Selected Economic Indicators

Analysis on External Sector Developments

➢ Foreign Trade

According to preliminary data released by Iran's Customs Administration, the value of exports through Customs (excluding natural gas condensate) amounted to $20.9 billion in the first five months of 1404 (April-August 2025), indicating a decrease of 4.5 percent compared with April-August 2024. Meanwhile, the value of imports through Customs decreased by 12.5 percent to $23.0 billion. Moreover, the weight of exports through Customs (excluding natural gas condensate) increased by 1.4 percent to 61.3 million tons, while that of imports declined by 3.1 percent to 15.2 million tons in April-August 2025 compared with April-August 2024. Accordingly, the price of each ton of exported goods fell by 5.9 percent and that of each ton of imported goods declined by 9.7 percent in April-August 2025 as compared with April-August 2024.

➢ External Debt (Actual Obligations)

The balance of the external debt of the country amounted to $5.3 billion in August 2025, up by 10.0 percent compared with end-Esfand 1403 (March 2025). Out of the total amount of debt, $3.3 billion (61.9 percent) was in the form of short-term debt and $2.0 billion (38.1 percent) was related to medium- and long-term debt. On this basis, the share of the short-term debt out of the total external debt decreased by about 1.7 percentage points in August 2025 as compared with March 2025.

➢ Exchange Rate

In Mordad 1404 (August 2025), each US dollar was exchanged in the unofficial market at an average rate of 915.6 thousand Iranian rials, indicating an increase of 3.9 percent compared with Tir 1404 (July 2025). Meanwhile, the telegraphic transfer (TT) selling rate of each US dollar exchanged in Iran Center for Exchange of Currency and Gold[1] and the rate of each US dollar against the Iranian rial exchanged via Iran Center for Exchange of Currency and Gold rose by respectively 0.5 and 0.7 percent compared with July 2025, amounting to 698.2 thousand rials and 719.1 thousand rials, respectively, in August 2025. The continued conditions of uncertainty as regards the result of the Iran-US nuclear negotiations and the news regarding the possible triggering of the snapback mechanism, along with the imposition of new sanctions by the US on Iran's oil exports, were the most important factors affecting the surge in the exchange rate in the unofficial market in August 2025 compared with July 2025.

[1] www.ice.ir

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Economic Research Department, CBI