

MONTHLY TRADE BULLETIN

ECONOMIC RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA

January 2020 VOLUME 02 ISSUE 01

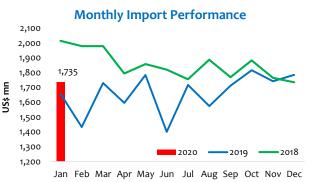
Highlights



Earnings from merchandise exports decreased by 3.2 per cent (year-on-year) to US dollars 1,005 million in January 2020.



Export earnings decreased by 3.2 per cent (year-onyear) during January 2020 while import expenditure increased by 4.8 per cent.



Expenditure on merchandise imports increased by 4.8 per cent (year-on-year) to US dollars 1,735 million in January 2020.



The deficit in the trade account expanded in January 2020 in comparison to January 2019.

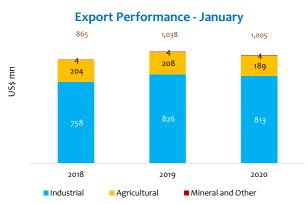


Major Export and Import Categories - January 2020

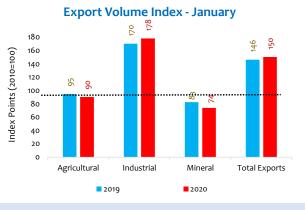
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Export Performance

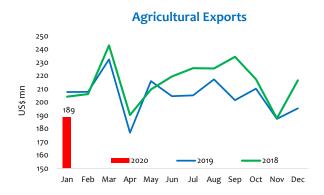


Earnings from exports decreased during January 2020 driven by all major categories of exports; industrial, agricultural and mineral.

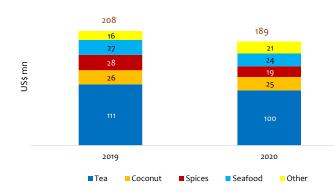


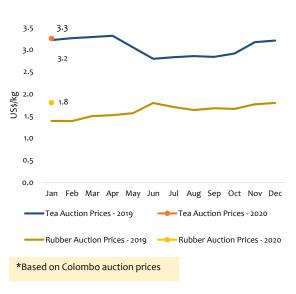
Export volume index improved in January 2020 due to the increase in industrial export volumes.

Agricultural Exports



Performance of Agricultural Exports - January



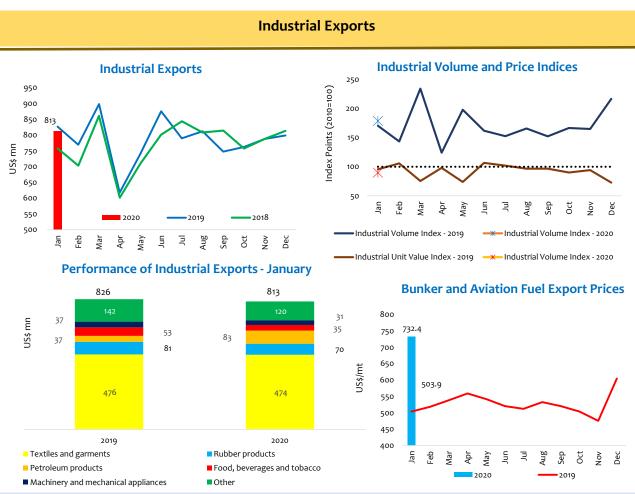


Export earnings from agricultural exports declined during January 2020 mainly due to lower earnings from tea, spices and seafood exports. However, export earnings from minor agricultural products increased during this period.

Tea and Rubber Prices *

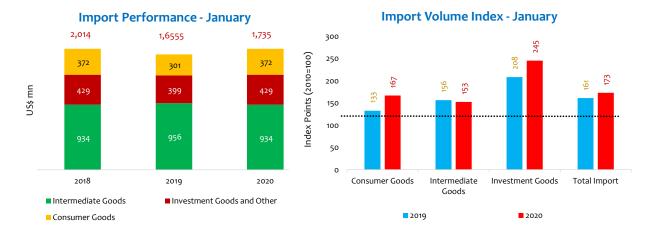
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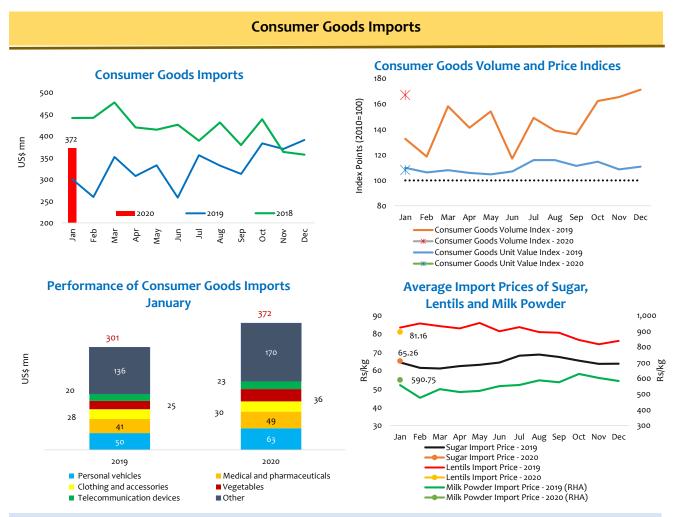


Earnings from industrial exports declined during January 2020 due to low performance in food, beverages and tobacco, rubber products, leather, travel goods and footwear and machinery and mechanical appliances exports. However, export earnings from petroleum products increased due to higher earnings from bunker and aviation fuel exports resulting from higher bunker quantities and prices as well as higher earnings from naphtha exports.

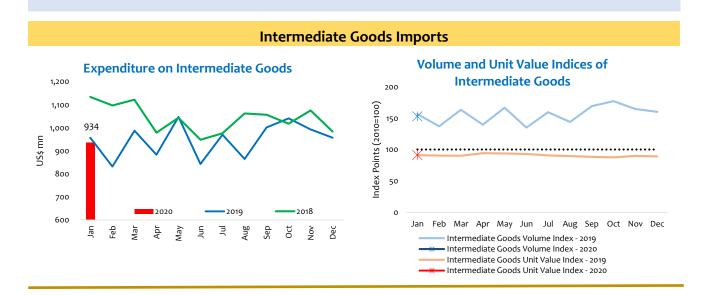
Import Performance

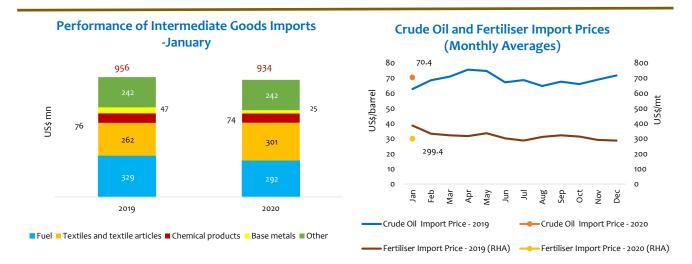


Expenditure on imports increased during January 2020 mainly due to higher expenditure incurred on consumer goods and investment goods despite a reduction recorded in intermediate goods imports.

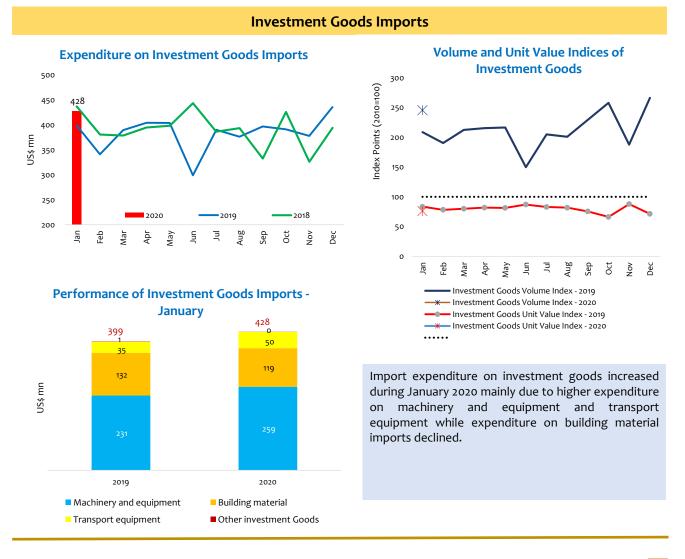


Import expenditure on consumer goods increased in January 2020 due to higher imports of most categories, particularly non-food consumers goods such as personal vehicles and medical and pharmaceuticals and food items such as dairy products and sugar. However, expenditure on seafood, beverages and cosmetics and toiletries categorised under consumer goods declined during the period.





Import expenditure on intermediate goods declined during January 2020 mainly due to the lower expenditure on fuel, base metals, wheat and maize and mineral products imports. However, expenditure on textiles and textile article imports increased during the period.



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Summary of External Trade Statistics									
Export Performance (US\$ mn)									
	Item	2019	Y-O-Y Change (%) 2019/18	Jan-19	Jan-20	Y-O-Y Change (%) Jan 20/Jan 19			
Agricultural Exports		2461.9	-4.6	207.6	188.7	-9.1			
o/w	Теа	1,346.4	-5.7	110.8	99.7	-10.0			
	Coconut	329.5	6.0	25.7	24.6	-4.5			
	Spices	312.5	-13.2	27.8	19.5	-30.0			
	Seafood	262.5	-1.3	27.4	23.7	-13.5			
Industrial Exports		9426.3	1.8	826.4	812.6	-1.7			
o/w	Textiles and garments	5,596.5	5.2	475-9	474.0	-0.4			
	Rubber products	866.1	-1.1	80.7	70.2	-13.0			
	Petroleum products	521.1	-16.2	37.5	82.8	120.9			
	Food, beverages and tobacco	447.0	-3.3	53.1	35.5	-33.2			
	Machinery and mechanical appliances	400.0	-8.0	36.8	30.5	-17.2			
	Gems, diamonds and jewellery	305.7	10.0	24.1	24.7	2.3			
	Leather, travel goods and footwear	102.9	-30.3	13.1	5.6	-57.6			
Mineral and Other Exports		51.8	-0.8	4.1	3.6	-13.0			
Total Exports		11,940.0	0.4	1,038.1	1,004.9	-3.2			

Import Performance (US\$ mn) Y-O-Y Change (%) Y-O-Y Change (%) Item 2019 Jan-19 Jan-20 2019/18 Jan 20/Jan 19 Consumer goods 3,956.5 -20.5 300.5 371.8 23.7 Food and beverages 1,426.9 -11.2 111.2 147.5 32.7 o/w Rice 24.2 -90.3 2.3 2.2 -7.5 Non-food consumer goods 2,529.6 -25.0 189.3 224.2 18.4 o/w Personal vehicles 815.7 -48.2 49.5 63.3 27.8 Intermediate goods 11,369.6 -9.0 956.1 934.5 -2.3 o/w Fuel 3,891.6 -6.3 329.0 291.9 -11.3 Textiles and textile articles 1.8 262.5 2,909.4 300.8 14.6 Chemical products 831.5 -8.0 76.1 74.1 -2.7 Base metals 562.8 -17.6 46.7 -46.1 25.2 Wheat and maize 346.4 8.9 -38.5 -7.3 14.5 398.8 Investment goods and other 7.6 4,610.9 -3.2 429.1 o/w Machinery and equipment 2,489.7 258.7 -0.1 231.2 11.9 **Total Imports** 19,937.1 -10.3 1,655.5 1,735.3 4.8

Trade Balance (US\$ m

Item	2019	Y-O-Y Change (%) 2019/18	Jan-19	Jan-20	Y-O-Y Change (%) Jan 20/Jan 19				
Trade Balance	7,997.1		-617.3	-730.4					
Trade Indices and Terms of Trade (2010 = 100) (a)									
Item	2019	Y-O-Y Change (%) 2019/18	Jan-19	Jan-20	Y-O-Y Change (%) Jan 20/Jan 19				
Export									
Value index	138.5	0.4	144.5	139.9	-3.2				
Volume index	147.2	7.2	146.2	150.5	2.9				
Unit value index	94.1	-6.3	98.8	92.9	-6.0				
Import									
Value index	148.7	-10.3	148.2	155.3	4.8				
Volume index	164.2	-5.8	161.3	173.1	7.3				
Unit value index	90.5	-4.8	91.9	89.7	-2.3				
Terms of Trade	103.9	-1.6	107.6	103.6	-3.7				

(a) In US\$ terms

TRADE AND COMMODITY STUDIES DIVISION / ECONOMIC RESEARCH DEPARTMENT