

# Exports to China rise 9.7% in 2025 but trade deficit touches a record high of \$116 billion

Press Trust of India

Beijing: India's exports to China

India's exports to China posted a \$5.5 billion increase compared to last year bucking the declining trend even as the trade deficit hit a record \$116.12 billion, as per the annual trade data released by Chinese customs here on Wednesday.

Bilateral trade, too, surged

to an all time high to \$155.62 billion in 2025, according to the data.

Indian exports to China, which over the years struggled to make headway, climbed to \$19.75 billion between January and December last year, posting a 9.7 per cent increase, amounting to \$5.5 billion, according to the data.

At the same time, Chinese exports to India increased

12.8 per cent to \$135.87 billion last year.

While trade is picking up from both countries, the total bilateral trade surged to a record high of \$155.62 billion in 2025, the year in which both countries faced US President Donald Trump's tariff hikes.

The trade deficit — a constant problem in India-China trade — touched a record high of \$116.12 billion,

crossing \$100 billion for the second time since 2023.

In 2024, the trade deficit was \$99.21 billion with China's exports totalling \$113.45 billion, and India's outbound shipments to China stagnating at \$14.25 billion.

China's annual trade data covers the period from January to December while India releases its figures from March to April.