

Monthly External Merchandise Trade Statistics - August 2026

1. Balance of Visible Trade

Balance of Visible Trade showed a deficit of Rs 20,707 million in August 2026, higher by 6.1% compared to the previous month and by 16.7% compared to the corresponding month of 2025.

Summary of External Merchandise Trade

	Value: Rs Mn		
	2025	2026	
	Aug ¹	Jul ²	Aug ²
A. Total Exports (f.o.b)	9,024	10,871	9,331
Domestic exports	4,338	4,915	4,328
Re-exports	1,412	1,337	990
Ship's Stores and Bunkers	3,274	4,619	4,013
B. Total Imports (c.i.f)	26,764	30,385	30,038
Total International Trade (A + B)	35,788	41,256	39,369
Trade Deficit (A - B)	-17,740	-19,514	-20,707

¹ Revised figures

² Provisional

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

SITC SECTION/DESCRIPTION	C.I.F value: Rs Mn		
	2025	2026	
	Aug ¹	Jul ²	Aug ²
0 - Food and live animals	5,086	5,038	4,777
1 - Beverages and tobacco	686	487	599
2 - Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	526	421	271
3 - Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	6,486	6,702	10,359
4 - Animals and vegetable oils, fats & waxes	218	212	433
5 - Chemicals & related products, n.e.s.	2,277	3,766	2,170
6 - Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	2,995	3,828	3,101
7 - Machinery and transport equipment	6,122	7,564	5,929
8 - Miscellaneous manufactured articles	2,329	2,339	2,338
9 - Other commodities & transactions, n.e.s	39	28	61
TOTAL	26,764	30,385	30,038

¹ Revised figures

² Provisional

In August 2026, total imports decreased by 1.1% compared to July 2026 and increased by 12.2% compared to August 2025.

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

F.O.B value: Rs Mn

SITC SECTION/DESCRIPTION	2025	2026	
	Aug ¹	Jul ²	Aug ²
0 - Food and live animals	2,267	2,844	2,236
1 - Beverages and tobacco	72	108	71
2 - Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	239	234	177
3 - Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	1	2	-
4 - Animals and vegetable oils, fats & waxes	22	24	15
5 - Chemicals & related products, n.e.s.	496	432	310
6 - Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	718	632	659
7 - Machinery and transport equipment	211	238	283
8 - Miscellaneous manufactured articles	1,716	1,713	1,538
9 - Other commodities & transactions, n.e.s	8	25	29
Exports exclusive of Ship's Stores and Bunkers	5,750	6,252	5,318
Estimates of Ship's Stores and Bunkers	3,274	4,619	4,013
TOTAL	9,024	10,871	9,331

¹ Revised figures ² Provisional - Nil or Negligible

In August 2026, total exports decreased by 14.2% compared to July 2026 and increased by 3.4% compared to August 2025.

4. Main trading partners in August 2026

Value: Rs Mn

Exports ¹ (F.O.B)				Imports (C.I.F)			
Country	2025	2026		Country	2025	2026	
	Aug ²	Jul ³	Aug ³		Aug ²	Jul ³	Aug ³
United States	317	1,003	792	China	4,820	7,390	5,072
South Africa	893	905	772	Sultanate of Oman	2,635	1,795	4,341
United Kingdom	501	594	612	South Africa	1,328	1,067	1,979
Madagascar	582	602	461	U.A.E.	2,134	478	1,952
France	406	608	430	Singapore	370	706	1,952
Netherlands	222	232	230	India	2,099	3,028	1,754
Other	2,829	2,308	2,021	Other	13,378	15,921	12,988
Total	5,750	6,252	5,318	Total	26,764	30,385	30,038

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

In August 2026, United States (14.9%), South Africa (14.5%), United Kingdom (11.5%), Madagascar (8.7%), France (8.1%) and Netherlands (4.3%) were our major exports destinations while our imports were mainly from China (16.9%), Sultanate of Oman (14.5%), South Africa (6.6%), U.A.E. (6.5%), Singapore (6.5%) and India (5.8%).

16 October 2026