

Embassy of India
Tallinn

MONTHLY ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2025

A. Trade in goods

a) Total trade in goods during:

0 1 2 0 2 5

	Export to India (Euros in million) January -2025	Import from India (Euros in million) January-2025	Status (P) Provisional/(F) Final
Country's trade with India	7.12	4.52	F
Country's total global trade	1507	1838	F

Sources: **Statistics Estonia**

b) Preferential trade in goods during (2025): **N.A.**

0 1 2 0 2 5

S. No.	Preferential / Free Trade Agreement with India	Preferential Imports from India (US\$ million)	Preferential Imports from World (US\$ million)
N.A.			

S. No.	Preferential / Free Trade Agreement with India	Preferential Exports to India (US\$ million)	Preferential Exports to World (US\$ million)
N.A.			

(Sources: **Ministry of Commerce & Industry**)

c) Top 10 items of **import** from India during: January 2025

0 1 2 0 2 5

S. No.	6-digit HS Code	Commodity	Quantity (In KG)	Value (Euros in thousand)
1	282590	Bases, inorganic, and metal oxides, hydroxides and peroxides	6,000	300
2	380210	Activated carbon	149,100	286
3	330190	Oleoresins, essential oil concentrates in fats/oils/waxes, terpenic by-products, and aromatic aqueous distillates/solutions	11,397	283
4	300490	Medicaments consisting of mixed or unmixed products for therapeutic or prophylactic purposes	628	244
5	290499	Sulphonated, nitrated or nitrosated derivatives of hydrocarbons, whether or not halogenated	96	235
6	732690	Articles of iron or steel	17,009	196
7	732599	Cast articles of iron or steel	109,447	148
8	761699	Articles of aluminium	10,906	128
9	853890	Parts suitable for use solely or principally with the apparatus of heading 8535, 8536 or 8537	1,901	124
10	902139	Artificial parts of the body	57	118

(Source: **Statistics Estonia**)

d) Top 10 items of **export** to India during: January 2025

0	1	2	0	2	5
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Sr. No.	6-digit HS Code	Commodity	Quantity (In KG)	Value (Euros in thousand)
1	470500	Wood pulp	7,660,474	3,439
2	853710	Boards, cabinets and similar combinations of apparatus for electric control or the distribution of electricity, for a voltage <= 1.000 V	6,791	832

3	853090	Parts of electrical signalling, safety or traffic control equipment	3,079	373
4	720430	Waste and scrap of tinned iron or steel	663,940	213
5	720441	Turnings, shavings, chips, milling waste, sawdust, filings, trimmings and stampings of iron or steel, whether or not in bundles	529,970	173
6	350400	Peptones and their derivatives; other protein substances and their derivatives, n.e.s.; hide powder, whether or not chromed	16,000	150
7	392690	Articles of plastics and articles of other materials of heading 3901 to 3914, n.e.s	12,982	150
8	040690	Cheese	19,621	146
9	903090	Parts and accessories for instruments and apparatus for measuring or checking electrical quantities or for detecting ionising radiations	938	141
10	842121	Machinery and apparatus for filtering or purifying water	148	110

(Source: **Statistics Estonia**)

e) Potential products of export from India

Sr. No.	Commodity (6 digit HS tariff line)	Rationale
1.	Medium oils and preparations, of petroleum or bituminous minerals, not containing biodiesel (271019)	Total Value of Imports in January 2025: € 62M Value Exported from India to Estonia: €0
2.	Motor cars and other motor vehicles principally designed for the transport of <10 persons (870340)	Total Value of Imports in January 2025: € 18M Value Exported from India to Estonia: €0
3.	Light oils and preparations, of petroleum or bituminous minerals (271012)	Total Value of Imports in January 2025: € 18M Value Exported from India to Estonia: €0

4.	Motor vehicles for the transport of goods (870421)	Total Value of Imports in January 2025: € 15M Value Exported from India to Estonia: €0
5.	Gold, incl. gold plated with platinum (710812)	Total Value of Imports in January 2025: € 13M Value Exported from India to Estonia: €0
6.	Reception apparatus for television (852872)	Total Value of Imports in January 2025: € 6M Value Exported from India to Estonia: €0

B. **QUALITATIVE**

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1. **Market Access Alerts** (attach copy of notification): **N.A.**

a) Alerts on customs tariff changes: -

Sr. No.	Notification no. and date	HS code	Description	Original customs tariff	Present customs tariff	Effective from	Remarks if any

Information not available at the host country.

b) Alerts on non-tariff measures (SPS/TBT/ import and export procedures/ restrictions/ prohibitions, licensing/ STEs etc.)

Sr. No	Notification no./ date	Measure	HS Codes	Effective from	Remarks if any
-	-	-	-	-	-

c) Alerts on standards, technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures:

Sr. No	Notification no./ date	Standard/ technical regulation/ conformity assessment procedure	HS Codes	Effective from	Remarks if any
-	-	-	-	-	-

- d) Alerts on trade defense measures taken by respective country:(Safeguards including special safeguard, antidumping, CVD or anti-subsidy)

Sr. No.	Notification no., date or other references	Type (initiation, final, prov., sunset, consultations, new shipper review)	Details of products/ sectors affected (including HS codes)	Effective from	Remarks, if any
-	-	-	-	-	-

(Source: N/A)

- e) Alert on services, regulatory regime, qualification requirement, licensing procedures, visa regime, barriers etc.

Sr. No.	Notification no., and date or other references	Service sectors affected	Modes	Effective from	Remarks if any

Information not available at the host country.

2. Feedback

- a) Feedback from major Indian industries/other commercial concerns and Indian trade visitors to that country.

Sr. No.	Organization	Date	General Feedback
1.	European Union Enlargement Conference 2025	19 February, 2025	Ambassador of India Sh. Ajaneesh Kumar visited the European Union Enlargement Conference 2025: "Renewed Impetus?". The conference, organized by the International Centre for Defence and Security (ICDS) in Tallinn, gathered key policymakers, diplomats, and experts to discuss the future of EU enlargement, security implications, and economic integration. High-level speakers included H.E. Mr. Margus Tsahkna,

		Minister of Foreign Affairs of Estonia. Key discussions focused on sustaining momentum in the EU accession process for candidate countries, the security implications of enlargement in light of Russia's ongoing aggression against Ukraine, economic integration and transitional measures, countering enlargement fatigue among EU citizens and candidate countries, and geopolitical dynamics in the Black Sea region, including maritime security and the EU's strategic role in ensuring freedom of navigation. The conference concluded with remarks on the importance of continued engagement and cooperation in shaping the EU's future enlargement policies.
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b) Feedback on major trade activities **including logistic events** (trade fairs/BSM including Indian participation)

Sr. No.	Activity (trade fair, BSM etc.)	Date and venue	Feedback received
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c) Feedback from local commercial visitors to trade fairs in India, including under BSM; number of Business Visas issued:

Sr. No.	Activity (trade fair)	Date and venue	Number of participants from the relevant country	List of large/ key participants from the relevant country	Number of Business Visas issued (visa services are handled by EoI Helsinki)	Feedback received
-	-	-	-	-	-	-

d) Trade Queries for Imports/ Exports (if not uploaded on the Indian trade portal) (**Source: Mission**)

S. No.	Enquiry Originator & Company Name	Product	Nature (Import/ Export)	Action Taken
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1.	Mr M.S.Z.Abbasi, IndiaFeast Millers Pvt Ltd	Rice	Export	Responded with a list of importers
2.	Mr Aaryan, Ramirro Ceramica LLP	Tiles	Export	Responded with a list of importers
3.	Mr Yash Varachhiya, Yash Tradelink	Psyllium Husk	Export	Responded with a list of importers
4.	Mr Pratyush Sahu, Liberty Exports	Food Products	Export	Responded with a list of importers
5.	Mr Anand Mishra, Carpet Rug Creations	Carpets and Rugs	Export	Responded with a list of importers
6.	Mr Akash Kaushik, Earthy Fusion Pvt Ltd	Indian Agro Commodities	Export	Responded with a list of importers
7.	Mr Vaibhav Jain	Agricultural Products	Export	Responded with a list of importers
8.	Ms Alka Gupta	Rice	Export	Responded with a list of importers
9.	Affinity Global Trade	Agarbatti	Export	Responded with a list of importers
10.	Mr Akash Chauhan, New Swastik Rope Industries	Ropes	Export	Responded with a list of importers
11.	Ms Heena Shaikh, HMS Export	Trolley Bags	Export	Responded with a list of importers
12.	Mr Atul Bahl, Creative Overseas	Mats and Carpets	Export	Responded with a list of importers
13.	Mr Akhil S, Solve Plastic Products Ltd	PVC Electrical Conduits and Water Pipes	Export	Responded with a list of importers
14.	Ms Swayamprabha Mahapatra	Wooden Packing Boxes and Corrugated Boxes	Export	Responded with a list of importers
15.	Mr Niral Gamit, Nirsky Exports	Carpets	Export	Responded with a list of importers
16.	Ms Maitri Mehta, Shalibhadra Export Ventures	Wheat	Export	Responded with a list of importers

17.	Mr Om Desraje, D Trading	Mobile Screen Protectors	Export	Responded with a list of importers
18.	Mr Baldev Kumar, Owls Way Ever Solution	Jewellery	Export	Responded with a list of importers
19.	Mr Moksh Jain, Arihant Exports	Ginger	Export	Responded with a list of importers
20.	Ms Deepa Agalduty, Aaruudra Exim Pvt Ltd	Basmati Rice	Export	Responded with a list of importers
21.	Ms Meadha Batra, AK Global Exporters	Jute Rugs & Carpets and Jute Bags	Export	Responded with a list of importers
22.	Mr Bharat Jadav, India Exim	Cumin Seeds	Export	Responded with a list of importers
23.	Mr Vatsal Vasoya, Balaji Export	Furniture Handles	Export	Responded with a list of importers
24.	Ms Shilpa Saini, hreads and Thistle	Linen	Export	Responded with a list of importers
25.	Mr Deepak Gupta, Marmara Stones Export Pvt Ltd	Granite and Natural Stones	Export	Responded with a list of importers
26.	Mr Salman K, Exago Valves & Fittings	Valves and Fittings	Export	Responded with a list of importers
27.	Mr Arnab Maitra, Plutus	Imitation Jewellery, Artificial Flower, Human Hair Products, Umbrella	Export	Responded with a list of importers
28.	Mr Divyanshu, Glocal Impex	Leather Products	Export	Responded with a list of importers
29.	Ms Srishty Jain, Manoj Garments	T-shirts	Export	Responded with a list of importers
30.	Mr Aryan Kathuria, Bijon Exports	Parboiled Rice	Export	Responded with a list of importers
31.	Ms Gayatri Bakshi, Gayatri Exports Enterprises	Carpets	Export	Responded with a list of importers

32.	Ms Shreya Mittal, Sushil Enterprises Pvt Ltd	Paper Products	Export	Responded with a list of importers
33.	Mr Jagat Singh, JJagSimP Exim	Coffee	Export	Responded with a list of importers
34.	Ms Smriti Sharma, Miraansh Exports	Ginger	Export	Responded with a list of importers
35.	Mr Moksh Jain, Arihant Exports	Coffee	Export	Responded with a list of importers
36.	Maharaj Trading	Casserole	Export	Responded with a list of importers
37.	Ekaa Harvvest	Chickpeas	Export	Responded with a list of importers
38.	Purestone Jeweller Pvt Ltd	Diamond	Export	Responded with a list of importers
39.	Mr Rakesh Kumar Angural, Sewa Sandhya Traders	Dry Red Chili, Red Chili Powder and Green Chili Powder	Export	Responded with a list of importers
40.	Mr Ronak Bothra, M&G Pinnacle	Seeds of Cumin	Export	Responded with a list of importers
41.	Mr Ronak Bothra, M&G Pinnacle	Seeds of Coffee & Tea	Export	Responded with a list of importers
42.	Mr Roank Jain, Mondomarkets	Marble Décor	Export	Responded with a list of importers
43.	Mr Shaik Baji, Green Life Foods	G9 Raw Banana Powder	Export	Responded with a list of importers
44.	Mr Karan Kumar, Avanzo Equipments	Material Testing Machines	Export	Responded with a list of importers
45.	Mr Ashish Jagani, Rajlaxmi Synthetics	Jute Hand Bags/Shopping Bags	Export	Responded with a list of importers
46.	Mr Kailash Chandra, Yatrik Arts Furniture Pvt Ltd	Furniture	Export	Responded with a list of importers
47.	Mr Ranjeet Maurya and Mr Shubh Agrawal, Nexus Fittings	Hardware	Export	Responded with a list of importers

48.	Mr JPR Reddy, Trivento trade LLP	Food Products, Fasteners, Surgical Products, Biodegradable Products	Export	Responded with a list of importers
49.	Mr Amarnath Reddy, ADL Exim	Wires & Cables	Export	Responded with a list of importers
50.	Ms Jyoti Ghosh and Ms Sonia Ray Bhattacharyya, MyEthnix	Clothes	Export	Responded with a list of importers
51.	Mr Deep Hapani, DBH International	Stainless Steel Wire, Non-Woven Material	Export	Responded with a list of importers
52.	Mr Aakash Kadam, Port 2 Port Exports	Paper Straws	Export	Responded with a list of importers
53.	Mr Vikrant Mehta, Sahyadri Honey Hut	Honey	Export	Responded with a list of importers

e) Trade queries from Estonia

Sr. No.	Enquiry originator & Company Name	Product	Nature (Import/Export)	Action Taken
NIL				

4. Important India related statements of commercial significance by political leaders, think tanks, chambers, associations etc. / Significant stories/features on India related trade, investment, services and logistic sector, published in foreign journals/dailies, etc.:

- **Estonia drops 8 places in Global Soft Power Index:** Estonia dropped eight places to 65th in the Global Soft Power Index, with the decline linked to Russia's inclusion in the ranking's panel. Despite challenges in global recognition (128th), Estonia improved in international relations (45th) and overall reputation (63rd). The country remains strongest in sustainability (28th) and education (29th), with media reliability as its top reputation driver (22nd). Estonia's diplomatic influence and leader recognition improved significantly, rising 12 and 16 places, respectively. The inclusion of Russian perspectives impacted rankings, benefiting Belarus and Armenia. Among Baltic neighbors, Latvia fell to 76th, and Lithuania dropped to 70th. The index evaluates 193 countries across eight categories, including business, governance, and culture.
- **The construction sector declined by 6% in 2024:** According to the Statistics Department, construction volumes in Estonia decreased by 6% in 2024. Compared to 2023, 9% fewer buildings and 2% fewer structures were built. The construction sector's turnover reached

€3.9 billion, with €2.4 billion from buildings and €1.5 billion from structures (roads, bridges, ports, pipelines, power lines, etc.). While the local market declined by 7%, exports grew by 5%. Housing delivery dropped by a third, with 5,815 new residential permits issued—almost 30% less than in 2023. Housing construction permits also fell by 10% to 4,973. The Statistics Department noted that construction volumes have been declining for three consecutive years, with building construction shrinking since Q2 2022 and structural construction since late 2024.

- **Estonia's gender pay gap:** In 2024, Estonian women must work 33 additional days to earn the same average salary as men, with the gender pay gap at 13.1%, the largest in Europe. While the gap has shrunk by 47% over the past decade, gender stereotypes continue to limit career choices, leadership opportunities, and wage equality. Women are more concentrated in lower-paid sectors like education and care, while men dominate higher-paying industries and leadership roles. This wage disparity also affects financial independence, parental benefits, and pensions. Estonia will implement an EU pay transparency directive in June 2026, requiring employers to disclose salary ranges in job postings or interviews to strengthen workers' negotiation power. 95% of Estonian wage earners support this move toward greater salary transparency.
- **Estonian startups hit €3.9B revenue mark as DeepTech takes centre stage:** Estonia's startup ecosystem employed 14,396 people in 2024, a 1.4% decrease from 2023, with every 38th worker in the country linked to startups. Employment taxes grew by 4.3% to €366.9M, while turnover reached €3.9B, a 14.7% increase. Investment in startups fell 23% to €326.6M, the lowest in five years, with 57 deals closed. The largest investments went to Starship Technologies (€90M), Stargate Hydrogen (€42M), and Elcogen (€30M). DeepTech accounted for 63% of startup investments, generating €325M in turnover (+19.3%), paying €58M in taxes (16% of sector total), and employing 2,439 people (17% of the sector workforce). Top 10 employers, led by Wise (2,006 employees) and Bolt (1,329 employees), provided 45% of all startup jobs, with an average gross salary of €3,650, double the national average. The workforce is 37.6% women, 62.4% men, with 31% foreign employees and 67% holding higher education degrees. Women make up 16% of startup founders, though 77% of them have higher education, compared to 55% of male founders. Estonia's innovation ranking improved by 27 points (2017-2024), placing it in the "Strong Innovators" category.
- **The European Union has fined Estonia 400,000 euros:** On 23 January 2025, the European Court of Justice (ECJ) fined Estonia 400,000 euros for failing to transpose the ECN+ Directive into national law by the required deadline. The European Commission initiated infringement proceedings under Article 258 TFEU, arguing that Estonia's delay undermined the directive's implementation. The Commission initially proposed a daily fine of 600 euros based on the severity and duration of non-compliance, while Estonia requested a reduction. The ECJ ruled that Estonia's existing competition law was partially compliant, justifying a lower fine and reducing the penalty to 400,000 euros. Additionally, the Court imposed a penalty payment of 3,000 euros per day until Estonia fully transposes the directive, ensuring compliance with EU competition enforcement standards.
- **Electricity prices remain high in Estonia due to minimal wind:** In February 2025, electricity in Estonia was twice as expensive as in February 2024, with an average price of €150.3 per MWh compared to €75.5 per MWh in 2024. The price surge is attributed to low

wind power generation, higher gas prices (up 35% year-on-year), and the introduction of the reserve capacity market. The cost of CO₂ emissions also increased from €60 to €70 per tonne. Transmission constraints, including the non-operation of EstLink 2 and reduced Lithuania-Poland interconnection capacity, further contributed to high prices. Despite the return of some reserve transmission capacity to the market, it has not significantly impacted prices. Meanwhile, electricity consumption dropped significantly on warmer days due to increased solar panel generation and reduced heating demand. While micro-generators contributed to lower daily consumption, overall solar farm yields and temperatures were lower than in 2024, further influencing electricity prices.

- **Retail sales volume up 3% in January:** In January 2025, retail sales in Estonia rose by 3% year-on-year to €804 million, according to the Department of Statistics. Compared to December, turnover fell 21%, a typical post-holiday decline, while seasonally adjusted figures showed only a 1% decrease. Industrial goods stores led the growth, with sales up 6%, driven by mail order and online stores (+15%) and second-hand stores (+10%). Pharmacy and cosmetics sales grew by 6%, while household goods, appliances, and hardware stores saw a 4% increase. In contrast, department store sales dropped by 9%. Motor fuel sales rose by 2%, while grocery store turnover remained unchanged from 2024.
- **2024 Estonian state budget deficit smaller than forecast:** The Estonian government received a preliminary assessment of the 2024 state budget, showing a deficit of 2% instead of the forecasted 3%. The reduction was attributed to higher tax revenues, cost-saving measures, and the postponement of some defense spending to 2025 at the request of an ally. The State Budget Control Committee reviewed both 2024 and 2025 budgets, noting that final results will take months to confirm. Despite budget cuts, overall public spending increased by €155 million, mainly due to inflation, pension indexation, and restored subsidies. While ministries reduced operational expenses, some areas, including the National Audit Office, were exempt from cuts.
- **Estonia's inflation rises to 5% in February:** In February 2025, consumer prices in Estonia rose by 5.04% year-on-year and 1.3% from January, according to Statistics Estonia. This follows 3.9% inflation in January, when Estonia ranked fourth in the eurozone for inflation. The main driver was higher electricity prices, with most goods and services becoming more expensive, except clothing and footwear, which fell by 1.6%. The consumer price index (CPI) tracks domestic consumption, while the harmonized index (HICP) includes tourists for international comparison.
- **Estonia to face a new tax:** The EU is requiring Estonia to introduce an additional tax on fuel and heating under the ETS 2 (Emissions Trading System 2) directive, expanding CO₂ emissions trading to buildings and transport. This will increase heating costs by 17%, gasoline by €0.10/L, and diesel by €0.12/L. While consumers won't directly buy quotas, the cost will be passed on through fuel suppliers and heating companies. Estonia seeks exemptions for sectors like agriculture, defense, and transport, aiming to avoid excessive bureaucracy. The tax is set to take effect in 2028, based on 2027 data, with part of the revenue funding vulnerable groups and building renovations. However, rising energy costs may impact businesses and the overall economy, and some EU countries, like Poland, are pushing for a delay. Estonia's government remains divided, with discussions ongoing about whether to accept or challenge the tax at the EU level.

- Estonia tops Emerging Europe Sustainability Index for the second year running:** Estonia has retained its top position in the Emerging Europe Sustainability Index 2024-25, scoring 75.47 points, ahead of Latvia (70.86) and Lithuania (70.67). The index evaluates 23 countries based on five pillars: People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace, and Partnership. Estonia excelled in Prosperity (87.76 points, leading in infrastructure) and Peace (over 90 points, highest in governance, rule of law, and civil rights). Despite economic challenges, Estonia's digitalization, renewable energy projects, and transparent governance reinforce its sustainability leadership. The report highlights Estonia's success in digital transformation, green energy initiatives, and energy transition effectiveness. Total R&D spending rose to €702M (1.84% of GDP), reflecting strong investment in innovation. Estonia's model of tech-driven sustainable growth and policy collaboration serves as a blueprint for other emerging European economies.
- Statistics: Estonia accommodates 3.6 million tourists in 2024:** In 2024, Estonia's accommodation businesses served 3.6 million tourists, a 5% increase from 2023 but 5% lower than in 2019. Tourists spent 6.65 million nights in accommodation, with 3.67 million nights by foreign tourists and 2.98 million nights by domestic travelers. The number of foreign tourists increased by 11%, while domestic tourism remained stable. In December 2024, 280,000 tourists stayed in Estonia, spending 515,000 nights, with 3% more tourists compared to December 2023. Harju County was the most popular destination, followed by Pärnu, Tartu, Ida-Viru, and Saaremaa.
- Estonia stagnates according to the Corruption Perceptions Index:** In the 2024 Corruption Perceptions Index by Transparency International, Estonia ranks 13th-14th with Uruguay, scoring 76 points—an improvement of 6 points over the past decade, though stable in recent years. The index, based on expert and business perceptions, rates countries from 0 (high corruption) to 100 (low corruption), with over two-thirds scoring below 50. While Estonia's score remains strong, key reforms like amendments to the Political Parties Act and the Whistleblower Protection Act have stalled or underperformed. Transparency International also highlighted the link between corruption and the climate crisis, noting that lack of transparency hampers effective climate action.
- Estonia has the fastest growing real estate prices:** According to Eurostat, from 2010 to Q3 2024, housing prices in Europe increased by an average of 54%, while in Estonia, they surged by 230%, the highest in Europe alongside Hungary. Estonia is followed by Lithuania (+181%) and Latvia (+154%). Estonia also leads in rental price increases, which rose by 216%, followed by Lithuania (+183%) and Ireland (+109%).
- Statistics: Estonia's 2024 unemployment, employment numbers both up on year:** It was reported on 14 February, Estonia's unemployment rate rose to 7.6%, up 1.2% from 2023, while the employment rate reached 68.9%. The average number of unemployed increased by 9,400, totaling 57,100. Unemployment rose across all age groups and both genders, with rates stabilizing at 7.4% in the last two quarters. The number of employed persons grew by 4,000, reaching 698,600, though the employment rate declined by 0.3%. Employment increased among women, particularly those 65+, while the number of employed men slightly decreased. By economic sector, employment rose in agriculture, accommodation, food

services, electrical equipment manufacturing, and motor vehicle sales, while manufacturing, healthcare, and social work saw declines.

5. Complaints from foreign buyer/supplier on quality and trade dispute: (Source: Mission)

Sr. No.	Name of Foreign buyer/supplier	Address & contact details of foreign buyer/supplier	Name & address of Indian exporter/importer	Brief description of complaint	The authority to whom the matter was referred
NIL					

6. Complaints of Indian exporter/importer: (Source: Mission)

Sr. No	Name of Indian exporter/importer	Address & address of foreign buyer/supplier	Brief description of complaint	The authority to whom the matter was referred
NIL				
