



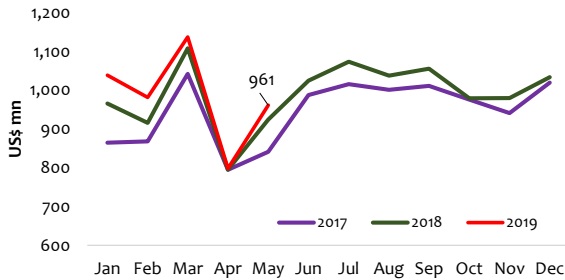
# MONTHLY TRADE BULLETIN

ECONOMIC RESEARCH DEPARTMENT  
CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA

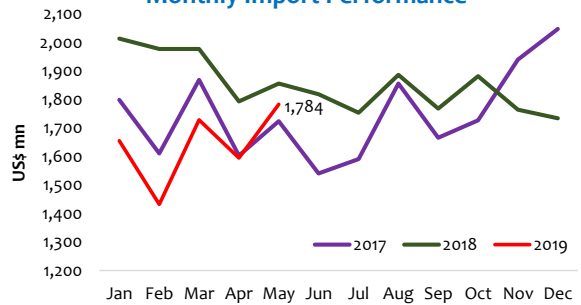
May 2019  
VOLUME 01 ISSUE 01

## Highlights

### Monthly Export Performance



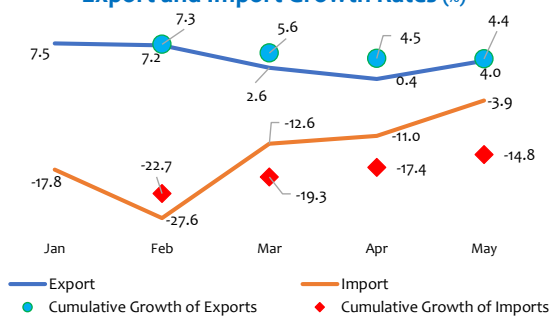
### Monthly Import Performance



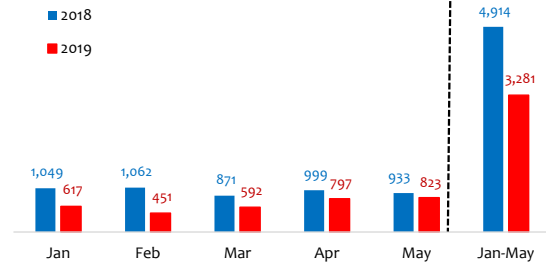
Earnings from merchandise exports increased by 4.0 per cent (year-on-year) to US dollars 961 million in May 2019.

Expenditure on merchandise imports decreased by 3.9 per cent (year-on-year) to US dollars 1,784 million in May 2019.

### Export and Import Growth Rates (%)



### Trade Deficit (US\$ Mn)

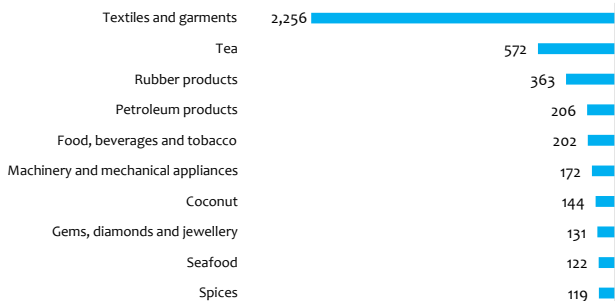


Export earnings increased by 4.4 per cent (year-on-year) during the first five months of 2019 while import expenditure declined significantly by 14.8 per cent.

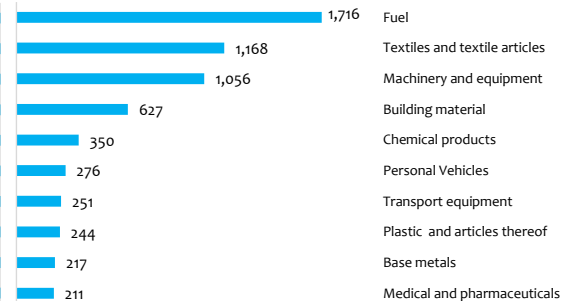
The deficit in the trade account contracted significantly in May 2019 in comparison to May 2018. Trade deficit during the first five months contracted significantly by US dollars 1,633 million when compared with the corresponding period of 2018.

## Major Export and Import Categories (Jan - May 2019)

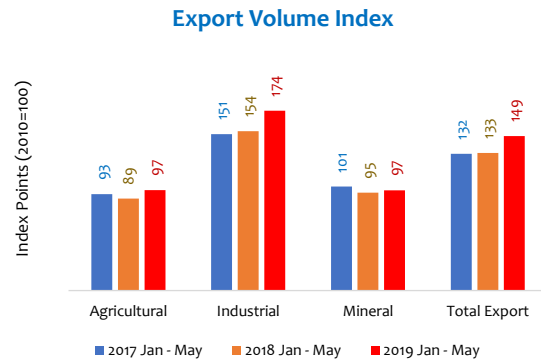
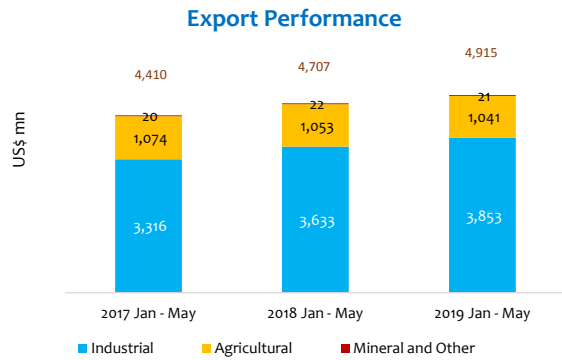
### Exports (US\$ mn)



### Imports (US\$ mn)

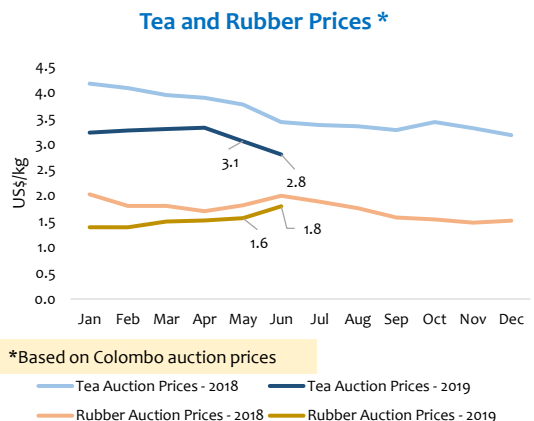
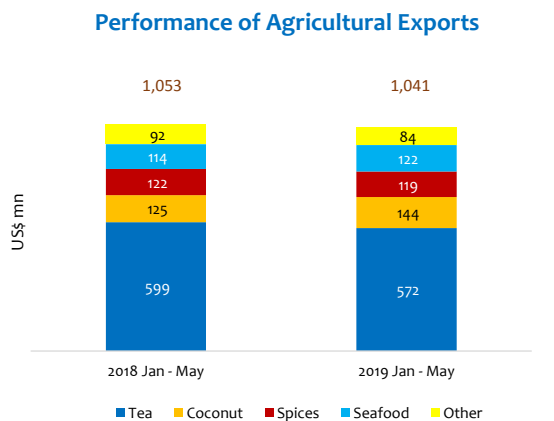
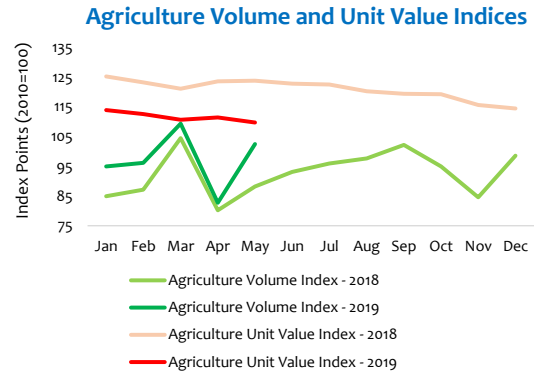
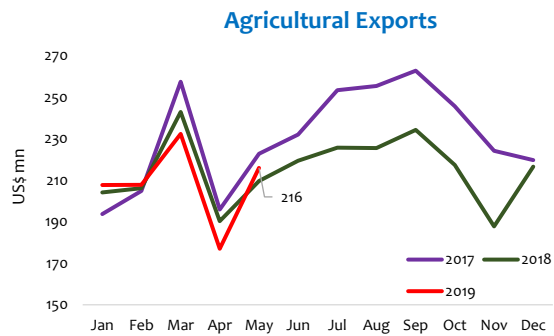


## Export Performance



Earnings from exports increased during the first five months of 2019 mainly due to the higher performance registered in industrial exports despite a decline in agricultural exports.

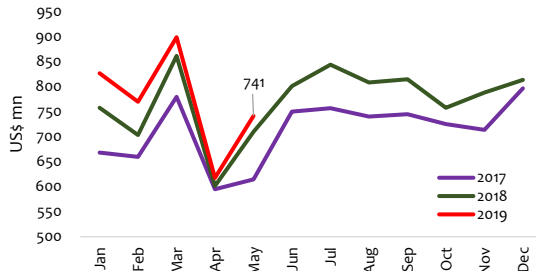
## Agricultural Exports



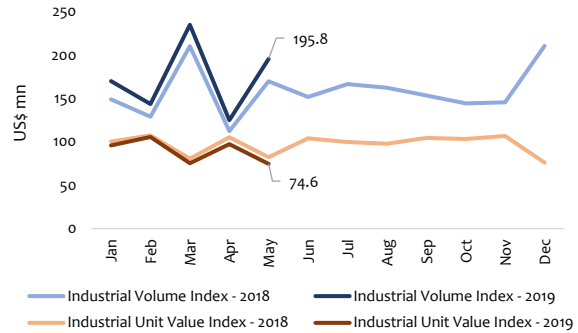
Export earnings from agricultural exports declined during the first five months of 2019 due to poor performance observed in tea, minor agricultural products and rubber exports. However, export earnings from coconut, vegetables and seafood increased during this period. Relatively lower prices in agricultural commodities, particularly tea in the international market contributed to the decline despite an increase recorded in export volumes.

## Industrial Exports

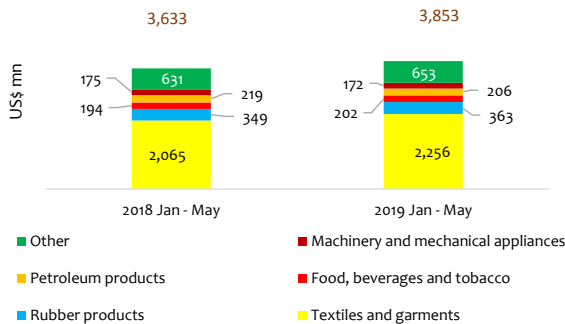
Industrial Exports



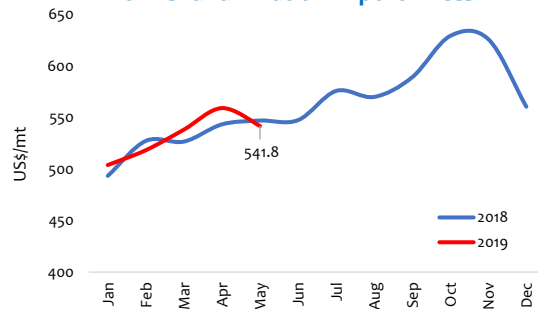
Industrial Volume and Value Indices



Performance of Industrial Exports



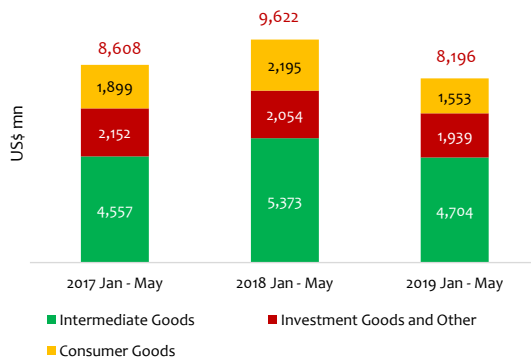
Bunker and Aviation Export Prices



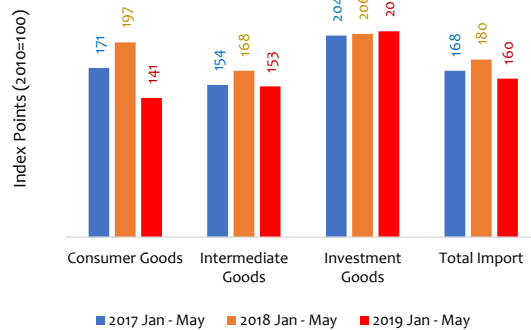
Export earnings from industrial exports increased during the first five months of 2019 due to higher performance in textiles and garments, rubber products and food, beverages and tobacco exports. However, export earnings from petroleum products decreased during this period due to lower demand with the competition from other regional peers. Export volumes of industrial exports increased during this period in comparison to the first five months of 2018.

## Import Performance

Import Performance

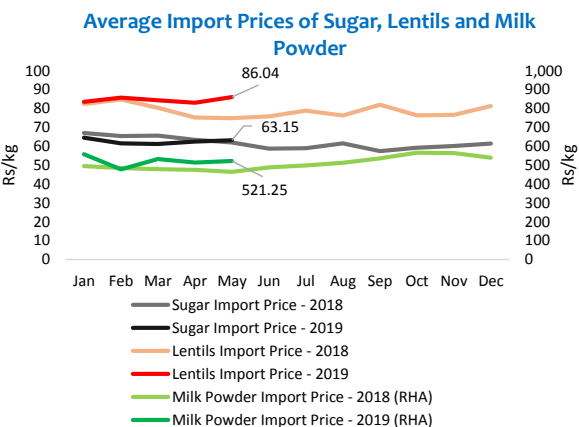
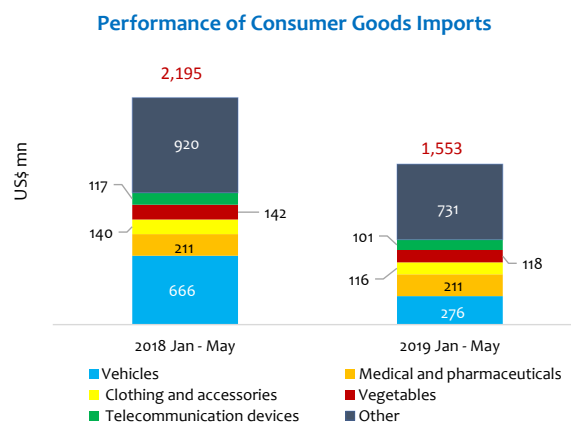
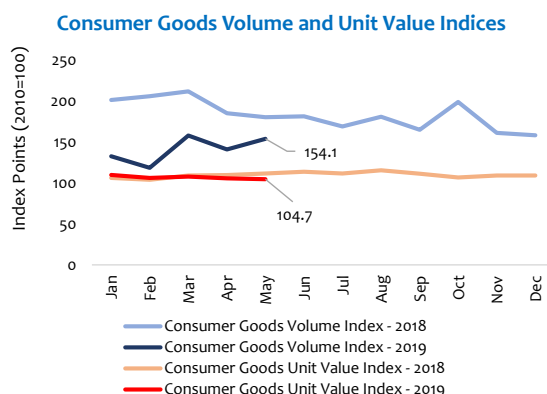
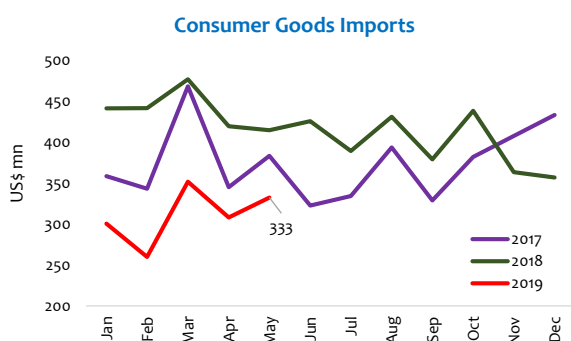


Import Volume Index



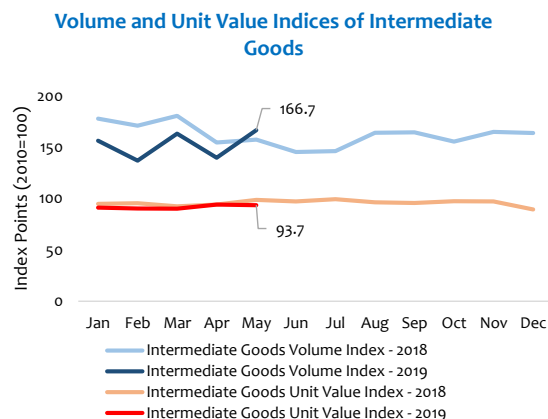
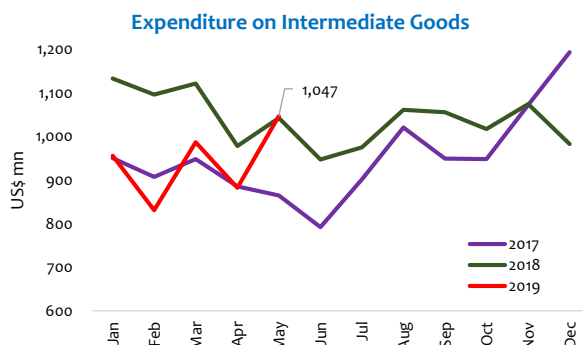
Expenditure on imports declined during the first five months of 2019 due to the lower expenses incurred on all major categories of imports.

## Consumer Goods Imports

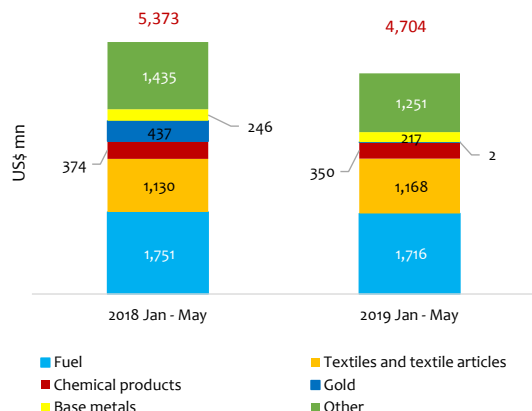


Import expenditure on consumer goods declined during the first five months of 2019 due to lower imports of most of the categories particularly vehicles and food items such as rice, sugar, dairy products and vegetables (In this chart rice, sugar and dairy products included in other category). In addition, household and furniture items, home appliances, clothing and accessories and rubber products which declined considerably during the first five months of 2019 also included in other category). This decline was supported by the effect of policy measures introduced by the CBSL and the Government.

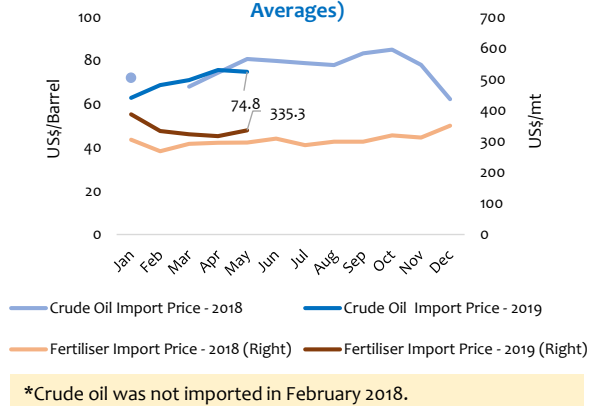
## Intermediate Goods Imports



### Performance of Intermediate Goods Imports



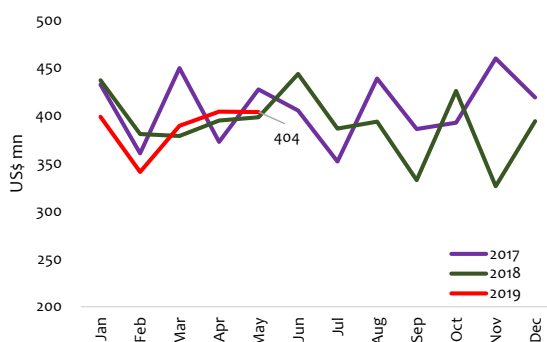
### Crude Oil and Fertiliser Import Prices (Monthly Averages)



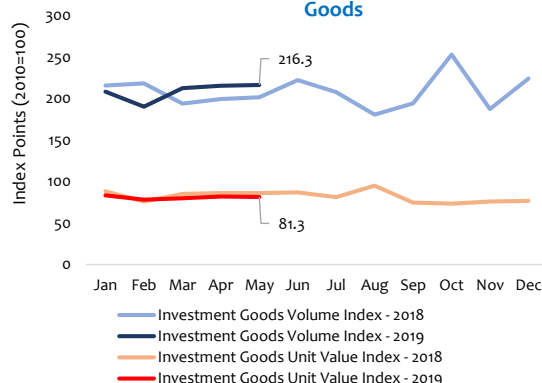
Import expenditure on intermediate goods declined during the first five months of 2019 mainly due to the lower imports of gold, fuel, plastic and articles thereof and wheat and maize. This decline was due to lower imported volumes of intermediate goods during the first five months of 2019 in comparison to the corresponding period of 2018.

### Investment Goods Imports

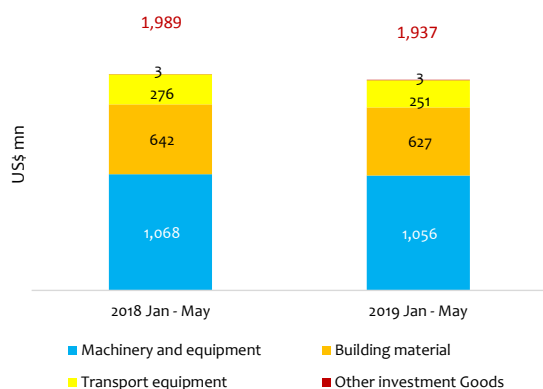
#### Expenditure on Investment Goods Imports



#### Volume and Unit Value Indices of Investment Goods



#### Performance of Investment Goods Imports



Import expenditure on investment goods declined during the first five months of 2019 due to lower imports of all categories. However, in May 2019, expenditure on investment goods imports increased with high expenses incurred on machinery and equipment and building material.

Considering the favourable developments in the external sector and measures introduced in Budget 2019, policy measures which were introduced in August to November 2018 regarding vehicle and non-essential consumer good imports were withdrawn from March 2019.

## Summary of External Trade Statistics

## Export Performance (US\$ mn)

Item	May-18	May-19	Y-O-Y Change (%)	Jan - May 2018	Jan - May 2019	Y-O-Y Change (%)
<b>Agricultural Export</b>	<b>209.6</b>	<b>215.9</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>1,052.9</b>	<b>1,040.6</b>	<b>-1.2</b>
o/w Tea	121.2	125.6	3.6	599.3	571.8	-4.6
Coconut	24.2	32.2	33.4	125.1	143.9	15.0
Spices	26.0	22.6	-12.8	122.0	119.1	-2.4
Seafood	21.2	18.6	-12.4	114.5	122.2	6.7
<b>Industrial Export</b>	<b>709.7</b>	<b>741.3</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>3,632.9</b>	<b>3,853.2</b>	<b>6.1</b>
o/w Textiles and garments	398.3	424.2	6.5	2,065.5	2,256.0	9.2
Rubber products	68.6	77.2	12.5	349.1	363.1	4.0
Petroleum products	46.1	39.5	-14.3	219.3	206.4	-5.9
Food beverages and tobacco	38.5	37.2	-3.5	193.6	202.3	4.5
Machinery and mechanical appliances	36.2	38.1	5.4	174.9	172.2	-1.6
Gems, diamonds and jewellery	23.1	24.8	7.5	129.7	131.1	1.0
Leather, travel goods and footwear	12.6	8.4	-33.0	65.0	49.2	-24.4
<b>Mineral and Other Export</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>-15.8</b>	<b>21.6</b>	<b>21.4</b>	<b>-0.8</b>
<b>Total Export</b>	<b>923.8</b>	<b>961.0</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>4,707.5</b>	<b>4,915.3</b>	<b>4.4</b>

## Import Performance (US\$ mn)

Item	May-18	May-19	Y-O-Y Change (%)	Jan - May 2018	Jan - May 2019	Y-O-Y Change (%)
<b>Consumer goods</b>	<b>414.8</b>	<b>332.5</b>	<b>-19.8</b>	<b>2,194.8</b>	<b>1,552.9</b>	<b>-29.2</b>
<b>Food and beverages</b>	<b>128.6</b>	<b>134.8</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>781.2</b>	<b>592.3</b>	<b>-24.2</b>
o/w Rice	0.8	0.5	-45.6	99.6	5.4	-94.6
<b>Non-food consumer goods</b>	<b>286.2</b>	<b>197.7</b>	<b>-30.9</b>	<b>1,413.6</b>	<b>960.7</b>	<b>-32.0</b>
o/w Vehicles	149.3	58.7	-60.7	665.9	276.0	-58.5
<b>Intermediate goods</b>	<b>1,042.7</b>	<b>1,047.0</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>5,372.5</b>	<b>4,703.8</b>	<b>-12.4</b>
o/w Fuel	348.9	402.8	15.5	1,750.9	1,716.4	-2.0
Gold	0.1	0.6	546.2	437.4	1.5	-99.7
Textiles and textile articles	246.8	260.6	5.6	1,129.5	1,168.2	3.4
Fertiliser	12.1	10.6	-12.0	100.6	85.2	-15.3
Wheat and Maize	44.7	23.9	-46.5	174.9	110.7	-36.7
<b>Investment goods and other</b>	<b>399.5</b>	<b>404.1</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>2,054.2</b>	<b>1,939.4</b>	<b>-5.6</b>
o/w Machinery and equipment	201.4	206.8	2.7	1,068.3	1,055.6	-1.2
<b>Total Import</b>	<b>1,857.0</b>	<b>1,783.7</b>	<b>-3.9</b>	<b>9,621.6</b>	<b>8,196.2</b>	<b>-14.8</b>

## Trade Balance (US\$ mn)

Item	May-18	May-19	Y-O-Y Change (%)	Jan - May 2018	Jan - May 2019	Y-O-Y Change (%)
<b>Trade Balance</b>	<b>-933.2</b>	<b>-822.7</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-4,914.1</b>	<b>-3,280.9</b>	<b>-</b>

## Trade Indices and Terms of Trade (2010 = 100) (a)

Item	May-18	May-19	Y-O-Y Change (%)	Jan - May 2018	Jan - May 2019	Y-O-Y Change (%)
<b>Export</b>						
Value index	128.6	133.8	4.0	131.0	136.8	4.4
Volume index	143.9	166.1	15.5	133.1	149.2	12.1
Unit value index	89.3	80.5	-9.9	98.5	91.7	-6.9
<b>Import</b>						
Value index	166.2	159.6	-3.9	172.2	146.7	-14.8
Volume index	169.2	172.9	2.2	179.8	160.5	-10.8
Unit value index	98.2	92.3	-6.0	95.8	91.4	-4.5
<b>Terms of Trade</b>	<b>91.0</b>	<b>87.2</b>	<b>-4.1</b>	<b>102.8</b>	<b>100.3</b>	<b>-2.5</b>

(a) In US\$ terms