

# **MCCI** **BUDGET** **HIGHLIGHTS** **2026/2027**

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**19 JUNE 2026**

# PREFACE

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The Mauritius Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) has taken note of the Budget Speech, delivered on 19 June 2026 by Dr. the Hon Navinchandra RAMGOOLAM, GCSK, FRCP, Prime Minister, Minister of Defence, Home Affairs and External Communications, Minister of Finance, Minister for Rodrigues and Outer Islands.

The Budget 2026/2027 gears towards a technology-driven and investment-led economy. The main measures announced focus on AI and digital services, industry re-engineering, port infrastructure, start-ups, tourism diversification, blue economy and sustainable development. It also seeks to address key investment constraints through business facilitation, faster licensing and permits, a new migration policy, and skills development reforms. The Budget also introduces several tax measures, including an increase in the sugar tax, higher excise duties on alcoholic beverages, the extension of the PET bottle tax to other plastic products, and changes to the income tax framework.

The MCCI is pleased to share its Budget Highlights 2026/2027. This document provides an economic outlook, main macroeconomic indicators, and sectoral measures. It also offers an overview of key economic figures and budget financials.



# ECONOMIC OUTLOOK & BUDGET FINANCIALS

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# ECONOMY IN FIGURES



**MUR 843 Bn**

GDP estimate  
(2026/27)



**3.5%**

Real GDP Growth  
Rate estimate  
(2026/27)



**4.2%**

Inflation Rate  
(May-26)



**5.7%**

Unemployment Rate  
(2025)



**MUR 147 Bn**

Total Investments  
(2025)



**MUR 500 Bn**

Export of G & S  
(2026 est.)



**+20.8%**

Real Growth in  
Investment (2025)



**1.4 million**

Tourist arrivals  
estimates (2025)

# MAURITIAN ECONOMY

## ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE 2025






In 2025, the Mauritian economy grew by 3.2%, supported by strong performances in the services sector, notably tourism, financial services and retail trade, while the construction sector contracted.

Total investment stood at MUR 146.7 billion, higher than in 2024.

Labour market conditions in 2025 showed an overall improvement, with rising employment by 6,700 and a decline in the unemployment rate from 6.0% in 2024 to 5.7% in 2025.

Inflation was relatively moderate in 2025 at 3.7%. However, in 2026, inflationary pressures have resulted in the headline inflation rate reaching 4.2% in May 2026.

The current account deficit increased from 6.4% of GDP in 2024 to 7.1% in 2025, driven by the rising import bill for energy, food, and capital goods.

	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
 GDP at current market prices (MUR bn)	717.0	776.8	842.9	909.5
 Real GDP Growth Rate - constant market prices (%)	4.3	3.1	3.5	4.0
 GDP Deflator (% change)	3.4	5.0	4.8	3.8
 Investment Rate (%)	20.2	20.0	20.8	22.0
 Current Account Deficit (as a % of GDP)	6.9	5.0	3.9	2.4

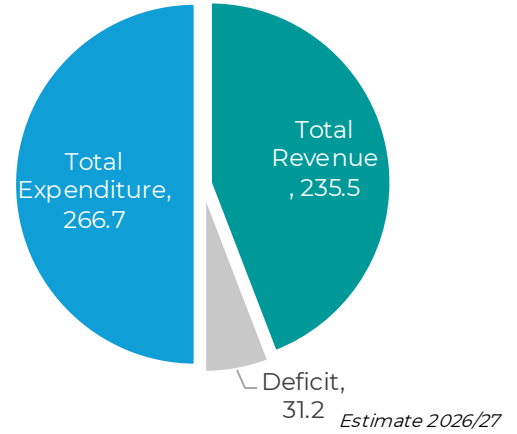
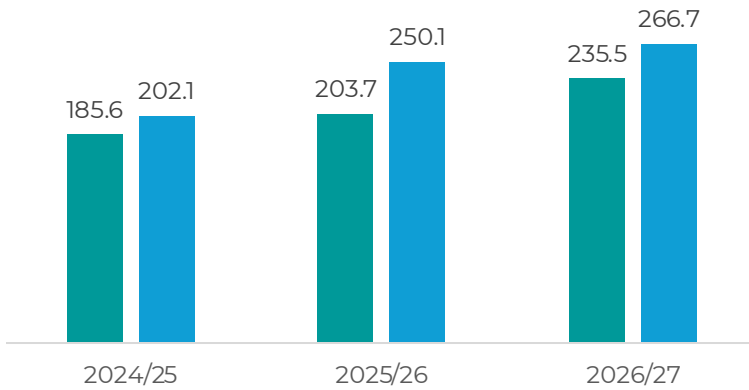
## ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

This Budget projects two scenarios for the Mauritian economy based on developments in the Middle East. Under the baseline scenario, where geopolitical tensions ease and global conditions stabilise, GDP growth is projected at around 3% in 2026 and 4% in 2027. Growth is expected to be driven by the continued recovery of tourism, expansion in financial services and ICT, higher investment activity, and the implementation of major infrastructure projects. The outlook also assumes stronger domestic demand, with tourism and construction remaining the main contributors to economic growth over the forecast period.

# BUDGET FINANCIALS

## Public Finance

Total Revenue & Expenditure (MUR Bn)



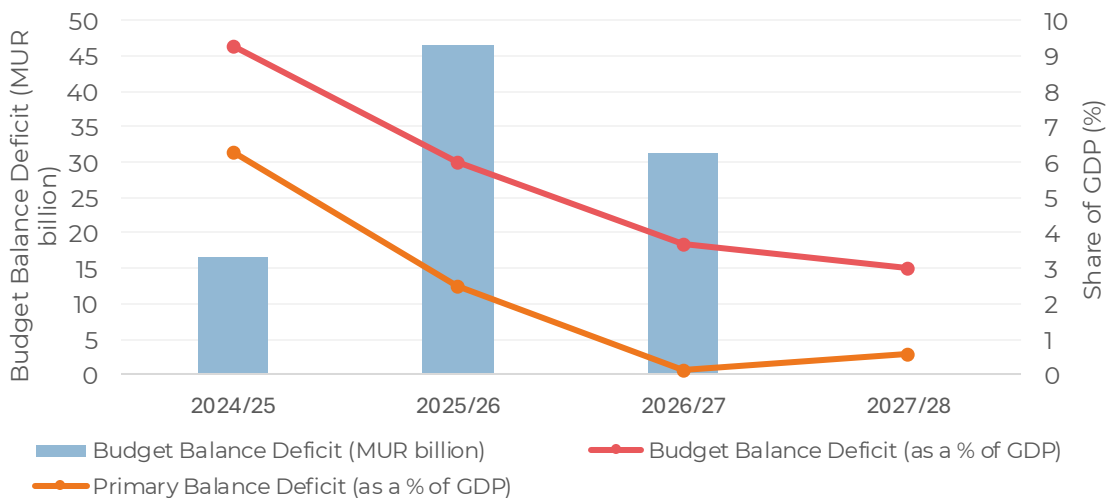
**Total Revenue**  
28.0% of GDP

For 2026/27, total revenue is estimated at MUR 235.5 billion, rising from MUR 203.6 billion for 2025/26. The main source of revenue remains tax, accounting for 84% of total revenue.

**Total Expenditure**  
31.6% of GDP

Total expenses for 2026/27 are expected to rise to MUR 266.7 billion, mainly geared towards social protection (old age pension), general public services, health and education.

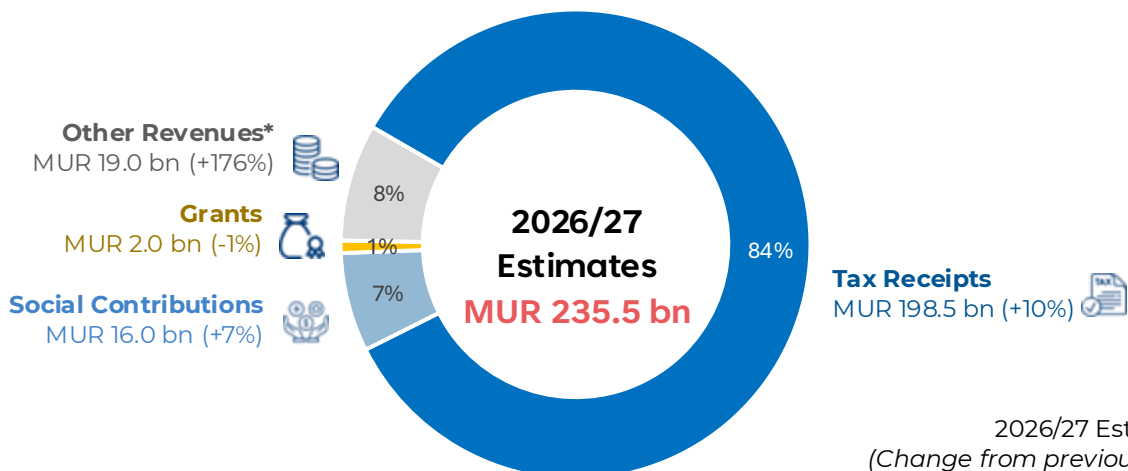
## Budget Deficit



With total revenue projected at MUR 235.5 billion and total expenses estimated at MUR 266.7 billion for the fiscal year 2026/27, the overall budget deficit is projected at MUR 31.2 billion, representing 3.7% of GDP. Over the medium term, the implementation of the fiscal consolidation strategy is expected to further reduce the budget deficit to 3.0% in 2027/28.

# REVENUE ESTIMATES 2026/27

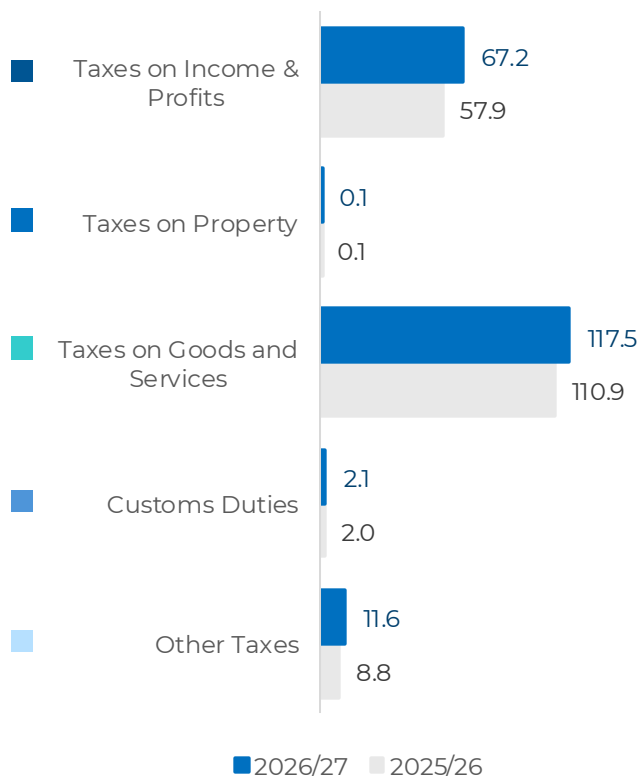
## Main Revenue Items (2026/27)



2026/27 Estimates  
(Change from previous year)

\*The rise in 'Other Revenues' to MUR 19 billion for 2026/27 is on account of an increase in property income from MUR 3 billion to MUR 15 billion.

## Revenue From Taxes



(MUR billion)

### Taxes on Income and Profits

Income tax from individuals is estimated to raise by 10%, reaching MUR 18.1 billion for 2026/27, and corporate income tax is estimated to increase by 20% to reach MUR 44.3 billion. Income from Tax Deduction at Source estimated at MUR 4.9 bn.

### Taxes on Goods and Services

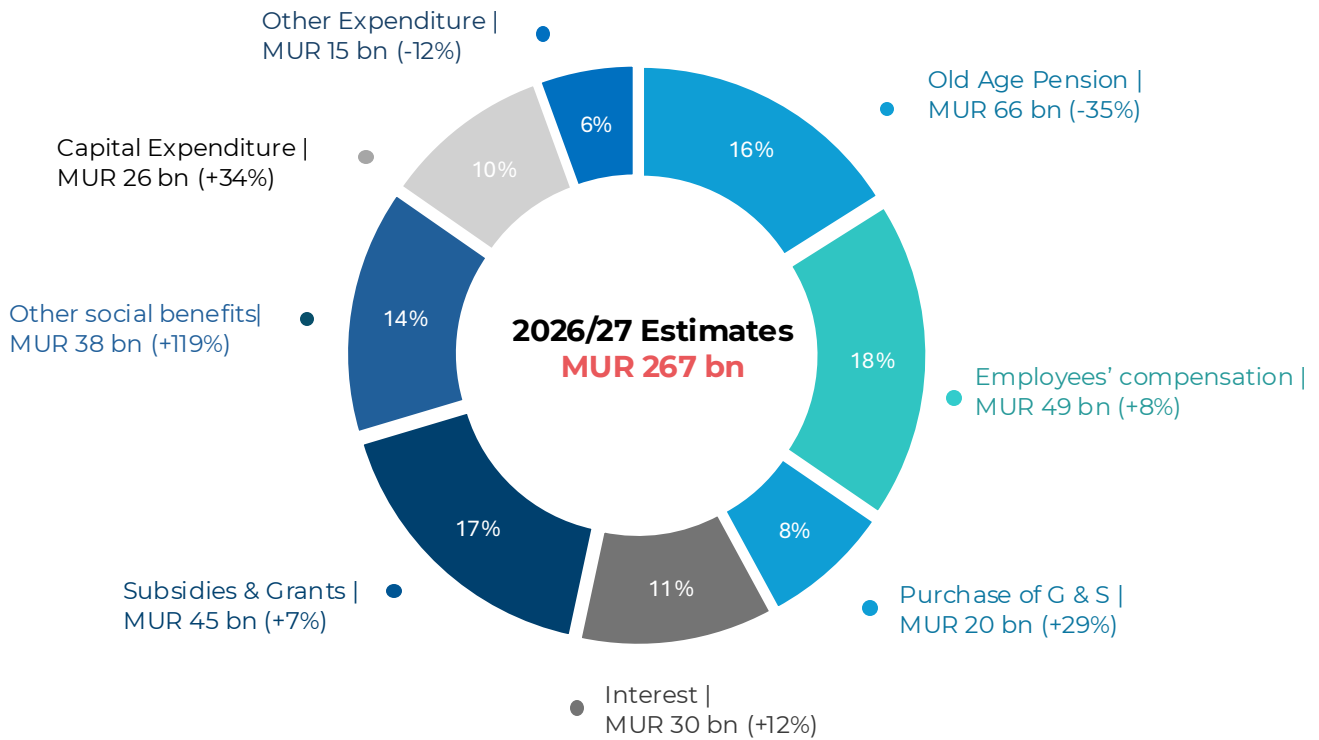
	2026/27	Change from previous year
VAT	MUR 65.9 bn	+6%
Excise duties and environmental taxes	MUR 29.7 bn	+10%
License fees	MUR 4.6 bn	+4%

### Other Taxes

Other taxes include taxes on specific services and gambling (MUR 7.7 billion), corporate climate responsibility levy (MUR 7.4 billion), among others

# EXPENDITURE ESTIMATES 2026/27

## EXPENDITURES – MAIN ITEMS



2026/27 Estimates  
(Change from previous year)

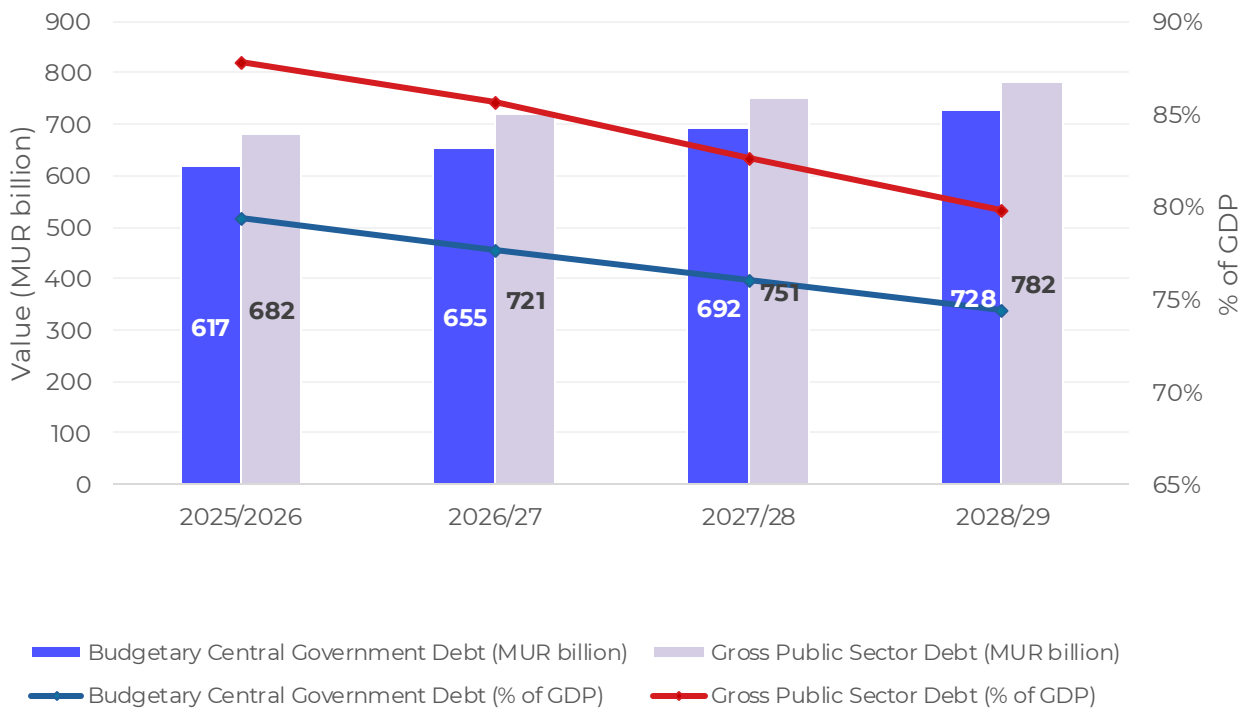
## EXPENDITURES BY SECTOR

Estimates 2026/27

	Social Protection	<b>MUR 89 bn</b>	-1%
	General Public Services	<b>MUR 78 bn</b>	+1%
	Education	<b>MUR 26 bn</b>	+6%
	Public Order and Safety	<b>MUR 19 bn</b>	+12%
	Health	<b>MUR 21 bn</b>	+45%
	Economic Affairs	<b>MUR 19 bn</b>	+10%
	Housing and Community Affairs	<b>MUR 6 bn</b>	+62%
	Environment Protection	<b>MUR 4 bn</b>	+7%
	Others	<b>MUR 6.1 bn</b>	

# PUBLIC DEBT

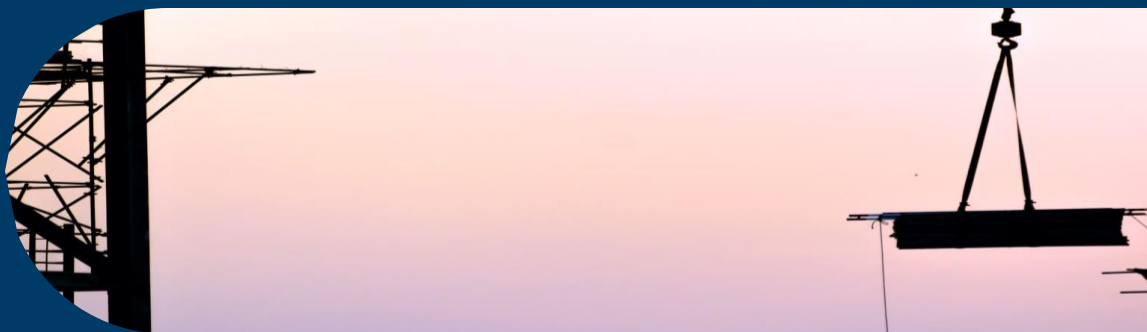
Budgetary Central Government Debt is estimated to reach MUR 617.2 billion, equivalent to 79.4% of GDP for FY 2025/26, compared to the original estimate of 78.3% of GDP and 79.5% at end June 2025.



Public sector debt is projected at MUR 681.9 billion for 2025/26, representing 87.8% of GDP, compared to the budget estimate of 88.3% of GDP, in line with the Government's commitment to restoring fiscal sustainability and placing public debt on a firm downward path over the medium term.

# MAIN BUDGET MEASURES

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# Fiscal Policy

## Income Tax Exemptions

- ◆ Introduction of 4 years income tax exemption to expatriate employees of companies engaged in manufacturing of solar photovoltaic systems.
- ◆ The exemption threshold on lump sum received as pension, retiring allowance or severance allowance is increased from MUR 3 million to MUR 3.5 million.
- ◆ Eligibility for tax exemption granted under Investment Certificates will be based on the date of start of operations of the company instead of the date of incorporation.

## Fair Share Contribution Payable by Corporates

The requirement for a company to have supplies exceeding Rs 24 million or registered for Value Added Tax (VAT) will no longer be a criterion to determine liability to the Fair Share Contribution. However, the criterion of MUR 24 million of chargeable income in an accounting year will continue to apply.

## Rate of Corporate Tax

Exporters of live animals will be subjected to regular corporate tax rates instead of the reduced 3% rate currently applicable on profits derived from exports of goods.

## Income Tax Holiday

Captive insurance companies will benefit from an extended tax holiday of 5 years for captives issued with a license prior to 19 June 2026.

## Global Business Entity

The definition of Global Business Entity is amended to exclude:

- ◆ A trust where the settlor or beneficiaries are residents; and
- ◆ A foundation where the founder or beneficiaries are residents.

# Fiscal Policy

## Investment Tax Credit

- ◆ Extension of the investment tax credit for manufacturing companies on expenditure incurred on new plant and machinery, artificial intelligence solutions and patents.
- ◆ Manufacturing companies will benefit from a 15% annual tax credit over three years, representing 45% in total.
- ◆ Any unrelieved investment tax credit may be carried forward for a period of ten years.
- ◆ The investment tax credit which was due to expire on 30 June 2026, will be extended until 30 June 2029.

## Taxation of ICT Service Providers

Non-resident suppliers of software, software licences, software applications, software maintenance, distance maintenance of programmes and ICT equipment will be subject to income tax in Mauritius.

## Qualified Domestic Minimum Top-Up Tax (QDMTT)

- ◆ Investment funds and real estate investment vehicles acting as parent entities of multinational enterprise groups will be exempt from QDMTT, effective retrospectively from 01 July 2025.
- ◆ Consolidated adjustments relating to intra-group transactions will be allowed in the computation of net income or loss.
- ◆ The relevant deadline for filing QDMTT returns shall be 15 months after the end of the month in which the fiscal year ends.

## Partial Exemption Regime

Core income-generating activities for Investment Advisers and Asset Managers will be expanded to include the management of non-securities instruments such as loan receivables, mortgage-backed exposures and invoice financing portfolios.

# Fiscal Policy

## Qualified Domestic Minimum Top-Up Tax (QDMTT)

- ◆ Taxpayers will be allowed to amend a QDMTT return within 3 years of submission.
- ◆ The penalty applicable to the non-payment of QDMTT will be reduced from 5% to 2.5%.

## Review of Allowable Deductions for Companies

- ◆ The enhanced deduction of 150% on expenditure incurred by hotels on cleaning, renovation and embellishment works will be abolished as of 1 July 2026.
- ◆ The double deduction of expenditure on Joint Tertiary Education contracts with African universities will be abolished as from 1 July 2026.

## Insurance Premium Tax

From 1 January 2027, an insurance premium tax of 5% will apply on short term general insurance policies.

## Corporate Climate Responsibility Tax

- ◆ Companies will no longer be allowed to offset unused tax credits, including foreign tax credits, against the Corporate Climate Responsibility Levy.
- ◆ The Corporate Climate Responsibility Levy will be payable quarterly under the Advance Payment System.
- ◆ This measure will be implemented as follows:
  - 25% in FY 2026/27
  - 50% in FY 2027/28
  - 75% in FY 2028/29
  - Full APS in FY 2029/30

## Annual Allowance for Hotels

Annual allowance applicable to capital expenditure incurred by hotels will be reduced from 30% to 15%.

# Fiscal Policy

## Corporate Social Responsibility

- ◆ Corporates will be allowed to use up to 25% of their CSR Fund and to remit 75% to the National Social Inclusion Foundation through the MRA, instead of the current maximum of 50%.

## Customs Duty

- ◆ The 15% customs duty on quartz slabs used as countertops will be eliminated as from 20 June 2026.
- ◆ The customs duty exemption applicable to goods imported in semi-knocked-down condition for further processing resulting in at least 20% value addition will be abolished.
- ◆ Manufacturers of alcoholic products will be exempt from customs duty on imported wine used as an input in the production of excisable goods.

## Excise Duty: Alcoholic Products

Excise duty rates on alcoholic products, except beer and wine, will increase by 10% from 20 June 2026.

Alcoholic Product	Current (per L/ Ab Alcohol)	New (per L/Ab Alcohol)
Rum	Rs 796.50	Rs 876.15
Liqueur	Rs 541.20	Rs 876.15
Cane Spirits	Rs 796.50	Rs 876.15
Whisky (in bulk)	Rs 1,538.65	Rs 1,692.50
Whisky (in bottle)	Rs 2,459.70	Rs 2,705.70

## Excise Duty: Tobacco Products

Excise duty rates applicable to cigars, cigarillos and cigarettes will increase

Tobacco Product	Current	New
Cigars (per kg)	Rs 25,861	Rs 28,447
Cigarillos (per thousand)	Rs 15,101	Rs 16,611
Cigarettes (per thousand)	Rs 7,488	Rs 8,237

# Fiscal Policy

## Value Added Tax (VAT)

### Global Business

The following holders of management licenses issued by FSC will be VAT exempt instead of VAT zero rated:

- ◆ Global Business Licence holders.
- ◆ Trusts whose settlor and the majority of beneficiaries are non-residents.
- ◆ Foundations whose founder and the majority of beneficiaries are non-residents.
- ◆ Payment services supplied by holders of a payment service provider licence (issued by the BOM) to Global Business Licence holders will be zero-rated for VAT purposes.

### VAT on Digital or Electronic Services

A foreign service supplier of digital or electronic services will not be required to:

- ◆ Register for VAT purposes where the services are provided exclusively to a VAT registered person. The VAT reverse charge mechanism will apply;

- ◆ Appoint a tax representative to submit its return and remittance of VAT;
- ◆ Register for VAT purposes if its annual turnover is less than MUR 3 million per annum.
- ◆ Online marketplaces and digital platforms will be included within the definition of digital and electronic services.
- ◆ E-books will be exempt from VAT.

### Other VAT Measures

- ◆ VAT-registered providers of accommodation services in hotels and tourist residences will be required to remit 50% of VAT in foreign currency.
- ◆ Both locally produced and imported common salt will be zero-rated for VAT purposes.
- ◆ Postal services will be zero-rated instead of VAT exempt.

# Fiscal Policy

- ◆ Photovoltaic systems and their components, including photovoltaic generators, photovoltaic panels, photovoltaic batteries, and photovoltaic inverters will be exempt from VAT.
- ◆ Fees payable by legal persons for VAT rulings will increase from Rs 15,000 to Rs 75,000.

## Tax Deduction at Source (TDS)

- ◆ Application of a TDS of 1% for a single contract for software or remote maintenance of programmes/equipment where the payment exceeds MUR 300,000. This covers both resident and non-resident service providers.
- ◆ Introduction of a TDS of 5% to a person providing advertising, promotional, endorsement, digital content, or marketing services delivered through social media platforms or similar electronic means.

## Review of Tax Residence Certificate Fee

- ◆ Increase in the service fees payable for issuing a Tax Residence Certificate as follows:
  - For collective investment schemes, the fee will rise from USD 1,000 to USD 2,000.
  - For individuals, the fee will rise from Rs 1,000 to Rs 2,000.
  - For all other applicants, the fee will rise from USD 200 to USD 500.

## Personal Income Tax

A new tax band is introduced to replace the Fair Share Contribution for High Income Earners. The new tax bands are

Annual Income (MUR)	Income Tax
< 500,000	0%
500,000 – 1,000,000	10%
1,000,000 – 12,000,000	20%
> 12,000,000	35%


# Fiscal Policy



## Plastic Bottles

- ◆ The excise duty of Rs 2 currently levied on PET beverage bottles will be extended to all plastic bottles with effect from 1 October 2026.

## Sugar Sweetened Products

- ◆ Increase in excise duty on sugar content of sugar sweetened products from 12 cents to 15 cents per gramme of sugar from 20 June 2026.
  - ◆ Extension of sugar tax to other sugary products such as sweets, fruit jellies, jams, crystallised fruits, biscuits, waffles, wafers and chewing gums as from 1 October 2026.
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# Regulatory Measures

A circular icon featuring a pair of scales of justice, symbolizing law, equity, and regulation. The icon is set against a dark blue background with glowing light effects.

## Competition Act

- ◆ Empowerment of the Competition Commission to issue binding directions to enterprises following market inquiries revealing unfair or anti competitive practices.

## Co-operatives Act (I)

- ◆ Amendment to the Co-operatives Act to introduce classes of cooperative societies based on defined criteria and internal control requirements for selected classes.
- ◆ Introduction of turnover based categorisation of cooperative societies into micro, small, medium and large societies, excluding those under the financial services category.
- ◆ Specification of audit requirements, annual fees and exemptions from selected provisions of the Co-operatives Act, based on the category of cooperative society

## Co-operatives Act (II)

- ◆ Introduction of disclosure requirements, including annual turnover declarations by cooperative societies.
- ◆ Introduction of offences for misclassification or false declaration of turnover.
- ◆ Empowerment of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies to review and reclassify societies and apply administrative penalties for defaults.
- ◆ Provision for voluntary dissolution of dormant cooperative societies or societies with no liabilities.
- ◆ Expansion of the definition of credit union to include societies providing financial services to their members, thereby bringing them within AML and CFT compliance obligations.

# Regulatory Measures

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## Economic Development Board Act

- ◆ Discontinuation of the Integrated Modern Agricultural Morcellement Scheme, with consequential amendments to the Income Tax Act, Sugar Industry Efficiency Act and Land Duties and Taxes Act.
- ◆ Review of Occupation Permit criteria under the Investor, Professional and Self-Employed categories.
- ◆ Revision of the minimum initial investment threshold under the Investor Category to USD 100,000.
- ◆ Revision of minimum annual turnover requirements for investors to MUR 5 million as from year 3 and MUR 8 million as from year 5 for renewal.
- ◆ Introduction of performance indicators for Innovative Start Ups.
- ◆ Merger of the ProPass and Expert Pass sub-categories under the Professional Category.
- ◆ Setting of the minimum monthly basic salary under the Professional Category at MUR 50,000 across all sectors.
- ◆ Review of minimum business income under the Self-Employed Category to MUR 2 million as from year 3 and MUR 3 million as from year 5 for renewal.
- ◆ Introduction of a new Technical Category under a Government-to-Government framework, with an Occupation Permit granted for an initial period of 3 years and renewable thereafter.
- ◆ Abolition of the Family Occupation Permit category.

# Regulatory Measures

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## Financial Reporting Act

- ◆ Introduction of a framework for relevant entities to adopt internationally accepted sustainability reporting standards.
- ◆ Provision for sustainability reporting to be made either voluntarily or mandatorily, depending on the type, size and relevance of the entity.
- ◆ Empowerment of the Minister responsible for corporate affairs, on recommendation of the Financial Reporting Council, to make regulations on sustainability reporting.
- ◆ Empowerment of the Financial Reporting Council to take enforcement action for non-compliance with sustainability reporting standards.

## Public Procurement

### Framework

- ◆ Issuance of new directives by the Public Procurement Policy Office to require SMEs holding Made in Moris Certificate to provide proof of local production in order to benefit from the 40% margin of preference on public contracts.
- ◆ Review of the price adjustment methodology in the Standard Bidding Documents.
- ◆ Development of a comprehensive guidance manual to facilitate its implementation.

# Regulatory Measures

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## Regulatory Framework for Businesses

- Authorisation for a business registration card to be displayed in any format at the principal place of business.
- Waiver of the requirement to appoint a Debenture Holders' Representative for a Global Business Company or Authorised Company issuing debentures exclusively outside Mauritius, where no invitation is made in Mauritius.
- Extension of the company or partnership name reservation period from 2 to 6 months.
- Requirement for companies, partnerships and foundations to include the date of birth of beneficial owners or ultimate beneficial owners in their registers, with existing entities required to comply by 30 June 2027.
- Acceptance by the Registrar of equivalent foreign official documents evidencing company registration, including official registry extracts and electronic registration confirmations.
- Increase in the turnover threshold for small partnerships from Rs 50 million to Rs 100 million.

# Human Capital



## Labour Shortage

- ◆ Formulation of a comprehensive migration policy to attract foreign talent, address labour shortage and skills mismatch.
- ◆ Establishment of a National e-Diaspora Platform by the Economic Development Board to harness diaspora expertise.
- ◆ Amendment to the Public Procurement Act to allow public bodies to directly engage qualified diaspora experts for specialised services on mutually agreed terms and conditions.

## Training Programmes

Increase in trainee monthly stipends as follows:

- MUR 8,000 to MUR 10,000 for unemployed trainees up to Diploma level for the National Skills Programme.
- MUR 100,000 to MUR 120,000 for the Graduate Training for Employment Skills.

## Skills Mismatch

- ◆ Amendment to the Mauritius Qualifications Authority (MQA) to make it mandatory for all trainers at the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) to be based on competency, teaching skills and industry experience.
- ◆ Integration of micro-credentials into the National Qualifications Framework.
- ◆ Launch of a Skills-Interface platform by the HRDC to coordinate employers, training providers and Government in priority sectors.
- ◆ The HRDC to commission sectoral and national skills intelligence for the same priority sectors.

# Human Capital



## Mauritius Institute of Training and Development Act

- ◆ Amendment to the Mauritius Institute of Training and Development Act to include a representative of the Ministry responsible for Tourism on the MITD Board.
- ◆ Inclusion of tourism sector representation in training related decision making.

## Mauritius Qualifications Authority Act

- ◆ Amendment to the Mauritius Qualifications Authority Act to provide for the registration, refusal of registration and deregistration of trainers in the TVET sector.
- ◆ Introduction of fit and proper requirements for TVET trainers to protect learners and raise quality assurance in the sector.
- ◆ Empowerment of the Mauritius Qualifications Authority to set up, review, implement and maintain the National Qualifications Framework.

# Education



## Higher Education Act

- ◆ Amendment to the Higher Education Act to provide for equivalence based on National Qualifications Framework levels by field, in line with the UNESCO International Standard Classification of Education.
- ◆ Inclusion of foundation courses within higher education, subject to approval by the Higher Education Commission.
- ◆ Requirement for entities offering micro credential courses to apply to the Higher Education Commission as approved providers.
- ◆ Removal of the requirement for the Higher Education Commission to issue and enforce a Code of Conduct for students, allowing higher education institutions greater flexibility in student affairs.
- ◆ Revision of student enrolment rules to better protect student interests.
- ◆ Empowerment of the Higher Education Commission to disburse and monitor funds allocated to Polytechnics Mauritius Ltd and other prescribed public entities offering higher education programmes.

# Business Facilitation

## Business Facilitation

- ◆ Comprehensive Review by the Economic Development Board to streamline the delivery of existing procedures for business licensing and permits.
- ◆ Introduction of a new Business Facilitation Bill to address bottlenecks and facilitate the ease of doing business.
- ◆ Introduction of the principle of silent agreement.
- ◆ Deployment of a multilingual chatbot and other AI-powered automation tools on the National Electronic Licensing System Platform to provide 24/7 support to investors and businesses.
- ◆ Introduction of a similar AI-powered tool at the Financial Services Commission.

## Driving Innovation

Introduction of a Golden Visa when investing a minimum of USD 1 million, within the first year of stay in high-value sectors such as FinTech, global treasury, artificial intelligence, biotechnology and renewable energy.

## Immigration Act

- ◆ Amendment to the Immigration Act to allow a non-citizen married to a Mauritian citizen outside Mauritius to submit official proof of unmarried status when applying for a temporary residence permit.
- ◆ Extension of the USD 50 residence permit application fee to spouses of Mauritian citizens and their dependants.
- ◆ Introduction of a digital system allowing all non-citizens to apply for Electronic Travel Authorisation before travelling to Mauritius, against payment of a prescribed fee.
- ◆ Provision for residence permits to be issued in digital, card or paper-based format.
- ◆ Removal of the Minister's absolute discretion to deprive a non-citizen of resident status or cancel a visa in the public interest.

# SECTORAL MEASURES

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## Establishment of a Special Economic Zone (SEZ)

- ◆ Setting up of a new high-tech Special Economic Zone at Côte d'Or.
- ◆ Introduction of a Scheme to encourage investors to set up their AI and Digital technology businesses in the SEZ.

## Industrial Property Act

Amendment to the Industrial Property Act to allow regulations for the domestication of the Harare Protocol on Patents, Utility Models and Industrial Designs.

## Industry Bill

Introduction of the Industry Bill to reposition Mauritius as a globally competitive manufacturing hub and export platform.

## Jewellery Act

- ◆ Amendment to the Jewellery Act to provide the Assay Office with supervisory powers over dealers in jewellery, precious metals and stones for AML, CFT and CPF purposes.
- ◆ Transfer of prosecution and enforcement actions to the Assay Office rather than the Director of Assay.
- ◆ Provision for refusal of renewal, suspension or cancellation of a dealer's registration for non-compliance with AML, CFT and CPF requirements.
- ◆ Extension of record keeping requirements from 5 to 7 years, in line with FIAMLA.
- ◆ Provision for aggrieved dealers to have recourse to the Review Panel under FIAMLA.

# Commerce



## Commerce Measures

- ◆ Bulk purchasing of essential consumer goods by the State Trading Corporation.
- ◆ Contribution of MUR 2 billion to the Price Stabilisation Fund.
- ◆ Extension of subsidies to include corned mutton, corned beef, canned tuna, infant food, macaroni, black lentils, red lentils, red beans and luncheon meat, effective as from 1 July 2026.
- ◆ Introduction of a new law to crack down on abusive pricing.
- ◆ Introduction of a clear framework for parallel imports.
- ◆ Review of the framework for the retail sector including trade fairs, shopping mall practices and hawker issues.
- ◆ Introduction of an e-commerce bill.

# Small & Medium Enterprises (SME)



## Reinforcing SME Potential

Creation of a strong ecosystem consisting of:

- A dedicated Start-Up Act
- A Hub at the upcoming Special Economic Zone at Cote d'Or
- A public-private start-up council to enhance implementation and coordination.
- An Accelerator Scheme at the EDB.
- A digital patent management system.
- A start-up labour framework that adheres to international best practices.
- An income tax holiday of 10 years for start-ups as from the day of operations.

## Women Empowerment

- ◆ A dedicated incubator for women under the SME Scheme.
- ◆ No requirements for spousal consent for approval of loans for women
- ◆ Setting up of a She-Invents Programme to promote women in research and innovation.

## Other measures

Introduction of new policies, including

- Creation of the SME Bill.
- Extension of customs duty exemption on eligible utility vehicles to registered SMEs.
- Development of a single digital platform by SME Mauritius to facilitate information sharing on grants and other financial facilities.

## Combatting Fraud

- ◆ Setting up of a National Crime Agency to consolidate and strengthen investigations into serious fraud, corruption, money laundering and complex transactional crimes.
- ◆ Deployment of specialised investigative tools by the Mauritius Police Force to support investigations involving virtual assets, financial crime and forensic accounting.
- ◆ Establishment of National Fraud Reporting and response mechanism.
- ◆ Rolling out of a Threat Intelligence Sharing Platform by the Bank of Mauritius.

## Variable Capital Companies Act

Amendment to the Variable Capital Companies Act to allow a Protected Cell Company to convert into a Variable Capital Company while preserving legal continuity.

## Other Measures

- ◆ Introduction of rules for the issuance of an investment in stablecoins, and the tokenisation of real-world assets.
- ◆ Introduction of an Open Banking Framework to enable the secure sharing of customer financial data between licensed banks, virtual asset service providers and authorized fintech providers.

## Financial Intelligence and Anti Money Laundering Act

- Clarification of the FSC's power to impose administrative sanctions on financial institutions under its purview for non-compliance with AML and CFT requirements.
- Expansion of the definition of credit union to include societies under the Co-operatives Act providing financial services to their members.
- Exclusion of third-party administrators from AML and CFT obligations, given their administrative functions for licensed insurers and lower risk exposure.
- Increased use of Supervisory Technology by regulatory authorities to improve AML, CFT and CPF oversight.

- Deployment of AI systems by the Financial Intelligence Unit to improve financial intelligence analysis and detection of suspicious transactions and activities.

## Captive Insurance Act

Amendment to the Captive Insurance Act to allow the FSC to extend filing deadlines for captive insurers where justified.

## Securities Act

- Recognition of MINDEX Limited as an official exchange and MINDEX Clearing Limited as an official clearing and settlement facility.
- Recognition follows the granting of relevant licences by the FSC.

## Financial Services Act

- ◆ Extension of FSC assistance to foreign supervisory institutions to include on-site inspections.
- ◆ Requirement for Global Business Licensees to comply with FSC guidelines on bank signatory arrangements.
- ◆ Extension of the offence relating to false or misleading information to past FSC licensees.
- ◆ Empowerment of the FSC to act against misleading advertisements or promotional activities affecting investor protection and market confidence.
- ◆ Introduction of a Private Wealth Management Licence to support the development of Mauritius as a wealth management and family office hub.
- ◆ Requirement for applications, including appointment of officers, to be submitted through the FSC One Platform or as otherwise determined by the FSC.
- ◆ Introduction of a conservatorship framework allowing the FSC to appoint a conservator for licensees facing financial or operational difficulties.
- ◆ Extension of statutory protection to administrators and conservators appointed by the FSC, where they act in good faith.
- ◆ Creation of a National Fintech Governance Committee to coordinate fintech strategy implementation in Mauritius.
- ◆ Introduction by the FSC of a shared fintech licensing and passporting framework, a modular private wealth management licence and a pension income drawdown framework.

# Banking & Financial Services

## International Financial Organisations Act

- ◆ Amendment to the International Financial Organisations Act to modernise Mauritius' legislative framework for participation in the IMF, World Bank Group and International Finance Corporation.
- ◆ Alignment of the Act with the latest Articles of Agreement of these institutions.
- ◆ Update of outdated provisions and terminologies, including rules on treaty amendments, operations, privileges and immunities in Mauritius.

## New legislations

- ◆ Introduction of a Bank of Mauritius Bill.
- ◆ Introduction of a new Banking Bill.
- ◆ Introduction of an appropriate Resolution Regime.

## OECD Crypto Asset Reporting Framework

- ◆ Implementation of the OECD Crypto Asset Reporting Framework to allow the MRA to collect information from Reporting Crypto Asset Service Providers.
- ◆ Automatic exchange of crypto asset information with foreign tax authorities in line with Mauritius' OECD commitments.

## United Nations Sanctions Act

- ◆ Amendment to the United Nations Sanctions Act to revise the meeting frequency of the National Sanctions Committee for better coordination of sanctions related matters.
- ◆ Alignment of provisions relating to the rights of bona fide third parties in respect of freezing orders and prohibitions.

## Virtual Asset and Initial Token Offering Services Act

- ◆ Clarification that senior executives of virtual asset service providers must both reside in Mauritius and hold a senior management post.
- ◆ Prohibition on unlicensed persons soliciting investors in Mauritius for virtual asset transactions or initial token offerings.

## Waqf Act

- ◆ Definition of competent authorities in line with the Financial Crimes Commission Act to support information sharing.
- ◆ Restriction on the use of the words “waqf”, “wakf” or similar appellations to waqfs registered with the Board of Waqf Commissioners.
- ◆ Empowerment of the Board of Waqf Commissioners to request information and documents for AML and CFT oversight.
- ◆ Creation of a register of waqf beneficial ownership information accessible to competent authorities and law enforcement agencies.
- ◆ Provision for removal of persons involved in waqf management where they are found not fit and proper.
- ◆ Introduction of administrative sanctions and a review mechanism.

## Digital Transformation with AI

- ◆ Engagement of the Government with leading American and European AI and cloud companies to build AI infrastructure for Mauritius, the Indian Ocean and the SADC region.
- ◆ Launching of the “Champion of AI” Programme to support a network of AI leaders across organisations.
- ◆ Provision of MUR 25 million for the setting up of a National AI Learning Platform to offer structured training and certification to encourage youth entrepreneurship.

## Other Measures

- ◆ Creation of a Cyber Forensic Laboratory to strengthen investigative capabilities
- ◆ Introduction of a National Cybersecurity survey to evaluate preparedness and enhance resilience.

## Sustainable Tourism

### Development

- ◆ Implementation of measures on tourism diversification and sustainability outlined in the Blueprint for tourism development.
- ◆ Development of Eco-Tourism Villages across different villages in Mauritius.

### Other Measures

- ◆ Allocation of Rs 1 billion to support tourism policy transformation, including MUR 490 million to the MTPA.
- ◆ Revamping of the Ecole Hôtelière Sir Gaetan Duval.
- ◆ Introduction of a digital system to allow all non-citizens to apply for an E-Visa prior to travelling to Mauritius.

## Tourism Authority Act

- ◆ Harmonisation of the alcohol concentration limit for operating a pleasure craft with the limit under the Road Traffic Act.
- ◆ Authorisation for certified National Coast Guard police officers to operate and bring to shore a pleasure craft where alcohol or drug use is suspected.
- ◆ Introduction of outdoor accommodation and a new certificate category for temporary tourist accommodation providers.
- ◆ Regulation of motorised water sports and coverage of existing and emerging non motorised water sports activities.



# Port & Logistics

## Freeport Act

- ◆ Amendment to the Freeport Act to remove the prescribed period during which a private freeport developer may provide warehousing facilities for goods stored in the freeport zone.

## Island Container Terminal Project

- ◆ Implementation of the Island Container Terminal Project.

## Cargo Handling Activities

- ◆ Modernization of Cargo Handling Corporation Ltd.
- ◆ Provision of a second license by the Mauritius Ports Authority to an international operator to facilitate container handling, bunkering and transshipment.

## Digital Border Control System

- ◆ Introduction of biometric e-Gates at the airport.

## Cruise Terminal Project

- ◆ Setting up of a new Cruise Terminal.

## Healthcare Promotion

- ◆ Setting up of a Health Efficiency and Effectiveness Committee to eliminate waste, raise performance, and secure better value for money.
- ◆ Amendment of the Clinical Trial Act to streamline clinical research processes and promote public clinical trials as well as private sector investment.
- ◆ Development and implementation of a holistic National Geriatric Programme to improve healthcare services to the elderly.

## Energy Security

- ◆ Invitation of bids for 220 megawatts of Solar PV generation integrated with battery storage.
- ◆ Transfer of the ownership of the solar PV kits installed on the rooftop of 1,000 beneficiary households by the Central Electricity Board (CEB), enabling them to benefit from 100% of the electricity generated.
- ◆ Increase of the feed-in tariff payable to households exporting to the grid by 15%, from MUR 4.20 to MUR 4.83 per unit.
- ◆ Introduction of a grant of 25% of the cost of acquisition of a rooftop solar PV, up to a maximum of MUR 75,000 per application, under the Household Rooftop Solar PV Scheme.

## National Environment

### Cleaning Authority Act

- ◆ Repeal of the National Environment Cleaning Authority Act and winding up of the National Environment Cleaning Authority to avoid duplication with Mauri Facilities Management Co. Ltd.
- ◆ Transfer of the Authority's funds to the Consolidated Fund.
- ◆ Allocation of the Authority's assets to the Solid Waste Management Division and the Ministry of Local Government, as appropriate.
- ◆ Redeployment of the Authority's drivers to Mauri Facilities Management Co. Ltd.

# Energy & Sustainable Development

A photograph of several wind turbines on a green, hilly landscape under a clear sky. The turbines are white with three blades each, and the hills are covered in lush green vegetation. The sky is a pale, clear blue.

## Energy Efficiency Act

- ◆ Amendment to the Energy Efficiency Act to empower the Energy Efficiency Management Office to promote, facilitate and oversee Energy Performance Contracting arrangements.
- ◆ Introduction of the legal and institutional framework for Energy Performance Contracting to support national energy efficiency and renewable energy targets.

## Environment Act

- ◆ Clarification of the scope of the Environment Protection Fee applicable to enterprises engaged in stone crushing or the processing of aggregates, rock sand or basalt sand.
- ◆ Increase in fines for illegal dumping, littering in public places and natural sites, non-compliance with eyesore abatement notices, unauthorised poster display and defacement of designated sites.
- ◆ Empowerment of Sanitary Authority officers to issue fixed penalty notices for illegal or improper disposal and storage of waste.

## **Waste Management and Resource Recovery Act**

- ◆ Review of the definition of waste carrier to refer to a vehicle licensed to transport waste.
- ◆ Requirement for persons operating a waste carrier to apply for a licence from the Minister responsible for solid and hazardous waste.
- ◆ Empowerment of the Minister to make regulations for the registration of solid waste importers.

## **Circular Economy Bill**

- ◆ Introduction of a Circular Economy Bill

## **Maurice Ile Durable Project**

- ◆ The Maurice Ile Durable project will be revived as part of the Government's green transition strategy.

# Blue Economy



## Fisheries and Aqua-Farming

- ◆ Expansion of semi-industrial fleet and artisanal support to transition traditional fishers to high-yield waters.
- ◆ Issuance of Expressions of Interest by the Economic Development Board for the development of 28 fish farming zones comprising 20 in-lagoon zones, 8 off-lagoon zones and 6 barachois.
- ◆ Development of a new fishing port to provide modern landing, storage and processing facilities.
- ◆ Introduction of incentives to encourage bank fishery, expansion of the semi-industrial fishing fleet, increase in the deployment of smart Fish Aggregating Devices and investment in industrial banks and tuna fisheries.
- ◆ Implementation of a dedicated programme to accelerate the production of high value aquaculture species and seaweed farming for domestic and export markets.
- ◆ Introduction of a 30% Freight Rebate Scheme up to a maximum of USD 200 per container on approved aquaculture feeds.
- ◆ Allocation of MUR 41 million for the immediate construction of 2 new high-capacity hatcheries at the Albion Fisheries Research Centre.

# Blue Economy



## Ocean Economy

- ◆ Setting up of an International Centre for Ocean Studies (ICOS) at the University of Mauritius.
- ◆ The National Research and Innovation Institute (NRII) to coordinate the research functions currently undertaken by the Mauritius Oceanography Institute and the Albion Fisheries Research Centre.
- ◆ Formulation of a comprehensive regulatory framework to support oceanic research.
- ◆ Establishment of a Mauritius Ocean Technology Incubator.

## Agri-industry Support

- ◆ Provision of MUR 100 million over the next three years to boost sugar production and achieve the target of 250,000 tonnes by 2030.
- ◆ Introduction of a 50% grant of replantation cost to a maximum of MUR 25,000 to increase tea production.
- ◆ Funding of MUR 45 million for the upgrading of farm buildings and reproduction farms to increase the supply of breeding stock.
- ◆ Subsidisation of the purchase of animal feed by breeders.

## Forest Bill

- ◆ Promotion of agroforestry to encourage the production of safe foods for the local market and improve the food security policy.

## Irrigation Authority Act

- ◆ Amendment to the Irrigation Authority Act to allow authorised officers to enter land within a proclaimed Irrigation Area where a Land Conversion Permit has been granted.
- ◆ Verification of compliance with land use conditions and specific agreements linked to such permits.

## Mauritius Agricultural Marketing Act

- ◆ Amendment to the Mauritius Agricultural Marketing Act to increase applicable penalties under the Act.

## Food Security

- ◆ Amendment to the Food and Agricultural Research and Extension Institute Act 2013 to empower the Institute to implement and deliver a “25by35” Food Security flagship project.
- ◆ Introduction of a Food Security and Nutrition Bill.
- ◆ Promotion of contract farming.
- ◆ Doubling of the amount of land devoted to food production to 25,000 arpents by 2035.
- ◆ Fast-tracking of the recruitment of foreign labour across all skill levels in agriculture.
- ◆ The State Trading Corporation to invest in a “National Food Reserve” Storage Facility to increase the reserve of grains, pulses and other essential commodities.

## Small Farmers Welfare

### Fund Act

- ◆ Introduction of definitions for agro entrepreneur and agro tourism enterprise under the Small Farmers Welfare Fund Act.
- ◆ Increase in the livestock holding threshold for small breeders to benefit from the Small Farmers Welfare Fund.
- ◆ Thresholds will rise from 40 to 50 cattle and from 100 to 200 goats or sheep.

# Pension Reforms



## State Age Pension

- ◆ Introduction of a new pension system, known as the State Age Pension (SAP) as from 1 January 2027.
- ◆ Discontinuation of the gradual increase in the BRP eligibility age from 60 years to 65 years as from 31 December 2026.

## Pension Act

- ◆ Amendment to the Pensions Act to give effect to the 2026 PRB recommendations on pension, gratuity and allowance entitlements.



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