Monthly External Merchandise Trade Statistics - March 2025

1. Balance of Visible Trade

Balance of Visible Trade showed a deficit of Rs 16,325 million in March 2025, higher by 15.4% compared to the previous month and lower by 7.5% compared to the corresponding month of 2024.

Summary of External Merchandise Trade

	2024	2025		
	Mar ¹	Feb ²	Mar ²	
A. Total Exports (f.o.b)	8,798	7,896	9,650	
Domestic exports	5,085	3,878	5,076	
Re-exports	1,573	1,577	1,895	
Ship's Stores and Bunkers	2,140	2,441	2,679	
B. Total Imports (c.i.f)	26,440	22,041	25,975	
Total International Trade (A + B)	35,238	29,937	35,625	
Trade Deficit (A - B)	-17,642	-14,145	-16,325	

¹ Revised figures

² Provisional

2. Total Imports of goods by S.I.T.C section

		C.I.F value: Rs Mn	
	2024	2025	
SITC SECTION/DESCRIPTION	Mar ¹	Feb ²	Mar ²
0 - Food and live animals	4,660	3,770	4,594
1 - Beverages and tobacco	416	584	448
2 - Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	524	383	331
3 - Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	6,616	6,246	6,412
4 - Animals and vegetable oils, fats & waxes	187	338	254
5 - Chemicals & related products, n.e.s.	2,080	1,535	2,147
6 - Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	2,927	2,654	2,619
7 - Machinery and transport equipment	6,655	4,596	7,038
8 - Miscellaneous manufactured articles	2,192	1,866	2,045
9 - Other commodities & transactions, n.e.s	183	69	87
TOTAL	26,440	22,041	25,975

¹ Revised figures

² Provisional

In March 2025, total imports increased by 17.8% compared to February 2025 and decreased by 1.8% compared to March 2024.

3. Total Exports of goods by S.I.T.C section

F.O.B value: Rs			
SITC SECTION/DESCRIPTION	2024	2025	
SITC SECTION/DESCRIPTION	Mar ¹	Feb ²	Mar ²
0 - Food and live animals	2,963	2,357	2,579
1 - Beverages and tobacco	46	77	100
2 - Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	176	185	254
3 - Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	-	1	1
4 - Animals and vegetable oils, fats & waxes	58	13	20
5 - Chemicals & related products, n.e.s.	385	300	340
6 - Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	724	569	985
7 - Machinery and transport equipment	186	308	436
8 - Miscellaneous manufactured articles	2,059	1,560	2,232
9 - Other commodities & transactions, n.e.s	61	85	24
Exports exclusive of Ship's Stores and Bunkers	6,658	5,455	6,971
Estimates of Ship's Stores and Bunkers	2,140	2,441	2,679
TOTAL	8,798	7,896	9,650

¹ Revised figures ² Provisional - Nil or Negligible

In March 2025, total exports increased by 22.2% compared to February 2025 and by 9.7% compared to March 2024.

4. Main trading partners in March 2025

Exports ¹ (F.O.B)			Imports (C.I.F)				
Country	2024	2025		<i>a</i> .	2024	2025	
	Mar ²	Feb ³	Mar ³	Country Mar ²	Feb ³	Mar ³	
South Africa	713	445	897	U.A.E.	3,368	998	3,536
Madagascar	738	486	795	China	4,793	3,784	3,316
United Kingdom	547	706	692	India	3,584	2,126	2,314
United States	465	373	610	South Africa	2,255	1,913	1,814
France	709	514	544	Japan	787	573	1,404
Reunion	197	317	405	France	1,259	970	1,304
Other	3,289	2,614	3,028	Other	10,394	11,677	12,287
Total	6,658	5,455	6,971	Total	26,440	22,041	25,975

¹ Excluding Ship's Stores and Bunkers ² Revised figures ³ Provisional

In March 2025, South Africa (12.9%), Madagascar (11.4%), United Kingdom (9.9%), United States (8.8%), France (7.8%) and Reunion (5.8%) were our major exports destinations while our imports were mainly from U.A.E (13.6%), China (12.8%), India (8.9%), South Africa (7.0%), Japan (5.4%) and France (5.0%).

16 May 2025