

Malaysia's trade surplus hits RM7.6bil in June
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Malaysia recorded a trade surplus of RM7.60 billion in June, making it the 164th consecutive month of trade surplus since November 1997, said International Trade and Industry Minister Mustapa Mohamed.

Exports increased 8.6 per cent to RM57.35 billion during the month under review from RM52.83 billion recorded in June last year, he said in a statement today.

Imports rose 6.3 per cent to RM49.75 billion in June against RM46.61 billion registered a year ago.

Total trade amounted to RM107.11 billion, up 7.5 per cent from a year ago, against RM99.07 billion registered in the same month last year.

On a month-on-month basis, exports in June 2011 increased 4.1 per cent, imports expanded 6.8 per cent and total trade increased 5.3 per cent.

For the second quarter of the year, total trade grew 4.1 per cent to RM313.39 billion compared with the first quarter.

Total exports registered an increase of 2.3 per cent to RM170.24 billion while imports rose 6.4 per cent to RM143.15 billion against the first quarter.

Cumulative trade between January and June increased 7.9 per cent to RM614.35 billion attributed to a 6.6 per cent growth in exports of RM336.60 billion and a 9.6 per cent expansion in imports of RM277.74 billion.

Major export products which contributed to higher offtake in June were electrical and electronics (RM19.63 billion), palm oil (RM5.96 billion), liquefied natural gas (RM3.74 billion), chemical and chemical products (RM3.64 billion), refined petroleum products (RM3.06 billion), crude petroleum (RM3.06 billion), manufactures of metals (RM1.82 billion), machinery, appliances and parts (RM1.76 billion), rubber products (RM1.52 billion), optical and scientific equipment (RM1.50 billion) and others products (RM11.94 billion).

Singapore, China, Japan, the United States of America and Thailand were the top five export destinations, accounting for 50.3 per cent of Malaysia's total exports in June 2011.

Exports to Asean were valued at RM14.67 billion, accounting for 25.6 per cent of Malaysia's total exports, in June 2011.

Meanwhile, among the main import items in June were electrical and electronics valued at RM14.82 billion, chemical and chemical products (RM4.46 billion), refined petroleum products (RM4.03 billion), machinery, appliances and parts (RM3.7 billion), transport equipment (RM3.18 billion) and manufactures of metal (RM2.73 billion).

Singapore, China, Japan, the United States of America and Indonesia accounted for the main sources of import during the month in review.

Total imports from Asean amounted to RM14.49 billion or 29.1 per cent of Malaysia's total imports in June.

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