235.3	205.4	144.6	126.2	113.3	107.3	100

EQUIVALENT PURCHASING POWER