



सत्यमेव जयते

EMBASSY OF INDIA
CARACAS



OCTOBER 2021

COMMERCIAL REPORT

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Economic & Commercial Report October 2021

1. Statistical data

i. Bilateral Trade

| Period | Imports from Venezuela | | Exports to Venezuela | | Total trade | |
|----------------------|------------------------|--------------|----------------------|------------|--------------|--------------|
| | US\$ million | Rs. Lacs | US\$ million | Rs. Lacs | US\$ million | Rs. Lacs |
| 2021-22 (Apr-Oct) | 46.72 | 34,734.73 | 254.68 | 188,443.89 | 301.40 | 223,178.62 |
| 2020-21 | 714.24 | 529,493.32 | 557.10 | 412,489.78 | 1,228.29 | 941,983.10 |
| 2019-20 | 6,057.01 | 4,295,510.14 | 339.71 | 243,943.87 | 6,396.72 | 4,539,454.01 |
| 2018-19 | 7,258.95 | 5,080,946.23 | 164.77 | 115,404.78 | 7,423.72 | 5,196,351.01 |
| 2017-18 | 5,866.37 | 3,779,668.44 | 79.21 | 51,053.33 | 5,945.58 | 3,830,721.77 |
| 2016-17 | 5,512.06 | 3,696,429.07 | 62.22 | 41,615.42 | 5,574.28 | 3,738,044.49 |
| 2015-16 | 5,701.81 | 3,715,029.41 | 130.66 | 85,177.63 | 5,832.47 | 3,800,207.00 |
| 2014-15 | 11,729.89 | 7,158,579.90 | 258.07 | 158,004.43 | 11,987.96 | 7,316,585.00 |

Source: Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCIS) Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India and Export Import Data Bank, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry. Venezuela has not published any official data in respect of trade after 2014.

ii. Top 10 items of Venezuelan Imports from India

(US\$ million)

| S.N. | Exports | 2016-17 | 2017-18 | 2018-19 | 2019-20 | 2020-21 |
|------|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1 | Mineral fuels and mineral oils | 0.03 | - | 83.45 | 263.12 | 461.64 |
| 2 | Pharmaceutical Products | 24.55 | 54.48 | 62.13 | 38.79 | 51.71 |
| 3 | Cereals (Rice) | - | 0.09 | 0.03 | 8.05 | 16.27 |
| 4 | Cotton | 3.11 | 1.56 | 2.46 | 6.42 | 8.11 |
| 5 | Organic Chemicals | 1.75 | 1.75 | 1.98 | 1.47 | 2.14 |
| 6 | Paper and paperboard | 0.66 | 0.52 | 0.96 | 0.90 | 1.82 |
| 7 | Iron and steel | 0.86 | 0.01 | 0.23 | 0.07 | 1.58 |
| 8 | Nuclear Reactors, Boilers, Machinery and Mechanical Appliances | 11.01 | 5.58 | 3.41 | 3.42 | 1.28 |
| 9 | Miscellaneous chemical products | 0.81 | 2.88 | 1.20 | 1.97 | 1.21 |
| 10 | Plastics and articles thereof | 0.21 | 0.62 | 0.54 | 0.54 | 1.04 |

Source: Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCIS) Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India and Export Import Data Bank, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry.

iii. Top 10 items of Venezuelan Imports from the World

(US\$ million)

| S.N. | Commodity | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
|------|--|----------|----------|--------|--------|
| 1 | Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation | 2,026.32 | 4,579.99 | 965.35 | 940.50 |
| 2 | Cereals | 792.06 | 897.60 | 554.66 | 672.68 |
| 3 | Machinery and mechanical appliances | 1,479.55 | 877.15 | 519.90 | 642.84 |
| 4 | Electrical machinery, equipment and parts | 608.54 | 440.62 | 396.70 | 536.87 |
| 5 | Vehicles, parts and accessories | 371.96 | 207.14 | 192.89 | 268.17 |
| 6 | Preparations of cereals, flour, starch or milk | 204.70 | 110.24 | 161.35 | 239.37 |
| 7 | Plastics and articles thereof | 196.56 | 179.93 | 147.54 | 195.78 |
| 8 | Sugars and sugar confectionery | 179.35 | 195.25 | 84.46 | 193.71 |
| 9 | Pharmaceutical products | 1,292.04 | 356.41 | 194.34 | 154.75 |
| 10 | Rubber and articles thereof | 147.74 | 150.39 | 197.36 | 114.34 |

Source: International Trade Centre (ICT) – Trade Map (calendar year).

iv. Top 10 items of Venezuelan Exports to India

(US\$ million)

| S.N. | Imports | 2016-17 | 2017-18 | 2018-19 | 2019-20 | 2020-21 |
|------|--|----------|----------|----------|----------|---------|
| 1 | Mineral Fuels and Oils | 5,505.88 | 5,859.40 | 7,248.15 | 6,029.57 | 643.93 |
| 2 | Organic chemicals | 0.00 | - | 0.03 | 0.04 | 34.70 |
| 3 | Iron and Steel | - | 0.08 | 1.54 | 7.10 | 18.00 |
| 4 | Copper and articles thereof | - | - | - | 5.22 | 5.23 |
| 5 | Lead and Articles thereof | 0.45 | 1.67 | 0.74 | 2.79 | 4.82 |
| 6 | Articles of Iron or Steel | 0.02 | - | 0.00 | 0.03 | 2.54 |
| 7 | Aluminium and Articles thereof | 3.52 | 2.22 | 5.49 | 5.54 | 1.53 |
| 8 | Edible vegetables and certain roots and tubers | 0.21 | 0.37 | - | 3.90 | 1.49 |
| 9 | Wood and Articles thereof | 0.11 | 0.84 | 0.86 | 0.45 | 0.67 |
| 10 | Electrical Machinery | 0.00 | 0.01 | 0.07 | 0.47 | 0.46 |

Source: Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCIS) Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India and Export Import Data Bank, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry.

v. Top 10 items of Venezuelan exports to the World

(US\$ million)

| S.N. | Commodity | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
|------|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| 1 | Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation | 28,246.42 | 29,981.84 | 14,820.06 | 3,280.65 |
| 2 | Iron and steel | 356.80 | 251.39 | 238.41 | 426.95 |
| 3 | Organic chemicals | 534.23 | 561.66 | 404.78 | 241.82 |
| 4 | Fish and crustaceans | 154.10 | 163.94 | 236.68 | 235.95 |
| 5 | Ores, slag and ash | 339.28 | 219.03 | 111.00 | 90.96 |
| 6 | Beverages, spirits and vinegar | 63,92 | 73,14 | 76.08 | 67.27 |
| 7 | Copper and articles thereof | 61.07 | 73.94 | 55.99 | 51.36 |
| 8 | Aluminium and articles thereof | 332.26 | 229.15 | 78.12 | 49.29 |
| 9 | Fertilizers | 186,68 | 79,22 | 0,42 | 45,93 |
| 10 | Preparations of meat, of fish or of crustaceans, molluscs or other aquatic invertebrates | 128.70 | 80.69 | 53.62 | 44.82 |

Source: International Trade Centre (ICT) – Trade Map (calendar year).

vi. GDP Growth %

| Year | First quarter | Second quarter | Third quarter | Fourth quarter | Total |
|------|---------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|--------|
| 2014 | -5.2% | -5.4% | -2.7% | -2.6% | -3.9% |
| 2015 | -1.4% | -4.8% | -7.4% | -10.2% | -5.9% |
| 2016 | -13.4% | -17.6% | -19.0% | -17.9% | -17.0% |
| 2017 | -12.2% | -15.6% | -15.8% | -18.9% | -15.7% |
| 2018 | -18.1% | -17.6% | -22.5% | - | - |
| 2019 | -26.8% | - | - | - | - |
| 2020 | - | - | - | - | - |

Source: Central Bank of Venezuela.

2. Trade queries for import/Exports

| No. | Name of trader | IE Code | Product |
|-----|--|--------------|---|
| 1 | Orsa Overseas | Not provided | Cotton products |
| 2 | RS Surgipharm | Not provided | Pharmaceutical Products |
| 3 | Amaryllis Healthcare Pvt..Ltd. | Not provided | Medical disposable protective clothing & surgical drapes |
| 4 | EXPORTICO LLP. | Not provided | Cotton yarn |
| 5 | Swati Spentose Pvt. Ltd. (SSPL) | Not provided | Pharma Importers. Pentosan Polysulfate Sodium |
| 6 | RIV TRADES | Not provided | Towels |
| 7 | Bhaskar Exports | Not provided | T-Shirts |
| 8 | CEO SUPLIMEDIC, C.A. (Venezuela) | N/a | Pharmaceutical Products |
| 9 | Ijaro International | Not provided | Ceramic Tiles |
| 10 | AXA PARENTERLS LTD | Not provided | Pharmaceutical Products |
| 11 | Stonix Ceramic LLP | AEIFS4300R | Ceramic tiles and agricultural products |
| 12 | Joinhub Pharma | Not provided | Pharmaceutical Products |
| 13 | Sojmay Impex | AEIFS6181A | Motor vehicle parts |
| 14 | Peptech Biosciences Ltd. | Not provided | Pharmaceutical Products |
| 15 | Vinayaka Import Exports India | Not provided | Agricultural Products |
| 16 | Royal Enfield | Not provided | Motorcycles |
| 17 | Koyo Granito | Not provided | Polish porcelain tiles and soluble salt tiles |
| 18 | Zebra Water Solutions | Not provided | Water treatment plants and spare parts |
| 19 | AACC IMPORT C.A. | Not provided | Activated Carbon |
| 20 | Arham Agro Exports | Not provided | Vegetables, Fruits, Rice (Basmati, Non - Basmati), Spices, Pulses, Grains & Cereals |
| 21 | Exponus Exports | Not provided | Farming Implements and Small Mechanisation Equipments |
| 22 | Genesis Service | Not provided | T-Shirts |
| 23 | BHAGYALAKSHMI EXPORTS | Not provided | Handmade Crochet Lace Of Handicrafts Exports (Home Textiles) and Garments |
| 24 | Navkar International | Not provided | Porcelain and Ceramic Tiles |
| 25 | New Kamath Tobacco Company Pvt Limited | Not provided | Tobacco |
| 26 | Logimex International | Not provided | Agro-food and handicraft items |
| 27 | Solutions Unlimited. | Not provided | Stones (Marbles, Granites, Sandstone and Slates) |

| | | | |
|----|---|--------------|--|
| 28 | Narula Udyog (India) Pvt. Ltd. | Not provided | Wheelchairs |
| 29 | Moda Foresto | Not provided | Knit & woven apparels, Leather apparels, Leather footwear, Home textile, Fashion accessories, Handicrafts, Other leather goods |
| 30 | Sheela Organics Pvt. Ltd. | Not provided | Stationery Items like Pencils, Wax Crayons, Oil Pastels, Sharpners, Erasers, Mathematical Instruments, etc |
| 31 | BHASKAR EXPORTS | Not provided | Rice |
| 32 | RAGHAV ENTERPRISES | Not provided | Textile products |
| 33 | GHS Fasteners | Not provided | Industrial fasteners |
| 34 | NILMAX EXIM | Not provided | Jaggery |
| 35 | VESTURE CLOTHING | Not provided | Readymade Garments of both Men & Women |
| 36 | Swago, India | Not provided | Rice |
| 37 | Bruck Pharma Pvt Ltd. | Not provided | Oncology products |
| 38 | OM EXPORTS | Not provided | Agri Commodities products |
| 39 | Vikrma Impex Pvt Ltd | Not provided | Tea |
| 40 | Markcelore Impex International Pvt. Ltd. | Not provided | Rice, Wheat, Tea, Coffee, Cereals & Pulses, Fruit, and Vegetables |

3. Commercial and Economic News:

INDIA - VENEZUELA

OVL seeks waiver of US sanctions on Venezuela to recover dividends:

According to media reports, ONGC Videsh has approached the US Government for a waiver from US sanctions on Venezuela so that the company can recover its dividends of more than US\$ 400 million stuck for years in Venezuela. ONGC has investments in two Venezuelan oil fields - Sancristobal and Carabobo-1 - but has been unable to receive its share of income for years, first due to enduring financial troubles in the Latin American country and then the imposition of the US sanctions that blocked oil trade and payment channels. Out of the US\$ 594 million of declared dividends from the Venezuelan oil fields, US\$ 56 million was received on time and US\$ 538 million remained outstanding until 2015. Following long-drawn negotiations, Venezuela permitted ONGC Videsh (OVL) to take oil in lieu of the dividend, which helped the company recover US\$ 125 million but the

balance was again stuck after the US sanctions came into force in January 2019. A total of US\$ 413 million remain outstanding to date. If the waiver is granted, the dividend will likely come in the form of oil shipments, which ONGC can sell on the market to realize its dues. [Read more.](#)

Embassy of India held a commercial event in Caracas:

On 27 October 2021, the Embassy of India in Caracas held an event for the promotion of bilateral trade and tourism with Venezuela. The event was graced with the presence of Vice Minister for Asia, Middle East and Oceania, Mrs. Capaya Rodríguez, Vice Minister for Industrial Development, Mr. José Gregorio Biomorgi and Director of APEDA Dr. Tarun Bajaj on a virtual platform. The event had four sessions in the areas of food and agriculture, pharmaceuticals, oil and gas, and tourism.

OTHER NEWS

Venezuela debuts new currency to tackle hyperinflation:

A new currency with six fewer zeros debuted on 01 October 2021 in Venezuela, whose currency has been made nearly worthless by years of the world's worst inflation. The highest denomination was a 1 million bolivar bill that was worth a little less than US\$ 0.25 as of 30 September 2021. The new currency tops out at 100 bolivars, a little less than US\$ 25. The million-to-1 change for the bolivar is intended to ease both cash transactions and bookkeeping calculations in

bolivars that now require juggling almost endless strings of zeros. [Read more.](#)

Venezuela reaches 40% vaccination rate:

President of Venezuela, Nicolás Maduro Moros announced that by the end of October Venezuela will reach the goal of 70% vaccination against COVID-19, in order to start classes and prepare for the continuous weeks of flexibilization in the last two months of the year. "In Venezuela we have reached 40% vaccination; in two weeks, 55%, and in

the last week of October we should reach 70%", the President said. [Read more.](#)

Iran and Venezuela strike oil swap deal in the face of US sanctions: According to media reports, Iran and Venezuela have struck a deal to swap heavy Venezuelan crude for Iranian condensate. According to these sources, the swaps are set to begin in early October and last for six months, although they could be extended. The imports of Iranian superlight crude will help Venezuela revive its falling oil exports amid US sanctions that, among other problems, have cut off the country's access to the light oil that is used to blend with its superheavy to make it exportable. For Iran, the deal would reportedly bring in heavy crude it could sell in Asia. The diluted Venezuela crude will also likely go to Asian buyers. [Read more.](#)

Extreme poverty in Venezuela rises to 76.6%: The 2020-2021 National Survey of Living Conditions (ENCOVI), conducted by researchers at Andres Bello Catholic University (UCAB), found that of the country's 28 million residents, 76.6% live in extreme poverty, up from 67.7% last year. The report attributed the rise to both the COVID-19 pandemic and chronic fuel shortages, which at least 20% of respondents said that they could not put gasoline in their cars, a major obstacle to employment. The ENCOVI study was created in 2014 to make up for the absence of official data, according to Pedro Luis Espana, a UCAB sociologist who contributed to the study. [Read more.](#)

Venezuela to Begin Production of Abdala Vaccine in January 2022: The President of Venezuela, Nicolás Maduro, announced on 21 October 2021 that as of January 2022, the South American country would begin producing the Abdala vaccine in cooperation

with Cuba to continue fighting the Covid-19 pandemic. "As of January 2022, Venezuela will start production of the Abdala vaccine in cooperation with the Republic of Cuba (...) its production will be carried out in a public plant and the production projection is in the planning phase", announced the President. The Head of State affirmed that as a result of the cooperation agreements with Cuba and sister nations, Venezuela has managed to vaccinate 56% of its population, "by 31 October we must reach the goal of 70% of those vaccinated against Covid-19", he added. [Read more.](#)

Iranian supertanker departing from Venezuela to transport heavy oil: According to media reports, an Iran-flagged supertanker on 16 October 2021 was about to set sail from Venezuelan waters carrying 2 million barrels of heavy crude provided by state-run oil firm PDVSA. The shipment is reportedly part of a deal agreed by PDVSA and its counterpart National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) that exchanges Iranian condensate for Venezuela's Merey crude. The swaps aim to ease an acute shortage of diluents that has cut Venezuela's oil output and exports. Dino I, a very large crude carrier (VLCC) owned and operated by NIOC's National Iranian Tanker Company (NITC), finished loading the Venezuelan oil at PDVSA's Jose port late 15 October 2021. [Read more.](#)

Russia to set up an insulin plant in Venezuela: On 16 October 2021, the Minister of People's Power for Industries and National Production, Mr. Jorge Arreaza, informed via Twitter that the Russian company Geropharm, would set up a plant for the production of insulin in cooperation with Venezuela. [Read more.](#)

Venezuela further extends restriction of international flights for 30 days: The National Institute for Civil Aeronautics (INAC), informed that the air routes in Venezuela would remain non-operational for 30 additional days counting from 18 October 2021. However, the only commercial international flights authorized are: Panama, Mexico, Turkey, Dominican Republic, Bolivia and Russia. [Read more.](#)

Tariffs waived for 33 HS Codes to increase pharmaceutical production: On 19 October 2021, the Executive Vice President of Venezuela, Ms. Delcy Rodríguez, announced that the tariffs for 33 HS codes related to raw materials for the production of pharmaceuticals have been waived. “The President continues to promote for the national private and public sector, public and private industries, that as a one body, we continue to produce to guarantee supply and happiness for our people”, the Vice President said. [Read more.](#)

Venezuela raises gas prices by 20-fold to 10 cents of Dollar per gallon: Venezuela’s government will impose a 20-fold increase in subsidized gasoline prices starting on 24 October 2021, according to a statement from state oil company PDVSA. The rise in subsidized fuel prices “is a necessity” due to the “re-denomination” of the local currency, PDVSA said. Even with the jump in prices, PDVSA’s subsidized fuel is still among the cheapest in the world. The increase would bring fuel prices to 2.3 cents per liter or 10 cents per gallon, a fraction of what it costs at gas pumps in most countries. It’s currently at 0.1 cent per liter or 0.5 cents per gallon. Venezuela has a dual-pricing system, with one subsidized amount and a separate “international” price of 50 cents per liter. [Read more.](#)

President Maduro expects the non-oil exports may surpass oil exports by 2024: On 27 October 2021, the President of Venezuela, H.E. Mr. Nicolás Maduro Moros, propose to reverse the sources of income of the country by creating a strategy for the economy and trade to make the non-oil exports surpass the oil exports by 2024. “In 2022, 2023 and 2024, Venezuela’s diversified exporting sector may grow and should generate larger incomes than the oil sector” the President said. [Read more.](#)

Venezuela announced upcoming international tourism fair for December: The Minister of People’s Power for Tourism, Mr. Alí Padrón informed that Venezuela would host the International Tourism Fair (FITVEN), from 14-16 December 2021, in Caracas. The Minister informed that the Minister of Tourism of South Africa has confirmed participation. [Read more.](#)

Plant for Kalashnikov AK-103 production to start working in Venezuela by end of 2022: According to media reports, A plant to produce Kalashnikov AK-103 assault rifles is planned to start working in Venezuela by the end of 2022, CEO of Russia’s Rosoboronexport state arms seller Alexander Mikheyev told press in the run-up to the SITDEF 2021 international defense technology show in Peru: “There are plans to complete the construction and commission the plant by the end of 2022 if nothing beyond our control happens”. According to Mikheyev, Rosoboronexport and Russian contractors have carried out active work in 2021 to build and equip the plant, which was repeatedly noted by the Venezuelan side. [Read more.](#)

Another Iranian condensate cargo to begin unloading in Venezuela: According to media reports, a 2.1 million-barrel cargo of Iranian

condensate, reportedly discharged its cargo on 27 October 2021 at a PDVSA port. PDVSA and National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC), last month agreed to a contract, in effect for six months in its first phase, to exchange Iranian condensate for Venezuelan heavy crude. [Read more.](#)

Russia to receive a shipment of 5,000 kgs of avocados from Venezuela: According to media reports, the Venezuelan company based in Yaracuy, Casa Fresca, exported 5,000 kgs of avocados to Russia. The deal was reached through the Russian-Venezuelan Chamber. During the next few months, it is expected that around 10,000 kgs of avocado and papaya would be exported to Russia. [Read more.](#)

Venezuela exported non-ferrous materials to Greece, South Korea and US: Around 216 tons of non-ferrous materials were exported from Lara State to Greece, South Korea and the United States. The export was made by the Scrap World Trading. [Read more.](#)