



SRI LANKA TEA EXPORTS – MAY 2025

Key Highlights:

- Ceylon Tea Exports for the month was recorded at 21.87 M/Kgs – (Increase of 2.42 M/Kgs YoY)
- Cumulative Exports totalled 103.28 M/Kgs (Increase of 5.12 M/Kgs YoY) in comparison with January-May 2024 total of 98.16 M/Kgs
- F.O.B Value for the month recorded Rs. 1,804.31 (USD 6.03), recording an increase of Rs. 32.07 (gain of USD 0.12) against the corresponding period of 2024. Cumulative FOB value declined by Rs. 15.87 in comparison with the corresponding period of 2024, whilst the to-date USD earnings continued to show an overall improvement in all categories.
- Iraq continues to maintain the top position amongst leading importer countries of Ceylon Tea for the period January-May 2025. Libya makes significant improvement to maintain 2nd place over Russia.

MAY 2025/2024

* Tea Exports for the month of May 2025 totalled 21.87 M/Kgs, showing an increase of 2.42 M/Kgs vis-à-vis 19.45 M/Kgs of May 2024. All categories have recorded positive variances, except for the Bulk Tea category. FOB value in May 2025 was recorded at Rs. 1,804.31, an increase of Rs. 32.07 YoY compared to Rs. 1,772.24 of May 2024. In USD terms, the month of May also witnessed an increase of USD 0.12 in comparison with the corresponding period in the year 2024 (Refer table below).

	Quantity			Approx. FOB per kg Rs.			Approx. FOB per kg USD		
	2025	2024	Variance	2025	2024	Variance	2025	2024	Variance
Tea In Bulk	9,187,288	9,124,701	62,587	1,574.68	1,510.10	64.58	5.26	5.04	0.22
Tea Packets	10,127,404	7,615,256	2,512,148	1,653.63	1,704.39	-50.76	5.52	5.69	-0.16
Tea Bags	1,834,177	2,161,562	-327,385	2,925.91	2,632.38	293.53	9.77	8.78	0.99
Instant	389,302	231,888	157,414	3,673.86	3,248.25	425.62	12.27	10.84	1.43
Green Tea	334,308	318,637	15,671	4,349.06	3,991.21	357.85	14.53	13.32	1.21
Grand Total	21,872,480	19,452,045	2,420,435	1,804.31	1,772.24	32.07	6.03	5.91	0.12

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

JANUARY-MAY 2025/2024

* January-May 2025 cumulative exports totalled 103.28 M/Kgs, recording a positive variance of 5.12 M/Kgs vis-à-vis 98.16 M/Kgs of January-May 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. 1,756.46, a decrease of Rs. 15.87 (increase of USD 0.15) vis-à-vis Rs. 1,772.33 of January-May 2024.

* All categories except for Bulk Tea and Packeted Tea recorded positive variances in LKR terms in FOB value, whilst gains were recorded in USD terms in all categories when compared to the corresponding period in 2024. (Refer table below).

	Quantity			Approx. FOB per kg Rs.			Approx. FOB per kg USD		
	2025	2024	Variance	2025	2024	Variance	2025	2024	Variance
Tea In Bulk	43,774,101	45,909,131	-2,135,030	1,509.20	1,515.89	-6.68	5.08	4.93	0.15
Tea Packets	45,965,113	38,998,907	6,966,207	1,634.91	1,688.62	-53.71	5.50	5.49	0.01
Tea Bags	10,373,591	10,336,065	37,526	2,729.16	2,704.61	24.55	9.18	8.79	0.39
Instant	1,330,144	1,075,386	254,758	3,545.75	3,229.30	316.44	11.92	10.49	1.43
Green Tea	1,840,232	1,837,002	3,230	3,897.63	3,860.06	37.57	13.11	12.54	0.56
Grand Total	103,283,181	98,156,490	5,126,691	1,756.46	1,772.33	-15.87	5.91	5.76	0.15

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

Iraq ranks at No. 01 amongst major importers of Ceylon Tea with a total of 14.47 M/Kgs, an increase of 18% YoY in January-May 2025 against the previous year's 12.29 M/Kgs with Libya coming in 2nd place (9.42 M/Kgs), an improvement of 324% ahead of Russia at 3rd place who has witnessed a significant decline of 15% YoY with 9.12 M/Kgs vis-à-vis 10.67 M/Kgs recorded in 2024. The U.A.E with 7.20 M/Kgs (30% decrease YoY) is placed in 4th position followed by Iran at 5th place who has recorded 5.87 M/Kgs (18% increase YoY) surpassing Türkiye at 5.78 M/Kgs (18% decrease YoY). Chile has secured 7th place with 4.74 M/Kgs edging over China's 4.22 M/Kgs, Saudi Arabia at 3.56 M/Kgs and Germany at 3.27 M/Kgs for the year in progress.

(Refer statistical details on Page Nos. 8 and 9)