

# **MONTHLY TRADE BULLETIN**

#### **ECONOMIC RESEARCH DEPARTMENT**

CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA

DECEMBER 2022 VOLUME 04 ISSUE 12

#### **Highlights**



Earnings from merchandise exports decreased by 7.7 per cent (year-on-year) to US dollars 1,068 million in December 2022.

# 2,500 2,300 2,100 1,900 1,500 1,300 1,100

Expenditure on merchandise imports declined by 36.4 per cent (year-on-year) to US dollars 1,426 million in December 2022.

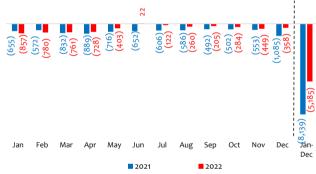
Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec

#### **Export and Import Growth Rates (%)**



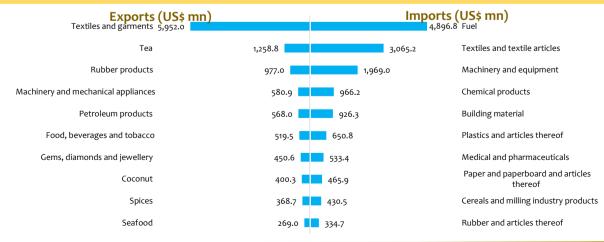
Export earnings increased by 4.9 per cent (year-on-year), during the year 2022 while import expenditure declined by 11.4 per cent .

#### Trade Balance (US\$ Mn)



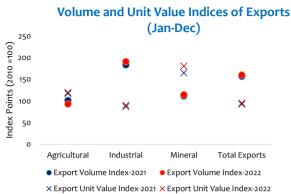
The deficit of merchandise trade account narrowed to US dollars 358 milion in December 2022 from US dollars 1,085 million recorded in December 2021.

# Major Export and Import Categories - (Jan - Dec 2022)



# **Export Performance**

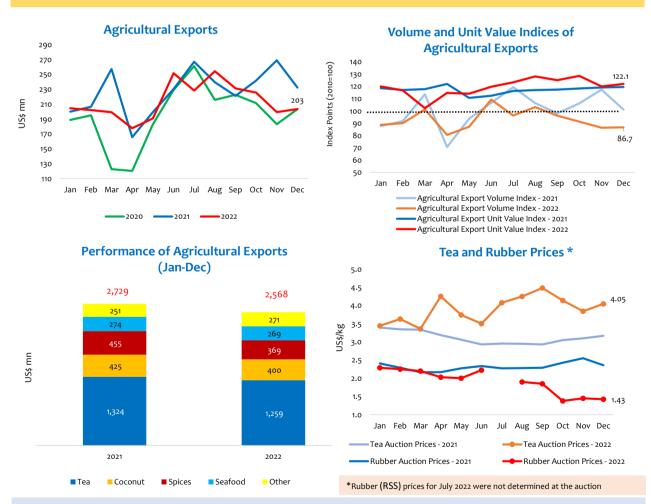




Earnings from exports increased during the year 2022, mainly due to the increase in exports of industrial and mineral products. In contrast, a decline was recorded in agricultural exports.

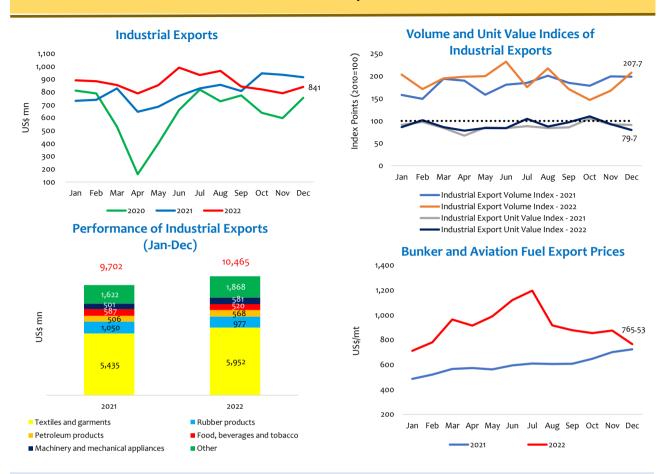
The export volume index and export unit value index increased by 1.9 per cent and 2.9 per cent, respectively during the year 2022.

### **Agricultural Exports**



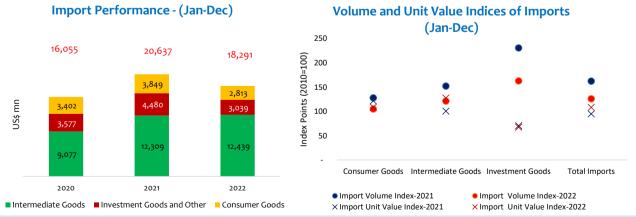
Earnings from agricultural exports declined during the year 2022, on a year-on-year basis, due to a broad-based decline in earnings from most of the agricultural goods, led mainly by spices, tea and coconut related products. However, higher export earnings were recorded from minor agricultural products.

#### **Industrial Exports**



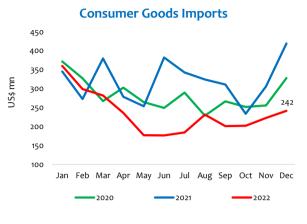
Earnings from industrial exports increased during the year 2022 on a year-on-year basis, primarily due to the increase in earnings from exports of textiles and garments, gems, diamonds and jewellery, machinery and mechanical appliances and petroleum products. However, earnings from exports of rubber products, food, beverages and tobacco, transport equipment and plastics and articles thereof declined during the year 2022.

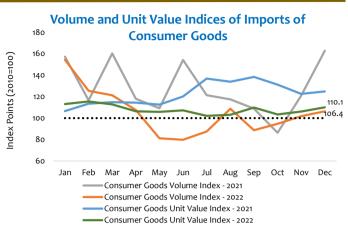
#### **Import Performance**



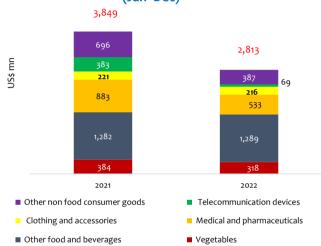
Expenditure on merchandise imports declined during the year 2022 on a year-on-year basis, primarily due to reduced expenditure incurred on the imports of investment and consumer goods. However, expenditure on the importation of intermediate goods marginally increased during the year. Meanwhile, the import volume index declined by 22.4 per cent, while the import unit value index increased by 14.1 per cent (year-on-year).

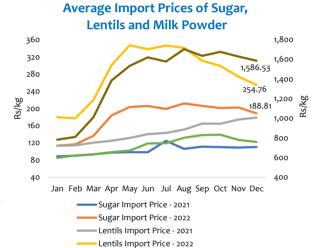
## **Consumer Goods Imports**





# Performance of Consumer Goods Imports (Jan- Dec)



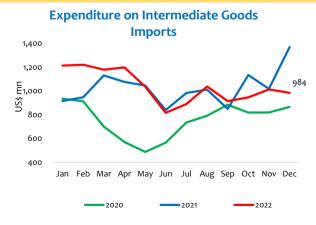


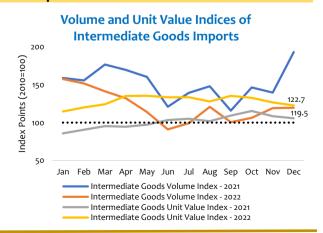
Milk Powder Import Price - 2021 (RHA)

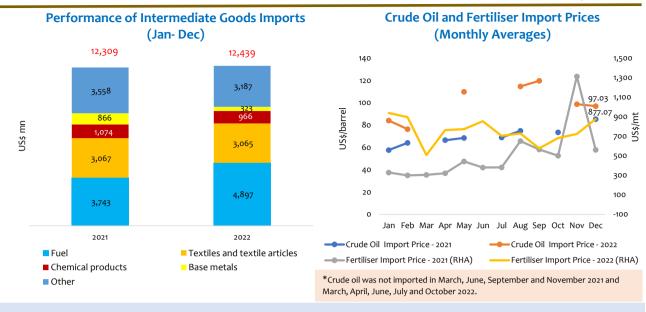
Milk Powder Import Price - 2022 (RHA)

Import expenditure on consumer goods declined (year-on-year) during the year 2022, mainly due to the decline in non-food consumer goods imports, driven by medical and pharmaceuticals, telecommunication devices and home appliances. Further, the decreases were observed in the import expenditure on oils and fats, dairy products and vegetables categorised under food and beverages. However, import expenditure on cereals and milling industry products (mainly rice), beverages and spices remained high in 2022.

#### **Intermediate Goods Imports**

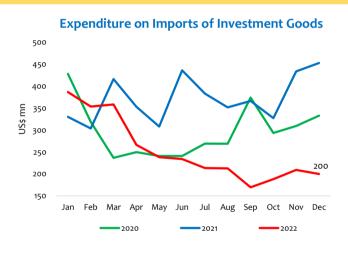


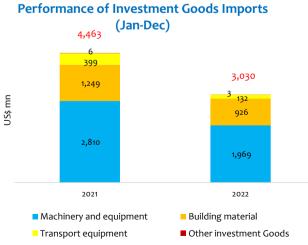


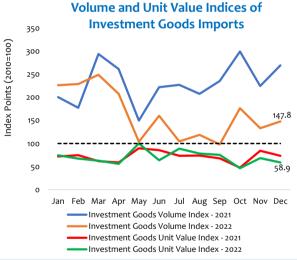


Import expenditure on intermediate goods marginally increased (year-on-year) during the year 2022, due to the higher expenses incurred on imports of fuel, fertiliser and diamonds and precious stones and metals. However, import expenditure on base metals (mainly iron and steel), wheat grain, plastics and articles thereof and chemical products declined in 2022.

#### **Investment Goods Imports**







Import expenditure on investment goods declined significantly during the year 2022, due to the lower import expenditure across all major categories of investment goods, namely, machinery and equipment, building materials, and transport equipment.

	Sumi	mary of Exteri	nal Trade !	Statistics (a)			
		Export Perfo	rmance (US	s mn)			
	Item	Dec	Dec	Y-O-Y Change	Jan-Dec	Jan-Dec	Y-O-Y Change
Agricultu	ral Exports	2021	2022	(%)	2021	2,568.0	(%)
o/w	Tea	<b>232.3</b> 110.6	203.4	-12.4	2,729.5	1,258.8	- <b>5.9</b> -5.0
O/ vv	Coconut		107.3 24.8	-3.0 -21.0	1,324.4 425.2	400.3	-
	Spices	31.4		-28.2		368.7	-5.9 -18.9
	Seafood	43.7 26.7	31.3	-20.0	454.8	269.0	-1.8
Industrial		916.7	21.3 <b>840.9</b>	-8.3	274.1 <b>9,702.0</b>	10,465.3	7.9
o/w	Textiles and garments	-	481.5			5,952.0	9.5
	Rubber products	533.2 90.3	71.2	-9.7 -21.1	5,435.1 1,050.4	977.0	-7.0
	Petroleum products	51.0	•		506.4	568.0	12.2
	Food, beverages and tobacco	-	49.4 36.7	-3.1 -36.0	586.9	-	-11.5
	Machinery and mechanical appliances	57.4		_		519.5	16.0
	Gems, diamonds and jewellery	43.2	50.5	16.9 51.8	500.9 276.7	580.9 450.6	62.8
		23.2	35.3	-			
Mineral a	Leather, travel goods and footwear and Other Exports	6.4 <b>7.3</b>	7.4 <b>23.3</b>	16.5 <b>220.2</b>	58.4 <b>67.</b> 1	85.8 <b>73.</b> 2	46.9 <b>9.1</b>
Total Exp	·	1,156.3	1,067.6	-7.7	12,498.6	13,106.4	4.9
					713	2, 1	.,
		Import Perfo	•	•			
	Item	Dec 2021	Dec 2022	Y-O-Y Change (%)	Jan-Dec 2021	Jan-Dec 2022	Y-O-Y Change (%)
Consumer goods		419.3	241.5	-42.4	3,848.7	2,813.0	-26.9
Food and beverages		171.2	129.9	-24.1	1,666.5	1,607.9	-3.5
o/w	Vegetables (b)	33.2	21.3	-36.0	384.3	318.4	-17.1
	Rice	49.0	8.3	-83.0	73.0	292.5	300.5
Non-food consumer goods		248.1	111.6	-55.0	2,182.2	1,205.1	-44.8
o/w	Medical and Pharmaceuticals	128.5	57.8		882.5		-39.6
Intermediate goods				-55.0 <b>-28.1</b>		533.4	
		1,368.3	983.8		12,308.9	12,438.8	1.1
o/w	Fuel	442.5	383.5	-13.3	3,742.9	4,896.8	30.8
	Textiles and textile articles	297.9	200.9	-32.6	3,066.9	3,065.2	-0.1
	Fertiliser	36.9	115.8	213.8	158.2	275.9	74.4
	Wheat and maize	30.2	35.8	18.5	418.3	303.1	-27.5
Investment goods and other		453-4	200.2	-55.8	4,479.8	3,039.2	-32.2
o/w	Machinery and equipment	307.7	130.0	-57.8	2,809.5	1,969.0	-29.9
Total Imp	ports	2,241.0	1,425.6	-36.4	20,637.4	18,291.0	-11.4
		Trade Bala	ance (US\$ m	nn)			
	Item	Dec 2021	Dec 2022	Y-O-Y Change	Jan-Dec 2021	Jan-Dec 2022	Y-O-Y Change
Trade Bal	lance	-1,084.7	-358.0	(%)	-8,138.8	-5,184.6	(%)
Trade Dal				(2010 - 100) (5)	0,150.0	7),104.0	
	i rade i	Indices and Tern			Inn Doc	lan-Doc	V-O-V Change
	Item	Dec 2021	Dec 2022	Y-O-Y Change (%)	Jan-Dec 2021	Jan-Dec 2022	Y-O-Y Change (%)
Export							
	Value index	160.9	148.6	-7.7	145.0	152.0	4.9
	Volume index	169.0	171.3	1.3	156.9	159.9	1.9
Import	Unit value index	95.2	86.8	-8.9	92.4	95.1	2.9
πηροιτ	Value index	200.6	127.6	-36.4	153.9	136.4	-11.4
	Volume index	201.3	121.8	-39.5	162.2	126.0	-22.4
	Unit value index	99.6	104.8	5.1	94.9	108.3	14.1
Terms of Trade		95.5	82.8	-13.3	97.4	87.8	-9.9
(a) Provisional							

<sup>(</sup>a) Provisional

<sup>(</sup>b) includes lentils, onion, potatoes, leguminous vegetables and others  $\,$ 

<sup>(</sup>c) In US\$ terms