

## Featured Chart 1.6 Expenditure on Fuel Imports

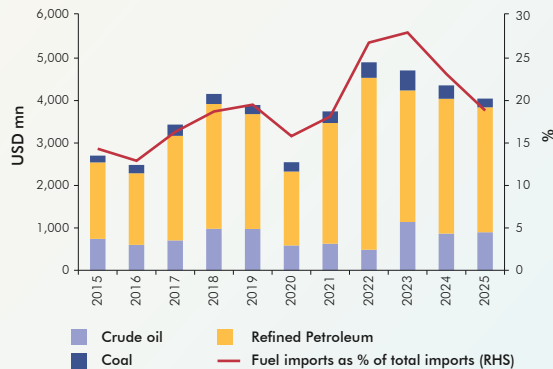


Expenditure on fuel imports is the largest item in Sri Lanka's import basket, comprising around 20% of the total import bill on average annually over the past 10 years. Despite higher import volumes of crude oil and refined petroleum in 2025, the fuel import bill declined to USD 4 bn in 2025 from USD 4.4 bn in 2024, primarily driven by lower unit prices of crude oil, refined petroleum, and coal. In line with the price movements in the international

market, the average price of crude oil imports declined to USD 73.2 per barrel in 2025 from USD 84.7 per barrel in 2024.

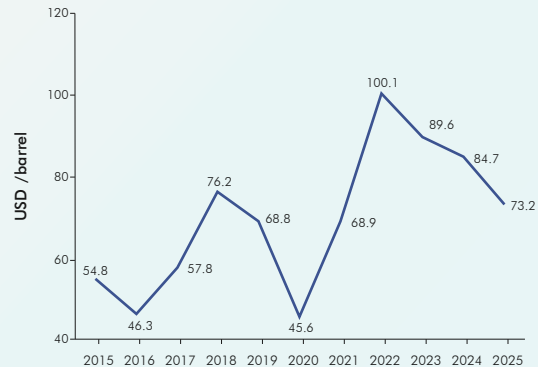
However, global oil prices are expected to remain elevated and volatile amid heightened geopolitical tensions following the Middle East war. This is expected to increase Sri Lanka's fuel import bill notably in 2026.

### Annual Fuel Imports



Sources : Sri Lanka Customs  
Central Bank of Sri Lanka  
Ceylon Petroleum Corporation  
Lanka IOC PLC

### Annual Average Import Price of Crude Oil



Sources : Sri Lanka Customs  
Central Bank of Sri Lanka  
Ceylon Petroleum Corporation  
Lanka IOC PLC