



# VAT INFORMATION

Goods and Services exempted from VAT

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Foreword	2
<b>PART A</b>	
List of exempt goods and services	3
<b>PART B</b>	
<b>Section I - Unprocessed agricultural/horticultural produce (Item 11 - First Schedule)</b>	9
<b>Section II - Goods falling under specific Customs Procedure Code are exempted from VAT</b>	10
<b>Section III - This section deals with services offered by different institutions that are exempted from VAT</b>	
Item 12 - Health	11
Item 27 - Transport	11
Item 45 - Entertainment	11
Item 50 - Financial Services	11

## FOREWORD

**Exempt goods and services** are not subject to any VAT (First Schedule to the VAT Act).

List of goods and services on which VAT is not charged is found in Part A & Part B (Section I, II & III). These items are exempt from VAT so are not taxable. You do not include sales of exempt goods or services in your taxable turnover for VAT purposes, and if you are VAT registered and you buy exempt items, there is no VAT to reclaim.

Exempt items are different from zero-rated supplies.

This leaflet is for information only. For the legal provision, you may consult the Value Added Tax Act.

In case of doubt, please contact:

**Taxpayer Education & Communication Department (TECD)**  
**Mauritius Revenue Authority,**  
Ehram Court,  
Cnr Mgr. Gonin & Sir V. Naz Streets,  
Port Louis.

**Tel:** 207 6000 | **Fax:** 207 6033 | **Hotline:** 207 6010

**E-mail:** [taxpayerservices@mra.mu](mailto:taxpayerservices@mra.mu)

**Website:** [www.mra.mu](http://www.mra.mu)

## PART A – List of exempt goods and services

1. Deleted
2. Wheat; cereal flours (excluding wheat flour).
3. Bread
4. Animal or vegetable fats and oils other than ghee produced in Mauritius and edible oils.
5. Deleted
6. Deleted
7. Food of a kind used for human consumption -
  - a. Deleted
  - b. Deleted
  - c. Primary agricultural and horticultural produce (including tomatoes, potatoes, onions and other vegetables, fruits, coffee, cocoa beans and nuts but excluding tea, honey and spices) which have not been processed except for reaping, threshing, husking, crushing, winnowing, trimming, drying and packaging to put them into marketable condition and bird's eggs in the shell;
  - d. Deleted
8. Food preparations for infant use put up for retail sale, of H.S code No. 1901.10 and No. 1905.401.
- 8A. Breakfast cereals
9. Common salt other than common salt produced in Mauritius.
10. Live animals of a kind generally used as, or yielding or producing, food for human consumption other than live poultry.
11. Unprocessed agricultural and horticultural produce
12. Medical, hospital and dental services including clinical laboratory services, services provided in a health institution and veterinary services and a residential care home registered with the Ministry responsible for the subject of social security.
13. Deleted
14. Deleted
15. Invalid carriages of heading No. 87.13; orthopaedic or other appliances or articles of heading No. 90.21.
16. (a) Educational services
  - (b) Training services approved by the Mauritius Qualifications Authority
17. Journals and periodicals of heading No. 49.02.
18. Deleted
19. Deleted

20. Goods re-imported in respect of which no refund under this Act was made on exportation under item Nos. E1 and E2.
21. Goods imported under the transshipment procedure laid down in the Customs Act 1988 under item No. E4.
22. Articles re-imported after repairs on proof that they were sent from Mauritius provided that they shall be charged with VAT on the value of the repairs and the customs duty and excise duty chargeable thereon under item No.E6.
23. Bona fide baggage of a passenger under item No. E8.
24. Household and personal effects of a passenger under item No. E9.
25. Goods imported in the baggage of a passenger under item No. E10.
26. Goods (excluding merchandise for sale, tobacco in any form, wines, spirits, arms and ammunition) imported by post of a value for duty purposes not exceeding 2000 rupees under item No. E11.
- 26A. Sharlon shade, green house, shade screens, fertigation pumps, irrigation pumps, drip irrigation and automatic irrigation controller, imported by persons for use in agriculture under item No. E12.
27. The transport of passengers by public service vehicles excluding contract buses for the transport of tourists and contract cars.
28. Deleted
29. Deleted
30.
  - a. Charges under a hire purchase agreement or under a finance lease agreement.
  - b. Postal services and services provided by a person holding a Postal Service Licence under the Postal Services Act 2002 in connection with payment of pension and utility bills.
31. Vegetable seeds, fruit and flower seeds, bulbs and plants, used for sowing or planting
32. Deleted
33. Molasses when supplied, either for consideration or otherwise, to planters and bagasse
34. Herbicides.
35. Deleted
36.
  - a. The renting of fixed telephone lines.
  - b. Charges in respect of internet services provided by an internet service provider of an amount of up to 100 rupees per billing period.
37. Deleted
38. Aircraft leasing.
39. Aircrafts of heading No.88.02.
40. Ships for the transport of persons or goods or both persons and goods falling under heading No. 89.01.

41. Fishing vessels, factory ships and other vessels for processing or preserving fishery products of heading No. 89.02.
42. Works of art, collectors' pieces and antiques of heading Nos. 97.01 to 97.06.
43. Cargo handling services in respect of goods transported by sea or air -
- a. from or to Mauritius;
  - b. from or to the Island of Rodrigues;
  - c. from or to the Outer Islands; or
  - d. from a place outside Mauritius to another place outside Mauritius.
44. Deleted
45. Entrance fees to any event in respect of any sport discipline specified in the Physical Education and Sport (Designation of Sport Disciplines) Regulations 1986.
46. The renting of, or other grant of the right to use, accommodation in a building used predominately as a place of residence of any person and his family, if the period of accommodation for a continuous term exceeds 90 days.
47. Subject to item 48, the grant, assignment or surrender of any interest in or right over land or of any licence to occupy land.
48. The sale or transfer of an immovable property, a building or part of a building, apartment, flat or tenement -
- a. for residential purposes;
  - b. for any other purposes except land with any building, building or part of a building, apartment, flat or tenement together with any interest in or right over land, sold or transferred by a VAT registered property developer to a VAT registered person.

Derogation by Section 28 (1) (aa) of the Investment Promotion Act.

49. Burial and cremation services and coffins.

50. The following financial services -

- a. banking services (other than services supplied by a bank holding a banking licence under the Banking Act 2004 in respect of its banking transactions with non-residents and corporations holding a Global Business Licence under the Financial Services Development Act 2001) including -
  - i. Services provided by the Bank of Mauritius; and
  - ii. the issue, transfer or receipt of, or any dealing with, money, any security for money or any note or order for the payment of money, the provision of prescribed Islamic financing arrangement as defined under the Banking Act 2004 and the operation of any current, deposit or savings account, but except -
    - A. services provided of merchants accepting a credit card or debit card as payment for the supply of goods or services (merchant's discount);
    - B. services in respect of safe deposit lockers, issue and renewal of credit cards and debit cards; and
    - C. services for keeping and maintaining customers' accounts (other than transactions involving the primary dealer system);
- b. services provided by foreign exchange dealers and money changers;
- c. the issue, transfer or receipt of, or dealing with any stocks, bonds, shares, debentures and other securities, including the underwriting and the settlement and clearing of such securities;
- d. the issue or transfer of ownership of a unit under any unit trust;
- e. the management of investment funds and of pension funds;
- f. the arrangement, provision, or transfer of ownership, of any contract of insurance or re-insurance under the Insurance Act;  
(f a) the making of loans between entities within the same group; and
- g. such other financial services as may be prescribed.

51. Semi-low floor bus of H.S Codes 8702.1021 and 8702.9021 and chassis for semi-low floor buses of H.S Codes 8407.3411, 8408.2011 and 8706.0012 operated under a road service licence and used for the transport of the general public.

52. a. Gold compounds of H.S. Code 2843.30

- b. Gold, unwrought or in semi-manufactured forms, or in powder form, or waste and scrap of heading 71.08
- c. Chains and similar articles produced in continuous length exceeding 200 centimetres, clasps and parts of silver suitable for use in the manufacture of articles of jewellery of H.S. Code 7113.111
- d. Chains and similar articles produced in continuous length exceeding 200 centimetres, clasps and parts of other precious metal suitable for use in the manufacture of jewellery of heading 7113.191
- e. Minted gold bars imported, purchased or offered for sale by the Bank of Mauritius.

53. Blood glucose strip of H.S. Code 3822.001.

54. Lancets of heading 90.18 and glucometer of H.S. Code 9027.801

55. Equipment for medical, surgical and dental uses, of heading 90.18 and of H.S. Codes 3701.10, 3702.10, 8419.20, 9006.301, 9019.105, 9019.20, 9022.12, 9022.13, 9022.14, 9022.21, 9022.30, 9022.901, 9022.902, 9022.909, 9027.801, 9402.101, 9405.103 and 9405.403.
  - a. Equipment for medical, surgical and dental uses, of heading 94.03 and H.S. Codes 8414.60, 8414.80, 8419.89 and 9011.80, when imported for use in a health institution.
56. Cotton of headings 52.01, 52.02 and 52.03.
57. Pearls, diamonds, stones, silver and platinum including waste and scrap, of headings 71.01, 71.02, 71.03, 71.05, 71.06, 71.10 and 71.12 and of H.S. Codes 7104.20 and 7104.90.
58. Machinery and equipment, of headings 84.44 to 84.49 and 84.51 and of H.S. Codes 8452.21, 8452.29, 8452.40 and 8452.90.
59. Emery, natural corundum, natural garnet and other natural abrasives of H.S. Code 2513.20
60. Preparations for the treatment of textile materials, leather, furskins or other materials of H.S. Codes 3403.11 and 3403.91
61. Printed circuits of heading 85.34 and electronic integrated circuits and micro-assemblies of heading 85.42
62. Pigs', hogs', boars' bristles and hair; badger hair and other brush making hair; and waste of such bristles or hair of heading 05.02
63. Machinery of H.S. Codes 8422.20 to 8422.40
64. Watch movements of heading 91.08 and H.S. Codes 9110.11 to 9110.19 and watch or clocks parts of headings 91.14.
65. Construction of a building or part of a building, flat or tenement (excluding repairs or renovation), to be used for residential purposes, provided that:-
  - a. the contract in respect thereof has been entered into; or
  - b. the letter of intent relating to an Integrated Resort Scheme prescribed under the Investment Promotion Act has been issued.prior to 1 October 2006.
66. Anti-smoking chewing gum and anti-smoking patches.
67. Life jackets of H.S. Codes 3926.201, 4015.901 and 6307.20.
68. Parts of footwear of H.S. Code 64.06.
69. Buckles and shoe lasts
70. Shoe welt
71. Colostomy bags and disposable urinary bags
72. Entrance fees to cinemas, concerts and shows
73. Cinematographic films, including royalties
74. Bio-Pesticides



75. Cocopeat and substrate used as a growing medium for plants, of H.S. Codes 1404.901, 2703.001 and 6806.101
76. Plates, sheets and strip of cellular or non-cellular rubber of H.S. Codes 4008.11 and 4008.21.
77. Briefs and napkins for incontinent persons.
78. Commode chairs with toilet bowls.
79. Disposable urinary and faecal incontinence bags and pads.
80. 3D printers.
81. Hospital beds with mechanical or electrical fittings
- a. the heading Nos. refer to the heading numbers of Part I of the First Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act;
  - b. the item Nos. refer to the item Nos. of Part II of the First Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act;
  - c. Deleted
  - d. "health institution" item 12 and 55A has the same meaning as in the Private Health Institutions Act 1989;
  - e. "public service vehicles" in item 27 has the same meaning as in the Road Traffic Act;
  - f. "contract cars" in item 27 has the meaning assigned to it by section 75 of the Road Traffic Act.
  - g. "Outer Islands" in item 43 has the same meaning as in the Outer Islands Development Corporation Act 1982.
  - h. "land" in item 47 means any vacant land or any land or part thereof with any building, flat or tenement thereon.
  - i. "Services" in item 50(f) in relation to:-
    - i. an insurance agent, shall not include services in respect of contracts of life insurance entered into prior to 10 January 2003; or
    - ii. an insurance broker or insurance salesman, shall not include services in respect of contracts of life insurance entered into prior to 1 October 2003.

## PART B

### Section I - Unprocessed agricultural/horticultural produce (Item 11 - First Schedule)

The Unprocessed agricultural/horticultural produce mentioned below falling under the following heading numbers from Customs Tariff Schedules are exempt from VAT.

Heading	H.S. Code	Description	VAT
06.01		Bulbs, tubers, tuberous roots, corms, crowns and rhizomes, dormant, in growth or in flower; chicory plants and roots other than roots of heading 12.12	
	0601.10.00	- Bulbs, tubers, tuberous roots, corms, crowns and rhizomes, dormant	Exempt
	0601.20.00	- Bulbs, tubers, tuberous roots, corms, crowns and rhizomes, in growth or in flower; chicory plants and roots	Exempt
06.02		Other live plants (including their roots), cuttings and slips; mushroom spawn.	
	0602.10.00	- Unrooted cuttings and slips	Exempt
	0602.20.00	- Trees shrubs and bushes, grafted or not, of kinds which bear edible fruit or nuts	Exempt
	0602.30.00	- Rhododendrons and azaleas, grafted or not	Exempt
	0602.40.00	- Roses, grafted or not	Exempt
12.02		Groundnuts, not roasted or otherwise cooked, whether or not shelled or broken.	
	1202.30.00	Seed	Exempt
		- Other	
	1202.41.00	- In shell	Exempt
	1202.42.00	- Shelled, whether or not broken	Exempt
12.09		Seeds, fruit and spores, of a kind used for sowing	
	1209.10.00	- Sugar beet seeds	Exempt
		- Seeds of forage plants:	
	1209.21.00	- Lucerne (alfalfa) seeds	Exempt
	1209.22.00	- Clover ( <i>Trifolium</i> spp.) seeds	Exempt
	1209.23.00	- Fescue seeds	Exempt
	1209.24.00	- Kentucky blue grass ( <i>Poa pratensis</i> L.) seeds	Exempt
	1209.25.00	- Rye grass ( <i>Lolium multiflorum</i> Lam, <i>Lolium perenne</i> L.) seeds	Exempt
	1209.30.00	- Seeds of herbaceous plants cultivated principally for their flowers	Exempt
	1209.91.00	- Vegetable seeds	Exempt

12.12		Locust beans, seaweeds and other algae, sugar beet and sugar cane, fresh, chilled, frozen or dried, whether or not ground; fruit stones and kernels and other vegetable products (including unroasted chicory roots of the variety Cichorium intybus sativum) of a kind used primarily for human consumption, not elsewhere	
	1212.21.00	- Fit for human consumption	Exempt
	1212.91.00	- Sugar beet	Exempt
	1212.92.00	- Locust beans (carob)	Exempt
	1212.94.00	- Chicory roots	Exempt

## Section II - Goods falling under specific Customs Procedure Code are exempted from VAT

CPC Code	Item falling under First Schedule
40COF - DIRECT IMPORT OF COFFINS (VAT EXEMPTED (ITEM 49))	49
40DS2 - D/IMP HHOLD&P/EFF BY PER REG WZ BOI UND MDS.CUS/DUTY& VAT EXEMP	
40E08 - DIRECT IMPORT FOR H/CONSUMPTION UNDER EXEMPTION E8 OF CTA, VAT EXEMPT (23)	
40E09 - DIRECT IMPORT FOR H/CONSUMPTION UNDER EXEMPTION E9 OF CTA, VAT EXEMPT (24)	
47COF - EXWAREHOUSING OF COFFINS. (VAT EXEMPTED (ITEM NO.49)).	
47DS2 - EXWSE HHOLD&P/EFF BY PER REG WZ BOI UND MDS.CUS/DUTY& VAT EXEMP	
47E08 - EXWAREHOUSING OF GOODS FOR HOME CONSUMPTION UNDER EXEMP.E8 OF CTA.VAT(23)	
47STM - EXWAREHOUSING OF POSTAGE REVENUE OR SIMILAR STAMP (49.07) VAT EXEMP(30)	
61001 - RE-IMP.OF GDS. UNDER EXEMPT.E2 OF THE CTA OF GDS. EXP. UNDER REGIME 17	
62001 - RE-IMP.OF GDS EXP.OR RE-EXP.TMPLY FOR REPAIRS - NO PMT.OF DUTY AND TAXES	
62002 - RE-IMP.OF GDS.EXP.OR RE-EXP. TMPLY FOR EXHIBITS OR FOR FAIRS ABROAD	
62003 - RE-IMPORTS OF GOODS EXPORTED OR REEXPORTED TMPLY UNDER E2 OF CTA	
62005 - REIMP.OF OTH.GOODS EXPORTED OR REEXPORTED TEMPORARILY OF THE CTA.	
62006 - RE-IMPORTS OF CINEMA FILMS AFTER TEMPORARY EXPORT OR RE-EXPORT	
62009 - Re-Import of gds sent for repairs w/o prev. BOEs - no paymnt of dty/txs	
63000 - RE-IMP. UNDER EXMPT. E1 OF GOODS REEXP. UNDER REG. 34, 35, 37, 39	
67001 - EXWAREHOUSING OF GOODS. EXP. TMPLY FOR REPAIRS - NO PMT OF DUTY & TAXES	
80007 - WHEREAS ON GOODS LANDED IN TRANSIT -GOODS SHORSHIPPED OR SHORT LANDED	

## **Section III - This section deals with services offered by different institutions that are exempted from VAT.**

### **Item 12 - Health**

Medical, hospital and dental services including clinical laboratory services, services provided in a health institution, veterinary services and a residential care home registered with the Ministry responsible for the subject of Social Security.

81. Hospital beds with mechanical or electrical fittings

For the purposes of this Schedule -

(d) "health institution" in item 12 and 55A has the same meaning as in the Private Health Institutions Act 1989.

"health institution" includes a clinical laboratory, a health care unit, a hospital and a nursing home.

### **Item 27 - Transport**

The transport of passengers by public service vehicles excluding contract buses for the transport of tourists and contract cars.

"public service vehicle" means a motor vehicle used for carrying passengers for hire or reward under the Road Traffic Act.

### **Item 45 - Entertainment**

Entrance fees to any event in respect of any sport discipline specified in the Physical Education and Sport (Designation of Sport Disciplines) Regulations 1986.

### **Item 50 - Financial Services**

(fa) the making of loans between entities within the same group

The financial services specified in the Sixth Schedule shall be the prescribed financial services for the purposes of item 50(g) of the First Schedule to the Act.

- a. The making, the advance or the granting of credit except services in respect of credit cards issued by companies other than banks to merchants accepting such credit cards as payment for the supply of goods or services.
- b. The granting of , or dealing in, credit guarantees or other securities for money and the management of credit guarantees by the person who granted the credit.
- c. The provision or transfer of ownership, of an interest in a superannuation scheme, or the management of a superannuation scheme.
- d. Factoring

