

F. No. 1/14/2019-EPL-I
Government of India
Ministry of Commerce & Industry
Department of Commerce
(EPL-I Section)

Subject: Major Achievements of Department of Commerce for the month of February 2025.

I. Trade Performance

- The cumulative exports (merchandise & services) during April-February 2024-25 is estimated at USD 750.53 Billion, as compared to USD 706.43 Billion in April-February 2023-24, an estimated growth of 6.24%.
- The cumulative value of merchandise exports during April-February 2024-25 was USD 395.63 Billion, as compared to USD 395.38 Billion during April-February 2023-24, registering a positive growth of 0.06%.
- The cumulative Non-Petroleum exports in April-February 2024-25 valued at USD 337.01 Billion registered an increase of 6.43% as compared to USD 316.64 Billion in April-February 2023-24.
- Major drivers of merchandise exports growth in February 2025 include Electronic Goods, Rice, Mica, Coal & Other Ores, Minerals including processed minerals, RMG of all Textiles and Coffee.
- Electronic Goods exports increased by 26.46% from USD 3 Billion in February 2024 to USD 3.79 Billion in February 2025.
- RMG of all Textiles exports increased by 3.97 % from USD 1.48 Billion in February 2024 to USD 1.53 Billion in February 2025.
- Rice exports increased by 13.21% from USD 1.05 Billion in February 2024 to USD 1.19 Billion in February 2025.
- Marine products exports increased by 3.40% from USD 0.49 Billion in February 2024 to USD 0.51 Billion in February 2025.
- Mica, Coal & Other Ores, Minerals including processed minerals exports increased by 24.25% from USD 0.40 Billion in February 2024 to USD 0.50 Billion in February 2025.
- Coffee exports increased by 22.32% from USD 0.15 Billion in February 2024 to USD 0.18 Billion in February 2025.

II. Bilateral Trade

- Hon'ble Prime Minister of India and President of European Commission issued a Joint Statement "Task their respective negotiating teams to pursue negotiations for a balanced, ambitious, and mutually beneficial FTA with the aim of concluding them within the course of the year, recognizing the centrality and importance of growing India" on 28th February, 2025.

- The second meeting of India-EU Trade and Technology Council (TTC) was held in New Delhi on 28th February, 2025. It was co-chaired on the Indian side by External Affairs Minister; Commerce and Industry Minister (CIM); and Electronics and Information Technology Minister. Executive Vice-President for Tech Sovereignty, Security and Democracy, Commissioner for Trade and Economic Security, Inter-institutional Relations and Transparency and Commissioner for Start-ups, Research and Innovation co-chaired on the EU side. Long pending issue of listing of Indian fisheries for export to European Union was resolved with the listing of 25 fisheries on traces, opening new market for marine exports.
- The Secretary of State (SoS) for the Department for Business and Trade of the United Kingdom visited New Delhi during 24th-25th February 2025 and held meetings with CIM. The two Ministers jointly announced the resumption of India-UK Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations on 24th February 2025.
- A virtual meeting between CIM and European Commissioner for Trade and Economic Security was held on 17th February 2025 to discuss the India-EU Free Trade Agreement (FTA), Trade and Technology Council (TTC) and bilateral trade issues. Meeting between Commerce & Industry Minister (CIM) and the Vice President of Venezuela, along with an official delegation from Venezuela was held on 12th February, 2025 at Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi.
- A meeting of CIM with Swiss State Secretary (State Secretariat for Economic Affairs) and other Swiss delegates including representatives of Swiss Business Associations/Houses was held in New Delhi on 11th February 2025 to explore trade and investment opportunities between India and Switzerland.
- A meeting between Minister of State for Commerce and Industry (MoS), India and Deputy Minister for Ministry of Commerce, Myanmar was held on 14th February 2025 in New Delhi to deliberate on the potential areas of collaboration to promote bilateral trade.
- The 6th Commerce Secretary-Director General stock-taking meeting on the progress of India-EU Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations and Trade and Technology Council (TTC) was held in Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi on 27th February, 2025. The meeting was co-chaired by Commerce Secretary from the Indian side and Director General (Trade), from the European Commission.
- The curtain raiser for the 10th CII India LAC conclave was held on 18th February, 2025 in the presence of Commerce Secretary; Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs; Director General, CII. The event aimed to mobilise participation for the upcoming Conclave, bringing together Ambassadors for LAC countries in New Delhi, industry representatives and the virtual presence of Heads of Indian Missions in LAC.
- A meeting of Commerce Secretary with State Secretary (Norway) was held in New Delhi on 12th February 2025 as follow-up on the India-EFTA TEPA and the fostering of India-Norway bilateral relations.
- Head of Romanian Agency for Investment and Foreign Trade met Additional Secretary level, Department of Commerce, in New Delhi on 25th February, 2025 and discussed bilateral economic, trade and investment relations between India and Romania.

- A meeting between Additional Secretary level, Department of Commerce and the High Commissioner of New Zealand was held on 19th February 2025 at Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi, to discuss the non-paper and annexure to the non-paper prepared by both the sides for assessing feasibility of initiating India-New Zealand FTA negotiations.
- A meeting (in hybrid mode) was held on 18th February, 2025 under the chairmanship of Additional Secretary level, Department of Commerce regarding India-Oman CEPA negotiation.
- A meeting of the Ambassador of Algeria with Additional Secretary level, Department of Commerce was held on 4th February, 2025 at Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi to discuss bilateral trade and commerce issues.
- The 12th session of India-Slovakia Joint Economic Committee (JEC) was held in New Delhi on 19th February 2025. The Indian delegation was led by Joint Secretary level, Department of Commerce, while the Slovak side was led by Director General of the Foreign Trade Policy and European Affairs Section of the Ministry of Economy of the Slovak Republic.
- The 7th AITIGA Joint Committee and related meetings for discussions on the review of ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement were held from 12th-15th February 2025 in Jakarta, Indonesia. The leads and delegates from all ASEAN countries viz. Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand & Viet Nam except Brunei participated in the meeting.

III. **Export Infrastructure**

- During the month of February, 2025 amount of Rs. 6.075 Crore was released for the projects under Trade Infrastructure for Export Scheme (TIES):
 - (i) Rs. 58.50 lakh (2nd installment of TIES grant) was released to Madhya Pradesh State Agriculture Marketing Board (MPSAMB) for the project 'Establishment of post harvest, management, storage and market facility for pomegranate at Khargone, Madhya Pradesh'.
 - (ii) Rs. 1.62 Crore (4th tranche of 2nd & final installment of TIES grant) to TIDEL Neo Ltd. for the project 'Development of Mini Tidel Park in Pillayarpatti Village, District Thanjavur Tamil Nadu'.
 - (iii) Rs. 1.5425 Crore (4th tranche of 2nd & final installment of TIES grant) to TIDEL Neo Ltd. for the project 'Development of Mini Tidel Park in Thiruchitrambalam, District Villupuram'.
 - (iv) Rs. 2.3275 Crore (3rd tranche of 2nd & final installment of TIES grant) to Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) for the project 'Setting up common infrastructure facilities at Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel Niryat Suvidha Kendra at Chunar Tehsil, Mirzapur -U.P'.

IV. **Special Economic Zone (SEZ)**

- During the month of February 2025, Development Commissioners of various SEZs approved the proposals of investment of Rs. 3,896.42 Crore that is expected to provide employment to 15,122 persons.

V. Export Promotion

- Electronics and Computer Software Export Promotion Council (ESC) successfully organized India's participation at Leading Edge and Action Platform (LEAP) held in Riyadh, KSA, from 9th–12th February, 2025 at the Riyadh International Convention and Exhibition Centre.
- Pharmexcil successfully participated in the India Pavilion at the Asia Pharma Expo 2025 held from 12th to 14th February 2025 at the Bangabandhu Bangladesh-China Friendship Exhibition Center (BBCFEC) in Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- The Indian Oilseeds and Produce Export Promotion Council (IOPEPC) successfully participated in Gulfood 2025, the world's largest annual food and beverage trade exhibition, held from 17th-21st February 2025 at the Dubai World Trade Centre. As part of its ongoing efforts to promote India's Oilseeds and produce sector on a global platform, IOPEPC secured 10 strategically located stalls, each admeasuring 8 square meters, through APEDA.
- IOPEPC prepared a special Gulfood edition of its Monthly News Bulletin to highlight key industry insights, export trends, and opportunities in the Oilseeds sector. The bulletin was inaugurated by Shri Chirag Paswan, Cabinet Minister of Food Processing Industries, Government of India, during Gulfood 2025, held at the Dubai World Trade Centre. As part of its outreach efforts, IOPEPC distributed soft copies of the special edition to participants at Gulfood 2025, ensuring wider access to valuable industry information. The initiative received an enthusiastic response from stakeholders, reinforcing IOPEPC's commitment to promoting Indian Oilseeds on a global platform.
- IOPEPC, in collaboration with the Oilseeds Research Centre, Jalgaon (under Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri) and the Project Coordinating Unit Jabalpur (Sesame and Niger), successfully organized the Farmers' Convention on Oilseeds Cultivation on 28th February 2025 at the Oilseeds Research Centre, Jalgaon, Maharashtra. The event aimed to educate farmers on advanced Oilseed cultivation techniques, export opportunities, and sustainable agricultural practices. It featured expert-led technical sessions covering Sesame and Groundnut production, disease management, organic farming methods, and market intelligence.
- A meeting was organised under the chairmanship of Joint Secretary level, Department of Commerce on 13th February, 2025 in New Delhi with the delegation of Vijigi Energy and SyberJet regarding “Opportunity for Make-in-India Aircraft and Avionics with SyberJet, USA – Vijigi, India”
- Electronics and Computer Software Export Promotion Council (ESC) organised a virtual Business-2-Business (B2B) Meet on 28th February 2025 at Guatemala.

VI. Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA)

- APEDA, in collaboration with the Government of Assam, hosted an International Conclave cum Buyer-Seller Meet (BSM) in Guwahati on 4th February, 2025. The event was graced by Minister of Industries, Commerce & PE Department, Government of Assam; Minister of Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry & Veterinary,

Government of Assam (virtually); Chairman, APEDA (virtually); and Senior government officials from the state government.

- APEDA, in association with the Embassy of India, Moscow, Russia, organized an International Buyer Seller Meet in Moscow from 10th to 12th February, 2025. An Expression of Interest (EOI) was provided for fresh bananas, groundnuts, and processed food products.
- APEDA organized a Virtual Buyer-Seller Meet (VBSM) with Cabo Verde on 20th February, 2025, under the chairmanship of Ambassador of India to the Republic of Cabo Verde, with the participation of the National Environment Director and the Minister of Agriculture and Environment of Cabo Verde, the National Director of Industry, Trade and Energy of the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Energy of Cabo Verde, the President of the Chamber of Commerce, officials from the Embassy of India (EOI), APEDA, as well as exporters and importers.
- APEDA organized participation in Biofach, the largest organic food trade fair, held from 10th to 13th February, 2025, at the Nuremberg Exhibition Centre in Germany. A Letter of Intent (LOI) was also signed to become a partner country for BIOFACH 2026.
- APEDA organized its participation in Gulfood, which took place from 17th to 21st February, 2025, at the Dubai World Trade Centre in Dubai. An offer has been extended to India to be the Partner Country for Gulfood 2026.
- APEDA organized its participation in the World Cashew Conference 2025, held in Dubai from 21st to 23rd February, 2025.
- APEDA organized its participation in the Investment and Infrastructure Summit 2025 in Assam on 26th February, 2025.
- During the month of February 2025, APEDA flagged off following New Product to New Destinations:-
 - i. On 4th February 2025, Goli pop soda from Bharuch, Gujarat to UK and Gulf.
 - ii. On 24th February 2025, Dehydrated Dalle Chilli of 200Kg from Gangtok, Sikkim to Solomon Islands.
 - iii. On 25th February 2025, first sea consignment of Organic Ginger of 15MT from Meghalaya to Dubai.
 - iv. On 26th February 2025, first consignment of Anthurium flowers of 80 Kgs from Aizwal, Mizoram to Singapore.

VII. Export Credit and Insurance (ECI)

- During February 2025, Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India Limited (ECGC Ltd.) earned a premium of Rs. 117.53 Crore, issued 1029 policies, added 6996 new buyers, and settled claims worth Rs. 29.97 Crore.

VIII. Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT)

- The Regional Authorities of DGFT issued 16,826 authorizations and scrips under various FTP schemes, viz., 1,841 under Advance Authorizations, 23 under Service Export from India Scheme (SEIS), 13,556 under Importers and Exporters Code (IEC) and 1,406 under Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) during February 2025.

- DGFT issued following Notifications during the month of February 2025: -
 - i. Amendment in Export Policy of Raw Human Hair vide Notification No. 59/2024-25 dated 10th February, 2025.
 - ii. Amendment in Import Policy condition No. 1(III) under Chapter 87 of ITC (HS), 2022, Schedule-I (Import Policy) regarding vide Notification No. 58/2024-25 dated 7th February, 2025.
 - iii. Export of Broken Rice to Senegal through National Cooperative Exports Limited (NCEL) regarding vide Notification No. 57/2024-25 dated 6th February, 2025.
 - iv. Amendment in Export Policy of De-Oiled Rice Bran regarding vide Notification No. 56/2024-25 dated 4th February, 2025.

IX. Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR)

- DGTR has issued final findings in the following investigations during the month February 2025:-
 - i. Anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of “Fasteners” originating in or exported from China PR.
 - ii. Anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of “Glufosinate and its salt” from China PR.
 - iii. Anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of “Textured Tempered Coated and Uncoated Glass” originating in or exported from China PR and Vietnam.
 - iv. Countervailing duty investigation concerning imports of “Textured Tempered Coated and Uncoated Glass” originating in or exported from Vietnam.
 - v. “Sodium Citrate” originating in or exported from China PR.
 - vi. Anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of “Titanium Dioxide” originating in or exported from China PR.
- CBIC has finally imposed duty on the recommendation of DGTR on the following product(s):
 - i. Imposed to Continue levy of countervailing duty on imports of 'Saccharin in all its forms' originating in or exported from China PR, for 5 years pursuant to Sunset Review Final Findings issued by DGTR

X. Government eMarketplace (GeM)

- During February 2025, 155 training sessions and 43 events were conducted for various buyers and sellers' organizations. 10,963 buyers and sellers participated in these events.
- Central Medical Services Society has awarded a bid for “Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV) Vaccine Under Universal Immunization Programme of MoHFW” for Rs. 2,619 crore; Rural Electrification Corporation Limited has awarded a bid for “Advanced Metering Infrastructure” for Rs. 2,274 crore; and Northern Coalfields Limited has awarded a Bid for “Handling, Transport and Other Mining Services - Percentage Quote Based” for Rs. 1,157 crore on GeM in February 2025.
- Uttar Pradesh has procured the most Goods and Services from GeM with a contribution of Rs. 1,378 crore in overall Gross Merchandise Value (GMV) in February 2025,

followed by Gujarat with Rs. 1,260 crore and Maharashtra with Rs. 1,007 crore respectively.

- On 12th February 2025, GeM signed an MoU with the nation's premier B-school, the Indian School of Business (ISB), to advance research in the public procurement sector, in New Delhi. This collaboration seeks to provide a structured, data-driven analysis of GeM's evolution and its transformative impact on public procurement in India.
- GeM commemorated 6 Years of SWAYATT by bringing together women entrepreneurs, industry stalwarts and dignitaries. To mark this occasion, GeM also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) Ladies Organisation (FICCI-FLO) – an all-India forum representing over 9,500 women entrepreneurs.
- GeM participated in Advantage Vidarbha 2025 – Khasdar Audyogik Mahotsav held in Nagpur, Maharashtra, from 7th -12th February 2025. During the expo, Hon'ble Minister of Road Transport & Highways, Government of India visited the GeM Pavilion, where he was briefed by Additional CEO & Chief Seller Officer, GeM, on the platform's pivotal role in transforming the public procurement landscape in India.
- GeM participated in the "Fortify Lecture Series" launched by the South Central Railway (SCR) as a part of a capacity-building initiative by the Vigilance Department, Hyderabad.
