COUNTRY PROFILE REPORT OF ITJ DIVISION, DGCI&S INDIA-ISRAEL BILATERAL TRADE RELATIONS

INTRODUCTION & BRIEF ECONOMIC OVERVIEW

The State of Israel lies in western Asia, occupying a narrow strip of territory on the eastern shore of the Mediterranean Sea. The country also has a narrow outlet to the Red Sea at the northern tip of the Gulf of Aqaba. All of Israel's land frontiers are with Arab countries, the longest being with Egypt to the west and with Jordan to the east. Lebanon lies to the north and Syria to the north-east. Israel is a member of the UN, WTO, Inter-American Development Bank and IOM.

2. Israel is considered the most advanced country in Western Asia and the Middle East in economic and industrial development. Israel has the second-largest number of start-up companies after the United States and the third-largest number of NASDAQ-listed companies. It is the world leader for number of start-ups per capita. As per latest information & As per available report of IMF Executive Board Concludes 2023 Article IV Consultation with Israel June 15, 2023. GDP increased 6.5 percent in 2022, led by domestic demand, with an increase in investment and consumption and with a minimal contribution from the government, as fiscal consolidation gained pace. Supported by strong economic growth and prudent fiscal policies, debt-to-GDP ratios fell to about 61 percent in 2022, down from about 71 percent during the Pandemic. Inflation remained high, at about 5 percent by end 2022, with the Central Bank of Israel following a tightening monetary policy to bring inflation rates on check. External demand was negative on net, as imports outgrew exports.

A snapshot of Israel's select economic indicators is as under.

TABLE – 1

											-
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
							Р	rojectio	ns		
Real Economy											
(percent change)											
Real GDP	4.1	4.2	-1.9	8.6	6.5	2.5	3.4	3.4	3.6	3.7	3.8
Domestic demand	4.5	4.0	-3.4	9.9	7.4	2.5	3.7	3.8	3.9	4.1	4.1
Private consumption	3.6	4.0	-7.9	11.1	7.7	2.8	3.8	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.1
Public consumption	4.0	3.0	2.8	4.2	0.7	2.3	3.2	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6
Gross capital formation	6.9	4.9	1.2	12.6	12.4	1.9	3.7	3.6	4.1	4.5	4.5
Gross fixed investment	7.8	3.3	-3.9	11.7	9.0	0.9	2.7	3.7	4.1	4.5	4.5
Foreign demand (contribution to growth)	-0.4	0.2	1.6	-1.3	-1.0	0.3	-0.3	-0.4	-0.4	-0.3	-0.3
Potential GDP	3.7	3.9	2.0	5.9	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8
Output gap (percent of potential)	0.6	0.9	-3.0	-0.4	2.2	1.1	0.7	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0

Israel: Selected Economic Indicators, 2018–2028

Unemployment rate (percent)	4.0	3.8	4.3	5.0	3.8	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
Overall CPI	0.8	0.8	-0.6	1.5	4.4	4.5	3.5	2.5	2.1	2.1	2.0
(percent change,	0.0	0.0	0.0	110			5.0	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.0
average)											
Overall CPI	0.8	0.6	-0.7	2.8	5.3	4.1	2.9	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.0
(percent change,	0.0	0.0	0.7	2.0	5.5	7.1	2.7	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.0
end of period)											
1 /	0.9	0.6	-0.3	1.2	3.6	4.7	3.8	2.8	2.3	2.2	2.2
Core CPI (percent	0.9	0.0	-0.5	1.2	5.0	4.7	5.8	2.8	2.3	2.2	2.2
change, average)											
Saving and											
investment											
balance											
Gross national	26.8	26.8	29.3	29.1	29.9	29.9	29.7	29.6	29.5	29.5	29.5
saving (percent of											
GDP)											
Foreign saving	-3.0	-3.5	-5.5	-4.3	-3.7	-4.1	-3.9	-3.8	-3.6	-3.5	-3.4
(percent of GDP)											
Gross capital	23.8	23.3	23.8	24.8	26.3	25.8	25.8	25.8	25.9	26.0	26.1
formation											
(percent of GDP)											
Public Finance											
(percent of											
(percent of GDP)											
Central											
government											
Revenues and	25.0	24.2	22.4	26.2	26.7	24.6	24.2	23.8	23.8	23.8	23.8
	23.0	24.2	22.4	20.2	20.7	24.0	24.2	23.0	23.0	23.0	23.0
grants	27.0	27.0	22.6	30.5	26.2	25.6	25.2	25.7	26.0	26.2	26.2
Total expenditure	27.9	27.9	33.6		26.2	25.6	25.3	25.7	26.0	26.2	26.2
Overall balance	-2.9	-3.6	-	-4.4	0.6	-0.9	-1.0	-1.9	-2.2	-2.3	-2.4
~		• •	11.3					• •			
Structural balance	-3.1	-3.9	-	-4.2	0.0	-1.2	-1.2	-2.0	-2.2	-2.3	-2.4
1/			10.3								
Interest payments	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.1	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.8
General											
Government											
Overall balance	-3.6	-3.9	-	-3.7	0.6	-1.1	-1.6	-2.4	-2.7	-3.0	-3.1
			10.8								
Structural balance	-3.8	-4.2	-9.5	-3.5	-0.2	-1.5	-1.9	-2.5	-2.7	-3.0	-3.1
1/											
Debt	59.9	58.8	70.6	68.0	61.0	57.9	55.7	55.0	54.7	54.6	54.5
Of which: Foreign	8.4	7.7	11.3	9.4	8.8	7.7	6.1	5.7	5.2	4.6	4.2
currency external											
debt											
Balance of											
Payments											
(percent of											
(percent of GDP)											
	3.0	3.5	5.5	4.3	3.7	4.1	3.9	3.8	3.6	3.5	3.4
Current account	3.0	3.3	5.5	4.3	3.1	4.1	3.9	3.8	3.0	3.3	3.4
balance											

Goods and	0.9	2.0	4.4	3.9	3.1	3.1	2.9	2.8	2.6	2.5	2.3
services balance	2 0.0	20.2		20.5	21.0	20.5	20.0	20.7	20.5		2 0.1
Exports of goods and services 2/	29.9	29.3	27.7	29.5	31.9	29.7	28.9	28.7	28.5	28.2	28.1
Real growth rate (percent)	5.7	3.7	-2.7	14.6	8.3	-1.9	1.6	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.5
Export prices growth (percent)	1.4	0.9	-0.2	10.4	6.5	-2.4	-0.6	0.2	0.2	0.4	1.0
Imports of goods and services 2/	29.0	27.0	23.2	25.5	28.6	25.6	24.8	24.6	24.6	24.5	24.5
o/w Oil imports (billions of U.S. dollars)	9.7	9.2	5.5	9.0	13.3	10.4	10.1	10.2	10.3	10.4	10.6
Real growth rate (percent)	7.2	3.2	-8.1	20.6	11.7	-2.9	2.4	4.6	4.6	4.5	4.5
Import prices growth (percent)	3.7	-2.7	-4.7	8.4	7.1	-1.8	-1.1	-0.6	-0.5	-0.1	0.6
Foreign reserves (eop, US\$ billions)	115. 3	126. 0	173. 3	213. 0	194. 2	198. 7	207. 6	216. 8	226. 3	237. 1	248. 9
Exchange Rate											
NIS per U.S. dollar (period average)	3.59	3.56	3.44	3.23	3.36	•••					
Nominal effective exchange rate (2010=100)	118. 6	123. 5	129. 1	135. 0	140. 1						
Real effective exchange rate (2010=100)	106. 3	109. 1	111. 5	114. 3	114. 6	•••					
Terms of trade $(2010 = 100)$	95.3	98.7	99.5	93.2	87.5	•••					
Sources: Bank of Is projections.	srael; C	entral B	ureau c	of Statis	tics; Ha	ver Ana	alytics;	and IM	F Staff	estimate	es and
1/ Percent of											
potential GDP.											
2/ National Accounts data.											
	1										

Source: IMF Executive Board Concludes 2023 Article IV Consultation with Israel June 15, 2023.

•

FOREIGN TRADE

3. As per recent available inputs on WITS (World Integrated Trade Solution), the five major merchandise export partners of Israel are United States, Unspecified, China, India and Netherlands. On the other hand five major import partners of Israel are China, Unspecified, United States, Switzerland and Germany. Major five exported goods of Israel are (i) Diamonds non-industrial nes excluding mounted (ii) Monolithic integrated circuits, digital (iii) Diamonds non-industrial unworked or simply sawn (iv) Other medicaments of mixed or unmixed products, and (v) Transmission apparatus, for radioteleph incorpo. On the other hand major five imported goods of Israel are (i) Petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous, (ii) Diamonds non-industrial nes excluding mounted, (iii) Transmission apparatus, for radioteleph incorpo (iv) Diamonds non-industrial unworked or simply sawn and (v) Automobiles nes including gas turbine powered.

. 4. Israel's total exports in 2019 were of the order of US\$ 58,488 million. It has scaled upto US\$ 59,916 million in 2023. Exports from Israel had increased by 19.95% in the year 2021 immediate after pandemic hit year followed by another 20.63% increase in 2022. During the period from 2019 to 2023, the annual average compound rate of growth of exports was 0.60%.

5. Israel's total imports in 2019 were of the order of US\$ 76,579 million and which has touched US\$ 83,163 million mark in 2023. After having experienced a decline in 2019. import from Israel jumped by 33.06% in the year 2021. During the period from 2019 to 2023, the annual average compound rate of growth of imports was 2.08%.

6. Israel runs an overall Balance of Trade surplus from 2019 to 2023 and that has scaled up to USD - 23,247 million in 2023. During the period from 2019 to 2023, the annual average compound rate of growth of total volume of trade was1.45%.

A snapshot of Israel's overall Trade Statistics is presented in **Table 2 and Figure 1 below.** A snapshot of India's merchandise trade statistics w.r.t. Israel is presented in **Table 3 Figure 2**.

BILATERAL TRADE WITH INDIA

Merchandise Trade

7. India and Israel are strategic partners. The bilateral political ties are warm and forward-looking. In recent years, bilateral trade between India and Israel, has diversified into several sectors such as pharmaceuticals, agriculture, IT and telecom, and homeland security. India continues to be a focus country for the Israeli Government's increased trade efforts. Moreover, the FDI inflows into India reached US\$ 286.15 million during April 2000-September 2023.Israel ranked 28th as an export destination of India in FY 2023-24. India's exports to Israel was only 1.03 % of it's total export value in FY2023-24. In the same financial year Israel was the 41st major import partner of India in FY 2023-24. Almost 0.39% of India's total international trade value was between India and Israel as has been recorded in FY 2023-24 as per DGCI&S data base.

8. Indo- Israel total volume of bilateral trade in FY 2019-20 was of the order of US\$ 4,955.81 million. It has scaled upto US\$ 6,534.29 million in FY 2023-24. The annual compound growth rate of total volume of trade during the period from 2019-20 to 2023-24 has been of the order of 7.16%.

9. It appears from the available figures that between 2019-20 and 2023-24, India has had a surplus Balance of Trade with Israel. Exports from India to Israel steeply increased by 77.54% in FY2021-22 followed by another 76.21% increase in FY 2022-23 over FY 2021-22. The annual average compound rate of growth of Exports was 7.71%. On the other hand, imports from Israel to India remarkably

increased by 56.81% in FY 2021-22. During the period from 2019-20 to 2023-24, the annual average compound rate of growth of imports was 5.95%.

10. Additionally, **from Tables 4 & 5 presented** below the following are stated:

a. (i) Petroleum Products, (ii) Pearl, Precs. Semi-Precs. Stones, and (iii) Other Misc. Engineering Items had occupied the top three slots in India's exports to Israel in the year 2023-24.

b. (i) Pearl, Precs, Semi-precs Stones; (ii) Aircraft, Spacecraft And Parts and (iii) Electronic Components were the three major commodities in India's imports list from Israel in the year 2023-24, India imports a significant amount of Pearl, Precs, Semi-precs Stones from Israel with a share of 23.76% of total imports from Israel recorded in 2023-24.

"NOTICE"

Rights of permission for reproduction in part or entirely of these official papers published in the Indian Trade Journal is reserved by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics, Kolkata – 700 107.

			BETWEEN 2		(Figures in USD Million)					
Year	Exports	Percentage	Imports	Percentage	Volume	Percentage	Balance			
	r	Growth in	T	Growth in	of	Growth in	of			
		Exports		Imports	Trade	Vol. of Trade	Trade			
2019	58488		76579	-	1,35,067		-18091			
2020	50153	-14.25	69261	-9.56	1,19,414	-11.59	-19108			
2021	60160	19.95	92159	33.06	1,52,319	27.56	-31999			
2022	72569	20.63	107758	16.93	1,80,327	18.39	-35189			
2023	59916	-17.44	83163	-22.82	1,43,079	-20.66	-23247			
Annual	Compound									
Frowth Rate		0.60		2.08		1.45				
NOTE :	Figures relate	to calendar yea	r (January to D	ecember)						
SOURCE :	UN COM	TRADE PUBL	ICATION							
						Figure - 1				
		т		Imments and D	Т 2010 2022		· · ·			
		Ι	srael's Exports	, Imports and Bo	oT 2019-2023					



			TABLE - 3					
		INDIA'S MEP	CHANDISE EX	PORTS & IM	PORTS w.r.t.ISI	RAEL		
	Exports from	Percentage	Imports from	Percentage	Volume	Percentage Growth in	Balance	
Veer	India to	Growth in	Turkey to	Growth in	of Treads	Growin in Vol. of Trade	of True de	
Year	Turkey	Exports	India	Imports	Trade	vol. of 1 rade	Trade	
2019-20	3363.11		1592.70		4955.81		1770.41	
2020-21	2701.49	-19.67	1960.19	23.07	4661.68	-5.94	741.30	
2021-22	4796.13	77.54	3073.79	56.81	7869.92	68.82	1722.34	
2022-23	8451.23	76.21	2323.19	-24.42	10774.42	36.91	6128.04	
2023-24	4527.08	-46.43	2007.21	-13.60	6534.29	-39.35	2519.87	
Annual	Compound							
Growth Rate		7.71		5.95		7.16		
NOTE :	Figures relate to	Financial Year	(April to March)				
SOURCE	: DGCI&S, M/	o C&I						
					Figure 2	Í		

■ Imports from Turkey to India

2022-23

Balance of Trade

2000.00

0.00

2019-20 Exports from India to Turkey

				TABLE -4						
		IND	IA'S MAJO	R ITEMS C	OF MERCH	ANDISE E	XPORTS T	O ISRAEL	:	-
			2019-2020	TO 2023-20	24 AND TH	EIR GRO	WTH RATE	S		
									(Value in U	JSD Million)
l. No.	Name of the Merchandise Commodities			Value	of Exports		Annual G	rowth Rates		
		2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	20-21 over	21-22 over	22-23 over	23-24 over
							2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
1	Petroleum Products	1297.19	619.75	1627.02	5502.55	2315.97	-52.22	162.53	238.20	-57.91
	Share in total export	38.57	22.94	33.92	65.11	51.16				
2	Pearl, Precs. Semi-Precs. Stones	908.50	837.76	1465.59	1268.98	783.47	-7.79	74.94	-13.42	-38.26
	Share in total export	27.01	31.01	30.56	15.02	17.31				
3	Other Misc. Engineering Items	48.67	90.99	114.75	136.47	163.26	86.95	26.11	18.93	19.63
	Share in total export	1.45	3.37	2.39	1.61	3.61				
4	Ceramics And Allied Products	23.71	39.43	38.94	67.01	85.21	66.30	-1.24	72.09	27.16
	Share in total export	0.71	1.46	0.81	0.79	1.88				
5	Consumer Electronics	43.15	97.88	117.66	118.94	59.64	126.84	20.21	1.09	-49.86
	Share in total export	1.28	3.62	2.45	1.41	1.32				
6	Rice-Basmoti	63.00	52.38	50.22	64.46	59.53	-16.86	-4.12	28.36	-7.65
	Share in total export	1.87	1.94	1.05	0.76	1.31				
7	Cotton Fabrics, Madeups	47.13	54.44	66.67	66.73	57.25	15.51	22.47	0.09	-14.21
	Share in total export	1.40	2.02	1.39	0.79	1.26				
8	RMG Cotton Incl. Accessorices	52.92	39.49	58.42	66.23	56.15	-25.38	47.94	13.37	-15.22
	Share in total export	1.57	1.46	1.22	0.78	1.24				
9	Bulk Drugs, Drugs Intermediates	21.91	24.60	43.94	65.21	49.80	12.28	78.62	48.41	-23.63
	Share in total export	0.65	0.91	0.92	0.77	1.10				
10	Residual Chemmical And Allied Prods.	41.01	36.81	72.04	49.80	47.01	-10.24	95.71	-30.87	-5.60
	Share in total export	1.22	1.36	1.50	0.59	1.04				
	Total export to ISRAEL	3363.11	2701.49	4796.13	8451.23	4527.08	-19.67	77.54	76.21	-46.43

TABLE -5

INDIA'S MAJOR ITEMS OF MERCHANDISE IMPORTS FROM ISRAEL

2019-2020 TO 2023-2024 AND THEIR GROWTH RATES

(Value in USD Million)

Sl. Name of the Merchandise Commodities	;		Value	of Imports			Annual G	rowth Rates	5	
No	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	20-21 over	21-22 over	22-23 over	23-24 over	
						2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	
1 Pearl, Precs, Semi-precs Stones	650.06	637.37	1320.27	761.58	476.84	-1.95	107.14	-42.32	-37.39	
Share in total imports	40.81	32.52	42.95	32.78	23.76					
2 Aircraft, Spacecraft And Parts	5.32	2.76	21.55	3.95	193.44	-48.12	680.80	-81.67	4797.22	
Share in total imports	0.33	0.14	0.70	0.17	9.64					
3 Electronic Components	72.70	124.16	143.76	165.67	190.76	70.78	15.79	15.24	15.14	
Share in total imports.	4.56	6.33	4.68	7.13	9.50					
4 Fertilizers Manufactured	152.56	128.37	202.44	401.88	143.17	-15.86	57.70	98.52	-64.37	
Share in total import	9.58	6.55	6.59	17.30	7.13					
5 Telecom Instruments	103.95	294.82	299.88	72.38	138.45	183.62	1.72	-75.86	91.28	
Share in total import	6.53	15.04	9.76	3.12	6.90					
6 Other Misc. Engineering Items	26.71	51.96	108.18	65.53	116.95	94.53	108.20	-39.43	78.47	
Share in total import	1.68	2.65	3.52	2.82	5.83					
7 Electronics Instruments	70.65	79.60	98.72	89.33	99.92	12.67	24.02	-9.51	11.85	
Share in total import	4.44	4.06	3.21	3.85	4.98					
8 Consumer Electronics	70.17	135.98	133.82	77.06	81.15	93.79	-1.59	-42.42	5.31	
Share in total import	4.41	6.94	4.35	3.32	4.04					
9 Agro Chemicals	59.67	65.03	83.06	98.05	74.87	8.98	27.73	18.05	-23.64	
Share in total import	3.75	3.32	2.70	4.22	3.73					
10 Aluminium, Products Of Aluminium	30.62	31.71	48.32	44.88	62.65	3.56	52.38	-7.12	39.59	
Share in total import	1.92	1.62	1.57	1.93	3.12					
Total import from ISRAEL	1592.70	1960.19	3073.79	2323.19	2007.21	23.07	56.81	-24.42	-13.60	
NOTE : Figures relate to each Financial	Year (Apri	l to March)								
SOURCE : DGCI&S, M/o C&I	` _									