



SRI LANKA TEA EXPORTS – FEBRUARY 2026

Key Highlights:

- Ceylon Tea Exports for the month of February 2026 was recorded at 19.92 M/Kgs - (decline of 0.48 M/Kgs YoY)
- Exports during January-February 2026 totalled 40.63 M/Kgs (increase of 0.86 M/Kgs YoY) in comparison to the same period in 2025
- F.O.B. Value for the month was recorded at Rs. 1,785.76 (USD 5.77), recording a positive variance of Rs. 48.24 (negative USD 0.11) against the corresponding month of 2025
- Cumulative FOB Value increased by Rs. 73.75 in comparison with the corresponding period of 2025
- Iraq continues to maintain the top position amongst leading importer countries of Ceylon Tea in February 2026

FEBRUARY 2026/2025

* Tea Exports for the month of February 2026 totalled 19.92 M/Kgs, showing a decline of 0.48 M/Kgs vis-à-vis 20.40 M/Kgs of February 2025. Tea Packets and Instant Tea showed gains, whilst Tea in Bulk, Tea Bags and Green Tea recorded negative variances against the corresponding period of the previous year.

* FOB value in February 2026 was recorded at Rs. 1,785.76, an increase of Rs. 48.24 YoY compared to Rs. 1,737.52 of February 2025. Overall, a decline was witnessed in USD terms with only the Tea Bag category recording a positive variance of USD 0.24 in comparison with the corresponding period in the year 2025 (Refer table below).

	Quantity			Approx. FOB per kg Rs.			Approx. FOB per kg USD		
	2026	2025	Variance	2026	2025	Variance	2026	2025	Variance
Tea In Bulk	8,429,326	8,973,112	-543,786	1,513.13	1,456.02	57.12	4.89	4.93	-0.04
Tea Packets	8,674,849	8,641,200	33,649	1,625.03	1,641.92	-16.89	5.25	5.56	-0.30
Tea Bags	2,126,006	2,138,240	-12,234	2,859.57	2,661.80	197.78	9.25	9.01	0.24
Instant	325,950	259,163	66,787	3,482.91	3,662.48	-179.56	11.26	12.39	-1.13
Green Tea	364,589	386,594	-22,005	4,134.10	4,005.44	128.67	13.37	13.56	-0.19
Grand Total	19,920,720	20,398,308	-477,588	1,785.76	1,737.52	48.24	5.77	5.88	-0.11

Source - Sri Lanka Customs/Oanda Exchange Rates

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2026/2025

* January-February 2026 cumulative exports totalled 40.63 M/Kgs, recording a positive variance of 0.86 M/Kgs vis-à-vis 39.77 M/Kgs of January-February 2025. All segments record positive variances against the same period of the previous year.

* FOB value for the period stood at Rs. 1,804.08 (USD 5.83), an increase of Rs. 73.75 vis-à-vis Rs. 1,730.34 of January-February 2025.

* All segments except for Instant Tea recorded gains in FOB value. In USD terms, Tea Bags and Green Tea recorded increases, whilst Tea in Bulk, Tea Packets and Instant Tea segments recorded negative variances compared to the corresponding period in 2025 (Refer table below)

	Quantity			Approx. FOB per kg Rs			Approx. FOB per kg USD		
	2026	2025	Variance	2026	2025	Variance	2026	2025	Variance
Tea In Bulk	17,336,767	17,214,676	122,090	1518.31	1,472.04	46.27	4.91	4.96	-0.06
Tea Packets	17,558,042	17,133,606	424,436	1678.13	1,624.72	53.41	5.43	5.48	-0.05
Tea Bags	4,326,763	4,244,593	82,170	2808.74	2,639.47	169.27	9.08	8.90	0.18
Instant	640,015	459,029	180,986	3513.75	3,587.53	-73.78	11.36	12.10	-0.74
Green Tea	769,218	720,931	48,287	4046.45	3,873.05	173.40	13.08	13.06	0.02
Grand Total	40,630,806	39,772,836	857,969	1804.08	1,730.34	73.75	5.83	5.84	0.00

Source - Sri Lanka Customs/Oanda Exchange Rates

Iraq was ranked at No. 1 amongst major importers of Ceylon Tea with a total of 6.53 M/Kgs, an increase of 9% YoY in comparison with February 2025 (5.96 M/Kgs), whilst Türkiye moved up to 2nd place with a significant increase of 124% YoY with 4.40 M/Kgs vis-à-vis 1.97 M/Kgs recorded in 2025, edging past Russia who at 3rd place has recorded 3.72 M/Kgs, a 9% decrease vis-à-vis 4.09 M/Kgs in February 2025. U.A.E. at 4th place has imported 2.19 M/Kgs (8% decrease YoY) followed by Azerbaijan 2.19 M/Kgs (46% increase YoY) and Saudi Arabia 1.63 M/Kgs (2% increase YoY). Chile with 1.49 M/Kgs followed by China at 1.37 M/Kgs have secured 7th and 8th positions respectively. Libya and USA have moved up in the top 10 importers ranking to 9th and 10th positions with 1.33 M/Kgs and 1.27 M/Kgs respectively in the month of February 2026.