



MAURITIUS

# Economic Indicators

An Occasional Paper

ISSUE NO. 30

28th February 1986

1. Export Processing Zone (EPZ) - 1985
2. Tourism - 1985

MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT  
PORT LOUIS  
MAURITIUS

## Export Processing Zone (EPZ) - 1985

### 1. Introduction

This issue contains the latest information on employment in the EPZ Sector as at the end of December 1985 and gives also latest estimates of its exports and imports.

### 2. Employment

During the fourth quarter of 1985, 20 additional enterprises started operation creating about 3,200 additional jobs of which 2,150 were occupied by male and 1,050 by female workers. A fact worthy of note during this quarter is that the creation of employment in this sector has been for the first time more important among male than among female workers.

As at the end of December 1985, 277 enterprises were operating in the EPZ Sector with a workforce of some 53,500 employees as compared with 195 enterprises and 37,500 employees a year ago.

The additional 16,000 jobs, which have been filled by about 6,800 male and 9,200 female workers, were the result of the creation of about 12,000 jobs through the expansion of existing enterprises and of about 6,000 jobs through the opening of new enterprises. On the other hand, 2,000 jobs were lost through contraction (1,600) and closing down (400) of existing enterprises.

There has been a marked progression in the employment of male workers in the EPZ industries during the year 1985. The ratio of female employment to male employment which was almost 4 to 1 a year ago in this sector has now fallen to about 2.5 to 1 at the end of 1985.

The manufacture of wearing apparel which provides for more than 85% of employment in the EPZ Sector was almost the only avenue for new opportunities for employment in that sector during 1985. In fact 15,000 out of the 16,000 jobs created were found in this sub-sector.

More detailed information on employment in the EPZ industries appears in tables 1 to 7.

### 3. Exports and Imports

Figures of exports and imports for December 1985 are not yet ready. However, for October and November, exports of the EPZ industries have amounted to Rs 456 million and Rs 263 million respectively. For the first eleven months of 1985, exports of the EPZ industries have therefore reached Rs 3,000 million. It is estimated that during December exports may have been of the order of Rs 250 million, so that EPZ exports could have attained Rs 3,250 million during 1985.

As regards/

As regards imports of EPZ industries, they were Rs 205 million and Rs 234 million in October and November respectively. The EPZ import bill for the first eleven months of 1985 was therefore Rs 2,275 million. There are indications that imports during December may have reached Rs 225 million, in which case the EPZ industries have imported about Rs 2,500 million during 1985.

The detailed results of imports and exports of EPZ enterprises will appear in a subsequent issue of the "Economic Indicators".

Central Statistical Office  
Rose Hill

February 1986

Table 1 - EPZ :- Employment as at September and December 1985, by category of enterprise and by sex

Category of enterprise*	Employment as at end of .....											
	Number of enterprises as at end of .....		September 1985			December 1985			Net change			
	September 1985	December 1985	Net change	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Large	219	237	+ 18	12,330	35,755	48,085	14,466	37,189	51,655	+ 2,136	+ 1,434	+ 3,570
Small	35	36	+ 1	122	76	198	135	72	207	+ 13	- 4	+ 9
Outworkers <sup>1/</sup>	(3)	(4)	(+ 1)	46	1,889	1,935	46	1,532	1,578	-	- 357	- 357
TOTAL	257	277	+ 20	12,498	37,700	50,218	14,647	38,793	53,440	+ 2,149	+ 1,073	+ 3,222

\* Category of enterprise :

Large : Enterprise employing 10 of more persons

Small : Enterprise employing less than 10 persons

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

<sup>1/</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 December 1984 and December 1985, by category of enterprise and by sex

Category of enterprise	Number of enterprises as at end of.....		Employment as at end of .....						Net change		
	December 1984	December 1985	December 1984			December 1985			Male	Female	Total
			Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total			
Large	168	237	7,803	27,849	35,652	14,466	37,189	51,655	+ 6,663	+ 9,340	+16,003
Small	26	36	93	58	151	135	72	207	+ 42	+ 14	+ 56
Outworkers	(1)	(4)	27	1,702	1,729	46	1,532	1,578	+ 19	- 170	- 151
TOTAL	195	277	7,923	29,609	37,532	14,647	38,793	53,440	+ 6,724	+ 9,184	+15,908

1/ For definitions see footnotes to table (1)

Table 3 - Evolution in the EPZ sector during the year 1985

Description	Number of enterprises	Employment
1. SITUATION AS AT END OF DECEMBER 1984	<u>195</u>	<u>27,532</u>
2. Total employment creation	...	17,857
of which through:		
Expansion <u>1/</u>	(61)	(12,087)
of existing enterprises	(88)	(5,770)
New enterprises	...	1,949
3. Total loss	...	
of which through:		
Contraction <u>2/</u>	(9)	(1,627)
of existing enterprises	(6)	(322)
Closing down of enterprises	+ 82	+ 15,908
4. Net change		
5. SITUATION AS AT END OF DECEMBER 1985	<u>277</u>	<u>53,440</u>

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

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

Table 4 - EPZ: - Number of enterprises by product group. Quarterly Series (1984 - 1985)

Product group	1984				1985			
	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.
1. Flowers	15	15	16	16	17	17	17	19
2. Textile yarn and fabrics	10	11	11	11	12	13	13	13
3. Wearing apparels of which (a) pullovers (b) gloves (c) other garments	69 (27) (3) (39)	76 (32) (3) (41)	89 (36) (4) (49)	102 (37) (5) (60)	114 (38) (5) (71)	133 (42) (5) (86)	148 (43) (5) (102)	164 (44) (5) (115)
4. Leather products and footwear	6	6	6	6	6	6	7	7
5. Wood, furniture and paper products	5	6	7	7	8	7	7	9
6. Optical goods	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3
7. Watches and clocks	7	7	7	6	7	7	6	6
8. Jewellery and related articles	10	10	11	11	11	12	13	13
9. Fishing tackles and flies	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
10. Toys and carnival articles	6	6	6	6	6	7	7	7
11. Other	18	17	23	24	28	29	30	32
TOTAL	152	160	182	195	215	237	257	277

Table 5 - EPZ:- Employment by product group, Quarterly Series (1984 - 1985)

Product group	1 9 8 4				1 9 8 5			
	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.
1. Flowers	150	150	172	172	185	187	219	217
2. Textile yarn and fabrics	1,467	1,480	1,503	1,509	1,592	1,732	1,736	1,771
3. Wearing apparels	23,078	26,540	29,287	31,065	36,565	39,555	43,009	46,139
of which (a) pullovers	(16,320)	(17,667)	(19,002)	(19,022)	(22,099)	(23,398)	(25,222)	(25,192)
(b) gloves	(897)	(1,050)	(1,190)	(1,236)	(1,342)	(1,676)	(1,747)	(1,750)
(c) other garments	(5,861)	(7,823)	(9,095)	(10,807)	(13,124)	(14,481)	(16,040)	(19,197)
4. Leather products and footwear	333	414	439	402	414	420	442	454
5. Wood, furniture and paper products	870	952	1,046	974	934	897	876	969
6. Optical goods	204	194	202	219	218	218	274	280
7. Watches and clocks	448	413	440	454	474	574	603	631
8. Jewellery and related articles	763	781	783	778	769	856	906	888
9. Fishing tackles and flies	480	496	463	485	445	470	548	461
10. Toys and carnival articles	412	581	646	635	683	724	700	695
11. Other	719	657	736	839	855	1,036	905	935
TOTAL	28,924	32,658	35,717	37,532	43,134	46,669	50,218	53,440



Table 6 - EPZ : Analysis of net change in employment during year 1985  
by product group

Product group	Employment as at end of .....		Net change in employment
	December 1984	December 1985	
1. Flowers	172	217	+ 45
2. Textile yarn and fabrics	1,509	1,742	+ 233
3. Wearing apparels	31,065	46,139	+ 15,074
of which (a) pullovers	(19,022)	(25,192)	(+ 6,170)
(b) gloves	(1,236)	(1,750)	(+ 514)
(c) other garments	(10,807)	(19,197)	(+ 8,390)
4. Leather products and footwear	402	454	+ 52
5. Wood, furniture and paper products	974	969	- 5
6. Optical goods	219	280	+ 61
7. Watches and clocks	454	631	+ 177
8. Jewellery and related articles	778	888	+ 110
9. Fishing tackles and flies	485	461	- 24
10. Toys and carnival articles	635	695	+ 60
11. Other	839	935	+ 96
T O T A L	37,532	53,440	+ 15,908

Table 7 - EPZ: - Employment evolution by product group and sex (December 1983 - 1985)

Product group	December 1983			December 1984			December 1985		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1. Flowers	75	82	157	83	89	172	111	106	217
2. Textile yarn and fabrics	677	735	1,412	745	764	1,509	957	814	1,771
3. Wearing apparels	2,839	17,614	20,453	5,411	25,654	31,065	11,579	34,560	46,139
of which (a) pullovers	(1,862)	(12,592)	(14,454)	(2,225)	(16,797)	(19,022)	(4,570)	(20,622)	(25,192)
(b) gloves	(59)	(885)	(954)	(152)	(1,084)	(1,236)	(180)	(1,570)	(1,750)
(c) other garments	(908)	(4,137)	(5,045)	(3,034)	(7,773)	(10,807)	(6,829)	(12,368)	(19,197)
4. Leather products and footwear	79	205	284	117	285	402	153	301	454
5. Wood, furniture and paper products	181	303	484	303	671	974	403	566	969
6. Optical goods	85	93	178	122	97	219	157	123	280
7. Watches and clocks	115	278	393	140	314	454	176	455	631
8. Jewellery and related articles	469	214	683	558	220	778	602	286	888
9. Fishing tackles and flies	16	278	294	21	464	485	20	441	461
10. Toys and carnival articles	38	490	528	46	589	635	49	646	695
11. Other	212	417	629	377	462	839	440	495	935
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,786</b>	<b>20,709</b>	<b>25,495</b>	<b>7,923</b>	<b>29,609</b>	<b>37,532</b>	<b>14,647</b>	<b>38,793</b>	<b>53,440</b>