# WHITHER MAURITIUS?

# Rundheersing BHEENICK Governor

### **Bank of Mauritius**

14<sup>th</sup> September 2011 The Link Ebene City Hotel

# I. GLOBAL OUTLOOK





### • W ... Double Dip Fears

### **GROWTH PROJECTIONS**

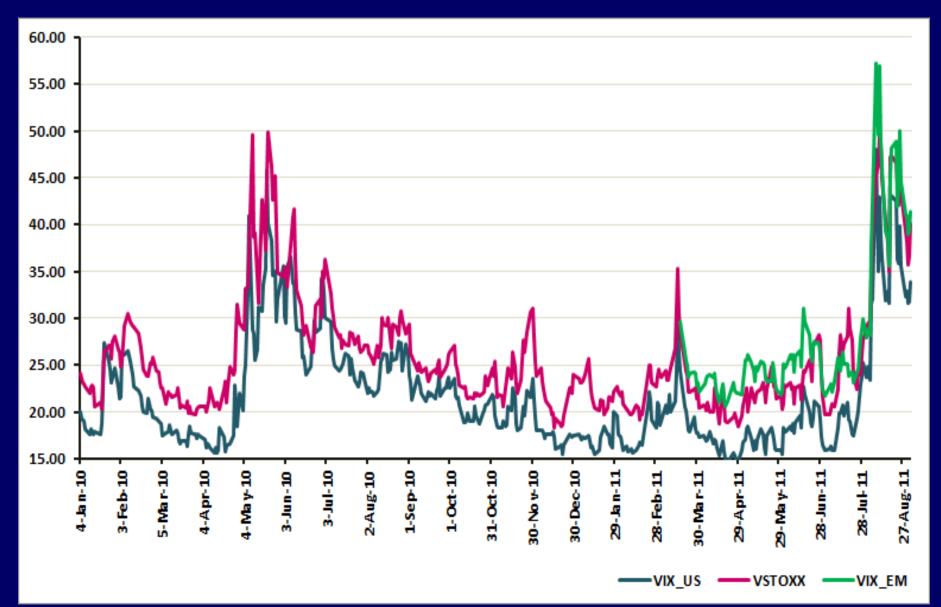


		Difference between		
	January 2011	June 2011	September 2011	January and September
Global	3.4	3.1	2.6	0.8
Developed markets	2.5	1.9	1.4	1.1♥
Emerging Markets	5.9	6.1	5.7	0.2
us	3.3	2.4	1.4	1.9
Euro area	1.7	2.1	1.6	0.1
UK	2.5	1.7	1.0	1.5

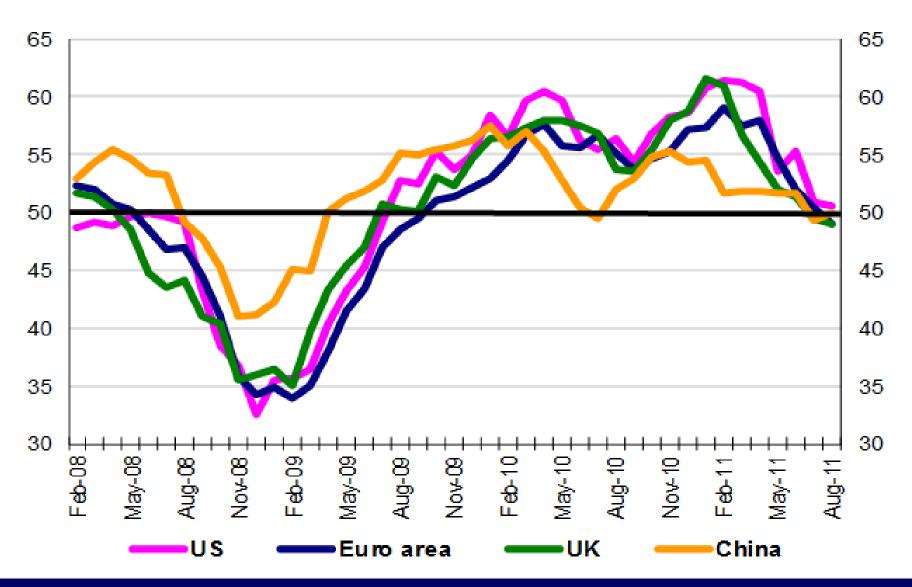
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	JP M				
	June 2011	September 2011	Difference		
US	2.4	1.4	1.0 🖌		
Euro area	2.1	1.6	0.5 🗸		
UK	1.7	1.0	0.7 ↓		
South Africa	3.7	3.3	0.4 ↓		
India	7.9	7.6	0.3 🗸		
	Staff f				
	June 2011	September 2011			
Mauritius	4.6	4.4	0.2 🗸		

### **VOLATILITY – 'FEAR FACTOR'**



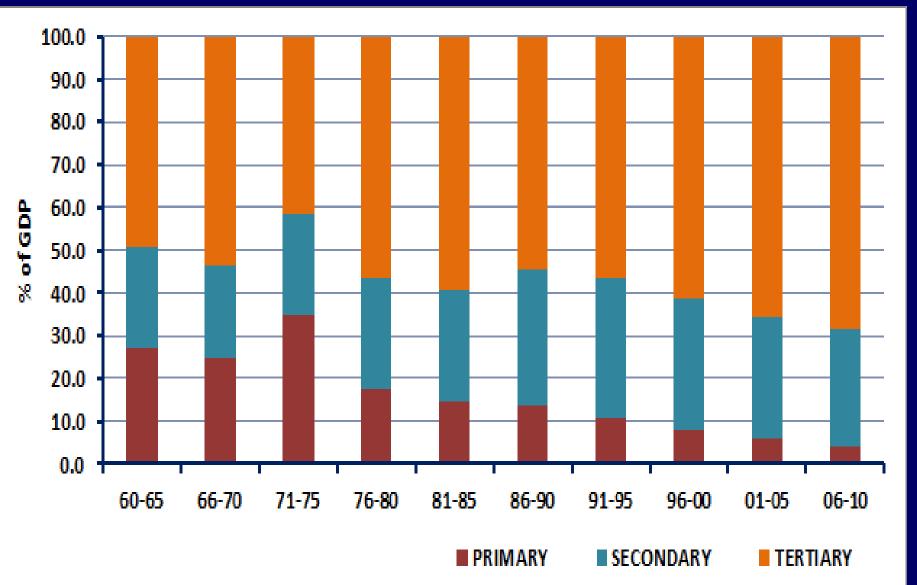
### **GLOBAL GROWTH**



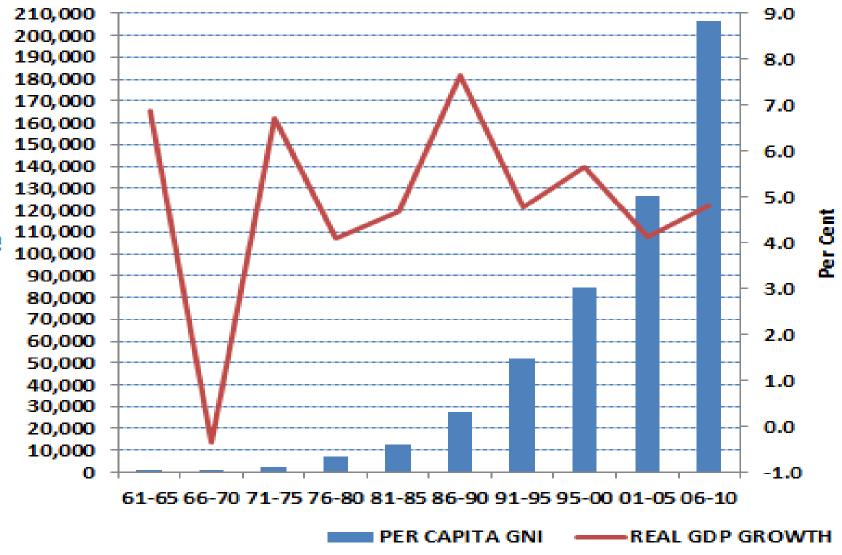
# **II. HOW WE GOT HERE?**

- Transformation of the Mauritian Economy.
- Move from Monocrop economy to Services Economy.
- Openness of the Economy.
- Role of Education.
- Attaining MDGs before they were even specified.

### **SHARE IN GDP**

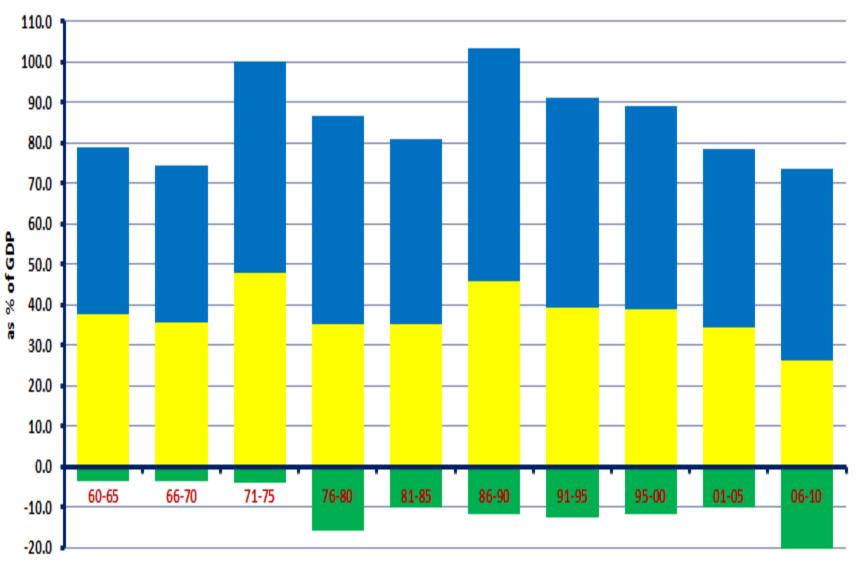


### REAL GDP GROWTH RATE AND PER CAPITA GNI



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### **OPENNESS OF ECONOMY**

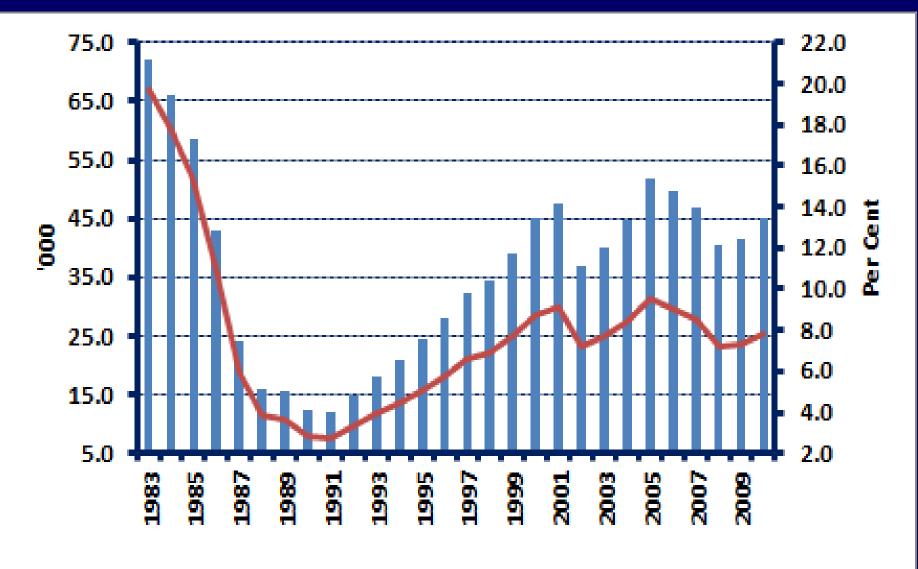


Exports

Imports, c.i.f.

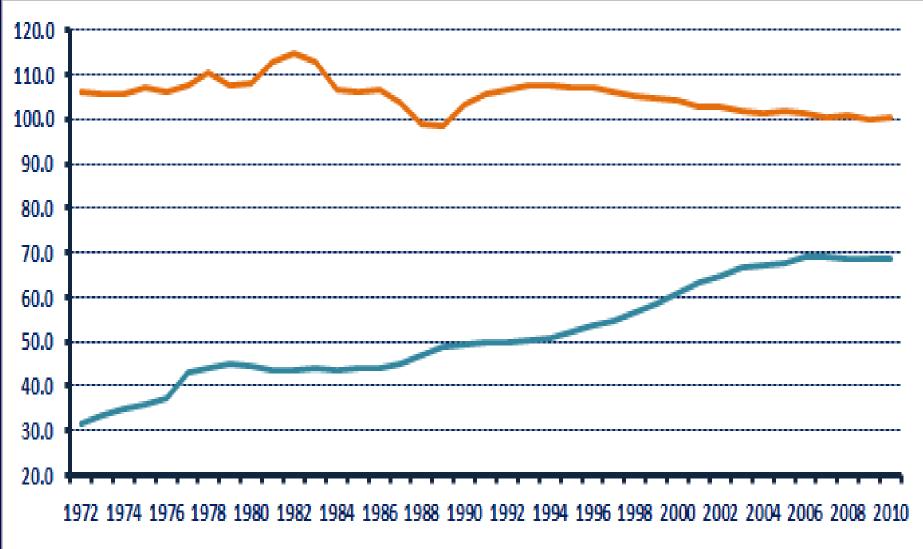
TRADE DEFICIT

### **UNEMPLOYMENT: NUMBER AND RATE**



No. of Unemployed —— Unemployment Rate

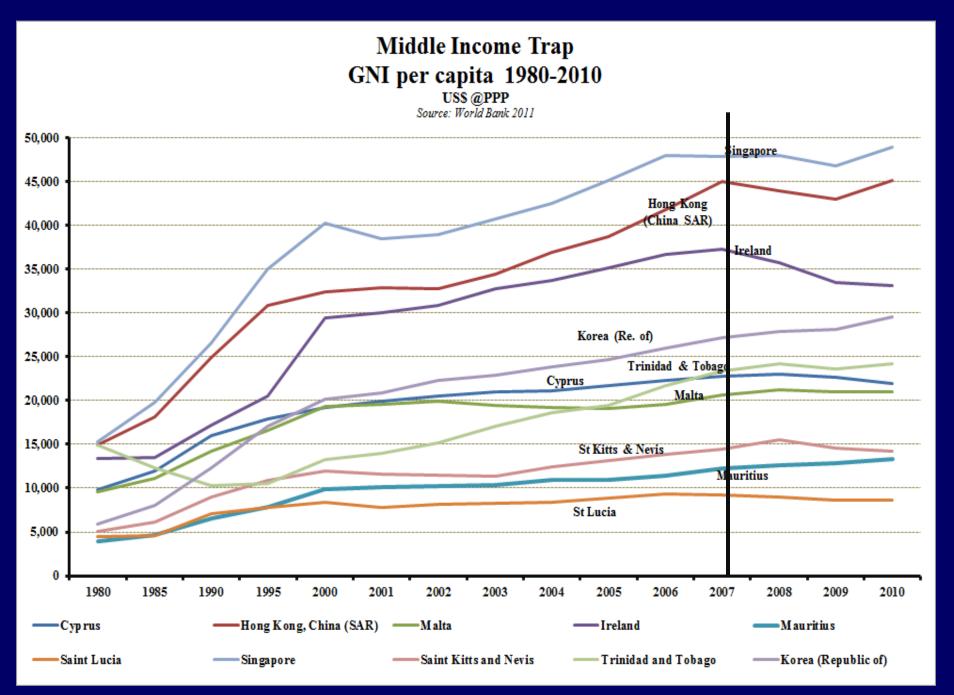
### **EDUCATION: GROSS ENROLMENT RATIO**



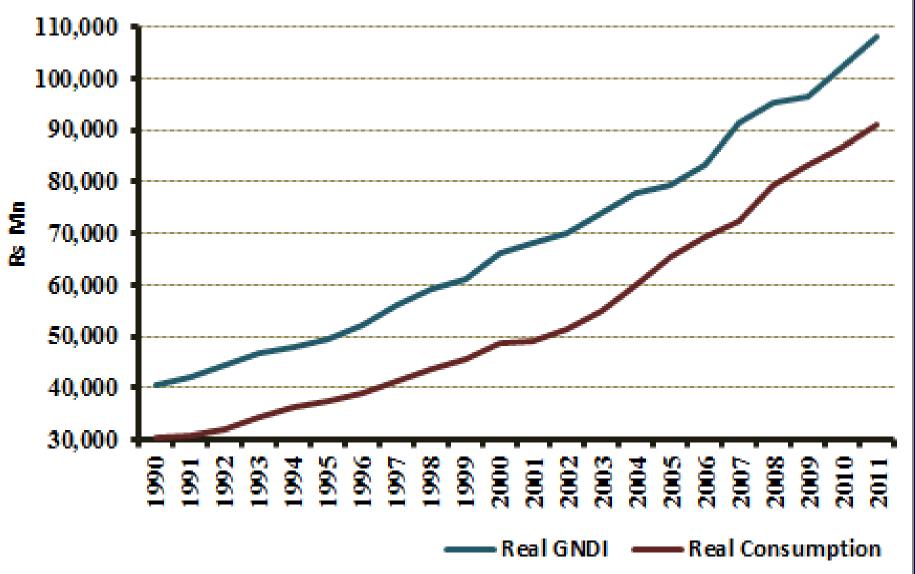
PRIMARY SECONDARY

## III. MIDDLE INCOME TRAP

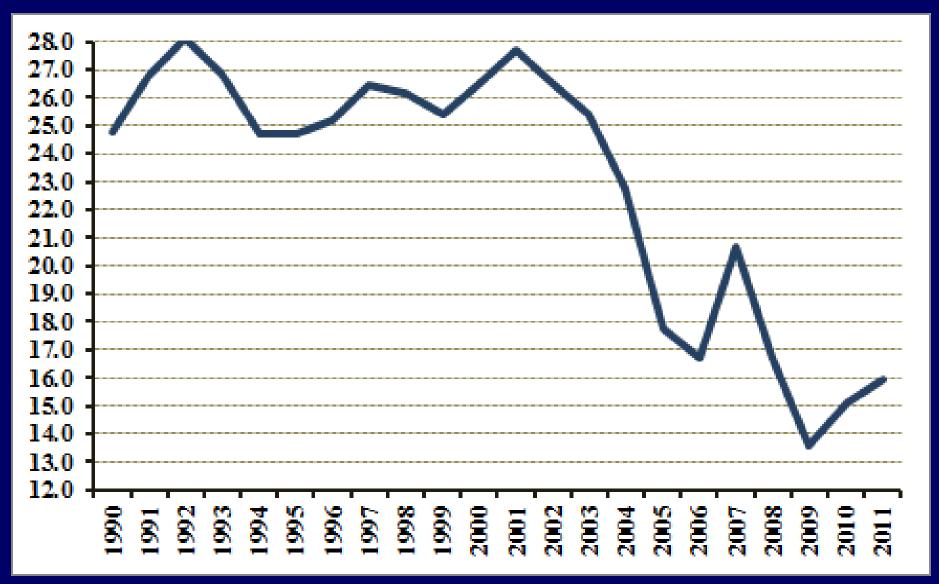
- Unchanged Growth Model.
- Structure of economy compared to evolving global economic conditions.
- Move from producing import-substituting/import competing goods to become major exporters of these goods.



### REAL GROSS NATIONAL DISPOSABLE INCOME AND CONSUMPTION



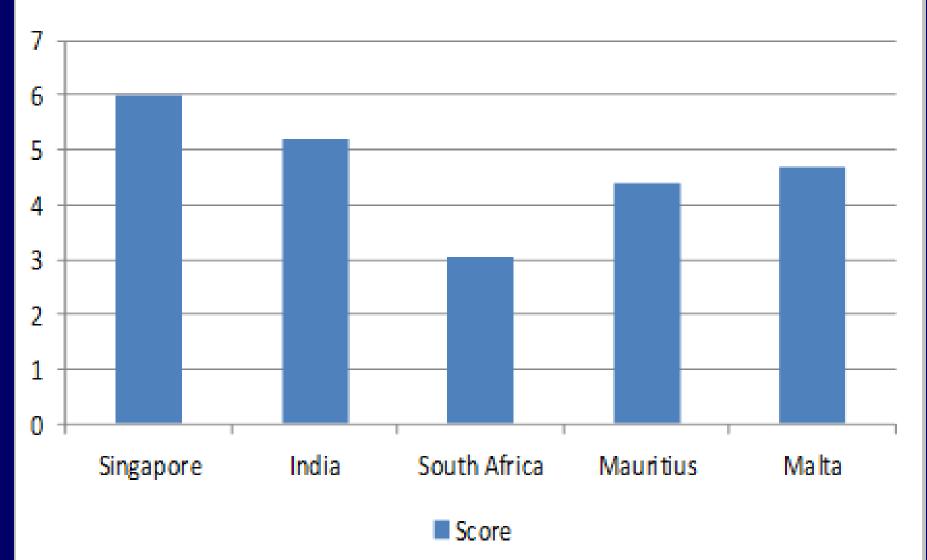
### GROSS NATIONAL SAVINGS AS % OF GROSS NATIONAL DISPOSABLE INCOME



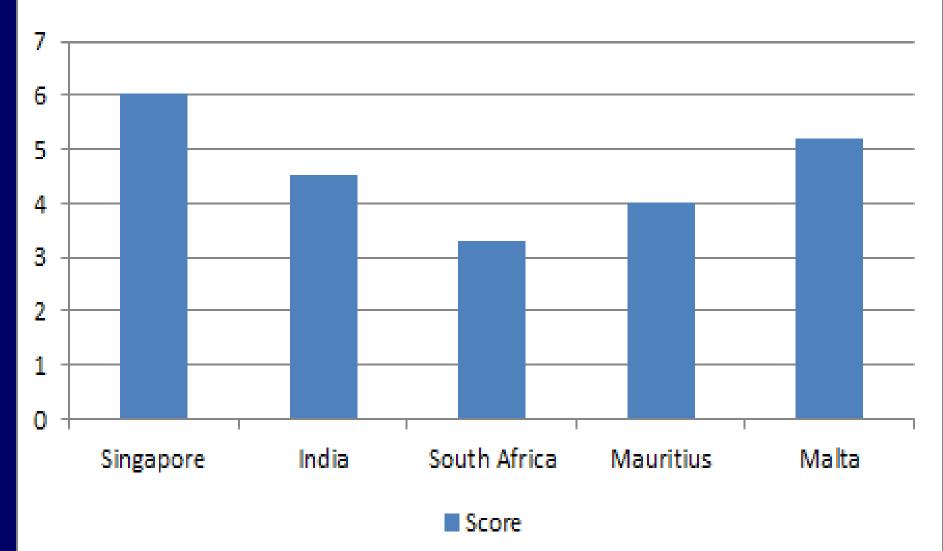
# **IV. SOME EMERGING CONCERNS**

- World Bank Ease of Doing Business.
  - Ranking 20 (2010 & 2011).
- Mo Ibrahim Index.
   Rank 1<sup>st</sup> in Africa.
- Heritage Foundation Index of Economic Freedom.
   Rank 12<sup>th</sup> in 2011 and 1<sup>st</sup> in Sub-Saharan Region.
- But Global Competitiveness Report.
  - Overall Ranking: 54 (11-12) and 55(10-11).
  - Other Rankings which are more problematic.

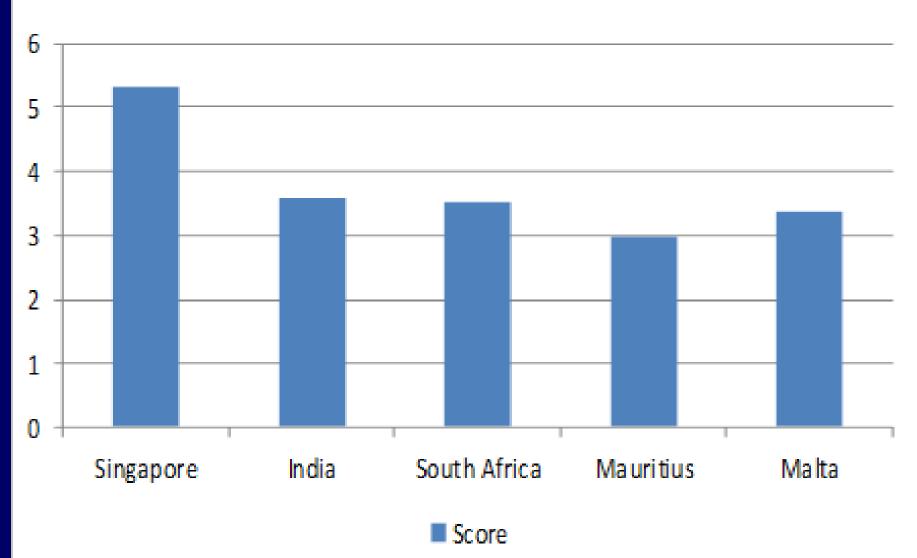
# **Flexibility in Wage Determination**



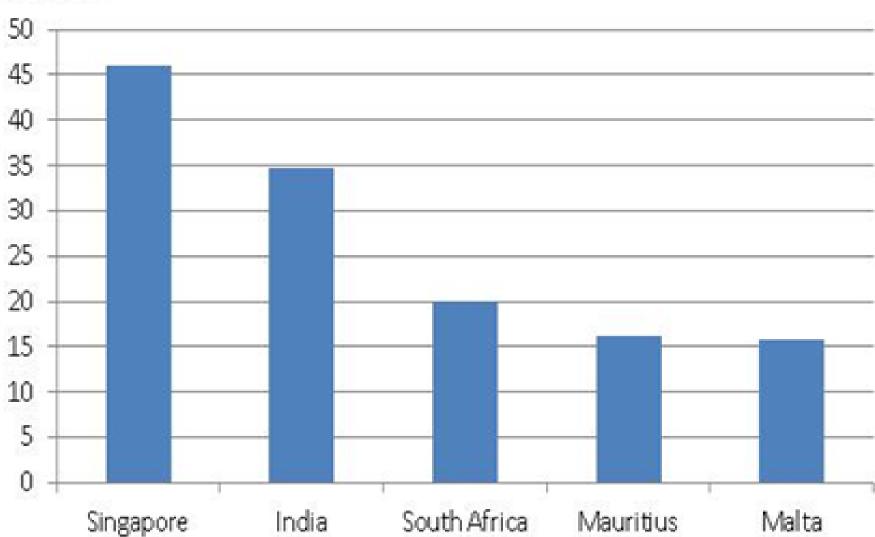
# **Quality of Education**



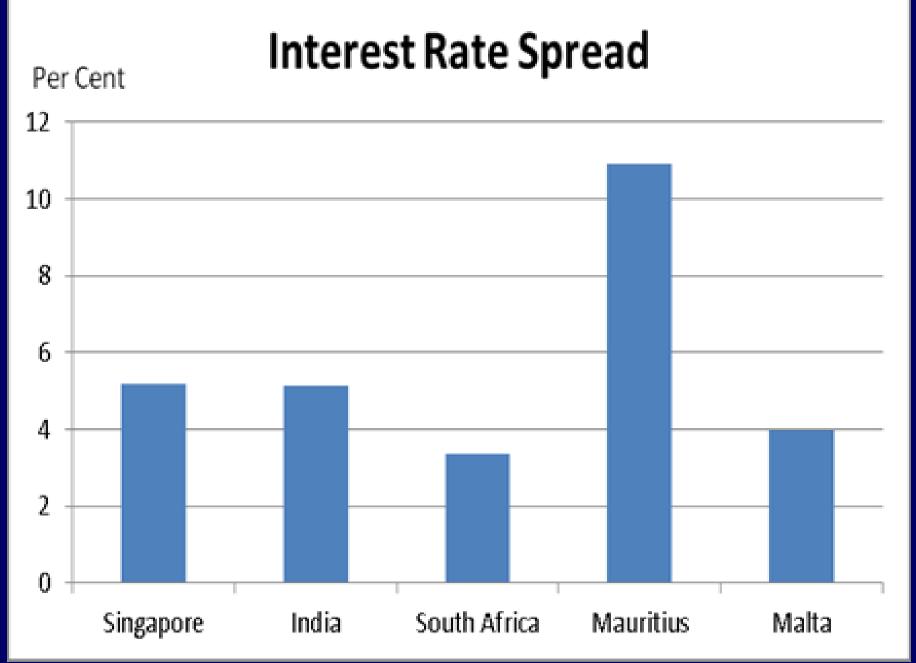
### Innovation



# **Savings Rate**



#### Per Cent



### V. THE REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

- Central role of sound and well-functioning financial sector.
  - Soundness of banks ... ranked 19 (WEF).
  - Transparency: CAMEL Ratings of Banks.

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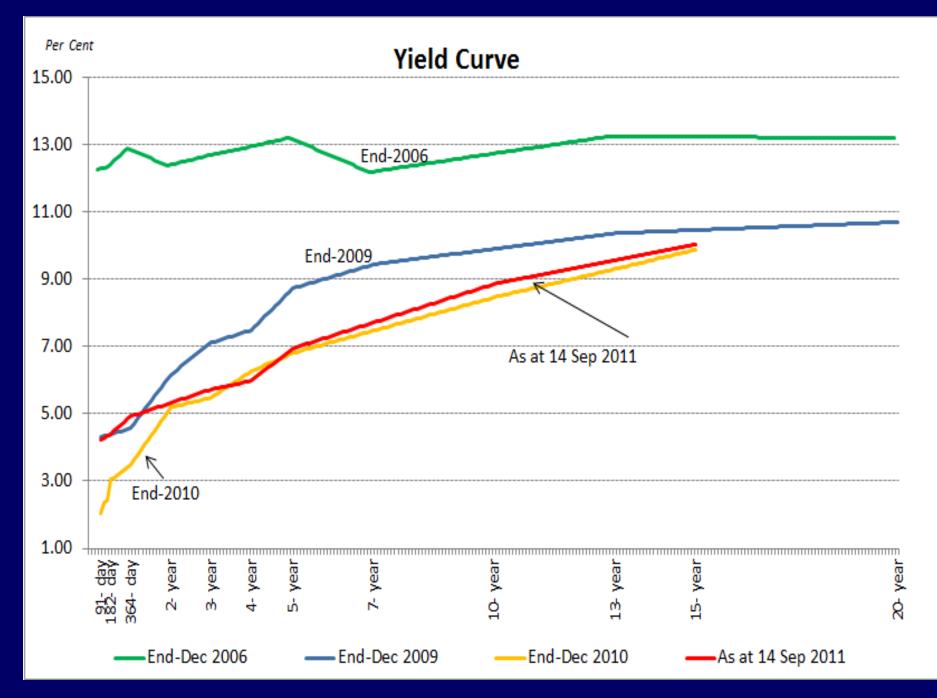
### **BANKS' PERFORMANCE**

	UNIT	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Profit after Tax	<mark>Rs B</mark> n	6.9	8.4	10.7	13.5	13.4	14.0
Return on Assets	%	1.9	1.7	1.9	1.7	1.6	1.4
Return on Equity	%	21.1	22.4	26.4	24.3	21.0	20.0
Non Performing Loans to Total Loans	%	4.0	3.0	2.5	2.0	3.3	2.8
Regulatory Capital to Risk-Weighted Assets	%	15.4	15.8	13.3	15.3	15.2	15.8
Regulatory Tier 1 Capital to Risk-Weighted Assets	%	13.5	13.7	11.5	13.7	13.1	13.6
*as at end December							

- Financial stability function of the Bank.
- Concentration of bank assets.
- Revisiting macro-prudential supervision.
  Too big to fail? Large complex financial institutions
  - ... where do we go?
- Single regulator for the financial sector?
- What the Accounting Profession can do?

# VI. AIMING FOR A STABLE AND EFFICIENT FINANCIAL SECTOR

- What the Bank is doing ...
  - Normalizing the Yield Curve
  - Single Maturity Auctions
  - Benchmark Bonds
  - Developing Secondary Market



## **NEED FOR STRATEGIC PLANNING**

- Compared to last decades, the Mauritian economy is more market-based.
- Increasing globalisation calls for enhanced adaptability and flexibility.
- Success in the new economic environment requires coordinated action from both private and public sector.

- Focus on strategic thinking and policies.
- Importance of 'Planning' for an economy like ours.
- Mobilise the potential of various agencies, strengthen skill base and facilitate coordination between public and private sectors.
- Need for a new national vision to galvanise efforts.

# **THANK YOU**