

## COUNTRY PROFILE REPORT OF ITJ DIVISION, DGCI&S INDIA-SINGAPORE BILATERAL TRADE RELATIONS

### INTRODUCTION & BRIEF ECONOMIC OVERVIEW

The Republic of Singapore lies in South-East Asia. The country comprises one main island, and some 64 offshore islands, situated approximately 137 kms. (85 miles) north of the Equator, off the southernmost tip of the Malay Peninsula, to which it is linked by a causeway. Singapore is a member of the UN, the Commonwealth. The ASEAN and has ratified the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction (CWC), and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

2. Singapore has a highly developed market economy, based historically on extended entrepôt trade. Along with Hong Kong, South Korea, and Taiwan, Singapore is one of the Four Asian Tigers, and has surpassed its peers in terms of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita. Between 1965 and 1995, growth rates averaged around 6 per cent per annum, transforming the living standards of the population<sup>1</sup> IMF Executive Board Concludes 2024 Article IV Consultation with Singapore July 31, 2024, Singapore continues to follow a path of gradual recovery. Growth moderated to 1.1 percent in 2023 mainly due to a contraction in manufacturing in 2023H1, originating from the downturn in the global electronics cycle. Growth started to recover in 2023H2, reflecting improved global demand for semiconductors, and strengthened further to 2.7 percent (year-on-year) in 2024Q1, supported by strong inbound tourism. Executive Directors noted that Singapore's growth is gradually recovering, supported by an improvement in external demand, while downside risks to growth have diminished. Disinflation continues but is expected to be gradual, with significant upside inflation risks from tight labor market and high volatility in global energy and food prices.

#### A snapshot of Singapore's select economic indicators: Table 1

<b>Table 1. Singapore: Selected Economic and Financial Indicators, 2018–25</b>								
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Projection	
							2024	2025
Growth (percentage change)								
Real GDP	3.5	1.3	-3.9	9.7	3.8	1.1	2.1	2.3
Total domestic demand 1/	1.3	1.9	-9.3	12.0	4.5	-2.6	-0.1	2.6
Final domestic demand 1/	0.8	2.7	-9.6	12.3	4.4	2.2	-0.1	2.5
Consumption	4.0	2.9	-7.4	6.9	5.5	3.5	2.9	2.1
Private consumption	4.3	2.7	-13.3	8.1	8.2	3.8	3.1	2.0
Gross capital formation 1/	-3.3	0.2	-12.8	21.7	2.7	-12.8	-6.1	3.5
Gross fixed investment	-5.0	2.5	-14.2	23.6	2.5	-0.2	-5.8	3.3
Change in inventories (contribution to GDP growth, percentage points) 1/	0.3	-0.5	0.1	0.0	0.1	-2.8	0.0	0.0
Net exports (contribution to GDP growth, percentage points) 1/	2.8	0.1	2.1	2.3	0.7	2.9	2.3	0.6
Saving and investment (percent of GDP)								
Gross national saving	40.7	40.6	39.5	43.8	40.3	40.8	39.8	39.9
Gross domestic investment	24.7	24.6	22.9	24.0	22.3	21.0	21.7	22.1
Inflation and unemployment (period average, percent)								
CPI inflation	0.4	0.6	-0.2	2.3	6.1	4.8	3.0	2.5
CPI inflation, excluding food and energy 2/	-0.1	0.4	-0.3	2.4	6.1	4.8	3.0	2.5
MAS core inflation 2/	1.7	1.0	-0.2	0.9	4.1	4.2	3.0	2.0

Unemployment rate	2.1	2.3	3.0	2.7	2.1	1.9	1.9	1.9
Output gap	2.0	-0.4	-2.8	1.1	1.2	-0.4	-0.1	
Inflation (end of year, percent)								
CPI inflation	0.5	0.8	0.0	4.0	6.5	3.7	2.9	2.5
CPI inflation, excluding food and energy 2/	0.4	0.4	0.0	4.0	6.5	3.7	2.9	2.5
MAS core inflation 2/	1.9	0.6	-0.3	2.1	5.1	3.3	3.0	2.0
Central government finances (percent of GDP) 3/								
Revenue	17.9	17.7	17.5	17.0	16.6	18.1	18.5	18.6
Expenditure	13.8	14.0	21.6	17.8	15.4	15.2	14.3	15.6
Net lending/borrowing	4.1	3.7	-4.1	-0.8	1.2	2.9	4.2	3.0
Net lending/borrowing, excluding nonproduced assets	1.1	1.4	-5.8	-2.8	-0.6	0.5	0.4	0.2
Primary balance 4/	-2.0	-1.9	-9.4	-6.2	-3.9	-2.9	-2.9	-3.2
Public Debt to GDP	107.5	124.7	146.1	133.4	157.1	170.8	175.0	175.6
Money and credit (end of period, percent change) 5/								
Broad money (M2)	5.1	4.5	10.7	9.7	7.8	3.2	...	...
Credit to private sector	4.8	3.0	1.4	6.8	0.5	-2.0	...	...
Three-month S\$ SIBOR rate (percent)	1.9	1.8	0.4	0.4	4.3	4.1	...	...
Balance of payments (US\$ billions)								
Current account balance	60.2	60.5	58.0	86.1	89.7	99.1	94.8	97.7
(In percent of GDP)	16.0	16.0	16.6	19.8	18.0	19.8	18.0	17.8
Goods balance	104.0	96.3	103.7	121.7	150.5	154.8	115.9	122.0
Exports, f.o.b.	460.4	440.8	417.9	511.9	589.4	545.9	555.9	584.5
Imports, f.o.b.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	356.4	344.4	314.2	390.1	438.9	391.2	440.0	462.5
Financial account balance 6/	47.2	68.8	-16.8	20.1	202.3	35.4	41.2	44.4
Overall balance 6/	12.5	-8.4	74.9	66.2	-	60.9	53.6	53.3
					114.2			
Gross official reserves (US\$ billions)	287.7	279.5	362.3	417.9	289.5	351.0	396.1	449.0
(In months of imports) 7/	6.2	6.4	6.8	6.8	5.1	5.6	6.0	6.5
Singapore dollar/U.S. dollar exchange rate (period average)	1.35	1.36	1.38	1.34	1.38	1.34	...	...
Nominal effective exchange rate (percentage change) 8/	0.5	1.4	-2.5	0.4	6.4	3.9	...	...
Real effective exchange rate (percentage change) 8/	-5.9	4.5	-25.2	2.8	13.6	4.7	...	...
Memorandum items:								
Nominal GDP (in billions of Singapore Dollars)	508.4	514.2	482.2	583.2	687.2	673.3	707.5	741.9
Growth (%)	7.2	1.1	-6.2	20.9	17.8	-2.0	5.1	4.9

Sources: Data provided by the Singapore authorities; and IMF staff estimates and projections.

Note: Data and forecasts as of May 24, 2022

1/ Approximation based on available data.

2/ IMF staff estimates. MAS core inflation excludes the costs of accommodation and private transport.

3/ IMF staff estimates on a calendar year basis following GFSM 2014.

4/ Net lending/borrowing excluding net investment return contribution (NIRC).

5/ Data reporting by financial institutions changed since July 2022 after two major changes in MAS' banking sector regulatory framework took effect, creating a break in the broad money and credit to private sector series.

6/ Following the BPM6 sign convention, a positive entry implies net outflows.

7/ In months of following year's imports of goods and services.

8/ Increase is an appreciation.

**Sources: IMF Executive Board Concludes 2024 Article IV Consultation with Singapore 31/07/24.**

## **FOREIGN TRADE**

3. As per recent available inputs on WITS (World Integrated Trade Solution), the five major merchandise export partners of Singapore are China, Hong Kong-China, Malaysia, United States and Indonesia. On the other hand five major import partners Singapore are China, Malaysia, Other Asia, nes, United States and Korea, Rep.. Major five exported goods of Singapore are (i) Monolithic integrated circuits, digital, (ii) Petroleum oils, etc, (excl. crude); preparation, (iii) Gold in other semi-manufactured forms, non-monetar, (iv) Transmission apparatus, for radioteleph incorpo and (v) Apparatus and equipment for photographic . On the other hand major five imported goods of Singapore are (i) Monolithic integrated circuits, digital (ii) Petroleum oils, etc, (excl. crude); preparation (iii) Petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous (iv) Gold in other semi-manufactured forms, non-monetar and (v) Transmission apparatus, for radioteleph incorpo.

4. Singapore's total exports in 2019 were of the order of US\$ 390,332 million. It has scaled upto US\$ 475,349 million in 2023 with 22.32% increase recorded in 2021. During the period from 2019 to 2023. the annual average compound rate of growth of exports was 5.05%.

5. Singapore's total imports in 2019 were of the order of US\$ 358,975 million and which has touched US\$ 422,420 million mark in 2023. During the period from 2019 to 2023, with 23.64% increase recorded in 2021. During the period 2019 to 2023 the annual average compound rate of growth of imports was 4.15%.

6. Singapore runs an overall Balance of Trade surplus from 2019 to 2023 which has scaled upto USD 52,929 million in 2023 but it was 139,553 million in 2022. During the period from 2019 to 2023, the annual average compound rate of growth of total volume of trade was 4.62%.

A snapshot of Singapore's overall Trade Statistics is presented in Table 2 and Figure 1 below.

A snapshot of India's merchandise trade statistics w.r.t. Singapore is presented in Table 3 Figure 2.

## **BILATERAL TRADE WITH INDIA**

### **Merchandise Trade**

7. Singapore is the 2nd largest investor in India, with a cumulative FDI inflow of US\$ 153.39 billion from April 2000-September 2023. In 2023-24, bilateral trade between India and Singapore reached around US\$ 35.62 billion. Singapore ranked 5th as an export destination in FY 2023-24 India exports to Singapore 3.97 % of it's total export value in FY2023-24. In the same financial year imports from Singapore was 3.20% of India's total import value. Singapore was the 6th largest import partner of India

in FY 2023-24. Almost 3.20% of India's international trade value was between India and Singapore as has been recorded in FY 2023-24 as per DGCI&S data base.

8. Indo- Singapore total volume of bilateral trade in FY 2019-20 was of the order of US\$ 23,669.52 million. It has scaled to US\$ 35,615.21 million in FY 2023-24. The annual compound growth rate of total volume of trade during the period from 2019-20 to 2023-24 has been of the order of 10.75%.

9. It appears from the available figures that between 2019-20 and 2023-24, India has had a deficit Balance of Trade with Singapore. Exports from India to Singapore had steeply increased by 28.53% in FY2021-22. The annual average compound rate of growth of Exports was 12.74%. On the other hand, imports from Singapore to India increased by 42.52% in FY 2021-22. During the period from 2019-20 to 2023-24, the annual average compound rate of growth of imports was 9.50%.

**10. Additionally, from Tables 4 & 5 presented at Annexure-II below the following are stated:**

a. **Petroleum Products, Residual Chemicals And Allied Prods. and Ship, Boat and Floating Structures** are occupying the top three slots in India's exports to Singapore in the year 2023-24. **Petroleum Products** occupying the 48.08% share of export value India to Singapore.

b. **Electronic Components, Coal- Coke And Briquettes Etc. and Computer Hardware Pereipherals** are the three major commodities in India's imports list from Singapore in the year 2023-24. **Electronic Components** occupying the 13.18% share of export value India to Singapore imports from Singapore recorded in 2023-24.

**“NOTICE”**

**Rights of permission for reproduction in part or entirely of these official papers published in the Indian Trade Journal is reserved by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics, Kolkata-700107.**

**TABLE - 2**  
**SINGAPORE'S TOTAL EXPORTS AND IMPORTS, VOLUME OF TRADE AND BALANCE OF TRADE**  
**BETWEEN 2019 TO**  
**2023**

(Figures in USD Million)

Year	Exports	Percentage Growth in Exports	Imports	Percentage Growth in Imports	Volume of Trade	Percentage Growth in Vol. of Trade	Balance of Trade
2019	390332		358975		7,49,307		31357
2020	373684	-4.27	328624	-8.45	7,02,308	-6.27	45060
2021	457081	22.32	406318	23.64	8,63,399	22.94	50763
2022	514966	12.66	375413	-7.61	8,90,379	3.12	139553
2023	475349	-7.69	422420	12.52	8,97,769	0.83	52929
<b>Annual Growth Rate</b>	<b>Compound</b>	<b>5.05</b>		<b>4.15</b>		<b>4.62</b>	

**NOTE :** Figures relate to calendar year (January to December)

**SOURCE :** UN COMTRADE PUBLICATION

Figure - 1



**TABLE - 3**  
**INDIA'S MERCHANDISE EXPORTS & IMPORTS w.r.t. SINGAPORE**  
**FY 2019-2020 to 2023-2024**

(Value in USD Million)

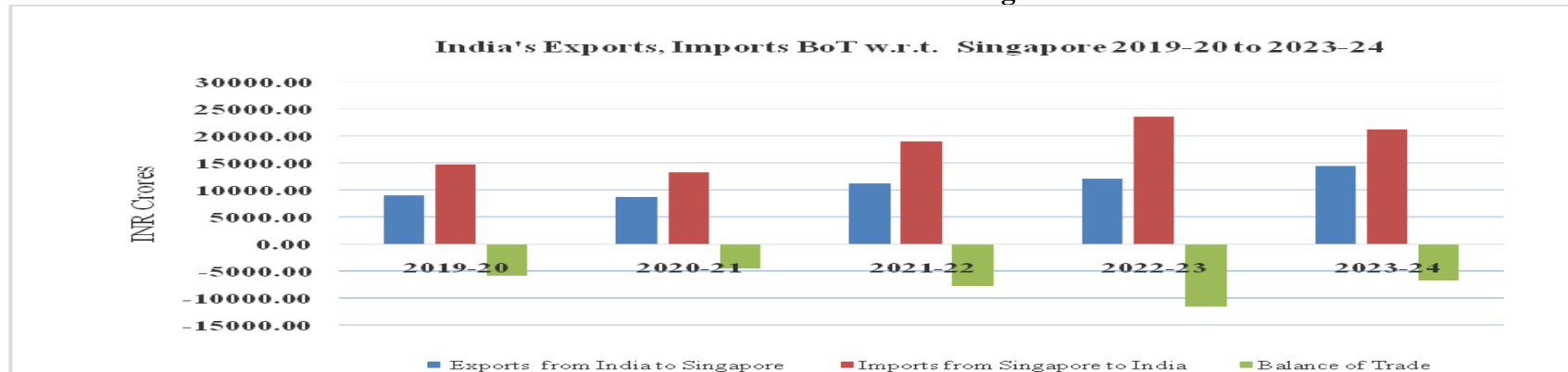
Year	Exports from India to Singapore	Percentage Growth in Exports	Imports from Singapore to India	Percentage Growth in Imports	Volume of Trade	Percentage Growth in Vol. of Trade	Balance of Trade
2019-20	8922.74		14746.78		23669.52		-5824.04
2020-21	8675.60	-2.77	13304.92	-9.78	21980.52	-7.14	-4629.32
2021-22	11150.56	28.53	18962.19	42.52	30112.75	37.00	-7811.63
2022-23	11992.96	7.55	23595.35	24.43	35588.31	18.18	-11602.39
2023-24	14414.27	20.19	21200.94	-10.15	35615.21	0.08	-6786.67

<b>Annual</b>	<b>Compound</b>			
<b>Growth Rate</b>		<b>12.74</b>	<b>9.50</b>	<b>10.75</b>

**NOTE : Figures relate to Financial Year (April to March)**

**SOURCE : DGCI&S, M/o C&I**

**Figure 2**



**TABLE -4**  
**INDIA'S MAJOR ITEMS OF MERCHANDISE EXPORTS TO SINGAPORE**  
**2019-2020 TO 2023-2024 AND THEIR GROWTH RATES**

(Value in USD Million)

Sl. No.	Name of the Merchandise Commodities	Value of Exports					Annual Growth Rates			
		2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	20-21 over 2019-20	21-22 over 2020-21	22-23 over 2021-22	23-24 over 2022-23
<b>1</b>	<b>Petroleum Products</b>	<b>4202.20</b>	<b>3975.16</b>	<b>6100.18</b>	<b>4720.42</b>	<b>6931.06</b>	<b>-5.40</b>	<b>53.46</b>	<b>-22.62</b>	<b>46.83</b>
	Share in total export	47.10	45.82	54.71	39.36	48.08				
<b>2</b>	<b>Residual Chemicals And Allied Prods.</b>	<b>133.40</b>	<b>137.68</b>	<b>146.08</b>	<b>133.17</b>	<b>1412.22</b>	<b>3.21</b>	<b>6.10</b>	<b>-8.84</b>	<b>960.46</b>
	Share in total export	1.50	1.59	1.31	1.11	9.80				
<b>3</b>	<b>Ship, Boat and Floating Structures</b>	<b>931.30</b>	<b>1263.33</b>	<b>674.36</b>	<b>1589.09</b>	<b>1063.62</b>	<b>35.65</b>	<b>-46.62</b>	<b>135.64</b>	<b>-33.07</b>
	Share in total export	10.44	14.56	6.05	13.25	7.38				
<b>4</b>	<b>Electric Machinery And Equipments</b>	<b>422.32</b>	<b>344.16</b>	<b>486.25</b>	<b>610.99</b>	<b>1003.90</b>	<b>-18.51</b>	<b>41.29</b>	<b>25.65</b>	<b>64.31</b>
	Share in total export	4.73	3.97	4.36	5.09	6.96				
<b>5</b>	<b>Gold And Other Precs. Metl. Jewellery</b>	<b>353.57</b>	<b>213.35</b>	<b>573.00</b>	<b>636.59</b>	<b>558.75</b>	<b>-39.66</b>	<b>168.57</b>	<b>11.10</b>	<b>-12.23</b>
	Share in total export	3.96	2.46	5.14	5.31	3.88				
<b>6</b>	<b>Organic Chemicals</b>	<b>173.93</b>	<b>151.67</b>	<b>234.31</b>	<b>348.30</b>	<b>404.31</b>	<b>-12.80</b>	<b>54.49</b>	<b>48.65</b>	<b>16.08</b>
	Share in total export	1.95	1.75	2.10	2.90	2.80				
<b>7</b>	<b>Lead And ProductsMade Of Lead</b>	<b>0.78</b>	<b>11.27</b>	<b>7.84</b>	<b>9.01</b>	<b>292.92</b>	<b>1344.87</b>	<b>-30.43</b>	<b>14.92</b>	<b>3151.05</b>
	Share in total export	0.01	0.13	0.07	0.08	2.03				
<b>8</b>	<b>Electronic Inastruments</b>	<b>159.52</b>	<b>131.44</b>	<b>144.76</b>	<b>197.87</b>	<b>211.44</b>	<b>-17.60</b>	<b>10.13</b>	<b>36.69</b>	<b>6.86</b>
	Share in total export	1.79	1.52	1.30	1.65	1.47				
<b>9</b>	<b>Indl. Machinery For Dairy Etc.</b>	<b>111.26</b>	<b>159.68</b>	<b>325.57</b>	<b>375.16</b>	<b>155.84</b>	<b>43.52</b>	<b>103.89</b>	<b>15.23</b>	<b>-58.46</b>
	Share in total export	1.25	1.84	2.92	3.13	1.08				
<b>10</b>	<b>Zinc. Products Made Of Zinc</b>	<b>66.66</b>	<b>179.25</b>	<b>119.61</b>	<b>356.78</b>	<b>155.50</b>	<b>168.90</b>	<b>-33.27</b>	<b>198.29</b>	<b>-56.42</b>
	Share in total export	0.75	2.07	1.07	2.97	1.08				
	<b>Total exports to SINGAPORE</b>	<b>8922.74</b>	<b>8675.60</b>	<b>11150.56</b>	<b>11992.96</b>	<b>14414.27</b>	<b>-2.77</b>	<b>28.53</b>	<b>7.55</b>	<b>20.19</b>

**NOTE : Figures relate to each Financial Year (April to March)**

**SOURCE : DGCI&S, M/o C&I**

**TABLE -5**  
**INDIA'S MAJOR ITEMS OF MERCHANDISE IMPORTS FROM SINGAPORE**  
**2019-2020 TO 2023-2024 AND THEIR GROWTH RATES**

(Value in USD Million)

Sl. No.	Name of the Merchandise Commodities	Value of Import					Annual Growth Rates			
		2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	19-20 over 2018-19	20-21 over 2019-20	21-22 over 2020-21	23-24 over 2022-23
<b>1</b>	<b>Electronic Components</b>	<b>1472.83</b>	<b>1425.12</b>	<b>1951.81</b>	<b>2298.34</b>	<b>2794.14</b>	<b>-3.24</b>	<b>36.96</b>	<b>17.75</b>	<b>21.57</b>
	Share in total import	9.99	10.71	10.29	9.74	13.18				
<b>2</b>	<b>Coal, Coke And Briquittes Etc.</b>	<b>688.27</b>	<b>395.79</b>	<b>1563.41</b>	<b>2888.35</b>	<b>2348.20</b>	<b>-42.49</b>	<b>295.01</b>	<b>84.75</b>	<b>-18.70</b>
	Share in total import	4.67	2.97	8.24	12.24	11.08				
<b>3</b>	<b>Computer Hardware Perepherals</b>	<b>1309.84</b>	<b>1325.24</b>	<b>1860.38</b>	<b>1958.42</b>	<b>1659.29</b>	<b>1.18</b>	<b>40.38</b>	<b>5.27</b>	<b>-15.27</b>
	Share in total import	8.88	9.96	9.81	8.30	7.83				
<b>4</b>	<b>Ship, Boat And Floating Structures</b>	<b>889.71</b>	<b>848.13</b>	<b>1042.20</b>	<b>2723.04</b>	<b>1287.96</b>	<b>-4.67</b>	<b>22.88</b>	<b>161.28</b>	<b>-52.70</b>
	Share in total import	6.03	6.37	5.50	11.54	6.08				
<b>5</b>	<b>Plastic Raw Materials</b>	<b>998.73</b>	<b>824.65</b>	<b>1219.63</b>	<b>1291.21</b>	<b>1230.94</b>	<b>-17.43</b>	<b>47.90</b>	<b>5.87</b>	<b>-4.67</b>
	Share in total import	6.77	6.20	6.43	5.47	5.81				
<b>6</b>	<b>Organic Chemicals</b>	<b>1037.36</b>	<b>798.69</b>	<b>1346.90</b>	<b>1337.49</b>	<b>1161.40</b>	<b>-23.01</b>	<b>68.64</b>	<b>-0.70</b>	<b>-13.17</b>
	Share in total import	7.03	6.00	7.10	5.67	5.48				
<b>7</b>	<b>Petroleum Products</b>	<b>1020.10</b>	<b>637.91</b>	<b>1438.54</b>	<b>1383.08</b>	<b>1054.46</b>	<b>-37.47</b>	<b>125.51</b>	<b>-3.86</b>	<b>-23.76</b>
	Share in total import	6.92	4.79	7.59	5.86	4.97				
<b>8</b>	<b>Electronic Instruments</b>	<b>772.94</b>	<b>619.82</b>	<b>719.54</b>	<b>954.57</b>	<b>1050.05</b>	<b>-19.81</b>	<b>16.09</b>	<b>32.66</b>	<b>10.00</b>
	Share in total import	5.24	4.66	3.79	4.05	4.95				
<b>9</b>	<b>Telecom Instruments</b>	<b>683.01</b>	<b>557.20</b>	<b>404.36</b>	<b>538.05</b>	<b>743.94</b>	<b>-18.42</b>	<b>-27.43</b>	<b>33.06</b>	<b>38.27</b>
	Share in total import	4.63	4.19	2.13	2.28	3.51				
<b>10</b>	<b>Gold</b>	<b>68.18</b>	<b>1269.14</b>	<b>852.39</b>	<b>661.81</b>	<b>689.71</b>	<b>1761.45</b>	<b>-32.84</b>	<b>-22.36</b>	<b>4.22</b>
	Share in total import	0.46	9.54	4.50	2.80	3.25				
	<b>Total import from SINGAPORE</b>	<b>14746.78</b>	<b>13304.92</b>	<b>18962.19</b>	<b>23595.35</b>	<b>21200.94</b>	<b>-9.78</b>	<b>42.52</b>	<b>24.43</b>	<b>-10.15</b>

**NOTE : Figures relate to each Financial Year (April to March)**

**SOURCE : DGCI&S, M/o C&I**



