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MERCHANDISE TRADE

2015-Q1

The total imports for quarter 1 of 2015 was valued SR 3,424.3 million, an increase of 7.6% compared to the corresponding period of 2014. The value of Domestic Exports increased by 1.0% whilst Re - Exports decreased by 15.1% compared to the same period of 2014.

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1. INTRODUCTION

This issue of Quarterly Merchandise Trade Statistics highlights key indicators for Quarter 1 of 2015.

The Classification used follows the guidelines of United Nations International Merchandise Trade Statistics, Concepts and Definitions 2010. Goods are classified under Harmonized System (HS 2007).

Imports are valued C.I.F (Cost, Insurance and Freight) while Exports and Re-Exports are valued F.O.B. (Free on board), that is, it excludes international freight charges and insurance costs.

The trading partner in the case of imports is the country of origin while in the case of exports it is the country of final destination.

2. RESULTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

2015 Q1 (Tables 1and 1b)

The total imports for the first quarter of 2015 were valued at SR3424.3 million representing an increase of 7.6% compared to the same period of 2014. Comparing the figure for 2014 to that of 2015, the total value of Domestic Exports increased from SR989.7 million to SR999.2 million reflecting an increase of 1.0%. A decrease of 15.1% was recorded in the value of Re-exports, from SR649.4 million in 2014 to SR551.3 million in 2015.

The net effect was a trade deficit valued at SR1873.9 million or a 21.4% increase compared to 2014.

Imports (Tables 2a and 2b)

During the first three months of 2015 imports increased in monetary value by

SR241.7 million or 7.6% above the same period of 2014.

Value of imports by major sections, January - March 2015/2014

During quarter 1 of 2015 Food and Live Animals accounted for 24% of imports with a value of SR782.6 million. This was 3.7% higher than in 2014. It must be noted that these imports also include frozen tuna imported for processing by the tuna cannery. Imports of fish and crustaceans accounted for 47% of imports in this category. Imports of Cereals and Cereal Preparations and Meat and Meat Preparations accounted for 11% and 16% respectively.

Imports of Beverages and Tobacco accounted for 2% of the total import bills for the first quarter of 2015 being 31.1% higher than in 2014. Of this, imports of Tobacco and Tobacco Manufactures decreased by 29% and the imports of beverages increased by 35% compared to the same period of 2014.

Imports of Mineral Fuels for the first quarter of 2015 were valued at SR551.6 million and this was 41.2% lower than in the same quarter of 2014.

Imports of Chemicals for 2015 were valued at SR220.6 million and this was 68.4% higher than in 2014. Of this value, SR100.8 million represents the imports of Medical and Pharmaceutical products, which was 46% higher than in 2014.

Manufactured Goods accounted for 16% of total import bills during the first quarter of 2015. This represented an increase of 28% compared to 2014. Of the manufactured goods, 34% were Manufactures of Metals, 17% were Non-metallic Mineral Manufactures, 2% Textile

Fabrics, 26% Articles of Apparel and Clothing Accessories and 21% Wood Manufactures. The import of Textile Manufactures was 49% higher than in 2014. The import of Manufactures of Metal was 51% higher than in 2014, while import of Wood Manufactures was 4% higher than for the same period of 2014.

Imports of Machinery and Transport accounted for 23% of the total import bill for 2015 and this was 47.1% higher than in 2014. The imports of road vehicles accounted for SR117.3 million, an increase of 15% compared to 2014.

Domestic Exports (Table 4)

During the first quarter of 2015 the value of domestic exports was SR999.2 million. This was 1% higher than in 2014. The value of exports of canned tuna decreased by 2% from SR947.2 million in 2014 to SR925.4 million in 2015. The exports of fresh and frozen fish brought in SR10.6 million in quarter 1 of 2015. Exports of fish meal were valued at SR33.5 million in 2015 representing an increase of 64%. The value of exports of medicaments and medical appliances decreased from SR6.7 million in 2014 to SR3.9 million in 2015 representing a decrease of 42%. Exports of sea cucumber were valued at SR7.1 million during the first quarter of 2015.

Re-exports (Table 5)

The value of re-exports for quarter 1 of 2015 stood at SR551.3 million, representing a decrease of 15.1% compared to 2014. Of this, SR520.4 million, were re-exports of petroleum products to ships and aircraft. Other re-exports were valued at SR31.9 million, representing an increase of 53.5% compared to 2014.

Trade with Selected Economic Communities (Table 6)

Table 6 highlights trade with key Economic Communities of interest. The European Union (EU) tops the list followed by Southern African Development Community (SADC), Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and Indian Ocean Commission (IOC). Seychelles registered a positive Balance of Trade with several EU member states during the first quarter of 2015.

3. TABLES AND CHARTS

SUMMARY OF EXTERNAL TRADE 1995 - 2015

Year/Quarter	Thousand Rupees			
	Imports (c.i.f)	Domestic Exports (f.o.b)	Re-exports (f.o.b.)	Balance of trade (1)
1995	1,109,205	113,889	139,615	-855,700
1996	1,881,876	205,006	488,419	-1,188,450
1997	1,711,135	349,151	220,079	-1,141,905
1998	2,015,519	473,787	169,879	-1,371,853
1999	2,317,043	581,328	193,796	-1,541,919
2000	1,949,851	706,271	402,205	-841,375
2001	2,776,067	892,411	370,785	-1,512,871
2002	2,294,924	957,475	291,563	-1,045,886
2003	2,230,648	1,141,677	342,040	-746,931
2004	2,731,782	1,095,080	504,842	-1,131,860
2005	3,712,202	1,164,683	703,910	-1,843,609
2006	4,150,340	1,185,667	914,658	-2,050,014
2007	5,728,359	1,346,527	1,088,735	-3,293,098
2008	8,378,742	2,186,282	1,883,343	-2,478,657
2009	10,633,363	3,222,637	2,116,840	-5,293,886
2010	11,952,831	2,654,567	2,163,555	-7,134,709
2011	12,456,057	3,268,907	2,624,142	-6,563,007
2012	13,972,543	3,723,503	3,067,159	-7,181,882
2013	13,051,224	4,505,129	2,466,067	-6,080,028
2014	14,554,671	4,300,657	2,577,805	-7,676,209
2012				
Q1	3,473,867	1,001,391	830,363	-1,642,113
Q2	3,593,158	983,505	704,235	-1,905,418
Q3	3,405,684	807,953	706,249	-1,891,482
Q4	3,499,834	930,654	826,311	-1,742,869
2013(3)				
Q1	3,032,263	1,315,922	671,766	-1,044,575
Q2	3,023,208	1,106,956	515,773	-1,400,480
Q3	3,527,740	982,865	530,164	-2,014,711
Q4	3,468,012	1,099,386	748,365	-1,620,261
2014(3)				
Q1	3,182,588	989,677	649,444	-1,543,467
Q2	3,412,938	1,217,066	571,229	-1,624,643
Q3	3,938,921	1,000,938	637,878	-2,300,105
Q4	4,020,223	1,092,976	719,253	-2,207,994
2015(3)				
Q1	3,424,317	999,168	551,295	-1,873,854

Source: National Bureau of Statistics

Notes:

(1) Domestic exports plus re - exports minus imports

(2) Valuation: imports are valued CIF, Cost, Insurance and Freight, whilst exports are valued FOB, Free On Board (excluding insurance and international freight charges)

(3) Figures for 2013 - 2015 are provisional

BALANCE OF TRADE 2014 - 2015

Table 1b

	Jan - Mar 2014 (1)	Jan - Mar 2015(1)	% Change 2015/2014
	SR million	SR million	
Imports	3,182.6	3,424.3	8%
Exports	989.7	999.2	1%
Re - Exports	649.4	551.3	-15%
To Ships & Aircrafts	629.3	520.4	-17%
Other	20.1	30.9	53%

Source: National Bureau of Statistics

Notes (1) Figures for 2014 and 2015 are provisional

VALUE OF IMPORTS BY HS SECTION AND DIVISION 2014 - 2015

Table 2a

HS Section and Division (1)	YEARS		QUARTERS				
	2014(3)	2015(3)	2014 Q1	2014 Q2	2014 Q3	2014 Q4	2015 Q1
TOTAL	14,554,671	3,424,317	3,182,588	3,412,938	3,938,921	4,020,223	3,424,317
0 Live animal products, live trees and plants,							
Vegetable products and fruits	2,409,847	547,018	558,944	539,883	749,336	561,684	547,018
01 Live animals	414	1,025	161	121	44	89	1,025
02 Meat and edible meat offal	233,812	58,259	36,605	46,736	76,136	74,335	58,259
03 Fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates	1,649,790	349,576	415,442	368,850	531,911	333,587	349,576
04 Dairy produce; birds eggs; natural honey; edible products of animal origin, not elsewhere specified or included	250,717	64,264	48,434	59,282	70,037	72,963	64,264
05 Products of animal origin, not elsewhere specified or included	1,717	318	102	207	636	772	318
06 Live trees and other plants, bulbs, roots and the like; cut flower and ornamental foliage	3,434	924	256	1,028	1,373	777	924
07 Edible vegetables and certain roots and tubers	133,243	38,848	29,263	32,401	33,981	37,598	38,848
08 Edible fruit and nuts; peel of citrus fruits or melons	100,194	28,469	19,511	21,853	28,004	30,826	28,469
09 Coffee, tea, mate and spices	36,527	5,333	9,170	9,404	7,214	10,738	5,333
1 Cereals, milling products, Animal or vegetable fats and oils, preparations of meat fish and pastrycooks products	591,969	165,714	142,764	133,500	149,837	165,867	165,714
10 Cereals	120,545	27,375	37,751	29,725	28,133	24,936	27,375
11 Products of the milling industry; malt; starches; insulin; wheat gluten	51,786	14,962	11,271	14,473	12,804	13,239	14,962
12 Oil seeds and oleaginous fruits; miscellaneous grains, seeds and fruits; industrial or medicinal plants; straw and fodder	7,973	2,885	1,527	2,477	1,340	2,630	2,885
13 Lac; gums, resins and other vegetable saps and extracts	287	17	33	54	13	187	17
14 Vegetable plaiting materials; Vegetable products not elsewhere specified or included	308	15	79	5	30	194	15
15 Animal or vegetable fats and oils and their cleavage products; prepared edible fats; animal or vegetable waxes	169,618	50,542	48,115	34,996	40,702	45,805	50,542
16 Preparations of meat, of fish or of crustaceans, molluscs or other aquatic invertebrates	59,684	20,997	11,813	8,690	18,474	20,707	20,997
17 Sugars and sugar confectionery	45,527	11,175	6,745	9,074	11,369	18,341	11,175
18 Cocoa and cocoa preparations	41,267	9,456	6,738	7,473	14,818	12,239	9,456
19 Preparations of cereals, flour, starch or milk; pastrycooks' products	94,972	28,292	18,694	26,533	22,155	27,590	28,292

HS Section and Division (1)	YEARS		QUARTERS				
	2014(3)	2015(3)	2014 Q1	2014 Q2	2014 Q3	2014 Q4	2015 Q1
2 <u>Preparation of Vegetables, Beverages, Spirits, Tobacco and manufactured tobacco substances, mineral products organic and inorganic chemicals or components</u>	4,367,640	717,632	1,077,196	1,108,452	1,024,072	1,157,919	717,632
20 Preparations of vegetables, fruits nuts or other parts of plants.	124,747	31,953	22,242	40,096	35,056	27,354	31,953
21 Miscellaneous edible preparations.	87,073	26,757	16,713	17,456	22,264	30,640	26,757
22 Beverages, spirits and vinegar.	287,882	60,701	45,028	76,074	77,603	89,177	60,701
23 Residues and waste from the food industries; prepared animal fodder.	52,743	12,051	13,958	12,243	14,577	11,964	12,051
24 Tobacco and manufactured tobacco substitutes.	10,438	1,996	2,800	1,191	4,326	2,121	1,996
25 Salts; sulphur; earth and stone; plastering materials, lime and cement.	112,006	22,356	31,553	23,274	20,126	37,053	22,356
26 Ores, slag and ash.	69	22	0	3	0	65	22
27 Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; mineral waxes.	3,660,402	551,593	938,017	930,644	842,389	949,352	551,593
28 Inorganic chemicals; organic compounds of precious metals, of rare-earth metals, of radioactive elements or of isotopes.	20,302	7,469	5,139	3,772	5,142	6,250	7,469
29 Organic chemicals.	11,979	2,733	1,747	3,700	2,589	3,943	2,733
3 <u>Products of the chemical or allied industries N.E.S.</u>							
<u>Plastics and articles thereof</u>	985,422	198,556	143,816	188,792	423,561	229,253	198,556
30 Pharmaceutical products.	84,589	25,322	17,102	17,205	29,165	21,118	25,322
31 Fertilisers.	2,405	1,242	127	886	846	547	1,242
32 Tanning or dyeing extracts; tannins and their derivatives; dyes; pigments and other colouring matter; paints and varnishes; putty and other mastics; inks.	94,018	27,959	17,401	23,033	24,516	29,068	27,959
33 Essential oils and resinoids; perfumery, cosmetic or toilet preparations.	113,515	34,250	22,883	23,943	33,769	32,920	34,250
34 Soap, organic surface-active agents, washing preparations, lubricating preparations, articles, modelling pastes, "dental waxes" and dental preparations with a basis of plaster.	101,652	23,525	18,429	29,168	25,908	28,147	23,525
35 Albuminoidal substances; modified starches; glues; enzymes.	15,892	3,984	4,151	3,009	4,197	4,535	3,984
36 Explosives; pyrotechnic products; matches; pyrophoric alloys; certain combustible preparations.	2,753	2,960	1,207	1,103	169	274	2,960
37 Photographic or cinematographic goods.	1,744	216	346	518	386	493	216
38 Miscellaneous chemical products.	65,348	15,444	9,385	20,386	17,538	18,040	15,444
39 Plastics and articles thereof.	503,505	63,653	52,786	69,541	287,068	94,110	63,653

HS Section and Division (1)	YEARS		QUARTERS				
	2014(3)	2015(3)	2014 Q1	2014 Q2	2014 Q3	2014 Q4	2015 Q1
4 <u>Rubber and articles thereof, hides, skins, leather and furskins and articles thereof, wood and articles thereof, manufactured straw, paper and paper base and articles thereof</u>	<u>671,370</u>	<u>170,209</u>	<u>165,502</u>	<u>147,781</u>	<u>169,240</u>	<u>188,847</u>	<u>170,209</u>
40 Rubber and articles thereof.	92,824	20,748	24,569	24,079	17,735	26,441	20,748
41 Raw hides and skins (other than furskins) and leather.	29	9	4	1	1	23	9
42 Articles of leather; saddlery and harness; travel goods, handbags and similar containers; articles of animal gut (other than silk-worm gut).	18,177	6,169	2,626	3,123	5,362	7,066	6,169
43 Furskins and artificial fur, manufactures thereof.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
44 Wood and articles of wood; wood charcoal.	261,813	65,492	57,270	68,337	66,226	69,980	65,492
45 Cork and articles of cork	263	35	13	167	40	42	35
46 Manufactures of straw, of esparto or of other plaiting materials; basketware and wickerwork.	5,080	919	362	1,194	1,921	1,603	919
47 Pulp of wood or of other fibrous cellulosic material; waste and scrap of paper or paperboard.	294	175	25	180	22	67	175
48 Paper and paperboard; articles of paper pulp, of paper or of paper board.	222,226	61,935	53,693	38,751	66,301	63,481	61,935
49 Printed books, newspapers, pictures and other products of the printing industry; manuscripts, typescripts and plans.	70,666	14,726	26,940	11,949	11,632	20,144	14,726
5 <u>Textiles and textile articles</u>	<u>53,386</u>	<u>15,337</u>	<u>10,267</u>	<u>13,030</u>	<u>12,416</u>	<u>17,674</u>	<u>15,337</u>
50 Silk	1,403	450	138	313	337	616	450
51 Wool, fine or coarse animal hair; horsehair yarn and woven fabric	39	0	6	2	3	28	0
52 Cotton	6,515	1,708	1,286	1,186	1,637	2,406	1,708
53 Other vegetable textile fibres; paper yarn woven fabrics of paper yarn.	346	41	59	36	8	242	41
54 Man-made filaments.	2,121	1,817	604	750	251	516	1,817
55 Man-made staple fibres	7,734	1,016	924	2,466	2,282	2,063	1,016
56 Wadding felt and nonwovens; special yarn ; twine, cordage, rope and cable and articles thereof.	16,860	5,937	4,290	4,674	2,716	5,179	5,937
57 Carpets and other textile floor coverings.	10,672	1,820	1,942	2,610	3,231	2,889	1,820
58 Special woven fabrics; tufted textile fabrics; lace; tapestries; trimmings; embroidery.	2,954	1,223	401	492	883	1,178	1,223
59 Impregnated, coated, covered or laminated textile fabrics; textile articles of a kind suitable for industrial use.	4,743	1,325	615	502	1,069	2,558	1,325

HS Section and Division (1)	YEARS		QUARTERS				
	2014(3)	2015(3)	2014 Q1	2014 Q2	2014 Q3	2014 Q4	2015 Q1
6 <u>Knitted or crocheted, articles of apparel, miscellaneous manufactured articles of stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, mica or similar materials</u>	<u>363,204</u>	<u>92,610</u>	<u>67,193</u>	<u>84,655</u>	<u>99,030</u>	<u>112,325</u>	<u>92,610</u>
60 Knitted or crocheted fabrics.	282	239	36	77	57	111	239
61 Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted.	53,075	16,240	8,090	12,343	16,519	16,124	16,240
62 Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, not knitted or crocheted.	38,808	7,148	7,400	7,320	10,452	13,636	7,148
63 Other made up textile articles; sets; worn clothing and worn textile articles; rags.	73,829	18,368	15,729	16,460	19,002	22,638	18,368
64 Footwear, gaiters and the like ; parts of such articles.	41,479	9,056	6,894	8,760	10,622	15,203	9,056
65 Headgear and parts thereof.	5,352	2,261	709	1,475	2,076	1,093	2,261
66 Umbrellas, sun umbrellas, walking-sticks, seat-sticks, whips, riding-crops and parts thereof.	8,819	1,709	2,404	1,721	2,528	2,166	1,709
67 Prepared feathers and down and articles made of feathers or of down; artificial flowers; articles of human hair.	966	233	136	106	206	518	233
68 Articles of stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, mica or similar materials.	62,194	13,647	10,089	19,245	17,994	14,865	13,647
69 Ceramic products.	78,400	23,709	15,706	17,149	19,574	25,971	23,709
7 <u>Glass and glassware, pearls, precious or semiprecious stones, metals and articles thereof, base metals and articles thereof</u>	<u>835,788</u>	<u>241,312</u>	<u>159,801</u>	<u>171,728</u>	<u>180,570</u>	<u>323,690</u>	<u>241,312</u>
70 Glass and glassware.	60,415	12,665	9,463	16,032	18,212	16,707	12,665
71 Natural or cultured pearls, precious or semi-precious stones, precious metals, metals clad with precious metals and articles thereof; imitation jewellery; coin.	32,985	8,643	7,897	9,045	8,509	7,535	8,643
72 Iron and steel.	265,062	108,798	53,478	62,501	55,879	93,203	108,798
73 Articles of iron or steel.	372,274	90,043	69,089	63,086	70,535	169,563	90,043
74 Copper and articles thereof	25,259	3,678	3,958	5,101	9,453	6,747	3,678
75 Nickel and articles thereof.	196	14	4	114	12	65	14
76 Aluminium and articles thereof.	78,503	17,352	15,849	15,300	17,807	29,546	17,352
77 (Reserved for possible future use in the Harmonized System).							
78 Lead and articles thereof.	191	74	3	78	92	20	74
79 Zinc and articles thereof.	904	46	60	470	70	304	46
8 <u>Tin other base metals and articles thereof, cutlery, Machinery and mechanical appliances</u>	<u>3,726,169</u>	<u>1,098,750</u>	<u>750,545</u>	<u>912,451</u>	<u>980,975</u>	<u>1,082,198</u>	<u>1,098,750</u>
80 Tin and articles thereof	5	0	5	0	0	0	0
81 Other base metals; cermets; articles thereof.	10	0	6	3	1	0	0
82 Tools, implements, cutlery, spoons and forks of base metals; parts thereof of base metal.	49,543	9,670	10,019	11,190	13,153	15,181	9,670
83 Miscellaneous articles of base metal.	198,793	73,360	58,812	42,440	44,691	52,850	73,360

	HS Section and Division (1)	YEARS		QUARTERS				
		2014(3)	2015(3)	2014 Q1	2014 Q2	2014 Q3	2014 Q4	2015 Q1
84	Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof.	1,337,222	482,526	315,387	312,165	304,485	405,186	482,526
85	Electrical machinery and equipment and parts thereof, sound recorders and reproducers, television image and sound recorder and reproducers, and parts and accessories of such articles.	668,124	169,185	137,169	137,815	148,124	245,017	169,185
86	Railway or tramway locomotives, rolling-stock and parts thereof, railway or tramway track fixtures and fittings and parts thereof, mechanical (including electro-mechanical) traffic signalling equipment of all kinds	6,456	412	4,600	533	759	563	412
87	Vehicles other than railway or tramway rolling-stock, and parts and accessories thereof.	560,153	117,277	102,417	134,613	135,997	187,126	117,277
88	Aircraft, spacecraft, and parts thereof.	287,882	108,848	19,532	49,436	190,649	28,266	108,848
89	Ships, boats and floating structures.	617,981	137,473	102,598	224,257	143,117	148,009	137,473
9	Commodities and other transactions not classified elsewhere	549,875	177,180	106,559	112,666	149,884	180,766	177,180
90	Optical, photographic, cinematographic, measuring, checking, precision, medical or surgical instruments and apparatus; parts and accessories thereof.	140,270	75,505	33,100	34,829	37,602	34,739	75,505
91	Clocks and watches and parts and accessories thereof.	10,398	1,222	2,235	1,316	3,135	3,713	1,222
92	Musical instruments; parts and accessories of such articles.	1,704	889	119	394	391	799	889
93	Arms and ammunition; parts and accessories thereof	6,498	36	2	6,484	5	7	36
94	Furniture; bedding, mattresses, mattress supports, cushions and similar stuffed furnishings; lamps and lighting fittings, not elsewhere specified or included; illuminated signs, illuminated name-plates and the like; prefabricated buildings.	283,639	80,153	58,305	55,053	66,237	104,044	80,153
95	Toys, games and sports requisited; parts and accessories thereof.	77,893	11,050	7,772	8,365	33,442	28,314	11,050
96	Miscellaneous manufactured articles.	24,142	5,951	4,597	5,993	6,234	7,319	5,951
97	Works of art, collectors' pieces and antiques.	5,310	2,373	426	232	2,839	1,814	2,373
98	(Reserved for special use by Contraction Parties)							
99	Miscellaneous importations (including 93 arms, ammunitions; parts and accessories thereof)	21	0	3	0	1	17	0

Source: National Bureau of Statistics

Notes:

(1) Harmonized System

(2) Includes imports cleared provisionally pending final documentation

(3) Figures for 2013 and 2014 are provisional

Value of Imports by Major Sections, January - March 2015/2014

Table 2b

	Q1 2014 (1)		Q1 2015 (1)		% Change 15/14
	SR million	%	SR million	%	
Total Imports	3,182.6	100	3,424.3	100%	8
Food & Live Animals	754.4	32	782.6	24%	4
Beverages & Tobacco	47.8	1	62.7	2%	31
Mineral Fuels	938.0	30	551.6	29%	-41
Chemicals	131.0	3	220.6	4%	68
Manufactured Goods	523.9	15	672.9	16%	28
Machinery & Transport	740.5	15	1,089.1	23%	47
Others	47.0	2	44.8	1%	-5

Source: National Bureau of Statistics

Notes (1) Figures for 2014 and 2015 are provisional

VALUE OF IMPORTS(cif) BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN, 2013 - 2015

Country	Thousand Rupees / % of total					
	2013 Jan - Dec		2014(1) Jan - Mar		2015 (1) Jan - Mar	
Total	13,051,224	100.0%	3,182,588	100.0%	3,424,317	100.0%
Australia	160,091	1.2%	13,548	0.4%	22,021	0.6%
Austria	16,757	0.1%	4,144	0.1%	8,416	0.2%
Belgium	87,855	0.7%	26,149	0.8%	20,807	0.6%
Brazil	145,340	1.1%	29,704	0.9%	23,128	0.7%
Canada	50,386	0.4%	3,721	0.1%	4,234	0.1%
China	261,979	2.0%	77,652	2.4%	103,330	3.0%
Denmark	36,704	0.3%	11,888	0.4%	8,121	0.2%
Egypt	53,577	0.4%	17,800	0.6%	22,300	0.7%
France	1,078,001	8.3%	297,256	9.3%	389,908	11.4%
Germany	171,803	1.3%	51,324	1.6%	133,305	3.9%
Hong Kong	120,439	0.9%	15,467	0.5%	13,074	0.4%
India	699,238	5.4%	142,358	4.5%	120,900	3.5%
Indonesia	90,475	0.7%	22,734	0.7%	15,660	0.5%
Ireland	35,756	0.3%	8,101	0.3%	7,252	0.2%
Israel	53,988	0.4%	2,259	0.1%	1,841	0.1%
Italy	521,638	4.0%	99,513	3.1%	95,748	2.8%
Japan	52,493	0.4%	22,924	0.7%	43,778	1.3%
Kenya	58,970	0.5%	6,673	0.2%	6,834	0.2%
Korea (South)	261,577	2.0%	48,794	1.5%	82,549	2.4%
Madagascar	31,751	0.2%	10,595	0.3%	47,280	1.4%
Malaysia	128,734	1.0%	41,653	1.3%	35,576	1.0%
Mauritius	466,783	3.6%	105,340	3.3%	140,905	4.1%
Netherlands	190,431	1.5%	52,073	1.6%	46,952	1.4%
New Zealand	34,049	0.3%	14,444	0.5%	12,484	0.4%
Pakistan	52,383	0.4%	12,417	0.4%	12,828	0.4%
Qatar	259	0.0%	5,821	0.2%	32	0.0%
Reunion	4,199	0.0%	5,414	0.2%	5,522	0.2%
Russian Fed.	5,057	0.0%	1,867	0.1%	970	0.0%
Saudi Arabia	17,913	0.1%	1,671	0.1%	1,903	0.1%
Singapore	487,612	3.7%	93,027	2.9%	132,258	3.9%
South Africa	648,067	5.0%	149,914	4.7%	178,103	5.2%
Spain	1,675,780	12.8%	273,926	8.6%	308,948	9.0%
Sri Lanka	16,756	0.1%	12,337	0.4%	13,706	0.4%
Swaziland	6,780	0.1%	1,789	0.1%	41	0.0%
Sweden	43,244	0.3%	6,096	0.2%	12,333	0.4%
Switzerland	49,737	0.4%	10,351	0.3%	9,038	0.3%
Taiwan	25,303	0.2%	5,264	0.2%	5,569	0.2%
Thailand	294,932	2.3%	27,011	0.8%	43,301	1.3%
Tunisia	8,244	0.1%	17,869	0.6%	25,450	0.7%
UAE	4,072,509	31.2%	1,141,885	35.9%	821,234	24.0%
UK	374,646	2.9%	169,770	5.3%	151,490	4.4%
USA	145,527	1.1%	54,916	1.7%	93,024	2.7%
Yemen PDR	2,292	0.0%	6,486	0.2%	4,284	0.1%
Others	311,170	2.4%	58,642	1.8%	197,877	5.8%

Source: National Bureau of Statistics

Note : (1) Figures for 2013 - 2015 are provisional

MAJOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS: QUANTITY & VALUE BY COUNTRY OF DESTINATION, 2014 - 2015

Table 4a

Thousand Rupees

	YEARS		Q U A R T E R S				
	2014(1)	2015(1)	2014 Q1	2014 Q2	2014 Q3	2014 Q4	2015 Q1
TOTAL EXPORTS							
Value (R'000 - fob)	4,300,657	999,168	989,677	1,217,066	1,000,938	1,092,976	999,168
of which:							
FRESH & FROZEN FISH							
Quantity (tonnes)	623	200	25	149	45	405	200
Value (R'000)	15,304	10,646	333	2,846	1,747	10,379	10,646
of which:							
Sri Lanka	907	1,457	174	733	0	0	1,457
Reunion	0	924	0	0	0	0	924
UK	0	1,809	0	0	0	0	1,809
Russian Federation	8,069	5,723	0	2,112	1,324	4,632	5,723
Others	6,328	733	159	0	422	5,747	733
OTHER FISH							
Quantity (tonnes)	117	35	1	44	0	71	35
Value (R'000)	11,894	2,705	695	4,104	0	7,095	2,705
of which:							
France	11,178	1,816	0	4,083	0	7,095	1,816
Sri Lanka	21	134	0	21	0	0	134
Russian Federation	0	652	0	0	0	0	652
Others	695	104	695	0	0	0	104
CANNED TUNA							
Quantity (tonnes)	32,352	9,009	7,725	8,986	7,664	7,977	9,009
Value (R'000)	4,051,350	925,367	947,202	1,140,636	952,814	1,010,698	925,367
of which:							
France	1,626,805	532,605	479,913	490,158	360,552	296,182	532,605
Italy	779,553	101,863	185,365	265,070	191,441	137,676	101,863
UK	1,402,294	232,484	240,866	320,088	339,723	501,617	232,484
Others	242,698	58,415	41,057	65,319	61,099	75,223	58,415
FISH OIL AND FATS							
Quantity (tonnes)	770	171	100	322	26	321	171
Value (R'000)	39,696	10,809	3,670	13,702	1,961	20,363	10,809
of which:							
Switzerland	30,673	9,827	2,217	8,104	1,961	18,391	9,827
Iceland	7,855	554	1,453	4,430	0	1,972	554
Others	1,168	428	0	1,168	0	0	428
FISH MEAL (ANIMAL FEED)							
Quantity (tonnes)	6,883	2,021	1,582	1,841	1,681	1,780	2,021
Value (R'000)	97,302	33,476	20,460	23,580	23,785	29,477	33,476
of which:							
Australia	9,506	3,618	3,764	2,041	1,438	2,263	3,618
Ghana	19,187	1,615	5,086	4,910	4,348	4,843	1,615
Japan	35,839	16,925	2,592	9,312	10,333	13,602	16,925
Sri Lanka	24,598	6,893	8,501	7,317	3,959	4,821	6,893
Others	8,172	4,424	517	0	3,708	3,947	4,424
SEA CUCUMBER							
Quantity (tonnes)	61	9	14	29	9	10	9
Value (R'000)	41,019	7,106	8,070	19,825	5,714	7,411	7,106
of which:							
Hong Kong	40,691	7,106	8,070	19,825	5,386	7,411	7,106
Singapore	328	0	0	0	328	0	0
MEDICAMENTS & MEDICAL APPLIANCES							
Quantity (tonnes)	11	1	3	3	3	2	1
Value (R'000)	29,548	3,918	6,752	7,964	8,537	6,296	3,918
of which:							
Belgium	23,718	3,699	5,665	7,841	7,916	2,295	3,699
Singapore	617	208	19	0	598	0	208
USA	978	0	310	0	0	668	0
Others	4,236	11	757	123	23	3,333	11
OTHER EXPORTS	14,544	5,140	2,496	4,409	6,381	1,257	5,140

Source: National Bureau of Statistics

Note: (1) Figures for 2014 and 2015 are provisional

VALUE OF EXPORTS (FOB) BY COUNTRY OF DESTINATION, 2013 - 2015

Table 4b

Thousand Rupees / % of total

Country	2013		2014(1)		2015 (1)	
	Jan - Dec		Jan - Mar		Jan - Mar	
Total	4,505,129	100.0%	989,677	100.0%	999,168	100.0%
Australia	9,425	0.2%	4,496	0.5%	3,621	0.4%
Bahrain	1,244	0.0%	74	0.0%	0	0.0%
Belgium	15,057	0.3%	5,665	0.6%	4,128	0.4%
Canada	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
China	0	0.0%	50	0.0%	0	0.0%
Cyprus	4,535	0.1%	0	0.0%	1,139	0.0%
Denmark	65,691	1.5%	22,987	2.3%	29,544	3.0%
Egypt	537	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Finland	40,458	0.9%	4,424	0.4%	4,248	0.4%
France	1,963,426	43.6%	479,913	48.5%	534,420	53.5%
Germany	16,149	0.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Ghana	7,702	0.2%	5,086	0.5%	1,615	0.2%
Hong Kong	44,104	1.0%	9,014	0.9%	9,654	1.0%
Iceland	4,838	0.1%	1,453	0.1%	554	0.1%
India	1,325	0.0%	0	0.0%	14	0.0%
Italy	731,608	16.2%	185,365	18.7%	101,863	10.2%
Japan	45,740	1.0%	2,592	0.3%	16,925	1.7%
Kazakstan	3,906	0.1%	1,292	0.1%	1,211	0.1%
Kenya	0	0.0%	706	0.1%	0	0.0%
Latvia	12,242	0.3%	1,279	0.1%	0	0.0%
Libya	14,494	0.3%	893	0.1%	3,560	0.4%
Madagascar	6,026	0.1%	517	0.1%	0	0.0%
Malta	4,672	0.1%	1,209	0.1%	1,123	0.1%
Mauritius	7,495	0.2%	192	0.0%	829	0.1%
Netherlands	64,607	1.4%	7,654	0.8%	14,933	1.5%
Oman	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Philippines	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Reunion	4,578	0.1%	1,321	0.1%	2,009	0.2%
Russian Fed.	54	0.0%	0	0.0%	6,378	0.6%
Saudi Arabia	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Singapore	721	0.0%	19	0.0%	208	0.0%
South Africa	2,062	0.0%	186	0.0%	1,617	0.2%
Sri Lanka	29,071	0.6%	8,675	0.9%	8,484	0.8%
Switzerland	27,406	0.6%	2,217	0.2%	9,827	1.0%
Taiwan	2,957	0.1%	783	0.1%	4,424	0.4%
Thailand	816	0.0%	40	0.0%	0	0.0%
Turkey	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
UAE	4,716	0.1%	2	0.0%	2,289	0.2%
UK	1,346,796	29.9%	240,985	24.3%	234,304	23.4%
USA	3,820	0.1%	311	0.0%	0	0.0%
Vietnam	1,311	0.0%	134	0.0%	185	0.0%
Others	15,544	0.3%	140	0.0%	62	0.0%

Source: National Bureau of Statistics

Note : (1) Figures for 2013 - 2015 are provisional

VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS, 2014 - 2015

Table 5

Thousand Rupees

	YEARS		Q U A R T E R S				
	2014 (1)	2015(1)	2014 Q1	2014 Q2	2014 Q3	2014 Q4	2015 Q1
Total	<u>2,577,805</u>	<u>551,295</u>	<u>649,444</u>	<u>571,229</u>	<u>637,878</u>	<u>719,253</u>	<u>551,295</u>
Petroleum products	2,423,516	520,416	629,323	532,516	602,116	659,561	520,416
Other re- exports	154,289	30,879	20,122	38,713	35,762	59,692	30,879

Source: National Bureau of Statistics

Notes:(1) Figures for 2014 and 2015 are provisional

TRADE WITH SELECTED ECONOMIC COMMUNITIES

Table 6

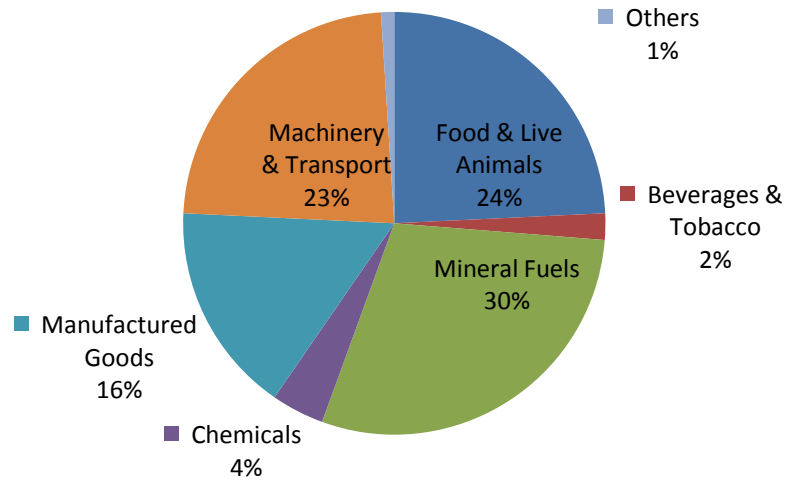
Thousand Rupees

	IMPORTS			DOMESTIC EXPORTS		
	2013 (1) Jan - Dec	2014(1) Jan-Mar	2015(1) Jan-Mar	2013 (1) Jan - Dec	2014(1) Jan - Mar	2015(1) Jan-Mar
EU	3,871,239	1,015,595	1,213,541	4,266,693	949,610	925,702
IOC	502,733	121,349	193,708	18,099	2,030	2,838
COMESA	619,469	145,698	240,507	28,552	2,308	4,388
SADC	1,155,248	270,800	378,767	15,583	895	2,446
ASEAN	2,444,175	187,999	228,390	8,151	1,223	404
ECONOMIC COMMUNITY TOTAL	8,592,864	1,741,441	2,254,913	4,337,078	956,067	935,778
GRAND TOTAL	13,051,224	3,182,588	3,424,317	4,505,129	989,677	999,168
	<i>Percentage Share of total imports</i>			<i>Percentage Share of total Exports</i>		
EU	29.7	31.9	35.4	94.7	96.0	92.6
IOC	3.9	3.8	5.7	0.4	0.2	0.3
COMESA	4.7	4.6	7.0	0.6	0.2	0.4
SADC	8.9	8.5	11.1	0.3	0.1	0.2
ASEAN	18.7	5.9	6.7	0.2	0.1	0.0
ECONOMIC COMMUNITY TOTAL	65.8	54.7	65.9	96.3	96.6	93.7

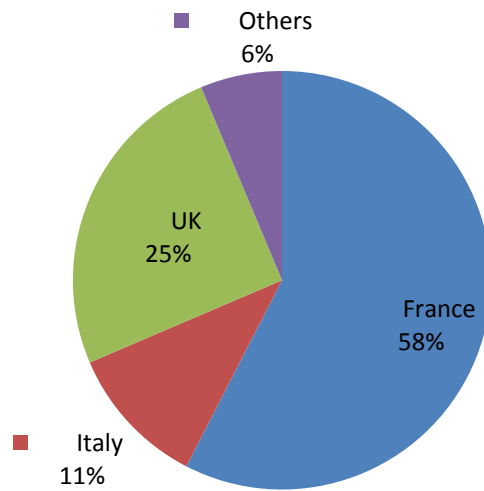
Source: National Bureau of Statistics

Notes:(1) Figures for 2013 - 2015 are provisional

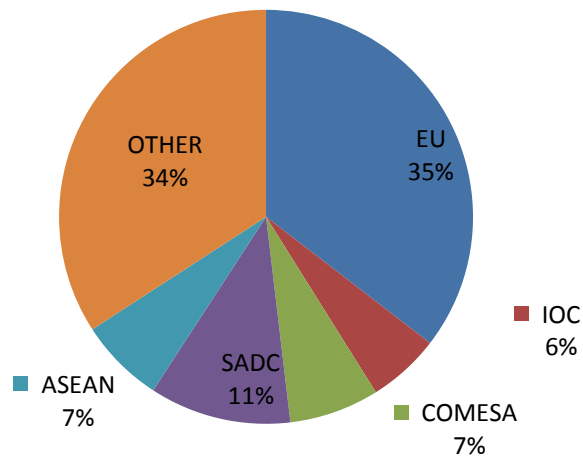
**Chart 1: Imports by Major Section
January - March 2015**



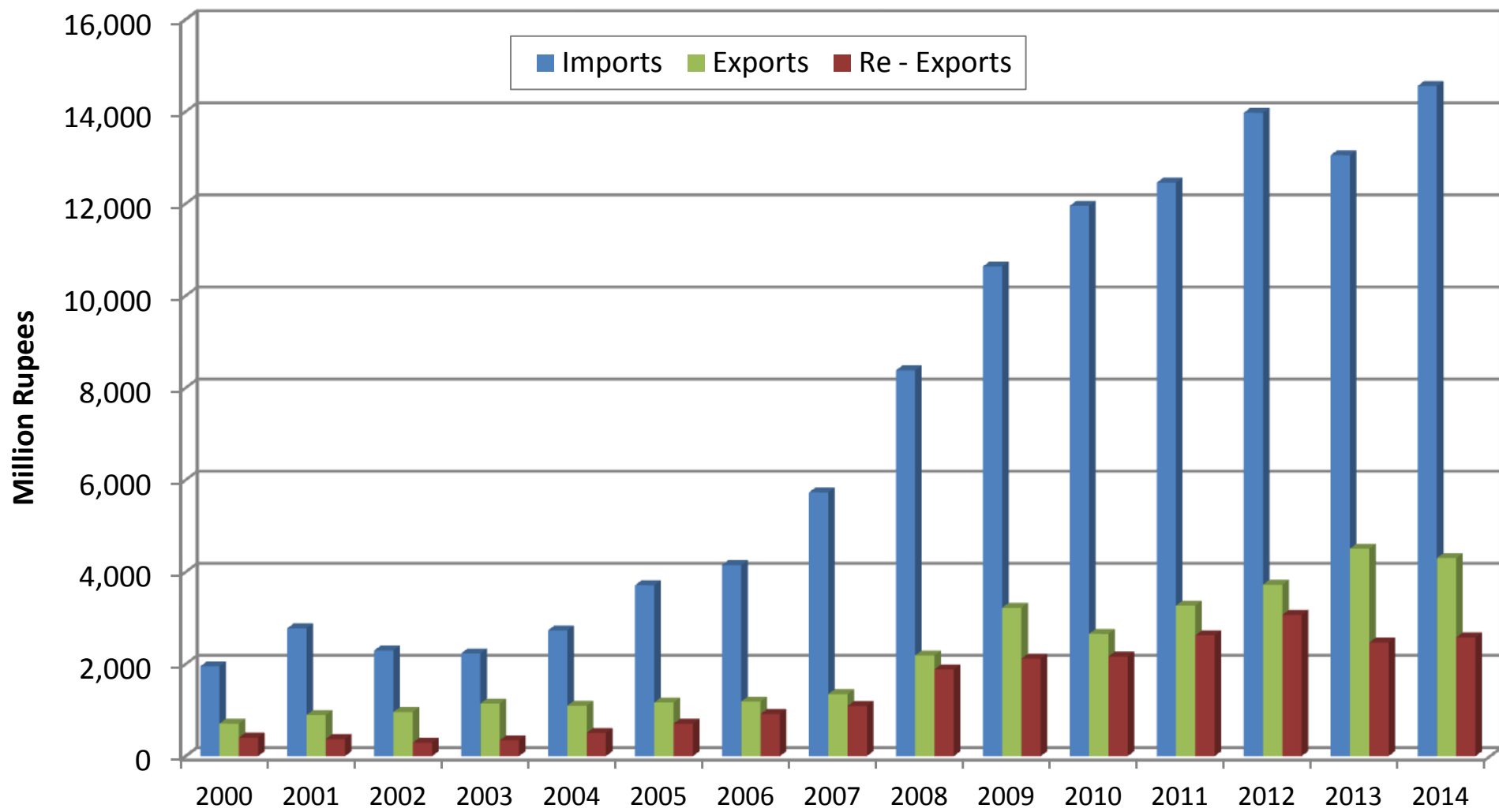
**Chart 2: Exports of Canned Tuna by Destination
January - March 2015**



**Chart 3: Imports from Selected Economic Communities
January - March 2015**



Balance of Trade 2000 - 2014



4. CONCEPTS, SOURCES AND METHODS

Merchandise Trade Statistics compilation follows the General Trade System. The general trade system is in use when the statistical territory coincides with the economic territory.

General Imports consists of:

- (a) Imports of foreign goods (including compensating products after outward processing which changed their origin from domestic to foreign) entering the free circulation area, premises for inward processing, industrial free zones, premises for customs warehousing or commercial free zones;
- (b) Re-imports of domestic goods into free circulation area, premises for inward processing or industrial free zones, premises for customs warehousing or commercial free zones.

Re-imports are imports of domestic goods which were previously recorded as exports.

General exports consist of:

- (a) Exports of domestic goods (including compensating products after inward processing which changed their origin from foreign to domestic) from any part of the statistical territory, including free zones and customs warehouses;
- (b) Re-exports of foreign goods from any part of the statistical territory, including free zones and customs warehouses.

Re-exports are exports of foreign goods which were previously recorded as imports.

DATA SOURCES

The bulk of the data comes from Customs records, but the NBS uses non-customs data from producers for complete coverage.

5. NEXT RELEASE

The next issue of the Merchandise Trade Bulletin will be released on 30th September 2015.

6. CONTACT US

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