



Key Highlights:

Sri Lanka Tea Exports surpasses USD 1.5 Bn in 2025 vis-à-vis USD 1.4 Bn in the year 2024

- Ceylon Tea Exports for the month was recorded at 17.87 M/Kgs - (Decrease of 4.70 M/Kgs YoY)
- Cumulative Exports totalled 257.44 M/Kgs (Increase of 11.65 M/Kgs YoY) in comparison with January-December 2024 total of 245.79 M/Kgs
- F.O.B. Value for the month recorded at Rs. 1,831.11 (USD 5.92), recording a Rs. 130.06 increase (decrease of USD 0.09) against the corresponding period of 2024
- Cumulative FOB Value declined by Rs. 2.91 in comparison with the corresponding period of 2024, whilst to-date USD Earnings improved by a narrow margin (USD 0.01) at the close of 2025
- Total Export Earnings for the year 2025 was recorded at Rs. 453.3 Bn vis-à-vis Rs. 433.5 Bn in the year 2024 and in USD terms USD 1.51 Bn vis-à-vis USD 1.43 Bn.
- Iraq ranked No. 1 amongst leading importer countries of Ceylon Tea for the year 2025

December 2025/2024

* Tea Exports for the month of December 2025 totalled 17.87 M/Kgs, showing a decline of 4.70 M/Kgs vis-à-vis 22.57 M/Kgs of December 2024. All categories have recorded negative variances in comparison with the corresponding period of the previous year.

* FOB value in December 2025 was recorded at Rs. 1,831.11, an increase of Rs. 130.06 YoY compared to Rs. 1,701.05 of December 2024, whilst in USD terms an increase of USD 0.09 was recorded in comparison with the corresponding period in the year 2024 (Refer table below).

	Quantity		Variance	Approx. FOB per kg Rs.			Approx. FOB per kg USD		
	2025	2024		2025	2024	Variance	2025	2024	Variance
Tea In Bulk	7,979,797	9,792,037	-1,812,241	1,513.24	1,463.20	50.04	4.89	5.02	-0.12
Tea Packets	7,316,464	9,815,206	-2,498,742	1,745.49	1,569.32	176.17	5.65	5.38	0.26
Tea Bags	2,098,224	2,325,196	-226,972	2,857.13	2,766.70	90.43	9.24	9.49	-0.24
Instant	124,004	151,157	-27,153	3,399.38	2,848.79	550.59	10.99	9.77	1.23
Green Tea	350,354	482,684	-132,331	4,159.29	3,712.17	447.11	13.45	12.73	0.72
Grand Total	17,868,842	22,566,280	-4,697,438	1,831.11	1,701.05	130.06	5.92	5.83	0.09

Source - Sri Lanka Customs / Central Bank of Sri Lanka Exchange Rates

JANUARY-DECEMBER 2025/2024

* January-December 2025 cumulative exports totalled 257.44 M/Kgs, recording a positive variance of 11.65 M/Kgs vis-à-vis 245.79 M/Kgs of January-December 2024. All segments, except for Bulk Tea have recorded positive variances against the same period of the previous year.

* FOB value for the period stood at Rs. 1,760.70, a decrease of Rs. 2.91 (increase of USD 0.01) vis-à-vis Rs. 1,763.61 of January-December 2024.

* Bulk and Packeted Teas recorded negative variances, whilst Tea Bags, Instant and Green Tea categories recorded gains in LKR terms in FOB value. In USD terms in all categories except for Tea in Bulk and Tea Packets showed an increase when compared to the corresponding period in 2024 (Refer table below).

	Quantity		Variance	Approx. FOB per kg Rs.			Approx. FOB per kg USD		
	2025	2024		2025	2024	Variance	2025	2024	Variance
Tea In Bulk	106,801,645	111,074,594	-4,272,949	1,490.81	1,507.57	-16.76	4.95	4.99	-0.04
Tea Packets	116,245,861	101,818,155	14,427,706	1,634.78	1,661.30	-26.51	5.43	5.50	-0.07
Tea Bags	26,444,032	25,584,424	859,608	2,780.28	2,751.84	28.44	9.24	9.11	0.13
Instant	3,026,924	2,623,564	403,360	3,658.97	3,122.90	536.08	12.16	10.34	1.82
Green Tea	4,922,226	4,687,140	235,086	3,945.77	3,898.64	47.13	13.11	12.90	0.21
Grand Total	257,440,687	245,787,876	11,652,811	1,760.70	1,763.61	-2.91	5.85	5.84	0.01
Total Earnings (LKR)	453,276,673,295	433,473,348,076							
Total Earnings (USD)	1,506,202,809	1,434,819,596							

Source – Sri Lanka Customs / Central Bank of Sri Lanka Exchange Rates

Iraq ranks at No. 1 amongst major importers of Ceylon Tea with a total of 39.36 M/Kgs, an increase of 14.9% YoY in January-December 2025 against previous year's 34.26 M/Kgs. Russia ranked in 2nd Place with 21.59 M/Kgs, despite a decline of 13.6% in comparison with previous year closely followed by Türkiye at 3rd Place recording 21.27 M/Kgs, an improvement of 20% followed by Libya who at 4th place witnessed 83.9% increase YoY with 18.93 M/Kgs vis-à-vis 10.29 M/Kgs recorded in 2024. The U.A.E secured 5th place with 18.32 M/Kgs (13% decline YoY), whilst Chile recorded 11.09 M/Kgs (28.5% increase YoY) surpassing China who has recorded 10.42 M/Kgs (9.9% decrease YoY). Iran secured 8th Place with 10.39 M/Kgs followed by Azerbaijan and Saudi Arabia with 8.91 M/Kgs and 8.73 M/Kgs respectively.