

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 March 2025.

I. Trade Performance

- The cumulative exports (merchandise & services) during FY 2024-25 (April-March) is estimated at USD 820.93 Billion, as compared to USD 778.13 Billion in FY 2023-24 (April-March), an estimated growth of 5.50%.
- The cumulative value of merchandise exports during FY 2024-25 (April-March) was USD 437.42 Billion, as compared to USD 437.07 Billion during FY 2023-24 (April-March), registering a positive growth of 0.08%.
- The cumulative Non-Petroleum exports in FY 2024-25 (April-March) valued at USD 374.08 Billion registered an increase of 6% as compared to USD 352.92 Billion in FY 2023-24 (April-March).
- Major drivers of merchandise exports growth in FY 2024-25 (April-March) include Coffee, Tobacco, Electronic Goods, Rice, Jute Mfg. including Floor Covering, Meat, dairy & poultry products, Tea, Carpet, Plastic & Linoleum, RMG of all Textiles, Drugs & Pharmaceuticals, Cereal preparations & miscellaneous processed items, Mica, Coal & Other Ores, Minerals including processed minerals, Engineering Goods and Fruits & Vegetables.
- Coffee exports increased by 40.37% from USD 1.29 Billion in FY 2023-24 (April-March) to USD 1.81 Billion in FY 2024-25 (April-March).
- Tobacco exports increased by 36.53% from USD 1.45 Billion in FY 2023-24 (April-March) to USD 1.98 Billion in FY 2024-25 (April-March).
- Electronic Goods exports increased by 32.47% from USD 29.12 Billion in FY 2023-24 (April-March) to USD 38.58 Billion in FY 2024-25 (April-March).
- Rice exports increased by 19.73% from USD 10.42 Billion in FY 2023-24 (April-March) to USD 12.47 Billion in FY 2024-25 (April-March).
- Jute Mfg. including Floor Covering exports increased by 13.35% from USD 0.34 Billion in FY 2023-24 (April-March) to USD 0.38 Billion in FY 2024-25 (April-March).
- Meat, dairy & poultry products exports increased by 12.57% from USD 4.53 Billion in FY 2023-24 (April-March) to USD 5.1 Billion in FY 2024-25 (April-March).
- Tea exports increased by 11.84% from USD 0.83 Billion in FY 2023-24 (April-March) to USD 0.92 Billion in FY 2024-25 (April-March).
- Carpet exports increased by 10.46% from USD 1.4 Billion in FY 2023-24 (April-March) to USD 1.54 Billion in FY 2024-25 (April-March).
- Plastic & Linoleum exports increased by 10.23% from USD 8.09 Billion in FY 2023-24 (April-March) to USD 8.92 Billion in FY 2024-25 (April-March).
- RMG of all Textiles exports increased by 10.03% from USD 14.53 Billion in FY 2023-24 (April-March) to USD 15.99 Billion in FY 2024-25 (April-March).

- Drugs & Pharmaceuticals exports increased by 9.39% from USD 27.85 Billion in FY 2023-24 (April-March) to USD 30.47 Billion in FY 2024-25 (April-March).
- Cereal preparations & miscellaneous processed items exports increased by 8.71% from USD 2.85 Billion in FY 2023-24 (April-March) to USD 3.1 Billion in FY 2024-25 (April-March).
- Mica, Coal & Other Ores, Minerals including processed minerals exports increased by 6.95% from USD 4.68 Billion in FY 2023-24 (April-March) to USD 5.01 Billion in FY 2024-25 (April-March).
- Engineering Goods exports increased by 6.74% from USD 109.3 Billion in FY 2023-24 (April-March) to USD 116.67 Billion in FY 2024-25 (April-March).
- Fruits & Vegetables exports increased by 5.67% from USD 3.66 Billion in FY 2023-24 (April-March) to USD 3.87 Billion in FY 2024-25 (April-March).

II. **Bilateral Trade**

- A meeting between Commerce & Industry Minister (CIM) and European Commissioner for Trade and Economic Security was held in Mumbai on 1st March 2025 on India-EU FTA Negotiations.
- CIM met with Princess Astrid of Belgium along with Minister of Foreign Affairs, Minister of Trade and Defence and Minister President of Flanders on 2nd March 2025 in New Delhi and discussed enhancing economic partnership with Belgium.
- In a meeting held between CIM and Minister for Trade and Investment, New Zealand in New Delhi on 16th March 2025, India New Zealand FTA Negotiation was launched.
- On 17th March 2025, CIM met Minister of Foreign Affairs of Sweden to discuss bilateral trade and investment opportunities between India and Sweden. On the same day, CIM also met Minister of Finance of Slovak Republic in New Delhi to discuss bilateral trade and investment opportunities between India and Slovakia.
- On 18th March 2025, CIM met Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary in New Delhi to discuss bilateral trade and investment opportunities between India and Hungary. On the same day, CIM also met Minister of Foreign Affairs of Norway in New Delhi to discuss entry into force of Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) by Norway; and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Education & Sport of Liechtenstein in New Delhi to discuss trade and investment opportunities between India and Liechtenstein.
- On 24th March 2025, CIM held a virtual meeting with Minister for Trade and Tourism, Australia regarding the ongoing India-Australia Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (IN-AU CECA) negotiations.
- On 25th March 2025, CIM met with the Premier of South Australia in New Delhi. The meeting focused on South Australia's trade and investment relationship with India, particularly in international education and resources.
- On 18th March, 2025, a bilateral meeting between Minister of State for Commerce & Industry (MoS) and Malaysian Deputy Minister of Investment, Trade, and Industry held in Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi to discuss issues on bilateral trade.
- On 21st March 2025, a meeting of MoS with Minister of State in German Foreign Ministry was held in New Delhi to discuss India-EU FTA and other bilateral issues.

- Commerce Secretary met with Princess Astrid on 3rd March 2025 in New Delhi and discussed on/ talked about expanding trade partnership.
- On 19th March 2025, a meeting between Commerce Secretary and Ambassador of the Netherlands to India was held at Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi. The discussion focused on the India-Netherlands Joint Trade and Investment Committee.
- The 10th Round of India-EU FTA Negotiations was held in Brussels, Belgium from 10th to 14th March 2025. Negotiations on 20 policy area/chapters of India-EU FTA were covered in 93 technical sessions.
- The 10th CII India-LAC Conclave was held during 19th -20th March, 2025 in New Delhi, with the support of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and the Ministry of External Affairs.

III. **Export Infrastructure**

- During the month of March, 2025 amount of Rs. 3.2381 Crore was released for the projects under Trade Infrastructure for Export Scheme (TIES):
 - i. Rs. 58.50 lakh (3rd 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. 1.1106 Crore (4th 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.'.
 - 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 Meelavitan-II village, Thoothukudi Taluk, Tamil Nadu'.

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

- During the month of March 2025, Development Commissioners of various SEZs approved the proposals of investment of Rs. 2754.60 Crore that is expected to provide employment to 13,560 persons.

V. **Export Promotion**

- Project Export Promotion Council of India (PEPC) is providing a real time access to its member companies through its website to international tenders from 525 sources.
- Telecom Equipment & Services Export Promotion Council (TEPC) participated in the Mobile World Congress 2025 in Barcelona, Spain from 3rd to 6th March 2025. The event was showcasing the latest innovations and trends in mobile technology.
- Indian Oilseeds and Produce Export Promotion Council (IOPEPC) participated in (i) Stakeholder Consultation Meeting on "Sesame Processing and Export Opportunities for Odisha", organized by International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) in collaboration with Odisha University of Agriculture and Technology (OUAT) and supported by the Department of Agriculture, Government of Odisha. The event, held on 6th March, 2025, at Bhubaneswar, brought together key stakeholders,

including research institutes, government bodies, traders, processors, and farmer groups.

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

- APEDA, in association with the Consulate General of India, organized Buyer Seller Meet (BSM) in San Francisco on 4th March, 2025. The focus of BSM was to promote Indian Organic Products in the US Market. It covered the interaction of exporters and importers for organic and agri products as well.
- During the month of March 2025, APEDA flagged off following New Product to New Destinations:
 - i. On 1st March 2025, flagged off Green Papaya of 680Kg from Dhenkanal, Odisha, to Dublin, Ireland.
 - ii. On 8th March 2025, flagged off Green Papaya of 1000Kg from Dhenkanal, Odisha, to London, England.
- APEDA organized its participation with over 90 exhibitors in Aahar 2025, held from 4th to 8th March, 2025, at the Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.
- APEDA organized its participation with 13 exporting companies in Natural Products Expo West 2025, held from 4th to 7th March, 2025, at Anaheim Convention Center, California, USA.
- APEDA organized its participation with 16 Indian exporting companies in the International Food & Drink Event (IFE) London 2025, held from 17th to 19th March, 2025, at Excel London, England.

VII. Export Credit and Insurance (ECI)

- During March 2025, Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India Limited (ECGC Ltd.) earned a premium of Rs. 172.73 Crore, issued 1,823 policies, added 4,959 new buyers, and settled claims worth Rs. 180.40 Crore.

VIII. Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT)

- The Regional Authorities of DGFT issued 17,558 authorizations and scrips under various FTP schemes, viz., 2,111 under Advance Authorizations, 81 under Service Export from India Scheme (SEIS), 13,646 under Importers and Exporters Code (IEC) and 1,720 under Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) during March 2025.
- DGFT issued following Notifications during the month of March 2025: -
 - i. Extension of Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) for Advance Authorizations (AAs) holders, Special Economic Zones (SEZs), and Export-Oriented Units (EOUs) upto 5th February 2025 vide Notification No. 66/2024-25 dated 20th March 2025.
 - ii. Amendment in import policy condition of Urea [Exim Code 31021010] in the ITC (HS) 2022, Schedule-I (Import Policy) – regarding vide Notification No. 65/2024-25 dated 18th March 2025.
 - iii. Amendment in Export Policy Condition under HSN of Schedule-II (Export Policy), ITC(HS) 2022 vide Notification No. 62/2024-25 dated 10th March 2025.

- iv. Extension in Import Period for Yellow Peas under ITC(HS) Code 07131010 of Chapter 07 of ITC(HS) 2022, Schedule-I (Import Policy) - regarding vide Notification No. 63/2024-25 dated 10th March 2025.
- v. Extension in “Free” Import Policy of Urad ([Beans of SPP Vigna Mungo (L.) Hepper]) [ITC (HS) Code 07133110] under ITC(HS) 2022 Schedule-I (Import Policy) - regarding vide Notification No. 64/2024-25 dated 10th March 2025.
- vi. Amendment in Export Policy of Broken Rice under HS code 1006 40 00 vide Notification No. 61/2024-25 dated 7th March 2025.
- vii. Amendment in Import Policy and Policy Condition in Platinum covered under HS Code 7110 of Chapter 71 of ITC(HS) 2022, Schedule-I (Import Policy) vide Notification No. 60/2024-25 dated 5th March 2025.

IX. Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR)

- DGTR issued Final Finding(s) on the following investigations during the month March 2025:
 - i. Anti-Dumping investigation concerning imports of “Vitamin-A Palmitate” originating in or exported from China PR, the European Union and Switzerland”.
 - ii. Anti-Dumping Investigation concerning imports of "Insoluble Sulphur" originating in or exported from China PR and Japan.
 - iii. Anti-dumping investigation concerning the imports of ‘Azo Pigment’ from China PR.
 - iv. Aluminium Foil originating in or exported from China PR.
 - v. Anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of Pretilachlor and its intermediate PEDA originating in or exported from China PR-regd.
 - vi. Anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of Acetonitrile originating in or exported from China PR, Russia & Taiwan
 - vii. Linear Alkyl Benzene originating in or exported from Iran Qatar and China PR.
 - viii. Anti-Dumping Investigation concerning imports of Aluminium Foil 80 micron and below from China PR, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand.
 - ix. Anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of Potassium Tertiary Butoxide (KTB) from China PR and United States of America; and imports of Sodium Tertiary Butoxide (STB) from China PR.
 - x. Anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of Plastic Processing Machines originating in or exported from China PR and Taiwan.
 - xi. Countervailing duty investigation concerning imports of “Digital Offset Printing Plates” originating in or exported from China PR and Taiwan.
 - xii. Countervailing duty investigation concerning imports of “effect pearlescent pigments or mica pearlescent pigments”, excluding effect pigments for automotive applications originating in or exported from China PR.
 - xiii. Anti-Dumping Investigation concerning imports of "Decor Paper" originating in or exported from China PR.

X. Government eMarketplace (GeM)

- During March 2025, 153 training sessions and 57 events were conducted for various buyers and sellers’ organizations. 10,174 buyers and sellers participated in these events.

- 36 bids have been awarded which are greater than Rs. 100 crore in March 2025.
- South Eastern Coalfields Limited (Organization under Ministry of Coal) has awarded a bid for "Mine Development & Operations Service (MDO)" for Rs.32,509 crore in March 2025.
- GeM launched a series of specialized virtual training sessions on Payment System (PFMS) for the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF). Four sessions were conducted in March, covering 172 participants. Six sessions are planned for April 2025, further expanding GeM support for this critical organization.
- GeM marked International Women's Day by participating in Women and Trade: Advancing Inclusion, Expanding Opportunities & Boosting Economic Growth, organized by Exim Bank in collaboration with the World Bank in Mumbai. Additional CEO, GeM, spoke on Public Procurement for Women-Owned/Led/Employing Firms, emphasizing GeM's role in fostering inclusivity, expanding market access, and empowering women entrepreneurs.
- GeM signed an MoU with the State Bank of India (SBI) to strengthen financial access for sellers and service providers registered on the GeM portal. This collaboration aims to enhance financial inclusion by enabling registered and interested sellers and service providers (borrowers) on the GeM portal to avail of unsecured, short-tenure loans (GeM Sahay Loans) against their GeM Purchase Orders from SBI.
