

Goods exports in June flat at \$35.14 billion, trade deficit halved

LEADING SECTORS. Electronic and engineering goods, drugs & pharma among sectors that put up a good show

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India's goods exports in June 2025 remained flat at \$35.14 billion (year-on-year) pulled down by petroleum and gems & jewellery sectors, per government data.

Trade deficit, however, narrowed to a four-month low of \$18.78 billion during the month, as imports declined by a higher 3.71 per cent (y-o-y) to \$53.92 billion with a fall in crude oil and gold, according to quick estimates of trade data released by the Commerce Department on Tuesday.

Trade deficit in June was 6.2 per cent lower than the trade deficit of \$20.03 billion in June 2024.

In April-June 2025-26, goods exports increased by 1.92 per cent to \$112.17 billion, while imports increased

4.24 per cent to \$179.44 billion, widening the trade deficit to \$67.26 billion against \$62.10 billion clocked in same quarter last fiscal year.

MOST EXPORTED

Despite the global turmoil, things remained upbeat for India as the country's goods and services exports during the first quarter of 2025-26 were estimated to be 6 per cent higher at \$210 billion, noted Commerce Secretary Sunil Barthwal at a media interaction.

"We have done extremely well; we are going to beat last year's exports figures," Barthwal said.

The data on services exports is an estimation made by the Commerce Department and will be revised after the RBI releases its data. Sectors which posted an increase in exports in June 2025 (y-o-y) included

Exuding confidence

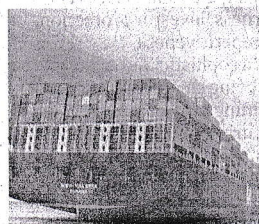
	June 2025 (\$ billion)	June 2024 (\$ billion)
Merchandise		
Exports	35.14	35.16
Imports	53.92	56.00
Services*		
Exports	32.84	28.67
Imports	17.58	15.14
Total trade		
Exports	67.98	63.83
Imports	71.50	71.14
Trade balance	-3.51	-7.30

* Note: The latest data for services sector released by RBI is for May 2025. The data for June 2025 is an estimation, which will be revised based on RBI's subsequent release.

electronic goods, engineering goods, drugs & pharmaceuticals, marine products, meat, dairy & poultry, tea and readymade garments, according to the data.

CHINESE IMPORTS

India's top five export destinations in June 2025 in-



cluded the US, the UAE, the Netherlands, China and the UK. China remained by far the largest source country for imports in June 2025 followed by Russia, the UAE, the US and Saudi Arab.

STRATEGY AHEAD

Exporters' body the Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) suggested that the government should maintain a sharp, sector-focused export strategy, especially in services.

"With India's digital capabilities and skilled work-

force, there is immense scope to boost services exports. Investment in digital infrastructure, talent development, and targeted international promotion will be critical to sustaining this upward trajectory," said SC Ralhan, President, FIEO.

For a better check on "malpractices", the Commerce Department has started regular monitoring of import surges across commodities.

"We are looking at all commodities, analysing it, sending data to line Ministries and taking remedial measures if we find malpractices. We take action through the DGFT," said Barthwal.

Import restriction placed by the DGFT on import of alloys of palladium, rhodium, and iridium containing more than 1 per cent gold by weight, was the outcome of close scrutiny, he added.