



In the limelight

MCCI Export Insights: Overview of Export Trends 2010-2015

Total Exports of goods have increased by 39% over the last five years moving from Rs. 62 billion to Rs. 86 billion in 2015. The increase in total exports can be attributed largely to a significant increase in re-exports over the last few years.

Over the last five years, the top four **Domestic Exports** remained unchanged namely *Garments, Preserved Tuna, Sugar and Jewellery*. In 2015, these top four product categories made up for 77% of the total domestic exports.

Exports of goods to the SADC and COMESA region have also increased significantly moving from 12% to 18% of total domestic exports over the past five years. Exports to the region were highly concentrated in *Textiles and Clothing products*, accounting for 72% of total domestic exports to the region.

Re-Exports of goods have increased significantly with a rise of 144% over the last five years being primarily re-export activities in the Freeport. The top three products re-exported in terms of value for the year 2015 were *Mobile Phones, Frozen Fish and Vanilla*. Other products included *Medicaments, Computers and Medical Dressings*.

The full report can be accessed [here](#).

Local News

Unemployment rate predicted to be 7.7 percent in 2016

According to Statistics Mauritius, the number of unemployed persons decreased by 6,800 to reach 43,500 in the first quarter of 2016. The majority of those unemployed are female representing 60 percent of total unemployment figures.

It is worth noting that around 35,800 – 82 percent – have been looking for work for less than one year while 31 percent of those unemployed were looking for a job for the first time. Moreover, 47 percent of those unemployed did not have an SC qualification.

In 2016, the employment level of Mauritians is expected to increase on a net basis, by 2,200 to reach 540,500. Statistics Mauritius further projects a fall in the unemployment rate for 2016 at 7.7 percent compared to 7.9 percent in 2015.

BREXIT: Ongoing Discussions at Inter-Ministerial Level

Discussions on the possible impact of Brexit on the country were held during the meeting of the inter-Ministerial Committee, chaired by the Minister of Finance and Economic Development, Hon. Pravind Jugnauth. The committee explored the possible consequences of BREXIT on various sectors of the Mauritian economy, at which the Technical Committee made an initial assessment of the sector-wise implications of BREXIT.

The Technical Committee is also examining the five principal options of Economic Partnership which UK may choose as a model for negotiation during the two-year transition period. These five options are as follows: (i) the Norway Model, which would imply that the UK will join the European Economic Area; (ii) the Swiss Model, where the UK would be expected to negotiate a bilateral agreement with the EU states; (iii) the Turkey Model, under which the UK may negotiate a bilateral Customs Union with the EU; (iv) the WTO Model, under which the UK would rely on WTO rules for access; and (v) the UK to negotiate a

Special Deal that would retain free trade with the EU.

Developments related to Brexit are being very closely monitored through the inter-Ministerial Committee and this subject is on the agenda of the next Joint Public-Private Sector Committee, chaired by the Prime Minister..

Read full article [here](#).

(Source: GIS)

EU allocates Rs. 70 million for DCP's Call for Proposals for projects to achieve SDGs

The European Union (EU) has allocated an amount of Rs. 70 million for a Call for proposals under the last edition of the Decentralised Cooperation Programme (DCP), which operates under the aegis of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development.

The Call for Proposals of grants ranging from Rs. 400 000 to Rs. 4 million will be allotted to Non-State Actors (NSAs) and Local Authorities with respect to certain conditions for eligible projects aimed at achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) which has now shifted to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

DCP is an EU instrument assisting NGOs engaged in activities to fight against poverty at community level helping the needy segments of the population. DCP awards grants through a call for proposals scheme and is in line with the commitment of the EU to combat poverty and exclusion in achieving the MDGs.

Read full article [here](#).

(Source: GIS)

India-Mauritius Global Partnership Forum, 24-27 July 2016, Intercontinental Hotel, BalACLava

A prime business and corporate conference, involving key business and economic players of India and Mauritius, is being organized by the India Mauritius Trade and Cultural Friendship Forum (IMTCFF) from 24-27 July 2016, at Intercontinental Hotel, BalACLava.

The main objectives of the Conference will be to bring together eminent intellectuals, successful businesspersons, potential investors and prominent artists of the Indian Diaspora to showcase and promote partnership opportunities in various fields of socio-economic activity. Some 300 foreign participants are expected to attend the Conference.

For more information and registration, click [here](#).

International News

World Bank forecasts global GDP Growth of 2.4 percent for 2016

The World Bank, in its latest publication – the Global Economic Prospects* - has revised downwards the global growth rate to 2.4 percent as growth weakened throughout the world economy.

Emerging market and developing economies are facing stronger headwinds, including weaker growth among advanced economies and persistently low commodity prices, as well as low global trade and capital flows. The report further points to an increase in downside risks including deteriorating conditions among key commodity exporters, rising private sector debt in some large emerging markets and heightened policy and geopolitical uncertainties.

Nonetheless, global growth is projected to pick up slowly to 3 percent by 2018, as commodity prices stabilize and advanced economies start to regain growth.

The World Bank points to the need for structural reforms to boost growth both in the short and long term.

The full report is available at the MCCI. Contact Mr. Azeem Salehmohamed on 208 3301.

** The Global Economic Prospects is a bi-annual report of the World Bank, analyzing international economic developments and the outlook for growth. It examines a wide range of topical macroeconomic, financial, and structural policy challenges facing the world economy.*

GS1 Traceability System for Pharmaceutical products in India wins AFACT Award

The United Nations awarded a GS1 standards-based traceability system for



pharmaceutical products for its success in e-business and trade facilitation in India. The Asia Pacific Council for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (AFACT), under the U.N Center for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business, presented the e-ASIA Award to the Drug Authentication and Verification Application (DAVA), calling it the "best trade facilitation system in the region."



DAVA, a national portal, tracks and traces the movement of pharmaceuticals exported from the country. It was launched by India's Directorate General of Foreign Trade last year to help prevent counterfeit drugs from entering the supply chain.

Once fully implemented, approximately 250 large and more than 8,000 small and medium-sized businesses would use this system to upload daily production data of their export consignments. The system also enables product authentication by barcode scanning through its mobile application, which can be used by consumers, regulators and customs officials worldwide.

(Source: GS1)

Incoterms® rules turn 80

One of International Chamber of Commerce's (ICC) very first initiatives to facilitate international trade - Incoterms® rules - turns 80. The many differences in practices and legal interpretations between traders around the globe necessitated a common set of guidelines. As a response, the ICC Incoterms® rules were officially established in 1936 and have been evolving ever since.

Because commercial practices constantly develop with time, it is essential that the ICC Incoterms® rules follow suit. After the initial introduction, there have been seven revisions to the terms reflecting contemporary methods of carrying goods, implementing contracts of sale, clearing goods for export and import and using documents as evidence in order to secure the rights of the entitled persons to receive the goods from carriers at agreed destinations. The most recent edition is Incoterms® 2010 with an update to the rules anticipated for 2020.

(Source: ICC)

Business Opportunities

Trade and Investment

Belgium

Belgian company provides related materials for nursery, primary and higher education

Contact: Mr. Van Rossem M.L.; Email: marlitexinternational@telenet.be

Pakistan

State Engineering Corporation has a wide range of engineering facilities and products for heavy electrical complex, machine tool factory, etc.

More info: <http://www.sec.gov.pk>

India

Swayambhu Impex Pvt Ltd. wishes to export fresh fruits and vegetables, processed food products, frozen products, dry fruits, grains and cereals, snacks pulps, puree, paste and other agricultural products and machineries.

Contact: Ms. Nikita Mote; Email: sipl038@gmail.com

Trade Fairs

France

SIAL Paris 2016

Date: 16 to 20 October 2016, Paris Nord Villepinte

More info: <https://www.sialparis.fr>

South Africa

Matchmaking Africa Conference

Date: 24 to 28 August 2016, Pretoria

More info: <http://www.abconn.biz>

Tenders

1. Tenders related to AMADE (Accès aux marchés publics pour le Développement Économique) project

A list of international tenders compiled in connection with the AMADE (Accès aux marchés publics pour le Développement Économique) project, is available [here](#).

AMADE project is an initiative of the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF).

2. Solar PV projects with Viability Gap Funding (VGF) – India

Eligible Solar power developers are invited to click [here](#) to access a list of different tenders available in the context of Solar PV projects with Viability Gap Funding (VGF) in India.

Solar Energy Corporation of India Ltd. (SECI) is implementing several schemes for setting up of large-scale ground-mounted solar PV projects with Viability Gap Funding (VGF) support in different states of India.

Under these schemes, solar power projects are set up by private developers on Build-Own-Operate (BOO) basis, either in Government designated Solar Power Packs or in any other location of his choice.

The VGF support is a Government Grant that is provided by SECI upon successful commissioning of the plant.

For more information, please contact Mrs. Arline Sookahet at the MCCI.

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