

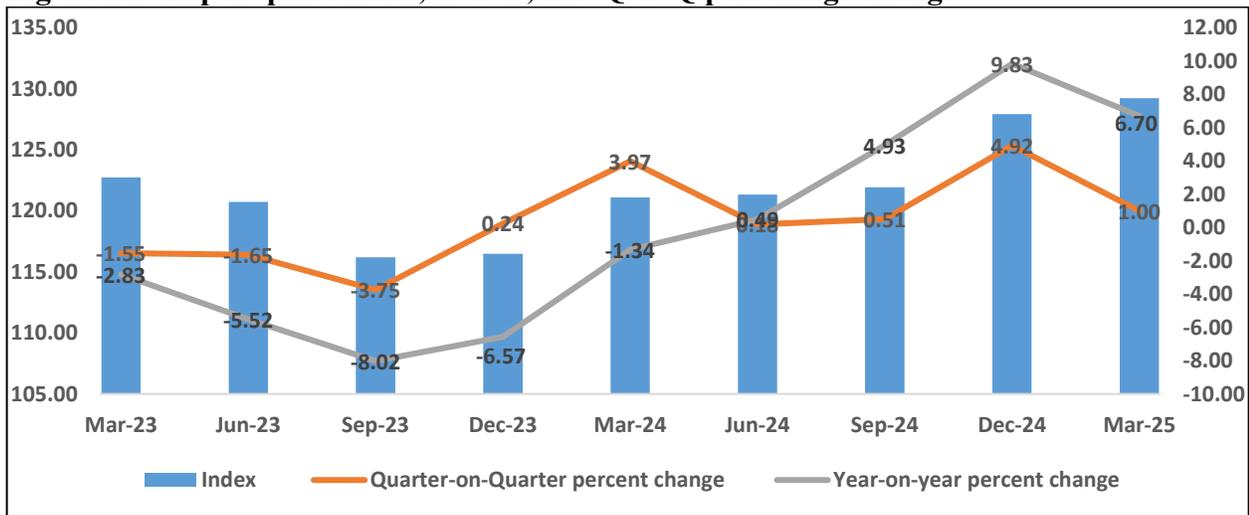


Export and Import Price Index: First Quarter (January -March), 2025

1.1: Export Price Index

Year-on-year inflation for exported goods increased to 6.70 percent in the first quarter of 2025 compared to the same period in 2024. The prices of food and beverages increased by 15.24 percent and the prices of mineral products, cement, and electricity increased by 11.55 percent. Conversely, the prices for chemicals, plastics, textiles, and apparel recorded a drop of 0.62 percent. The prices of base metals and other manufactured goods saw a drop of 21.53 percent. The price of wood, pulp, and paper declined by 21.53 percent compared to the First quarter of 2024.

Figure 1.1: Export price index, Y-O-Y, and Q-O-Q percentage change

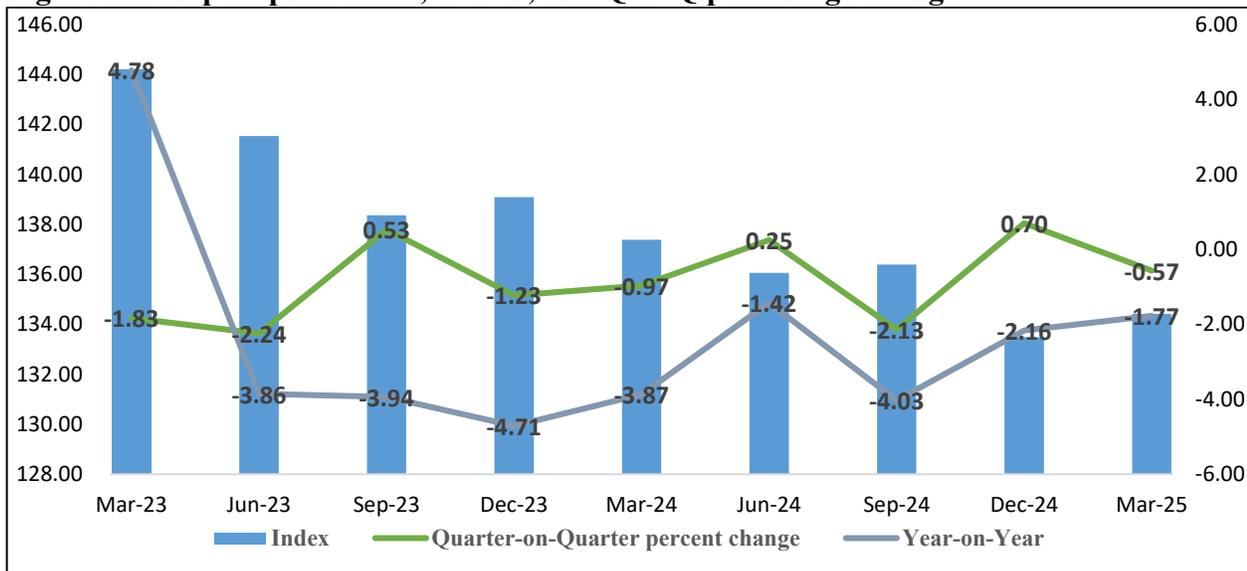


On a quarter-on-quarter basis, export prices rose by 1.00 percent in the first quarter of 2025. This increase was mainly driven by 3.91 percent rise in the prices the food and beverages and 5.78 percent increase in the price of mineral products, cement, and electricity, Conversely, the prices for base metals and other manufactured goods decreased by 0.93 percent. Additionally, the prices of wood, pulp, and paper declined by 9.28 percent in the first quarter of 2025 compared to the previous quarter.

1.2: Import Price Index

The year-on-year inflation rate for imported goods dropped to 1.77 percent in the first quarter of 2025, compared to the same period in 2024. Most categories within imports experienced price drop, while the price food and beverages, increased by 4.88 percent. Prices for wood, pulp, and paper decreased by 3.25 percent, the prices for mineral products, cement, and electricity decreased by 13.06 percent. The prices of chemicals, plastics, textiles, and apparel increased by 7.15 percent. The metals and metal articles saw a drop of 5.54 percent. Transport equipment prices decreased by 5.15 percent, whereas machinery, appliances, and other manufactured goods experienced increase of 1.39 percent.

Figure 1.2: Import price index, Y-O-Y, and Q-O-Q percentage change



On a quarter-on-quarter basis, the inflation rate for imports decreased to 0.57 percent in the first quarter of 2025 compared to the previous quarter. The prices of food and beverages decreased by 1.66 percent, and the prices of wood, pulp, and paper decreased by 1.09 percent. The prices of metals and metal articles decreased by 6.27 percent, and prices for mineral products, cement, and electricity declined by 0.19 percent. Meanwhile, the prices for machinery, appliances, and other manufactured goods decreased slightly by 1.52 percent, and the prices for chemicals, plastics, textiles, and apparel saw a notable increase of 5.88 percent.

1.3: Terms of Trade

The terms of trade increased to 96.68 in the first quarter of 2025, up from 95.18 in the first quarter of 2024, marking a rise of 1.58 percentage points. However, compared to the first quarter of the previous year, the terms of trade increased to 8.62 percent.

An increase in terms of trade means that a fixed quantity of exports can fund a larger quantity of imports. Conversely, a decrease in terms of trade means that the same quantity of exports can fund a smaller quantity of imports.

Export Price Index (Q4 2014 quarter = 100)

Chart 1: Year-on-year percent change

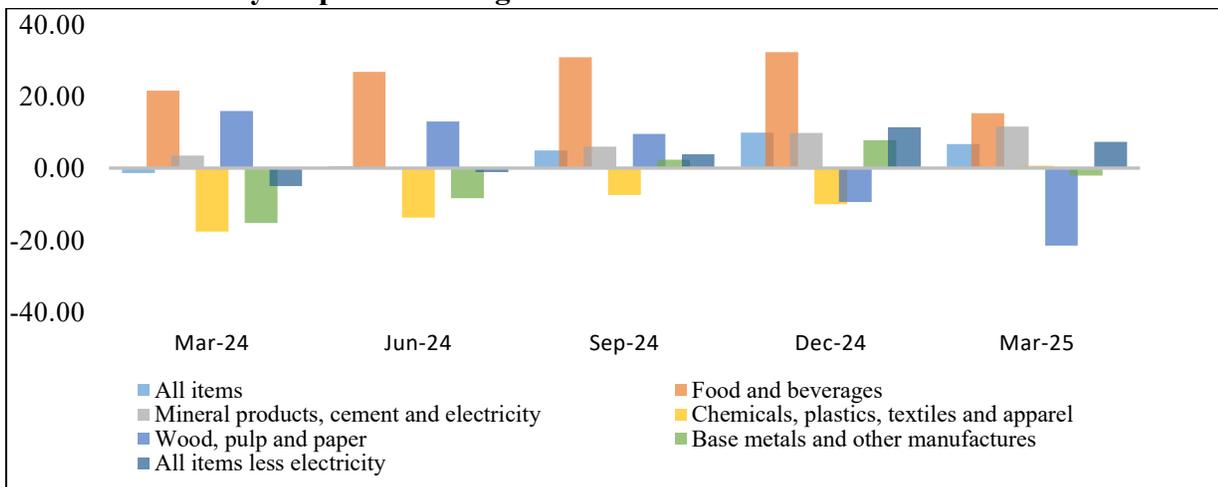


Chart 2: Quarter-on-quarter percent change, export

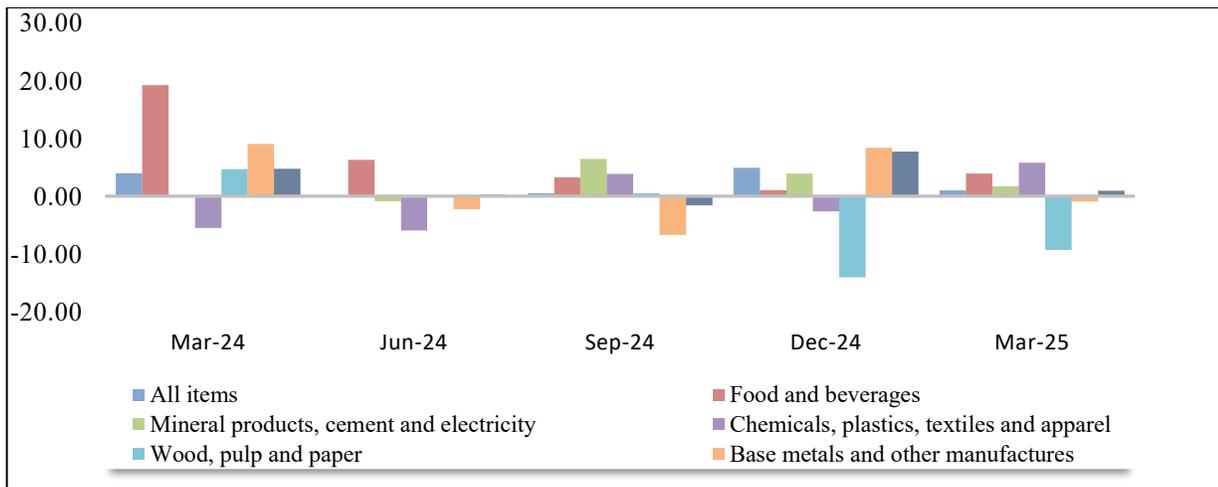
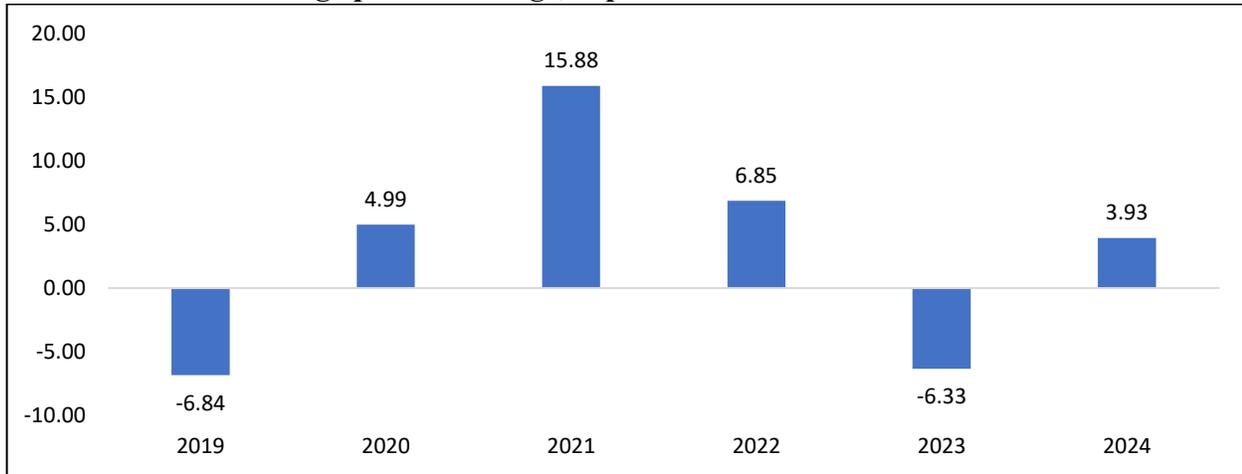


Chart 3: Annual average percent change, export



Import Price Index (Q4 2014 quarter = 100)

Chart 4: Year-on-year percent change

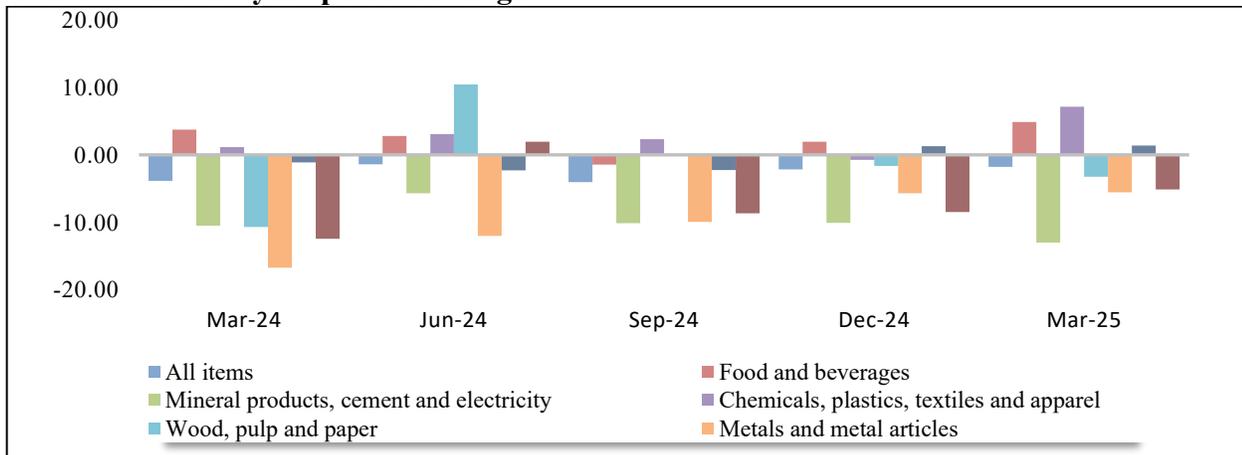


Chart 5: Quarter-on-quarter percent change

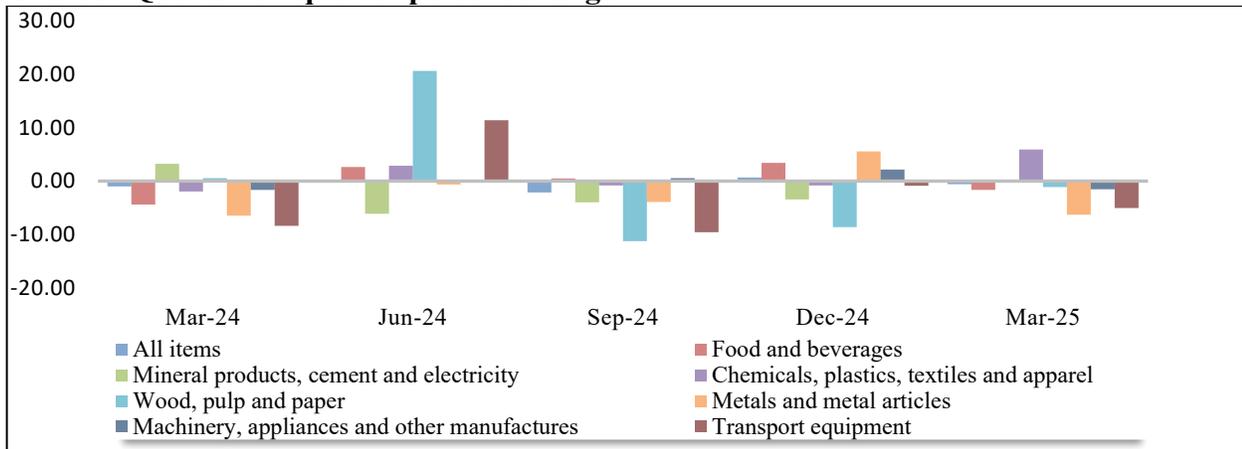
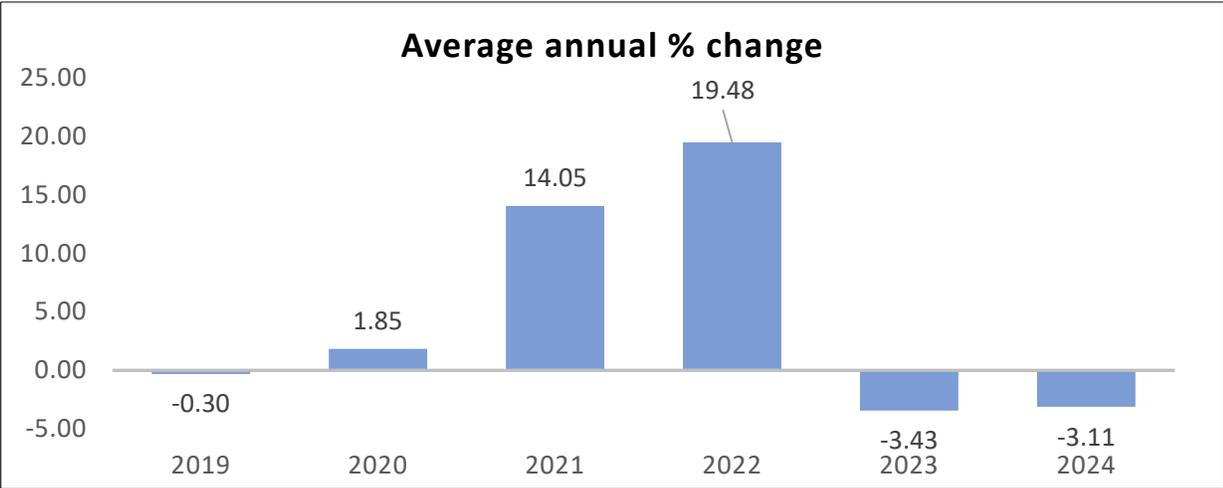


Chart 6: Average annual percent change, Import



Export Price Index (Q4 2014 = 100)

Table 1: Export Price Index, Q1 2021 – Q1 2025

Quarter	All items	Food and beverages	Mineral products, cement and electricity	Chemicals, plastics, textiles and apparel	Wood, pulp and paper	Base metals and other manufactures	All items less electricity
Mar-21	108.81	90.46	118.63	85.65	64.85	117.88	113.15
Jun-21	112.33	82.99	119.28	93.87	68.98	134.23	121.04
Sep-21	117.75	90.00	119.17	98.93	64.83	156.98	133.38
Dec-21	132.89	89.74	119.37	109.58	67.30	226.14	167.84
Mar-22	126.32	88.26	120.06	121.18	64.46	188.44	153.44
Jun-22	127.78	100.63	120.83	127.83	62.16	185.42	156.51
Sep-22	126.33	100.23	121.63	136.12	60.17	174.53	153.36
Dec-22	124.67	90.85	123.95	141.26	62.60	162.74	147.90
Mar-23	122.74	97.47	122.74	147.54	71.79	154.99	145.62
Jun-23	120.72	99.38	126.33	132.54	73.72	140.12	140.33
Sep-23	116.20	99.38	126.54	128.26	76.42	116.98	131.50
Dec-23	116.48	99.38	126.90	128.52	79.45	120.46	132.05
Mar-24	121.10	118.49	127.06	121.48	83.17	131.30	138.34
Jun-24	121.32	125.95	125.95	114.29	83.25	128.36	138.72
Sep-24	121.93	130.07	134.08	118.70	83.69	119.75	136.55
Dec-24	127.93	131.41	139.35	115.56	71.93	129.80	147.09
Mar-25	129.21	136.54	141.74	122.24	65.26	128.60	148.50

Table 2: Year-on-year percent change

Quarter	All items	Food and beverages	Mineral products, cement and electricity	Chemicals, plastics, textiles and apparel	Wood, pulp and paper	Base metals and other manufactures	All items less electricity
Mar-21	8.95	3.50	5.79	-8.85	-0.15	23.90	17.07
Jun-21	10.16	-5.82	6.02	-6.25	9.27	33.32	21.48
Sep-21	15.91	-1.78	3.38	29.54	1.49	63.78	34.61
Dec-21	27.26	-3.10	1.75	41.96	8.03	123.13	62.64
Mar-22	16.10	-2.43	1.21	41.48	-0.61	59.85	35.60
Jun-22	13.75	21.26	1.30	36.18	-9.88	38.14	29.31
Sep-22	7.29	11.37	2.07	37.59	-7.19	11.18	14.98
Dec-22	-6.18	1.24	3.84	28.91	-6.98	-28.04	-11.88
Mar-23	-2.83	10.43	2.23	21.75	11.38	-17.75	-5.09
Jun-23	-5.52	-1.24	4.55	3.68	18.59	-24.43	-10.34
Sep-23	-8.02	-0.85	4.04	-5.77	27.02	-32.97	-14.25
Dec-23	-6.57	9.39	2.38	-9.02	26.91	-25.98	-10.72
Mar-24	-1.34	21.57	3.52	-17.66	15.85	-15.29	-5.00
Jun-23	0.49	26.74	-0.30	-13.77	12.93	-8.39	-1.15
Sep-24	4.93	30.88	5.96	-7.45	9.51	2.37	3.83
Dec-24	9.83	32.23	9.81	-10.08	-9.45	7.76	11.40
Mar-25	6.70	15.24	11.55	0.62	-21.53	-2.05	7.35

Table 3: Quarter-on-quarter percent change

Quarter	All items	Food and beverages	Mineral products, cement and electricity	Chemicals, plastics, textiles and apparel	Wood, pulp and paper	Base metals and other manufactures	All items less electricity
Mar-21	4.20	-2.32	1.12	10.97	4.11	16.32	9.65
Jun-21	3.24	-8.26	0.55	9.59	6.36	13.86	6.97
Sep-21	4.83	8.45	-0.09	5.39	-6.01	16.95	10.20
Dec-21	12.85	-0.29	0.17	10.76	3.81	44.05	25.83
Mar-22	-4.94	-1.65	0.58	10.59	-4.22	-16.67	-8.58
Jun-22	1.15	14.02	0.64	5.49	-3.57	-1.60	2.01
Sep-22	-1.13	-0.40	0.66	6.48	-3.20	-5.87	-2.02
Dec-22	-1.31	-9.36	1.91	3.78	4.04	-6.76	-3.56
Mar-23	-1.55	7.28	-0.98	4.44	14.68	-4.76	-1.54
Jun-23	-1.65	1.96	2.93	-10.17	2.68	-9.60	-3.64
Sep-23	-3.75	0.00	0.16	-3.23	3.67	-16.51	-6.29
Dec-23	0.24	0.00	0.29	0.21	3.95	2.97	0.41
Mar-24	3.97	19.23	0.12	-5.48	4.69	9.00	4.76
Jun-24	0.18	6.30	-0.87	-5.91	0.10	-2.24	0.27
Sep-24	0.51	3.26	6.45	3.86	0.53	-6.71	-1.57
Dec-24	4.92	1.03	3.93	-2.65	-14.05	8.39	7.72
Mar-25	1.00	3.91	1.71	5.78	-9.28	-0.93	0.96

Table 4: Average annual index (2015=100)

Year	All items	Food and beverages	Mineral products, cement and electricity	Chemicals, plastics, textiles and apparel	Wood, pulp and paper	Base metals and other manufactures	All items less electricity
2017	102.53	86.68	107.93	90.90	104.29	102.49	99.66
2018	109.85	85.15	108.93	92.45	104.28	126.08	109.72
2019	102.33	84.00	111.76	91.19	81.60	100.37	99.92
2020	107.45	85.63	115.21	87.68	62.70	114.21	106.86
2021	124.51	83.84	119.67	98.95	65.47	181.33	141.96
2022	133.03	89.21	122.28	134.71	61.26	208.46	164.00
2023	124.62	98.45	126.27	136.63	74.27	154.56	111.92
2024	129.52	120.09	132.35	120.23	81.69	148.22	149.98

Percent change

2017	4.87	-12.75	5.68	-4.33	-2.98	15.12	4.11
2018	7.15	-1.76	0.92	1.70	-0.01	23.02	10.09
2019	-6.85	-1.36	2.60	-1.36	-21.75	-20.40	-8.93
2020	4.99	1.94	3.09	-3.85	-23.15	13.80	6.95
2021	15.88	-2.09	3.87	12.85	4.41	58.76	32.85
2022	6.85	6.41	2.18	36.14	-6.44	14.96	15.52
2023	-6.93	4.77	3.22	1.43	20.93	-25.79	-31.75
2024	3.93	21.98	4.82	-12.01	9.99	-4.10	34.00

Import Price Index (Q4 2014 quarter = 100)

Table 5: Import Price Index, Q1 2021 – Q1 2025

Quarter	All items	Food and beverages	Mineral products, cement and electricity	Chemicals, plastics, textiles and apparel	Wood, pulp and paper	Metals and metal articles	Machinery, appliances and other manufactures	Transport equipment
Mar-21	113.30	135.30	111.06	106.70	126.12	110.69	111.88	118.56
Jun-21	117.91	145.32	117.37	111.15	118.79	120.81	113.25	119.31
Sep-21	122.15	146.19	127.19	116.25	120.51	129.93	116.27	117.08
Dec-21	128.01	145.77	134.62	132.05	130.58	141.01	117.97	120.91
Mar-22	135.08	150.31	144.02	139.76	146.23	151.84	119.79	141.52
Jun-22	143.91	152.33	174.12	154.49	143.38	153.81	123.77	138.27
Sep-22	144.80	152.60	166.69	162.43	145.70	143.32	127.90	145.45
Dec-22	144.18	148.39	160.72	160.39	150.84	140.76	131.87	148.16
Mar-23	141.54	143.61	152.30	160.93	153.72	145.96	130.82	138.73
Jun-23	138.36	148.74	135.74	162.39	149.77	137.28	132.81	132.63
Sep-23	139.09	155.93	136.78	162.26	146.89	128.85	133.44	133.92
Dec-23	137.39	155.87	132.03	165.95	136.45	129.84	131.54	132.52
Mar-24	136.06	149.01	136.28	162.75	137.22	121.49	129.38	121.44
Jun-24	136.39	152.90	127.98	167.42	165.42	120.72	129.73	135.20
Sep-24	133.48	153.65	122.91	166.05	146.85	116.03	130.42	122.31
Dec-24	134.41	158.91	118.71	164.70	134.23	122.44	133.22	121.24
Mar-25	133.65	156.28	118.48	174.38	132.77	114.76	131.19	115.18

Table 6: Year-on-year percent change, import

Quarter	All items	Food and beverages	Mineral products, cement and electricity	Chemicals, plastics, textiles and apparel	Wood, pulp and paper	Metals and metal articles	Machinery, appliances and other manufactures	Transport equipment
Mar-21	6.48	10.91	6.67	4.31	0.61	22.46	0.48	2.60
Jun-21	14.13	17.29	35.73	10.01	-6.16	37.54	-3.58	0.01
Sep-21	15.99	18.59	26.32	15.36	-0.85	46.78	2.00	4.29
Dec-21	18.05	10.73	35.25	28.86	19.50	41.16	4.36	-0.59
Mar-22	19.22	11.09	29.68	30.98	15.95	37.18	7.07	19.37
Jun-22	22.06	4.82	48.34	39.00	20.70	27.32	9.29	15.89
Sep-22	18.54	4.39	31.05	39.72	20.90	10.30	10.00	24.23
Dec-22	12.64	1.79	19.39	21.46	15.51	-0.18	11.78	22.53
Jun-23	4.78	-4.46	5.75	15.15	5.13	-3.87	9.21	-1.97
Sep-23	-3.86	-2.35	-22.04	5.11	4.45	-10.75	7.30	-4.08
Dec-23	-3.94	2.18	-17.94	-0.10	0.82	-10.10	4.33	-7.92
Mar-24	-4.71	5.04	-17.85	3.46	-9.54	-7.75	-0.26	-10.56
Jun-24	-3.87	3.76	-10.52	1.13	-10.74	-16.76	-1.10	-12.46
Sep-24	-1.42	2.79	-5.72	3.10	10.45	-12.07	-2.32	1.94
Dec-24	-4.03	-1.46	-10.14	2.34	-0.03	-9.95	-2.27	-8.67
Mar-25	-2.16	1.95	-10.08	-0.75	-1.62	-5.70	1.28	-8.51

Table 7: Quarter-On -Quarter Percentage change, import

Quarter	All items	Food and beverages	Mineral products, cement and electricity	Chemicals, plastics, textiles and apparel	Wood, pulp and paper	Metals and metal articles	Machinery, appliances and other manufactures	Transport equipment
Mar-21	4.48	2.77	11.58	4.12	15.41	10.81	-1.03	-2.52
Jun-21	4.06	7.40	5.68	4.17	-5.81	9.14	1.22	0.64
Sep-21	3.60	0.60	8.36	4.59	1.45	7.55	2.67	-1.87
Dec-21	4.79	-0.28	5.84	13.59	8.36	8.53	1.46	3.27
Mar-22	5.53	3.11	6.98	5.83	11.98	7.68	1.54	17.05
Jun-22	6.54	1.34	20.90	10.55	-1.95	1.30	3.32	-2.29
Sep-22	0.62	0.18	-4.27	5.14	1.62	-6.82	3.34	5.19
Dec-22	-0.43	-2.76	-3.58	-1.25	3.53	-1.78	3.10	1.86
Mar-23	-1.83	-3.22	-5.24	0.33	1.91	3.70	-0.80	-6.36
Jun-23	-2.24	3.57	-10.88	0.91	-2.57	-5.95	1.52	-4.40
Sep-23	0.53	4.83	0.77	-0.08	-1.92	-6.14	0.48	0.98
Dec-23	-1.23	-0.04	-3.48	2.27	-7.11	0.77	-1.43	-1.05
Mar-24	-0.97	-4.40	3.22	-1.93	0.57	-6.43	-1.64	-8.36
Jun-24	0.25	2.61	-6.09	2.87	20.55	-0.64	0.27	11.33
Sep-24	-2.13	0.49	-3.96	-0.82	-11.22	-3.88	0.53	-9.54
Dec-24	0.70	3.43	-3.42	-0.82	-8.59	5.52	2.15	-0.87
Mar-25	4.48	2.77	11.58	4.12	15.41	10.81	-1.03	-2.52

Table 8: Average Annual index (2015=100)

Year	All items	Food and beverages	Mineral products, cement and electricity	Chemicals, plastics, textiles and apparel	Wood, pulp and paper	Metals and metal articles	Machinery, appliances and other manufactures	Transport equipment
2016	97.65	107.77	97.75	97.84	94.30	80.47	101.52	104.69
2017	100.02	110.18	105.17	97.37	93.87	94.78	98.36	98.70
2018	107.84	110.49	115.01	104.66	106.55	116.11	103.16	103.31
2019	107.52	114.04	113.79	104.92	104.67	107.16	104.63	103.42
2020	109.50	123.44	105.29	103.50	118.51	105.88	110.24	110.89
2021	124.89	140.83	132.16	118.23	123.36	146.98	111.45	112.09
2022	147.48	148.53	174.47	156.92	145.54	169.21	122.07	134.17
2023	144.10	148.52	149.28	165.58	147.76	156.93	127.96	124.06
2024	139.61	151.03	135.30	168.04	143.63	138.87	126.63	116.48

Percent change

2017	2.43	2.24	7.60	-0.48	-0.45	17.79	-3.11	-5.72
2018	7.82	0.28	9.36	7.48	13.51	22.51	4.87	4.67
2019	-0.30	3.21	-1.07	0.25	-1.77	-7.71	1.43	0.10
2020	1.85	8.25	-7.47	-1.36	13.23	-1.20	5.36	7.23
2021	14.05	14.08	25.52	14.23	4.10	38.82	1.10	1.08
2022	18.08	5.47	32.01	32.72	17.97	15.12	9.53	19.70
2023	-3.43	0.00	-14.39	5.52	1.53	-7.26	4.82	-5.19
2024	-3.11	1.69	-9.36	1.49	-2.80	-11.51	-1.04	-6.11

Table 9: Export weights (percent)

Section	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
All items	100	100	100	100	100.00	100.00	100.00	100	100
Food and beverages	11.45	10.29	8.99	8.93	6.79	7.83	7.80	8.28	10.39
Mineral products, cement and electricity	53.45	51.33	47.84	62.44	70.64	59.19	54.96	55.94	50.69
Chemicals, plastics, textiles and apparel	7.64	7.03	4.65	2.98	1.53	1.10	1.26	1.41	2.28
Wood, pulp and paper	0.93	0.68	1.20	0.58	0.27	0.34	0.26	0.50	0.75
Base metals and other manufactures	26.53	30.66	37.33	25.07	20.77	31.55	35.58	33.88	35.88
All items less electricity	63.80	67.32	73.61	64.86	43.41	57.82	60.84	64.45	62.39

Table 10: Import weights (percent)

Section	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
All items	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Food and beverages	15.84	16.41	15.12	16.90	19.51	19.71	17.47	14.50	12.59
Mineral products, cement and electricity	21.25	23.57	26.45	25.36	19.49	19.58	23.13	29.52	29.75
Chemicals, plastics, textiles and apparel	9.23	9.63	10.28	11.52	11.13	13.31	12.65	13.12	13.68
Wood, pulp and paper	3.11	3.80	4.88	4.67	4.66	4.76	5.35	5.20	3.86
Metals and metal articles	10.76	11.77	11.09	13.04	9.96	7.42	9.33	7.45	7.36
Machinery, appliances and other manufactures	28.95	26.91	22.67	19.34	21.56	28.20	27.25	28.99	29.56
Transport equipment	10.85	7.90	9.50	9.16	13.68	7.02	4.82	1.21	3.04

Technical note

Export and Import Price Index (XMPI) is a measure of average price change over the period for goods and services that are exported and imported. The export and import price index for Bhutan includes only the goods and excludes the services component.

The data for compilation of export and import price index are sourced from the Trade Statistics published by the Department of Revenue and Customs (DRC), Ministry of Finance. Prices for both export and import are based on FOB (Free-on-Board) values. Price for computation of index is based on unit value derived from the trade statistics. For electricity, data is sourced from the Druk Green Power Corporation.

US Import Price Index is used as proxy for import of machinery and equipment as the unit value based on trade statistics is not sufficiently reliable. The US import price index is adjusted for changes in exchange rate between the Ngultrum and the US dollar.

Items selection – Export and import baskets are updated annually using the annual trade statistics data. Selection of items for the basket are based on factors such as *FOB values; quarterly unit values; coefficient of variation (CV); and count of number of quarters that unit values are present during the latest nine quarters.*

For 2023 basket items, there are 43 items in the Export basket (36 items exported to India and 7 items exported to countries other than India) and 131 items in the Import basket (118 items imported from India and 13 items imported from countries other than India).

Terms of Trade - Terms of trade indexes measure the relative price of exports in terms of Import prices. It is calculated as the ratio of export prices to import prices and expressed in terms of 100. The terms of trade track the purchasing power of exports. It measures the changing quantity of imports that can be funded by a fixed quantity of exports. An increase in the terms of trade means that a larger quantity of imports can be funded by a fixed quantity of exports, while a decrease in the terms of trade means that a smaller quantity of imports can be funded by a fixed quantity of exports.

Frequency, timeline and revision - XMPI will be published on quarterly basis with a time lag of one quarter after the reference quarter. DRC provides provisional data for the first three quarters of the year and the finalized data for the year when providing the fourth quarter data. Hence, the index for the past three quarters may get revised when the final annual data is received.

Classification - Goods are classified using the Bhutan Trade Classification which is based on the International Harmonized System Classification

Weights - represents the relative importance of specific item to the overall exports or imports and determines the impact each item will have on the overall price change. Weights are updated annually along with annual basket selection.

Formula - Arithmetic Young upper-level formula is used to calculate the XMPI