Monthly External Merchandise Trade Statistics - March 2019

1. Balance of Visible Trade

Balance of Visible Trade showed a deficit of Rs 9,750 million in March 2019, higher by 25.0% compared to the previous month and by 36.7% compared to the corresponding month of 2018.

Summary of External Merchandise Trade

Value: Rs Mn

	2018	2019	
	Mar ¹	Feb ¹	Mar ²
A. Total Exports (f.o.b)	7,322	6,096	6,893
Domestic exports	4,710	3,821	4,661
Re-exports	1,527	1,367	1,158
Ship's Stores and Bunkers	1,085	908	1,074
B. Total Imports (c.i.f)	14,456	13,898	16,643
Total International Trade (A + B)	21,778	19,994	23,536
Trade Deficits (A - B)	-7,134	-7,802	-9,750

¹Revised estimates

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

C.I.F value: Rs Mn

SITC SECTION/DESCRIPTION		2019	
	Mar ¹	Feb ¹	Mar ²
0 - Food and live animals	2,834	2,468	3,502
1 - Beverages and tobacco	327	190	329
2 - Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	272	388	597
3 - Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	3,594	2,773	3,608
4 - Animals and vegetable oils, fats & waxes	241	53	79
5 - Chemicals & related products, n.e.s.	1,197	1,313	1,298
6 - Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	1,964	2,530	2,546
7 - Machinery and transport equipment	2,722	2,909	3,528
8 - Miscellaneous manufactured articles	1,191	1,202	1,125
9 - Other commodities & transactions, n.e.s	114	72	31
TOTAL		13,898	16,643

¹ Revised estimates

In March 2019, total imports increased by 19.8% compared to February 2019 and by 15.1% compared to March 2018.

² First Estimates

² First Estimates

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

F.O.B value: Rs Mn

SITC SECTION/DESCRIPTION	2018	2019	
	Mar ¹	Feb ¹	Mar ²
0 - Food and live animals	2,283	2,017	2,336
1 - Beverages and tobacco	36	40	38
2 - Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	83	63	91
3 - Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	-	46	34
4 - Animals and vegetable oils, fats & waxes		10	12
5 - Chemicals & related products, n.e.s.	348	244	314
6 - Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	782	730	773
7 - Machinery and transport equipment	240	168	197
8 - Miscellaneous manufactured articles	2,359	1,860	2,019
9 - Other commodities & transactions, n.e.s	90	10	5
Exports exclusive of Ship's Stores and Bunkers	6,237	5,188	5,819
Estimates of Ship's Stores and Bunkers	1,085	908	1,074
TOTAL		6,096	6,893

¹ Revised estimates ² First estimates

In March 2019, total exports increased by 13.1% compared to previous month but decreased by 5.9% compared to March 2018.

4. Main trading partners in March 2019

Value: Rs Mn

Exports ¹ (F.O.B)			Imports (C.I.F)				
Country	2018	2019		G t	2018 2019		19
	Mar ²	Feb ²	Mar ³	Country	Mar ²	Feb ²	Mar ³
United Kingdom	823	525	762	India	3,071	2,349	3,472
France	753	448	650	China	1,554	2,563	1,994
South Africa	784	443	548	France	1,300	1,151	1,433
United States	484	688	539	South Africa	1,549	1,399	1,146
Madagascar	320	392	386	United Kingdom	253	450	605
Italy	332	219	333	Germany	411	360	578
Other	2,741	2,473	2,601	Other	6,318	5,626	7,415
Total	6,237	5,188	5,819	Total	14,456	13,898	16,643

¹Excluding Ship's Stores and Bunkers ² Revised estimates ³ First Estimates

United Kingdom (13.1%), France (11.2%), South Africa (9.4%) and United States (9.3%) were our major exports destinations in March 2019 while our imports were mainly from India (20.9%), China (12.0%), France (8.6%) and South Africa (6.9%).