



Press Release

Balance of Payments (BoP) Developments Third Quarter 2025

24 December 2025

1. The current account deficit improved to Rs9.9 billion in 2025Q3, equivalent to 5.3 per cent of GDP, from 9.5 per cent of GDP in 2024Q3, driven by a lower goods account deficit and higher surpluses in the services and primary income accounts.
2. The goods account deficit decreased to Rs43.0 billion, from Rs49.2 billion in 2024Q3. Exports of goods (f.o.b.) fell by 9.0 per cent to Rs26.9 billion, mostly due to declines in exports of *'Food and live animals'*, *'Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material'* and *'Miscellaneous manufactured articles'*. Imports of goods (f.o.b.) decreased by 11.3 per cent to Rs69.9 billion, mainly reflecting lower imports of *'Mineral fuels, lubricants, & related product'*, *'Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material'*, *'Food and live animals'* and *'Road vehicles'*.
3. The services account recorded a surplus of Rs27.0 billion. Gross tourism earnings increased by 12.8 per cent to Rs23.7 billion, partly reflecting the rise of 7.0 per cent in tourist arrivals. The surplus on the primary income account amounted to Rs19.3 billion while the secondary income account remained in deficit at Rs13.2 billion, mainly due to taxes paid by GBCs to foreign governments.
4. The financial account is estimated to have recorded net inflows of Rs7.9 billion in 2025Q3. The direct investment account registered net outflows of Rs31.4 billion, reflecting primarily GBCs' direct investments abroad. The portfolio investment account recorded net outflows of Rs17.2 billion, mostly on account of increases in banks' investment in foreign debt securities. The other investment account posted net inflows of Rs41.2 billion, largely related to increases in non-resident deposits at banks as well as increases in GBC's foreign borrowings.
5. The country recorded an overall balance of payments deficit of Rs 17.7 billion in 2025Q3.

Economic Analysis & Research and Statistics Department