



MAURITIUS

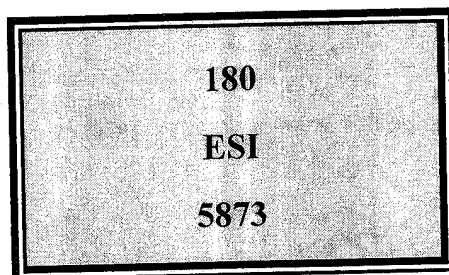
Economic Indicators

An Occasional Paper

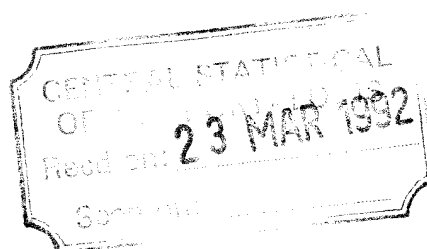
MARCH 13, 1992

ISSUE NO. 140

1. EXTERNAL TRADE - YEAR 1991
2. AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION - YEAR 1991



MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT
PORT LOUIS
MAURITIUS



EXTERNAL TRADE - YEAR 1991

1. Total value of international trade

Total international trade between July - December 1991 was valued at Rs 24,500 million, 4% higher than in the corresponding period of 1990 but 26% higher than in the previous semester. The total for the year 1991 therefore amounted to Rs 43,950 million, representing an increase of Rs 1,680 million or 4% over the previous year's level.

2. Balance of visible trade

Total exports for the year 1991 increased, in nominal terms, by 6% to attain Rs 19,300 million whilst imports were up by 3% and amounted to Rs 24,700 million. Consequently, the trade balance yielded a deficit of around Rs 5,400 million which compares with deficits of Rs 5,800 million in 1990 and Rs 4,700 million in 1989. The balance for the year 1990, however, includes some Rs 1,200 million imports of aircraft and marine vessels excluding which the deficit in 1990 would have been at Rs 4,600 million.

3. Terms of trade (1988 = 100)

In 1991, the terms of trade index which shows price movements of exports relative to imports improved by 2 percentage points to reach 100 as compared with 98 in 1990.

This favourable movement of the terms of trade resulted from higher prices of exports relative to import prices. Prices of exported goods recorded increases of around 6%, with those of sugar rising by 7% and EPZ products, 5%. Import prices, on the other hand, went up by only around 5%. Higher prices were paid for the following: food products, (2%), alcoholic beverages and tobacco, (+5%), petroleum products, (+6%), chemicals, (+10%), and manufactured goods, (+11%).

4. Exports

Total export proceeds, inclusive of ships' stores and bunkers, amounted to Rs 19,300 million as contrasted to Rs 18,250 million in 1990. In nominal terms, the increase works out to 6% explained solely by the effect of price increases. In volume terms, total exports therefore, showed no growth.

During the year 1991, a lower volume of sugar was exported: 551,000 metric tons were sold for Rs 5,200 million as compared to 578,000 metric tons for the same amount a year earlier. EPZ exports attained Rs 12,136 million as compared to Rs 11,474 million in 1990. The 6% rise in the value of EPZ exports is mostly attributable to the effect of price which is estimated to have increased by 5%. EPZ exports therefore grew by only around 1% compared to 6% in 1990.

Re-exports almost doubled last year's figure and reached Rs 700 million, fuel and other goods supplied to aircraft and ships amounted to Rs 600 million.

As in the previous years, the European Economic Community (EEC) remained the leading buyer of Mauritian products absorbing some 80% of total goods sold. The United States of America (USA) bought another 12%.

5. Imports

In 1991, the import bill of the country was valued at nearly Rs 24,700 million 3% higher than the 1990's figure of around Rs 24,000 million. As mentioned earlier, 1990 figures include the purchase of aircraft and marine vessels amounting to Rs 1,200 million. Import prices went up by some 5% so that in volume terms, imports, exclusive of aircraft and marine vessels, grew by nearly 3%.

The comparative table below shows product groups which have registered major changes in 1991.

<u>Product Group</u>	<u>C.I.F. Value (Rs Mn)</u>		
	<u>1990</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>Change</u>
Food products	2,611	2,692	+ 81
Beverages and tobacco	90	113	+ 23
Petroleum products	1,939	2,074	+ 135
Chemicals	1,619	1,738	+ 119
EPZ	7,348	7,068	- 280
of which: machinery	(794)	(719)	(-75)
raw materials	(6,554)	(6,349)	(-205)
Other manufactured goods	3,675	4,435	+ 760
Machinery (excluding EPZ)	4,386	5,300	+ 914
Aircraft and marine vessels	1,186	90	-1,096
Other goods and services	1,165	1,163	- 2
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Imports	24,019	24,672	+ 653
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

As shown in the table above, all product groups (exclusive of aircraft and marine vessels) have recorded increases with the exception of EPZ purchase of raw materials and machinery which fell by 3% and 9% respectively.

Table 9, on imports by country of origin, shows that the EEC was the major supplier accounting for 33% of the total. Other important suppliers were: Republic of South Africa, 12%, Japan, 7%, India, 5% and Taiwan, 4%.

6. The EPZ sector

EPZ exports in 1991 rose in nominal terms by nearly 6% to reach Rs 12,136 million from Rs 11,474 million in 1990. After eliminating the effect of price increases which are estimated at around 5%, in volume terms, EPZ exports grew by only 1% as compared to 6% in 1990.

As in the previous years, EPZ exports comprised mainly textiles and clothing which accounted for 80% of the total.

The EPZ sector's import bill was lower than expected amounting to Rs 7,100 million compared to Rs 7,350 million in 1990. Imports of machinery and equipment dropped by some of Rs 75 million to Rs 719 million and that of raw materials fell by some Rs 200 million.

Consequently net EPZ exports went up by around 23% or Rs 1,100 million and attained Rs 5,100 million. The ratio of net exports to exports correspondingly rose to 42% from 36% in 1990 and only 17% in 1989.

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

March 1992

External Trade - Year 1991

NOTES

Figures for 1990 and 1991 are provisional and subject to revision.

1. COVERAGE

EXPORTS

- Cover : 1. Domestic exports (including exports from the Export Processing Zone)
2. Re-Exports
3. Export ex Warehouse
4. Returned goods
- Include : 1. Government, Parcel Post and Air Freight
- Exclude : 1. Trade with Outer Islands
2. Ships' stores and bunkers

IMPORTS

- Cover : 1. Landed merchandise sent to warehouse for subsequent delivery
2. Landed merchandise issued for home consumption
- Include : 1. Government, Parcel Post and Air Freight
2. Donations from other Government and International Organisations
- Exclude : 1. Trade with Outer Islands
2. Bullion and species

2. VALUATION

Exports are valued F.O.B. and imports C.I.F.

F.O.B. Free on Board

C.I.F. Cost, Insurance and Freight

All figures quoted are in Mauritian Rupees

3. COMMODITY CLASSIFICATION

The classification used for the compilation of trade statistics is based on the Standard International Trade Classification (Revised III) or S.I.T.C. (Rev. III). However, import and export bills of entry are being worked upon according to the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System Nomenclature, shortly known as the Harmonized System Nomenclature (H.S.N.).

4. ROUNDING OF FIGURES

Figures have been rounded off to the nearest final digit and in some cases to the nearest one decimal place and as a result in some tables there may be discrepancies between the sum of the constituent items and the total.

5. SYMBOLS

- Nil or negligible

... Not available

-. - Not applicable

6. ABBREVIATIONS

Rs : Rupees

000 : Thousand

Mn : Million

m.ton : Metric ton : 1,000 Kilos

No. : Number

M² : Square metres

Table 1 - Balance of Visible Trade, 1990 - 1991

	1990	1991	1990				1991			
			1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.
			Value Rs Mn				Value Rs Mn			
Exports of goods	17,677	18,673	3,376	4,055	5,078	5,169	4,076	3,842	5,364	5,391
Domestic exports	17,319	18,006	3,310	3,944	4,996	5,069	3,794	3,730	5,223	5,259
Re-exports	358	667	66	111	82	100	282	112	141	132
Ships' Stores and Bunkers	563	600	122	122	150	175	150	150	150	150
A. Total Exports (f.o.b.)	18,246	19,273	3,498	4,177	5,228	5,344	4,226	3,992	5,514	5,541
B. Total Imports (c.i.f.)	24,019	24,672	4,822	6,243	6,763	6,191	5,489	5,717	6,416	7,050
Total Value of Trade (A + B)	42,265	43,945	8,320	10,420	11,991	11,535	9,715	9,709	11,930	12,591
BALANCE OF VISIBLE TRADE(A - B)	-5,773	-5,399	-1,324	-2,066	-1,535	-847	-1,263	-1,725	-902	-1,509

1/ revised

Table 2 - Price (unit value) indices of exports and imports and terms of trade
1984 - 1991

P e r i o d	Price indices		Terms of trade*
	Export	Import	
	Base Year 1982 = 100		
1984	119	110	108
1985	136	121	113
1986	144	98	147
1987	161	102	158
1988	172	111	156
	Base Year 1988 = 100		
1989	111	119	93
1990	125	127	98
1991	133	133	100
1991 : Qr. 1	130	131	99
Qr. 2	134	132	102
Qr. 3	138	138	100
Qr. 4	132	134	99

* Ratio of export to import price index.

A rise in this ratio indicates that the terms of trade have moved in favour of Mauritius.

Table 3 .. Domestic exports of main commodities .. value, 1990 ~ 1991

F.O.B Value Rs Mn

Commodity/Sector	1990	1991	1990				1991					
			1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.		
Sugar	5,212	5,221	1,184	602	1,716	1,710	1,338	460	1,883	1,540		
Molasses	102	96	17	7	38	40	15	6	23	52		
Tea	84	84	32	28	10	14	32	18	17	17		
BPZ	11,474	12,136	1,986	3,221	3,132	3,135	2,310	3,131	3,201	3,494		
Other	447	470	91	86	100	170	100	115	99	156		
Total Exports	17,319	18,006	3,310	3,944	4,996	5,069	3,794	3,730	5,223	5,259		

Table 4 - Domestic exports of selected commodities, quantity, 1990 - 1991

Commodity	Unit	1990	1991	1990				1991			
				1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.
Sugar	(000) m. ton	578	551	129	60	180	209	144	47	197	163
Molasses	"	161	130	33	11	51	66	18	6	33	73
Tea	m. ton	4,271	4,494	1,277	1,268	892	834	1,623	1,008	890	973

Table 5 - Total exports by main countries of destination, 1990 - 1991

F.O.B. Value Rs Mr

Country of destination	1990	1991				1990				1991				
		1991				1990				1991				
		1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	
1. <u>Preferential Tariff Countries</u>	<u>17,099</u>	<u>18,034</u>	<u>3,286</u>	<u>2,232</u>	<u>4,261</u>	<u>4,920</u>	<u>3,908</u>	<u>3,687</u>	<u>5,210</u>	<u>5,229</u>	<u>3,286</u>	<u>2,232</u>	<u>4,261</u>	<u>4,920</u>
(a) <u>E.F.C Countries</u>	<u>14,099</u>	<u>14,997</u>	<u>2,775</u>	<u>3,106</u>	<u>4,130</u>	<u>4,088</u>	<u>3,228</u>	<u>2,992</u>	<u>4,369</u>	<u>4,408</u>	<u>14,099</u>	<u>14,997</u>	<u>2,775</u>	<u>3,106</u>
of which														
United Kingdom	6,389	6,677	1,431	817	2,209	1,932	1,694	855	2,183	1,945	6,389	6,677	1,431	817
France	3,982	3,721	752	1,252	929	1,049	764	1,001	838	1,118	3,982	3,721	752	1,252
Fed. Rep. of Germany	1,529	2,055	225	350	498	456	340	545	589	581	1,529	2,055	225	350
Italy	793	918	150	202	178	263	190	224	198	306	793	918	150	202
(b) <u>Other Preferential Tariff Countries</u>	<u>3,000</u>	<u>3,037</u>	<u>510</u>	<u>827</u>	<u>831</u>	<u>832</u>	<u>680</u>	<u>695</u>	<u>841</u>	<u>821</u>	<u>3,000</u>	<u>3,037</u>	<u>510</u>	<u>827</u>
of which														
U.S. of America	2,314	2,205	379	615	667	653	403	524	656	622	2,314	2,205	379	615
2. <u>General Tariff Countries</u>	<u>578</u>	<u>639</u>	<u>89</u>	<u>122</u>	<u>118</u>	<u>249</u>	<u>168</u>	<u>155</u>	<u>154</u>	<u>162</u>	<u>578</u>	<u>639</u>	<u>89</u>	<u>122</u>
Total Exports	17,677	18,673	3,376	4,055	5,078	5,169	4,076	3,842	5,364	5,391	17,677	18,673	3,376	4,055

Table 6 - Imports by section, 1990 - 1991

S.I.T.C Section	Description	1990	1991	1990				1991			
				C.I.F. Value Rs Mn				C.I.F. Value Rs Mn			
				1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.
0	Food and live animals	2,611	2,692	588	617	729	677	688	585	587	832
1	Beverages and tobacco	90	113	16	13	29	32	23	26	30	34
2	Crude materials inedible, except fuels	765	802	168	264	182	151	172	182	264	184
3	Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	1,939	2,074	332	394	577	636	565	453	464	592
4	Animal and vegetable oils and fats	233	255	51	54	72	56	68	45	69	73
5	Chemicals	1,619	1,738	328	408	454	429	386	434	471	447
6	Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	8,360	8,624	1,901	2,166	2,236	2,057	1,903	2,132	2,378	2,211
7	Machinery and transport equipment	6,366	6,109	1,028	1,842	1,974	1,522	1,195	1,302	1,593	2,019
8	Miscellaneous manufactured articles	1,869	2,160	383	447	469	570	464	531	535	630
9	Other commodities and transactions	167	106	27	38	41	61	25	28	25	28
	Total Imports	24,019	24,672	4,822	6,243	6,763	6,191	5,489	5,717	6,416	7,050

Table 7 - Imports of main commodities, value, 1990 - 1991

C.I.F. Value Rs Mn

Commodity	1990		1991				1991			
	1990	1991	1991				1991			
			1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.
Meat and meat preparations	328	361	80	55	70	115	65	69	91	136
Rice	401	314	68	85	190	58	112	56	-	146
Wheaten flour	24	76	5	-	15	4	40	12	13	11
Wheat	203	53	52	71	18	62	-	29	-	24
Dairy products	513	547	93	153	142	145	151	119	132	145
Vegetables and fruits	289	370	68	61	69	71	79	91	104	96
Textile fibres, etc.	415	468	107	123	97	88	95	97	173	103
Refined petroleum products	1,740	1,944	291	359	528	562	527	375	548	494
Fixed vegetable oils & fats	166	200	30	37	57	42	59	31	55	55
Medicinal and pharmaceutical products										
Textile yarn	288	338	70	80	76	62	65	82	92	99
Paper, paperboard & articles thereof	1,471	1,717	366	384	362	359	384	414	481	438
Textile fabrics	313	360	61	88	82	82	89	93	89	89
Cement	3,321	2,910	816	875	876	754	651	731	764	764
Pearls, precious & semi-precious stones	415	523	97	94	114	110	100	144	145	134
Iron and steel	357	380	92	93	94	78	74	96	106	104
Manufactures of metal, n.e.s. equipment	539	700	115	150	138	136	132	195	252	121
General industrial machinery & equipment	717	665	113	185	227	192	172	140	176	177
Telecommunications and sound recording and reproducing apparatus & equipment	683	739	119	184	181	199	144	182	216	197
Other machinery	537	408	101	125	181	130	80	99	89	140
Road vehicles	2,429	3,253	479	544	638	768	624	554	819	1,256
Watches and clocks	1,108	1,188	246	284	269	309	274	274	318	322
Aircraft & marine vessel	431	338	120	123	87	101	93	97	60	88
Other	1,186	90	-	650	536	-	-	90	-	-
	6,145	6,730	1,233	1,440	1,708	1,764	1,479	1,547	1,593	1,911
Total imports	24,019	24,672	4,822	6,243	6,763	6,191	5,489	5,717	6,416	7,050

Table 8 - Imports of selected commodities, quantity, 1990 - 1991

Commodity	Unit	1990		1991	1991				
		1990			1991				
		1st Qr.	2nd Qr.		3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.
Rice	(000) m. ton	14	18	38	13	27	13	-	36
Wheaten flour	"	-	-	5	1	10	3	3	2
Wheat	"	18	22	18	36	-	16	-	10
Dairy products	"	2	4	4	4	4	3	4	4
Vegetable edible oils and fats	"	4	4	8	6	8	4	6	7
Fertilisers manu- factured	"	13	15	14	18	4	13	13	10
Cotton fabrics	Mn M ²	16	17	16	15	16	13	31	16
Cement	(000) m. ton	107	101	125	125	102	134	136	131
Iron and steel	"	11	19	17	19	16	24	28	16

Table 9 - Imports by main countries of origin, 1990 - 1991

C.I.F. Value Rs Mn

Country of origin	1990				1991			
	1990				1991			
	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.
1. <u>Preferential Tariff Countries</u>								
(a) <u>E.E.C. Countries</u>								
of which France	16,897	8,644	3,525	3,283	17,326	8,069	3,283	3,525
Fed.Rep. of Germany	1,690	625	781	1,677	1,743	841	281	1,358
Italy					3,298	4,440	4,864	4,296
United Kingdom	1,702	1,555	2,420	1,115	2,020	947	311	140
(b) <u>Other Preferential Tariff Countries</u>								
of which Singapore	8,254	677	582	2,110	2,420	169	142	194
Australia	677	741	795	2,839	121	137	419	157
Rep. of South Africa	582	795	2,110	1,102	137	161	182	141
U.S. of America	2,110	1,102	932	1,012	471	677	234	697
Hong Kong	1,102	932	1,069	1,116	128	230	273	115
India	1,069	1,116	1,012	7,122	230	212	1,801	222
2. <u>General Tariff Countries</u>								
of which Bahrain	7,122	627	949	1,770	1,526	217	176	307
China	627	949	1,770	1,104	133	183	355	170
Japan	1,770	1,104	24,672	24,019	235	278	295	254
Taiwan	24,019	24,672	24,019	24,019	308	278	295	384
Total Imports	24,019	24,672	24,019	24,019	4,822	6,243	6,763	6,191
					5,489	5,717	6,416	7,050
					1,776	1,653	1,917	2,000
					230	240	293	353
					228	258	300	283
					143	184	211	181
					480	705	814	890
					169	197	231	198
					157	168	196	220
					1,882	2,190	2,535	2,650
					582	698	814	814
					417	357	311	273
					157	149	203	272
					371	432	409	465
					1,831	1,874	1,964	2,400
					3,713	4,064	4,499	5,050

Table 10 - Net EPZ exports, 1990 - 1991

	Value Rs Mn													
	1990		1991				1990				1991			
			1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.
A. Total exports (f.o.b value)	11,474	12,136	1,986	3,221	3,132	3,135	2,310	3,131	3,201	3,494				
B. Total imports (c.i.f value)	7,348	7,068	1,894	1,939	1,836	1,679	1,631	1,738	1,961	1,738				
Net exports (A - B)	4,126	5,068	92	1,282	1,296	1,456	679	1,393	1,240	1,756				
Net exports as % of total exports	36%	42%	5%	40%	41%	46%	29%	45%	39%	50%				

Table 11 - EPZ exports by main commodities, 1990 -- 1991

F.O.B Value Rs Mn

Description of Item	1990	1991	1990				1991			
			1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.
Fish and fish preparations	142	296	31	41	20	50	54	78	68	96
Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles	498	480	103	117	104	174	109	120	130	122
Pearls, precious and semi-precious stones	354	392	58	110	91	95	74	100	108	110
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories	9,085	9,621	1,533	2,556	2,553	2,443	1,770	2,471	2,587	2,793
Optical goods, n.e.s.	124	145	31	30	26	37	31	40	31	43
Watches and clocks	616	550	95	193	173	155	133	147	119	151
Toys, games and sporting goods	126	121	22	34	34	36	29	30	28	34
Jewellery goldsmiths' and silvermiths' wares	139	156	23	38	35	43	28	41	39	48
Other	390	375	90	102	96	102	82	105	91	97
Total EPZ Exports	11,474	12,136	1,986	3,221	3,132	3,135	2,310	3,131	3,201	3,494

Table 12 -- EPZ imports of main commodities, 1990 -- 1991

Description of Item	1990	1991	C.I.F. Value Rs Mn							
			1990				1991			
			1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.
Synthetic fibres suitable for spinning	49	58	8	13	24	3	15	8	17	18
Wool and other animal hair	258	228	86	78	49	45	49	62	72	45
Chemicals	289	292	59	75	78	77	76	70	71	75
Leather	104	98	22	29	29	24	27	23	24	24
Textile yarn and fabrics	4,182	3,979	1,089	1,135	1,083	874	910	1,007	1,087	975
Pearls, precious and semi-precious stones	336	355	89	90	83	73	66	88	103	98
Machinery including spare parts	794	719	170	148	210	266	199	157	198	165
Optical goods, watches and clocks, etc.	450	354	126	130	92	104	95	199	67	92
Jewellery	65	122	19	12	13	22	26	37	31	28
Other	821	863	226	229	175	191	168	187	291	218
Total imports	7,348	7,068	1,894	1,939	1,836	1,679	1,631	1,738	1,961	1,738