

(REGULAR REPORTING PROFORMA FOR COMMERCIAL WINGS)
REPORT FOR DATE ...01/04/2015....TO DATE...30/06/2015.

HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA,
PORT LOUIS, MAURITIUS

1. Trends in Bilateral trade and investment for the period (1st Quarter 2015)

(i) Bilateral Trade

(US\$ million)

	Export	Import	Total	Growth % of Export	Growth % of Import
Country's Trade with India	4	211	215	+8.8	-23.0
Country's Total Global Trade	629	1180	1809	+20.5	+9.26

(Source: Statistics Mauritius)

(ii) Top 10 items of Import from India

(US\$ million)

S.No.	Commodity	Period	Percentage Growth (%)	% Share in total Import from India to Mauritius
1.	Jet fuel	1st Qr - 2015	-27.4	19.8
2.	Gas oils		-12.8	17.6
3.	Fuel oils - Other		-26.4	10.1
4.	Motor spirits		-7.5	10.0
5.	Marine Residual Fuel Oil for bunkering		-	6.3
6.	Medicament nes not contg antibiotic/harmonie/alkaloid/vitamin		33.6	5.0
7.	Semi milled or wholly milled basmati rice whether or not polished.		17.4	3.4
8.	Women's or girls' dresses of synthetic fibre , not knitted or crocheted		-	1.4
9.	New motor vehicles spark ignition of a cylinder cap >1000cc but <1250cc		-7.9	1.2
10.	Broken rice		-19.5	1.1

(iii) Top 10 items of Import from the World

(US \$ million)

S.No.	Commodity	Period	Percentage Growth (%)	% Share in total Imports from the World
1.	Telephones for Cellular networks or for Other wireless networks	1st Qr - 2015	516.6	10.8
2.	Gas oils		-12.3	4.1
3.	Jet fuel		-19.1	3.5
4.	Non-industrial diamond unworked/simply sawn,cleaved/bruted,not mounted/se		20.3	2.4
5.	Medicament nes not contg antibiotic/harmone/alkaloid/vitamin.		20.9	2.1
6.	Fuel oils - Other		-	1.8
7.	Motor spirits		-33.8	1.8
8.	Other Fish, frozen (excluding livers and roes).		52.2	1.5
9.	Coal,excl anthracite & bituminous, pulverised or not, but not agglomerate		-16.3	1.5
10.	Frozen yellowfin tunas excl. fillets, livers and roes		-22.0	1.3

(iv) Top 10 items of Exports to India

S.No.	Commodity	Period	Percentage Growth (%)	% Share in total Export
1.	Tubular metal needle/needle for suture/medical,surgical/dental sciences	1st Qr - 2015	-2.6	16.9
2.	Synthetic etc,semi/precious stone worked/graded,excl 710410-20,not strung		-	14.0
3.	Waste and scrap of cast iron		84.0	13.6
4.	Other underground electric cables, for a voltage>1000 V		-	9.2
5.	Aluminium waste or scrap		17.2	9.1
6.	Containers for compressed or liquefied gas, of iron or steel		78.0	4.2
7.	Waste/scrap of paper/paperboard nes excl 470710-30, incl unsorted		-9.1	3.7
8.	Other men's or boys shirts of cotton		-8.7	3.7
9.	Instruments/apparatus to		-	3.7

	measure or check variables of liquids or gases		
10.	Waste and scrap of alloy steel (excl. stainless)		78.9 3.5

(v) Top 10 items of Exports to the World

(US \$million)

S.No.	Commodity	Period	Percentage Growth (%)	% Share in total Export
1.	Telephones for Cellular networks or for Other wireless networks	1st Qr - 2015	567.8	18.8
2.	White Sugar		-14.2	6.2
3.	Other men's or boys shirts of cotton		24.7	6.2
4.	Other fillets		-22.0	5.3
5.	T-shirts, singlets and other vests, of cotton, knitted or crocheted		-11.0	4.1
6.	Non-industrial diamond worked, but not mounted or set		20.3	3.9
7.	Other Fish, frozen (excluding livers and roes)		59.8	3.8
8.	T-shirt, singlet & other vest of other textile excl cotton, knitted/croche		4.5	3.7
9.	Tunas, skipjack and atlantic bonito, whole or in pieces but not minced in vegetable oils		10.6	3.3
10.	Men/boy trouser breech&short of cotton not knitted/crocheted		-3.0	3.2

(vi) Top 5 competitors of India's top 5 exports

S.No.	Commodity (including HS codes)	Competitors
1.	Gas Oils (27101950)	South Africa, Bahrain, Singapore, France
2.	Fuel Oils (27101960)	France
3.	Medicament (30049000)	France, South Africa, United Kingdom, Switzerland and Turkey
4.	Semi milled or wholly milled basmati rice (10063010)	Pakistan, Thailand

5.	Combed single cotton yarn (52052200)	Thailand, Indonesia
6.	Frozen boneless bovine meat (02023000)	Australia, Brazil

(vii) Potential products of exports for India

The local Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Consumer Protection, vide its Communique, dated 2 June, announced that the items listed below have been removed from the List of Controlled Goods and will no longer require an import permit :-

- 1) Salt
- 2) Weighing machinery (not for trade use)
- 3) Public transport type, passenger motor vehicles, bus
- 4) Bus Chassis fitted with Engines
- 5) Cruise ships, excursion boats, ferry-boats, cargo ships, barges and similar vessels for the transport of persons or goods
- 6) Tugs and pusher craft
- 7) Balances (not for trade use)
- 8) Instruments for measuring length, for use in the hand (for example measuring rods and tapes)

Moreover, the items listed below will no longer be prohibited for importation:

- 1) "Roll your own cigarettes" papers imported under H.S Code 48.13
- (2) Rolling machines, other than rolling machines of industrial types, used to manufacture cigarettes
- (3) Asbestos fibres as follows –
 - (a) Actinolite
 - (b) Anthophyllite
 - (c) Amosite
 - (d) Tremolite

(viii) Bilateral Investment (Source: Bank of Mauritius)

Foreign Direct Investment from/to India: 2007 to 2015

(Excluding Offshore Investment)

(US\$ Mn.)

Year	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Q1 2015
Indian FDI in Mauritius	19	67	10	94	17	23	2.5	4.8	0.178
Mauritian FDI in India	1	1	0	33	2	10	0.1	-	-

(Source: Bank of Mauritius)

(ix) Global Investment (Source: Bank of Mauritius)

Provisional estimates for the first quarter of 2015 indicate that gross Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows in Mauritius stood at Rs2,420 million (Rs6 million from India). Investment was mainly directed to the “Real estate activities” sector (Rs1,956 million), of which the IRS/RES/IHS accounted for Rs1,633 million, the “Accommodation and food service activities” sector (Rs249 million) and the “Construction” sector (Rs112 million). The main sources of FDI inflows were France followed by UK. Outward direct investment is estimated at Rs132 million for the first three months of 2015 with significant investment channeled to the “Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles” sector (Rs52 million).

(x) Significant Trends in trade and investment (Sources: Statistics Mauritius)

S.No.	Details of significant trends	Analysis
1.	Exports: Total exports for the Q ₁ 2015 amounted to R 23,349 million, 14.1% more compared to the corresponding quarter of 2014, mostly explained by a rise in the re-exports of “Telecommunication equipment and accessories” from R 600 million to R 3,995 million. Exports of Export Oriented Enterprises (EOE) however, decreased by 1.4% to R 10,818 million. Exports to Mauritius main buyers rose for U.A.E (+917.2%), Spain (+28.6%), South Africa (+20.5%), Madagascar (+12.4%) and U.S.A (+4.2%), but declined for France (-24.5%) and United Kingdom (-1.5%).	Compared to the previous quarter, total exports for the Q ₁ 2015 dropped by 5.7%, mainly as a result of a decrease of 6.8% in exports of EOE with decreases in “Articles of wearing apparel and clothing accessories” (-13.4%), partly offset by increases in exports of “Machinery and transport equipment” (+20.4%) and “Cane sugar” (+19.1%). The following main markets registered decreases in total exports: France (-15.7%), Madagascar (-11.3%), United Kingdom (-10.9%), South Africa (-10.8%) and U.S.A (-10.5%).
2.	Imports: Total imports rose by 9.3% from R 35,620 million in the Q ₁ 2014 to R 38,930 million in Q ₁ 2015. Imports of “Refined petroleum products” decreased by 29.8% to R 4,932 million during the same period. Imports from Mauritius main suppliers, dropped for India (-23.0%) and France (-12.0%) but rose for China (+53.3%) and South Africa (+7.2%).	Compared to the previous quarter, imports decreased by 20.4%, mainly due to lower imports of “Miscellaneous manufactured articles” (-41.7%), “Crude materials, inedible, except fuels” (-24.7%), “Machinery & transport equipment” (-21.1%), “Food and live animals” (-19.8%) and “Refined petroleum products” (-17.8%). Imports from Mauritius main suppliers dropped as follows: India (-31.8%), France (-23.5%), South Africa (-19.2%) and China (-17.7%).

2. Important India related statements of commercial significance by political leaders, think tanks, chambers, associations etc:

April 2015

- A two member delegation led by the Hon'ble Minister (Rural Development), Shri Birendra Singh visited Mauritius to attend the African Asian Rural Development Conference (AARDO) from 06-10 April, 2015 at Port Louis, Mauritius. In a statement, Mr Singh reiterated the appeal made by Sir Anerood Jugnauth, with regard to encouraging more countries to join the organisation. He underscored the importance of providing skills development to the residents of rural areas, which he said was the focus of discussions with the Prime Minister, in addition to other issues pertaining to providing basic amenities and connectivity to people living in rural regions.
- Mr Anup Kumar Mudgal, the High Commissioner of India to Mauritius, presented new hydrographic data sets (undertaken by the INS Sarvekshak) to Mr. Showkutally Soodhun, the Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Housing and Lands of Mauritius, on 13 April. Also, a navigational sheet off Rodrigues Island was handed over to Sir Anerood Jugnauth, the Prime Minister of Mauritius.
- Mr Parthasarathi Shome , ex-minister of Finance of India was in Mauritius on 7-8 May for the 9th edition of the 'Asia/ Africa Regional Conference' of the Mauritian branch of the International Fiscal Association (IFA).

May 2015

- Hon'ble External Affairs Minister Smt Sushma Swaraj arrived in Mauritius on 18 May 2015, on a transit stop en route to South Africa. She was greeted at the Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam International Airport by the Hon. Etienne Sinatambou, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade of the Republic of Mauritius, Mrs Sinatambou, and the High Commissioner of India to Mauritius, H E Shri Anup K Mudgal. The Hon. Pravind Jugnauth, Minister of Technology, Communication and Innovation, Republic of Mauritius also called on Hon'ble EAM during her transit visit en route to India from South Africa on 20 May 2015.
- Bharti Enterprises, a leading Indian business group has acquired a stake of 25% of shares in EMTEL, a local telecommunications company, with Currimjee Jeewanjee and Co Ltd (CJ) being the sole shareholder until recently.
- Mahanagar Telephone Mauritius Ltd. (MTML) launched its 4G service in the month of May. It also slashed international roaming rates by 37%.
- Indian drugmaker Strides Arcolab Ltd is reportedly planning to buy businesses in Mauritius from South Africa's Aspen Pharmacare Holdings Ltd.

June 2015

- Two international experts from Nishith Desai Associates (NDA), a research-based Indian law firm were in Mauritius from 1 to 3 June to contribute to the elaboration of the National Innovation Strategy Plan due to be released soon.
- Life Insurance Corporation of India (Mauritius) handed over a cheque of an amount of MRs 500 000 to SOS Children's Villages in Mauritius on June 8, as a part of CSR contribution.

- The Hon. Seetanah Lutchmeenaraidoo, Minister of Finance and Economic Development of Mauritius led a high level delegation to New Delhi from 15-19 June 2015. A Business Meeting was held to tap potential Indian stakeholders for investment in the local Smart Cities project. He also met the Indian Foreign Affairs minister to discuss the fishing port project in Mauritius as well as the Mauritian project of setting up special economic zones in African countries such as Ghana, Madagascar and Senegal. Negotiations with the Small Industry Development Bank of India (SIDBI) were also pursued to set up a local SME bank.
- Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy, Hon'ble Minister of State for Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (IC) and Parliamentary Affairs, Government of India, visited Mauritius from 2-4 July 2015 in his capacity as Special Envoy of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, in connection with the forthcoming India-Africa Forum Summit being held in New Delhi in October 2015. Shri Rudy handed over the original signed letter of invitation from Hon'ble PM Shri Modi to the Rt Hon. Sir Anerood Jugmauth, Prime Minister of the Republic of Mauritius. Shri Rudy also handed over a letter of invitation to Foreign Minister Etienne Sinatambou, and called on President Dr Ameenah Gurib-Fakim.

3. Market access:

- a. Alerts on tariff changes, non tariff barriers (SPS/TBT measures, import and export procedures/restrictions/ prohibitions/ licencing etc); trade policy developments:

S.No.	Notification no. and date or other references	Details (including HS codes)	Effective from
1.	The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the Bank of Mauritius maintained the Key Repo Rate at 4.65 per cent per annum, at its meeting held in April.		
2.	Mauritius has been removed from the tax blacklist of Italy following the entry into force of the Italian Stability Law 2015.		
3.	The Bank of Mauritius (BoM, the central bank) revoked the banking licence of Bramer Banking Corporation, a subsidiary of Kenya-based British American Investment (BAI) in April. Following the revocation, the authorities announced the creation of a new bank, the National Commercial Bank (which started operation on April 13th), to take	As an aftermath, the three flagship companies of the holding BA Investment, viz. Courts, Iframac and Apollo Bramwell went into liquidation, with many employees of the above mentioned companies labouring under uncertainty of ever-present risk of losing their jobs. Also, Star Knitwear, one of the biggest textile companies of Mauritius, has been placed under administration.	

	<p>over the management and ensure continued services to its 56,000 clients. Large withdrawals of deposits and difficulties raising funds on the interbank market had put it in a precarious liquidity situation, according to the BoM. Meanwhile, Mauritius's prime minister, Sir Anerood Jugnauth, said there was evidence of a MRs25bn(US\$664m) Ponzi-style investment scheme.</p>		
4.	<p>Mauritius will accede to the Sixth African Regional Cooperative Agreement (AFRA) of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) for the period 2015 to 2020.</p>		
5.	<p>The Board of Investment (National Investment Promotion Agency) has launched the One-Stop Shop (BOI-OSS) project (to be operational from 1st July) to facilitate the setting-up of companies having a project value of MUR 20 million.</p>		
6.	<p>The U.S Congress approved a long-anticipated renewal of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) on 02 July, which will assure Mauritian textile producers at least 10 more years of duty-free and quota-free access to the U.S. market.</p>		
7.	<p>Custom duties have been removed on imports</p>		as from 1 July 2015

	originating from Reunion Island within the framework of the Interim Economic Partnership Agreement.		
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- b. Alerts on Trade Defense Measures taken by respective country:
(Safeguards including special safeguard, antidumping , CVD or Anti- subsidy) :
No case of implementation

S.No.	Notification no. and date or other references	Details of products/ sectors affected (including HS codes)	Effective from

- c. Feedback from major Indian industries/other commercial concerns set –up- in that country and Indian trade visitors to that country

S.No.	Name of business house	Activity sector	Trade barrier issues if any (including HS codes)	General Feedback
1.	Mr Vijay Kalantri, President - All India Association of Industries & Vice Chairman - World Trade Centre Mumbai visited Mauritius in April 2015 to promote bi-lateral trade and to fast track implementation of Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and resolve the issues impeding the Business Growth between the two countries.			He had working sessions with Sir Anerood Jugnauth, Hon'ble Prime Minister of Mauritius, Mr Premdutt Koonjoo, Minister of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries, Shipping and Outer Islands and Raju Jadoo the Secretary General of Mauritius Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

d. Feedback on major trade fairs/BSM including Indian participation (whether or not supported by MAI funds): No major trade fair was held in Mauritius.

S.No.	Particulars of trade Fair, dates etc.	Number of participants from India	List of large participants	Feedback received
1.	All India Cosmetologists & Beauticians Association, Lucknow Branch organized its 2nd International Conference dedicated to 'Health & Beauty' on 4th, April 2015 in Mauritius.			
2.	The 7th edition of 'Indo-International Trade and Cultural Expo', organized by Rajasthan Works Ltd, an Indian company operating in Mauritius, engaged in the commercialization of Indian handmade products, was held at the Free Port Centre at Mer Rouge from 4-13 April.	60-70		It was a brisk business for the visiting Indian exhibitors as more than 99,000 people are estimated to have visited the Expo.
3.	"Mauritius International Trade Fair", organized by Gulf Exhibition & Festival Management, an event management company based at Karachi, Pakistan was held from 18-27 April 2015 at 'FOM Exhibition Center' at Free Port - Mer Rouge	50		-
4.	"Indian Ocean International Trade Fair", was held from 5-14 June at the Free Port - Mer Rouge.	30		

- e. Feedback from local commercial visitors to trade fairs in India, including under BSM.
Number of Business Visas issued:

S.No.	Particulars of Trade Fair, dates etc.	Number of Participants	List of large participants	Number of Business Visas issued	Feedback received
				HCI, Port Louis issued 137 Business Visas between 1 st Apr to 30 th Jun/2015.	

4. Investment:

- a. Opportunities for investments/ assets on offer/major company divestment: No reportable case came into our notice.

S.No.	Particulars of the asset /company	Contact details

- b. Information on tender Notices for projects and procurements of interest to Indian project exporters/ suppliers (USD15 million & above)

Tenders notices, procurement news, international competitive bids, request for proposal (RFPs), expression of interest (EOI) from Mauritius are available at Government Procurement Website <http://publicprocurement.govmu.org>

- c. Information regarding upcoming major investment in India from respective country : No reportable case came into our notice.

S.No.	Particulars of the asset /company	Sector of investment	Quantum of investment

5. Details of trade research, information dissemination activity of the commercial wing

- Details of following trade fairs/exhibitions/business meets organized in India were disseminated amongst a wide spectrum of Mauritian trade and industry circles.
 - ✓ India International Garment Fair - 13-15 July, 2015
 - ✓ India International Jewellery Show (IIJS) – 6-10 August, 2015
 - ✓ India International Textile Machinery Exhibition , 3-8 December, 2016
 - ✓ INDIASOFT- INDIA IT SHOW – 10-11 March, 2016
- To launch Indian Mangoes in the Mauritian market, a local company by the name of SKC Surat & Co. Ltd. set up a special promotional stall of Kesar variety of Indian mangoes at the Swami Vivekananda International Convention Centre on June 21,2015 as a part of the celebration of International Yoga Day in Mauritius. The company's team comprising of the Chairman's family, Mr Vivian Albert – Head of Marketing & Sales and a chef+ assistant made the mango presentable in various forms like freshly cut, juice, mousse, chutney etc. Over 1200 Yoga

practitioners are reported to have savoured the taste of Indian mangoes, towards the conclusion of the event. The mango, which is priced at MRs 60 per piece, is now available at all the leading hypermarkets on the island.

- Some of the other promotion activities undertaken on a regular basis include:-
 - Distribution of brochures/pamphlets on India as an attractive investment destination;
 - Regular dissemination of India's economic and trade policy;
 - Continuous interaction with Indian PSUs in Mauritius and Private Sector companies
 - Media outreach activities;
 - Constant and regular interaction with Economic and Trade Ministries, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration & International Trade for foreign trade policy issues, and
 - Regular interface with the Board of Investment, Financial Services Commission, Bank of Mauritius, etc.
6. Details of activities conducted out of Trade promotion budget: No expense was incurred out of the sanctioned 1,00,000 INR.

S.N.O.	Date of incurred expenditure	Amount utilized (in INR)	Details of Activity
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7. Action taken on the previous JWG, Joint commissions, Sub-commissions etc. (issues that Mission had to follow up with host government):

S.No.	Detail of JWG/JEC	Action Point	Action Taken
1.	Vice Admiral SK Jha, Chief Hydrographer to the Government of India was on an official visit to Mauritius from 28 June to 01 July 2015, to participate in the 9th India-Mauritius Joint Commission Meeting on Hydrography.		The bilateral Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in the field of hydrography is extended for a further period of five years. (due for renewal on 23rd October 2015)
2.	11th session of the Joint Working Group on the India-Mauritius Double Taxation Avoidance Treaty (29-30 June).		The delegation led by Mr Roshi Badhain, the Minister of Financial Services, Good Governance and Institutional Reforms to India, was reported to have successfully finalized the pending issues on the Double Taxation Avoidance Convention, as well as a protocol amending the Convention between India and Mauritius for the avoidance of double taxation and the

			prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income and capital gains.
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8. Trade Queries for import /Exports

Month	Indian Enquiries	Mauritian Enquiries	Total	Action taken
April	70	15	85	All queries were replied via e-mail.
May	100	2	102	
June	120	4	124	
The general focus has mainly been on Rice, Gifts and Handicrafts, Jewellery, Ready-made Garments & Home furnishings, Pharmaceuticals, Engineering, amongst others.				

9. Any other issue of importance

- The National Assembly voted on May 13 the Employment Rights (Amendment) Bill to extend the duration of maternity leave from 12 to 14 weeks.
- Dr Ameenah Gurib-Fakim, CSK, was sworn in as the sixth President of the Republic of Mauritius on 5 June, 2015.
- The ruling 'Alliance Lepep' coalition won the local municipal elections held on June 14.
- Mr Pravind Jugnauth resigned (on July 01) as minister of Information Technology, Communications and Innovation, after being found guilty of conflict of interest in Medpoint sale. His portfolio has been taken over by Mr Roshi Bhadain, Minister of Financial Services, Good Governance and Institutional Reforms.