# Quarterly Index of Industrial Production (QIIP) 1st Quarter 2007

#### 1. Introduction

The Index of Industrial Production shows the evolution of the volume of output of the Industrial Sector which covers "Mining and quarrying", "Manufacturing" and "Electricity, gas and water supply" and which accounts for around 22% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The index compiled on a quarterly basis is one of the most important industrial short-term indicators which aim at measuring, on a quarterly basis, the changes in the volume of industrial output.

This issue of "Economic and Social Indicators" presents the quarterly indices for the period 2003 to 1st quarter 2007 with weights based on the results of the 2002 Census of Economic Activities and year 2002 as base period.

The indices are given separately for the three sections, namely, "Mining and quarrying", "Manufacturing" and "Electricity, gas and water supply". Within "Manufacturing", estimates by broad group, namely enterprises formerly holding an EPZ certificate, Non-EPZ and Sugar milling as well as by main industrial grouping are also given. Wherever possible, the annual averages of the quarterly indices have been worked out and included in the tables. It is to be noted that, due to incomplete data, indices for the first quarter 2007 are provisional and published at section and broad group level only. They are therefore subject to revision in future issues of the indicator.

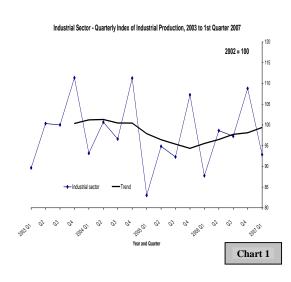
The published indices are not seasonality adjusted. The user is therefore advised to base comparisons for a particular period of a year on the corresponding period of the previous year.

The objectives of the QIIP, the sources and methodology used in the compilation of the index as well as the limitations of the index are given at annex.

It is to be noted that following the promulgation of the Finance Act 2006, no distinction is now being made between the EPZ and other manufacturing enterprises. The Office will have to review this publication accordingly. However, during a transitional period till the second quarter of 2007, it will continue to provide separate indices for the EPZ sector.

#### 2. The overall index - Industrial Sector

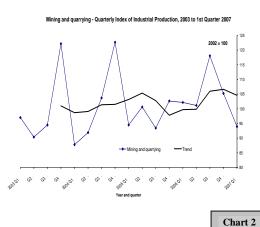
In the first quarter 2007, the overall index of industrial production was 14.7% lower than the previous quarter, but 5.8% higher than the corresponding quarter of 2006. In the year to 1st quarter 2007, i.e., 2nd quarter 2006 to 1st quarter 2007, real industrial output went up by 4.0% compared to the same period a year ago. This is explained mainly by increases in the real output of EPZ (+7.2%), Non-EPZ (+1.7%) and "Electricity, gas and water supply" (+4.9%), partly offset by a decline of 3.7% in "Sugar milling" (Table 1). The trend (4-quarter moving average), as shown graphically by Chart 1, shows that the upward tendency as from the 1st quarter of 2006 is maintained.



### 3. Changes by section

### 3.1 Mining and quarrying

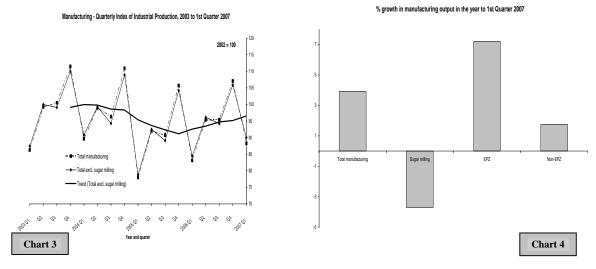
"Mining and quarrying", is restricted to activities relating to quarrying of decorative stones, sand and salt extraction and represents only half a percent of the total weight allocated to the industrial sector. In the 1st quarter 2007, real output decreased by 10.7% compared to the previous quarter and by 8.0% compared to the corresponding quarter of 2006. In the year to 1st quarter 2007, real output grew by 4.9% (Table 1).



# 3.2 Manufacturing

Manufacturing output, which covers the production of a wide range of goods, represents over 90% of the output of the industrial sector. For analysis purposes, "Manufacturing" is broken down into the following broad groups:

- Sugar milling representing around 5% of manufacturing output
- EPZ (55%)
- Non-EPZ (40%)



Manufacturing output in the 1st quarter 2007 receded by 17.6% compared to the previous quarter, but increased by 6.2% when compared to the same quarter a year ago (Table 1). In the year to 1st quarter 2007, it grew by 3.9%. This is explained by increases in EPZ (+7.2%) and Non-EPZ (+1.7%), partly offset by a decrease of 3.7% in sugar milling. The performances of the EPZ and the Non-EPZ excluding "Sugar milling" by detailed industry group up to 4th quarter 2006 are analysed separately in Section 4. As mentioned in the introduction, due to incomplete data, indices for the 1st quarter 2007 are provisional and published at section and group level only.

### 3.3 Electricity, gas and water supply

"Electricity, gas and water supply" accounts for around 11% of the output of the industrial sector. In the 1st quarter 2007, real output of this section grew by 6.1% compared to the previous quarter and by 4.1% when compared to the same quarter, a year ago. In the year to 1st quarter 2007, it is estimated to have moved up by 4.9% (Table 1).

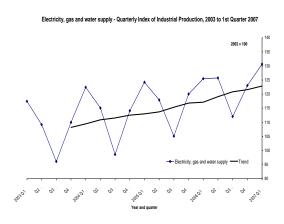


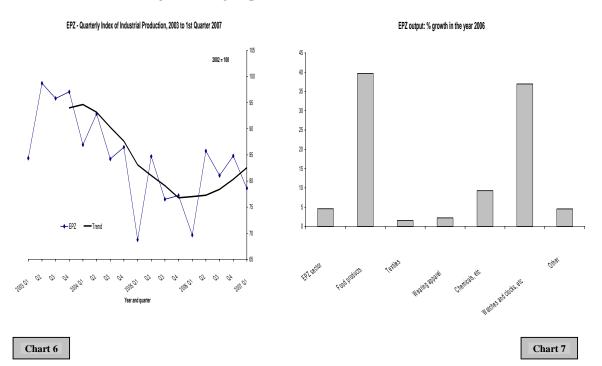
Chart 5

# 4. Changes by broad group

#### 4.1 EPZ

Real output of the EPZ fell by 7.3% in the 1st quarter 2007 compared to the previous quarter, but increased 12.9% when compared to the same quarter, a year ago. In the year to 1st quarter 2007, it is estimated to have gone up by 7.2% (Table 1).

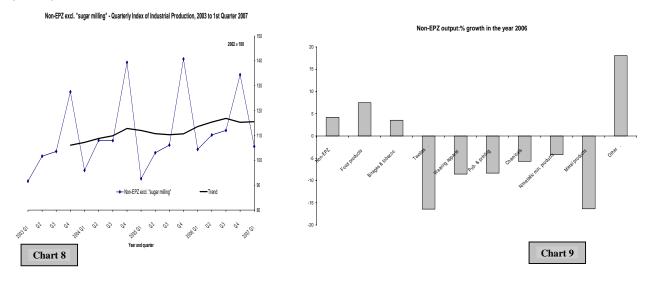
Indices by main industrial grouping for the 1st quarter of 2007 are not available. However, an indication of the annual performance at this level can be obtained by comparing the detailed indices available for year 2006 to those of 2005 (Table 3). Real output of "Wearing apparel", the most important industrial grouping within the EPZ, grew by 2.2% and that of "Textiles" by 1.5%. These two sub-groups account for 86.6% of the total weight allocated to the EPZ. Moreover, the production of chemicals and man-made fibres grew by 9.3%. Increases were also noted in "Food products (+39.7%) and "Optical instruments, watches and clocks" (+37.0%). Details of changes at sub-group level are shown in Chart 7.



## 4.2 Non-EPZ excluding "Sugar milling"

The index for the Non-EPZ refers to large establishments only (see methodology at annex). Provisional estimate of real output of large Non-EPZ establishments shows a decline of 21.5% in the 1st quarter 2007 compared to the previous quarter and an increase of 1.1% compared to the same quarter, a year ago. For the year to 1st quarter 2007, the index increased by 1.7% compared to 4.2% for the year up to 4th quarter 2006 (Table 1).

An indication of the annual performance at sub-group level is obtained by comparing the detailed indices available for year 2006 with those of 2005 (Table 4). Increases were registered in "Food products excluding sugar" (+7.5%), "Beverages and tobacco" (+3.5%) and "Other manufacturing" (+18.0%). Decreases were noted in: "Textiles" (-16.4%), "Basic metals and metal products" (-16.3%), "Wearing apparel" (-8.5%), "Publishing and printing" (-8.3%), "Chemicals and man-made fibres" (-5.7%), and "Non-metallic mineral products" (-4.2%).



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Table 1: Index of industrial production by section - annual and quarterly indices, 2003 to 1st Quarter 2007

Year 2002 = 100

|                         |                   |                      |         |                          |                            |         |                      | rear 2002 = 100                   |
|-------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|---------|--------------------------|----------------------------|---------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
|                         |                   |                      |         |                          | Manufacturing              |         |                      |                                   |
|                         | Industrial sector | Mining and quarrying | Total   | Total exc. sugar milling | Sugar milling <sup>1</sup> | EPZ     | Non-EPZ <sup>2</sup> | Electricity, gas and water supply |
| NSIC Rev. 3             | 10 - 37, 40, 41   | 10 - 14              | 15 - 37 | 15-37 exc. 1542          | 1542                       | 15 - 37 | 15 - 37              | 40, 41                            |
| Weight                  | 1000              | 3                    | 890     | 845                      | 45                         | 486     | 358                  | 108                               |
| Annual                  |                   |                      |         |                          |                            |         |                      |                                   |
| 2003                    | 100.3             | 101.0                | 99.4    | 99.1                     | 103.7                      | 94.0    | 106.1                | 108.2                             |
| 2004                    | 100.4             | 101.5                | 99.0    | 98.3                     | 110.5                      | 87.6    | 112.8                | 112.6                             |
| 2005                    | 94.3              | 97.8                 | 91.6    | 91.2                     | 99.8                       | 76.8    | 110.6                | 116.8                             |
| 2006                    |                   | 106.6                | 95.2    | 95.2                     | 96.9                       | 80.3    | 115.3                | 121.6                             |
| uarterly                |                   |                      |         |                          |                            |         |                      |                                   |
| 2003 Q1                 | 89.6              | 97.0                 | 86.2    | 87.5                     | 63.8                       | 84.4    | 91.6                 | 117.5                             |
| Q2                      | 100.3             | 90.3                 | 99.3    | 100.0                    | 86.4                       | 98.7    | 101.7                | 109.2                             |
| Q3                      | 100.0             | 94.5                 | 100.5   | 99.1                     | 126.1                      | 95.8    | 103.6                | 96.1                              |
| Q4                      | 111.3             | 122.2                | 111.5   | 110.0                    | 138.6                      | 97.1    | 127.6                | 110.0                             |
| 2004 Q1                 | 93.2              | 87.8                 | 89.6    | 90.8                     | 67.9                       | 87.0    | 96.0                 | 122.5                             |
| Q2                      | 100.7             | 91.9                 | 98.9    | 99.3                     | 92.0                       | 92.9    | 108.1                | 115.1                             |
| Q3                      | 96.6              | 103.7                | 96.3    | 94.3                     | 134.3                      | 84.2    | 107.9                | 98.6                              |
| Q4                      | 111.3             | 122.7                | 110.9   | 108.9                    | 147.6                      | 86.5    | 139.4                | 114.1                             |
| 2005 Q1                 | 83.0              | 94.5                 | 78.0    | 78.9                     | 61.3                       | 68.8    | 92.6                 | 124.3                             |
| Q2                      | 94.8              | 100.6                | 92.0    | 92.5                     | 83.1                       | 84.7    | 103.0                | 117.9                             |
| Q3                      | 92.3              | 93.4                 | 90.7    | 89.1                     | 121.3                      | 76.5    | 106.1                | 105.1                             |
| Q4                      | 107.2             | 102.7                | 105.7   | 104.2                    | 133.5                      | 77.2    | 140.8                | 120.1                             |
| 2006 Q1                 | 87.7              | 102.2                | 83.1    | 84.4                     | 59.5                       | 69.6    | 104.4                | 125.5                             |
| Q2                      | 98.6              | 101.1                | 95.3    | 96.1                     | 80.7                       | 85.8    | 110.2                | 125.8                             |
| Q3                      | 97.3              | 118.1                | 95.4    | 94.2                     | 117.8                      | 81.1    | 112.0                | 112.1                             |
| Q4                      | 108.8             | 105.2                | 107.1   | 105.9                    | 129.5                      | 84.8    | 134.4                | 123.1                             |
| 2007 Q1 <sup>3</sup>    | 92.8              | 93.9                 | 88.3    | 90.1                     | 54.8                       | 78.6    | 105.6                | 130.7                             |
| change, latest quarter  | over: 3           |                      |         |                          |                            |         |                      |                                   |
| previous quarter        | -14.7             | -10.7                | -17.6   | -14.9                    | -57.7                      | -7.3    | -21.5                | 6.1                               |
| same quarter a year ago |                   | -8.0                 | 6.2     | 6.7                      | -7.9                       | 12.9    | 1.1                  | 4.1                               |
| growth in output in th  | •                 |                      |         |                          |                            |         |                      |                                   |
| 1st quarter 2007        | 4.0               | 4.9                  | 3.9     | 4.4                      | -3.7                       | 7.2     | 1.7                  | 4.9                               |
|                         |                   |                      |         |                          |                            |         |                      |                                   |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> figures for 2005 to 1st quarter 2007 are provisional

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> large, i.e establishments with 10 or more employees

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> provisional

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Table 2: Index of industrial production by main industrial grouping - manufacturing<sup>1</sup>, 2003 to 2006

Year 2002 = 100 Main industrial grouping Food Chemicals and Non-metallic Basic metals Total products inc. Beverages Wearing Publishing man-made mineral and metal and tobacco **Textiles** manufacturing sugar and printing fibres products products Other apparel 27, 28 19 - 21, 29 - 37 15 - 37 151 - 154 155, 160 17 18 22 23 - 25 26 NSIC Rev. 3 Weight 155 39 67 37 84 1000 89 62 431 36 **Annual** 2003 99.4 109.5 97.7 90.4 112.9 121.6 101.7 99.0 97.7 112.8 2004 99.0 115.8 92.0 92.2 80.5 115.4 106.5 93.5 193.4 117.0 2005 91.6 119.7 84.0 8.08 68.7 107.0 82.0 83.2 222.2 111.0 2006 95.2 129.9 87.0 70.0 100.0 81.4 126.4 0.08 79.8 274.3 Quarterly 86.2 95.6 86.1 2003 Q1 89.1 84.8 84.7 83.0 91.8 90.1 95.1 99.3 Q2 99.2 87.6 96.1 97.4 109.3 109.4 104.1 120.9 99.5 Q3 92.2 100.5 117.8 90.6 106.4 125.3 102.0 115.0 96.7 103.0 Q4 111.5 131.9 126.0 90.6 140.2 159.9 120.1 113.6 107.0 110.6 2004 Q1 89.6 93.7 78.6 87.3 80.7 104.5 97.6 86.5 142.0 102.1 98.9 113.3 Q2 113.2 87.0 105.5 85.2 118.9 100.1 100.0 147.7 Q3 123.2 96.3 126.1 89.5 90.4 75.3 99.7 109.7 90.5 156.8 Q4 110.9 130.2 113.0 85.8 80.6 138.6 118.5 97.0 327.1 129.5 2005 Q1 78.0 90.4 72.0 71.5 62.6 95.5 69.0 65.1 170.0 97.6 Q2 92.0 108.5 75.7 82.9 76.4 104.6 78.7 86.7 209.8 114.3 Q3 90.7 127.6 75.1 82.5 67.7 96.9 77.6 84.9 210.7 111.3 Q4 105.7 68.2 152.4 113.4 86.4 130.8 102.8 96.2 298.2 120.8 2006 Q1 83.1 111.7 74.2 68.1 60.4 96.7 70.2 73.9 253.4 112.4 Q2 95.3 121.2 74.3 76.4 92.4 78.9 264.3 128.5 78.3 83.5 Q3 95.4 135.7 85.2 82.0 70.4 88.7 81.4 79.4 292.4 121.8 Q4 107.1 142.9 150.9 114.3 91.7 73.0 122.2 94.9 82.3 287.1 % change, latest quarter over: previous quarter 12.2 11.2 34.1 11.8 3.6 37.8 16.5 3.6 -1.8 17.3 same quarter a year ago 1.3 -1.0 8.0 6.1 7.0 -6.6 -7.7 -14.5-3.7 18.3 % growth in output in the year to: 4.0 8.5 3.5 -1.0 1.9 -6.5 -0.8 -4.2 23.5 13.9 4th quarter 2006

<sup>1</sup> Non-EPZ includes large establishments only

Table 3: Index of industrial production by main industrial grouping - EPZ, 2003 to 2006

Year 2002 = 100

|                             |                    | Main industrial grouping |          |                 |                               |                               |                           |  |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|----------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
|                             |                    |                          |          |                 | Oh amia ala an d              | Optical                       |                           |  |
|                             | EPZ, manufacturing | Food products            | Textiles | Wearing apparel | Chemicals and man-made fibres | instruments, watches & clocks | Other                     |  |
| NSIC Rev. 3                 | 15 - 37            | 151 - 154                | 17       | 18              | 23 - 25                       | 33                            | 19 - 22, 26 - 32, 34 - 37 |  |
| Weight                      | 1000               | 40                       | 99       | 767             | 26                            | 11                            | 57                        |  |
| Annual                      |                    |                          |          |                 |                               |                               | <u> </u>                  |  |
| 2003                        | 94.0               | 116.9                    | 94.7     | 90.5            | 158.0                         | 83.9                          | 96.7                      |  |
| 2004                        | 87.6               | 135.5                    | 87.2     | 80.0            | 124.1                         | 152.0                         | 108.8                     |  |
| 2005                        | 76.8               | 154.4                    | 78.4     | 68.2            | 76.0                          | 227.5                         | 98.9                      |  |
| 2006                        | 80.3               | 215.7                    | 79.6     | 69.7            | 83.1                          | 311.6                         | 103.4                     |  |
| Quarterly                   |                    |                          |          |                 |                               |                               |                           |  |
| 2003 Q1                     | 84.4               | 107.4                    | 84.2     | 83.0            | 96.6                          | 87.6                          | 80.8                      |  |
| Q2                          | 98.7               | 101.3                    | 95.7     | 98.0            | 131.0                         | 85.8                          | 100.0                     |  |
| Q3                          | 95.8               | 127.1                    | 103.4    | 91.0            | 169.5                         | 77.3                          | 95.6                      |  |
| Q4                          | 97.1               | 131.9                    | 95.8     | 89.9            | 234.9                         | 85.0                          | 110.3                     |  |
| 2004 Q1                     | 87.0               | 117.2                    | 83.1     | 80.7            | 125.2                         | 100.3                         | 115.3                     |  |
| Q2                          | 92.9               | 141.5                    | 101.5    | 85.1            | 127.9                         | 118.3                         | 103.4                     |  |
| Q3                          | 84.2               | 153.5                    | 85.3     | 74.8            | 126.1                         | 184.6                         | 110.4                     |  |
| Q4                          | 86.5               | 129.7                    | 78.8     | 79.3            | 117.3                         | 204.9                         | 106.0                     |  |
| 2005 Q1                     | 68.8               | 111.4                    | 67.4     | 62.0            | 65.5                          | 219.3                         | 92.0                      |  |
| Q2                          | 84.7               | 163.7                    | 81.6     | 76.0            | 89.4                          | 239.0                         | 109.6                     |  |
| Q3                          | 76.5               | 162.4                    | 81.7     | 67.3            | 69.3                          | 227.0                         | 99.6                      |  |
| Q4                          | 77.2               | 180.2                    | 82.9     | 67.5            | 79.9                          | 224.8                         | 94.4                      |  |
| 2006 Q1                     | 69.6               | 200.6                    | 66.6     | 60.1            | 66.2                          | 337.2                         | 93.9                      |  |
| Q2                          | 85.8               | 232.9                    | 78.9     | 76.2            | 78.7                          | 300.1                         | 95.9                      |  |
| Q3                          | 81.1               | 211.3                    | 81.9     | 70.3            | 91.1                          | 300.1                         | 101.6                     |  |
| Q4                          | 84.8               | 217.8                    | 90.9     | 72.2            | 96.3                          | 309.1                         | 122.2                     |  |
| % change, latest quarter of | over:              |                          |          |                 |                               |                               |                           |  |
| previous quarter            | 4.6                | 3.1                      | 11.0     | 2.7             | 5.7                           | 3.0                           | 20.3                      |  |
| same quarter a year ago     | 9.8                | 20.9                     | 9.6      | 7.1             | 20.6                          | 37.5                          | 29.4                      |  |
| % growth in output in the   | year to:           |                          |          |                 |                               |                               |                           |  |
| 4th quarter 2006            | 4.6                | 39.7                     | 1.5      | 2.2             | 9.3                           | 37.0                          | 4.5                       |  |

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18.0

Table 4: Index of industrial production by main industrial grouping - Non-EPZ<sup>1</sup> exc. Sugar, 2003 to 2006

Year 2002 = 100 Main industrial grouping Food Chemicals Non-metallic Basic metals Non-EPZ, products exc. **Beverages** Publishing Wearing and manmineral and metal sugar and tobacco made fibres manufacturing **Textiles** apparel and printing products products Other 151-154 19 - 21, 29 - 37 15-37 155,160 17 18 22 23 - 25 26 27. 28 NSIC Rev. 3 Weight 1000 206 221 20 30 91 130 93 87 124 **Annual** 2003 106.1 111.2 97.7 117.8 88.1 113.2 111.6 101.7 113.3 102.5 2004 112.8 113.6 92.0 97.9 96.6 112.9 98.1 93.5 132.2 117.0 2005 110.6 120.0 84.0 70.2 78.8 106.8 79.3 83.2 99.7 103.0 2006 115.3 129.0 87.0 58.7 72.1 97.9 74.8 79.8 83.4 121.6 Quarterly 2003 Q1 91.6 88.0 82.0 90.1 95.4 88.7 100.0 84.8 96.9 90.5 Q2 101.7 106.5 87.6 99.5 78.7 109.9 103.5 104.1 121.2 101.1 Q3 103.6 110.3 92.2 100.5 77.9 106.5 113.2 102.0 115.4 100.1 Q4 139.4 127.6 127.8 126.0 183.4 113.8 139.6 110.6 121.0 120.2 2004 Q1 96.0 102.2 78.6 84.4 78.5 100.8 88.1 86.5 96.5 94.9 100.0 Q2 108.1 117.8 87.0 89.3 83.2 116.2 90.4 100.4 119.7 Q3 107.9 114.2 89.5 97.3 89.9 98.7 101.3 90.5 105.4 120.9 Q4 139.4 120.1 113.0 120.7 134.8 135.9 112.6 97.0 226.4 132.5 2005 Q1 92.6 98.9 72.0 82.5 74.1 95.0 66.2 65.1 76.2 84.9 Q2 103.0 106.7 75.7 60.1 77.9 105.0 71.8 86.7 93.0 99.4 Q3 106.1 120.9 75.1 54.7 73.2 96.7 75.7 84.9 93.6 103.0 Q4 90.0 96.2 140.8 153.5 113.4 83.7 130.5 103.3 135.8 124.7 2006 Q1 104.4 124.4 74.2 57.5 63.0 96.0 66.5 73.9 74.0 104.9 Q2 120.1 74.3 50.9 69.3 93.9 73.1 83.5 80.5 110.2 129.0 Q3 126.2 85.2 62.4 86.4 72.0 79.4 90.2 112.0 57.4 114.5 Q4 134.4 145.1 114.3 69.1 93.6 115.4 87.4 82.3 88.6 137.9 % change, latest quarter over: 20.0 15.0 34.1 20.4 50.0 33.5 21.4 3.6 -1.8 20.5 previous quarter same quarter a year -5.4 -4.5 8.0 -17.54.0 -11.6 -15.4 -14.5 -34.7 10.6

-8.5

-8.3

-5.7

-4.2

-16.3

4.2

7.5

3.5

-16.4

% growth in output in the year to:

4th quarter 2006

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> large, i.e establishments with 10 or more employees

#### **ANNEX**

# **Quarterly Index of Industrial Production (QIIP) - Methodology**

#### 1 Introduction

The Index of Industrial Production shows the movement of the volume of output of the Industrial Sector. This index was calculated annually and published in the Digest of Industrial Statistics. Following the needs expressed by various institutions, both public and private, the Central Statistics Office decided to compile and disseminate the index on a quarterly basis. The compilation and dissemination of the Quarterly Index of Industrial Production is also one of the requirements of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) towards graduation to the Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS).

## 2 Objectives

The Quarterly Index of Industrial Production (QIIP) is one of the most important industrial short-term indicators which aim at measuring, on a quarterly basis, the ups and downs of the volume of industrial output with a special focus on detecting, as early as possible, the turning points of the business cycle. This enables planners, decision makers and the business community at large to be aware of any sign of change in the progress of the economy in order to take appropriate and timely policy measures.

At the office level, the index based on "hard" data, provides useful and reliable inputs for the improvement of the annual production estimates and forecasts as well as estimates of quarterly value added for the Industrial Sector.

# 3 Concept/Definition

The basic concept of the Index of Industrial Production is the measurement of the change in real value added at basic prices. Given that value added is defined as the difference between output and input, the compilation of the index, on a quarterly basis, is faced with practical difficulties in obtaining the data required on inputs and outputs within a reasonable period. In the absence of detailed data for most of the different industrial groups, an approximation of the index is based on change in deflated turnover, physical output or other indicators of change in real value added generated by industrial enterprises. The indicators used by main industrial grouping/sector are as follows:

| Sector/Industrial grouping                                     | Indicators used  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| Mining and quarrying   | Value added deflated by appropriate deflators  |  |  |  |
| Industry groups within manufacturing (excluding sugar milling) | Use of proxy indicators  i. Volume of production  ii. Employment  iii. Turnover data deflated by appropriate deflators (for most of the industry groups)  iv. Consumption of raw materials |  |  |  |
| Sugar milling  | Value added deflated using the double deflation method. However, until final data  |  |  |  |

|                                   | are obtained quarterly changes are based on proportions of the deflated annual estimate/forecast. The proportions are computed from the latest quarterly cost structure of milling activities (see sections 7 and 8). |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Electricity, gas and water supply | Volume of sales as proxy indicator.   |

The deflators used are the following price indices at detailed level, wherever possible:

- i. Producer Price Index (PPI)
- ii. Export Price Index (EPI)
- iii. Import Price Index (IPI)
- iv. Construction Price Index (CoPI)
- v. Consumers Price Index (CPI)
- vi. Wage Rate Index (WRI)

# 4 Scope/Classification

The Quarterly Index of Industrial Production covers the Industrial Sector, which comprises:

Mining and quarrying (NSIC Section C),

Manufacturing (NSIC Section D), and

Electricity, Gas and Water Supply (NSIC Section E)

The activity classification used is the National Standard Industrial Classification of Economic Activities (NSIC) which is compatible to ISIC Rev. 3 recommended by the United Nations. As regards Manufacturing, the index is compiled separately for the EPZ and Non-EPZ sectors. However, for the Non-EPZ sector, because of the non-availability of basic data on small establishments, the index can be considered to refer to large establishments only.

## **5** Compilation practices

The weights have been derived (separately for EPZ and Non-EPZ within the manufacturing sector) from value added at basic prices by detailed industry group (mostly at 5-digit level of activity classification) compiled from the 2002 Census of Economic Activities. The index is calculated for each of the lowest level of activity classification and aggregation to the broader level is done as a weighted arithmetic average of the lowest level indices. The reference period for the calculation of the indices is 2002.

#### 6 Data sources

As mentioned previously, use is extensively made of proxy indicators for the calculation of the index and one such indicator is deflated turnover data. Turnover data are mainly obtained from the VAT (Value Added Tax) Department, which is a very important source of secondary data. The sources of data by industry are as follows:

| Sector/Industrial grouping                                     | Data sources   |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| Mining and quarrying   | <ul><li>Survey of establishments</li><li>Deflators used: PPI and WRI</li></ul> |  |  |  |
| Industry groups within manufacturing (excluding sugar milling) | Turnover data from VAT Department  |  |  |  |

|                                   | <ul> <li>Trade statistics</li> <li>Quarterly Stock Survey</li> <li>Quarterly Survey of Employment among EPZ and Pioneer enterprises</li> <li>Sales of excisable goods from Customs Department</li> <li>Deflators used: PPI, EPI and IPI</li> </ul> |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Sugar milling                     | <ul> <li>Data on income and expenditure from<br/>Mauritius Chamber of Agriculture</li> <li>Deflators used: PPI, CoPI and CPI</li> </ul>  |
| Electricity, gas and water supply | Returns from CEB, CWA and Independent Power Producers (IPPs)   |

## 7 Problems/Constraints/Data quality

The practical difficulties in compiling an ideal index showing the evolution of value added at constant prices lead to the use of a number of approximation methods which are listed at section 3. Each of the methods has a number of constraints, the main ones being:

# Deflated turnover:

- quality of data from VAT Department. The data refer to a mix of formal "large" responding enterprises/establishments. The output of secondary activities of an enterprise are included in turnover data corresponding to the main activity of the enterprise;
- time-lag between production and sales may lead to a late identification of a turning point in the business cycle;
- ignorance of changes in stocks gives a false picture of true production. However, based on available information from the Quarterly Stock Survey, adjustments are made, wherever possible, to take account of changes in stocks;
- the quality of the index is subject to the precision and relevance of the different price indices used for deflation.
- assumption based on a fixed ratio of value added to gross output when, in fact, the ratio may change as a result of technological changes, productivity changes as well as seasonal variation in the production structure

#### Consumption of raw materials:

• involves the assumption that output is constant per unit of materials used.

# Employment:

does not take account of changes in labour productivity. Although, in the short term, it
is reasonable to assume that labour productivity is relatively constant, this is not true
in the long term;

#### *Volume of production:*

does not take account of quality changes

For sugar milling, final quarterly real value added is computed from final annual accounts which are available with a lag of two years. Until then, the deflated annual estimate/forecast of sugar production and the latest quarterly cost structure of sugar milling activities are used

to compute the quarterly estimates. These may be subject to large revisions when final data are obtained with a lag of two years.

# **8** Appropriateness of the QIIP

In spite of the above constraints/weaknesses, it is observed that the index shows relative consistency and is of reliable quality for the measurement of quarterly and other changes. However, great care should be taken when interpreting small changes that may be insignificant at the more detailed level.

Users are also cautioned in the use of the overall index which includes "Sugar Milling". For the latest two years, the overall index is affected by the preliminary methodology used for estimating quarterly changes in "Sugar Milling" which is based on fixed proportions of the deflated annual estimate/forecast (see section 7). Moreover, because of climatic conditions, the forecasted annual figure itself is subject to large deviations.

## 9 Index calculation

The QIIP is calculated according to a modified Laspeyre's index and the formula is:

$$I_t \ = \ \frac{\sum W_i \left( Q_{it} / Q_{io} \right)}{\sum W_i} \quad X \quad 100 \label{eq:lt}$$

 $\begin{array}{ll} \text{with} & I_t & = \text{index for quarter t} \\ & W_i & = \text{weight for activity i} \end{array}$ 

 $(Q_{it}/Q_{io})$  = is the growth in real value added of activity i in quarter t relative to the base year as estimated by an appropriate proxy indicator