



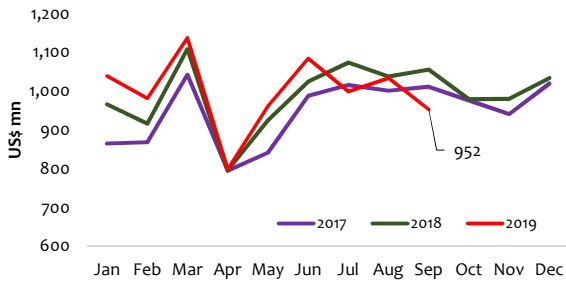
MONTHLY TRADE BULLETIN

ECONOMIC RESEARCH DEPARTMENT
CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA

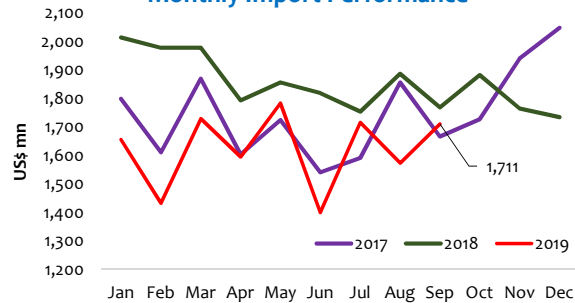
September 2019
VOLUME 01 ISSUE 05

Highlights

Monthly Export Performance



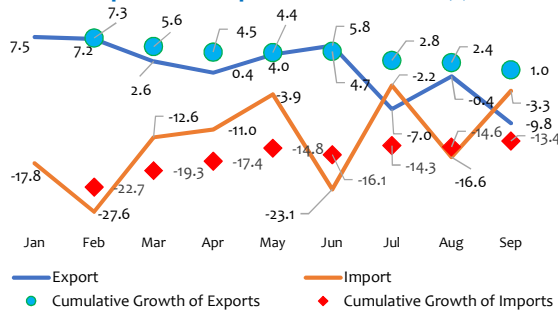
Monthly Import Performance



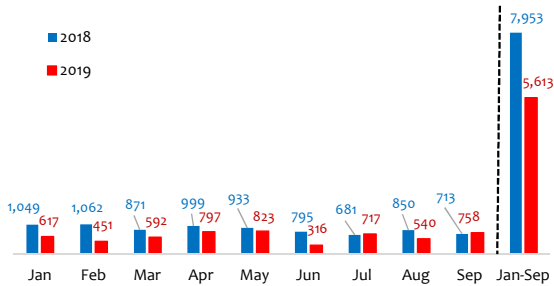
Earnings from merchandise exports decreased by 9.8 per cent (year-on-year) to US dollars 952 million in September 2019.

Expenditure on merchandise imports decreased by 3.3 per cent (year-on-year) to US dollars 1,711 million in September 2019.

Export and Import Growth Rates (%)



Trade Deficit (US\$ Mn)



Export earnings increased by 1.0 per cent (year-on-year) during the first nine months of 2019 while import expenditure declined by 13.4 per cent.

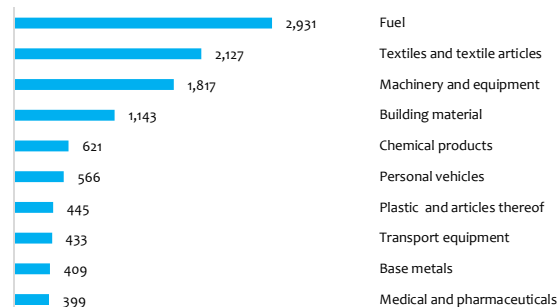
The deficit in the trade account widened in September 2019 in comparison to September 2018. Meanwhile, trade deficit during the first nine months of 2019 contracted significantly by US dollars 2,341 million when compared with the corresponding period of 2018.

Major Export and Import Categories (Jan – Sep 2019)

Exports (US\$ mn)

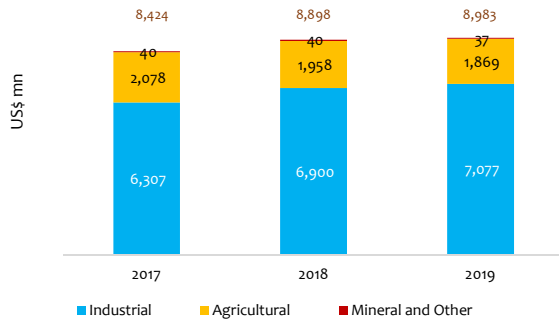


Imports (US\$ mn)

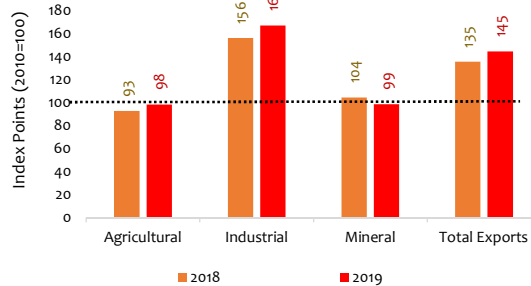


Export Performance

Export Performance (Jan-Sep)



Export Volume Index (Jan-Sep)

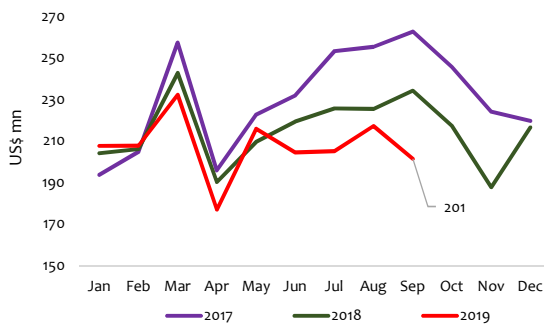


Earnings from exports increased during the first nine months of 2019 driven by higher industrial exports despite the decline in earnings from agriculture and mineral exports.

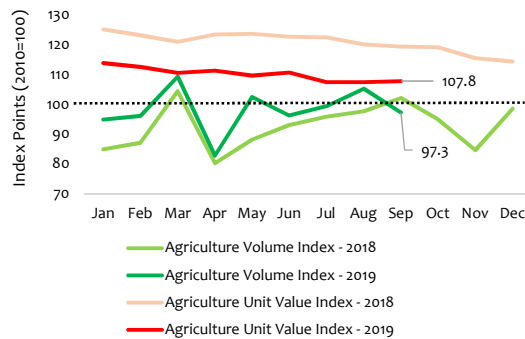
Export volume index improved during the first nine months of 2019 due to the increase in industrial and agricultural exports.

Agricultural Exports

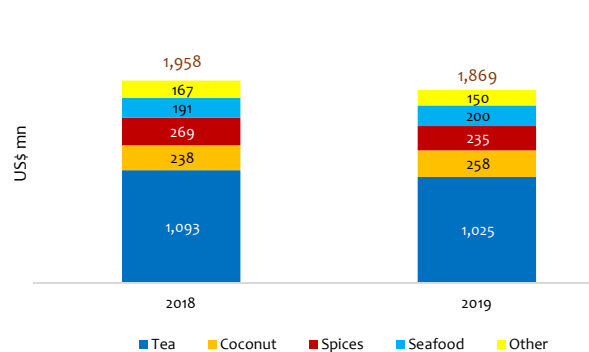
Agricultural Exports



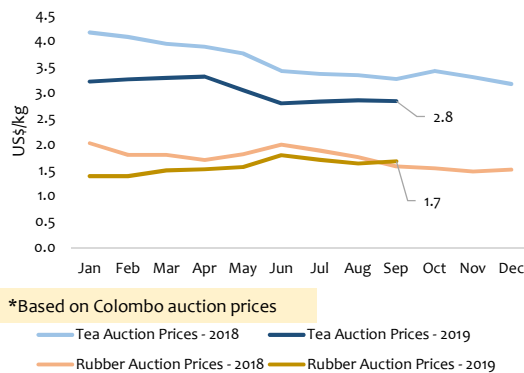
Agriculture Volume and Unit Value Indices



Performance of Agricultural Exports (Jan-Sep)



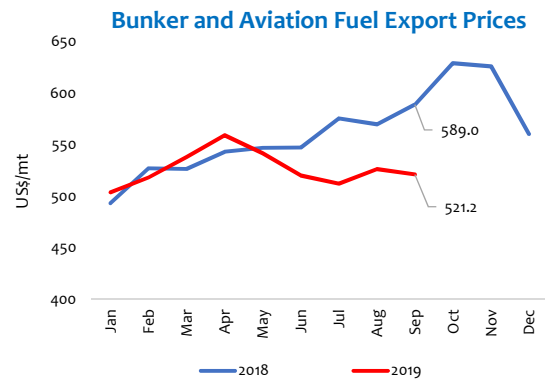
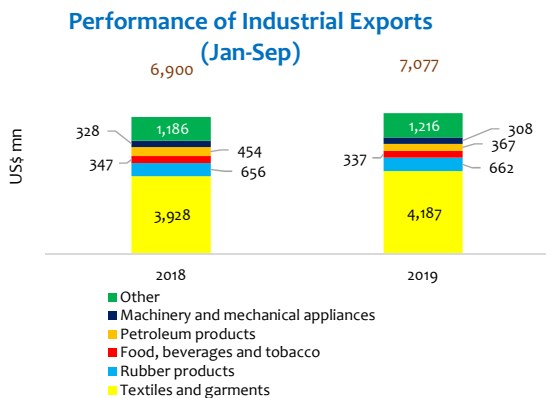
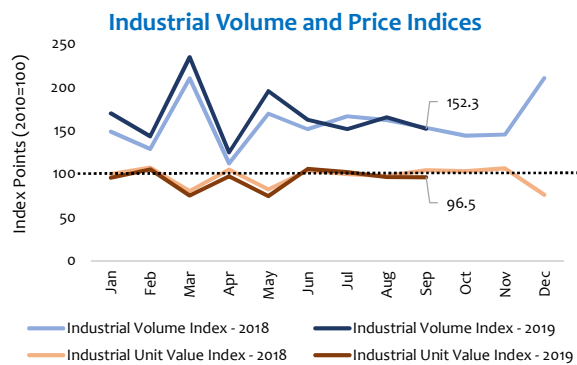
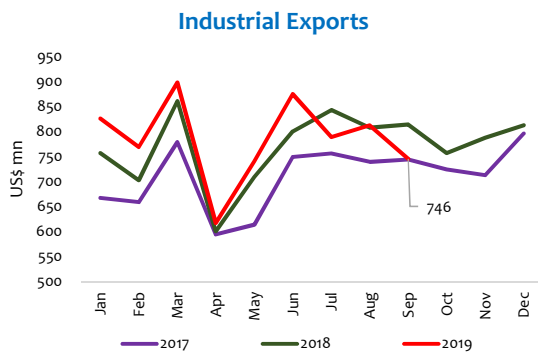
Tea and Rubber Prices *



*Based on Colombo auction prices

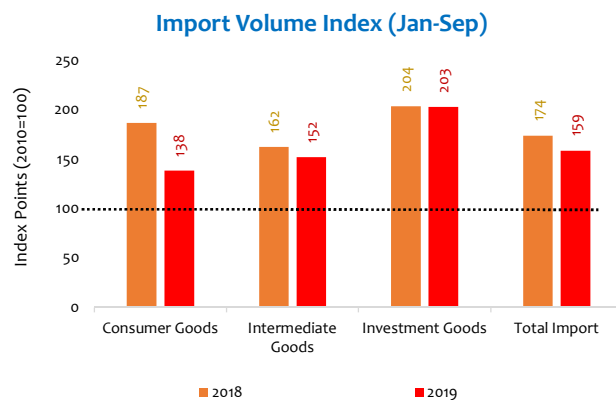
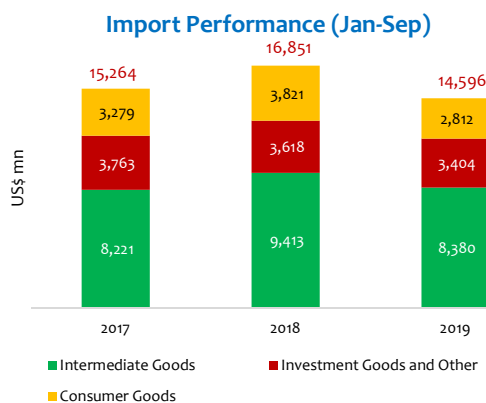
Export earnings from agricultural exports declined during the first nine months of 2019 due to poor performance observed in tea, spices and minor agricultural products exports. However, export earnings from coconut, seafood and vegetables increased during this period. Relatively low prices of agricultural commodities, particularly tea, mainly contributed to the decline.

Industrial Exports



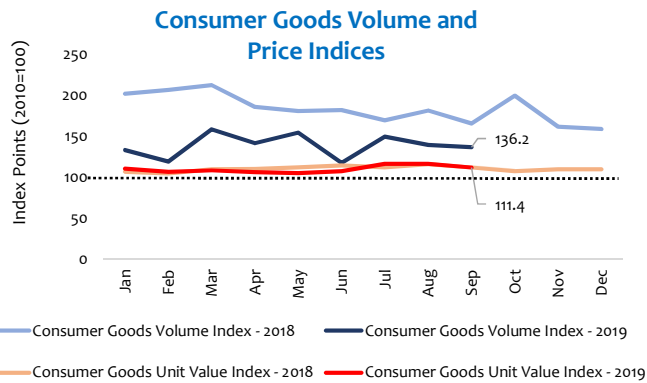
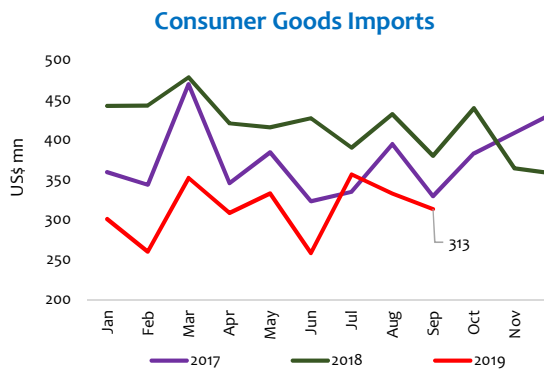
Export earnings from industrial exports increased during the first nine months of 2019 due to improved performance in textiles and garments, transport equipment and animal fodder exports. However, export earnings from petroleum products decreased during this period mainly driven by lower aviation fuel exports due to the weak performance in the aviation sector since the Easter Sunday Attacks. Export volumes of industrial exports increased during this period in comparison to the first nine months of 2018.

Import Performance

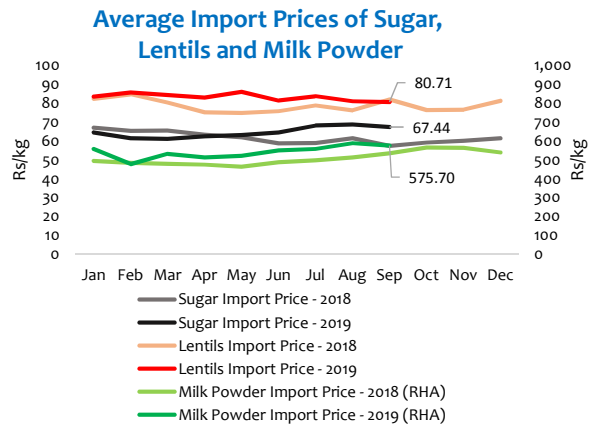
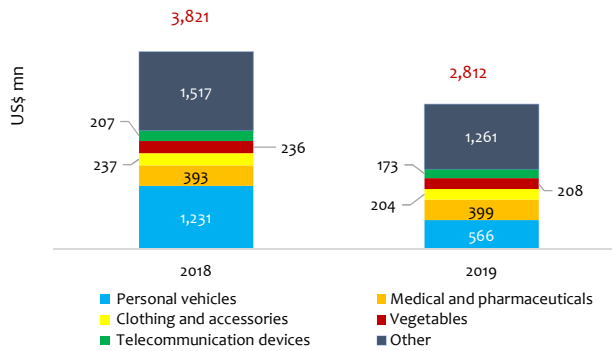


Expenditure on imports declined during the first nine months of 2019 due to lower expenses incurred on all major categories of imports.

Consumer Goods Imports

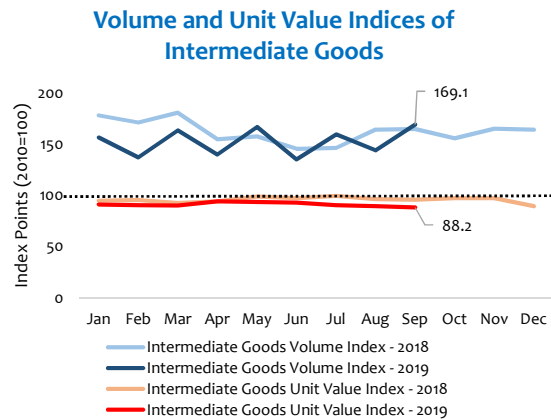
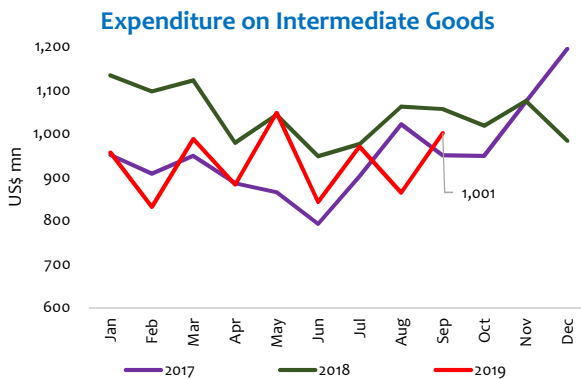


Performance of Consumer Goods Imports (Jan-Sep)

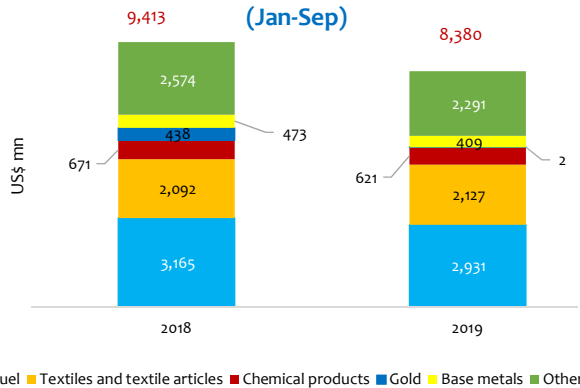


Import expenditure on consumer goods declined during the first nine months of 2019 due to lower imports of most categories, particularly personal vehicles and food items such as rice, sugar, vegetables and dairy products. (In this chart, rice, sugar and dairy products are included in other category). In addition, non-food consumer goods such as telecommunication devices, clothing and accessories and home appliances also declined during the first nine months of 2019.

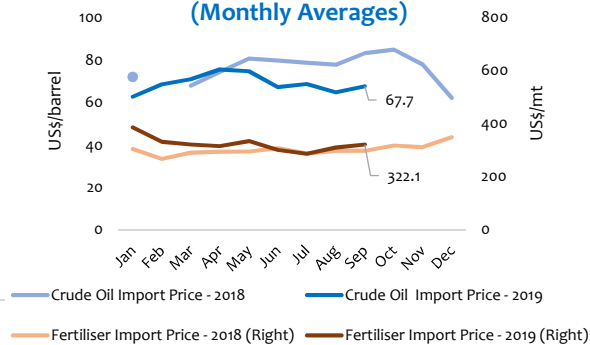
Intermediate Goods Imports



Performance of Intermediate Goods Imports (Jan-Sep)



Crude Oil and Fertiliser Import Prices (Monthly Averages)

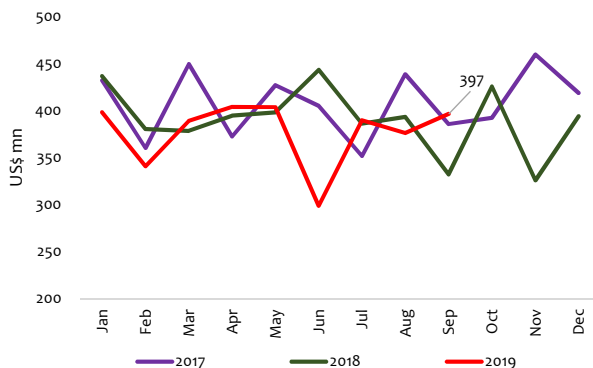


*Crude oil was not imported in February 2018.

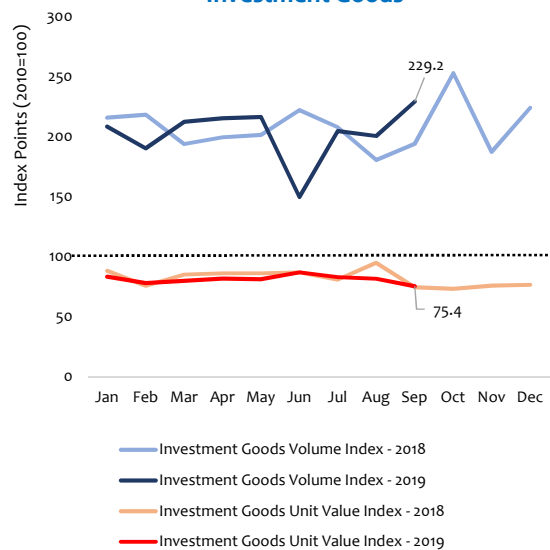
Import expenditure on intermediate goods declined during the first nine months of 2019 mainly due to the lower imports of gold, fuel and plastics and articles thereof. However, expenditure on textiles and textile article imports increased in line with higher garments exports while expenditure on mineral products increased, led by higher cement clinker imports.

Investment Goods Imports

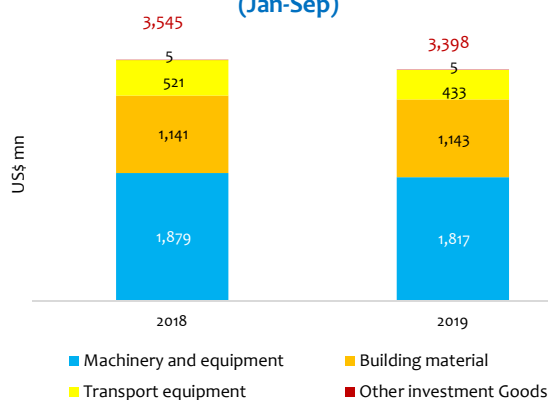
Expenditure on Investment Goods Imports



Volume and Unit Value Indices of Investment Goods



Performance of Investment Goods Imports (Jan-Sep)



Import expenditure on investment goods declined during the first nine months of 2019 due to lower imports of transport equipment and machinery and equipment.

Summary of External Trade Statistics

Export Performance (US\$ mn)

Item	Sep-18	Sep-19	Y-O-Y Change (%)	Jan - Sep 2018	Jan - Sep 2019	Y-O-Y Change (%)
Agricultural Exports	234.3	201.5	-14.0	1,957.7	1,868.9	-4.5
o/w Tea	122.5	110.4	-9.9	1,092.8	1,025.3	-6.2
Coconut	28.7	26.3	-8.3	238.1	258.5	8.6
Spices	43.7	31.4	-28.2	269.3	234.8	-12.8
Seafood	21.7	15.9	-26.5	191.0	200.4	4.9
Industrial Exports	814.4	745.9	-8.4	6,899.6	7,076.9	2.6
o/w Textiles and garments	476.2	450.2	-5.5	3,927.9	4,186.8	6.6
Rubber products	71.8	70.9	-1.2	656.2	662.2	0.9
Petroleum products	65.9	38.7	-41.3	453.8	367.0	-19.1
Food, beverages and tobacco	36.0	33.6	-6.9	347.2	337.3	-2.8
Machinery and mechanical appliances	32.6	33.0	1.1	328.4	308.0	-6.2
Gems, diamonds and jewellery	19.2	24.6	28.4	214.5	224.5	4.7
Leather, travel goods and footwear	17.1	8.1	-53.0	119.0	82.2	-31.0
Mineral and Other Exports	6.6	4.7	-28.5	40.3	37.3	-7.3
Total Exports	1,055.2	952.1	-9.8	8,897.6	8,983.2	1.0

Import Performance (US\$ mn)

Item	Sep-18	Sep-19	Y-O-Y Change (%)	Jan - Sep 2018	Jan - Sep 2019	Y-O-Y Change (%)
Consumer goods	379.3	312.8	-17.5	3,820.6	2,812.0	-26.4
Food and beverages	91.0	92.2	1.3	1,239.2	1,009.3	-18.5
o/w Rice	0.7	0.8	20.7	101.6	8.6	-91.5
Non-food consumer goods	288.2	220.6	-23.5	2,581.4	1,802.7	-30.2
o/w Personal vehicles	138.2	70.1	-49.2	1,230.6	566.5	-54.0
Intermediate goods	1,056.0	1,000.7	-5.2	9,412.8	8,380.5	-11.0
o/w Fuel	396.3	353.7	-10.7	3,165.1	2,930.5	-7.4
Gold	0.1	0.6	608.9	438.1	2.3	-99.5
Textiles and textile articles	233.7	250.3	7.1	2,091.6	2,127.1	1.7
Fertiliser	34.5	30.0	-13.1	187.8	167.5	-10.8
Wheat and maize	36.7	30.5	-17.0	272.6	233.9	-14.2
Investment goods and other	333.1	397.0	19.2	3,617.7	3,403.6	-5.9
o/w Machinery and equipment	175.7	206.5	17.5	1,878.7	1,816.7	-3.3
Total Imports	1,768.4	1,710.5	-3.3	16,851.1	14,596.1	-13.4

Trade Balance (US\$ mn)

Item	Sep-18	Sep-19	Y-O-Y Change (%)	Jan - Sep 2018	Jan - Sep 2019	Y-O-Y Change (%)
Trade Balance	-713.2	-758.4	-	-7,953.5	-5,612.9	-

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

Item	Sep-18	Sep-19	Y-O-Y Change (%)	Jan - Sep 2018	Jan - Sep 2019	Y-O-Y Change (%)
Export						
Value index	146.9	132.5	-9.8	137.6	138.9	1.0
Volume index	136.4	134.1	-1.7	135.5	144.5	6.7
Unit value index	107.7	98.8	-8.2	101.6	96.1	-5.4
Import						
Value index	158.3	153.1	-3.3	167.6	145.1	-13.4
Volume index	169.1	173.8	2.8	174.0	158.7	-8.8
Unit value index	93.6	88.1	-5.9	96.3	91.5	-5.0
Terms of Trade	115.0	112.2	-2.5	105.4	105.1	-0.4

(a) In US\$ terms