

# **Guide to the Annual Report**

#### Part I: About the Ministry of Industry, SME and Cooperatives (Industry Division)

Part I sets out the vision and mission of the Industry Division, its roles, functions and organisational structure.

#### **Part II: Main Achievements**

Part II describes the major achievements and reviews the performance of the Ministry and the manufacturing sector during the last Financial Year (FY). This Section also highlights the actions taken and systems put in place in relation to Risk Management, Citizen-Oriented Initiatives and Good Governance.

#### Part III: Financial Performance

Part III provides an overview of the financial highlights for FY 2024/25, including the statements of revenue and expenditure.

### Part IV: Way Forward

Part IV details out the strategic directions of the Industry Division as well as the trends and challenges having a bearing on the manufacturing sector.



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# STATEMENT FROM HONOURABLE MINISTER

I am pleased to present the Annual Report of the Industry Division for the Financial Year 2024/2025. At the outset, I wish to express my sincere gratitude to the Honourable Prime Minister for entrusting me with the responsibility of overseeing the Ministry of Industry, SME and Cooperatives. It is both an honour and a solemn duty to advance the Government's vision at a moment when Mauritius is laying the foundations of a new economic model, as set out in the Government Programme 2025–2029.

The resounding mandate given to the new Government in November 2024 reflects the trust of the Mauritian people and their aspirations for renewed confidence in our productive sectors. It is with determination, humility and



ambition that I have committed myself to initiating the reforms required to shape a modern, technology-driven, resilient and sustainable industrial sector.

Upon assuming Office, I took stock of the realities of the sector. The situation was concerning:

- The manufacturing sector's share of GVA fell from 15.2% in 2014 to 12.8% in 2024.
- The number of Export-Oriented Enterprises decreased from 300 in 2014 to 228 in 2024.
- The number of Non Export-Oriented Enterprises decreased from 384 in 2014 to 284 in 2024.
- Employment contracted from 101,600 in 2014 to 85,300 in 2024.
- FDI in manufacturing declined nearly three-fold.
- Domestic exports plateaued at around Rs 50 billion.

These indicators reflect a steady erosion of our industrial base, fuelled by a lack of strategic direction. At the same time, manufacturers faced growing global pressures such as rising input prices, higher energy and logistics costs, skills shortages, fierce competition from low-cost producers and geopolitical disruptions.

When I started my tenure as Minister, I noticed that relations between the State and the private sector had become quite fragmented. One of my first responsibilities was, therefore, to rebuild trust, restore dialogue and bring key economic actors back around the same table. Industrial growth cannot happen without a strong partnership between Government and the business community.

My Ministry moved swiftly on three fronts: to rebuild, modernise and reconnect.



In February 2025, we organised *Les Assises de l'Industrie 2025* - a national platform of dialogue between the public and private sectors. This collaborative exercise has shaped a clear and unified industrial direction, aligning our sector with global transformation.

In the same vein, my Ministry and its support institutions have been actively implementing several projects and programmes such as the Manufacturing 4.0, Energy Efficiency Audit Scheme and Enterprise Go Digital Programme to bring about a major overhauling at enterprise level for higher level of competitiveness.

The future of the manufacturing sector cannot evolve in isolation. We must diversify markets, enhance access to global value chains and strengthen bilateral and multilateral cooperation.

A major achievement of the year has been the new impetus given to Mauritius' economic diplomacy for enhanced industrial growth. To this end:

- We renewed high-level engagement with the United States, successfully negotiating the reduction of the US reciprocal tariff from 40% to 15%, thereby restoring competitiveness for key export sectors.
- We advocated for a full renewal of the AGOA, while simultaneously launching bilateral discussions to secure long-term market access.
- Mauritius will proudly host the U.S.–Africa Business Summit 2026, in July a landmark event bringing over 25 African Heads of State, Ministers and American investors to our shores. This will be the most significant international economic event hosted in Mauritius in 25 years.

Furthermore, we reactivated strategic industrial dialogue with China, particularly in manufacturing cooperation, renewable energy, Industry 4.0 development and potential investment in the Jin Fei Industrial Zone.

We will continue strengthening relations with strategic partners including the United States, India, China and the African nations. These diplomatic advances signal a new era where Mauritius reclaims its position as a strategic industrial and trade hub between Africa, Asia and the world.

Looking ahead, 2026 will be the year of execution and acceleration.

My Ministry will launch a new Industrial Sector Strategic Plan, which will guide Mauritius through a decisive phase of industrial modernisation. Our focus will include:

- technological upgrading and automation,
- clean and green industrial transition,
- investment attraction,
- boosting export capacity, and
- expanding strategic sectors such as high-value manufacturing and circular economy industries.



As we move forward, our mission is clear: to rebuild a robust industrial sector capable of adapting to global shifts, embracing technological change and creating opportunities for future generations.

I take this opportunity to thank all stakeholders, including industry operators, business associations and development partners for their renewed engagement towards a manufacturing renaissance. I also commend the dedicated staff of the Ministry for their unwavering support and commitment in advancing the industrial development agenda.

Together, we are laying the foundations for a stronger, more innovative and more resilient manufacturing sector in Mauritius.

Honourable Sayed Muhammad Aadil Ameer Meea Minister of Industry, SME and Cooperatives



# STATEMENT FROM PERMANENT SECRETARY

It is my privilege to be associated with the publication of the Annual Report of the Industry Division for the Financial Year 2024–2025. This Annual Report stands as a testament to our collective efforts to drive and consolidate Mauritius' industrial base, enhance the competitiveness of our manufacturing enterprises and create new pathways for the growth of existing and emerging sectors.

The past year proved to be very challenging, characterised by a number of setbacks namely global supply chains disruptions, new trade configurations owing to protectionist measures and the accelerating pace of technological transformation to which our enterprises have had to adapt. Despite these impediments, the Ministry has strived to uphold its commitment towards ensuring



that our enterprises continue to operate in a seamless and conducive business environment.

The Industry Division proactively mobilised all stakeholders surrounding the industrial ecosystem in Mauritius under one roof through the holding of "Les Assises de L'Industrie" in February 2025 to brainstorm and come up with actionable ideas for the development of a shared vision for the future of the manufacturing sector.

Our strategic focus during the year revolved around industrial modernisation, export diversification, sustainable manufacturing practices as well as the productivity and competitiveness enhancement of our manufacturing enterprises. The Industry Division has been steadfast in the successful implementation of a number of projects namely Manufacturing 4.0, Net Zero Nature-Positive Accelerator (NZNPA) and the Energy Efficiency Audit Scheme.

I am pleased to note that the Ministry is leading a project in collaboration with the Government of Japan to disseminate the Kaizen approach in Mauritius and neighbouring countries. The adoption of the Kaizen philosophy in our manufacturing enterprises would inevitably enhance their productivity and competitiveness. One of the Parastatal bodies operating under the aegis of this Ministry, namely the NPCC, has been designated as a Centre of Excellence for the dissemination thereof.

To this end, I should reckon that our officers remain the backbone of this Ministry's performance. In this regard, numerous upskilling programmes have been organised to reinforce our human capital for better service delivery. Going forward, I am determined to promote a conducive working environment, fostering excellence, accountability and greater synergy among our staff.

As a closing remark, I wish to convey my sincere appreciation to the Honourable Minister of Industry, SME and Cooperatives for his continuous guidance, to all our institutional partners for their trust and collaboration and to the dedicated staff of the Industry Division for their



unwavering support, commitment and professionalism. Together, we shall continue to propel the industrial development agenda of Mauritius towards a new era of manufacturing renaissance and shared economic prosperity.

Mr B. M. D. Kurreemun Permanent Secretary

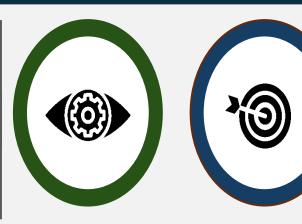




# 1.0 Vision and Mission

# Vision

An innovation-led industrial sector



# Mission

To act as a facilitator and catalyst for the development of a resilient, vibrant and competitive manufacturing sector with a view to fostering employment creation and generating wealth for higher economic growth

# 1.1 Roles and Functions of the Industry Division

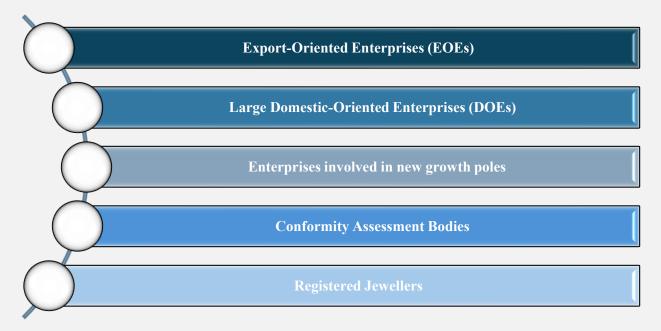
- Promotion of sustainable industrial development.
- Acts as a facilitator and catalyst through the formulation and implementation of appropriate policies, programmes and strategies for the emergence of a strong, modern and diversified manufacturing base.

# 1.2 Main Objectives

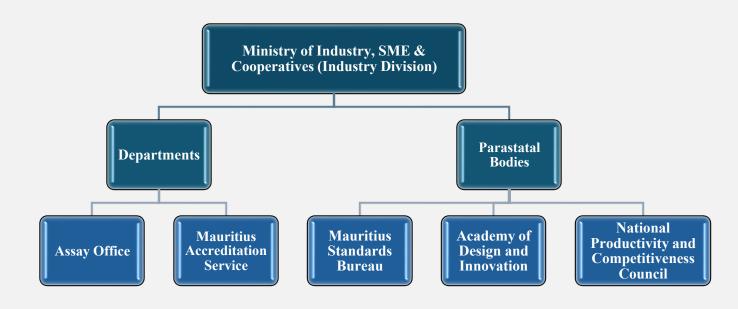
- To promote globally competitive industries.
- To foster product and market diversification.
- To stimulate exports in existing and emerging markets.
- To support green, socially responsible and quality initiatives in enterprises.
- To enhance market access through internationally recognised standards.



# 1.3 Main Customers



# 1.4 Departments and Parastatals of the Industry Division





#### 1.4.1 Services Provided by Departments

#### **Assay Office**

- Registration of jewellers dealing in precious metals and jewellery made of gold, silver, palladium, platinum and precious or semi-precious stones;
- Testing of gold, silver and platinum jewellery and their alloys for jewellers, Government institutions and the public;
- Verification and identification of precious and semi-precious stones for jewellers, Government institutions and the public;
- Grading of diamond for jewellers, Government institutions and the public;
- Registration of Sponsor's Mark, Identification Mark and Importer's Mark for jewellers;
- Inspection visits on business premises of jewellers to ensure compliance with the Jewellery Act 2007 and its Regulations;
- Investigation of complaints from public;
- Endorsement of Ownership Declaration Form whereby the name and address of customers are certified against NIC and proof of address;
- Valuation service whereby the gold content of jewellery is valued and a valuation certificate is delivered;
- Awareness campaign;
- Hotline "8966" for daily price of gold;
- Online Verification of Gemmology Test Reports; and
- QR Code Verification for Registration Certificates and Test Reports issued by the Assay Laboratory.

#### **Mauritius Accreditation Service (MAURITAS)**

- Provides a national unified service for the accreditation of conformity assessment bodies (e.g. laboratories, inspection bodies and certification bodies) to international standards;
- Responsible for the accreditation of:
  - o Certification bodies to ISO/IEC 17021-1 for management systems.
  - o Certification bodies to ISO/IEC 17065 for product certification.
  - o Testing and Calibration Laboratories to ISO/IEC 17025.
  - o Medical laboratories to ISO 15189.
  - o Inspection bodies to ISO/IEC 17020.
- Establishes agreements on mutual recognition with other national, regional and international accreditation bodies and to obtain and maintain international acceptance of the competence of conformity assessment bodies accredited by MAURITAS;
- MAURITAS is a signatory member to the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) and the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (MLA).
- MAURITAS is also a signatory member to the African Accreditation Cooperation (AFRAC) Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) and to the SADC Cooperation in Accreditation (SADCA) Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA).



#### 1.4.2 Services Provided by Parastatal Bodies

#### **Mauritius Standards Bureau**

- Develops standards, conducts testing and calibration, certifies products and management systems and also provides training in quality related issues.
- Acts as the custodian of the national measurement standards and is the National Enquiry Point for WTO/TBT issues.
- Implements strategic directions provided by the Standards Council which ensures that the organisation meets its corporate objectives.

#### **Academy of Design and Innovation**

- An Awarding Body which promotes excellence in design education, fosters innovation and provide consultancy and research services in the region.
- Offers courses in Fashion Design, Interior Design, Media and Communication and Jewellery Manufacturing at Certificate, Diploma, Degree and Postgraduate levels.
- Assists industry operators through tailor-made programmes to enhance their design and innovation capabilities.

#### **National Productivity and Competitiveness Council**

- Fosters a productivity culture and stimulates productivity gains in all sectors of the economy through the organisation of capacity-building programmes, in-plant interventions, sensitisation campaigns and webinars.
- Endeavours to build productive and competitive enterprises through the "Enterprise Transformation Programme".
- Undertakes research and analytical work on productivity-related matters to assist in policy-making.

#### 1.5 Gender Statement

- The Ministry is dedicated to advancing gender equality in entrepreneurship to support sustainable economic growth. It aims to empower women and ensure their equal participation across various sectors, including Manufacturing, SMEs and Cooperatives, fostering innovation and competitiveness.
- The Industry Division emphasises gender equality to build an inclusive workforce and drive sustainable industrial progress in Mauritius.
- The SME Division creates policies and initiatives to support both men and women, enhancing women's roles in society and ensuring their access to essential resources.
- The Cooperatives Division integrates gender mainstreaming into its policies and programmes to provide equal opportunities and support for cooperative development.
- All the three Divisions work towards achieving gender parity and ensuring equal access to the Ministry's resources and services.



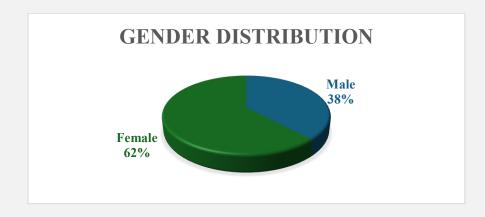
# 1.6 Industry Division – Team Members

#### 1.6.1 Our People

The overall administration of the Division falls under the responsibility of a Permanent Secretary, who is assisted by a Deputy Permanent Secretary and two Assistant Permanent Secretaries. On the Technical side, support is provided by the Director of Industry, the Director of Assay Office and the Director of MAURITAS, who are assisted by technical staff of their respective Cadre. Management support services are provided by officers of the Human Resource Cadre, Finance Cadre, Procurement and Supply Cadre, General Services and Workmen's Group.

#### 1.6.2 Workforce in terms of Gender

The gender distribution of staff of the Industry Division is as follows:



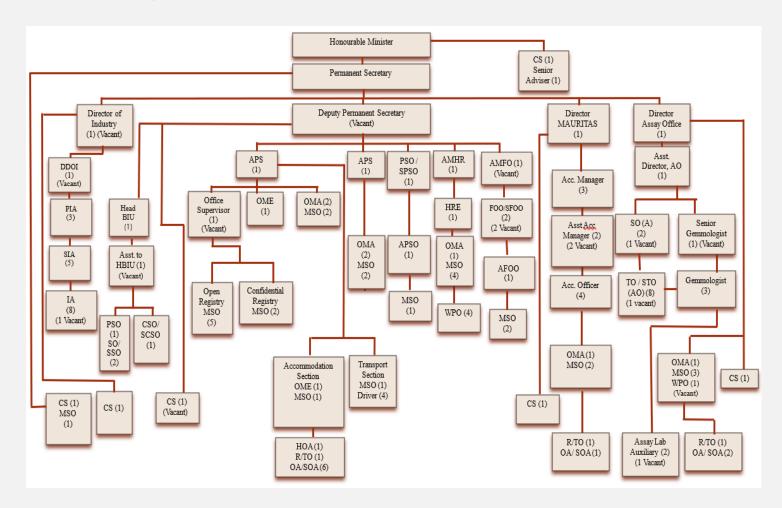
#### 1.6.3 Human Resource & Gender Distribution

The classification of the workforce across hierarchy levels at the Ministry is as follows: -

Staff in Post (March 2024)	Number	Male	Female
Top Management (Salary ≥ Rs 110,000)	1	100%	0%
Middle Management (Rs 47,000≤ Salary <rs 110,000)<="" td=""><td>22</td><td>57%</td><td>43%</td></rs>	22	57%	43%
Support (Salary <rs 47,000)<="" td=""><td>81</td><td>28%</td><td>72%</td></rs>	81	28%	72%
Overall	104	35%	65%



### 1.6.4 Organisational Structure



APS - Assistant Permanent Secretary

AMHR - Assistant Manager, Human Resources

AMFO - Assistant Manager Financial Operations

Acc. Manager - Accreditation Manager

Acc Officer - Accreditation Officer

Asst. Acc Manager – Assistant Accreditation Manager

AFOO – Assistant Financial Operations Officer

APSO – Assistant Procurement and Supply Officer

Head BIU – Head, Business Information

Asst. to HBIU – Assistant to Head Business Information Unit

Asst. Director, AO – Assistant Director, Assay Office

CS - Confidential Secretary

HOA - Head Office Auxiliary

HRE - Human Resource Executive

IA - Industrial Analyst

MSO - Management Support Officer

OME - Office Management Executive

OMA - Office Management Assistant

OA/SOA - Office Auxiliary/Senior Office Auxiliary

PIA - Principal Industrial Analyst

PSO - Principal Statistical Officer

PSO/SPSO – Procurement and Supply Officer/Senior Procurement and Supply Officer

R/TO - Receptionist/Telephone Operator

SO (A) - Scientific Officer (Assay)

SIA - Senior Industrial Analyst

SO/SSO – Statistical Officer /Senior Statistical Officer

TO/STO (AO) – Technical Officer/Senior Technical Officer (Assay Office)



#### 1.6.5 Training and Development

Training remains a fundamental component of Human Resource Development, serving to enhance employee performance, strengthen professional competencies and ensure that officers are equipped with the requisite knowledge and skills to efficiently deliver high-quality services. Through continuous capacity-building initiatives, the Division seeks to foster a skilled and motivated workforce aligned with its strategic priorities and service delivery objectives.

During the Financial Year 2024/2025, a structured Training Plan was developed and implemented in accordance with the training requirements, identified by each section of the Division. These requirements were established through a systematic assessment of functional needs and by taking into consideration the areas for improvement highlighted in the performance appraisal process. The execution of the Training Plan aimed to address competency gaps, promote continuous learning and reinforce organisational effectiveness in pursuit of operational excellence and improved service outcomes. In this context:

- ✓ One hundred (100) officers were trained locally by the Atal Bihari Bajpayee Institute of Public Service and Innovation, by the Ministry of Public Service and Administrative Reforms and by other institutions such as the Office of the Public Sector Governance, amongst others.
- ✓ Seventy-five (75) officers were trained on Occupational Safety and Health by the Occupational and Health Unit of the Ministry of Public Service and Administrative Reforms.
- ✓ Eight (08) officers attended Training/Seminar/Workshops abroad in countries such as India, the People's Republic of China, Thailand and Singapore.



#### 1.6.5.1 In-house Training Sessions

Officers of the Ministry attended in-house training sessions as follows:

## **Leadership and Strategic Thinking**

Training on Leadership and Strategic Thinking was followed by ten (10) officers of the Division on 22 and 24 July 2024 and was conducted by a resource person from the Civil Service College Mauritius.





#### **Computerised Registry System**

Six (6) new staff posted at the Registry Section attended an In-House Training in Computerised Registry System on 29 July and 02 August 2024.

#### **Code of Ethics**

Thirteen (13) staff attended two half days In-House training on Code of Ethics on 26 and 28 November 2024:





# **Achieving Success through Emotional Intelligence**

Sixteen (16) staff of this Division attended an In-House training on Achieving Success through Emotional Intelligence on 15 and 17 January 2025, delivered by Dr. (Mrs) Boyramboli, Psychologist. This comprehensive training offered insights into emotional intelligence and its practical applications. It integrated local examples and case studies, making it a valuable tool for personal and professional development.





#### **Public Procurement**

Five half days In-House Training on Public Procurement were held on 03, 04, 07, 10 and 13 March 2025, conducted by Dr. K. Mosafeer, whereby twenty-two (22) staff were in attendance. The training covered topics related to public procurement, drafting of specifications of goods, works and other services and selection of procurement methods, amongst others.

#### Rules and Risks of Money Laundering and Combatting Financing of Terrorism

Seven half days in-house training was held on Anti-Money Laundering and Combatting the Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) by the Financial Services Institute Mauritius for twenty-two (22) staff of the Assay Office on 29 and 30 April and 06, 09, 13, 14 and 16 May 2025.





#### **Training Sessions organised by MAURITAS**

MAURITAS organised a series of training courses for its staff, assessors, technical experts and other stakeholders on key accreditation standards. These sessions were facilitated by consultants from the National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies (NABCB), India:

1) From 29 July to 02 August 2024, a training was held on the newly published standards for Information Security Management Systems (ISMS), namely ISO/IEC 27001:2022 and ISO/IEC 27006-1:2024, read in conjunction with ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015. The training aimed to enhance the competence of the nineteen (19) participants and will support MAURITAS in extending its accreditation scope to include ISMS.





2) From **05 to 08 August 2024**, a four-day training course was conducted on ISO/IEC 17065:2012 under the Product Certification accreditation scheme. The training formed part of MAURITAS' initiative to build capacity within its newly established unit for the accreditation services for product certification and was attended by twenty (20) participants from various institutions.



3) From **18 to 20 November 2024**, a three-day training was conducted on the ISO 22003-1:2022 standard for the Food Safety Management System (FSMS) Accreditation Scheme. The training also provided an overview of ISO 22000:2018. The session aimed to enhance participants' understanding of the revised FSMS requirements and support MAURITAS in strengthening its technical capacity within the accreditation framework for FSMS schemes.



#### 1.6.5.2 Work Placement

Work placement allows students gain first-hand experience on how Government departments operate and take relevant decisions in serving the public. Such placements empower students to sharpen their skills in areas of communication, research and policy analysis while imbibing the values of ethical conduct and professionalism. Two (2) students from the University of Mauritius were posted at this Division under the Work Placement Programme.





### 1.6.6 Workforce Planning/Succession Planning

This Division continued to strengthen its human resource management function through strategic workforce planning and succession planning initiatives. Efforts focused on aligning staffing levels and skills with organisational priorities to ensure that the Ministry upholds its mandate effectively.

The Division assessed current workforce capacity, identified critical skill gaps and implemented targeted recruitment and training programmes to address future workforce needs. In parallel, succession planning activities were undertaken to identify and develop high-potential employees for key positions, ensuring leadership continuity and institutional knowledge retention.

These initiatives contribute to building a resilient, skilled and future-ready workforce that supports the Division's strategic objectives and enhances service delivery.

#### 1.6.7 Safety and Health at the Workplace

The Ministry has, in accordance with Section 21 of the Occupational Safety and Health Act 2005, established a Safety and Health Committee.

In June 2025, the Committee was reconstituted with the assistance from a Safety and Health Officer from the Ministry of Public Service and Administrative Reforms.

Five (5) meetings were held during the period 01 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 to look into safety and health issues reported across all units of the Ministry. Recommendations and proposals were given prompt attention to mitigate any risk to the safety and health of officers.





# 2.0 Performance of the Manufacturing Sector

# 2.1 Manufacturing

- The manufacturing sector remains a key pillar of the Mauritian economy. It contributes substantially to national output, employment creation and foreign exchange earnings.
- The sector is composed of some **226** Export-Oriented Enterprises (EOEs), producing goods specifically for the export markets and about **300** large Domestic-Oriented Enterprises (DOEs) which cater primarily for the local market.
- The manufacturing sector spans across a wide range of activities, including textile & clothing, food processing, fish & fish preparations, jewellery & precious stones, medical devices, watches & clocks, light engineering, wood & furniture, printing & publishing, packaging, optical products, plastic injection moulding and paints & chemicals.
- In 2024, the sector contributed some 12.9% to Gross Value Added (GVA). Manufacturing GVA stood at around Rs 77.1 billion in 2024 compared to Rs 73.3 billion in 2023, representing an increase of 5.2%. On the other hand, manufacturing output declined from Rs 178.3 billion in 2023 to Rs 174.2 billion in 2024.
- The workforce in the manufacturing sector contracted from **89,800** in 2023 to **85,300** in 2024.

# 2.2 Exports

- In 2024, domestic exports (excluding sugar) amounted to **Rs 50.0 billion**. The different sub-sectors that have contributed to this achievement are as follows:
  - o Textile & Clothing: 36.7%
  - o Fish & Fish Preparations: 24.4%
  - o Medical Devices: 4.0%
  - o Jewellery & Precious Stones: 3.5%
  - O Watches & Clocks: 2.5%
- During the same year, the main destinations for domestic exports were South Africa (16.6%), United States (12.6%), United Kingdom (11.9%), France (10.5%), Madagascar (9.7%), Spain (7.0%), Netherlands (6.6%), India (3.6%), Italy (3.5%) and Switzerland (2.1%).



#### 2.3 Market Diversification

- The export sector continues to be subjected to external shocks and its viability is
  dependent on diversifying into new markets to cushion against setbacks in traditional
  markets. In this context, actions are being pursued to identify new business
  opportunities, particularly in emerging markets, such as Türkiye, Brazil, Greece, Ghana
  and other African countries.
- In 2024, much progress was achieved in exports to these destinations as follows: Turkey (+422%), Brazil (+157%), Singapore (+59%), Ghana (+49%), Kenya (+36%), Finland (+31%), Eswatini (+25%), Greece (+25%) and Madagascar (+16%).

# 2.4 Industrial Modernisation and Expansion

- Government policy is to prioritise the broadening of the manufacturing base through deeper industrial expansion and development of new growth poles. Additionally, emphasis is also laid on the uptake of advanced technologies and adoption of environmentally sustainable practices to achieve a higher level of competitiveness in the manufacturing sector.
- In 2024, Gross Fixed Capital Formation, which includes investment in industrial infrastructure and plant and machinery, increased from **Rs 5.4 billion** in 2023 to **Rs 5.6 billion**.
- Foreign Direct Investment in the manufacturing sector soared from **Rs 134 million** in 2023 to **Rs 335 million** in 2024.
- The manufacturing industry cluster witnessed the establishment of several new projects in activities such as photovoltaic panels, biodegradable packaging, tyre recycling, fibre optic cabling, gin and brewery production as well as paints and foundry.



# 2.5 Support to the Jewellery Sector

For the period July 2024 to June 2025, the Assay Office has:

- registered 34 new jewellers, bringing the total number of registered jewellers to 590:
- verified 832 gemstones to ensure their authenticity and graded 296 diamonds;
- tested 449 jewellery/alloys made of gold, silver and platinum;
- evaluated the price of **69** gold jewellery certifying the gold contents in the jewellery items;
- endorsed **5,611** ownership declaration forms for sale of second-hand jewellery;
- carried out **520** inspection visits at the business premises of registered jewellers; and
- generated a revenue of Rs 1,749,275.

#### 2.6 Accreditation Services

During the Financial Year 2024/2025, Mauritius Accreditation Service (MAURITAS):

- granted 3 new accreditation to:
  - ✓ C-Lab International Ltd (C-Lab Mont Choisy) to ISO 15189;
  - ✓ Life Nova Plus Ltd to ISO 15189; and
  - ✓ SGS (Mauritius) Ltd Calibration Laboratory to ISO/IEC 17025.
- extended the scope of the following accredited laboratories: Mauritius Standards Bureau (MSB) Chemical Unit, MSB Engineering Unit, Labolink Ltd, Plant Pathology Laboratory of Food and Agricultural Research and Extension Institute, Les Moulins de la Concorde Ltée, Quantilab Ltd, Polyeco S.A Waste Management and Valorization Industry Laboratory, National Environmental Laboratory, Wastewater Laboratory, C-Lab International Ltd (C-Lab Wellkin) and C-Lab International Ltd (C-Lab Darné);
- performed 54 assessments of laboratories and certification bodies;
- maintained its international recognition with ILAC/IAF until June 2026; and
- generated revenue to the tune of **Rs 4.2 million**.



# 2.7 Support Schemes for Export Sector



The Table below depicts the number of beneficiaries and amount disbursed under the different Schemes during the period **July 2024 – June 2025**.

Schemes	Support Provided	Number of Beneficiaries	Amount Disbursed (Rs million)
Trade Promotion and Marketing Scheme (TPMS)*	A 60% refund on air freight costs for exports of all agricultural and non-agricultural products produced/manufactured in Mauritius except for machinery, live animals and chemicals.  The eligible markets are Africa (including Madagascar), USA Australia, Canada, Europe, Japan, Middle East Countries and Vietnam.	217	341
Freight Rebate Scheme (FRS)*	A subsidy of 25% on sea freight costs either to a maximum of USD 300 per 20 ft. container or to a maximum of USD 600 per 40 ft. container for export of locally manufactured goods to selected ports in Africa.	28	15
Export Credit Guarantee Insurance Scheme*	A refund of 50% on the premium paid up to a maximum of 0.5% on the insurance policy taken on consignments for export to all market destinations.	19	10
SME Refund Scheme for Participation in International Fairs	A refund of <b>Rs 250,000</b> annually on the cost of participation for small and medium enterprises participating in international fairs.	167	19.1
Africa Warehousing Scheme	The Scheme provides for a 60% refund on annual warehousing costs incurred by Mauritian manufacturing entities operating warehouses in <b>Tanzania</b> .	Nil	Nil

<sup>\*</sup>The Schemes will gradually phase out over the next 2 years.



# 2.8 Implementation of Budgetary Measures 2024/25

The status of implementation of Budgetary Measures 2024/2025 relevant to the manufacturing sector is provided in Table below:

Paragraph	Budget Measure	Implementing Agency	Remarks
77 (b), (c) & (d)	To speed up recruitment of foreign workers:  b) Quotas on foreign labour will be removed in the manufacturing, jewellery, freeport and ICT/BPO sectors;  c) The maximum timeframe to deliver or renew a Work Permit will be set at 3 weeks; and  d) The maximum renewal period for the manufacturing sector is being prolonged to 10 years.	Ministry of Labour and Industrial Relations	Already Operational
131	Investment tax credit of 15 percent over 3 years will include AI and patents.	Ministry of Finance	Already Operational
135	Support the wage bill of the textile industry by compensating the increase in minimum wage and the salary compensation of 2024.	MRA	Already Operational
136 (a), (b) & (c)	Introduction of an Export Manufacturing Regulations under the Economic Development Board Act:  a) Define an export manufacturing enterprise as having a minimum of 30 percent of export turnover; b) Set-up an export promotion fund with a seed capital of Rs 50 million; and Provide for a public-private sector Export Development Council to devise export strategies including identification of products and markets.	EDB	Not yet Implemented
137	Extension of Africa Warehousing Scheme to Kenya and up to 2027.	EDB	Already Operational
139	Renewal of the Freight Rebate, Trade Promotion and Marketing, and Export Credit Guarantee Schemes for an additional year.	EDB	Already Operational
140	First time exporters with a turnover of less than Rs 20 million to benefit from an	EDB	Already Operational



	increased refund of 40 percent for a period of one year under the Freight Rebate Scheme.		
141	The Trade Promotion and Marketing Scheme to include New Zealand.	EDB	Already Operational
Annex A1 (h)	The Income Tax Act will be amended to implement the decision of Government to provide a monthly financial assistance for payment of the National Minimum Wage and salary compensation 2024 (10% of basic salary with a maximum of Rs 2,000) of –  (i) Employees earning national minimum wage  (A) Rs 3,500 per employee of an Export Oriented Enterprise (EOE);  (B) Rs 3,500 or Rs 1,750 per employee of a manufacturing enterprise with annual turnover not exceeding Rs 100 million, depending on the profitability of the enterprise;  (C) Rs 2,500 or Rs 1,250 per employee of a Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) or a manufacturing enterprise with annual turnover between 100 million and Rs 500 million, depending on the profitability of the enterprise;  (D) Rs 1,250 or Rs 625 per employee of other enterprises facing difficulties, depending on the profitability of the enterprises facing difficulties, depending on the profitability of the enterprise with annual turnover between 100 minimum wage but not exceeding Rs 50,000 monthly  (A) Maximum of Rs 2,000 per employee of an EOE;  (B) Maximum of Rs 2,000 or Rs 1,000 per employee of an SME or a manufacturing enterprise with annual turnover not exceeding Rs 500 million, depending on the profitability of the enterprise; and  (C) Maximum of Rs 1,000 or Rs 500 per employee of other enterprises facing difficulties, depending on the profitability of the enterprise; and	MRA	Already Operational



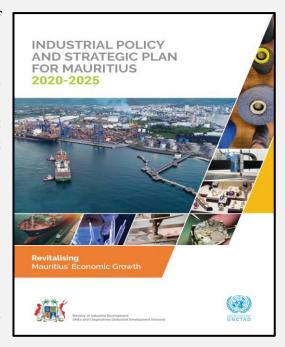
Note*	Extension of 75 percent subsidy for the	Ministry of	Already
(Carry	conduct of energy audits.	Industry, SME	Operational
forward		and	
from		Cooperatives	
Budget		(Industry	
2023-2024)		Division)	

# 2.9 Major Projects & Activities

# 2.9.1 Implementation of Industrial Policy and Strategic Plan (IPSP) (2020-2025)

The IPSP was formulated in 2020 with technical and financial assistance from UNCTAD to boost development of the manufacturing sector and enhance industrial growth for greater economic prosperity. The IPSP comprises 194 projects focusing on 8 strategic pillars, namely Industry Foundations, Upgrading of Value Chains, Advanced Technology Absorption, Domestic Enterprises, Textile & Clothing, Food Processing & Fish Preparations, Medical Devices & Pharmaceuticals and Jewellery.

As at now, 167 projects, representing around 85% of recommendations in the IPSP have already been implemented. These relate mainly implementation of the Commonwealth-funded Manufacturing 4.0 project, setting up of Modernisation and Transformation Fund, extension of export support schemes, re-dynamising of export and investment promotional campaigns, enhancing fiscal and financial regimes, improvement in the legislative framework, upgrading of skills, streamlining of work permit processes, enhancement of port infrastructure, ongoing negotiations for preferential market access in Europe, Asia and Africa, setting up of Technology Park, increasing employability of the Mauritian workforce, accelerating development of supply side capabilities and adherence to sustainable practices, amongst others.





#### 2.9.2 Les Assises de L'Industrie 2025

The Industry Division organised "Les Assises de L'Industrie 2025", on **13 February 2025** at Maritim Resort and Spa, Balaclava with the objective to develop a shared vision for the future of the manufacturing sector, along with key policy measures likely to reinforce the position of Mauritius as a preferred sourcing destination. Around 120 representatives from the public and private sector organisations attended this event.

In his Keynote Address, Honourable Sayed Muhammad Aadil Ameer Meea, Minister of Industry, SME and Cooperatives, reaffirmed Government's strong commitment to the re-industrialisation of Mauritius. He issues kev hampering the accelerated development of the manufacturing sector, amongst which, low levels of Foreign Direct Investment and high dependence on few export markets. The Honourable Minister also underscored Government's ongoing initiatives to support industry operators in their quest to maintain viability of their businesses by improving their overall competitiveness. In this regard, he mentioned some of the projects being implemented at the level of the Ministry namely, the Manufacturing 4.0 project, the Energy Efficiency Audit Scheme and the Net-Zero Nature-Positive Economy Accelerator project.



"Les Assises de L'Industrie 2025" was an ideal platform for all stakeholders to brainstorm on pertinent thematics, which could bring about a turnaround in the evolution of the manufacturing sector for higher industrial growth. The programme of the day was principally focused on important areas of interventions namely, Building the Industry of Tomorrow, Re-thinking Export and Investment Promotion, Greening Industries, Optimising Port Connectivity and Driving Productivity Growth.

Amongst the recommendations that emerged from the event, the establishment of a dedicated institution under the Ministry to carry out investment and export promotion for the manufacturing sector, was viewed as an absolute necessity. Additionally, the formulation of a new Industrial Strategic Plan was proposed to chart out the future course of action for the next five years in an endeavour to re-invigorate industrial growth. The introduction of additional fiscal and



financial incentives to support local production and encourage enterprises to adopt advanced technologies and sustainable practices was strongly recommended to improve overall competitiveness of the manufacturing sector.





"Les Assises de L'Industrie 2025" ended on a clear understanding that there was an urgent need to review our industrial model so that the manufacturing sector regains its growth momentum to significantly contribute towards higher wealth generation, in line with targets set in Government Programme 2025-2029.



### 2.9.2 Manufacturing 4.0 Project

The Industry Division implemented the first edition of the Manufacturing 4.0 Project with the objective to support manufacturing enterprises to transit towards adoption of digital technologies for enhanced competitiveness. The project comprised three components, namely a Sensitisation Programme to raise awareness among beneficiary enterprises on the benefits of Manufacturing 4.0 technologies; in-house interventions at factory level to gauge the digital readiness of participating enterprises; and elaboration of tailor-made Roadmaps to guide beneficiary enterprises on their digitalisation pathway.

The Ministry enlisted the services of Dr. Uwe Steinkoetter and Mr. Svyatoslav Funtikov from ROI-EFESO Management Consultants AG of Germany to carry out the assignment. A Workshop was organised by the Ministry on **Tuesday 24 June 2025** at The Docks 2, Les Suites, Port-Louis, as a first step, to sensitise a batch of **20** manufacturing enterprises on the benefits to be accrued by embedding Manufacturing 4.0 technologies within their production set-ups.







The Opening Ceremony of the Workshop took place in the presence of Honourable Mrs. Marie Arianne Navarre-Marie, Minister of Gender Equality and Family Welfare. The gathering was attended by some 75 participants, most of whom were representatives of manufacturing enterprises benefitting from the project. The Workshop was an opportunity for the Consultants to share their thoughts on key technological thematics such as Smart Factory,



Lean Management Practices, Robotics and a Live Demonstration of the World of Digital Twins and Metaverse through VR Glasses so that the beneficiary enterprises could have a broad knowledge of the vast applications of Manufacturing 4.0 technologies in their business processes.





Thereafter, the Consultants undertook in-house interventions at the factory premises of participating enterprises over a period of 2 weeks to make an assessment of their digital maturity to advise them the appropriate advanced technologies to be adopted.



The Project has been an eye-opener for the beneficiary enterprises and feedback obtained indicate that they are very much enthusiastic to re-engineer their business processes, leveraging on Manufacturing 4.0 technologies for higher efficiency gains.



# 2.9.3 Accelerating the Transition Towards a Net-Zero Nature-Positive Economy in Mauritius (NZNPA)

The Ministry is spearheading the implementation of the "Accelerating the Transition to a Net-Zero Nature-Positive Economy in Mauritius" (NZNPA) project with the financial assistance of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and technical support of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). While the Industry Division is the Executing Agency for the project, UNEP acts as the GEF Implementing Agency.

This project aims at reducing carbon emissions in the manufacturing sector while promoting the integration of nature-based solutions at national level. It is in line with the efforts of the Government to build a sustainable industrial sector in Mauritius.

During the last financial year, major milestones achieved included the approval of the NZNPA Project Document by GEF on 30 October 2024. In addition, further to Cabinet approval, the Permanent Secretary signed the Project Cooperation Agreement (PCA) with UNEP on 23 May 2025, which also marked the official start date of implementation of the NZNPA project. This agreement sets out the terms and conditions for the management of the GEF funding and the implementation of the four-year NZNPA project.

The NZNPA Project is set to strengthen the resiliency of the industrial sector, reduce greenhouse gas emissions while protecting and restoring the natural ecosystems.





#### 2.9.4 Energy Efficiency Audit Scheme for the Manufacturing Sector

The Ministry is currently implementing the "Energy Efficiency Audit Scheme for the Manufacturing Sector" (EEASMS), which was announced in Budget 2023/2024.

In the Financial Year 2023/2024, there was no beneficiary under the EEASMS. Subsequently, further to feedback obtained from manufacturers, the criteria under the Scheme were revised to enable a wider range of manufacturing enterprises benefit from the Scheme. A set of modalities and procedures were then devised in collaboration with the Energy Efficiency Management Office (EEMO).

In Financial Year 2024/2025, all manufacturing enterprises (excluding those in the sugar and energy production sectors), having an annual turnover above Rs 10 million and intending to embark on an energy audit, were eligible to apply for the Scheme. The Ministry received a total of 27 applications and the Scheme was eventually closed on 24 October 2024 due to limited budget funding.

A total of 16 applications were approved for the grant under the Scheme. Beneficiaries are engaged in manufacturing sub-sectors such as textile and clothing, food processing and beverages, furniture making, printing, chemicals and detergents. So far, 15 applicants have completed their energy audits and submitted their Energy Audit Reports which are currently under review at the EEMO.



It is noteworthy to mention that the EEASMS has been instrumental in raising awareness on the importance of energy management in the manufacturing sector. Manufacturers have been able to identify inefficiencies in their production processes and adopt energy-efficient practices.

On another note, the Scheme is contributing to address the current energy crisis in Mauritius by reducing energy losses in manufacturing plants as well as lowering their energy consumption. The EEASMS has been successful and an increasing number of manufacturing enterprises have expressed their willingness to join such initiatives in the future.



#### 2.9.5 Gender Workshop

On 16 April 2025, the Ministry organised a one-day Workshop at the Ravenala Attitude Hotel, to revamp the Gender Policy of the Industry Division themed "Empowering Industry Through Equality: A Gender-Inclusive Future".

The workshop was facilitated by Ms Winfred Lichuma, an experienced Gender Consultant, who has been deputed by the European Union to assist the Mauritian Government in mainstreaming gender policies across all sectors of the economy.



Participants were briefed on several topics, namely gender concepts, gender gaps in the manufacturing sector, legal and policy framework, role of technology in advancing gender policy, addressing Gender-Based Violence in business and work place and Gender Responsive Industrial future.

The Honourable Sayed Muhammad Aadil Ameer Meea, Minister of Industry, SME and Cooperatives, officially launched the workshop in the presence of the Honourable (Mrs) Marie Arianne Navarre-Marie, Minister of Gender Equality and Family Welfare.

In his Address, Honourable Minister Ameer Meea underscored that gender equality constitutes a main thrust of Government Programme 2025-2029, focusing on the achievement of a more inclusive and just society. He also stated that each Ministry is allocated a dedicated budget to take actions contributing towards Gender Mainstreaming. This initiative emanates from the National Gender Policy 2022-2030 and has as objective to achieve a gender-inclusive society in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 5.



He pointed out that the holding of the workshop was opportune as it was a good platform to identify gender gaps in the manufacturing sector and come up with solutions to address these gaps for enhanced productivity at work. He also emphasised Government's vision to empower women and increase their participation in the manufacturing sector.



The Honourable Minister further mentioned that a plethora of support measures was put in place to accompany women entrepreneurs setting up of their own businesses for self-empowerment and greater economic independence. Several schemes such as the SME Start-up Programme, the Business Transformation Scheme and the Market Readiness Scheme have been introduced for women entrepreneurs. He rejoiced that Mauritius is an active member of 'SheTrades Global Initiatives', which is a flagship programme of the International Trade Centre, to enable women entrepreneurs to have access to a network of international buyers, contributing to a more gender-balanced economy.



For her part, Honourable Mrs A. Navarre-Marie, Minister Gender Equality and Family Welfare recalled that Government is committed to creating inclusive environment that promote equal opportunities and participation especially when the industrial world is transitioning to a stronger, sustainable and resilient one.

This included tackling systemic inequalities, ensuring fair pay and adequate representation and promoting a culture of respect and inclusiveness within workplaces and industries. To this end, she apprised that forty-eight (48) Gender Units have been set up in various Ministries and Departments. The Honourable Mrs A. Navarre-Marie further pointed out that women-led businesses represent an important pool of entrepreneurs likely to bring about higher economic growth. She reckoned that it was crucial to unleash the hidden talents of these businesswomen for better integration in economic activities.



## 2.9.6 17th United States-Africa Business Summit, Angola

The Honourable Sayed Muhammad Aadil Ameer Meea, Minister of Industry, SME and Cooperatives led the Mauritian Delegation in the context of the 17<sup>th</sup> United States-Africa Business Summit held in Luanda, Angola, which was organised by the Corporate Council of Africa (CCA), from **22 to 25 June 2025**.

In the margin of the event, the Honourable Minister participated in the Roundtable on Pathways to Prosperity: A Shared Vision for Trade by Investment. In his Address, the Honourable Minister called for an enhanced partnership between Africa and the United States (US), through the Africa Continental Free Trade Area, which can unlock the door for US businessmen to a unified market of over 1.4 billion people. He also underscored the crucial role played by Small and Medium Enterprises, which also includes a women empowerment dimension, given the active participation of African women in businesses, towards bolstering trade ties between Africa and US.



The Honourable Minister also had a bilateral meeting with the Chief Executive Officer of the CCA and Ambassador Troy Fitrell, Deputy Head of the US delegation to the Business Summit. He also participated in the Closing Plenary on the Future of US-Africa Partnership whereby he strongly advocated for an extension of the AGOA or of AGOA-like preferences to African countries.



# **2.10** Status on Implementation of Key Actions in Budget 2024-2025 Relating to the Manufacturing Sector

Delivery Unit	Main Service	Key Performance Indicator	Target 2024/25	Actual as at 30 June 2025	Remarks
Industry Division	Facilitate the development of the manufacturing sector	Percentage increase in domestic exports (excl sugar)	≥ 5%	1.0%	The target achieved was lower than expected, primarily due to a decline in apparel exports. This shortfall resulted from intense competition from low-cost producing countries, rising production expenses and higher logistics costs.
Mauritius Standards Bureau	Development of standards and provision of conformity assessment services	Number of standards developed	70	75	New Mauritian Standards (MS)=48 and Revised MS=27
Academy of Design and Innovation	Provision of training in the field Design and Innovation	No of Students trained	380	680	-
National Productivity & Competitiveness Council	Promote productivity, quality and competitiveness	Number of productivity programmes carried out	210	200	Implementation of the Sustaining Competitive and Responsible Enterprises (SCORE) Programme in 10 organisations was



Delivery Unit	Main Service	Key Performance Indicator	Target 2024/25	Actual as at 30 June 2025	Remarks
					planned in 2024/2025, in collaboration with Ministry of Environment and Human Resource Development Council; the project did not materialise for reasons outside the NPCC's control.

# 2.11 Risk Management, Citizen-Oriented Initiatives & Good Governance

The Industry Division has put in place a number of measures for the safeguard of its assets, operation of the control processes and compliance with the principles of good governance.

## 2.11.1 Risk Management

A Risk Management Policy was adopted in September 2023 at the Industry Division, in line with the relevant guidelines issued by the then Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development.

As part of this Policy, the Ministry ensures that risks are properly identified and that appropriate control measures are implemented to ensure, *inter alia*, uninterrupted service delivery, reinforcement of confidentiality frameworks to prevent information leakage, enhanced data protection, effective record management and the health and safety of staff.

A Risk Management Committee has been established for the implementation and monitoring of risk management within the Division. The Committee has compiled a Central Risk Register, which is reviewed biannually to ensure its continued relevance and effectiveness.



#### Anti-Corruption Framework

In line with the implementation of the Public Sector Business Transformation Strategy, the then Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) (now known as Financial Crimes Commission – FCC) and the Ministry of Public Service, Administrative and Institutional Reforms joined forces in 2009 to introduce the Public Sector Anti-Corruption Framework.

As part of this initiative, the Ministry established an Anti-Corruption Committee to uphold the principles of good governance and mitigate the risks of corrupt practices.

The Anti-Corruption Committee, which is chaired by the Accounting Officer, consists of members from operational and support departments, along with an officer from FCC, serving as an ex-officio member.

The Key Performance Indicators adopted by the Government for Ministries/ Departments and Statutory Bodies have been implemented accordingly.

#### Mauritius Accreditation Service

A Risk Management process has been put in place to manage risks related to impartiality, including any conflicts of interest with respect to accreditation of laboratories and Certification Bodies. Potential risks related to corruption have also been identified. All the risks are recorded in a Risk Register which are reviewed and updated every year.

#### Assay Office

Risk management is a fundamental element for the Assay Office as the institution is certified to MS ISO 9001 and the Assay Laboratory is accredited to ISO/IEC/17025. In this line, the Assay Office ensures that proper risk assessment is carried out to provide a healthier workplace and to improve productivity of the organisation.

Risks have been identified with respect inspection visit whereby officers are required to disclose conflict of interest in case they are related to any jeweller and abide to code of Ethics for Public Officers.

In addition, collection of revenue was also identified as a potential risk and a money detector was procured to detect counterfeit notes at time of payment.

#### 2.11.2 Citizen-Oriented Initiatives

The Ministry aims at making public services more accessible, responsive and efficient, whilst fostering greater engagement with stakeholders and the public in general.

As part of its citizen-oriented initiatives, the Customer Charter, which is a document that outlines the various services offered by the Ministry, its Departments and Parastatal Bodies, was prepared in Financial Year 2023/2024. The Customer Charter is available on the Website



for stakeholders and the public at large, to have up-to-date information on services provided by the Ministry, its Departments and Parastatal Bodies.

#### Websites

The websites of the Division and its Departments are regularly updated with latest information on programmes, projects, schemes, Annual Report and the bi-annual E-Newsletter.

#### Mauritius Accreditation Service

A Management System based on the requirements of the international standard ISO/IEC 17011:2017 is operational to monitor and coordinate the delivery of accreditation services. MAURITAS is continuing with its annual feedback surveys among its clients' base, as well as internal meetings, to evaluate its service delivery and the targeted set of Key Performance Indicators. It also operates an online survey, through its website, enabling clients and the public to give feedback on the accreditation services it provides.

#### Citizen Support Portal

This Division has an internal complaint management process to efficiently and diligently address tickets received through the Online Citizen Support Portal.

#### 2.11.3 Good Governance

Government has, through the Office of Public Sector Governance (OPSG), recommended the setting up of Audit Committees in Ministries/Departments to minimise the number of audit queries. The Audit Committee addresses criticisms and weaknesses raised by the National Audit Office, the Public Accounts Committee and the Internal Control Unit as recommended by the Office of Public Sector Governance.

Additionally, the Committee is tasked with reviewing the risk management systems within the Ministry/Departments, with a focus on proper identification, management and disclosure of significant risks, including non-compliance with existing legislations and regulations. The Audit Committee is chaired by the Acting Deputy Permanent Secretary and comprises two members and a Secretary who are appointed by the Accounting Officer.

During the Financial Year 2024/2025, the OPSG assessed the Audit Committee for the Financial Year 2023/2024. No adverse report was submitted. In the same year, the Audit Committee submitted its Action Plan for the Financial Year 2024/2025 with a total of twenty-two (22) items. During Financial Year 2024-2025, the Audit Committee met on six (6) occasions and with the assistance of the Internal Control, it completed seventeen (17) items of the Action Plan.



#### Assay Office

#### Fit and Proper Test for Registration of New Dealers under the Jewellery Act 2007

To comply with the FATF requirement 28, the Jewellery (Dealer's Registration and Transactions) (Amendment) Regulations 2020 have come into force on 23 September 2020. The purpose of these regulations is to enable the Assay Office to assess that new applicants and existing registered dealers are "fit and proper" persons based on the following criteria:

- a) financial soundness;
- b) competence and capability; and
- c) honesty, reputation and integrity.

Where the Director is satisfied that the applicant is a "fit and proper" person, he shall register the applicant as a dealer otherwise the application is rejected.

Fit and Proper – Assessment carried out

From September 2020-September 2025	Total
Applications for Registration received	201
Applicants found Fit & Proper	167
Applicants found Not Fit & Proper	4
Applications withdrawn	13
Applications in process	17

## 2.11.4 Implementation Plan - Director of Audit Comments

There has been no comment on the Industry Division on the accounts of the Government for the Financial Year 2024/2025.





# 3.0 Financial Highlights

Budget allocation under Vote/Sub-Head 24-102 for Financial Year 2024/2025, pertaining to the Industry Division, was Rs. 283,500,000, out of which, expenses totalling Rs. 279,120,120 have been incurred, leaving an unspent balance of 1.5% of the total appropriation which represented mainly the non-filling of vacancies and amount unspent on capital projects.

# 3.1 Statement of Expenditure & Revenue

#### 3.1.1 Statement of Expenditure

The tables below show details of expenditure incurred under Sub-Head 24-102.

#### **Sub-Head 24-102: Industrial Development**

Table 1: Comparison of Expenditure under Vote/Sub-Head 24-102

Catagonias	2023-2024	2024-2025	2024-2025
Categories	Actual (Rs.)	<b>Estimates (Rs.)</b>	Actual (Rs.)
Compensation of Employees	64,699,333	70,000,000	67,990,065
Goods and Services	22,834,642	28,100,000	27,953,705
Grants – Recurrent	155,453,678	168,200,000	168,148,265
Grants – Capital	11,450,055	17,000,000	14,831,050
Acquisition of Non - Financial Assets	392,673	200,000	197,035
TOTAL	254,830,381	283,500,000	279,120,120



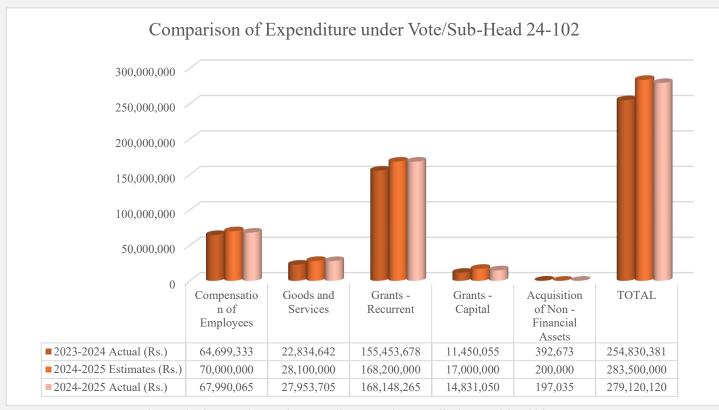


Figure 1: Comparison of Expenditure under Vote/Sub-Head 24-102

As a percentage of total expenditure incurred, each economic category is represented as follows:

Table 2: Percentage of Total Expenditure under Vote/Sub-Head 24-102

	Compensation of Employees	Goods and Services	Grants - Recurrent	Grants - Capital	Acquisition of Non- Financial
					Assets
%	24.4	10	60.2	5.3	0.1



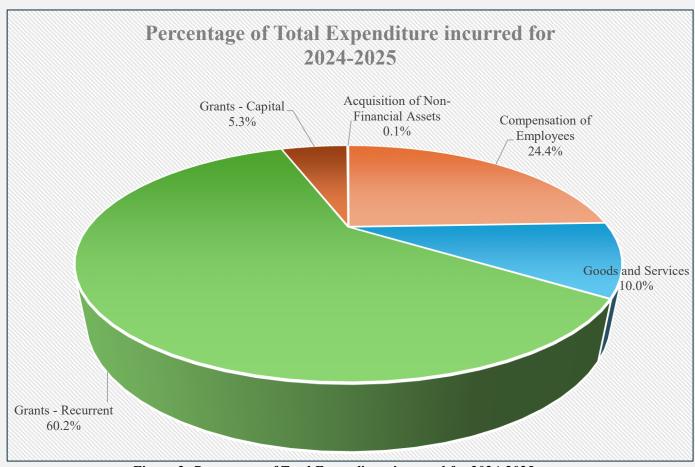


Figure 2: Percentage of Total Expenditure incurred for 2024-2025

"Grants – Recurrent" represents contributions to International Organisations and funds allocated to our three Extra-Budgetary Units, namely the Academy of Design and Innovation (ADI), the Mauritius Standards Bureau (MSB) and National Productivity and Competitiveness Council (NPCC).



## 3.1.2 Statement of Revenue

Table 3: Statement of Revenue

Revenue	2023-2024	2024-2025	2024-2025
Categories	Actual (Rs)	Estimates (Rs)	Actual (Rs)
Sales of Goods and Services (Collection by Assay Office)	4,081,313	1,800,000	1,749,275
Miscellaneous Revenues (Collection by MAURITAS)	3,163,000	4,142,000	4,230,606
TOTAL	7,244,313	5,942,000	5,979,881

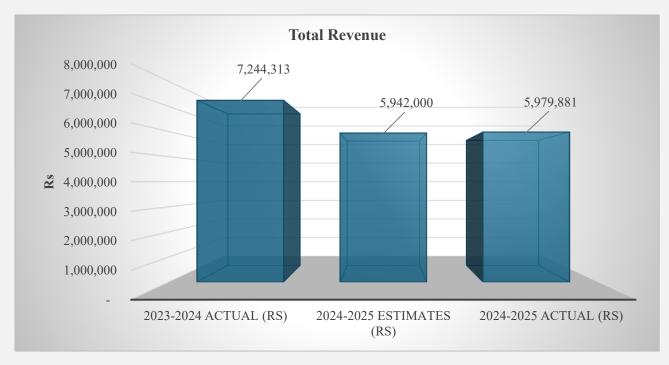


Figure 3: Total Revenue

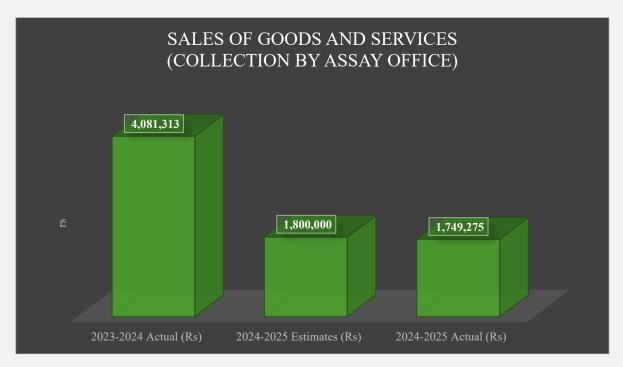


Figure 4: Revenue collected by Assay Office

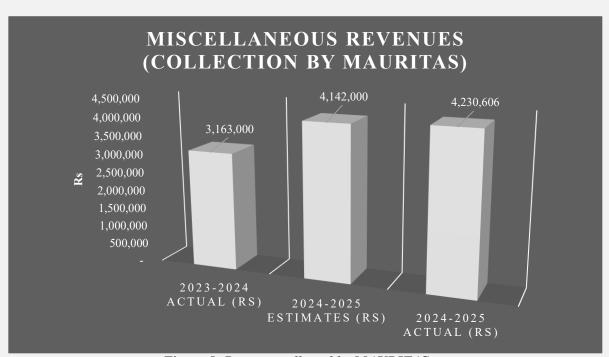


Figure 5: Revenue collected by MAURITAS

The main assumptions made for the revenue estimates 2024-2025 by MAURITAS were based on:

- ✓ An increase in the number of assessment exercises and in the number of new applications received, following the continued international recognition status of MAURITAS with ILAC and IAF since 2018; and
- ✓ No increase in the fees and charges.





# 4.0 Trends and Challenges

The manufacturing sector is a locomotive force of the Mauritian economy, generating significant local value addition, gainful employment and increased foreign exchange earnings. Over the past decade, the sector has witnessed major setbacks hindering its capability to sustain industrial growth due to dwindling domestic exports, low levels of Foreign Direct Investment and non-emergence of new growth poles.

It is unfortunate that the manufacturing sector continues to navigate within a hostile environment, coupled with internal and external challenges, that are increasingly putting pressure on its long-term sustainability.

On the internal front, manufacturing enterprises have to cope with rising production costs on account of increasing wage bills, prices of material inputs and electricity charges. The shortage of manpower in specific field of operations, together with low uptake of advanced technology, are additional obstacles hindering the ability of the sector to respond effectively to market exigencies.

On the external front, fierce competition from low-cost producing countries, geo-political tensions in the Middle-East, ongoing Ukraine-Russia war, the protectionism policy of the US Government and uncertainty on the renewal of AGOA are exacerbating an already difficult situation.

Against this backdrop, there is an urgent need to come up with bold actions to restore confidence of industry operators and instil a feel-good factor to stimulate investment and export in manufacturing activities. Along this journey, Government remains committed to support the manufacturing sector through the right mix of policies and strategies, likely to reinvigorate industrial growth for greater economic prosperity.



# 4.1 SWOT Analysis



# TRENGTHS

- Conducive business environment
- Dynamic entrepreneurship
- •Strong public/private sector dialogue
- Positive economic and social indices
- Versatile labour force
- Supportive industrial policies



**WEAKNESSES** 

- •Exiguous domestic market
- Slow gains in productivity
- •Limited export product basket with over-reliance on a few activities
- Overdependence on few exports markets
- Skills mismatch and shortage of labour
- Lack of R&D for commercial applications



#### • Leveraging on multilateral trade agreements namely, interim EPA with EU, AGOA, AfCFTA, SADC and COMESA to consolidate and expand export markets

- Broadening market access by taking advantage of Trade Agreements such as CECPA, Mauritius-China FTA, CEPA with UAE
- Adopting Industry 4.0 technologies to upgrade to smart manufacturing for greater competitiveness
- Focusing on sustainable manufacturing to cater for new wave of consumerism



# prod Prot

- Rising production costs
- Protectionism policy of the US Administration, leading to imposition of reciprical tariffs
- Prolonged geopolitical tensions
- Intense competition from low-cost producers



# **4.2 Strategic Directions**

In order to sustain development of the manufacturing sector, the following strategic directions were adopted during the Financial Year 2024/2025:

Strategic Direction	Enabler (s)
Promotion of import substitution strategies by encouraging local production	<ul> <li>Facilitate level-playing field for imports and exports with regard to norms and standards to ensure that there is domestic market conformance.</li> <li>Promote the culture of buying Mauritian products and provide greater visibility to locally manufactured goods through dedicated activities.</li> </ul>
Upgrade and modernise the manufacturing base for differentiated and higher value-added products	<ul> <li>Encourage enterprises to re-engineer and re-orient their business models focusing on green and Industry 4.0 technologies through support from the Industrial Finance Corporation of Mauritius.</li> <li>Promote sustainable manufacturing through the implementation of relevant projects and schemes.</li> </ul>
Boost the export manufacturing sector	<ul> <li>Conduct market surveys to identify products having export potential and intensify export promotion campaigns in new and emerging markets.</li> <li>Strengthen regional and global market opportunities by leveraging on Free Trade Agreements and Preferential Trade Agreements.</li> <li>Upgrade quality of products to focus on higher value-added supply chains to tap niche markets.</li> </ul>



