

Monthly External Merchandise Trade Statistics - May 2026

1. Balance of Visible Trade

Balance of Visible Trade showed a deficit of Rs 22,367 million in May 2026, lower by 8.6% compared to the previous month and higher by 35.1% compared to the corresponding month of 2025.

Summary of External Merchandise Trade

	Value: Rs Mn		
	2025	2026	
	May ¹	Apr ²	May ²
A. Total Exports (f.o.b)	9,895	9,870	9,282
Domestic exports	5,115	4,851	4,729
Re-exports	1,548	1,343	980
Ship's Stores and Bunkers	3,232	3,676	3,573
B. Total Imports (c.i.f)	26,448	34,330	31,649
Total International Trade (A + B)	36,343	44,200	40,931
Trade Deficit (A - B)	-16,553	-24,460	-22,367

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	
	May ¹	Apr ²	May ²
0 - Food and live animals	5,016	4,636	5,074
1 - Beverages and tobacco	658	576	392
2 - Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	519	426	426
3 - Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	5,424	15,056	11,315
4 - Animals and vegetable oils, fats & waxes	324	117	296
5 - Chemicals & related products, n.e.s.	2,085	2,418	2,344
6 - Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	3,244	2,842	3,058
7 - Machinery and transport equipment	6,605	6,153	6,636
8 - Miscellaneous manufactured articles	2,455	1,974	2,091
9 - Other commodities & transactions, n.e.s	118	132	17
TOTAL	26,448	34,330	31,649

¹ Revised figures

² Provisional

In May 2026, total imports decreased by 7.8% compared to April 2026 and increased by 19.7% compared to May 2025.

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

F.O.B value: Rs Mn

SITC SECTION/DESCRIPTION	2025	2026	
	May ¹	Apr ²	May ²
0 - Food and live animals	2,829	2,780	2,628
1 - Beverages and tobacco	112	127	88
2 - Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	192	244	241
3 - Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	1	-	2
4 - Animals and vegetable oils, fats & waxes	30	29	14
5 - Chemicals & related products, n.e.s.	384	444	300
6 - Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	921	719	757
7 - Machinery and transport equipment	285	192	202
8 - Miscellaneous manufactured articles	1,900	1,586	1,468
9 - Other commodities & transactions, n.e.s	9	73	9
Exports exclusive of Ship's Stores and Bunkers	6,663	6,194	5,709
Estimates of Ship's Stores and Bunkers	3,232	3,676	3,573
TOTAL	9,895	9,870	9,282

¹ Revised figures ² Provisional - Nil or Negligible

In May 2026, total exports decreased by 6.0% compared to April 2026 and by 6.2% compared to May 2025.

4. Main trading partners in May 2026

Value: Rs Mn

Exports ¹ (F.O.B)				Imports (C.I.F)			
Country	2025	2026		Country	2025	2026	
	May ²	Apr ³	May ³		May ²	Apr ³	May ³
South Africa	879	666	778	China	4,901	5,446	6,056
United States	789	815	619	Sultanate of Oman	85	5,602	4,419
United Kingdom	617	552	579	Belgium	139	214	3,027
France	556	628	574	South Africa	1,339	1,766	2,082
Madagascar	666	643	483	India	2,353	1,758	2,058
Spain	488	358	426	Singapore	236	3,093	2,052
Other	2,668	2,532	2,250	Other	17,395	16,451	11,955
Total	6,663	6,194	5,709	Total	26,448	34,330	31,649

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

In May 2026, South Africa (13.6%), United States (10.8%), United Kingdom (10.1%), France (10.1%), Madagascar (8.5%) and Spain (7.5%) were our major exports destinations while our imports were mainly from China (19.1%), Sultanate of Oman (14.0%), Belgium (9.6%), South Africa (6.6%), India (6.5%) and Singapore (6.5%).

17 July 2026