

# Iran's Foreign Trade in 1385 (March 2006 – March 2007)

## A. Export

Based on the estimates of I.R.Iran's Customs Department, 33129.2 thousand tons of non-oil goods with an approximate value of 16300.8 million dollars (12735 million euros) has been exported in 1385, representing an increase of 48.2% in tonnage and 47.2% in value. The total non-oil export value during the previous year was 11076.3 million dollars (8653.4 million euros). Of the total non-oil export value, 48.7 million dollars was earned from out-

going passenger and 443.4 million dollars was the share of frontier markets. The average tonnage price of exports in the said period has been 492 dollars which, compared to the 486.2 dollars of the previous year, shows 1.2% increase.

As shown in chart 1, of the total exported groups of goods, petrochemicals enjoyed a share of 42.2% of tonnage and 38.6% of value, claiming first in rank, followed by industrial goods with 21.2% of weight and 32.3% of value; agriculture with 4.5% of weight and 13.1% of value;

minerals with 25.3% of weight and 5.4% of value; and carpets and handicrafts with 0.1% of weight and 3.3% of value in descending order.

A comparison of the actual figures of non-oil exports in 1385 with the forecasted ones shows that the actual has surpassed the target by 167.2% and if one adds the earnings from outgoing visitors and those of frontier markets this figure reaches 172.4%.

Chart 2 shows the main non-oil export items. Accordingly,

export of liquid gas (propane and butane etc.) with 4207 million dollars or 26.6% of total exports, ranks first. Iron and steel with 1100.3 million dollars and 7%; pistachios with 1068.5 million dollars or 6.8%; and hand-made carpets with 405.4 million dollars and 2.6% assume the descending ranks.

Other main figures includes, copper bars, 2%; copper products, 1.9%; oil-grease and poli-ethylion, 1.8%; molibden stone and concentrate, 1.7%; plastic and melamine products, 1.6% of total exports.

In 1385, the total share of 10 items above, has been 53.6% of value and 36.8% of weight of the total non-oil exports, whereas the same items in 1384 represented 40.2% of total value and 21.7% of total weight of exports.

Compared with similar period in 1384, the export of these items in 1385 has shown an increase of 101.4% in value and 151.1% in weight. The average price of per kilo has been 0.7 dollar. The 3 highest average prices belong to molibdon stone and concentrate, 37.2 dollars, hand-made carpets, 29.5 dollars and pistachios, 6.2 dollars.

During the period in question, Asaluye special region has had 21.4% in weight and 22.5% in value of all exports through all customs houses. The next position belongs to shahied

Regaii port with 32.4% in weight and 19.5% in value.

According to the present statistics, the highest amount of Iran's total exports, 2544.6 million dollars (16.1%) and 5207.3 thousand tons (15.4%) have been sent off to the United Arab Emirates; China with 8509.5 thousand tons (25.2%) and 1723.6 million dollars (10.9%) ranks second, followed by Iraq (7.3%) Japan (6.3%), India (4.9%), Singapore (4.8%), Italy (3.9%), Afghanistan (2.3%), Holland and Germany (2.2%). Thus the 10 country's share of Iran's total export values amounts to 60.8%.

### Industrial Goods

Based on the preliminary figures issued by I.R.Iran's Customs Department, in 1385, 7147.9 thousand tons of various industrial goods with a 5099.8 million dollars (3984 million euros) has been exported which compared to the similar period in 1384, shows a 2.4% increase in tonnage and 18.2% increase in value. As a percentage of the total non-oil exports, they represent a share of 21.2% and 32.3% of weight and value respectively. Export price of each ton of industrial goods is 713.5 dollars, an increase of 15.5% over last year.

Industrial sector export items consisted of Iron and steel with the total value of 1100.3 million

dollars, representing 21.7% of the total; copper bars with 310.4 million dollars, 6.1% of the total; copper products worth 295.3 million dollars, and 5.8%; oil-grease with 280.5 million dollars, 5.5% of the total; melamine and plastic products with 245.9 million dollars, 4.8% of the total; The 5 items mentioned had 43.9% of the exported goods in 1385.

### Petrochemical Goods

According to the preliminary statistics published by the I.R.Iran's Customs Department, in 1385 a variety of petrochemical goods and products weighting 14236.8 thousand tons and worth 6110 million dollars (4773.4 million euros) has been exported to other countries which, compared to the similar period in 1384, represents an increase of 115.7% in weight and 140.8% in value.

Total weight and value share of petrochemicals of the non-oil exports is 42.4% and 38.6% respectively. These ratios in 1384 were 29% and 24.3%.

Tonnage price of petrochemical goods and products in 1385 was 429.2 dollars, an increase of 11.7% over last year.

Main items in petrochemical products were liquid gas (propane, butane etc.) worth 4207 million dollars, 68.9%;

poli-ethilian worth 286.9 million dollars, 4.7%; Methanol worth 179.8 million dollars, 2.9%; all kinds of gasoline worth 149 million dollars, 2.4%; and various bitumens worth 119 million dollars, 2% of the total petrochemical exports. The value share of the 5 items mentioned in 1385 has been about 81%.

## Agriculture

Based on I.R.Iran's Customs Department's preliminary statistics, in 1385, 1529.2 thousand ton of various agricultural goods worth 2069.8 million dollars (1617 million euros) have been exported which represents an increase of 43.8% in tonnage and 25.4% in value over the similar period in 1384.

Average price of each ton of exported agricultural goods in 1385 has been about 1353.5 dollars, showing a decrease of 12.8% over the similar period last year.

Agricultural sector's share of tonnage and value of the total non-oil exports was 4.5% and 13.1% respectively for the studied period.

Main export items in agricultural products are: pistachios worth 1068.5 million dollars, 51.6%; various kinds of raisins worth 134 million dollars, 6.5%; skin and all kinds of salambos worth 94.3 million

dollars, 4.6%; fresh and dried dates worth 83.9 million dollars, 4.1%; Safaran worth 75.7 million dollars, 3.7%.

In 1385, the shares of the five foregoing goods have been 70.5% of the total agriculture exports.

## Carpets and handicrafts

According to the preliminary statistics published by the I.R.Iran's Customs Department, in 1385 about 23.1 thousand tons of various handicrafts worth 527.5 million dollars (412.1 million euros) was exported which shows 17.7% decrease in value over the similar period in 1384. Average price for every kilograms of handicraft was about 22.8 dollars which shows 11% decrease over the similar period in 1384. The weight and value share of handicraft goods of the total non-oil exports were 0.1% and 3.3% respectively.

Main export items in this sector are: hand-made carpets worth 405.4 million dollars, 76.9%; compared to similar period in 1384, hand-made carpets show 14.8% and 12.4% decrease in weight and value respectively. Average price of exported hand-made carpets per kilo was 29.5 dollars in 1385, demonstrating 2.8% increase over last year.

Next to hand-made carpets the most important export items for the period under review are

precious stones and expensive metals, worth 83.8 million dollars, 15.9%.

Compared to the similar period in 1384, export of precious stones and expensive metals show 44.2% and 32.4 decreases in weight and value.

In 1385, the shares of the two foregoing goods have been 92.8% of the total handicraft exports.

## Minerals

According to the preliminary statistics published by the I.R.Iran's Customs Department, in 1385 a total of 8527.8 thousand tons worth 849.5 million dollars (663.7 million euros) of all sorts of minerals have been exported which compared to similar period in 1384, shows an increase of 39.1% in weight and 91.1% in value.

Average tonnage price was about 99.6 dollars, showing 37.4% increase over the last year. Of the total non-oil exports in 1385, minerals have had 25.3% and 5.4% in weight and value respectively.

Main items in this sector are: molybdenum stone and concentrate worth 265.7 million dollars, 31.3%; Zink and concentrate worth 244.4 million dollars, 28.8%; lead and concentrate worth 86.2 million dollars, 10.2%. The share of the 3 mineral items is 70.3% of the total mineral exports.

## B. Imports

According to the statistics published by the I.R.Iran's Customs Department in 1385, 42194.8 thousand tons of various goods worth 41390.3 million dollars (32336 million euros) have been imported which, compared to the similar period in 1384, shows 23.2% increase in weight and 4.1% increase in value. Average price per ton of imported goods is 981 dollars, a drop of 15.5% compared to the similar period last year.

Chart 3 shows significant import items in 1385. The greatest value and share of the total import belong to "cast iron, iron and steel", worth 4571.3 million dollars, 11%. "Electrical industrial products" and "plastic materials and products" occupy 2nd and 3rd position with 6.2% and 3.4% share respectively.

Other important items include: chemical products, 2.9%; suger, 2.4%; paper, card board and related products, 1.9%; pharmaceuticals, 1.6%; various chemical fertilizers, 1.6%; corn, 1.2%; chemical industries products, 1.1%; All mentioned items constituted 33.4% of the value and 43.8% of the total weight of the imports.

For this period, the estimated value of imported goods was about 34390 million dollars,

however, the actual import, 41390.3 million dollars was 120.4% of the projected value.

During this period, Shahied Rajaii Port with a share of 40% of the weight, 16850 thousand tons and 46.1% of value, 19092 million dollars stands first among all entry ports; Imam Khomeini's port with 14.5% share and Shahriar with 5.7% follow Sahdid Rajaii as second and third.

In 1385, the greatest share of imported goods with 9930 thousand tons and 9259.3 million dollars have been imported from United Arab Emirates, representing 23.5% share of the weight and 22.4% of value of total import.

Imports of goods from Germany stand 2nd, about 2366.2 thousand tons, 5.6% and 5008.4 million dollars, 12.1%.

In terms of value, other ranks belong to china, 7.1%; Switzerland, 5.4%; France, 5.1%; Republic of Korea, 4.7%; Italy, 4.1%; India and UK, 3.4%; and Holland, 2.3%; The total share of imports by the 10 countries mentioned above amounts to 70%.

Incidentally, in 1385, 30319 cars, worth 525.8 million dollars have been imported.

Table 1  
Export Groups of Various non-oil goods in 1384-1385

Groups of goods	1384						1385						% of change		
	Weight (tons)	Value (billion Rials)	Value (million dollars)	Value (million euros)	Weight Share	Value share	Weight (tons)	Value (billion Rials)	Value (million dollars)	Value (million euros)	Weight Share	Value share	Weight	Value (dollar)	Value (euro)
Agriculture	1529180.6	18891.79	2069.8	1608.6	4.5	13.1	1063421.1	14687.96	1650.3	1333.2	4.7	15.8	43.8	25.4	20.7
Industrial	7147937.8	46425.68	5099.8	3953.1	21.2	32.3	6981569.5	38384.92	4312.9	3484.2	30.6	41.2	2.4	18.2	13.5
Petrochemicals	14236833.7	55823.44	6110	4753.4	42.2	38.6	6601227.7	22552.57	2537.1	2047.1	29	24.3	115.7	140.8	132.2
Carpet and Handicrafts	23146.7	4810.35	527.5	409.6	0.1	3.3	25047.7	5705.56	641.1	517.9	0.1	6.1	-7.6	-17.7	-20.9
Minerals	8527786.7	7741.99	849.5	659.2	25.3	5.4	6131945.9	3956.63	444.6	359.1	26.9	4.3	39.1	91.1	83.6
Total	31464885.5	133693.25	14656.7	11384	93.2	92.7	20803211.9	85287.63	9886	7741.5	91.3	91.7	51.3	52.9	47.1
Other goods	2295329.5	10508.11	1152	894.8	6.8	7.3	1979924.9	7781.04	869.6	706.3	8.7	8.3	15.9	32.5	26.7
<b>Total export</b>	<b>33760215</b>	<b>144201.36</b>	<b>15808.7</b>	<b>12278.7</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>22783136.8</b>	<b>93068.68</b>	<b>10455.6</b>	<b>8447.7</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>48.2</b>	<b>51.2</b>	<b>45.3</b>

**Table 2**  
**Export of non-oil goods and their main items in 1384-1385**

Goods	March 2006- March 2007					March 2005-March 2006					% of change	
	Weight (thousand tons)	Value (million dollars)	Average price per kilo (dollars)	% share of each goods		Weight (thousand tons)	Value (million dollars)	Average price per kilo (dollars)	% share of each countries		Weight	value
				Weight	value				Weight	value		
Liquid Gas	8496.6	4207	0.5	25.2	26.6	1513.7	1008.3	0.7	6.6	9.6	461.3	317.3
Iron & Steel	2589.5	1100.3	0.4	7.7	7	2562.9	1149.1	0.4	11.2	11	1	-4.2
Pistachios	171.3	1068.5	6.2	0.5	6.8	140.6	823.4	5.9	0.6	7.9	21.9	29.8
Hand-made Carpets	13.8	405.4	29.5	0	2.6	16.1	462.9	28.7	0.1	4.4	-14.8	-12.4
Copper Bars	113.5	310.4	2.7	0.3	2	27.3	26.2	1	0.1	0.3	316.5	1082.5
Copper products	113.4	295.3	2.6	0.3	1.9	98.9	139.6	1.4	0.4	1.3	14.6	111.6
Poli-ethilian	332.6	286.9	0.9	1	1.8	68.4	59	0.9	0.3	0.6	386.4	386.1
Oil-Grease	471.1	280.5	0.6	1.4	1.8	418.6	197.4	0.5	1.8	1.9	12.6	42.1
Molibdon stone & concentrate	7.1	265.7	37.2	0	1.7	1.6	102.8	64	0	1	344.9	158.4
Plastic & Melamine products	107.4	245.9	2.3	0.3	1.6	96.6	234.5	2.4	0.4	2.2	11.1	4.9
Total	12416.3	8465.8	0.7	36.8	53.6	4944.6	4203.1	0.9	21.7	40.2	151.1	101.4
Others from other customs	21343.9	7342.8	0.3	63.2	46.4	17838.6	6252.5	0.4	78.3	59.8	19.7	17.4
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>33760.2</b>	<b>15808.7</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>22783.1</b>	<b>10455.6</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>48.2</b>	<b>51.2</b>

**Table 3**  
**Imports and their main items in 1384-1385**

Goods	March 2006- March 2007					March 2005-March 2006					% of change	
	Weight (thousand tons)	Value (million dollars)	Average price per kilo (dollars)	% share of each goods		Weight (thousand tons)	Value (million dollars)	Average price per kilo (dollars)	% share of each countries		Weight	value
				Weight	value				Weight	value		
Cast iron, iron & steel	7683.9	4571.3	0.6	18.2	11	6443.3	3973.7	0.6	18.8	10	19.3	15
Electrical Industry Equipment	370.3	2571.7	6.9	0.9	6.2	310.2	2381.8	7.7	0.9	6	19.4	8
Plastics & Plastic goods	760.7	1413.3	1.9	1.8	3.4	813.6	1377.2	1.7	2.4	3.5	-6.5	2.6
Chemicals	947.6	1207.6	1.3	2.2	2.9	891.8	1043.1	1.2	2.6	2.6	6.3	15.8
Sugar	2456.4	997.4	0.4	5.8	2.4	574.5	165.7	0.3	1.7	0.4	327.6	502
Paper & card boards	925.8	804.1	0.9	2.2	1.9	812.8	663.4	0.8	2.4	1.7	13.9	21.2
pharmaceutical	7.7	663	85.7	0	1.6	16	601	37.6	0	1.5	-51.6	10.3
Chemical fertilizers	2363	657.5	0.3	5.6	1.6	1497.1	392.9	0.3	4.4	1	57.8	67.4
Corn	2764.7	489.6	0.2	6.6	1.2	1863.6	313.2	0.2	5.4	0.8	48.4	56.3
Chemical industries products	200.3	455	2.3	0.5	1.1	291.7	468.7	1.6	0.9	1.2	-31.3	-2.9
Total	18480.5	13830.5	0.7	43.8	33.4	13514.7	11380.6	0.8	39.5	28.6	36.7	21.5
Goods from other customs	23714.3	27559.7	1.2	56.2	66.6	20723.5	28361.4	1.4	60.5	71.4	14.4	-2.8
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>42194.8</b>	<b>41390.3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>34238.2</b>	<b>39742</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>23.2</b>	<b>4.1</b>