

India Trade Data- Sep 2025

16th Oct, 2025

India's Merchandise Trade Deficit widened to \$32.15 Bn in Sep'25

India's trade deficit widened to \$32.15 bn in Sep 2025, compared to \$26.49 bn in Aug 2025 and \$24.67 bn in Sep 2024, reflecting a sharp MoM and YoY increase driven by surge in Gold, silver and fertiliser imports.

Merchandise import rose to \$68.53 bn in Sep 2025 compared with \$61.59 bn in Aug 2025 and \$58.74 bn in Sep 2024. This marks a strong 16.7% YoY and 11.3% MoM increase, reflecting a rebound in domestic demand and higher imports of Gold, Silver and fertilisers. The surge also suggests festive season restocking and firm consumption momentum, even as oil imports moderated on a yearly basis.

Merchandise export rose to \$36.38 bn in Sep 2025, reflecting a 6.8% YoY and 3.7% MoM increase. The growth indicates a steady improvement in external demand and resilience in key export sectors compared to both Aug 25 and Sep 2024.

Despite exports to USA declining by 12% on a yearly basis, our overall surge in exports is attributable to rise in export to China by 34% to \$1.47 bn, to UAE by 24% to \$3.6 bn, to UK by 12% to \$1.1 bn and to Bangladesh by 23% to \$1.05 bn. India's exports to Hong King also increased by 17.7% to \$1.1 bn.

Imports:

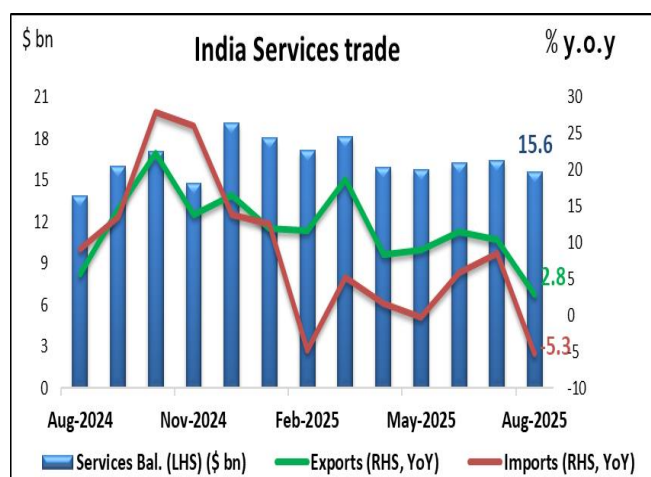
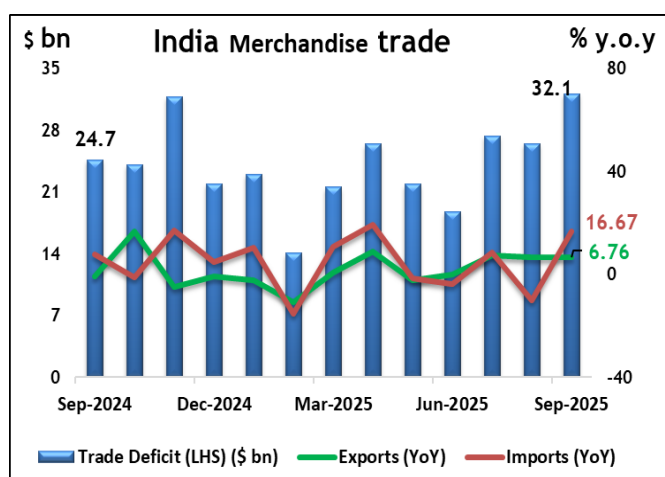
India's merchandise imports in Sep 2025 reflected sharp variations across key sectors.

- Gold imports surged significantly by 106.9% YoY and 76.8% MoM, driven by higher prices.
- Silver imports too soared 139% YoY and 189.4% MoM, indicating strong investment and industrial demand.
- Fertiliser imports jumped 202.3% YoY and 42.4% MoM, likely due to inventory build-up ahead of the Rabi season.
- Transport equipment import rose 2.7% YoY and 14.8% MoM reflecting higher demand for capital goods.
- Electronic goods saw moderate growth of 15.5% YoY and 1% MoM, suggesting steady consumption and production linked imports.
- In contrast crude oil imports declined 5.8% YoY but increased 5.8% MoM, indicating stable domestic demand amid lower global oil prices.

Total imports excluding oil and gold increased by 14.5% YoY and 4.6% MoM.

Exports:

- Despite the 50% tariff imposed by the US, India's exports in Sep 2025 displayed strong resilience, with several sectors recording robust growth on both month-on-month and year-on-year basis.
- Marine products led the surge with a 31.1% MoM and 23.4% YoY rise, followed by gems and Jewellery, which grew 22.7% MoM and 0.4% YoY. Meat, dairy and poultry exports also performed well, increasing 12.3% MoM and 32.3% YoY, while petroleum products rose 10.7% MoM and 15.2% YoY.
- Electronic goods continued their strong trend, expanding 6.5% MoM and impressive 50.5% YoY. Meanwhile, engineering goods and pharmaceuticals registered steady gains of 2.2% MoM/2.9% YoY and 4.4% MoM/2.6% YoY, respectively which indicates broad based growth highlights India's export resilience and diversification, even amid heightened global trade barriers.
- However few sectors continued to face pressure. Readymade garments recorded a sharp 10.1% YoY decline and 19.2% MoM, indicating tariff impact. Cotton yarn & fabrics fell 11.7% YoY and 5.5% MoM also attributable to adverse shocks due to tariffs.
- Similarly Plastic and linoleum exports dropped 12% YoY and 4.7% MoM, Pointing to lower industrial demand. Meanwhile, Coal and Mica exports though up 9.96% YoY, fell 8.37% MoM suggesting short term volatility. The decline in these sectors highlights persistent challenges from global demand softness and competitive pressure in traditional export segments. However, these sectors are having relatively small share in total export value.



India's services export is estimated to be at \$30.82 bn in Sep 2025 lower than \$33.60 bn a year ago, indicating a mild slowdown in global demand for IT and business services. Meanwhile services imports are expected to decline to \$15.29 bn from \$16.54 bn in Sep 2024, reflecting moderate overseas discretionary spending. Overall, the services trade surplus is expected to remain healthy, continuing to provide a cushion to India's widening trade deficit.

Trends in Indian Imports - Top 20 Commodity (Value in USD Bn)						
Commodity	Sep-24	Aug-25	Sep-25	Apr-25 to Sep-25	% Growth Sep'25 (YoY)	% Growth Sep'25 (MoM)
Oil	14.91	13.27	14.03	92.14	-5.8%	5.79%
Electronic goods	8.51	9.73	9.82	56.16	15.5%	0.97%
Gold	4.65	5.44	9.62	26.51	106.9%	76.78%
Elec & non-elect Machinery	4.57	5.15	5.00	29.63	9.4%	-2.98%
Transport equipment	2.55	2.29	2.62	14.68	2.7%	14.77%
Non-ferrous metals	2.10	2.48	2.44	14.19	16.2%	-1.44%
Fertilisers	0.78	1.66	2.36	7.72	202.3%	42.39%
Org & Inorg Chemicals	2.43	2.49	2.33	14.61	-4.0%	-6.47%
Artificial resins, plastic	1.90	2.02	1.95	11.80	2.2%	-3.64%
Coal, Coke, Briquettes	2.30	2.06	1.92	14.09	-16.4%	-6.91%
Iron & Steel	2.02	2.02	1.86	11.14	-7.6%	-7.72%
Pearls, precious stones	1.68	1.41	1.80	9.67	7.3%	27.28%
Vegetable Oil	1.14	2.03	1.74	9.98	53.4%	-14.05%
Silver	0.55	0.45	1.31	3.22	139.0%	189.36%
Metalliferous ores	0.82	1.09	1.16	6.48	41.0%	6.35%
Chemical & Pdts	0.94	1.00	1.03	9.87	9.3%	2.51%
Professional instrument	0.68	0.79	0.78	4.59	14.6%	-1.17%
Medicinal & Pharma	0.66	0.78	0.77	4.64	16.5%	-1.61%
Wood & Pdts	0.61	0.56	0.58	3.35	-5.2%	4.47%
Machine tools	0.48	0.53	0.50	3.29	3.9%	-5.60%
Total Imports	58.74	61.59	68.53	37.51	16.7%	11.26%

Trends in Indian Exports - Top 20 Commodities (Value in USD Bn)						
Commodity	Sep-24	Aug-25	Sep-25	Apr-25 to Sep-25	% Growth Sep'25 (YoY)	% Growth Sep'25 (MoM)
Engineering Goods	9.83	9.90	10.11	59.35	2.93%	2.16%
Oil	4.30	4.48	4.96	31.41	15.22%	10.65%
Electronic Goods	2.07	2.93	3.12	22.22	50.54%	6.47%
Gems & Jewellery	2.82	2.31	2.84	14.20	0.40%	22.65%
Drugs & Pharma	2.56	2.51	2.62	15.37	2.56%	4.41%
Org & Inorg Chemicals	2.34	2.42	2.38	14.54	1.76%	-1.67%
Ready Made Garments	1.11	1.23	1.00	7.76	-10.14%	-19.20%
Cotton Yarn/Fab	1.05	0.99	0.93	5.80	-11.66%	-5.54%
Rice	0.69	0.88	0.92	5.64	33.18%	4.90%
Marine Products	0.63	0.60	0.78	3.97	23.44%	31.10%
Plastic & Linoleum	0.79	0.73	0.70	4.37	-11.98%	-4.65%
Meat, dairy & poultry	0.43	0.51	0.57	2.75	32.30%	12.31%
Coal, Mica	0.38	0.46	0.42	2.69	9.96%	-8.69%
Man-made Yarn/Fabs	0.42	0.41	0.41	2.40	-2.34%	-0.13%
Leather & pdts	0.36	0.41	0.34	2.28	-6.10%	-17.23%
Ceramic products	0.32	0.35	0.32	2.07	0.42%	-8.48%
Spices	0.33	0.34	0.32	2.16	-4.89%	-5.91%
Fruits & Vegetables	0.28	0.31	0.30	1.86	7.36%	-1.75%
Cereal preparations	0.27	0.29	0.28	1.64	4.12%	-3.84%
Tobacco	0.21	0.16	0.17	0.99	-15.64%	10.74%
Total Exports	34.08	35.10	36.38	22.01	6.76%	3.65%

Implications:

The Sep 2025 trade data indicates both positive and cautionary signals for the Indian economy. While the export sectors show encouraging recovery, the surge in non-essential imports and widening deficit could put pressure on the current account deficit (CAD) and Rupee stability and may lead to 'imported inflation' if the trend continues.

The decline in exports to US shows the need to diversify our export basket and for faster conclusion of FTAs with other trading partners.

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