

ECONOMIC RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA

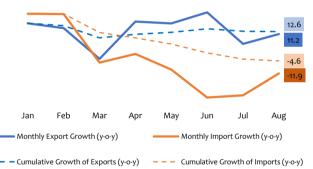
AUGUST 2022 VOLUME 04 ISSUE 08

Highlights

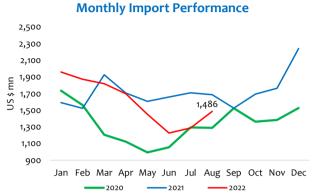


Earnings from merchandise exports increased by 11.2 per cent (year-on-year) to US dollars 1,224 million in August 2022.

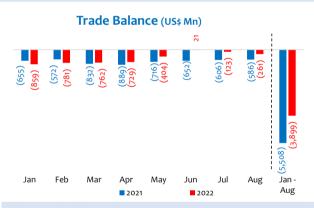




Export earnings increased (year-on-year) by 12.6 per cent, while import expenditure declined (year-on-year) by 4.6 per cent during the eight months ending August 2022.



Expenditure on merchandise imports declined by 11.9 per cent (year-on-year) to US dollars 1,486 million in August 2022.

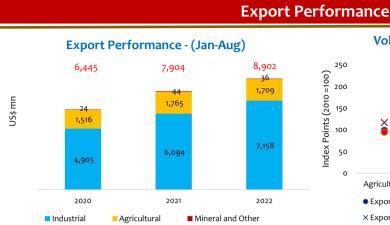


The merchandise trade account in August 2022 recorded a deficit of US dollars 261 million compared to the deficit of US dollars 586 million in August 2021.

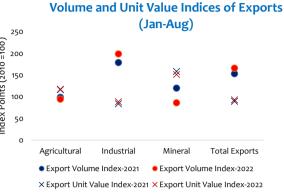


Major Export and Import Categories - (Jan - Aug 2022)

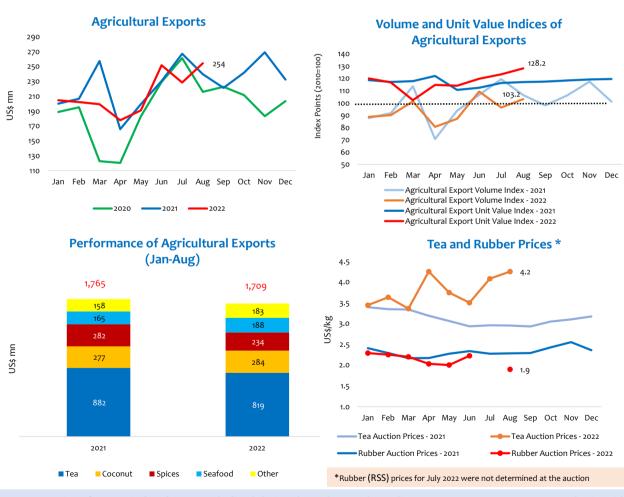
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Earnings from exports increased during the eight months ending August 2022, mainly due to the increase in industrial exports. However, a decrease was recorded in exports of agricultural and mineral exports.



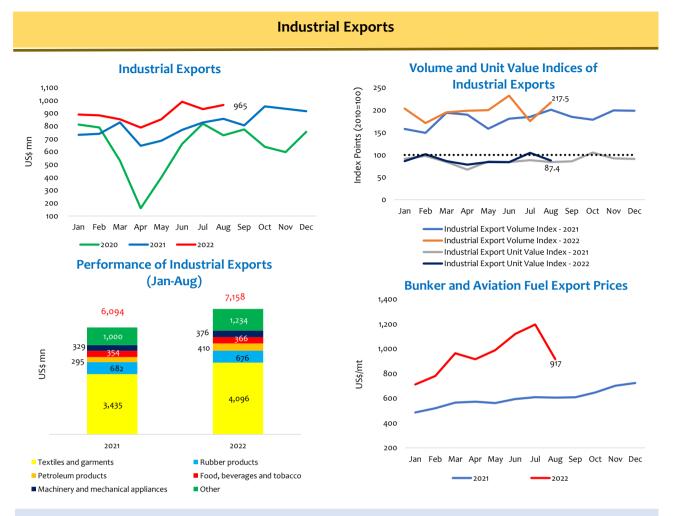
The export volume index and export unit value index increased by 8.4 per cent and 3.9 per cent, respectively during the the eight months ending August 2022.



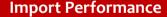
Agricultural Exports

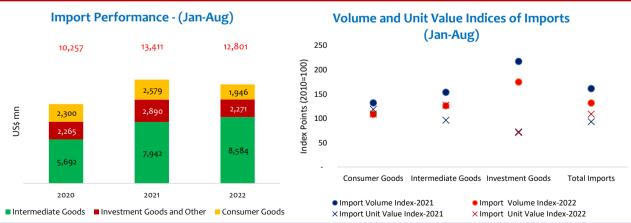
Export earnings from agricultural exports declined during the eight months ending August 2022, on a year-on-year basis, with lower export earnings from tea, spices and unmaufactured tobacco. However, higher export earnings were recorded from minor agricultural products, seafood, coconut and rubber during this period.

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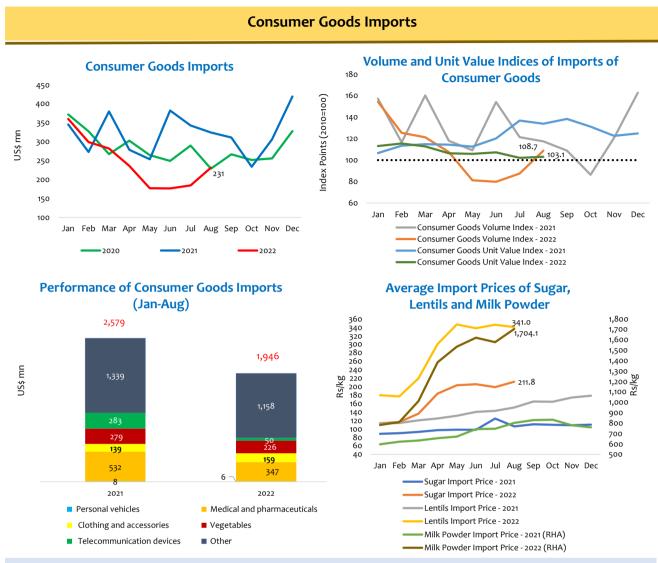


Earnings from industrial exports increased during the eight months ending August 2022 on a year-on-year basis, primarily due to the increase in earnings from exports of textiles and garments, petroleum products, gems, diamonds and jewellery and machinery and mechanical appliances. However, earnings from exports of plastics and articles thereof and rubber products declined during the period.

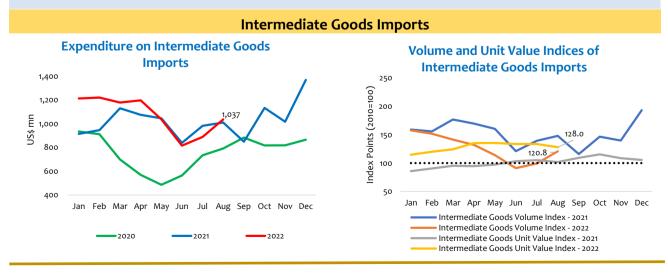


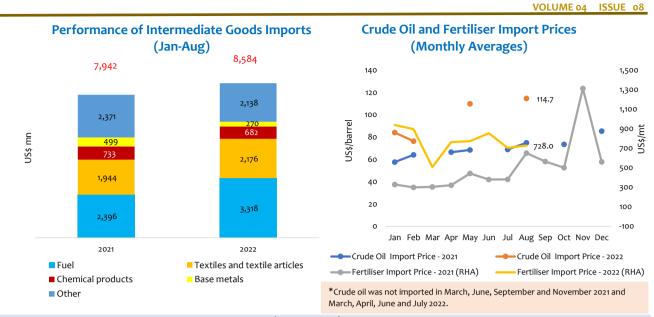


Despite an increase in import expenditure on intermediate goods, expenditure on merchandise imports declined during the eight months ending August 2022 on a year-on-year basis, primarily due to lower expenditure on the imports of consumer and investment goods. Meanwhile, the import volume index declined by 18.4 per cent, while the import unit value index increased by 17.0 per cent (year-on-year) during this period.

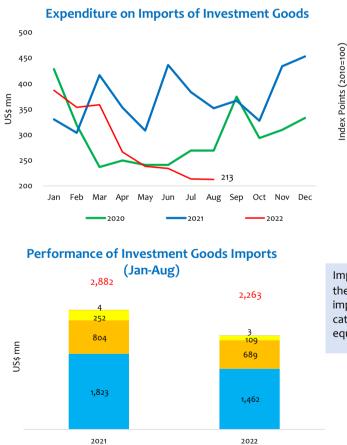


Import expenditure on consumer goods declined substantially (year-on-year) during the eight months ending August 2022, mainly due to the lower import expenditure on non-food consumer goods driven by telecommunication devices, medical and pharmaceuticals and home appliances. Further, the decreases were observed in the import expenditure on oil and fats, sugar and confectionery and dairy products categorised under food and beverages. However, import expenditure on cereals and milling industry products, clothing and accessories and beverages remained high in this period.

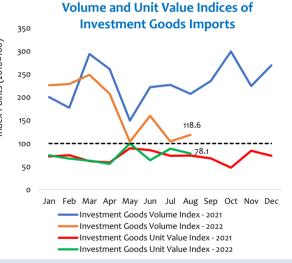




Import expenditure on intermediate goods increased (year-on-year) during the eight months ending August 2022, mainly due to the higher expenses incurred on imports of fuel, textiles and textile articles and diamonds and precious stones and metals. However, import expenditure on base metals, wheat, plastics and articles thereof and chemical products declined during the considering period.



Investment Goods Imports



Import expenditure on investment goods declined during the eight months ending August 2022, due to the lower import expenditure in all three main investment good categories, namely, machinery and equipment, transport equipment and building materials.

Building material

Other investment Goods

Machinery and equipment

Transport equipment

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| | Summary of External Trade Statistics (a) | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|--|-------------|-------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|--|--|
| | Export Performance (US\$ mn) | | | | | | | | |
| | Item | Aug 2021 | Aug 2022 | Y-O-Y Change (%) | Jan-Aug 2021 | Jan-Aug 2022 | Y-O-Y Change (%) | | |
| Agricultural Exports | | 239.4 | 254.2 | 6.2 | 1,765.5 | 1,708.5 | -3.2 | | |
| o/w | Теа | 116.8 | 124.4 | 6.5 | 882.4 | 819.3 | -7.2 | | |
| | Coconut | 40.1 | 35.5 | -11.5 | 276.9 | 284.3 | 2.7 | | |
| | Spices | 39.7 | 40.1 | 1.1 | 282.4 | 233.5 | -17.3 | | |
| | Seafood | 18.6 | 25.5 | 37.1 | 165.5 | 188.4 | 13.8 | | |
| Industrial Exports | | 857.4 | 965.3 | 12.6 | 6,094.3 | 7,157.8 | 17.5 | | |
| o/w | Textiles and garments | 493-3 | 566.9 | 14.9 | 3,434.8 | 4,095.6 | 19.2 | | |
| | Rubber products | 88.6 | 96.6 | 9.0 | 681.7 | 676.3 | -0.8 | | |
| | Petroleum products | 46.3 | 32.3 | -30.2 | 294.9 | 409.8 | 39.0 | | |
| | Food, beverages and tobacco | 57.5 | 42.0 | -27.0 | 354.0 | 366.0 | 3.4 | | |
| | Machinery and mechanical appliances | 41.1 | 53.0 | 28.9 | 329.1 | 375-9 | 14.2 | | |
| | Gems, diamonds and jewellery | 22.3 | 43-3 | 94.0 | 179.1 | 278.7 | 55.7 | | |
| | Leather, travel goods and footwear | 5.8 | 8.7 | 48.7 | 33.8 | 54.2 | 60.3 | | |
| Mineral and Other Exports | | 4.2 | 4.8 | 16.2 | 44.3 | 35-9 | -19.0 | | |
| Total Exports | | 1,101.0 | 1,224.4 | 11.2 | 7,904.0 | 8,902.2 | 12.6 | | |

| Import Performance (US\$ mn) | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|--|
| | Item | Aug 2021 | Aug 2022 | Y-O-Y Change (%) | Jan-Aug 2021 | Jan-Aug 2022 | Y-O-Y Change (%) | |
| Consumer goods | | 324.3 | 231.2 | -28.7 | 2,579.3 | 1,945.7 | -24.6 | |
| Food ar | nd beverages | 119.1 | 139.7 | 17.2 | 1,151.9 | 1,106.2 | -4.0 | |
| o/w | Vegetables (b) | 36.1 | 32.9 | -9.1 | 278.7 | 226.2 | -18.9 | |
| | Rice | 0.4 | 34.0 | 8,203.4 | 8.4 | 229.5 | 2,618.0 | |
| Non-food consumer goods | | 205.1 | 91.5 | -55.4 | 1,427.3 | 839.4 | -41.2 | |
| o/w | Personal vehicles | 1.1 | 0.8 | -23.5 | 7.8 | 5.7 | -26.5 | |
| Intermediate goods | | 1,010.0 | 1,036.5 | 2.6 | 7,942.4 | 8,584.0 | 8.1 | |
| o/w | Fuel | 352.7 | 388.6 | 10.2 | 2,395.9 | 3,317.9 | 38.5 | |
| | Textiles and textile articles | 241.3 | 269.7 | 11.8 | 1,943.7 | 2,175.7 | 11.9 | |
| | Fertiliser | 0.9 | 19.9 | 2,036.7 | 104.0 | 98.2 | -5.5 | |
| | Wheat and maize | 55.0 | 29.9 | -45.6 | 265.9 | 170.3 | -36.0 | |
| Investment goods and other | | 352.4 | 218.1 | -38.1 | 2,889.9 | 2,271.2 | -21.4 | |
| o/w | Machinery and equipment | 224.0 | 136.1 | -39.2 | 1,822.5 | 1,462.4 | -19.8 | |
| Total Imports | | 1,686.7 | 1,485.9 | -11.9 | 13,411.5 | 12,800.9 | -4.6 | |
| | | | (116) | ` | | | | |

| Trac | e Ra | lance (| (US\$ mn) |) |
|------|------|---------|-----------|---|
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| Item | Aug | Aug | Y-O-Y Change | Jan-Aug | Jan-Aug | Y-O-Y Change |
|---------------|--------|--------|--------------|----------|----------|--------------|
| | 2021 | 2022 | (%) | 2021 | 2022 | (%) |
| Trade Balance | -585.6 | -261.5 | | -5,507.5 | -3,898.7 | |

| Trade Indices and Terms of Trade (2010 = 100) (c) | | | | | | | |
|---|------------------|-------|-------|--------------|---------|---------|--------------|
| | Item | Aug | Aug | Y-O-Y Change | Jan-Aug | Jan-Aug | Y-O-Y Change |
| | | 2021 | 2022 | (%) | 2021 | 2022 | (%) |
| Export | | | | | | | |
| | Value index | 153.2 | 170.4 | 11.2 | 137.5 | 154.9 | 12.6 |
| | Volume index | 171.3 | 181.6 | 6.0 | 153.4 | 166.3 | 8.4 |
| | Unit value index | 89.4 | 93.8 | 4.9 | 89.6 | 93.1 | 3.9 |
| Import | | | | | | | |
| | Value index | 151.0 | 133.0 | -11.9 | 150.0 | 143.2 | -4.6 |
| | Volume index | 153.1 | 116.9 | -23.6 | 161.3 | 131.5 | -18.4 |
| | Unit value index | 98.6 | 113.7 | 15.4 | 93.0 | 108.9 | 17.0 |
| Terms of Trade | | 90.7 | 82.5 | -9.0 | 96.3 | 85.5 | -11.2 |

(a) Provisional

(b) includes lentils, onion, potatoes, leguminous vegetables and others

(c) In US\$ terms