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ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL REPORT
BELGIUM AND LUXEMBOURG
April 2005

A. GENERAL INTERNAL DEVELOPMENT

Antwerp Diamond Trade Faces Competition from the East:

Antwerp once employed tens of thousands of diamond processors. Today this number has been reduced to 1,500 spread over about 1,500 small companies. Diamond processing has almost completely shifted to India on account of its low wages. Surat, a city in the western state of Gujarat, is the new epicenter. It employs approximately 750,000 to 1 million cutters/polishers, who process rough diamonds. Last year India exported processed diamonds to the tune of 7 billion euros, which represented approximately 90% of the global production figure. While Antwerp still remains the undisputed Mecca of the diamond trade. Its position is under threat from Dubai which has the ambition to become the leading diamond-trading centre in the world. The government in Dubai is building an imposing skyscraper specifically for this purpose, with offices for diamond traders, who will not have to pay tax for a period of 50 years. Last year its diamond trade increased by 700%. According to the diamond unions Antwerp will only be able to maintain its position as the centre of the diamond industry with a minimum of 2,000 highly qualified diamond cutters. Frank Fensie, chairman of BVGD (Association of Polished Diamond Traders) thinks the opposite: "The diamond industry is now purely a service industry for the trade. If we want to keep the diamond industry we will have to ensure that the trade in rough and cut diamonds stays here." For the time being Antwerp still is the main trading center for rough diamonds: approximately 80% of all rough diamonds pass through the four Antwerp diamond exchanges. But in a few years time that may well be history due to the emergence of the trade centers in Dubai, Hong Kong and India for example. In 2004 the export of diamonds to Hong Kong increased by no less than 27%, whereas exports to the US dropped by 4%. The export to India also increased by 20%. "This is a very significant development," states Peter Meeus, managing director of the Hoge Raad voor Diamant (Diamond Council). "It underlines the position of India as both a diamond market and an industrial centre. India is developing into one of the largest jewel and diamond markets in the world." Almost 90% of Belgian exports to and 65% of imports from India are related to diamonds. If Dubai emerges as a major new center for trading rough diamonds India may consider buying rough diamonds from Dubai.

Belgium the most attractive Distribution Center:

Belgium ranks 1st among the most wanted locations for the establishment of distribution centers in Europe, according to the 2005 edition of the "Business Space across the World". This study led by Cushman & Wakefield Healey & Baker (CWHB) shows that Belgium's attraction is linked to its central location on the virtual industrial axis of Europe and to the best value for money ratio. Jef van Doorslaer, Director of the Research Department of CWHB Belgium, also underlines that "the country counts with outstanding infrastructures, an important access to a market of 60% of

the European consumers, and last but not least a qualified labour force". It attracts mainly, Belgian SME trying to find secure investment and also big multinationals willing to keep their flexibility and therefore choosing key location. On the basis of this ranking on the occupation cost, Belgium is also among the cheapest countries with loans of 68€per sqm.

Belgians could get dual citizenship under Onkelinx:

Belgian Minister of Justice, Laurette Onkelinx wants Belgians who obtain foreign citizenship to be allowed to keep their Belgian passports as well. Laurette Onkelinx is strongly in favour of a so called generalization of Belgian citizenship law, her cabinet indicated at a Senate justice meeting on Tuesday, 19 April 2005. But to make the dual citizenship possible, the Belgian government would have to amend a May 1963 accord, which stipulates that any Belgian person who voluntarily adopts the nationality of another country will have to give up their previous nationality.

B. ECONOMY & COMMERCE

Zero Economic Growth in the first quarter:

The growth of the Belgian economy has suddenly stagnated. On 27 April the Institute for National Accounts (National Bank) reported that Gross Domestic Product (GDP) had stagnated in the first quarter of 2005 (zero growth). In the last quarter of 2004 growth of 0.3% had been recorded. Year-on-year growth from the first quarter of 2004 thus fell to 1.8%. Economists at KBC, Dexia and Fortis put the zero growth mainly down to the high price of oil. This is also the main reason for the low level of consumer and business confidence, which the National Bank noted last week. The economists do not predict much improvement for the coming months, either. The first indicators for April suggest a further downward trend. Most banks are therefore considering a review of the growth estimate. For Budget Minister Johan Vande Lanotte (SP.A), that is bad news. In his budget control last week, he based his estimates on an assumption of 2.2% growth. De Tijd reports that these quarterly figures mark an end to the exceptionally good results achieved by the Belgian economy, which performed above the European average for three consecutive years. The marked downward turn in the economic cycle has major negative consequences for the labour market and public finances. The aim of creating 200,000 jobs by the end of the Federal Government's term of office was difficult to attain anyway. Now it becomes really very ambitious. The number of jobs will also rise too slowly in the coming months to absorb the growth in the working population, and that means unemployment will continue to rise. The lower than expected growth rate means that the last week's budget control is already off the track. The buffer of EUR 200 million created by the government will not be enough if economic growth slows to 2% or less this year. The Belgian Government does not have instruments at its disposal with which to boost economic growth in the short term. Monetary policy is the responsibility of the European Central Bank (ECB), but Frankfurt is not planning to lend a hand. Budgetary policy does not offer any margin, either. If the government wants to achieve a balanced budget in 2005, for the sixth year in a row, additional cutbacks would seem to be inevitable. For the time being Belgium can do little more than hope for an international economic recovery.

Belgium's largest bank Fortis takes over Turkish Disbank:

Fortis, Belgium's largest Bank, has taken over the Turkish bank Disbank for 985 million euros. This is the largest take over of a Turkish bank by a company outside the country. Fortis and a majority of shareholders of Disbank reached an agreement over the purchase by Fortis of 89.3% of issued capital shares. Disbank has more than a million customers including some 120,000 small enterprises and around 10,000 medium sized businesses. It also has a network of 173 branches employing some 4,500 people. In the future Disbank will operate under the name of Fortis. Mr. Jean-Paul Votron, commercial Executive officer of Fortis announced at a press conference that the take over is in line with the company's strategy to expand its activities outside the Benelux. Fortis, he said, was making a strategic investment in a large and quickly expanding market with a young and dynamic population of more than 70 million.

Belgian banks charge less than average:

Customers of Belgium's four major banks paid around 27 per cent less fees than the average charged to customers in a study of 130 banks in 19 mainly Western countries according to the World Retail Banking Report published by Cap Gemini. The study covered charges relating to 19 services including accounts, payments and cash withdrawals, and showed that only Sweden and the Netherlands were cheaper than Belgium. The average annual charge shown by the study was 78 euro. Belgium customers paid 57 euro while customers in a number of countries surveyed paid over 100 euros. Analysts have suggested that reasons beyond the purely economical may be behind the variations. These include regulatory impacts and, for instance, the number of charge-free services provided.

Belgian Wage Costs among the highest in the world:

Companies and workers in Belgium face some of the highest compulsory charges and taxes in the world, according a new study conducted by Consultants Mercer. Labour costs in Belgium are around 10 times those of the European Union's new Eastern countries. Once 'non-wage' labour costs like compulsory health, social security and pension payments have been factored in to the overall labour bill, the average Belgian worker costs 53,577 euros to the employer, the study states. In the US the average labour bill comes to about 33,195 euros. Equally worrying for the Belgian employers, say analysts, is the fact that the Mercer study shows labour costs are far lower in many of the European Union's new Eastern Member countries. In Latvia, for example, the average annual total cost of employing a worker is 4,572 euros; in Lithuania it is 5,649; and in Poland it is 8,257. Belgian wage cost figures are not the only cause of concern. The Corporation tax in Belgian is also enormous. According to findings of Professor Hylke Vandenbussche of Leuven University which was published in the daily 'De Tijd', Belgium had the second highest level of company taxation in the EU with the tax level in the region on 30%, while the EU average was 21.59%. The President of the Belgian Employers' Organisation (VBO), Rudi Thomaes, conceded that this was a problem his members have been battling with for some time. He underlined the big difference between costs to the employer and the takes home pay. According to Thomaes the situation is deterring foreign investors. It is also encouraging Belgian firms to relocate abroad. He also singled out the cost of Belgium's social security contributions as a huge burden.

Take over facilitated by internet:

Flemish employers now also have a site where sellers of companies and potential buyers can meet. Overnamemarkt.be is an initiative of the Union of Independent Employers (Unizo), the Flemish Government and private partner Bobex. At the presentation of the site, Flemish Economic Affairs Minister Fientje Moerman (VLD), referred to the usefulness of being able to match supply and demand. A great many SMEs have succession problems. If companies with potential close their doors, there is a threat of loss of welfare and further unemployment, claims the Minister. On the other side, 80% of new employers start their business from nothing instead of opting to take over a company, she added. Karel Van Eetvelt, Managing Director of Unizo, also pointed to the increasing problem of ageing among employers. The number of employers aged between 40 and 65 rose by 13% between 1996 and 2002, and the number below 40 fell by a similar percentage. Overnamemarkt.be now offers a platform for the 13,000 self-employed people and managers who are looking for a buyer for their firm each year. The initiative has a budget of 1 million euros. The Flemish Government put up half a million euros. For the time being the number of companies on the site is still limited, but the organisers hope to change that with a targeted campaign.

Cockerill Sambre Steel Plant shut down:

Cockerill Sambre the Belgian Steel plant, which was the first of its kind in the world when it was opened, was shut down in 24 April 2005, after 46 years. The furnace situated in Seraing, when it was opened in April 1959, was the only plant capable of producing 1,500 tones of smelted metal in 24 hours. The decision to close down was taken by the plant's owner, Arcelor in order to concentrate on other more profitable parts of the steel production process. Other closures are expected to follow in France and Germany. Cockerill's smelting manager, Jacques Neuville, blamed the surplus production at the plant. Unable to compete with foreign competition the industry has been in steady decline since the '60s when there were 12 blast furnaces operating in the region. About 300 workers gathered in front of the site to protest the closure. Wallonia's economic minister Jean-Claude Marcout and the Mayor of Seraing, Jacques Vandebosch also joined the protesters. Some 350 workers would be laid off in Seraing. Cockerill insists that most workers at the furnace will either be offered early retirement or will be retained to work on other steel processes.

Luxembourg Minister of Economy and Foreign Trade, Jeannot Krecke's press conference on his visits to India and Japan:

Jeannot Krecke, Minister of Economy and Foreign Trade Luxembourg, gave a press conference on 11 April 2005, on the economic missions he led to India from 28 March to 2 April and to Japan from 3 April to 6 April 2005.

Visit to India: Accompanied by an economic delegation of 42 people, representing professional organizations and firms from the financial, industrial and technological sectors, Jeannot Krecke returned from his visit with a very positive impression of India which he qualified as a 'country rising in full swing'. The Minister highlighted the growth rate of India which he said was between 7 to 8% per annum and he compared it with that of China. Jeannot Krecke underlined the opening of a growing Indian market and its necessity of developing local infrastructures. He explained to reporters, that the consumption of steel was an indicator that revealed changes in the Indian society. Commenting on the annual consumption of steel which is currently 35 kgs per capita the Minister said that he could foresee a spectacular increase in steel consumption in India

in the coming years. Besides the steel market which offers opportunities for public investment partnerships between Luxembourg and India, Jeanot Krecke equally emphasized on the promotion of tourism in the Grand Duchy for the Indian visitors.

Visit to Japan: The objective of this visit was to consolidate contacts with the authorities of Japanese enterprises who have their headquarters in Luxembourg. The firm Fanuc in Japan constitutes a model for Luxembourg research, declared Jeannot Krecke who was impressed by the innovative spirit of the Japanese enterprise. On his visit of Teijin which is established in Luxembourg under the name of DuPont Teijin Films, the Minister explained about the possibility of installing other departments of the Firm in Luxembourg, particularly in the areas dealing with electronics, environment, health, automobile and aviation. Jeannot Krecke underlined the importance of the meeting between the Luxembourg delegation and the authorities of TDK in Japan. The confirmation of investments of 5 million euros by TDK for the development of the DVD department in Luxembourg was also mentioned.

Luxembourg has the highest population increase in Europe:

According to demographic projections published by Eurostat, the European Union's Statistical Office, on 15 April 2005, Luxembourg could see the highest population increase in the EU over the next two decades. The Grand Duchy would top the demographic growth rate by a 42.3% increase. Ireland would be second with 36% and Cyprus third with 33.5%. The EU's total population is expected to increase by more than 13 million by 2050. By 2050, twenty Member States are expected to register a decline in their population. Only Luxembourg, Ireland, Cyprus, Malta and Sweden will record a population increase. Luxembourg will also be the country with the highest share of working population (61.3%), and the lowest share of elderly people (21.1%)

Jump in Housing prices in Luxembourg:

In a recent report published on 12 April 2005 by Statec, the National Statistics Office in Luxembourg, housing prices have rocketed over the last ten years. The prices of houses have gone up by 80%, and the prices of flats have increased by 43%. Rocketing prices are attributable to a sharp increase in population over the past decade, according to the Ministry for Housing. The population rose by 50,700 people between 1994 and 2004. About 92% of the total population increase is linked to the growth of the foreign population in the Grand Duchy.

US biopharma firm to move into Leuven:

TorreyPines Therapeutics, the California-based biopharma discovery company, is to open a European division in Leuven. Formerly Neurogenetics, Inc., TorreyPines Therapeutics was founded in 2000 and is a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company focused on the discovery, development and commercialization of breakthrough in small molecule drugs to treat diseases and disorders of the central nervous system (CNS). The company is leveraging novel drug targets and technologies to deliver new therapies for migraine, neuropathic pain and neurodegenerative disorders such as Alzheimer's disease. The Flemish venture capital organization GIMV was a founding shareholder in the company and holds a seat on the board. GIMV also invested in Diatos, a French company specializing in cancer treatments that opened a facility in Leuven last year. Both Diatos and TorreyPines Therapeutics will move into the new Leuven biotech incubator currently under construction.

J&J invests 30m euro in Tibotec production plant:

Johnson & Johnson, the worldwide healthcare company, is to build a 30 million euro production plant in the Flemish city of Geel for its subsidiary Tibotec. Tibotec, originally an independent Flemish company along with its sister firm Virco, was bought by Johnson & Johnson in 2002. After some 10 years of research, Tibotec has four potential medications (three in Aids and the other in TB) with the first expected to enter the market within a year. In clinical trials the Aids medication known as TMC-114 showed significant results in Aids sufferers who no longer respond to the traditional cocktail of drugs currently available. The company's other Aids medications are TMC-125, which could be on the market in two years, and TMC-278, an entirely new class of medicine in Aids. This was developed by the late Dr Paul Janssen, founder of Janssen Pharmaceutica, also a Johnson & Johnson company. Tibotec employs 500 people worldwide and is one of the top five research divisions in Johnson & Johnson with an R&D budget of more than 300 million euro this year.

C. EUROPEAN UNION

Labor Market: Employment and Activity rates up in EU:

As a result of employment rate dynamism, the share of active population (employed plus unemployed people) in the whole population aged 15-64 (activity rate) increased in the EU-25 in the third quarter of 2004 compared with the corresponding period in 2003, according to an EU labour force survey published by Eurostat, the EU's statistics office. The survey also reveals that working time remained relatively stable at 38.4 hours/week over the third quarter of 2004, though national and gender variations were observed. In the third quarter 2004, 63.7% of the working age population (15-64 years of age) held a job or other business activity in the EU-25, compared to 63.3% one year before. Between the third quarters 2003 and 2004, the employment rate of men remained unchanged at 71.4%, while the female employment rate gained 0.8 point, to reach 56.1%. Among Member States, total employment rate rose in this period by more than 0.5 point in Denmark, Belgium, Poland, Spain and Slovenia. In contrast, it went down by more than 0.5 point in Sweden, Hungary, Slovakia and Estonia. The rise in EU-25 employment rate was not sufficient to cause a significant decrease in unemployment rate for people aged 15-64. In the third quarter of 2004, 8.1% of active men and 9.8% of active women were unemployed (respectively 8.2% and 10.0% in the third quarter of 2003). Older people's jobs (55 to 64 years) are less precarious than those of younger workers: only 7.0% of the employees in this age group have temporary contracts, compared to 10.6% for people in the age group 25-54 years, and 40.6% in the age group 15-24 years. In the EU-25, part-time employment went up from 16.8% of total employment in the third quarter 2003 to 17.4% in the same quarter of 2004. The increase was stronger for women (from 30.0% to 30.9%) than for men (from 6.5% to 6.8%). Average weekly working time fell lightly: from 38.5 to 38.4 hours between the third quarters 2003 and 2004. It fell in the EU15 from 37.9 in 2003 to 37.7 in 2004. There are significant differences between individual member states: at 42.8 hours, Poland returns the highest figure for the third quarter of 2004 and the Netherlands the lowest with 32.6. Average working time for the EU25 was 41.8 hours/week for men and 33.9 for women.

EU approves test for genetically modified corn:

The European Union announced it has approved a testing method for the unauthorized Bt10 genetically modified corn, a move that should end an EU ban on suspect corn gluten imports from

the United States. The approval by the EU's Joint Research Center means that the biotech grain can now be detected reliably by labs in American ports, reopening the flow of millions of dollars of U.S. corn gluten and brewer's grain, said EU spokesman Philip Tod. The ban was in response to Swiss company Syngenta AG accidentally selling Bt10 to U.S. farmers. They grew the seeds and exported a small amount of the crop to Europe and other nations between 2001 and 2004. The United States had said it was neither a health nor an environmental hazard. But European nations have been wary of allowing genetically modified food and animal feed after food scandals over the last decade. The imports will be tested when leaving the United States and could be checked again by EU member nations. U.S. shipments of corn gluten feed to the EU totaled \$450 million last year. Syngenta said earlier this month it had reached a settlement with the U.S. government over the inadvertent sale to farmers.

IT security specialist launches regional HQ:

Security Innovation, the international specialist in application security testing, research and training, has expanded its European operations by opening a regional headquarters at De Pinte in Flanders, the company has announced. "The demand for proven, repeatable and comprehensive application security testing and training programs is outpacing the supply of qualified experts to deliver those services," said Ed Adams, CEO of Security Innovation. "The opening of a European headquarters allows us to service our existing global customer base and capitalize on a growing worldwide market opportunity — a natural next step for the company." The company's expertise focuses on systematically analyzing the highly complex and layered applications dominating today's IT environments for possible sources of security vulnerabilities. In addition it offers training to software developers on how to properly build and test applications before they are brought to market. Security Innovation company is headquartered in Boston and has two technical labs in the USA as well as one in Brussels, Belgium.

EU health food directive declared illegal:

A European judge has declared illegal a directive controlling the sale of some vitamins and other food supplements. An advocate-general at the European Court of Justice, Leendert Geelhoed, said the directive -- to have become law this year -- was seriously deficient and broke basic legal principles. The British health food industry hailed the ruling as a victory in its battle against the European Union directive, which would have outlawed 300 vitamin and mineral ingredients and resulted in the removal of more than 5,000 products from European store shelves. The Alliance for Natural Health said the directive threatened ingredients that included some widely used forms of vitamin E and vitamin C, as well as minerals such as vanadium, silicon and boron.

The EC initiates probe into Surge in imports of Chinese Textiles:

The European Commission on Friday gave textile manufacturers, importers and consumers' groups three weeks to comment as part of its probe into a surge in Chinese imports, which is straining EU-China ties. The investigation, to take 60 days overall, is the next step in a process that could lead to EU import limits to protect Europe's textile industry from a flood of cheap Chinese imports since the end of the quota regime in January. "All parties interested are invited to make known their point of view in writing," said a notice published in the European Union's official journal. The investigation is focusing on nine types of textile imports that have seen particular spikes since January 1 when a 31-year-old global textile quotas system came to an end. EU textile producers are worried that thousands of jobs could be lost if urgent action is not taken to stem a flood of Chinese clothing that was unleashed by the end of the global textiles quota

system. Chinese textile imports into the EU have soared by as much as 534 percent for some garments since the end of the quota system, which is far beyond the limits the European Commission considers tolerable. Beijing has reacted angrily to the probe, arguing Europe is acting against the principles of free trade. Specifically the EC is looking at T-shirts, pullovers, blouses, stockings and socks, men's trousers, women's overcoats, brassieres, flax or ramie yarn and woven fabrics flax.

Thai shrimp exporters to benefit under new EU deal:

Thai businesses, including shrimp exporters, will benefit from the European Union's proposed new Generalised System of Trade Preferences (GSP) once it is introduced, EU trade Commissioner Peter Mandelson stated. After a day of meetings with Thai ministers and leaders from Thai and European companies, Mandelson said he wanted to see the new preferences put in place as early as possible. "The Thai shrimp industry will significantly benefit from the introduction of the GSP, and therefore it's in the interests of Thailand that we do this as speedily as possible, and that's what I want to see happen," he told reporters. Tariffs on Thai shrimp will fall to 4.2 percent from 12 percent under the new system, which was due to take effect this July 1 but is being fast-tracked due to the tsunami. Thailand is one of the world's largest exporters of shrimp. In 2002 Thailand suffered a 57 percent plunge in exports of shrimp to Europe after the EU imposed systematic checks due to traces of cancer-linked chemicals found in Thai shrimp. The checks were lifted after the product demonstrated "major improvement", EU safety experts said. GSP is the system of tariff reductions the EU has been granting to developing countries for the past 30 years. Among the sectors covered by the reintroduction of the preferences system are fishery products, plastic and rubber, and footwear. However, two sectors -- vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment, and jewellery -- will lose their preferences. Thailand's automotive sector has "graduated" to the point where they no longer required preferences, Mandelson said.

EU asks nations to lift bans on several biotech crops:

The European Union's has asked five EU members states to lift ban on a range of biotech crops that have been cleared by the bloc's food safety agency. The European Commission called on Austria, Germany, Luxembourg, France and Greece to end their national bans, which altogether affect three types of corn and two varieties of oilseed. The EU ended a six-year moratorium on accepting applications for new genetically modified foods in May 2004, but several EU nations remain reluctant to authorize biotech crops because of public health and environment concerns. The EU wants restrictions lifted on corn varieties T25 and MON810, which are banned in Austria; maize Bt176, outlawed in Austria, Germany and Luxembourg; oilseed MS1xRF1, banned in France; and oilseed Topas 19/2, which is banned in France and Greece. Governments have just over three months to lift the bans or face legal action from the commission. European concerns over genetically modified foods have been heightened in recent weeks because of the discovery that animal feed containing an unauthorized biotech corn had been imported by mistake from the United States.

Bilateral Trade:**India-Belgium Trade:****Figures in Thousand Euro**

Product	Jan-Feb 04	Jan-Feb 05	% change	% share
India's exports	344101	399695	16.16%	32.3%
India's imports	800142	837926	4.72%	67.7%
Total trade	1144243	1237621		

Major items of Indian exports to Belgium:**Figures in Thousand Euro**

Product	Jan-Feb 04	Jan-Feb 05	% change	% share
Iron and Steel	7557	58994	681%	15%
Articles of apparel & clothing acc, not knitted	15015	15537	3%	4%
Organic chemicals	5700	9567	68%	2%
Fish crustaceans, mollusks & other aquatic	10706	7922	-26%	2%
Other vegetable textile fibers; paper yarn & woven fabrics	2898	3670	27%	1%
Edible fruit & nuts; peel of citrus fruits or melons	1591	2317	46%	1%
Coffee, tea, amte and spices	1764	2306	31%	1%
Cereals	985	2086	112%	1%
Salt; sulphur; earths & stone	1933	1742	-10%	0%
Ores, slag and ash	2116	1721	-19%	0%

Major items of Indian imports from Belgium:**Figures in Thousand Euro**

Product	Jan-Feb 04	Jan-Feb 05	% change	% share
Iron and steel	6459	33212	414%	4%
Organic chemicals	7574	9847	30%	1%
Pharmaceutical products	11696	3612	-69%	0%
Pulp of wood or of other fibrous cellulosic materials	1063	2310	117%	0%
Inorganic chemicals; organic or inorganic compounds	1094	1906	74%	0%
Photographic or cinematographic	2084	1139	-45%	0%
Rubber and articles thereof	575	918	60%	0%
Other vegetable textile fibres; paper yarn & woven fabrics	635	457	-28%	0%
Ores, slag and ash	804	453	-44%	0%
Other base metals; cermets; articles thereof	340	383	13%	0%

India-Luxembourg Trade:**Figures in Thousand Euro**

Product	Jan-Feb 04	Jan-Feb 05	% change	% share
India's exports	2213	1561	-29%	70.5%
India's imports	1074	1312	22.16%	39.91%
Total trade	3287	2873		

Major items of Indian exports to Luxembourg:**Figures in Thousand Euro**

Product	Jan-Feb 04	Jan-Feb 05	% change	% share
Man-made filaments	1047	817	-22%	52.3%
Articles of iron and steel	477	209	-56%	13.4%
Plastic & Plastic products	75	120	60%	7.7%
Nuclear reactors, Boilers, Machinery & Mech appliances	147	73	-50%	4.7%
Miscellaneous chemical products	12	57	375%	3.7%
Articles of apparel & clothing accessories, not knitted or croc	21	49	133%	3.1%
Salt; sulphur; earths & stone; plastering material, lime	4	45	1025%	2.9%
Tanning or dyeing extracts; tannins	79	44	-44%	2.8%
Glass and Glassware	37	27	-27%	1.7%
Articles of Stone, Plaster, cement, asbestos, mica	3	27	800%	1.7%

Major items of Indian imports from Luxembourg:**Figures in Thousand Euro**

Product	Jan-Feb 04	Jan-Feb 05	% change	% share
Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery & mechanical	798	8065	911%	615%
Articles of Iron & Steel	11	902	8100%	69%
Copper and articles thereof	6	471	7750%	36%
Other base metals; cermets; articles thereof	31	255	723%	19%
Optical, photographic, cinematographic & measuring equipment	33	217	558%	17%
Plastic & plastic products	12	142	1083%	11%
Books, newspapers, pictures	0	142	-	11%

& other products				
Other made up textile articles, sets; worn clothing	0	72	-	5%
Electrical machinery & equip & parts thereof	21	50	138%	4%
Iron and Steel	54	18	-67%	1%

Trade/Investment Enquiries:

TOTAL OF ENQUIRIES FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL – 73

Silk	3
Embroidery Garments	4
textiles	3
Miscellaneous Handicrafts/Home furnishing	5
Garments	4
Imitation Jewelleries/silver items	5
Knitwear	5
Herbal Products	3
Agro Products	3
Eucalyptus Oil/Essential Oil	2
Processed Food	4
Medical & Surgical Inst	2
Minerals, Ores & Refractories	1
Artificial Flowers	2
Metal Scraps	1
Coir Mats & other Natural Floor Covering	1
Food Colors	3
Scientific Instruments	2
IT Services	1
Decorative laminated Sheets	2
Wheat Chaki	1
diamond cutting discs	2
Hair Care & Skin Care Segment	2
Scaffolding items and Tractor Parts	1
Air conditioners & home appliances	2
Powder milk	1
Steel building	1
Dyeing & Finishing Chemicals	3
Ferro Silicon/Ferro-Manganese	1
Coir products	1
Marble & Stone	2
Stainless Steel Utensils	2
Boxing & Sporting goods	1

**Dissemination of Information on Tender
(During April)**

1	OIL AND NATURAL GAS CORPORATION LIMITED Mumbai	5
2	INDIAN RAILWAYS DIESEL LOCOMOTIVE WORKS Varanasi	6
3	GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF DEFENCE Indian Ordnance Factories Pune	3

**Disseminated information on Fairs in India
(During April 2005)**

SL No.	NAME OF FAIR	DATE OF EVENT	PLACE OF EVENT
1	10th India International Civil & defence Equipment & system Exhibition & Conference 2005 (10th IICDES 2005)	25TH to 27th Oct 2005	Ashok hotel, New Delhi
2	7th International Exhibition of Electrical & Industrial Electronics Industry	18th to 22 Jan 2006	Mumbai, India
3	7th International Trade Fair & conference on Pulp, Paper & Convention Industrial PAPEREX 2005	3rd to 6th Dec 2005	Pragatil Maidan, New Delhi

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