

India's Foreign Trade: March 2018

EXPORTS (including re-exports)

Exports during 2017-18 are at US \$ 302.84 Billion registering a growth of **9.78 per cent in dollar terms vis-à-vis 2016-17**.

Exports during March 2018 were valued at US \$ 29.11 Billion as compared to US \$ 29.30 Billion during March 2017 exhibited negative growth of 0.66 per cent. In Rupee terms, exports were valued at Rs. 189271.16 crore as compared to Rs. 193028.91 crore during March 2017, registering a fall of 1.95 per cent.

During March 2018, major commodity groups of export showing positive growth over the corresponding month of last year:

- Engineering Goods (2.62%)
- Organic & Inorganic Chemicals (31.75%)
- Drugs & Pharmaceuticals (8.4%)
- Cotton Yarn/Fabs./made-ups, Handloom Products etc. (14.27%)
- Rice (20.91%)

Cumulative value of exports for the period April-March 2017-18 was US \$ 302.84 Billion (Rs 1952168.79 crore) as against US \$ 275.85 Billion (Rs 1849428.76 crore) registering a positive growth of 9.78 per cent in Dollar terms and 5.56 per cent in Rupee terms over the same period last year.

Non-petroleum and Non Gems & Jewellery exports in March 2018 were valued at US \$ 22.42 Billion as against US \$ 21.44 Billion in March 2017, an increase of 4.60%. Non-petroleum and Non Gems and Jewellery exports during April-March 2017-18 were valued at US \$ 222.45 Billion as compared to US \$ 200.89 Billion for the corresponding period in 2016-17, an increase of 10.73%.

IMPORTS

Imports during March 2018 were valued at US \$ 42.80 Billion (Rs 278296.95 crore) which was 7.15 per cent higher in Dollar terms and **5.75 per cent higher in Rupee terms over the level of imports valued at US \$ 39.95 Billion (Rs. 263155.49 crore) in March 2017**. Cumulative value of imports for the period April-March 2017-18 was US \$ 459.67 Billion (Rs. 2962897.70 crore) as against US \$ 384.36 Billion (Rs. 2577665.59 crore) registering a positive growth of 19.59 per cent in Dollar terms and 14.94 per cent in Rupee terms over the same period last year.

Major commodity groups of import showing high growth in March 2018 over the corresponding month of last year are:

- Petroleum, Curde & products (13.92%)
- Electronic goods (2.53%)
- Machinery, electrical & non-electrical (33.41%)
- Pearls, precious & Semi-precious stones (0.78%)
- Coal, Coke & Briquettes, etc. (44.67%)

CRUDE OIL AND NON-OIL IMPORTS:

Oil imports during March 2018 were valued at US \$ 11.11 Billion which was 13.92 percent higher than oil imports valued at US \$ 9.75 Billion in March 2017. Oil imports during April-March 2017-18 were valued at US \$ 109.11 Billion which was 25.47 per cent higher than the oil imports of US \$ 86.96 Billion in the corresponding period last year.

In this connection it is mentioned that the global Brent prices (\$/bbl) have increased by 27.86 % in March 2018 vis-à-vis March 2017 as per World Bank commodity price data (The pink sheet).

Non-oil imports during March 2018 were estimated at US \$ 31.69 Billion which was 4.96 per cent higher than non-oil imports of US \$ 30.20 Billion in March 2017. Non-oil imports during April-March 2017-18 were valued at US \$ 350.56 Billion which was 17.88 per cent higher than the level of such imports valued at US \$ 297.39 Billion in April-March, 2016-17.

TRADE BALANCE: Trade deficit for April-March 2017-18 is estimated at US \$ 87.17 Billion as compared to US \$ 47.70 Billion during April-March 2016-17.

Secretary