# External Merchandise Trade Third quarter 2019

## Press Communiqué

## **Exports**

Total exports for the third quarter of 2019 amounted to Rs 20,056 million, 3.8% lower compared to the corresponding quarter of 2018 and 2.0% lower compared to previous quarter.

# **Imports**

Total imports in the third quarter of 2019 amounted to Rs 51,376 million, showing an increase of 1.8% compared to the corresponding quarter of 2018 and an increase of 5.9% compared to previous quarter.

### **Balance of trade**

The trade deficit for the third quarter of 2019 works out to Rs 31,320 million, around 5.8% higher than the deficit of Rs 29,605 million for the corresponding quarter of 2018. Compared to the previous quarter, the deficit was higher by 11.6%.

#### Forecast 2019

Based on trends and information from various sources, the forecast of total exports for 2019 will be around Rs 82,500 million lower than the previous exports forecast figure of Rs 83,000 million. Total Imports for 2019 is forecasted around Rs 206,600 million, lower than the previous forecast figure of Rs 207,800 million. To note that the forecast includes one – off items such as tugs, linear accelerator for cancer treatment and metro trains.

The trade deficit for 2019 is forecasted to be around Rs 124,100 million, compared to Rs 112,100 million in 2018.

Statistics Mauritius Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development 28 November 2019