



MAURITIUS

# Economic Indicators

An Occasional Paper

Issue No. 22

30th August, 1985

Export Processing Zone - 2nd Quarter 1985

MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT  
PORT LOUIS  
MAURITIUS

## Export Processing Zone - 2nd Quarter 1985

### 1. Introduction

The present issue is meant to give an overall view of the situation in the EPZ sector as at June 1985. A set of tables relating to employment, imports and exports are given. Revised data for previous quarters are included.

### 2. Employment

As at end of June 1985, the work force of the EPZ sector reached 46,669 of which 11,003 were males and 35,666 females.

During the period April-June 1985, 22 additional enterprises started operation, bringing the total number of enterprises operating in the Export Processing Zone sector to 237. The net employment creation during the same period was 3,535 of which 1,295 males and 2,240 females. Table 1 shows the quarterly data on employment.

Tables 2 and 3 relate to employment evolution during the first six months of 1985. 10,321 new jobs have been created of which 7,777 were through the expansion of existing enterprises and 2,544 through the coming into operation of new industries. However, as there were 1,184 jobs lost, mainly through the contraction of existing enterprises, the net addition to the labour force in the Export Processing Zone sector was 9,137.

It has been observed that during the last twelve months ending June 1985, the Export Processing Zone sector has contributed towards the creation of 14,011 jobs. Male employment has almost doubled, increasing from 5,646 to 11,003 whilst female workers have increased by 8,654 i.e. from 27,012 to 35,666. Tables 6 and 7 illustrate employment evolution between July 1984 and June 1985.

If the present trend in employment creation continues, it is estimated that the forecast of 50,000 jobs in the EPZ sector will be attained by the end of this year.

### 3. Exports

During the 2nd Quarter 1985, Rs 795.5 million worth of goods were exported by the EPZ industries bringing the total for the first six months to Rs 1,300.8 million. Compared to export figures relating to the first six months of 1984, total exports in 1985 has shown a marked increase of around Rs 400 million.

If the present trend in EPZ exports continues, the total for the year 1985 will exceed Rs 3000 million.

### 4. Imports

The total imports of the EPZ sector were Rs 672.3 million during the second quarter 1985, as against Rs 507.0 million during the first quarter.

Raw materials, which make up the bulk of EPZ imports, accounted for Rs 593.6 million, that is 88%, while the other main import, machinery and equipment constituted the remaining 12%.

Imports for the first half of 1985 amounted to Rs 1,179.3 million, of which Rs 1,040.4 million were for raw materials. Corresponding figures for the same period in 1984 were Rs 779.0 million and Rs 684.9 million respectively.

5. Net Exports

Net exports during the 2nd quarter 1985 have therefore been Rs 123.2 million, which is a considerable improvement over the first quarter when it was as low as Rs - 1.7 million.

As shown in Table 10, the first quarter usually registers very low net exports. If the same trend as in previous years is followed, this figure will improve further during the next quarters.

Central Statistical Office  
Rose Hill

August 1985

Table 1 - Employment in the EPZ sector as at March and June 1985, by category of enterprise and by sex

Category of enterprise	No. of enterprises as at end of period			Employment as at end of period								
	March 1985	June 1985	Net change	March 1985			June 1985			Net change		
				Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Large	183	200	+ 17	9,558	31,653	41,211	10,810	33,947	44,757	+ 1,252	+ 2,294	+ 3,546
Small	31	35	+ 4	118	64	182	123	75	198	+ 5	+ 11	+ 16
Outworkers	(1)	(2)	(+ 1)	32	1,709	1,741	70	1,644	1,714	+ 38	- 65	- 27
TOTAL	215	237	+ 22	9,708	33,426	43,134	11,003	35,666	46,669	+1,295	+2,240	+3,535

Category of enterprise:

Large: Enterprises employing 10 or more persons

Small: Enterprises employing less than 10 persons

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

Only number of enterprises employing outworkers are given

Table 2 - Employment in the EPZ sector by category of enterprise and by sex during first six months 1985

Category of enterprise <sup>1/</sup>	Number of enterprises as at end of period			Employment as at end of period						Net change		
	December 1984	June 1985	Net change	December 1984			June 1985			Male	Female	Total
				Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total			
Large	168	200	+ 32	7,803	27,849	35,652	10,810	33,947	44,757	3,007	6,098	9,105
Small	26	35	+ 9	93	58	151	123	75	198	30	17	47
Outworkers	(1)	(2)	(+ 1)	27	1,702	1,729	70	1,644	1,714	43	- 58	- 15
TOTAL	195	237	+ 42	7,923	29,609	37,532	11,003	35,666	46,669	+ 3,080	+ 6,057	+ 9,137

<sup>1/</sup> For definitions see footnotes to table (1)

Table 3 - Employment evolution in the EPZ sector during the period January-June 1985

Description	Number of enterprises	Employment
1. EMPLOYMENT AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 1984	195	37,532
2. Total employment created of which: Employment created through expansion <sup>1/</sup> of existing enterprises Employment created through new enterprises	90 (47) (43)	10,321 (7,777) (2,544)
3. Total employment lost of which: Employment lost through contraction <sup>2/</sup> of existing enterprises Employment lost through closing down of enterprises	9 (8) (1)	1,184 (1,163) (21)
4. Net change in employment	+ 42	+ 9,137
5. EMPLOYMENT AS AT 27TH JUNE 1985	237	46,669

<sup>1/</sup> Expansion relates to only enterprises which have increased their workforce by 25 or more employees

<sup>2/</sup> Contraction relates to enterprises which have reduced their workforce by 25 or more employees

Table 4 - Employment\* in the EPZ sector by product group, Quarterly Series (1984 - 2nd Quarter 1985)

Product group	Employment as at end of period											
	Number of enterprises as at end of period						Employment as at end of period					
	1984		1985		1984		1985		1984		1985	
	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.
1. Flowers	15	15	16	16	17	17	150	150	172	172	185	187
2. Textile yarn and fabrics	10	11	11	11	12	13	1,467	1,480	1,503	1,509	1,592	1,732
3. Wearing apparels	69	76	89	102	114	133	23,078	26,540	29,287	31,065	36,565	39,555
of which (a) pullovers	(27)	(32)	(36)	(37)	(38)	(42)	(16,320)	(17,667)	(19,002)	(19,022)	(22,099)	(23,398)
(b) gloves	(3)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(897)	(1,050)	(1,190)	(1,236)	(1,342)	(1,676)
(c) other garments	(39)	(41)	(49)	(60)	(71)	(86)	(5,861)	(7,823)	(9,095)	(10,807)	(13,124)	(14,481)
4. Leather products and footwear	6	6	6	6	6	6	333	414	439	402	414	420
5. Wood, furniture and paper products	5	6	7	7	8	7	870	952	1,046	974	934	897
6. Optical goods	2	2	2	2	2	2	204	194	202	219	218	218
7. Matches and clocks	7	7	7	6	7	7	448	413	440	454	474	574
8. Jewellery and related articles	10	10	11	11	11	12	763	781	783	778	769	856
9. Fishing tacks and flies	4	4	4	4	4	4	480	496	463	485	445	470
10. Toys and carnival articles	6	6	6	6	6	7	412	581	646	635	683	724
11. Other	18	17	23	24	28	29	719	657	736	839	855	1,036
TOTAL	152	160	182	195	215	237	28,924	32,658	35,717	37,532	43,134	46,669

\* Employment figures have been revised

Table 5 -EPZ:- Analysis of net change in employment during period January-  
June 1985 by product group

Product group	Employment as at end of .....		Net change in employment
	December 1984	June 1985	
1. Flowers	172	187	+ 15
2. Textile yarn and fabrics	1,509	1,732	+ 223
3. Wearing apparels	31,065	39,555	+ 8,490
of which (a) pullovers	(19,022)	(23,398)	(+ 4,376)
(b) gloves	(1,236)	(1,676)	(+ 440)
(c) other garments	(10,807)	(14,481)	(+ 3,674)
4. Leather products and footwear	402	420	+ 18
5. Wood, furniture and paper products	974	897	- 77
6. Optical goods	219	218	- 1
7. Watches and clocks	454	574	+ 120
8. Jewellery and related articles	778	856	+ 78
9. Fishing tackles and flies	485	470	- 15
10. Toys and carnival articles	635	724	+ 89
11. Other	839	1,036	+ 197
TOTAL	37,532	46,669	+ 9,137



Table 6 - Employment evolution by product group and by sex (June 1983 - June 1985)

Product group	June 1983*			June 1984*			June 1985		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
	1. Flowers	74	67	141	70	80	150	85	102
2. Textile yarn and fabrics	743	821	1,564	722	758	1,480	831	901	1,732
3. Wearing apparels	2,239	16,956	19,195	3,347	23,193	26,540	8,196	31,359	39,555
of which (a) pullovers	(1,480)	(12,116)	(13,596)	(1,795)	(15,872)	(17,667)	(3,157)	(20,241)	(23,398)
(b) gloves	(64)	(832)	(896)	(72)	(978)	(1,050)	(144)	(1,532)	(1,676)
(c) other garments	(695)	(4,008)	(4,703)	(1,480)	(6,343)	(7,823)	(4,895)	(9,586)	(14,481)
4. Leather products and footwear	60	234	294	107	307	414	119	301	420
5. Wood, furniture and paper products	119	196	315	293	659	952	337	560	897
6. Optical goods	90	100	190	108	86	194	121	97	218
7. Watched and clocks	128	336	464	129	284	413	164	410	574
8. Jewellery and related articles	524	189	713	562	219	781	577	279	856
9. Fishing tackles and flies	20	318	338	24	472	496	18	452	470
10. Toys and carnivals articles	38	467	505	43	538	581	56	668	724
11. Other	190	395	585	241	416	657	499	537	1,036
TOTAL	4,225	20,079	24,304	5,646	27,012	32,658	11,003	35,666	46,669

\* Revised figures

Table 7 - EPZ:- Analysis of net change in employment during last 12 months  
ending June 1985 by product group

Product group	Employment as at end of .....		Net change in employment
	June 1984	June 1985	
1. Flowers	150	187	+ 37
2. Textile yarn and fabrics	1,480	1,732	+ 252
3. Wearing apparels	26,540	39,555	+ 13,015
of which (a) pullovers	(17,667)	(23,398)	(+ 5,731)
(b) gloves	(1,050)	(1,676)	(+ 626)
(c) other garments	(7,823)	(14,481)	(+ 6,658)
4. Leather products and footwear	414	420	+ 6
5. Wood, furniture and paper products	952	897	- 55
6. Optical goods	194	218	+ 24
7. Watches and clocks	413	574	+ 161
8. Jewellery and related articles	781	856	+ 75
9. Fishing tackles and flies	496	470	- 26
10. Toys and carnival articles	581	724	+ 143
11. Other	657	1,036	+ 379
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>32,658</b>	<b>46,669</b>	<b>+ 14,011</b>

Table 8 - EPZ exports by main commodities (1983 - 2nd Qr. 1985)

F.O.B. value (Rs million)

Description of items	1983	1984	1984				1985	
			1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.
Fish and fish preparations	67.5	98.6	24.3	22.2	22.4	29.7	22.2	31.3
Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles	65.5	78.4	22.2	14.0	20.5	21.7	16.0	32.6
Pearls, precious and semi-precious stones	48.6	89.1	16.4	22.6	25.3	24.8	17.9	32.4
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories	921.4	1,584.5	235.6	411.8	472.5	464.6	367.3	600.7
Optical goods, n.e.s.	33.3	60.2	16.1	14.2	9.5	20.4	19.6	17.4
Watches and clocks	64.8	84.4	14.9	22.6	16.5	30.4	23.8	38.8
Toys, games and sporting goods	34.2	50.1	9.4	12.8	15.0	12.9	8.8	12.4
Jewellery goldsmiths' and silversmiths' wares	31.4	47.8	9.2	14.2	7.8	16.6	9.4	11.6
Other	40.2	57.6	13.1	12.6	13.6	18.5	20.3	18.3
Total exports	1,306.9	2,150.7	361.2	547.0	603.1	639.6	505.3	795.5

Table 9 - EPZ imports of main commodities (1983 - 2nd Qr. 1985)

C.I.F. value (Rs million)

Description of items	1983	1984	1984				1985	
			1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.
Synthetic fibres suitable for spinning	26.5	44.3	12.7	10.3	5.3	16.0	11.1	11.3
Wool and other animal hair	93.5	154.3	26.8	44.7	19.1	63.7	48.1	69.5
Chemicals	23.6	40.0	11.2	9.4	10.7	8.7	9.9	11.8
Leather	17.8	24.5	5.1	7.3	6.2	5.9	5.4	9.8
Textile yarn and fabrics	396.8	872.0	181.3	215.8	251.1	223.8	270.7	354.2
Pearls, precious and semi-precious stones	31.3	65.4	11.3	24.2	13.9	16.0	14.9	28.7
Machinery	77.2	190.6	33.5	60.6	38.4	58.1	60.2	78.7
Optical goods, watches and clocks, etc.	66.8	100.8	23.6	21.6	22.4	33.2	35.8	40.7
Jewellery	24.1	34.0	6.5	10.6	7.4	9.5	14.2	13.1
Other	88.9	124.3	24.3	38.2	30.9	31.1	36.7	54.5
Total imports	846.5	1,650.4	336.3	442.7	405.4	466.0	507.0	672.3

Table 10 - EPZ : Net exports (1983 - 2nd Quarter 1985)

(Rs Million)

	1983	1984	1984				1985 <sup>1/</sup>	
			1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.
Total exports (f.o.b. value)	1,306.9	2,150.7	361.2	547.0	603.1	639.6	505.3	795.5
Total imports (c.i.f. value)	846.5	1,650.4	336.3	442.7	405.4	466.0	507.0	672.3
Net exports	460.4	500.3	24.9	104.3	197.7	173.6	- 1.7	123.2
Net exports as % of total exports	35.2	23.3	6.9	19.1	32.8	27.1	...	15.5

... Negligible

<sup>1/</sup> Provisional