DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Major Achievements for the Month of December, 2025

1. Trade performance

- Total exports during April-December 2025 are estimated at US$ 634.26 Billion as compared to US$ 607.93 Billion in April-December 2024, registering a positive growth of 4.33 percent.
- Total imports during April-December 2025 are estimated at US$ 730.84 Billion as compared to US$ 696.37 Billion in April-December 2024, registering a positive growth of 4.95 percent.
- Trade deficit for April-December 2025 is estimated at US$ 96.58 Billion as compared to the deficit of US$ 88.43 Billion during April-December 2024.

2. DGFT

- Implemented **standardisation of 18 documents for Export Oriented Unit (EOU)** applications covering expansion, DTA sales, exit and other permissions through Public Notice No. 41 dated 31 December 2025.
- **Streamlined procedures and reduced compliance** costs for deemed exports through Public Notice No. 35 dated 10 December 2025.
- Implemented an **online auction (competitive bidding/tender**) process for allocation of Gold TRQ under the India–UAE CEPA, notified vide Public Notice No. 39/2025–26 dated 17 December 2025.
- Conducted the **first round of gold TRQ allocation** through the online auction mechanism, restricted to Micro and Small units with Hallmarking registration. There was participation of more than 500 eligible units in the auction process, ensuring broad-based industry involvement.

3. ECGC

- ECGC supported exports valued at ₹6,72,118 crore in December 2025, reflecting its continued role in facilitating and securing India's export growth.
- Gross premium income of ₹132.69 crore was earned during December 2025, indicating sustained uptake of ECGC's export credit insurance products.
- A total of 20,005 new overseas buyers were added to the ECGC system in December 2025.
- 1,134 insurance policies were issued during the month, demonstrating steady demand for export credit insurance support.
- 72 claims were settled during December 2025, with claim payments amounting to ₹34.11 crore, providing timely financial relief to exporters.
- 59 claims were rejected during the month after due examination.
- Under ST Policy, 57 claims were rejected, mainly due to multiple lapses, non-submission of necessary documents, and causes of loss outside the purview of the policy, underscoring the importance of adherence to policy conditions.
- Under ST ECIB, 2 claims were rejected due to multiple lapses and cases where advance amounts were already recovered with no outstanding dues.

4. DGTR

- DGTR has issued following Initiation notification(s) during the month of December, 2025:

    - Initiation of an anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of “Nylon 6 Chips and Granules with relative viscosity (RV) below 3” originating in or exported from China PR and Russia.

- CBIC imposed duty on the recommendation of DGTR on the following product(s) during the month of December, 2025:
    - Imposed provisional anti-dumping duty on imports of "Low Ash Metallurgical Coke" originating in or exported from Australia, China PR, Colombia, Indonesia, Japan and Russia.
    - Imposed continue applicability of anti-dumping duty on imports of Polyethylene Terephthalate (PTE) Resin originating in or exported from Chine PR till 26 June 2026.
    - Imposed continue applicability of anti-dumping duty in the matter of sunset review investigation concerning imports of “2-Ethyl Hexanol” originating in or exported from European Union, Indonesia, Korea RP, Malaysia, Taiwan and United States of America.
    - Imposed anti-dumping duty on imports of “Calcium Carbonate Filler Masterbatch " originating in or exported from Vietnam.
    - Imposed anti-dumping duty on imports of “1,1,1,2- Tetrafluoroethane or R-134a” originating in or exported from China.
    - Imposed anti-dumping duty on Cold Rolled Non-Oriented Electrical Steel originating in or exported from China.
    - Imposed amend notification No. 14/2021-Customs (ADD), dated the 18th March, 2021 to extend the levy of anti-dumping duty on 'Faced Glass Wool in Rolls' originating in or exported from People's Republic of China, up to and inclusive of 17th June, 2026.
    - Imposed amend notification No. 3/2021-Customs (CVD), dated the 9th March, 2021 to extend the levy of countervailing duty on 'Textured Tempered Glass' originating in or exported from Malaysia, up to and inclusive of 8th June, 2026.
    - Imposed safeguard duty on non-alloy and alloy steel flat products.

5. SEZ

- The Development Commissioners of various SEZs during the month of December, 2025 have approved the proposals of investment of ₹3,442.77 crores, which are likely to provide direct employment to 9461 persons.

6. Export Infrastructure

During the month of December, 2025, following funds were sanctioned for projects under Trade Infrastructure for Export scheme (TIES):

(i) Rs. 1.3275 Crore (2nd tranche of 2nd & final installment of TIES Grant) was released to Karnataka Industrial Area Development Board (KIADB) for the project - 'Plug and Play Infrastructure at Dharwad, Karnataka'.

(ii) Rs. 2.5 Crore (1st tranche of 2nd & final installment of TIES Grant) to Punjab Small Industries & Export Corporation Ltd (PSIEC) for the project- 'Infrastructure Development of Hi-Tech Cycle Valley Dhanansu, Distt. Ludhiana'.

7. **EP(Pharma) Section**

- A Regional Chintan Shivir on Pharmaceutical Exports was organised on 17th December 2025 at Chandigarh in collaboration with PHARMEXCIL, with participation from exporters of Haryana, Punjab and Himachal Pradesh, along with State Governments and central regulatory bodies. The Commerce Secretary addressed the Shivir virtually, highlighting India's strong pharmaceutical export performance and the need for deeper regulatory cooperation and targeted MSME support to enhance global competitiveness. The Shivir served as a structured platform to discuss regulatory challenges, export preparedness, MSME capacity building, and domestic manufacturing opportunities.

8. **Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA)**

- APEDA facilitated the Global Potato Summit, the world's first-of-its-kind event, held on 11–12 December 2025, showcasing India's potato varieties and promoting international collaboration, investments and partnerships.
- On 19th December 2025, APEDA facilitated the export of 3 metric tonnes (MTs) of GI-tagged Indi Lime from Vijayapura, Karnataka to Oman, marking a new destination for this product and strengthening agri-trade under the India–Oman CEPA framework.

9. **MPEDA**

- Farm enrolment activities continued during December 2025 with 70 aquaculture farms brought under the MPEDA system, covering a total area of 253 hectares, strengthening traceability and compliance in aquaculture production.
- Antibiotic awareness and monitoring initiatives were intensified through 102 campaigns, benefiting 1,586 stakeholders, including 49 farm-to-farm campaigns reaching 464 farmers.
- Financial assistance amounting to ₹15.93 crore was disbursed under the *Technology Development for Specific Value-Added Marine Products (TDSVMP)* scheme to support modernization, value addition and technology upgradation in the marine products sector.
- Export facilitation efforts resulted in the issuance of 2,893 certificates (as on 25 December 2025), including Catch Certificates (EU and Non-EU), DS-2031, ICCAT documents, Non-Radio Activity Certificates, RCMC, Certificates of Legal Origin, Duty Free Certificates and JCDS certificates, enabling smooth export of marine products.
- Digitisation of regulatory processes progressed further with the issuance of digitised certificates of registration to 8 exporters, 1 handling facility and 1 peeling shed during the month.
- EU regulatory compliance was maintained with 529 EU-approved seafood processing establishments and 75 EU-approved cold storage facilities operational as of December 2025, reinforcing India's access to the EU seafood market.
- Quality assurance and food safety measures were strengthened through analysis of 2,282 pre-harvest test samples of farmed shrimp at ELISA laboratories to ensure adherence to international standards.
- International market promotion activities advanced with preparations for MPEDA's participation in major global seafood exhibitions, with confirmed participation of Indian exporters in Gulf Food 2026, Seafood Expo North America 2026, Seafood Expo Global 2026, World Seafood Shanghai 2026 and China Fisheries & Seafood Expo 2026.

- Stakeholder engagement for value addition was enhanced through the organisation of a consultative workshop on seafood value addition at Kolkata in hybrid mode, attended by 47 stakeholders, to formulate a comprehensive roadmap for increasing the share of value-added seafood exports.
- Skill development initiatives were strengthened by conducting 20 hands-on training programmes on seafood value addition, benefiting 1,000 processing workers, who were trained in the preparation of a range of value-added seafood products.
- Outreach and visibility of MPEDA activities improved with consistent growth across all social media platforms during December 2025, particularly on LinkedIn and Instagram.
- Grassroots-level interventions through MPEDA societies focused on farmer and fisher awareness, sustainable fishing practices, TED usage, post-harvest loss reduction and SC/ST outreach, benefiting a large number of stakeholders across coastal States.

10. Tobacco Board

- As on 29/12/2025, 10,388.40 metric tonnes of fertilizers (Ammonium Sulphate, Di-Ammonium Phosphate, Sulphate of Potash, and Calcium Nitrate) were distributed to indented FCV tobacco growers of the NLS region, Andhra Pradesh.
- The second phase of grower and staff training programmes on the management of CPA residues, elimination of Non-Tobacco Related Materials (NTRMs), and topping and desuckering was conducted in major FCV tobacco-growing villages of Andhra Pradesh. In addition, a brainstorming session on *"Navigating the European Green Deal and Sustainability Standards: Implications for Indian Tobacco Production, Export Competitiveness, and Future Directions"* was held on 17 December 2025 at ICAR–NIRCA, Rajahmundry, with participation from senior officials of the Tobacco Board, ICAR–NIRCA scientists, executives from major tobacco companies, and progressive growers. Further, as part of the Golden Jubilee celebrations, three mega grower workshops on *"Good Agricultural Practices in FCV Tobacco Cultivation"* were organized in Andhra Pradesh on 11 December 2025 at ICAR–NIRCA, Jeelugumilli Research Station; on 18 December 2025 at APF No. 27, Kandukur-II; and on 23 December 2025 at the Regional Manager's Office, Ongole.

11. FT (Oceania) Division

- India and New Zealand have concluded a comprehensive, balanced and forward-looking Free Trade Agreement (FTA), marking a major economic and strategic milestone in India's engagement with the Indo-Pacific region and aligned with the vision of *Viksit Bharat 2047*. The conclusion of the FTA was announced by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India and New Zealand on 22 December 2025.

12. FT (ASEAN) Division

- The 11th AITIGA Joint Committee (JC) meeting was held virtually on 16 December 2025. The Joint Committee outlined focus areas for further deliberations, updated the work programme for the review, and provided necessary guidance to the Sub-Committees to carry forward the negotiations.
- The Sub-Committee on Legal and Institutional Issues (SC-LII) met in hybrid mode on 11 December 2025 in Jakarta, Indonesia. The Sub-Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SC-SPS) met virtually on 15–16 December 2025, while the Sub-Committee on

Standards, Technical Regulations and Conformity Assessment Procedures (SC-STRACAP) met virtually on 17 December 2025. In addition, a virtual meeting between the Co-Chairs of the Sub-Committee on Non-Tariff Measures (SC-NTMA) of India and Myanmar, in the presence of the ASEAN Secretariat (ASEC), was held on 15 December 2025 to seek clarification on certain discrepancies identified by India in Myanmar's Trade Regulatory System (TRS) under AITIGA. These Sub-Committee meetings focused on reviewing and updating the respective chapters, with particular emphasis on market access, trade facilitation, addressing non-tariff barriers, and harmonization of SPS standards, in line with the ongoing review objectives.

- Virtual meetings with Indian Missions in ASEAN countries were held on 5 December 2025 and 12 December 2025 to discuss the use of the Trade Connect Portal, trade-related issues, political leadership updates, recent trade developments, and other related matters.
- A meeting of members of the Myanmar–India Friendship Association (MIFA) with the Hon'ble Minister of State (Commerce & Industry) was held on 12 December 2025 to discuss measures to enhance bilateral cooperation between India and Myanmar.

13. FT (NAFTA) Division

- As a follow-up to the India–U.S. Joint Statement of 13 February 2025, wherein both sides agreed to expand bilateral trade to reach USD 500 billion by 2030, a team of U.S. officials led by Ambassador Rick Switzer, Deputy USTR, visited India and met the Hon'ble Minister of Commerce & Industry (HCIM) on 10 December 2025 and the Commerce Secretary (CS) on 11 December 2025 at Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi, to take forward negotiations for the India–U.S. Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA).
- The Hon'ble Minister of Commerce & Industry (HCIM) and H.E. Mr Maninder Sidhu, Trade Minister of Canada, held a video conference meeting on 3 December 2025 to advance trade negotiations. This was followed by a video conference meeting at the Chief Negotiators level between Mr Bruce Christie, Chief Negotiator from the Canadian side, and Shri B. M. Mishra, Chief Negotiator from the Indian side, on 18 December 2025 to prepare for initiating negotiations for the India–Canada Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA).
- The Commerce Secretary (CS) and the Vice Trade Minister of Mexico, Dr Luis Rosendo Gutiérrez Romano, held a video conference meeting on 2 December 2025 to discuss areas of mutual cooperation. This was followed by two introductory video conference meetings: one between the Ministry of Economy, Mexico, and Joint Secretary Shri Vimal Anand on 12 December 2025, and another between Ms Deborah, Head of International Trade Negotiation, Mexico, and Joint Secretary (NAFTA) Shri B. M. Mishra on 19 December 2025.

14. FT (Europe) Division

- The EU negotiating team visited New Delhi from 3–9 December 2025, during which key chapters including Goods, Services, Investment, Trade and Sustainable Development (TSD), Rules of Origin (ROO), and Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) were discussed.
- The Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Piyush Goyal, held discussions with H.E. Mr Maroš Šefčovič, European Commissioner for Trade and Economic Security, during 8–9 December 2025 to provide strategic guidance to the FTA negotiating teams for early conclusion of the agreement.
- Commerce Secretary–Director General (Trade) stock-take meetings were held in New Delhi on 7 and 9 December 2025 to review progress and address outstanding issues.

- A virtual Commerce Secretary–Director General (Trade) stock-take meeting on the India–EU FTA negotiations was held on 18 December 2025.
- An Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) meeting was held on 29 December 2025 at Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi, co-chaired by the Commerce Secretary, to deliberate on outstanding issues under Trade in Goods, TBT, and Investment Liberalisation in Non-Services.
- Two Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) meetings were held on 16 December and 31 December 2025 at Vanijya Bhawan under the chairmanship of the Commerce Secretary to deliberate on outstanding issues under the Rules of Origin track of the India–EU FTA negotiations.

15. FT (CIS) Division

- The 23rd India–Russia Summit was held on 5 December 2025 in New Delhi. It was organized under the aegis of the Ministry of External Affairs and, on the sidelines of the Summit, the Department of Commerce conducted several bilateral meetings and forums.
- An India–Russia Trade Forum was organized on 5 December 2025, which was addressed by Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, and Mr Vladimir Putin, Hon'ble President of the Russian Federation. The Forum observed participation from around 150 industry leaders and other high-level dignitaries from both sides. The Forum was preceded by sectoral business sessions. The leaders addressed the potential of increasing trade between the two countries.
- A meeting of Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Commerce & Industry Minister of India (HCIM), with Mr Herman Gref, CEO of Sberbank, was held on 3 December 2025. The meeting delved into the current status of bilateral trade, facilitation of payment channels, rupee settlement, promotion of MSME exports to Russia, investment, etc.
- An India–Russia Business Forum was organized on 4 December 2025, which was addressed by HCIM and Mr Maxim Oreshkin, Deputy Chief of Staff of the Presidential Executive Office of the Russian Federation. The aim was to support a more balanced and sustainable pattern of trade and to expand the trade basket by presenting concrete opportunities in the Russian market and by showcasing Indian capabilities in key export-oriented sectors. The Forum was attended by dignitaries and around 900 business representatives from both sides.
- A bilateral meeting of HCIM with Mr Makshim Reshetnikov, Minister of Economic Development of the Russian Federation, was held on 4 December 2025. The meeting focused on bilateral trade with emphasis on utilizing the potential of Indian exports to Russia, the impediments to trade, the current status of the India–EAEU FTA, and the way forward.

16. FT(WANA) Division

- **India–Oman Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)** was signed on **18 December 2025 in Muscat** by Hon'ble Commerce and Industry Minister Shri Piyush Goyal and Oman's Minister of Commerce, Industry & Investment Promotion, H.E. Qais bin Mohammed Al Yousef. The agreement is expected to significantly enhance bilateral trade, boost employment generation, expand India's exports, strengthen supply chains, and promote deeper long-term economic engagement.
- A **virtual Chief Negotiators' (CN) level meeting** was held with the Israeli side on **10 December 2025** to discuss the broad contours of **India–Israel FTA** negotiations, following the signing of the **Terms of Reference (ToR) on 20 November 2025**.

17. FT (Africa) Division

- Meetings were held to discuss the Draft Terms of Reference for the India–SACU Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) on 2-3 December 2025 with the SACU Secretariat.
- A meeting was held on 12 December 2025 between the High Commissioner of India to Pretoria, South Africa, and the Commerce Secretary at Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi.
- A meeting was on Tuesday, 18 December 2025 with the Indian Missions in Tanzania and Mozambique, along with the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), to discuss overall trade, export performance, and other related matters/issues, including promotional efforts undertaken to enhance exports.
- A meeting was held on Friday, 19 December 2025 with the Indian Missions in Kenya and Nigeria, along with MEA, to discuss overall trade, export performance, and other related matters/issues, including promotional efforts undertaken to enhance exports.
- A meeting was on Tuesday, 23 December 2025 with the Indian Missions in Mauritius and Rwanda, along with MEA, to discuss overall trade, export performance, and other related matters/issues, including promotional efforts undertaken to enhance exports.
- A meeting was held on 30 December 2025 with EXIM Bank, CWToS, and CTIL to discuss the text of the draft Terms of Reference of the India–SACU PTA.

18. Indian Oilseeds and Produce Export Promotion Council (IOPEPC)

- A virtual meeting was held on 10 December 2025 with Indian Missions and Export Promotion Councils (EPCs) handling North East Asian (NEA) countries. The meeting reviewed India's export performance in NEA countries, discussed issues related to export monitoring and trade promotion, and examined the challenges faced by Indian industry in these markets, with specific reference to Korea. During the meeting, IOPEPC appealed for the inclusion of Indian sesame seeds under South Korea's duty-free oilseed concessions, seeking a reduction of the existing 40% tariff applicable under the Tariff Rate Quota (TRQ) to enhance export opportunities in the Korean market. It was highlighted that China currently benefits from a duty-free quota of 24,000 metric tonnes under its Free Trade Agreement with Korea, placing Indian sesame seeds at a competitive disadvantage. With regard to groundnut and groundnut oil, it was noted that import duties of 230.5% and 27% respectively are being levied, with separate import quotas earmarked for duty-free access under the ensuing Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement.

19. Government e-Marketplace (GeM)

- GeM recorded a Gross Merchandise Value (GMV) of ₹3,49,136 crore during the first nine months of FY 2025–26 (as on 31 December 2025), maintaining a strong growth trajectory after crossing ₹5.43 lakh crore GMV in FY 2024–25.
- Cumulative GMV on the GeM portal since inception crossed ₹16.88 lakh crore as of 31 December 2025, with Services contributing ₹8.18 lakh crore and Products ₹8.70 lakh crore.
- Procurement by Central Government organizations in December 2025 stood at ₹48,491 crore, registering a significant increase compared to ₹31,369 crore in December 2024.

- A total of 33 high-value bids exceeding ₹100 crore each were awarded during December 2025, including major procurements by Central Coalfields Limited and the National Rural Health Mission.
- Gujarat emerged as the top procuring State on GeM in December 2025 with procurement worth ₹4,745 crore, followed by Uttar Pradesh (₹1,584 crore) and Maharashtra (₹778 crore).
- GeM enabled participation of more than 62,522 SC/ST entrepreneurs during December 2025, who fulfilled over 7.75 lakh orders valued at ₹18,521 crore.
- More than 2.04 lakh women-led MSEs are registered on GeM, collectively servicing over 42 lakh orders valued at ₹79,231 crore as of December 2025.
- GeM supported the "Make in India" initiative by facilitating market access for over 35,705 start-ups, which have cumulatively processed orders worth more than ₹51,494 crore.
- *Platform Enhancements & Governance:* A new functionality was made live in December 2025 to prevent buyers who are "red-flagged" from raising delivery-related incidents against sellers in Direct Purchase cases where the seller has declined the order within the stipulated timeframe. The Bulk Order Cancellation functionality for Services was deployed, enabling buyers to cancel expired service orders (2018–2023) either individually or in bulk through the Order Summary page. Customer satisfaction on the GeM Help Desk remained consistently above 85% during December 2025, with first-call resolution rates exceeding 80%.
- *Capacity Building, Outreach & Engagement:* GeM conducted 361 training sessions and 34 outreach events during December 2025, benefiting a total of 16,230 participants, including 10,666 buyers and 5,564 sellers. Under GeM's E-Learning initiatives, 1,057 new users registered on the portal in December 2025, taking the total number of registered users to 22,814, comprising 6,260 buyers and 16,554 sellers. In collaboration with Laghu Udyog Bharti, six onboarding workshops were held in December 2025, through which 275 sellers were trained and onboarded onto the GeM platform.

****