



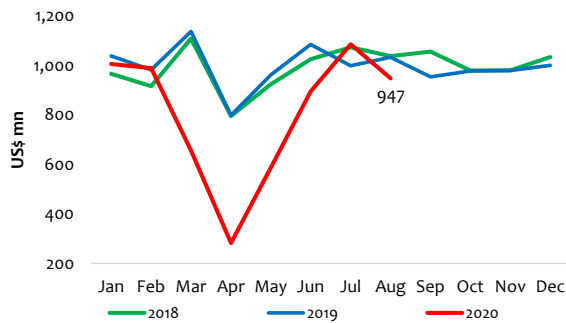
# MONTHLY TRADE BULLETIN

ECONOMIC RESEARCH DEPARTMENT  
CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA

August 2020  
VOLUME 02 ISSUE 08

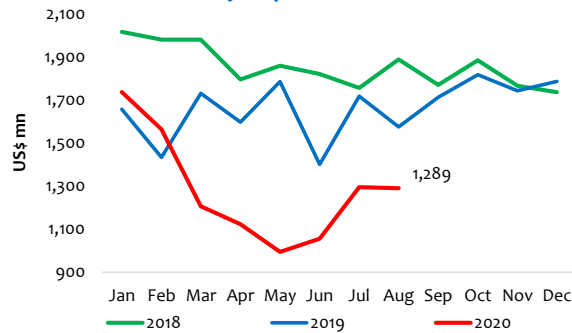
## Highlights

### Monthly Export Performance



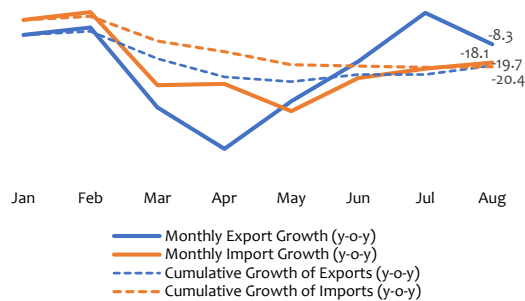
Earnings from merchandise exports decreased by 8.3 per cent (year-on-year) to US dollars 947 million in August 2020.

### Monthly Import Performance



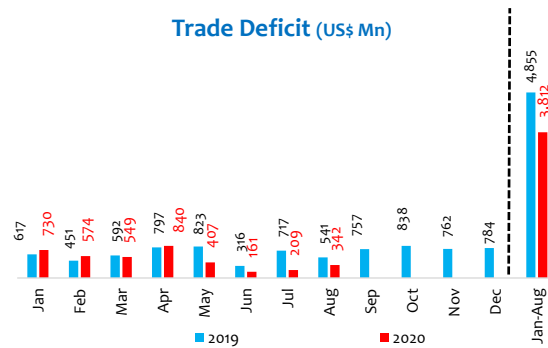
Expenditure on merchandise imports decreased significantly by 18.1 per cent (year-on-year) to US dollars 1,289 million in August 2020.

### Export and Import Growth Rates (%)



Export earnings decreased by 19.7 per cent (year-on-year) during the eight months ending August 2020 while import expenditure also decreased by 20.4 per cent.

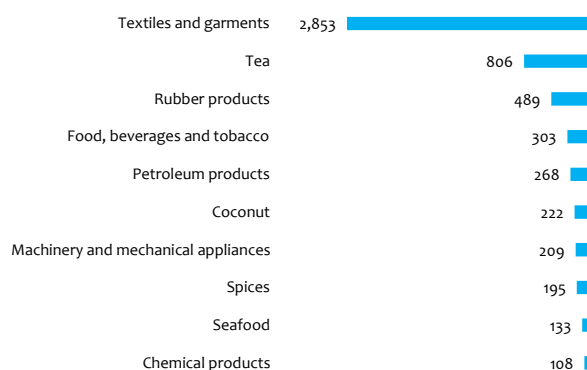
### Trade Deficit (US\$ Mn)



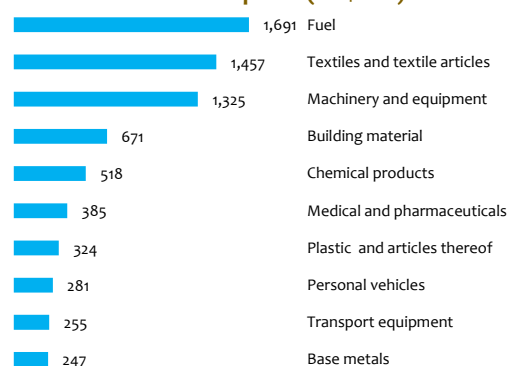
The deficit in the trade account contracted in August 2020 to US dollars 342 million in comparison to US dollars 541 million recorded in August 2019.

## Major Export and Import Categories - (Jan-Aug 2020)

### Exports (US\$ mn)

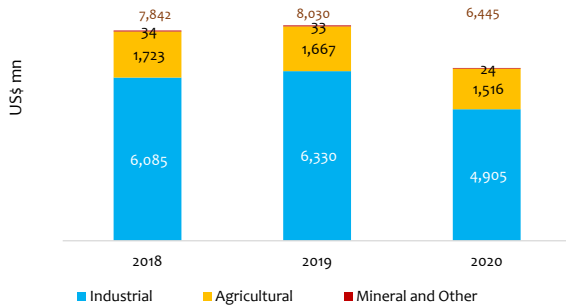


### Imports (US\$ mn)

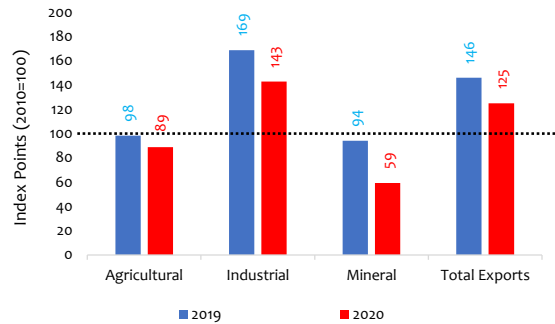


## Export Performance

Export Performance - (Jan-Aug)



Export Volume Index - (Jan-Aug)

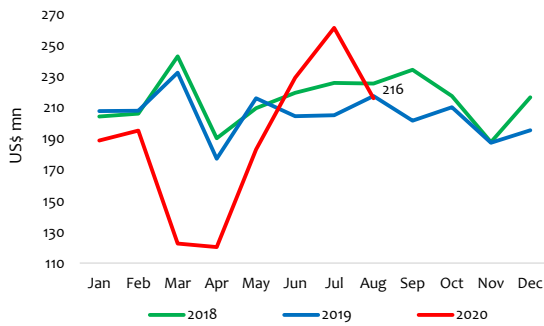


Earnings from exports decreased during eight months ending August 2020 driven by all major categories of exports.

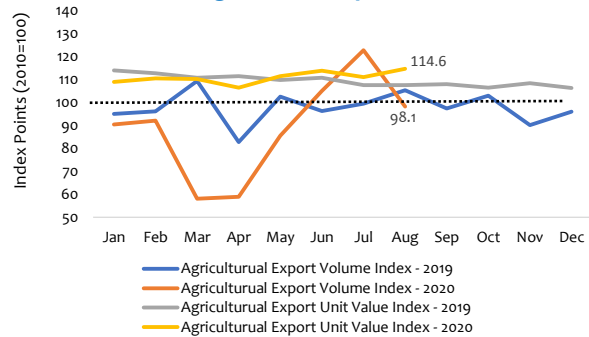
Export volume index declined during eight months ending August 2020 due to reduction in export volumes of all major categories.

## Agricultural Exports

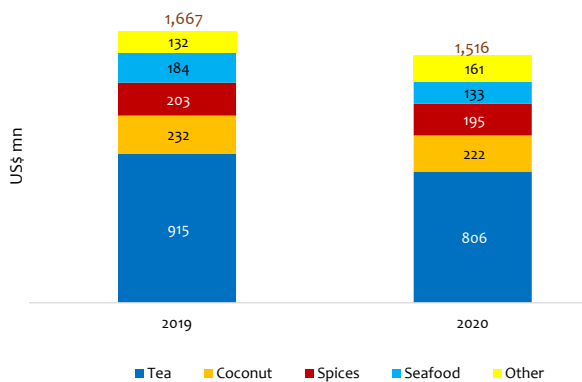
Agricultural Exports



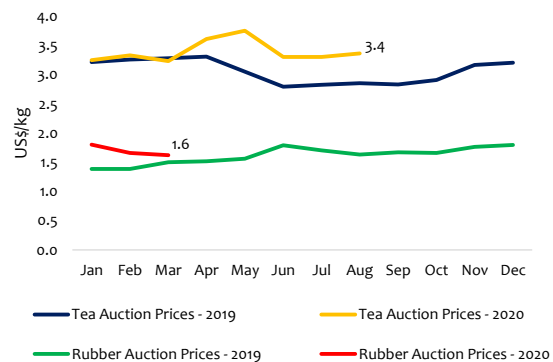
Volume and Unit Value Indices of Agricultural Exports



Performance of Agricultural Exports (Jan-Aug)



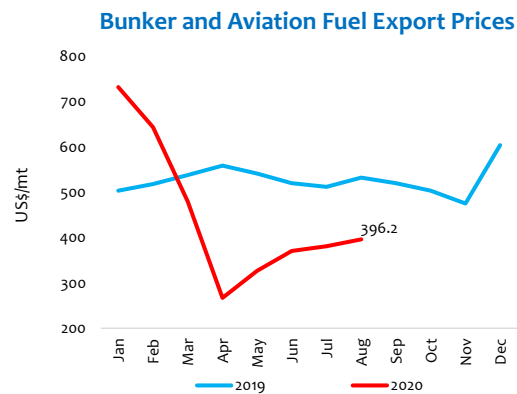
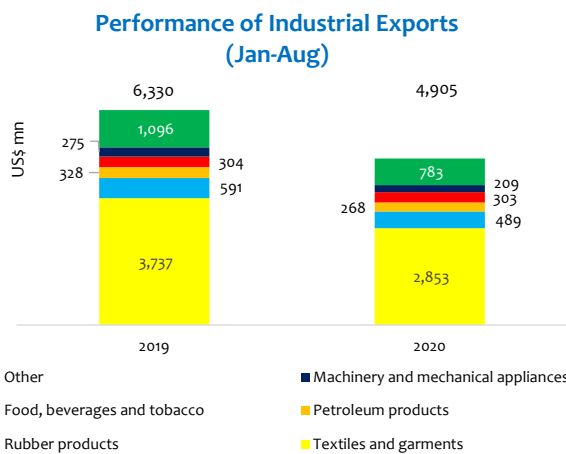
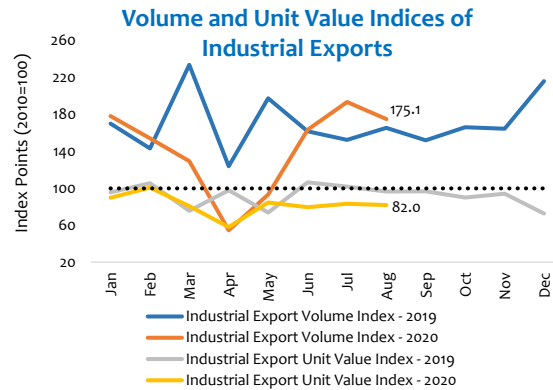
Tea and Rubber Prices \*



\*Based on Colombo auction prices

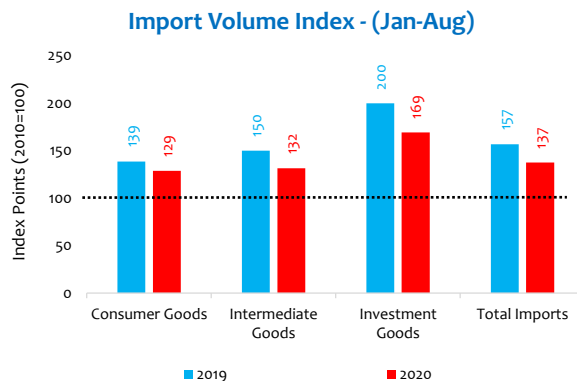
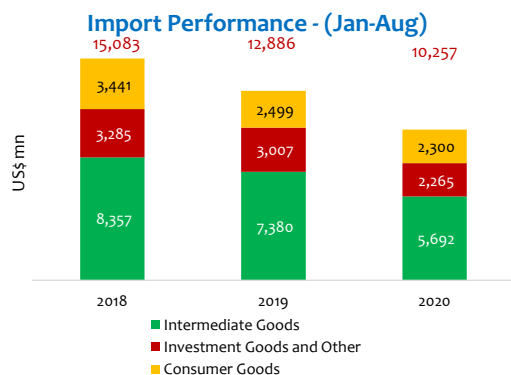
Export earnings from agricultural exports declined during eight months ending August 2020 mainly due to reduced earnings from tea, seafood, coconut and spice exports. However, export earnings from minor agricultural products and vegetables increased during this period.

## Industrial Exports



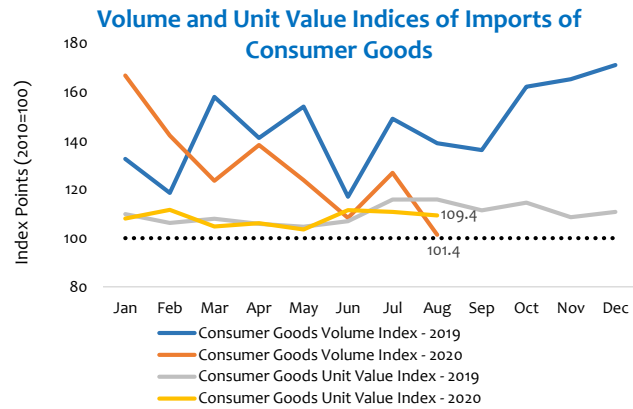
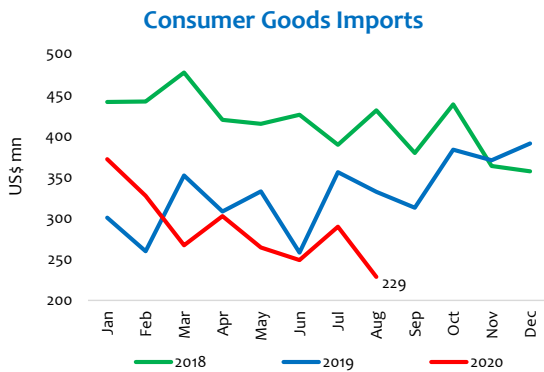
Earnings from industrial exports declined significantly during eight months ending August 2020 due to low performance in textiles and garments, rubber products, gems, diamonds and jewellery, transport equipment and machinery and mechanical appliances exports.

## Import Performance

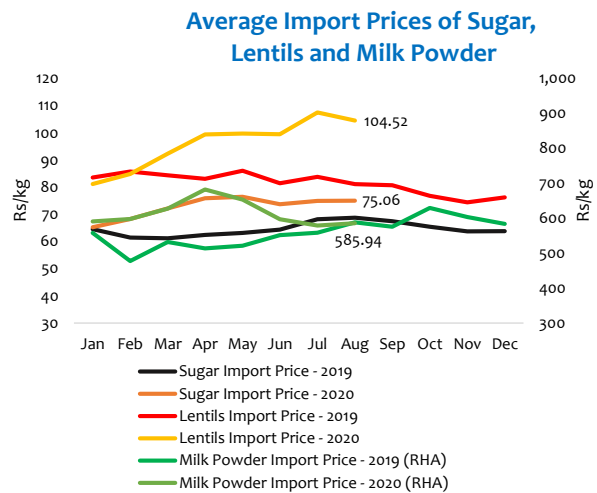
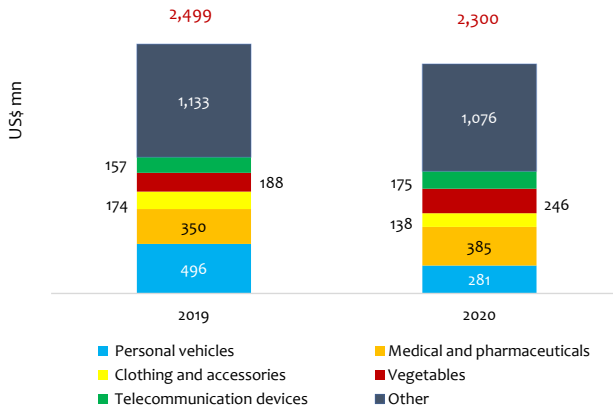


Expenditure on imports decreased during eight months ending August 2020 mainly due to reduced expenditure incurred on all major categories of imports. Meanwhile, import volume index declined during the period under consideration with reduced volumes in all major categories of imports.

### Consumer Goods Imports

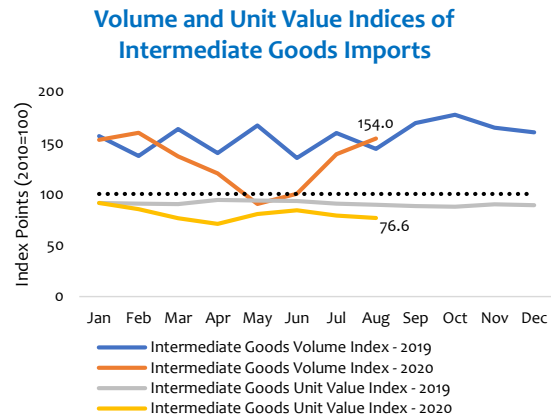
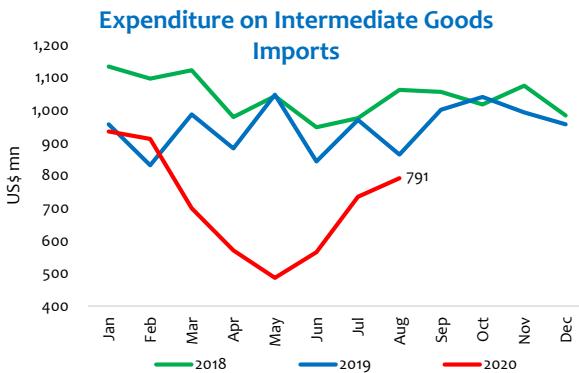


### Performance of Consumer Goods Imports (Jan-Aug)

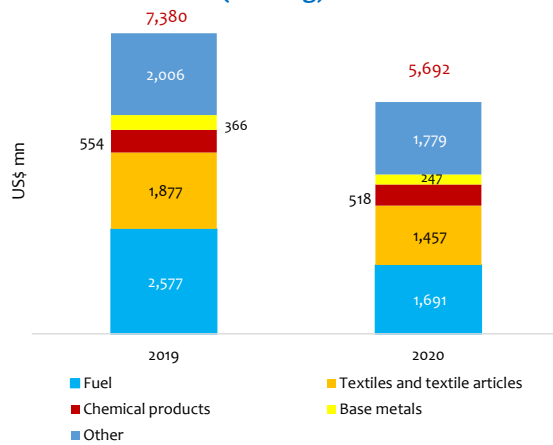


Import expenditure on consumer goods decreased (y-o-y) during eight months ending August 2020 mainly due to reduced imports of Non-food consumer goods including personal vehicles, clothing and accessories and home appliances. Import expenditure on beverages, fruits and seafood categorised under food and beverages sub category also declined.

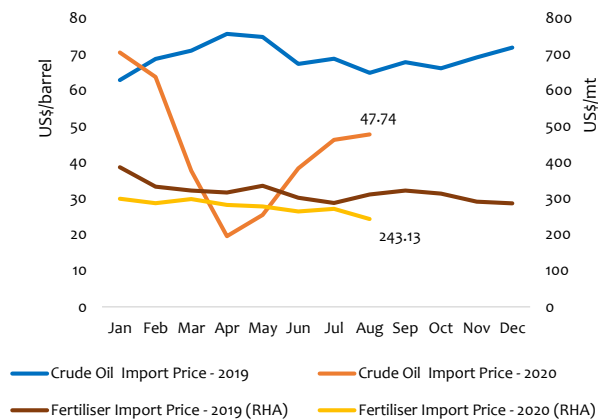
### Intermediate Goods Imports



### Performance of Intermediate Goods Imports (Jan-Aug)



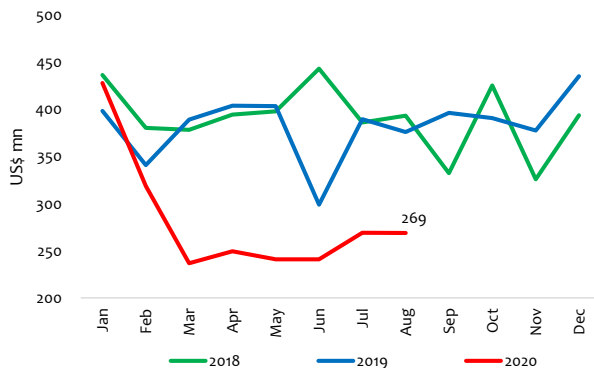
### Crude Oil and Fertiliser Import Prices (Monthly Averages)



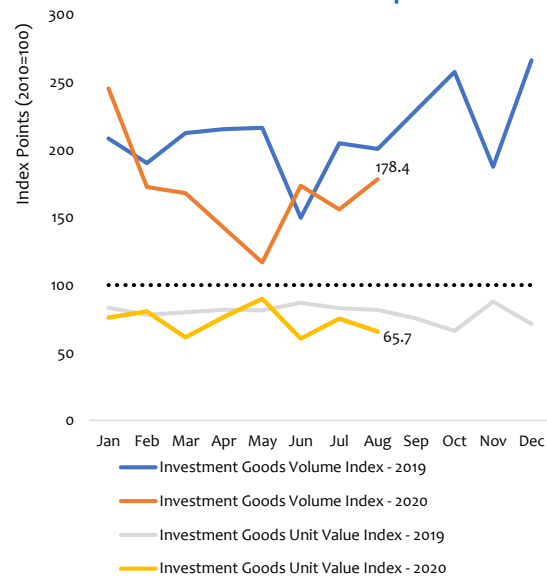
Import expenditure on intermediate goods decreased during eight months ending August 2020 mainly due to the reduced expenditure on imports of fuel, textiles and textile articles and base metals. However, expenditure on wheat and maize, food preparations and unmanufactured tobacco increased during the period.

## Investment Goods Imports

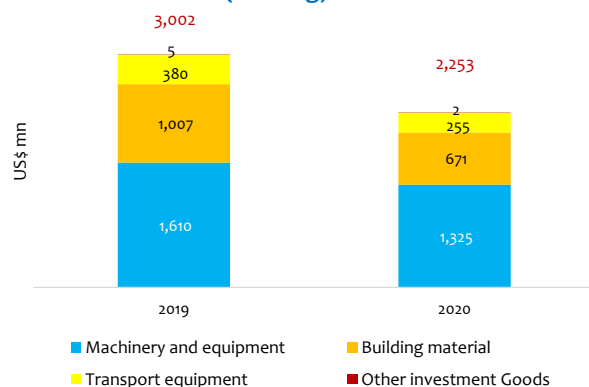
### Expenditure on Investment Goods Imports



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



### Performance of Investment Goods Imports (Jan-Aug)



Import expenditure on investment goods decreased during eight months ending August 2020 due to reduced imports of all major categories.

## Summary of External Trade Statistics

## Export Performance (US\$ mn)

| Item                                | Aug-19         | Aug-20       | Y-O-Y Change (%) | Jan - Aug 2019 | Jan - Aug 2020 | Y-O-Y Change (%) |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|--------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| <b>Agricultural Exports</b>         | <b>217.3</b>   | <b>215.9</b> | <b>-0.7</b>      | <b>1,667.4</b> | <b>1,516.0</b> | <b>-9.1</b>      |
| o/w Tea                             | 118.7          | 103.0        | -13.3            | 915.0          | 805.6          | -12.0            |
| Coconut                             | 28.1           | 33.9         | 20.9             | 232.1          | 221.5          | -4.6             |
| Spices                              | 33.3           | 39.7         | 19.2             | 203.4          | 194.5          | -4.4             |
| Seafood                             | 20.5           | 15.6         | -24.0            | 184.5          | 133.2          | -27.8            |
| <b>Industrial Exports</b>           | <b>812.1</b>   | <b>729.0</b> | <b>-10.2</b>     | <b>6,330.2</b> | <b>4,905.5</b> | <b>-22.5</b>     |
| o/w Textiles and garments           | 499.6          | 440.0        | -11.9            | 3,736.6        | 2,853.1        | -23.6            |
| Rubber products                     | 72.8           | 71.0         | -2.5             | 591.2          | 488.9          | -17.3            |
| Petroleum products                  | 42.6           | 22.0         | -48.4            | 327.5          | 268.1          | -18.1            |
| Food, beverages and tobacco         | 33.7           | 40.8         | 21.0             | 303.7          | 302.9          | -0.3             |
| Machinery and mechanical appliances | 32.5           | 31.1         | -4.4             | 275.0          | 209.5          | -23.8            |
| Gems, diamonds and jewellery        | 24.3           | 12.2         | -49.7            | 199.9          | 102.7          | -48.6            |
| Leather, travel goods and footwear  | 9.7            | 5.7          | -41.7            | 74.1           | 38.2           | -48.5            |
| <b>Mineral and Other Exports</b>    | <b>3.1</b>     | <b>2.4</b>   | <b>-23.2</b>     | <b>32.6</b>    | <b>23.6</b>    | <b>-27.7</b>     |
| <b>Total Exports</b>                | <b>1,032.5</b> | <b>947.2</b> | <b>-8.3</b>      | <b>8,030.2</b> | <b>6,445.0</b> | <b>-19.7</b>     |

## Import Performance (US\$ mn)

| Item                              | Aug-19         | Aug-20         | Y-O-Y Change (%) | Jan - Aug 2019  | Jan - Aug 2020  | Y-O-Y Change (%) |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| <b>Consumer goods</b>             | <b>332.1</b>   | <b>228.6</b>   | <b>-31.2</b>     | <b>2,499.2</b>  | <b>2,300.3</b>  | <b>-8.0</b>      |
| <b>Food and beverages</b>         | <b>117.9</b>   | <b>106.1</b>   | <b>-10.0</b>     | <b>917.1</b>    | <b>1,023.7</b>  | <b>11.6</b>      |
| o/w Vegetables (a)                | 22.5           | 18.4           | -18.3            | 187.6           | 246.3           | 31.3             |
| <b>Non-food consumer goods</b>    | <b>214.2</b>   | <b>122.5</b>   | <b>-42.8</b>     | <b>1,582.0</b>  | <b>1,276.7</b>  | <b>-19.3</b>     |
| o/w Personal vehicles             | 76.7           | 1.3            | -98.4            | 496.4           | 280.8           | -43.4            |
| <b>Intermediate goods</b>         | <b>863.8</b>   | <b>791.3</b>   | <b>-8.4</b>      | <b>7,379.8</b>  | <b>5,692.4</b>  | <b>-22.9</b>     |
| o/w Fuel                          | 261.2          | 247.5          | -5.2             | 2,576.8         | 1,691.2         | -34.4            |
| Textiles and textile articles     | 233.5          | 194.4          | -16.7            | 1,876.9         | 1,457.2         | -22.4            |
| Fertiliser                        | 32.2           | 8.2            | -74.4            | 137.5           | 124.3           | -9.6             |
| Wheat and maize                   | 24.9           | 46.0           | 84.9             | 203.4           | 229.3           | 12.7             |
| <b>Investment goods and other</b> | <b>377.7</b>   | <b>269.1</b>   | <b>-28.7</b>     | <b>3,006.6</b>  | <b>2,264.6</b>  | <b>-24.7</b>     |
| o/w Machinery and equipment       | 184.4          | 177.6          | -3.7             | 1,610.2         | 1,324.6         | -17.7            |
| <b>Total Imports</b>              | <b>1,573.6</b> | <b>1,289.1</b> | <b>-18.1</b>     | <b>12,885.5</b> | <b>10,257.4</b> | <b>-20.4</b>     |

## Trade Balance (US\$ mn)

| Item                 | Aug-19        | Aug-20        | Y-O-Y Change (%) | Jan - Aug 2019  | Jan - Aug 2020  | Y-O-Y Change (%) |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| <b>Trade Balance</b> | <b>-541.1</b> | <b>-341.9</b> | <b>-</b>         | <b>-4,855.3</b> | <b>-3,812.3</b> | <b>-</b>         |

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

| Item                  | Aug-19       | Aug-20       | Y-O-Y Change (%) | Jan - Aug 2019 | Jan - Aug 2020 | Y-O-Y Change (%) |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| <b>Export</b>         |              |              |                  |                |                |                  |
| Value index           | 143.8        | 131.8        | -8.3             | 139.7          | 112.1          | -19.7            |
| Volume index          | 145.5        | 150.1        | 3.2              | 145.9          | 124.9          | -14.4            |
| Unit value index      | 98.9         | 87.8         | -11.2            | 95.8           | 89.8           | -6.3             |
| <b>Import</b>         |              |              |                  |                |                |                  |
| Value index           | 140.8        | 115.4        | -18.1            | 144.2          | 114.7          | -20.4            |
| Volume index          | 153.2        | 147.8        | -3.6             | 156.8          | 137.5          | -12.3            |
| Unit value index      | 91.9         | 78.1         | -15.1            | 91.9           | 83.4           | -9.2             |
| <b>Terms of Trade</b> | <b>107.6</b> | <b>112.5</b> | <b>4.6</b>       | <b>104.2</b>   | <b>107.6</b>   | <b>3.3</b>       |

(a) Includes lentils, onions, potatoes, leguminous and other vegetables

(b) In US\$ terms