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# **ABBREVIATIONS**

AC	Authorised Company
APS	Advance Payment System
ARC	Assessment Review Committee
ATDR	Alternative Tax Dispute Resolution
BEPS	
CBRIS	Base Erosion and Profit Shifting  Companies and Businesses Registration Integrated System
CBRIS	
CFC	Cylinder Capacity Controlled Foreign Company
CIS	Collective Investment Scheme
CEF	Closed End Fund
CPS	
	Current Payment System
CSG	Contribution Social Généralisée
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
EDB	Economic Development Board
DG	Director General of the MRA
FA 2021	The Finance (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2021
FSA	Financial Services Act 2007
FSC	Financial Services Commission
GloBE Rules	Global Anti-Base Erosion Rules developed by the OECD
GBC	Global Business Company
GRA	Gambling Regulatory Act
HEC	Higher Education Commission
HRDC	Human Resource Development Council
IET	Income Exemption Threshold
ITA	Income Tax Act 1995
kW	Kilo Watt
M	Million
MNE	Multinational Enterprise
MRA	Mauritius Revenue Authority
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
PAYE	Pay As You Earn
PCC	Protected Cell Company
PDS	Property Development Scheme
PRGF	Portable Retirement Gratuity Fund
R&D	Research & Development
ROE	Return Of Employee
Rs	Mauritian Rupee
SME	Small and Medium Enterprises
SMEDA	Small and Medium Enterprises Development Authority
SOP	Statement of Practice
TDS	Tax Deducted At Source
TRC	Tax Residence Certificate
USD	United States Dollar
VAAS	VAT annual accounting system
VAT	Value Added Tax

# **INCOME TAX**

# **INDIVIDUALS**

Mauritius has a self-assessment tax system. An individual pays tax on income derived during the preceding year. The fiscal year runs from 1 July to 30 June.

## Tax rate

The below income tax rates are applicable for an individual as from 1 July 2023:

inco	nargeable ome s	Taxable amount at applicable tax rate	Rate of income tax
From	То	Rs	%
0	390,000	390,000	0%
390,001	430,000	40,000	2%
430,001	470,000	40,000	4%
470,001	530,000	60,000	6%
530,001	590,000	60,000	8%
590,001	890,000	300,000	10%
890,001	1,190,000	300,000	12%
1,190,001	1,490,000	300,000	14%
1,490,001	1,890,000	400,000	16%
1,890,001	2,390,000	500,000	18%
	>2,390,000		20%

The income tax is calculated on chargeable income.

# Chargeable income

The chargeable income of an individual is the amount remaining after deducting from the net income personal reliefs and deductions to which the individual is entitled.

# **Taxable persons**

Resident individuals are subject to income tax in Mauritius on income, other than exempt income, which is derived from Mauritius. Income derived by a resident individual from outside Mauritius is taxable in Mauritius on being remitted to Mauritius.

A non-resident individual will only be subject to income tax on income, other than exempt income, derived from or accruing in Mauritius.

# Residence status for an individual

An individual is considered to be a tax resident of Mauritius in respect of an income year where he:

- has his domicile in Mauritius unless his permanent place of abode is outside Mauritius;
- · has been present in Mauritius for at least 183 days; or
- has been present in Mauritius in the current income year and the 2 preceding income years, for an aggregate period of at least 270 days.

# Taxation of premium visa holders

A premium visa holder may be subject to tax in Mauritius on income derived from Mauritius. Income derived for work performed remotely from Mauritius shall be deemed to be derived in Mauritius when it is remitted in Mauritius.

Money spent in Mauritius through the use of a foreign credit or debit card is not deemed to be income remitted in Mauritius. On the other hand, money deposited in a Mauritian bank account is considered as income remitted in Mauritius and is subject to tax in Mauritius, unless a declaration is made to the effect that the required tax has been paid in the country of origin or residence.

# Tax Holidays

Income type	Period of tax holiday
Income from registered employment, business, trade, profession or investment derived by a member of the Mauritian Diaspora under the Mauritian Diaspora Scheme	10 years
Emoluments from employment with an FSC licensed company, provided that the employee manages an asset base of not less than USD 50M and is issued with an Asset Manager Certificate, Fund Manager Certificate, or Asset and Fund Manager Certificate on or after 1 September 2016	10 years
Income derived by a non-citizen individual or a company wholly owned by a non-citizen who invests USD 25M or more on or after 1 September 2016 and complies with the terms and conditions of the EDB	5 years

# **Benefits in Kind and Allowances**

# i. Car Benefit

Non-Electric Car Rating	Up to	1,601 cc	Above
	1600 cc	to 2000 cc	2,000 cc
Electric Car Rating	≤ 57.5 kW	57.5 kW to 78.4 kW	> 78.4 kW
	Per month	Per month	Per month
	Rs	Rs	Rs
Both private and business purposes	9,500	10,750	12,000

# ii. Housing Benefit

	Unfurnished	Furnished
Property owned by the employer	10% of employee's total emoluments	15% of employee's total emoluments
Property rented by the employer	Actual rent paid	Actual rent paid

# iii. Accommodation Benefit Provided by Hotels

# a. Full Board and lodging

		Per month
	Single	Rs 11,500
	Married	Rs 15,700
b.	Accommodation	
	For managing and supervisory staff	Rs 4,400
	Other Staff	Rs 2,200

# iv. Other Fringe Benefits

	Taxable benefits
Interest free loans or loans at reduced rates	Difference between the amount of interest for the month, calculated at 2% per annum above the repo rate, prevailing at the end of that month, and the amount of interest paid in that month
Tips received by an employee from a pool managed by the employer	Actual amount received in the month by the employee
Repayment or write-off of employees' debt by the employer	Amount of debt repaid or written off in the month
Domestic and private expenses borne by employer, including utilities, wages of housemaids, school fees of children, club membership fee and any other domestic and private expenses	Actual amount paid for the month
Tax paid by the employer	Tax benefit is arrived at by dividing the tax payable on the actual emoluments by a factor which varies according to the marginal tax rate applicable

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## Personal Reliefs and Deductions

An individual, resident in Mauritius, is entitled to deduction for dependents for the year ending 30 June 2024, as follows:

Number of dependent/s	Amount of deduction Rs
One	110,000
Two	190,000
Three	275,000
Four or more	355,000

Retired individuals or disabled persons are entitled to an additional amount of Rs 50,000. A retired person is a person who attains the age of 60 during the income year and who is not in receipt of business income or emoluments exceeding Rs 50,000, other than retirement pension, in an income year.

Deductions cannot be claimed on a dependent who is deriving total income, including exempt income, exceeding the amount below:

	Year ended 30 June 2023 Rs	Year ending 30 June 2024 Rs
First dependent	110,000	110,000
Second dependent	80,000	80,000
Third dependent	85,000	85,000
Fourth dependent	80,000	80,000

# Additional exemption for dependent child attending undergraduate or postgraduate course

Where a person has claimed a deduction in respect of a dependent child who is pursuing a nonsponsored full-time undergraduate or postgraduate course, the person may claim an additional deduction of Rs 500,000 per dependent up to a maximum of 4 dependents, irrespective of the place of study and total income of the household.

No deduction is allowed where the annual tuition fees are less than Rs 34,800 for a child following an undergraduate course in Mauritius or in respect of the same child for more than 6 years.

# Deduction for bedridden dependents

Where, in an income year, a person claims a deduction in respect of a dependent who is a bedridden next of kin, the benefits derived by the bedridden next of kin under the National Pensions Act, in that income year, shall –

- a. be excluded in the calculation of the net income and exempt income of the bedridden next of kin; and
- b. not be included in the net income of the person claiming the deduction.

# Interest relief on secured housing loan

A person who has contracted a housing loan, which is secured by a mortgage or fixed charge on immovable property and which is used exclusively for the purchase or construction of his house, may claim a relief in respect of the interest paid on the loan.

The relief may be claimed by either spouse or at the option of the spouses, be divided equally between them. The relief is not allowable where the person or his spouse:

- i. is, at the time the loan is contracted, already the owner of a residential building;
- ii. derives in the income year, total income (net income plus interest and dividends received) exceeding Rs 4M;
- has benefited from any new housing scheme set up on or after 1 January 2011 by a rescribed competent authority.

## Relief for medical or health insurance premium

An individual is entitled to deduct from his net income the actual amount of premium paid in that income year in respect of a medical or health insurance policy or contribution to an approved provident fund, for himself and his dependent in respect of whom he has claimed a deduction.

The maximum relief allowable is as follows:

	Year ended 30 June 2023 Rs	Year ending 30 June 2024 Rs
Self	25,000	25,000
1st dependent	25,000	25,000
2nd dependent	20,000	20,000
3rd dependent	20,000	20,000
4th dependent	20,000	20,000

No relief is allowable where the premium or contribution has been paid by the employer of the person or the premium is paid under a combined medical and life assurance scheme.

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# Relief for adoption of animals

An individual who has adopted an animal from the Mauritius Society for Animal Welfare or an NGO, may deduct Rs 10,000 from his net income for each animal adopted up to a maximum of Rs 30,000.

## Deduction for household employees

Where a person employs one or more household employees, he may claim a deduction of the wages paid to the household employees up to a maximum of Rs 30,000, from his net income, provided he has duly paid the contributions payable under the National Pensions Act and the National Savings Fund Act. In the case of a couple, the deduction shall not, in the aggregate, exceed Rs 30.000.

# **Angel Investor Allowance**

An angel investor may deduct 50% of the amount invested to the seed capital invested of a qualifying start-up SME from his net income and carry forward any unrelieved amount for 2 succeeding years subject to meeting the below conditions:

- a. Investment should be a minimum of Rs 100,000 and should be by way of share acquisition;
- b. Deduction is limited to a maximum of Rs 500,000 in an income year;
- c. The Angel Investor and his relatives should not hold more than 25% of the shares of the SME;
- d. Shares purchased should be held for at least 36 months from the date of acquisition; and
- e. Such terms and conditions as may be prescribed.

# **Investment in Rainwater Harvesting System**

Investment by an individual in rainwater harvesting system can be claimed as a deduction from the individual's net income.

The deduction can be claimed by either of the spouses or shared equally between them.

Any unclaimed amount can be carried forward and deducted against net income of succeeding income years.

# **Expenditure Incurred by Artists**

A member of the Mauritius Society of Authors can opt to claim a deduction of up to 50% of his gross income,

from his artistic work (other than a literary work) provided that such gross income is not derived from employment and does not exceed Rs 500,000.

# **Income Tax on Winnings**

The Mauritius National Lottery Operator, a casino operator, a hotel casino operator or a gaming house operator, licensed under the GRA Act is required to deduct tax at 10% of the amount, exceeding Rs 100,000 of winnings paid to a winner.

The operator who deducts tax shall remit electronically to the DG the amount deducted not later than 20 days from the end of the month in which the deduction is made and at the same time submit a return as required by the DG.

# **Solar Energy Investment Allowance**

An individual investing in a solar energy unit can claim an allowance for the amount invested from his net income. Where the allowance exceeds the net income, the excess can be carried forward for deduction from the net income of the succeeding years. This allowance can be claimed by either one spouse or at the option of the spouses be divided equally between them.

## **Donation to Charitable Institutions**

An individual may deduct from his net income any donation made through electronic means to a charitable institution, subject to a maximum deduction of Rs 50,000.

# **Contribution to Approved Personal Pension Schemes**

A person who has contributed to an individual pension scheme approved by the FSC under the Insurance Act for the provision of a pension for himself, can claim the amount contributed not exceeding Rs 50,000.

# **Exempt Person**

An employee is considered to be an exempt person where his monthly emoluments do not exceed Rs 30,000. The emoluments of an exempt person are not subject to income tax under PAYE. However, this exemption does not apply to a director or a member of the Board, Council, Commission or Committee of a statutory body.

An exempt person or a person deriving pension may opt to receive his pension net of income tax.

## **Fees to Directors**

Where fees are payable by a company to any of its directors or by a statutory body/Council/Committee to any member of its board, tax shall be withheld from the fees at the flat rate of 15% or at the option of the director or member, at the rate of 20%. Where the director is a non-resident and does not derive any other gross income, the amount of tax withheld shall be the final amount of tax payable and no annual tax return is required to be filed.

# **Unexplained Wealth**

Where the MRA has reasonable ground to suspect that a person has acquired unexplained wealth of Rs 10M or more, MRA shall make a report to the Integrity Reporting Services Agency specifying the full name, address and the sum of the unexplained wealth of that person.

Where a report is made, the sum of the unexplained wealth is not liable to income tax.

The MRA shall issue an assessment if the sum specified in the report is not subject to confiscation (wholly or partly) following the directions from the Integrity Reporting Board to the Integrity Reporting Services Agency.

# **Statement of Assets And Liabilities**

An individual who derives income (including exempt income) exceeding Rs 15M in a year or owns (together with his wife and dependent children) assets costing more than Rs 50M is required to submit a statement of assets and liabilities along with his return of income.

Submission of the statement of assets and liabilities is not applicable to an individual who has submitted his income tax return for the last five years.

A non-Mauritian citizen or a citizen who is not tax resident in Mauritius is not required to submit the statement of assets and liabilities.

# **Solidarity Levy**

Solidarity Levy was previously applicable on leviable income in excess of Rs 3M at the rate of 25% or at the rate of 10% of net income whichever was lower. This has been abolished as from 1 July 2023.

# **Current Payment System**

Under the CPS, an individual who derives gross income from business, profession or rent and in respect of the preceding income year, had a chargeable income, or the gross income (falling within the CPS system) of the preceding year exceeded Rs 4M shall submit electronically to the MRA a quarterly Statement of Income and pay the tax as computed for each of the CPS quarters electronically.

An individual whose tax payable for a CPS quarter is less than Rs 500, is not required to submit a CPS statement for that quarter.

An individual deriving gross income from the cultivation of sugar cane and/ or the growing of tobacco leaves is not required to submit CPS statements of Income.

No CPS statement is to be submitted by an individual engaged in activities qualifying for presumptive tax and whose gross income for the preceding year did not exceed Rs 10M.

# **COMPANIES**

# **Tax Residency**

A company is resident in Mauritius if it:

- a. is incorporated in Mauritius; or
- b. has its central management and control in Mauritius.

A company incorporated in Mauritius shall be treated as being non-resident if its central management and control is outside Mauritius.

# Imposition of Tax

Resident companies are subject to tax in Mauritius on worldwide income whereas non-resident companies are subject to tax in Mauritius only on income derived from Mauritius.

## **Standard Tax Rate**

Companies are normally subject to income tax at the rate of 15% on their chargeable income.

# **Reduced Tax Rate**

A reduced 3% tax rate is applicable on:

- Chargeable income attributable to export of goods. Export of goods includes international
  buying and selling of goods by an entity in its own name, whereby the shipment of such
  goods is made directly by the shipper in the original exporting country to the final importer
  in the importing country, without the goods being physically landed in Mauritius; and selling
  of aviation fuel to an airline
- Chargeable income derived by manufacturing companies engaged in medical, biotechnology or pharmaceutical sector and holding an Investment Certificate issued by the EDB, subject to conditions.
- Chargeable income derived by a higher education institution set up in Mauritius and registered under the Higher Education Act.

# **Top-up Tax**

A company forming part of an MNE Group which is liable to a Top-up Tax in a year, may be required by the DG to compute and pay a Qualified Domestic Minimum Top-up Tax in such form and manner as may be prescribed.

"MNE Group", "Top-up Tax", and "Qualified Domestic Minimum Top-up Tax" have the same meaning as in the GloBE Rules as approved by the Inclusive Framework on BEPS.

# **Tax Deduction at Source**

TDS is applicable where payments are made by any person, other than an individual, as per the table below, subject to conditions:

Sou	rce	Rate of tax %
1.	Interest payable by any person, other than by a bank or non-bank deposit taking institution, to any person, other than a company resident in Mauritius. Interest payable by a GBC to a non-resident out of foreign source income is exempt from tax in Mauritius. (See (i) below)	15
2.	Royalties payable to:	
	a. a resident	10
	b. a non-resident (see (i) below)	15
	There is no TDS on royalty paid by a company to a non-resident out of its foreign source income.	
3.	Rent payable to (see (ii) below):	
	a. a resident	7.5
	b. a non-resident	10
4.	Payment to contractors and sub-contractors (see (iii) below)	0.75
5.	Payment to providers of services (see (iv) below)	5
6.	Payment made by Ministry, Government department, local authority, statutory body, or the Rodrigues Regional Assembly on contracts, other than payments to contractors and sub-contractors and payments to providers of services (see (iii) & (iv) below):	
	<ul> <li>for the procurement of goods and services under a single contract where the payment exceeds Rs 300,000</li> </ul>	1
	<ul> <li>for the procurement of goods under a contract, where the payment exceeds Rs 100,000; or</li> </ul>	1
	<ul> <li>for the procurement of services under a contract, other than telephone, postal, air travel and hotel services, where the payment exceeds Rs 30,000.</li> </ul>	3
7.	Payments in respect of rental or other consideration for board and lodging made to the owner of an immovable property or his agent, other than a hotel, by:	
	a. a tour operator or travel agent, other than an individual;	5
	b. an IRS/RES company or a provider of property management services;	5
	c. any other agent, other than an individual, carrying on the business of providing services in respect of letting of properties.	5

Sou	rce	Rate of tax %
8.	Payments made by any person, other than an individual, to a non-resident for any services rendered in Mauritius, except where the payments are made to a person exempt from income tax by virtue of an enactment or any arrangement for relief from double taxation.	10
9.	Management fees payable to an individual by any corporate entity:  a. resident  b. non-resident	5 10
10.	Payments to a non-resident entertainer or sportsperson	10
11.	Commissions payable by any person other than an individual (see (v) below)	3
12.	Payments by any person, other than an individual, to consultants other than:  i. a company holding a management licence  ii. a company holding an investment adviser licence  iii. those specified in the Fifth Schedule	3
13.	Payments by any person, other than an individual, to a provider of security services, cleaning services, pest management services and other ancillary services.	3
14.	Payments by insurance companies to motor surveyors and any other person for repairs of motor vehicles of policy holders.	3

- The rate of TDS may be reduced under any applicable Double Taxation Agreement between Mauritius and the jurisdiction of the recipient.
- TDS is applicable on rent payable by any person, other than an individual, to any person except a person exempt from income tax.
- iii. "Contractor" means any person who enters into a contract for carrying out civil construction, mechanical or electrical work, including the supply of labour for carrying out civil construction works.
- iv. The list of "providers of services" is as per the Fifth Schedule of the ITA, except a company holding a management licence and an investment adviser licence.
- "Commission" includes any sum paid or payable to an agent in relation to a commercial transaction.

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# **Partial Tax Exemption**

80% partial tax exemption is applicable on the following streams of income, subject to satisfying certain conditions:

- · foreign sourced dividend;
- interest\* derived by a company other than:
  - a bank referred to in section 44C of the ITA:
  - ii. a non-bank deposit taking institution;
  - iii. a money changer;
  - iv. a foreign exchange dealer;
  - v. an insurance company:
  - vi. a leasing company; and
  - vii. a company providing factoring, hire purchase facilities, or credit sales facilities;
- profit attributable to a permanent establishment:
- income, other than interest, derived by a CIS or a CEF licensed or approved by the FSC;
- income derived by a CIS Manager, CIS Administrator, Investment Adviser, Investment Dealer or Asset Manager licensed or approved by the FSC;
- income derived by a company engaged in the leasing of ships, aircrafts, locomotives and trains including rails leasing;
- · income derived by a company from reinsurance and reinsurance brokering activities;
- income derived by a company from leasing and provision of international fibre capacity;
- income derived by a company from the sale, financing arrangement, asset management of aircraft and its spare parts and aviation advisory services related thereto; and
- interest derived by a person from money lent through a Peer-to-Peer Lending platform.

## **Authorised Company**

A company that is licensed by the FSC as an AC, is a company incorporated in Mauritius but which is required to have its place of central management and control outside of Mauritius.

# **Small Company**

A small company is a company which is incorporated under the Companies Act on or after 2 June 2015 and is registered with SME Mauritius Ltd (previously known as ("SMEDA"). A small company is exempt from income tax for the first 8 income years and is not required to operate TDS.

Unrelieved tax losses incurred during the tax exemption period cannot be carried forward.

# **Small Enterprise**

Small Enterprises and Co-Operative Societies registered with SME Mauritius Ltd on or after 2 June 2015 will benefit from an 8-year tax holiday.

Unrelieved tax losses of Small Enterprises shall not be carried forward after the 8 years exemption period.

# **Controlled Foreign Company Rules**

A CFC is defined as:

- a company which is not resident in Mauritius;
- where more than 50% of its participation rights are held either directly or indirectly by a resident company or together with its associated enterprises; and
- includes a permanent establishment of the resident company.

Where the non-distributed profits of a CFC are deemed to have arisen from non-genuine arrangements which have been put in place for the main purpose of obtaining a tax benefit, that income shall be accounted as part of the chargeable income of the resident parent company.

Arrangements will be regarded as non-genuine if the CFC would not have owned the assets or would not have undertaken the risks associated with all or part of its income generation if it were not controlled by a company where the significant people functions, relevant to the assets and risks are carried out and are instrumental in generating the CFC's income.

CFC rules will not apply in an income year where the:

- Accounting profits do not exceed EUR 750,000 and non-trading income is less than EUR 75,000;
- Accounting profits represent less than 10% of its operating costs for the tax period.
   Operating costs exclude the cost of goods sold outside the country where the foreign entity is tax resident and any payment to associated enterprises; or
- The tax rate in the country of residence of the CFC exceeds 50% of the Mauritian tax rate (i.e. where the headline income tax rate in the jurisdiction of the CFC exceeds 7.5%).

# Application of Arm's Length Test

Mauritius does not have transfer pricing regulations. However, the ITA provides for the application of the arm's length principles to any business or income generating activity carried in or from Mauritius.

<sup>\* 95%</sup> partial tax exemption is appliable on interest derived by a CIS or a CEF licensed or approved by the FSC.

# Tax Holidays

Income derived from the below activities/licences:	Number of years of tax holiday
Bunkering of low sulphur heavy fuel oil	4
Project developer or project financing institution in collaboration with the Mauritius Africa Fund for the purpose of developing infrastructure in the Special Economic Zones	5
E-Commerce platform	5
Peer-to-Peer Lending platform	5
Global Treasury Activities licence	5
Global Legal Advisory Services licence	5
Innovation-driven activities for intellectual property assets	8
Manufacture of pharmaceutical products, medical services and high-tech products	8
Exploitation and use of deep ocean water for providing air conditioning installations, facilities and services	8
Manufacturing of automotive parts	8
Inland aquaculture	8
Branch campus by the HEC and is part of an institution which ranks among the first 500 tertiary institutions worldwide	8
Manufacturing of nutraceutical products	8
Food processing activities	8
Development of a marina	8
Global Headquarters Administration licence	8
Industrial fishing	8
Freeport operator or private freeport developer	8
Sheltered farming scheme	8
Bio farming project	8
Innovative agriculture	8
Sustainable agriculture	8
Captive insurance	10
Family Office (Single) or (Multiple) licence	10

<sup>\*</sup>This list is non-exhaustive. Conditions may apply in order to avail of the tax holidays.

# **Tax Incentives**

Expenditure incurred on:	Tax incentive
Electronic, high precision or automated machinery or equipment	100% Deduction
Medical research and development	200% Deduction
Acquisition of patents and franchises, including costs incurred to comply with international quality standards and norms	200% Deduction
Acquisition of specialised software and systems	200% Deduction
Products manufactured locally by small enterprises and incurred by manufacturing companies	10% of the amount of expenditure incurred during the period starting on 1 July 2021 and ending on 30 June 2022; and     25% of the amount of expenditure incurred as from 1 July 2022
International accreditation and incurred by a company registered as a health institution	200% Deduction
Market research and product development and incurred by manufacturing companies having an annual gross income derived from exports of goods not exceeding 500 million rupees	200% Deduction
Qualifying research and development which is directly related to existing trade or business of a company	200% Deduction
Costs of a Higher Education Institution for entering into a contract with an African University to provide joint tertiary education for the final year of a course in Mauritius	200% Deduction
Financing, sponsorship, marketing or distribution of an approved film	200% Deduction
Donation to charitable institutions	300% Deduction, subject to a maximum deduction of Rs 1M

<sup>\*</sup>This list is non-exhaustive. Conditions may apply in order to avail of the tax incentives.

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Tax Deadlines

## **Tax Credits**

# a. Foreign Tax Credit

Under domestic law, a company is allowed to claim as credit, against its Mauritian tax liability arising on its foreign source income, the foreign tax suffered on that income. However, the tax credit cannot exceed the Mauritian tax payable and any excess is not refundable and cannot be carried forward to the next year.

## b. Tax Sparing Credit

Where the DG is satisfied that provisions have been introduced in the law of a foreign country with a view to promoting industrial, commercial, scientific, educational or other development in that country and that under those provisions –

- a. a lower rate of tax has been imposed in that country than would otherwise have been the case; or
- income has been exempted from tax which would otherwise have been chargeable to foreign tax,

he shall allow a credit for the amount of foreign tax which would have been chargeable had those provisions not been enacted.

# c. Tax Credit for Medical, Biotechnology or Pharmaceutical Companies

100% tax credit may be claimed on capital expenditure on the acquisition of patents, incurred by a manufacturing company engaged in medical, biotechnology or pharmaceutical sector. Any unutilised tax credit may be carried forward for 5 consecutive income years, subject to conditions.

# d. Tax credit for Manufacturing Companies

15% tax credit may be claimed on the cost of the new plant and machinery incurred by a manufacturing company during the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2026, in the year of acquisition and in each of the 2 subsequent income years. Any unutilised tax credit may be carried forward for 10 consecutive income years.

# **Presumptive Tax**

A small enterprise may elect, by irrevocable notice, on or before the due date for the filing of its return, to pay a presumptive tax at the rate of 1% of its gross income.

A small enterprise is defined as a person -

- · who is engaged in activities specified in the Thirteenth Schedule;
- whose gross income in an income year does not exceed Rs 10M: and
- whose gross income from sources, other than those specified in the Thirteenth Schedule of ITA does not exceed Rs 400.000.

The activities specified in the mentioned Thirteenth Schedule are agriculture, forestry and fishing, manufacturing, excluding restaurants, wholesale of goods and retail of goods, including sale of food to be consumed off oremises.

# **Exempt Income for Individuals and Companies**

- 1. Dividends
  - a. paid by a company resident in Mauritius; or
  - b. paid by a co-operative society registered under the Co-operative Societies Act.
- Interest payable on:
- a. a balance maintained in a bank by an individual who is not resident in Mauritius.
- a savings or fixed deposit account held by an individual, a Société or a Succession with any bank.
- Government securities, debentures and sukuks quoted on the Stock Exchange and Bank of Mauritius Bills held by an individual, a Société or a Succession.
- d. Bonds and sukuks quote on the Stock Exchange held by a non-resident company.
- 3. Interest derived by individuals and companies:
  - from debentures, bonds or sukuks issued by a company to finance renewable energy projects, on such terms and conditions as he may determine.
  - from a sustainability bond or a sustainability-linked bond issued in accordance with the bond principles, guidelines and handbooks administered by the International Capital Market Association to finance sustainable projects in Mauritius.
- Interest payable to a non-resident, not carrying on any business in Mauritius, by a GBC or by a licensed bank insofar as the interest is paid out of gross income derived from its banking transactions with non-residents and corporations holding a GBL under the FSA.
- Interest, rent, royalties, compensations and other amounts paid by a Special Purpose Fund to a non-resident.
- 6. Royalties payable to a non-resident by a company out of its foreign source income.
- 7. Interest payable by Air Mauritius Limited in respect of an agreement entered into by Air Mauritius Limited and a non-resident company or consortium of companies for the lease of an aircraft provided that the agreement has been signed in the year of 2019 and that Air Mauritius Limited is required as a condition of the agreement to bear the income tax payable by the lessor pursuant to that agreement.
- 8. Gains or profits derived from the sale of units, securities or debt obligations by a person.
- Gains or profits derived from the sale of gold, silver or platinum, held for a continuous period of at least 6 months by a person.
- 10. Gains or profits derived from the sale of the items stored in a vault pursuant to item 3(n) of the Second Schedule to the Freeport Act or of the titles of ownership of those items.
- 11. Income derived by the registered owner of a foreign vessel from the operation of the vessel including any income derived from the chartering of such vessel.
- 12. Income derived by the registered owner of a local vessel registered in Mauritius provided the income is derived from deep sea international trade only.
- Income from bunkering activities of Marine Residual Fuel Oil by an authorised firm, subject to conditions.
- 14. Income exempt from income tax by any other enactment
- 15. Surplus income generated by a co-operative credit society whose members are registered with the Sugar Insurance Fund Board.

- 16. Income derived by a co-operative society from agricultural activities.
- 17. Income derived on the first 60 tonnes of sugar accruing to a planter who is an individual cultivating less than 15 hectares of land.
- 18. Gains derived by a planter, miller or service provider from the sale of land, provided that the proceeds are used exclusively for the implementation of the Voluntary Retirement Scheme or used exclusively by a miller in compliance with certain conditions, as the case may be.
- 19. Gains derived by any person from the sale of land previously acquired by him from a planter implementing the Voluntary Retirement Scheme.
- 20. Gains derived from the sale of land converted pursuant to section 29(1)(c)(ii)(B), or (f) of the Sugar Industry Efficiency Act, provided that the proceeds are used exclusively for the implementation of specified schemes.
- 21. The first Rs 2.5M of the aggregate amount received as lump sum by way of commutation of pension, death gratuity, retiring allowance, compensation negotiated under Section 42 of the Employment Rights Act and severance allowance, received in an income year and the four succeeding income years.
- 22. Any transport allowance, including petrol allowance and travel grant which is the lesser of Rs 20,000 or 25% of the monthly basic salary payable to an employee, provided that the employee makes use of the private car registered in his own name for attending duty and for the performance of the duties of his office or employment.
- Passage Benefits provided under the contract of employment, not exceeding 6% of the basic salary.
- 24. Basic retirement pension paid by a pensioner to a charitable institution.
- Invalid basic pension, contributory invalidity pension and carer's allowance payable under the National Pensions Act.
- 26. Alimony or maintenance allowance paid to a previous spouse whose marriage has been dissolved by a court of competent jurisdiction.
- 27. Maintenance allowance or other benefit in respect of attendance at a university, college, school or other educational institution in terms of a scholarship, bursary, exhibition or other education award.
- 28. Car allowance payable, in lieu of duty exemption on a car, to a public officer, an officer of a local authority or officer of a statutory body whose terms and conditions of service are governed by the 2013 Report of the Pay Research Bureau.
- The first Rs 50,000 of the amount receivable by an individual in an income year from a Real Estate Investment Trust.
- 30. Income received by an athlete, including financial support he receives within the framework of a sponsorship contract, financial assistance he receives in relation to his preparation for, and participation in, a competition and a financial reward in respect of his performance.
- 31. Gains or profits, in money or money's worth, derived from the sale or transfer of undeveloped land made to a smart city company or smart city developer or the holding company a smart city company or smart city developer, to a PDS Company or the holding company of a PDS Company, subject to conditions.

- 32. Emoluments derived from the office of the President or Vice-President.
- 33. Any rent allowance payable to a person appointed to an office in the Police Force, Fire Services, Forests Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Prisons and Industrial School Service, Ministry of Fisheries, Department of Civil Aviation or Fire Unit of the Mauritius Marine Authority.
- 34. Housing allowance up to Rs 100 monthly payable by an employer to an employee.
- 35. Foreign service allowance, reimbursement of the cost or payment of personal and private expenses including medical expenses, to homebased staff of overseas mission.
- 36. Any advantage in money or in money's worth received as lump sum by an employee voluntarily terminating his contract of employment in the context of a factory closure pursuant to the Cane Planters and Millers Arbitration and Control Board Act or under the Voluntary Retirement Scheme under the Sugar Industry Efficiency Act 2001.
- 37. Medical expenses paid for an employee or his dependents by his employer under an approved scheme.
- 38. Emoluments of a non-citizen who holds office in Mauritius as an official of a foreign Government and is posted to Mauritius for that purpose.
- Foreign service allowance payable under a contract of employment to staff of statutory bodies posted abroad.
- 40. Car allowance payable in lieu of duty exemption on a car, to a public officer, an officer of a local authority, or officer of a statutory body.
- 41. Salaries and emoluments derived by an employee who is a citizen of Mauritius or who holds a permanent residence permit from his employment with the Liaison Office located in Mauritius, of the Bank referred to in the International Financial Organisations Act.
- Emoluments derived by a seafarer from his employment on a vessel registered in Mauritius or on a foreign vessel.
- Social contribution income allowance received by a person under the Social Contribution and Social Benefits Act 2021.

## **Tax Loss**

Where a company satisfies the MRA that it has in an income year incurred a loss, it may deduct the loss in computing its net income for that income year.

Where the amount of loss cannot be fully relieved, the company may claim that the amount of unrelieved loss be carried forward and set off against its net income derived in the following 5 income years, provided that not less than 50% of the shares of the company were held by or on behalf of the same person at the end of each of those income years.

Manufacturing companies having more than 50% of change in shareholding may carry forward unrelieved tax losses provided that the change in shareholding is in the public interest and conditions relating to safeguard of employment are met as approved by the Minister.

Any amount of loss that is attributable to annual allowance claimed in respect of capital expenditure on or after 1 July 2006 can be carried forward indefinitely.

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# **Emoluments Payable to Homeworkers**

A deduction of 200% of the emoluments payable to a homeworker is allowed for the first two years, if during the period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2020 a person employs a full-time homeworker.

An annual tax credit of 5% is allowed to employers on investments made on information technology systems for the purpose of employing homeworkers.

## **Annual Allowance**

Capital Expenditure incurred on -		Rate of annual allowance Percentage of	
		Base Value	Cost
1.	Industrial premises excluding hotels	-	5
2.	Commercial premises	-	5
3.	Hotels	30	-
4.	Plant or Machinery -		
	<ul><li>a. costing or having a base value of Rs 60,000 or less</li><li>b. costing more than Rs 60,000 -</li></ul>	-	100
	i. ships or aircrafts	20	-
	<li>aircrafts and aircraft simulators leased by a company engaged in aircraft leasing</li>	-	100
	iii. motor vehicles (Restricted to Rs 3M)	25	-
	<ul> <li>iv. electronic and high precision machinery or equipment, computer hardware and peripherals and computer software</li> </ul>	50	-
	v. furniture and fittings vi. other	20 35	_ _
5.	Improvement on agricultural land for agricultural purposes	25	-
6.	Research and development, including innovation, improvement or development of a process, product or service		50
7.	Golf courses	15	_
7A.	Acquisition of patents	25	_
7B.	Green technology equipment	_	50
7C.	Landscaping and other earth works for embellishment purposes	-	50
7D.	Acquisition of a solar energy unit	-	100
8.	Acquisition or improvement of any other item of a capital nature which is subject to depreciation under the normal accounting principles	-	5

# **Investment in Creches**

Where a company incurs capital expenditure on a crèche for the benefit of its employees, it may be allowed a deduction of twice the amount of this expenditure but will not be eligible for annual allowance in respect of the crèche.

#### Trusts and Foundations

Until 30 June 2021, Trusts and Foundations which made a declaration of non-residence were exempt from income tax. The FA 2021 abolished such exemption subject to grandfathering provisions. Trusts and Foundations set up before 30 June 2021 are grandfathered up until the year of assessment 2024-2025 and can still benefit from the income tax exemption, subject to renewing their declaration of non-residence, if required. The grandfathering provisions will not apply on income derived by a Trust or Foundation from certain intellectual property assets or such specific assets or projects.

A resident trust, means a trust:

- i. administered in Mauritius and has a majority of the trustees resident in Mauritius; or
- where the settlor of the trust was resident in Mauritius at the time the instrument creating the trust was executed.

A resident foundation, means a foundation which:

- is registered in Mauritius; or
- ii. has its central management and control in Mauritius.

On 24 August 2021, through its SOP, the MRA clarified that a trust or a foundation which has its central management and control outside Mauritius would be considered as non-resident.

# **Advance Payment System**

APS is a system whereby every company is required to submit electronically quarterly APS statements and pay tax in accordance thereof.

APS is applicable to companies, unit trust schemes, collective investment schemes, trusts (other than non-resident trusts), non-resident Sociétés, cells of a protected cell company, foundations, ACs, and any Société holding a GBL which has opted to be liable to income tax.

A company is not required to submit an APS statement in respect of an APS quarter where in the accounting year immediately preceding the commencement of that APS quarter, the company's gross income did not exceed Rs 10M or it had no chargeable income.

A company having a return date of 30 June and having submitted an APS statement for the first three quarters may opt to submit an APS statement for the fourth quarter and this has to be submitted by 30 September following the end of the quarter.

# **Corporate Social Responsibility**

Companies are required to set up every year a CSR Fund equivalent to 2% of their chargeable income of the preceding year. CSR, however, does not apply to a company holding a GBC, an IRS company, a non-resident Société, a Foundation, a Trust or a trustee of a Unit Trust Scheme, a bank in respect of its income derived from its banking transaction with non-residents or

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GBCs, a company holding a certificate of Freeport operator or private Freeport developer and a company electing to pay presumptive tax.

CSR applies to a resident Société, other than a Société holding a company holding a GBL, as it applies to a company. The net income of the Société is deemed to be its chargeable income.

The table below shows the percentage of the CSR Fund which a company is required to remit to the MRA:

	To be remitted to the DG	To implement CSR program
CSR Fund set up on or after 1 January 2017 up to 31 December 2018	50%	50%
CSR Fund set up on or after 1 January 2019	75%	25%

Companies may continue to contribute 50% of CSR (instead of 75%) to the MRA provided they receive approval from the National CSR Foundation.

Companies benefiting from tax holidays are required to contribute to CSR.

Companies are not allowed to offset any unused tax credit against any amount of CSR payable.

The amount required to be remitted to the MRA is payable as follows:

- a. In the case of a company required to submit an APS statement.
  - For the first three quarters, 25% of each of the quarters together with the APS Statement.
  - ii. For the last quarter, 25% at the time the company submits its annual return.
- In the case of a company which is not required to submit an APS Statement, 100% payable together with its annual return.

### Resident Société

Every resident Société deriving gross income is required to submit its annual return of income not later than 30 September of each year.

The Société is also required to give to each associate a statement showing the share of income accruing to him, in respect of the preceding income year and at the same time submit to the MRA, in electronic form, a statement giving, in respect of the preceding income year, the particulars of the share of income accruing to each associate.

# Limited Partnership/ Limited Liability Partnership

A limited partnership/limited liability partnership is subject to the same provisions of the ITA that apply to a Société. Hence, a limited partnership/limited liability partnership is not liable to income tax but the general partner and limited partner are liable to income tax on their share of income, whether distributed or not, from the limited partnership/limited liability partnership.

A limited partnership/limited liability partnership holding a GBL may, by notice in writing given simultaneously to the MRA and the FSC, opt to be liable to income tax at the rate of 15%. Distributions from such limited partnership/limited liability partnership are exempt from income tax.

Where a limited partnership/limited liability partnership holding a GBL has not opted to be liable to income tax, every partner of that partnership is liable to income tax on his share of income at the rate of 15%. A non-resident partner of a limited partnership/limited liability partnership is not liable to income tax on his share of foreign source income derived by the limited partnership/limited liability partnership.

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# **REGISTRATION DUTIES**

# **Payable by Transferee**

Description of Transfer/Deed	Rate
Transfer of immovable property	5%
Transfer of shares in a company or issue of shares by a company or any acquisition by a company of its own shares where such acquisition results in an effective change in ownership of that company or transfer of a part sociale in a Société which gives rise to a right to the ownership, occupation or usage of an immovable property or any part thereof to a person	5%
Deed containing creation of a mortgage or privilege or instrument containing creation of fixed or floating charge or Lease Agreement (other than any deed witnessing a loan contracted by a citizen of Mauritius for the purchase, construction or renovation of his house)	
a. Not exceeding Rs 300,000	Nil
b. Exceeding Rs 300,000 but not exceeding Rs 500,000	Nil
c. Exceeding Rs 500,000 but not exceeding Rs 1,000,000	Nil
d. Exceeding Rs 1,000,000 but not exceeding Rs 5,000,000	Rs 30,000
e. Exceeding Rs 5,000,000	Rs 50,000

# **Registration Duties on New Passenger Motor Vehicles**

New Motor Vehicles	Reg. Duties Rs
Not exceeding 1,000 cc	16,300
From 1,001 cc to 1,250 cc	32,500
From 1,251 cc to 1,500 cc	52,000
From 1,501 cc to 1,600 cc	65,000
From 1,601 cc to 1,750 cc	78,000
From 1,751 cc to 2,000 cc	117,000
From 2,001 cc to 2,500 cc	156,000
Exceeding 2,500 cc	195,000

New Electric Motor Vehicles	Reg. Duties Rs
Not exceeding 70.0 kW	8,100
From 70.01 kW to 95.0 kW	16,300
From 95.1 kW to 125.0 kW	26,000
From 125.1 kW to 150.0 kW	32,500
From 150.1 kW to 180.0 kW	39,000
Exceeding 180.0 kW	97,500

# **Excise Duties on Motor Vehicles (New and Second Hand)**

Engine Capacity	Conventional motor cars	system	Hybrid motor cars	Hybrid motor cars: capable of being charged by plugging to external source of electric power	Electric cars
Up to 550 cc	0	0		0	
From 551 cc to 1000 cc	45	0		0	
Up to 1600 cc		0	0		
From 1001 cc to 1600 cc	50	0		0	
From 1601 cc to 2000 cc	75	0	0	0	
Above 2000 cc	100	0	0		
From 2001 cc to 3000 cc		0		0	
Above 3000 cc		0		0	
Up to 180 kW					0
Above 180 kW					0



Extract from MRA's website: https://www.mra.mu/index.php/customs1/motor-vehicles

The below excise duty concession is applicable provided the motor car is cleared on or before 30 June 2024:

Engine Capacity	Excise Duty
Not exceeding 1,000 cc	55%
Exceeding 1,000 cc	45%

## Claim on Electric Motor Vehicle or Car

An individual or a non-individual who has, during the period starting on 1 July 2022 and ending on 30 June 2024, purchased an imported electric motor car or electric motor vehicle for the transport of goods of specific H.S. Codes may make a claim for an amount to be paid to him in the sum of 10% of the value at importation or Rs 200,000, whichever is lesser, subject to conditions

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# LAND DUTIES AND TAXES

Transfer		Duty/Rate
a.	Transfer at a nominal price of one rupee to an "association foncière" set up in accordance with articles 664-123 and 664-138 of the Code Civil Mauricien, in respect of an area occupied by common amenities in a morcellement	Rs 50 in respect of every lot in the morcellement
b.	Direct or indirect transfer of immovable property, including on the following, other than under paragraph a above:	5%
	• Transfer of shares by a company which gives right of ownership, occupation or usage in an immovable property or any part thereof. Transfer in relation to stares in a company includes (i) any issue of new shares to any person, or conversion of debentures into shares by a company to any person which results in a change of control of that company; and (ii) any acquisition by a company of its own shares. by way of redemption, share buyback or any other manner where such acquisition results in an effective change in ownership of that company.	
	<ul> <li>Transfer or issue of part social in a société which right of ownership, occupation, usage in an immovable property or any part thereof</li> </ul>	
C.	Tax on transfer of leasehold rights in state land - the tax is payable in equal proportion by the buyer and the seller.	20% (the rate is reduced to 10% in the case of a transfer of a built- up hotel on such state land)

The Eighth Schedule to the Land (Duties and Taxes) Act provides certain instances where tax under the Land (Duties and Taxes) Act and duty under the Registration Duty Act on the registration of deed of transfer witnessing the transfer of immovable property does not apply. Among these instances, the following are included:

- a. Transfer of assets or shares between the companies forming part of a group of companies;
- Transfer of shares, where the transfer takes place between companies having the same shareholders for the purpose of achieving a merger;
- c. Transfer of undertaking by a partnership or société to a company where the partners or the associates of the partnership or société and the shareholders of the company are the same.

# VALUE ADDED TAX

# Scope of VAT

VAT is a tax on the value-added generated at each stage of the production-distribution chain. VAT is charged at a standard rate of 15% on the supply of taxable goods or services and imports. However, there are certain goods or services which are in all respect treated as taxable supplies except that the rate applicable is 0%. These are referred to as zero-rated supplies. Supplies of goods or services made in Mauritius are subject to VAT if these supplies are made by a taxable person in the course or furtherance of any business, provided these supplies are not specifically exempted.

# Registration

A person making taxable supplies of goods and/or services cannot charge VAT unless being registered. Registration is compulsory if the turnover of taxable supplies exceeds Rs 6M per annum. Persons engaged in certain specified businesses or professions are also compulsorily required to register for VAT, irrespective of their turnover of taxable supplies.

# **Supplies**

A supply of goods means the transfer for a consideration of the right to dispose of the goods as the owner. A supply of services means the performance of services for a consideration. Anything which is not a supply of goods, but is done for consideration is a supply of services.

# **Value of Taxable Supplies**

The value of taxable supplies shall be expressed in Mauritius currency and is determined as follows or as the DG may determine:

Consideration	Value of taxable supplies
Monetary	Consideration amount
Non-monetary	Open market value
A mix of monetary and non-monetary	Open market value
Not made in the course of an arm's length transaction	Open market value

Where a taxable supply is not the only matter to which a consideration in money relates, the supply shall be deemed to be for such part of the consideration as is properly attributable to it.

# **Digital and Electronic Services**

Non-residents providing digital and electronic services through internet for consumption in Mauritius are subject to VAT.

Digital or electronic services are services which are supplied by a foreign supplier over the internet or an electronic network which is reliant on the internet or supplied by a foreign supplier and the supply is dependent on information technology.

A foreign supplier includes a person having no permanent establishment in Mauritius and who supplies (in the course of his business) digital or electronic services to a person in Mauritius.

# **Reverse Charge**

Where a person who does not belong in Mauritius and is not VAT registered, makes a taxable supply of services which are performed or utilised in Mauritius, to a registered person, then all the same consequences shall follow as if the registered person had himself supplied the services in Mauritius and that supply were a taxable supply. The registered person may claim the tax on the supply of those services as input tax.

Input tax refers to VAT charged on the supply to a taxable person of any taxable goods or taxable services, as well as VAT paid on any taxable goods.

Output tax means VAT on the taxable supplies made in the course or furtherance of a taxable person's business.

A taxable person may take as a credit against his output tax the amount of input tax allowable to him in any taxable period provided VAT invoices issued by suppliers legally authorised to charge VAT are made available. However, no input tax will be allowed as credit for certain goods and services used in the production of an exempt supply. Credit for input tax can be claimed within a period of 36 months from the date the input tax ought to have been taken.

Items for which input tax cannot be claimed include the following:

- 1. Goods and services used to make an exempt supply:
- 2. Motor cars and other motor vehicles for the transport of not more than 9 persons including the driver, motorcycles and mopeds, for own use or consumption, and their spare parts and accessories:
- 3. Maintenance or repairs of motor cars and other vehicles specified above;
- Petroleum oils (except those for resale and except gas oils & fuel oils for use in stationary engines and boilers);
- 5. Petroleum gas used for the running of motor cars and other vehicles specified in point 2
- 6. Accommodation or lodging, catering services, receptions, entertainment and rental or lease of vehicles specified in point 2 above.

# Credit for Input VAT

A person who voluntarily registered for VAT shall be allowed to take input tax paid on goods and services as a credit as from the date of registration.

Input VAT is allowed on quad bikes, golf cars and similar vehicles, motor vehicles/motor cars of less than 9 persons used for business.

Where the supplies of the business are accommodation or lodging, catering services, receptions and entertainment and input tax is incurred on accommodation or lodging, catering services. receptions and entertainment, the input VAT incurred is allowed as credit.

# Tax Liability Prior to Date of Registration

Where a person was required to register for VAT prior to the date of his registration, he must, not later than 30 days after the date of his registration, submit a return to the MRA for the period he ought to have been registered and the date of his registration provided that this period does not exceed 4 years.

# Charge to VAT

VAT on any taxable supply is a liability of the person making the supply and becomes due at the time of supply.

A supply of goods or services shall be deemed to take place at the earlier of

- the time an invoice or a VAT invoice in respect of that supply is issued by the supplier; or
- ii. at the time payment for that supply is received by the supplier.

Where services are provided to a Ministry, government department, local authority or the Rodrigues Regional Assembly under a construction works contract, the supply shall be deemed to take place at the time payment is received.

## **VAT Invoice**

A registered person is required to issue VAT invoices to customers who are VAT registered as well as those who are non-VAT registered.

A VAT invoice issued by a registered person shall specify the information as prescribed under the VAT Act

## **Excess**

Any unclaimed input tax can be carried forward to be set off against future output tax.

# **Exempt Bodies or Persons**

The VAT Act provides for a list of bodies or persons which are exempted from the payment of VAT on goods and services listed in the Ninth Schedule of the VAT Act.



The list of exempt bodies or persons can be accessed on https://mu.andersen.com/wp-content/ uploads/2023/08/VATACT\_NINTHSCHEDULE.pdf

## **Exempt and Zero Rated Goods and Services**

Zero-rated goods and services will be subject to VAT at zero-rate.

The zero-rate applies to supplies of goods and services as listed under the Fifth Schedule of the VAT Act.



The list of zero-rated supplies can be accessed on https://mu.andersen.com/wp-content/ uploads/2023/08/VATACT\_FIFTHCHEDULE.pdf

Exempt goods and services are listed in the First Schedule of the VAT Act.



The list of exempt supplies can be accessed on https://mu.andersen.com/wp-content/ uploads/2023/08/VATACT\_FIRSTSCHEDULE.pdf

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# **Deferred Payment of VAT at Importation**

Where capital goods, being plant and machinery, are imported by a VAT registered person, the payment of VAT at importation may be deferred.

The deferred VAT is payable on submission of the VAT return for the taxable period in which the VAT is deferred.

Where deferred VAT is not paid on submission of the VAT return, the deferred VAT together with applicable penalties, shall become due and payable under the Customs Act.

# **Electronic Fiscal Device and e-Invoicing System**

The DG may require any person to use an electronic fiscal device or e-invoicing system to record transactions which may affect liability to tax.

Heavy penalties, including terms of imprisonment are provided for non-use of the electronic fiscal device/e-invoicing system, tampering with the device/e-invoicing system, or causing the device/e-invoicing system to work improperly.

Where a person is dissatisfied with any claim of penalties, he may object by stating the full grounds of objection.

# Accounting for VAT on a Cash Basis

A business is classified as "small enterprise" if its annual turnover does not exceed Rs 10M.

A small enterprise may apply to the MRA to operate the VAT accounting system on either the accrual basis or cash basis.

Under the cash basis, a supply is considered to have been made when payment for the supply is received.

A small enterprise may operate the VAAS.

## Repayment of VAT

A registered person may, where his return shows an excess amount, make a claim for repayment:

- i. in respect of input tax paid on capital goods and amounting to more than Rs 100,000; or
- ii. of the whole or part of the excess amount if he is mainly engaged in making zero-rated supplies; e.g. export of taxable supplies.

Repayment shall be made within 45 days from the date the documents requested by the MRA are submitted

# Refund of VAT to Persons on Residential Building, House or Apartment

Any person may make an application for a refund of VAT on the construction of a residential building, or the purchase of a residential apartment or house from a property developer up to a maximum of Rs 300,000. To qualify for the scheme, the floor area of the residential building, or house or apartment should not exceed 1,800 square feet and the construction of the residential building, house or residential apartment should start in 2014 and should be completed by 2024 and in the period of 6 months ending 30 June 2025. The scheme will only apply to household whose annual net income does not exceed Rs 1M and is applicable on the construction or acquisition of a first residence only.

# **Refund of VAT to Event Organisers**

An event organiser registered with the EDB may make an application for refund of VAT in respect of accommodation costs incurred by visitors attending a qualifying event, subject to conditions.

# **Deduction of Amount from VAT by Public Sector Agency**

Where a public sector agency makes a payment to a VAT registered person in respect of goods and services listed in the table below, it shall, at the time of payment, deduct, from the amount of VAT chargeable on the goods and services, an amount representing the appropriate rate of deduction specified in the corresponding second column of the below table:

Goods and services	Rate of deduction
Goods and services procured under a single contract and where the payment, exclusive of VAT, exceeds Rs 300,000	40%
Goods procured under a contract and where the payment, exclusive of VAT, exceeds $\mbox{Rs}\ 100,\!000$	30%
Services procured under a contract and where the payment, exclusive of VAT, exceeds Rs $30,000$	60%

# TAX DEADLINES

# Companies

Description	Deadline
Submission of annual returns and Payment of Tax Exception: Year ended 31 December Year ended 30 June (With tax payable) Year ended 30 June (No tax payable)	6 months after accounting year end 2 working days before 30 June 2 working days before 31 December 15 January
APS Returns  Exception: Quarter ended 30 September Quarter ended 31 March	3 months after end of the month in which the APS quarter ends 2 working days before 31 December 2 working days before 30 June
Annual return of income for resident Société Annual return of income of a deceased person's estate (succession)	30 September
Return of Dividends	15 August
Statement for Purchases of Goods & Services for the income year ending 30 June	31 August

# Individuals

Description	Deadline
Submission of annual returns and Payment of Tax	15 October
Simplified return for Self-employed	15 October
CPS Returns	3 months after end of the month in which the CPS quarter ends
Exceptions:	· ·
Quarter ended 30 September	2 working days before 31 December
Quarter ended 31 March	2 working days before 31 December 2 working days before 30 June

# **Employment Tax**

Description	Deadline
PAYE/Social Contribution/NSF/HRDC Levy	End of each month
Annual Contribution Return by self-employed Annual Contribution Return Category Private Household	31 August
Submission of ROE to MRA Statement of Emoluments to employees	15 August

# **TDS**

Income Tax

Description	Deadline
	End of each month
Statement of Amount Paid And Tax Deducted to Payee Annual TDS Return to MRA	15 August

# VAT

Description	Deadline End of each month	
Monthly VAT return (Annual Turnover of Taxable Supplies > Rs 10M)		
Quarterly VAT return (Annual Turnover of Taxable Supplies ≤ Rs 10M)	1 month after end of quarter	

# **Other Returns**

Description	Deadline	
Passenger Fee/Passenger Solidarity Levy	End of each month	
Environment Protection Fee Electronic Gaming Return, Amusement Machines, Tax on Winnings	20 <sup>th</sup> of each month	
VAT Special Levy on Banks	5 months from the end of the accounting period	
Payment of Advertising Structure Fee	15 days after end of quarter	
National Lottery and Loterie Vert	7 days after end of quarter	
Payment of Rum and Liquor Licence	15 January	
Statement of Life Insurance Premium Statement of Donation by approved charitable institutions	15 August	
Statement of Financial Transactions Statement of Foreign Currency Transactions	30 September	

Where the date for submission of any return and Payment of Tax falls on Saturday, Sunday or public holiday, the return and the payment may be made on the following working day.

The above due dates may be subject to legislative changes or exceptional extensions granted in extraordinary circumstances at the discretion of the MRA.

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Income

Tax

# HIGHLIGHTS OF MAURITIUS TAX TREATIES

Maximum tax rates applicable in the Source State

		Maximum tax rates applicable in the Source State			
Со	untry	Dividends	Interest(i)	Royalties	
1	Australia (Partial)	-	-	-	
2	Barbados	5%	5%	5%	
3	Belgium	5% & 10%	10%	Exempt	
4	Botswana**	5% & 10%	12%	12.5%	
5	Cabo Verde	5%	10%	7.5%	
6	China	5%	10%	10%	
7	Congo	0% & 5%	5%	Exempt	
8	Croatia	Exempt	Exempt	Exempt	
9	Cyprus	Exempt	Exempt	Exempt	
10	Egypt	5% & 10%	10%	12%	
11	Estonia	0% & 7%	0% & 7%	0% & 5%	
12	Eswatini (Previously known as "Swaziland")	7.5%	5%	7.5%	
13	France	5% & 15%	same rate as under domestic law	15%	
14	Germany (new)	5% & 15%	Exempt	10%	
15	Ghana	7%	7%	8%	
16	Guernsey	Exempt	Exempt	Exempt	
17	Hong Kong***	0% & 5%	5%	5%	
18	India	5% & 15%	7.5%	15%	
19	Italy	5% & 15%	same rate as under domestic law	15%	
20	Jersey	Exempt	Exempt	Exempt	
21	Kuwait	Exempt	Exempt	10%	
22	Lesotho (New)	10%	10%	10%	
23	Luxembourg	5% & 10%	Exempt	Exempt	
24	Madagascar	5% & 10%	10%	5%	
25	Malaysia	5% & 15%	15%	15%	
26	Malta	Exempt	Exempt	Exempt	
27	Monaco	Exempt	Exempt	Exempt	
28	Mozambique	8%, 10% & 15%	8%	5%	

Maximum tax rates applicable in the Source State

		maximum cax	rates applicable in th	c course otate
Co	untry	Dividends	Interest(i)	Royalties
29	Namibia	5% & 10%	10%	5%
30	Nepal	5%, 10% & 15%	10% & 15%	15%
31	Oman	Exempt	Exempt	Exempt
32	Pakistan	10%	10%	12.5%
33	Rwanda	10%	10%	10%
34	People's Republic of Bangladesh	10%	normal rate	normal rate
35	Seychelles	Exempt	Exempt	Exempt
36	Singapore	Exempt	Exempt	Exempt
37	South Africa	5% & 10%	10%	5%
38	Sri Lanka	10% & 15%	10%	10%
39	State of Qatar	Exempt	Exempt	5%
40	Sweden (New)	0% & 15%	Exempt	Exempt
41	Thailand	10%	10% & 15%	5% & 15%
42	Tunisia	Exempt	2.5%	2.5%
43	Uganda	10%	10%	10%
44	United Arab Emirates	Exempt	Exempt	Exempt
45	United Kingdom	Exempt & 15%	Same rate as under domestic law	15%
46	Zimbabwe	10% & 20 %	10%	15%

<sup>\*</sup> The above table has been extracted from the MRA's website on 8th August 2023.

i. where interest is taxable at rate provided in the domestic law of the State of source or at reduced treaty rate, provision is usually made in the treaty to exempt interest receivable by a Contracting State itself, its local authorities, its Central Bank/all banks carrying on bona fide banking business and any other financial institutions as may be agreed upon by both Contracting States.

ii. within any 12-month period

iii. within any 24-month period

iv. no specific provision made in respect of furnishing of services.

<sup>\*\*</sup> The new treaty with Botswana is awaiting signature.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>The tax treaty with Hong Kong has come into operation on 23 June 2023.

# WE CAN HELP

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#### **Our Core Values**



#### Best-In-Class

We aim to be the benchmark for quality in our industry and the standard by which other firms are measured.



#### Stewardship

We hire the best and the brightest and we invest in our people to ensure that legacy.



#### Seamless

Our firm is constructed as a global firm. We share an interest in providing the highest level of client services regardless of location.



#### Independence

Our platform allows us to objectively serve as our client's advocate; the only advice and solutions we offer are those that are in the best interest of our client.



#### Transparency

We value open communication, information sharing and inclusive decision making.

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