



EDB

EXPO NEWS

MONTHLY BULLETIN

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APRIL 2020

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ANY EXPORT RELATED ISSUE ?

**GET IN TOUCH WITH
EDB HELP DESK**

071 440 6119

Mr. Indrakeerthi SRP - Director / Trade Facilitation

071 822 0953

Ms. N. Gajanayaka - Export Promotion Officer

077 249 4807

Ms. P. Hewawasam - Export Promotion Officer

helpdesk@edb.gov.lk

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EXPORT PERFORMANCE – MARCH 2020

According to monthly exports statistics, merchandise export earnings have decreased by nearly 42% to US \$ 646 Mn from US \$ 1112 recorded in March 2019.

Apparel sector being the largest contributor has shown a 41% decline during the month of March 2020 compared to the same month in the previous year. Some of the other sectors that have recorded a significant decline during the same period include Tea (-22%), Rubber Products (-15.7%), Coconut products (-14.2%), Spices (-36.5%), fruits & vegetable products (-17.4%), fish & fisheries products (-29%) etc.

Table 1: Merchandise Export statistics of some selected products

	2019 Jan – Mar (US \$ Mn)	2020 Jan – Mar (US \$ Mn)	2019 & 2020 (Jan-Mar) Growth %	2019 March (US \$ Mn)	2020 March (US \$ Mn)	2019 & 2020 Mar Growth %
Tea	347.25	270.07	-22.2	125.87	62.52	-50.33
Rubber Products	241.33	203.35	-15.7	85.87	55.8	-35.02
Coconut Products	159.59	136.93	-14.2	62.03	38.24	-38.35
Spices, Essential oils	80.94	51.4	-36.5	24.23	13.05	-46.14
Fruits & Vegetables	19.24	15.9	-17.4	7.18	4.05	-43.59
Fish & Fisheries Products	85.49	60.69	-29.0	29.68	13.74	-53.71
Gems & Jewellery	87.1	53.38	-38.7	31.27	7.02	-77.55
Apparel & Textiles	1469.74	1250.86	-14.9	531.06	312.1	-41.23
Food, Feed & Beverages	109.3	86.97	-20.4	34.37	29.45	-14.31
Engineering Products	145.68	114.48	-21.4	54.27	27.76	-48.85
Petroleum Products	79.86	105.73	32.4	24.29	28.2	16.10
Others	290.19	226.73	-21.9	102.23	54.05	-47.13
Total Merchandise Exports	3115.71	2576.49	-17.3	1112.35	645.98	-41.9

Sources: Sri Lanka Customs / Central Bank of Sri Lanka / Sri Lanka Export Development Board

However analysis at disaggregate level on Coconut Milk Powder, Defatted Coconut, certain Coconut Kernel Products, Coconut Shell Charcoal, Essential Oils, Oleoresins, Ginger, Lemons, Melons & Papayas, Onions, Sweet Potatoes, Processed Food, Rice, Green Gram, Lentils, Organic Chemicals, Electrical Transformers, Boat Building, Petroleum Products etc show a positive growth during March 2020 compared to March 2019.

Export Development Board (EDB) Chairman Prabhath Subasinghe mentioned, “even though there is a decline in exports during the month of March 2020, such a decline is expected due to the global economic and trading environment. However the EDB is taking every effort to assist the exporters to resume operations and we firmly believe that exports will be back on track in the near future.

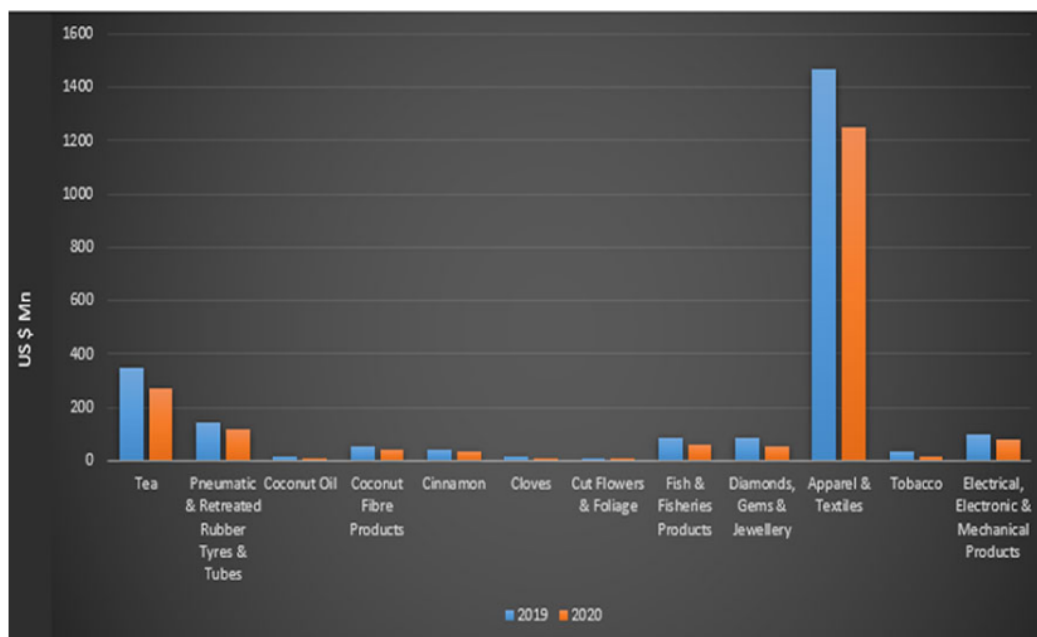
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"January - March 2020"

With the release of March 2020 data, the country's foreign exchange earnings show an overall decline of 19 % during Jan-March 2020 in comparison to the same period in 2019 reaching US \$ 3,382 Mn from US \$ 4176 Mn respectively, recording a 32% achievement against the annual revised target of US\$ 10750 mn for the year 2020.

Merchandise export earnings have recorded US\$ 2,577 million during Jan- March 2020, compared to 3,116 million last year. Estimates in the services exports of ICT/ BPM, Construction, Financial services, Logistics and Wellness Tourism sectors show an overall revenue of US \$ 805 million during the period compared to US \$1060 million last year.

When looking at the disaggregate level of products, even though some of the major sectors show a decline in earnings, certain other sectors show a positive growth during the period under consideration. The following graph shows some sectors with negative growth.



Further, sectors that show a positive growth at disaggregate level includes export of Latex Rubber, Sheet Rubber, Coconut Vinegar, Liquid Coconut Milk, Carpets, Mats, Floor Coverings of coconut fiber, Coconut Husk Chips, Coconut Shell Charcoal, Cardamoms, Ginger, Pineapples, Tamarind, Lemons, Onions, Sweet Potatoes, Areca Nuts, Rice & Cereals, Furniture & Seats, Gloves, Mitts & Mittens & Petroleum Products etc...

Furthermore, products such as Industrial & Surgical Gloves of Rubber, Copra, Coconut Cream, Coconut Water, Mattress Fiber, Essential Oils, Made-Up Textile Articles, Sugar, Sugar Confectionery & Bakery Products, Processed Vegetables, Fruits & Juices, Alcoholic Beverages, MDF & Fibre Boards, Soap, Washing Preparations, and Waxes etc. show a very marginal decline during this year.

ANNOUNCEMENT

IMPORTATION OF TEMPORARY SUSPENDED ESSENTIAL RAW MATERIALS FOR PRODUCTION OF GOODS FOR URGENT CREDIBLE CONFIRMED EXPORT ORDERS

ONLINE SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION FOR NON BOI EXPORTERS

Reference Gazette Notification No: 2171/5 dated 16th April 2020, the list of items in Schedule I are under Temporary Suspension (TS) to alleviate the pressure on balance of payments.

EDB has set up an online application submission facility for non-BOI exporters to facilitate the import of essential raw materials required for production of value added products for urgent credible confirmed export orders.

We will submit the recommendation for your imports to the Controller General of Import & Export Control with copies to the relevant institutions for approval electronically

Please use the following Web Portal to submit your applications online;

www.edb.gov.lk/imports

You may contact following EDB officers for further details:

Mr. Sanjewa Rathnasekera, Assistant Director – 071 8477760

Mr. Indrakeerthi SRP, Director Trade Facilitation – 071 4406119

Emails: anura@edb.gov.lk with a copy to helpdesk@edb.gov.lk

As this situation evolves, we will do our best to support you.

FOR BOI EXPORTERS

BOI has implemented a paperless import and export documentation process for BOI exporters in consultation with Sri Lankan Customs.

Arrangements have already been made to provide paperless documentation for export Cusdecs in documentation centers in Colombo, Katunayake and Biyagama.



Sri Lanka Customs



CUSTOMS ANNOUNCEMENT

(Updated on 22.04.2020)

Sri Lanka Customs now clears all import and export cargo while adhering to the government policy to maintain social distancing during the COVID 19 epidemic

However, considering the latest situation of the country and the revised curfew hours, Sri Lanka Customs has decided to revise the working hours as follows

Imports

The working hours of the related units of Customs for the clearance of both sea cargo and air cargo imports are as follows.

1. Long Room, Customs Headquarters - From 10.00 am to 04.00 pm
2. RCT Examination Yard, Orugodawatte - From 10.00 am to 12.00 am
3. GL 1&2, High Risk Examination Yard, Grandpass - From 10.00 am to 08.00 pm
4. NNR LCL Warehouse, Peliyagoda - From 10.00 am to 03.00 pm
5. Other LCL Warehouses, Colombo Port - From 10.00 am to 03.00 pm
6. Valuation Unit, Orugodawatte RCT Yard - From 10.00 am to 05.00 pm
7. Front Line Valuation Unit (Long Room) - From 10.00 am to 04.00 pm
8. Air Cargo (Imports), Katunayake - From 10.00 am to 04.00 pm

(Please note that Air Cargo (Imports) Office is available 24x7 for DPL shipments, Courier shipments and shipments which need urgent clearance only)

Please contact the following officers for more information.

1. Mr. Darshana Silva, DC (Import Declarations) - 0714458476
2. Mr. C. Perimpanyagam, DC (Cargo Examination) - 0777273879
3. Mr. K.H. Dharmakeerthi, DC (Valuation) - 0714415794
4. Mr. A. R. Senadheera, DDC (NNR) - 0714916833
5. Mr. Sarath Gamini, DDC (JCT) - 0717703829
6. Mr. K. R. N. Bandara, DDC (BQ) - 0714439910
7. Mr. Saleem, DDC (Air Cargo) - 0777358168
8. Mr. Jagath Wickramanayake, DDC (Air Cargo) - 0714299351

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Exports and Transshipments

The working hours of the Exports Facilitation Centre (EFC) at Trico and Air Cargo Village for the processing of all the exports are as follows.

1. Export Facilitation Centre (EFC) at Trico
Weekdays and Saturday - From 10.00 am to 04.00 pm
Sunday - From 10.00 am to 02.00 pm
2. Air Cargo Village, Katunayake - 24 Hours

Please contact the following officers for more information.

1. Mr. W. K. Randeniya, DC (Exports) - 0714458476
2. Mr. Senevirathne Banda, DDC (EFC) - 0777300372
3. Mr. N. B. A. C. R. Nissanka, DDC (Air Cargo) - 0776666071

Industries and Services

Services provided by the Industries and Services Directorate related to Bonds, TIEP and INFAC Schemes, Individual Bank Guarantees (IBG), Multi-Country Consolidation (MCC) and Entrepôt Trade shall be available from 10.00 am to 04.00 pm during normal working days.

As an extended facilitation, a template-based processing of applications and other operational requests will be provided over email. Standard Operating Procedure will be published separately

Please contact the following officers for more information.

1. Mr. P. G. Sumanapala, DC (I&S) - 0777498478
2. Mr. Thilak Arumapperum Arachchi, DDC (TIEP/INFAC/IBG) - 0718024767
3. Mr. M. S. A. Hassan, DDC (Warehouse Keeping) - 0777308808
4. Mr. A. Rathnakumara, DDC (Project & Examinations) - 0714450837
5. Mr. S. D. A. Kumarasiri, SC (TIEP/INFAC/IBG) - 0718033661
6. Mr. Ruchira Karunathilake, Officer-in-Charge (I&S) - 0714837170
7. Mr. K. R. N. Bandara, DDC (BQ - MCC/Entrepôt Examinations) - 0714439910

Clearance of Parcels at Central Mail Exchange

The clearance of parcels arrived through Postal Service shall commence on 20.04.2020. The Customs clearance shall be provided from 10.00 am to 02.00 pm during normal working days. Please contact the following officers for more information.

1. Mr. Premalal Alwis, DDC (Postal Services) - 0773510139
2. Mr. Prasad Kanaharaarchchi, SC (Postal Services) - 0715318393

Clearance of Passengers and Unaccompanied Passenger Baggage (UPB)

The clearance of all inward and outward passengers shall continue on a 24x7 basis at the

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Bandaranayake International Airport. Please contact the following officers for more information.

1. Mr. Seevali Arukgoda, DDC (BIA) - 0775567266
 2. Duty Officer (BIA Arrivals) - 0112252404 or 0112264458
 3. Duty Officer (BIA Departure) - 0112264452
-

The clearance of all unaccompanied passenger baggage (UPB) shall start on 20.04.2020. Please contact the following officers for more information.

1. Mr. Sivalingum Anandaeswarn, DC (Passenger Services) - 0714248885
 2. Mr. A. M. L. K. Alahakoon, DDC (NNR) - 0777388602
 3. Mr. Mahinda Dangampola, DDC (Trico) - 0712291784
 4. Mr. Deepal Batawala, DDC (MIDCO) - 0718122113
 5. Mr. Srilal de Alwis, DDC (CSL) - 0714881442
 6. Mr. Lalantha Rajapaksha, DDC (Laksiri Sewa) - 0718257888
 7. Mr. S. A. D. Kumarasekara, DDC (Transco) - 0714746748
 8. Mr. A. M. Weerasekara, CO - 0718003822
 9. Mr. Udaya Fernando, CACO (Passenger Services Office) - 0719890761
 10. Mr. M. Suresh Jayalath, CACO(Sales/Port) - 0715339590, 077780 2574
-

Customs BOI Coordination

Services of the Customs BOI Coordinating Directorate shall be available from 10.00 am to 04.00 pm. Please contact the following officers for more information related to the exports.

1. Mr. Paninee Wijayawardane, DC (BOI Coordination) - 0777891806
 2. Mr. K. K. A. R. Kumarasinghe, DDC (BOI Coordination) - 0714414924
-

Other Services

The arrangements have been made to facilitate all the other services such as submission of cargo manifests, renewal of TIN registrations and new TIN registrations related to the clearance of imported essential goods and exports. Therefore, all the related agencies are requested to make prior arrangements with the Customs staff at the relevant working points before visiting the same. Please contact the following officers for more information related to respective matters.

1. Mr. Darshana Silva, DC (Imports) - 0714458476
 2. Mr. Gamini Jayawardena, DC (Specialized Services) - 0777351847
 3. Duty Officer (ICT Help Desk) - 0710889935
-

If you are unable to reach the officers whose numbers are given above please contact one of the following officers.

1. Mr. Sunil Jayarathne, ADGC (Revenue and Services) - 0777484664
 2. Mr. M. Arthanayake, ADGC (Corporate) - 0777918514
-

Stay safe.

Director General of Customs

CBSL releases Annual Report of 2019

In terms of Section 35 of the Monetary Law Act No. 58 of 1949, the seventieth Annual Report of the Monetary Board of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka was presented to Mahinda Rajapaksa, the Prime Minister and the Minister of Finance, Economic and Policy Development, by Deshamanya Professor W.D.Lakshman, the Governor of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka.



Deshamanya Professor W.D.Lakshman, the Governor of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka presenting the Annual Report 2019 to Mahinda Rajapaksa, the Prime Minister and the Minister of Finance, Economic and Policy Development. Dr. P. Nandalal Weerasinghe, Senior D





THE BOARD OF INVESTMENT OF SRI LANKA

Paperless import / export documentation (online approval facility) for BOI exporters.

Dear All,

BOI has implemented a paperless import and export documentation process for BOI exporters in consultation with Sri Lanka Customs.

Arrangements have already been made to provide paperless documentation for export Cusdec in documentation centers in Colombo, Katunayake and Blyagama.

The above online approval facility has been introduced for import of selected raw materials (which are not liable for Customs Taxes) at Colombo BOI office, with effect from 20th April 2020

You are requested to draw your immediate attention for the following.

1. Please instruct your Customs House Agents (CHA) to attach clear scanned copies of following documents to Asycuda System.
 - a) Export Cusdec – Commercial invoice and other relevant documents, if any.
 - b) Import Cusdec – Commercial invoice and BL / DO or AWB / FAN
2. Exporters should send Cusdec details to following mail addresses for validation and approvals.
 - a) Export Cusdec (Colombo Office) plexp@boi.lk
 - b) Export Cusdec (KEPZ) plkep@boi.lk
 - c) Export Cusdec (BEPZ) plbepz@boi.lk
 - d) Import Cusdec (Colombo Office) plimp@boi.lk
3. Customs House Agents are not required to submit hardcopies of approved Cusdec to BOI office under this procedure.
4. BOI will inform you the date of implementation for paperless import documentation for non raw material such as machinery and construction material in due course.
5. Please contact.

Mr. Ananda Rajakaruna, Director, Investor Services – 077 780 5772

Mrs. Rukshani Fernando, Senior Deputy Director (Export) – 077 814 8256

Mr. T. vinopa, Senior Deputy Director (Import) – 077 809 7865

Stay safe and Best Regards,

Mahinda Ramanayake – 077 304 3241
Executive Director, Investor Services
Board of Investment of Sri Lanka

SCHEDULE
RATES OF EXCHANGE
EFFECTIVE FROM 27.04.2020 TO 03.05.2020

	Country	Country Code	Currency	Currency Code	Rate of Exchange (Rs.)
1	Australia	AU	Dollar	AUD	125.6055
2	Bahrain	BH	Dinar	BHD	522.6026
3	Bangladesh	BD	Taka	BDT	2.3260
4	Brazil	BR	Brazil Real	BRL	35.7159
5	Brunei	BN	Brunei Dollar	BND	138.5353
6	Canada	CA	Canadian Dollar	CAD	140.4251
7	China	CN	Renminbi	CNY	27.9015
8	China	CN	Offshore	CNH	27.8625
9	Czechoslovakia	CZ	Koruna	CZK	7.7576
10	Denmark	DK	Kroner	DKK	28.5421
11	Egypt	EG	Pound	EGP	12.5173
12	Euro Zone		Euro	EUR	212.8573
13	Ghana	GH	Cedi	GHS	34.2883
14	Hongkong	HK	Dollar	HKD	25.5000
15	Hungary	HU	Forint	HUF	0.5958
16	India	IN	Rupee	INR	2.6042
17	Indonesia	ID	Rupiah	IDR	0.0127
18	Iran	IR	Riyal	IRR	0.0047
19	Japan	JP	Yen	JPY	1.8361
20	Jordan	JO	Dinar	JOD	278.7705
21	Korea	KR	Won	KRW	0.1599
22	Kuwait	KW	Dinar	KWD	633.4881
23	Macau	MO	Pataca	MOP	24.7432
24	Malaysia	MY	Ringgit	MYR	45.2803
25	Maldives	MV	Rufiya	MVR	12.7845
26	Mauritius	MU	Rupee	MUR	4.9536
27	Myanmar	MM	Kyat	MMK	0.1384
28	Nepal	NP	Rupee	NPR	1.6238
29	New Zealand	NZ	Dollar	NZD	118.4111
30	Nigeria	NG	Naira	NGN	0.5483
31	Norway	NO	Kroner	NOK	18.6025
32	Oman	OM	Riyal	OMR	513.1723
33	Pakistan	PK	Rupee	PKR	1.2357
34	Papua New Guinea	PG	Kina	PGK	57.5157
35	Philippines	PH	Peso	PHP	3.8969
36	Poland	PL	Zloty	PLN	46.8705
37	Qatar	QA	Riyal	QAR	54.2841
38	Russia	RU	Rouble	RUB	2.6423
39	Saudi Arabia	SA	Riyal	SAR	52.5590
40	Seychelles	SC	Rupee	SCR	11.2974
41	Singapore	SG	Dollar	SGD	138.5353
42	South Africa	ZA	Rand	ZAR	10.3464
43	Sweden	SE	Krona	SEK	19.6495
44	Switzerland	CH	Francs	CHF	202.2598
45	Taiwan	TW	Dollar	TWD	6.5721
46	Thailand	TH	Baht	THB	6.0909
47	U.A.E.	AE	Dirham	AED	53.8089
48	United Kingdom	GB	Sterling Pound	GBP	244.0462
49	United States of America	US	Dollar	USD	197.6483
50	Zambia (Old)	ZM	Kwacha	ZMK	0.0380
51	Zambia (New)	ZM	Kwacha	ZMW	10.6788
52	Zimbabwe	ZW	Dollar	ZWD	0.5208

TOGETHER WE WILL RISE AGAIN



EDB

SRI LANKA EXPORT DEVELOPMENT BOARD



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EXPO NEWS

MONTHLY INFORMATION BULLETIN FOR SRI LANKAN EXPORTERS

Compiled By :

Chandima Wanniarachchi

Tel : 011 2300705-11 (Ext. 317)