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MAURITIUS EXPORT ASSOCIATION

QUARTERLY REPORT

JAN - JUN

2018

EXPORTS MADE CLEAR

Exports Performance: 1st Semester 2018 vs 1st Semester 2017

A. Net Exports:

	Jan-Jun 2017	Jan-Jun 2018	% Change
A. TOTAL EXPORTS (F.O.B)	20,546	21,207	3.22
B. TOTAL IMPORTS (C.I.F)	12,711	12,778	1
Raw materials	12,046	12,434	3
Machinery	665	776	17
NET EXPORTS (A-B)	7,835	8,429	8
NET EXPORTS AS % OF TOTAL EXPORTS	38.13	39.75	4

Source: CSO

Total Exports

Export Oriented Enterprises (EOE) exports during the 2nd quarter of 2018 amounted to Rs11,354 million, representing an increase of 15.1% compared to 1st quarter of 2018. Similarly, total exports during the first 6 months, January-June 2018, increased by 3.2%, as compared to same period in 2017.

There was also a surge in net imports from Rs12,711 million to Rs12,778 million, mainly resulting from increase of 3% and 17% in imports of raw materials and machinery respectively. On the overall, net exports increased by 8% in the 1st semester 2018 as compared to 2017.

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B. Product wise performance

	Jan-Jun 2017	Jan-Jun 2018	% Change
A. TOTAL EOE EXPORTS	20,546	21,207	3.22
Fish & fish preparations	5,207	5,788	11.16
Textile yarn, fabrics, made up articles	1,628	1,582	-2.83
Pearls, precious & semi-precious stones	1,024	1,131	10.45
Articles of apparel & clothing	9,253	9,395	10.45
Optical goods	137	161	17.52
Watches & clocks	361	410	13.57
Toys, games & sporting goods	86	84	-2.33
Jewellery, goldsmiths & silversmiths wares	296	300	1.35
Others	2,554	2,356	-7.73

Source: CSO

Textiles & Apparel, Fish & Fish Preparation and Jewellery, Watches and Diamonds remain the 3 main pillars of the Export sector. Altogether, they represent more than 80% our total exports of Mauritius, generating total annual exports revenue worth around Rs 35 billion.

As illustrated in the table above, our exports of Apparel, Fish & Fish Products and Jewellery & Pearls Precious, picked up considerably by 1.5%, 11.2% and the 6 months January to June 2018. This is one of the main factors contributing to the 3% increase in our total exports.

1. Fish & fish preparations:
We have noted a major rise of 11.2% in our exports of fish and fish preparations in the 1st semester 2018 as compared to 2017. The largest cannery in Mauritius has been able to sail the high tides which prevailed because of the low supply of fish in the Indian Ocean.

2. Textiles & Apparels (T&A):
Generally, the second semester of the year is the peak period for the Textiles & Apparel sector. This explains the marginal of 1.5% growth in exports of apparel.

On the other hand, our exports of textiles, yarns and fabrics plunged due to slow down in the production capacity of one of the largest manufacturer of yarn in Mauritius. Moreover, the global demand for yarn and fabrics also dropped during that period.

3. Jewellery, Watch & Diamonds:
Exports of Jewellery, Watch and Diamonds also picked up during the 6 months 2018. This growth was fuelled by the increased demand for accessories and luxury products in our main international markets.

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C. Export by market:

In terms of export destinations, there is a good sign of recovery in our traditional markets. Indeed, after a long period of downturn, increases were noted in our largest export markets, namely, United Kingdom (+1.8%), USA (+0.4%) and South Africa (+6.8%) in the 2nd quarter 2018 as compared to same period in 2017.

However, exports to France, which is our second largest export market, has significantly dropped by 7.6% during the first 6 months 2018 compared to 2017. At the same time, we have witnessed consistent export growth in some emerging markets such as Germany, Italy and Netherlands. Altogether, exports to these markets went up by 14% during the 1st semester 2018.

Source: CSO

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4th Floor, Unicorn House, 5 Royal Street, Port Louis, Tel: (230) 211 1476, Fax: (230) 212 1853