

EMBASSY OF INDIA
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ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL REPORT
BELGIUM AND LUXEMBOURG
November 2005

A. GENERAL INTERNAL DEVELOPMENT

Belgians no longer richest Europeans:

Belgians have lost their position at the top of the table of the richest Europeans. According to an article in De Tijd, the Dutch and the British possibly head the wealth league due to the popularity of playing the stock market in those countries, although Belgian economic growth has been stronger. With investments amounting to 255% of the GNP, Belgium's population was heralded as the richest in Europe back in 2002. This was worked out by Eurostat, the EU statistical information service. According to the latest Eurostat calculations, Belgium has to step down from its first position, despite an investment coefficient rise from 255% to 257% of GNP in 2004. Markets in both the UK and the Netherlands have outperformed the Belgian stock exchange. Financial investments in the UK, in comparison to GNP, shot up from 252% to 270%. The Netherlands saw a growth of 247% to 268%. The traditionally conservative investment policy of the average Belgian saved the country's stock exchange from heavy devaluation during the market crisis between 2000 and 2002. Now the same policy is restraining growth potential.

Both the UK and the Netherlands were harder hit by the stock crisis but have seen a healthy recovery since the beginning of 2003. Liquid assets in Belgium represented 32% of household financial equity last year. According to figures from the National Bank, individual shares only amounted to around 8% of Belgian financial equity at the end of 2004. The average Belgian household prefers indirect investments, through investment funds. The gross of investment is not pure stocks and shares; the most popular investment funds come with capital protection. Belgium's GNP is growing at a stronger rate than in the UK the Netherlands, which also accounts for the Belgian slip in the tables. Last year, the Belgian economy grew a whole 1% more than the Dutch. A higher GNP weighs heavily upon the global relationship between investment and GNP.

Wage gap with neighbouring countries widens:

Over the last decade the wage gap between Belgium and its neighbours has systematically widened. Since 1996 it has risen to 2.9%. The ever-greater difference is caused by the higher-than-expected inflation, and the stricter wage restraint applied in the Netherlands, France and Germany. Up to 2000 Belgian wage increases maintained a fairly similar trend, but in 2001 (0.7%), 2002-2003 (0.1%) and 2005-2006 (+2.1%),

wages increased in Belgium much more markedly than in the neighbouring countries. This was revealed in the annual technical report of the Central Council for the Business Community, which serves as a basis for the two-yearly wage talks between the social partners. The wage-cost handicap has a negative effect on the competitive position of Belgian companies.

According to the employers' organisations VBO, Unizo, VOKA and Agoria (technological industry), the figures confirm that the cries of alarm from companies about their competitive handicap are based on solid ground. However, their comments are relatively moderate. That is understandable, for in the coming weeks they have to negotiate with the trade unions on the implementation of the Generation Pact on career-end arrangements. The most hard-line comments come from the managing director of Agoria, Paul Soete. Agoria has long been an opponent of the current wage standard. This is being negotiated with the unions and determines the wage increases in the collective labour agreements per sector. According to Agoria, the wage handicap in the technological industry already amounts to 11.5% in respect of the neighbouring countries and the derailment of wage costs will lead to 2,000 jobs being lost next year.

B. ECONOMY AND COMMERC

Electrabel invests in The Netherlands:

The Belgian energy company Electrabel is planning to open three new electric power stations in The Netherlands. Electrabel has recently become a daughter company of the French Suez group. Two of the power stations are to be built in the Dutch province Flevoland and will be working on gas. Electrabel is also going to build a biomass driven power station near the city of Rotterdam. The three power stations will cost an estimated 1 billion euros and will enlarge Electrabel's production capacity by 10 %. Today, the Belgian group already owns 25 % of the Dutch market. With the new investments the Belgian group wants to maintain this position. Other electricity companies E.on, Nuon, Eneco and Delta are also planning to enlarge their capacity in The Netherlands. This may well put considerable pressure on the high energy prices there.

SN Brussels expands its service:

Sabena successor SN Brussels Airlines is introducing a number of new destinations as part of its winter schedule. In future the Belgian flag carrier will fly to Aarhus in Denmark and Glasgow in Scotland. The carrier is also increasing its flights to Moscow, Prague, London Gatwick and Sofia (Bulgaria). In co-operation with the UAE carrier Etihad Airlines SN Brussels is also flying to Toronto and Abu Dhabi. The service is the first new long haul flight at Zaventem in five years. The capital of the United Arab Emirates Abu Dhabi is a growing business centre and is connected with Dubai by a bus service. Several Belgian firms in the construction industry are active in the area. The service from Toronto means that travellers no longer need to go via London. The Canadian city is important for Belgian-Canadian trade relations.

ING under the Spell of Outsourcing:

On November 2 Dutch bank insurer ING announced major job cuts in Belgium for the second time this year. According to calculations by trade unions, 300 to 340 jobs will disappear in Belgium, on top of the 50 jobs ING scrapped back in July. The job losses are the result of a restructuring of the Operations & IT division, which has to achieve annual cost savings of 190 million euros by 2008. It is estimated that 4,500 of the 13,000 jobs there will ultimately have to disappear. There will be no simple redundancies, the management promised. But around 2,200 ING employees in Benelux will be forced to switch to a supplier of IT services. The Belgian IT division employs 2,750 people. Finally, ING is not going to extend the contracts of 1,400 temporary workers. The whole restructuring plan fits perfectly into the trend for outsourcing administrative and IT tasks to companies that often operate from India or Eastern Europe. Several months ago Fortis also announced that it wants to scrap 1,200 jobs in support services. The unions are warning of the social consequences of spinning off and outsourcing. After all, workers will mostly lose the favourable work and pay conditions in the banking sector, they believe.

Flemish unemployment down for the first time in 5 years:

There are increasing signs that the economy is picking in the Flanders region. In October the research firm Graydon counted the lowest number of bankrupt businesses in five years, and because the figure also fell in September, the firm sees this as a sign of economic recovery. The economic barometer of the Nationale Bank has also shown a positive break with trends since September. This is because unemployment in Flanders has fallen for the first time in 5 years. The Flemish Public Employment Service (VDAB) counted 3,346 or 1.4% fewer job seekers than in October 2004. The drop is mainly visible among unskilled women who last year got new jobs via the system of service cheques. Conversely, the number of older and foreign people unemployed has risen, as has the number of long-term unemployed. October 2005 was the first month that again allowed comparison with the same month in 2004, because in October 2004 the unemployment figures underwent some doctoring.

Belgian banks accused of unethical investments:

Some major high street banks in Belgium invest a share of Belgian savings in companies and projects that contravene human rights. This is the claim made in a report compiled by Netwerk Vlaanderen an organisation that promotes ethical use of money. Netwerk Vlaanderen carried out an investigation into investment portfolios of Axa, Fortis, Dexia, KBC and ING; all prominent names on the Belgian high street. The report showed that investments were made in companies that breach basic human rights. Some of the businesses involved are guilty of such practices as forced labour and child labour. According to Inez Louwagie from Netwerk Vlaanderen, other companies, profiting from Belgian investments, support dictatorships and incorporate other unacceptable practices. These investments are made with clients' money. Netwerk Vlaanderen hopes to raise customer awareness. The organisation intends to show how the public's savings can be used by banks to support practices that contravene human rights. Netwerk Vlaanderen

aims to put a stop to such investment policies, while calling for all banks to make known, publicly, where they invest and in which companies.

C. EUROPEAN UNION

Eurozone posts 1.4-billion-euro trade surplus in September:

The eurozone booked a trade surplus of 1.4 billion euros (1.65 billion dollars) in September, against a deficit of 2.2 billion in August, the European Union's statistics agency Eurostat said on November 21. Exports rose 0.3 percent on a seasonally adjusted basis in September compared to August in the 12 nations using the euro single currency, while imports fell by 0.7 percent, according to Eurostat. The full 25-nation EU showed a trade deficit of 9.1 billion euros, compared with a 14.1 billion-euro deficit in August. EU exports increased by 0.3 percent, while imports fell by 1.6 percent compared with the previous month.

Euro-zone unemployment down to 8.4%:

Euro-zone seasonally-adjusted unemployment stood at 8.4% in September 2005, compared to 8.5% in August. It was 8.8% in September 2004. The EU25 unemployment rate was 8.6% in September 2005, unchanged compared to August. It was 9.0% in September 2004. In September 2005, the lowest rates were registered in Ireland (4.3%), the Netherlands (4.6%), the United Kingdom (4.6% in July), Denmark (4.7%) and Austria (5.2%). Unemployment rates were highest in Poland (17.7%), Slovakia (16.4%), Greece (9.9% in June), France (9.4%), Spain (9.3%) and Latvia (8.8%). These figures come from Eurostat, the Statistical Office of the European Communities. Amongst the Member States, fifteen recorded a decrease in their unemployment rate over a year, three remained stable and seven reported an increase. The largest relative decreases were observed in Lithuania (10.5% to 7.6%), Estonia (8.9% to 7.1%), Spain (10.8% to 9.3%), Denmark (5.3% to 4.7%) and Latvia (9.8% to 8.8%), while Cyprus (5.4% to 6.4%), Hungary (6.1% to 7.2%), Luxembourg (4.9% to 5.6%) and Belgium (7.9% to 8.4%) registered the highest relative increases. In September 2005 compared to September 2004, the unemployment rate for males decreased from 7.6% to 7.4% in the euro-zone and decreased from 8.0% to 7.8% in the EU25. The female unemployment rate fell from 10.4% to 9.7% in the euro-zone and from 10.1% to 9.6% in the EU25.

In September 2005, the unemployment rate for under-25s was 17.2% in the euro-zone and 18.2% in the EU25. In September 2004 it was 18.0% and 18.8% respectively. The lowest rates for under-25s were observed in Denmark (7.5%), the Netherlands (8.1%) and Ireland (8.4%), the highest in Poland (37.9%), Slovakia (29.8%) and Greece (25.8% in June). Eurostat estimates that, in September 2005, 12.3 million men and women were unemployed in the euro-zone and 18.7 million in the EU25. These are seasonally-adjusted figures in line with ILO criteria. In September 2005, the US unemployment rate was 5.1% and the Japanese rate was 4.2%.

EC to invest EUR 151m in mobile and wireless systems research:

The Commission has provided details of the retained project proposals following the fourth Information Society Technologies (IST) call of the Sixth Framework Programme (FP6), with the largest portion of funding (151 million euro) being set aside for mobile and wireless systems research. This investment in mobile and wireless systems aims to protect communication systems and personal data against cyber crime, with the overall goal of ensuring European leadership in technologies that are at the heart of the knowledge economy. The 151 million euro of co-financing being invested by the Commission represents in these projects roughly 15 per cent of the total available funds under the fourth IST call. A further 83 million euro of EU funding will be spent on 24 projects in the field of health technology research. Retained initiatives include using new biosignal sensors to detect and treat cancer and other tumours, developing navigation aids for the visually impaired, and a study on the cost-efficiency of health care spending. In the field of road safety research, the Commission will contribute a total of 91 million euro to 22 projects, which will focus on in-vehicle safety systems such as automatic emergency call technologies. Meanwhile projects to improve online services will receive 73 million euro of EU funding, and will aim at helping the Internet to evolve into a wireless network supporting full mobility, interactive television and post-third generation (3G) mobile technology.

The remaining funds will be split among these same thematic areas as well as eight others, including nano-electronics, audio-visual systems and technology-enhanced learning. Under this call for proposals, 69 million euro has been set aside in order to facilitate research cooperation between the older and newer EU Member States. Just over six per cent of the retained projects originate from new Member States and candidate countries.

Germany granted two years to control deficit:

The incoming German government will get until the end of 2007 to rein its public deficit within EU limits, EU commissioner for economic affairs Joaquin Almunia said on November 7. "It would be of crucial importance for the whole credibility for the fiscal framework of the European Union that the new German government will stick to the rules of the Stability and Growth Pact," he told journalists after a meeting of eurozone finance ministers. "And it means that they will need to establish a clear adjustment path for putting the public deficit below three percent" of output as stipulated by the pact," he added. With Germany set to break three-percent deficit rule this year for the fourth year running, the German public finances were clearly "not in a positive situation this year," Almunia said. But because the new German government would not be in a position to vote on the 2006 budget until the year had started, Berlin would get another year to bring down its deficit. "We understand the possibility of giving one more year for the adjustment and it means that the adjustment should be produced by the end of 2007," Almunia said. Luxembourg Prime Minister Jean-Claude Juncker, who chaired the meeting of finance ministers, said: "I'm confident that the new federal government will be able to succeed in achieving that."

Siemens wins 1.30-blm-euro ICE speed-train contract in China:

German engineering giant Siemens has won a contract worth more than 1.3 billion euros (1.6 billion dollars) to supply 60 high-speed ICE trains to China, the business daily Handelsblatt reported on November 4. The deal was set to be finalised during a visit to Germany by Chinese President Hu Jintao at the end of the following week, the newspaper said, quoting sources close to the negotiations. Siemens declined to comment on the report. The ICE trains would be the first high-speed trains in China, travelling at a speed of up to 300 kilometres per hour, the newspaper said. China is currently investing heavily in the expansion of its rail network and has earmarked 500 billion yuan (around 50 billion euros) for investment until 2010, it said.

Caribbean sugar producers press demands for better compensation from EU:

Caribbean sugar producers pressed demands on November 27 for better compensation from the European Union over its decision to cut prices by 36 percent, showing bitter disappointment over the change in the trade policy. "We don't want charity. We want Europe to live up to its agreement with us," President Barrat Jagdeo of Guyana told a news conference at the end of a Commonwealth summit that endorsed their demand. "We were very pleased that the Commonwealth meeting urged the EU to treat the ACP farmers the same way they're treating their farmers for compensation purposes," said Jagdeo, referring to the African, Caribbean and Pacific group of EU trading partners. The president of Guyana described as "grossly unfair" the EU compensation package that would set aside six billion euros (seven billion dollars) for European sugar producers and only 40 million euros for those from Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific.

EU farm ministers agreed last week to overhaul a 40-year-old sugar regime, slashing prices by 36 percent over the next four years, after the World Trade Organisation (WTO) ruled in favor of Australia, Brazil and Thailand which complained that the pricing scheme was illegal. In a statement, leaders of the 53-nation Commonwealth group of mainly former British colonies called on the EU to provide compensation to the small nations hard-hit by the sugar pricing change. Prime Minister Owen Arthur of Barbados made clear his disappointment, saying "We don't feel that Europe is negotiating in good faith with us and we will do everything possible not to be ignored." Jagdeo accused European governments of making public pledges to reduce poverty by supporting the UN millennium goals (MDGs) while making decisions that penalize the economies of poor nations. "All this talk bout MDGs and poverty-reduction -- trying to appease its conscience and that of the good European people... they are being misled," said Jagdeo.

EU to push for big cut in cotton subsidies to help poor:

The European Commission will push for a substantial cut in cotton subsidies at the key world trade talks in Hong Kong next month to help suffering African growers, a spokesman said on November 18. The commission, which negotiates on behalf of the 25

EU member states, said it wants the cuts to take place as soon as the Doha round of international trade negotiations are completed. "Given the hardships and difficulties being experienced by African cotton growers, the European Union is pushing for a wide-ranging agreement on cutting and eliminating the cotton subsidies from day one of the implementation of the Doha agreement," said trade spokesman Peter Power. "This must be part of a wider development package to be agreed at Hong Kong," he said. The commission said it is seeking to eliminate exports subsidies for cotton in developed countries and duty free access for cotton by all developed and advanced developing countries. "As of 2006, 65 percent of support for cotton farmers will be decoupled from production," said Power. "In concrete terms, the EU has proposed the elimination of all forms of export subsidies for cotton for all developed countries, provision of duty free access for cotton imports by all developed and advanced developing countries and a substantial reduction of trade supporting domestic support for cotton producers in developed countries," he said.

EU tables new tariff offer in banana dispute with Latin America:

The European Commission proposed on November 17 a new offer on banana import tariffs aimed at ending a long-standing dispute with Latin American producers. The World Trade Organisation struck down the European Union's last proposed tariff on bananas, saying it was too high to allow fair competition from Latin American exporters. In reaction to that ruling, the EU proposed a tariff of 179 euros per tonne, eight euros less than its last offer of 187 euros. The EU has been struggling to maintain a preferential banana trade deal with the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) grouping of countries. Rival Latin American nations have won a string of victories after years of banana battles with the EU at the WTO. The dispute holds big stakes for Latin American banana producers, which export an annual combined 3.4 million tonnes of bananas to the EU-25. The first 2.2 million tonnes are covered by a quota that sets a tariff of 75 euros per tonne but the rest are slapped with a tariff of 680 euros. Latin American producers want a tariff of 75 euros per tonne on all of their banana exports to the EU. The dispute goes back to the late 1990s when Brussels, Washington -- which was backing US-based fruit multinationals -- and some Latin American countries were locked in a bruising confrontation over the EU's banana barriers. That battle culminated in a WTO ruling in 2000 that the EU system broke trade rules. Brussels agreed to come up with a new system, but the WTO has since ruled in favour of Latin American producers that the system is unfair.

D. VISITS and DELEGATIONS:

Honorable Minister for Commerce and Industry, Shri Kamal Nath, addresses G90 meeting in Brussels:

Honorable Minister, Commerce and Industry was invited by G90 countries to address their meeting in Brussels on 30th November in the run up to the Hong Kong Ministerial in mid December. Mr. Peter Mandelson, Trade Commissioner of EU and representatives from US, Brazil and Hong Kong were also invited to the meeting. Honorable Minister

made a strong plea in favour of the least developed countries and called upon the EU and the US to offer more in the ongoing Doha Round of negotiations. He reminded all present that it was being called “Development Round” and as such should contribute to the development of all countries especially the poorer and least developed countries. There was a need for every country to benefit from increased opportunity and welfare gains that the multilateral trading system generates, he added.

While accepting that agriculture was the greatest source of livelihood in the developing countries the Minister pointed out that industrial sector still provided a significant part of labour intensive employment and output. He mentioned that the modalities for liberalization in NAMA must ensure that the remaining high tariffs and peak tariffs are eliminated in developed countries and that there should be sufficient flexibility to accommodate the sensitive sectors and adjustment needs of developing countries. The Minister also touched upon transitional costs and preference erosion faced by small and vulnerable economies and made a plea for a Development Audit of the Uruguay Round. He ended his speech by stating that the most important deadline was to end poverty and to achieve development and that India was committed to work with all developing countries to achieve this common objective. The Minister’s speech was well received by the audience.

Other Highlights of Commerce and Industry Minister’s Visit to Brussels:

Besides addressing the G-90 countries the Minister had a luncheon meeting with Trade Commissioner Peter Mandelson. In the afternoon he addressed a press conference where various news agencies and TV channels were present. He basically talked about World Trade Organisation issues on the lines of his speech at the G-90 meeting. In the evening the Minister hosted a dinner for the Trade Ministers of the G-90 countries and gave them full assurance of India’s commitment to the cause of developing countries in general and small and marginal economies in particular.

The following morning the Minister had a breakfast meeting with MEPs at the European Parliament which was attended by about a dozen prominent MEPs. Responding to the queries made by the MEPs the minister touched upon issues ranging from India’s relationship with Pakistan, to global threat of terrorism, expectations from the Hong Kong Ministerial, NTBs in trade, India’s FDI regime, Services (Mode 4), NAMA and the development agenda. The MEPs appreciated the Ministers’ response. After the breakfast meeting with MEPs the Minister paid a visit to the Diamond High Council (HRD) in Antwerp where he was received by their office bearers and taken around the Diamond Bourse. The Minister also met the Indian Diamond Association of Antwerp and listened to their proposals for making India a major hub for diamond trade. The Minister appreciated the remarkable achievements of the Indian diamond traders in Antwerp where they have carved out a niche for themselves.

Visit of Basmati Rice Delegation:

A government –cum- trade delegation of Basmati Rice led by Chairman APEDA visited Brussels from 22nd to 25th November. The delegation comprised of government officials, trade representatives and DNA scientists. The objective of the delegation was to hold discussion with the EC officials especially the Scientists of the Joint Research Center of the EC to develop a common DNA protocol for establishing the authenticity of Basmati Rice exported to the EU. A dinner was hosted at the Embassy on this occasion where a presentation on DNA Protocol developed by India was made to key EC officials from DG, Agriculture and other important EU trade representatives. On 24th Nov. a day long conference was held with the Scientists of Joint Research Center at Geel which was also attended by a similar but smaller delegation from Pakistan.

E. PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

Seminar on “India and Outsourcing”:

A Seminar on “India and Outsourcing” was organized by the Mission in collaboration with the Belgo-Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BICCI) on 29th Nov. 2005 at the Embassy. The Seminar began with the Vice President of BICCI, Mr Lars Jacobson welcoming the new Ambassador Mr. Dipak Chatterjee. The Ambassador then addressed the gathering highlighting the strengths of Indian Economy and merits of outsourcing. This was followed by formal presentations. At first Mr. Siddharth, Adviser (Commerce and Trade Development) made a presentation on “Indian Economy and Investment Potential”. Mr. Benoit Van Asbroeck of Loyens Advocates made the next presentation on “Legal Framework for Outsourcing Contracts”. The third and last presentation was made by Mr. Francois Pecher of Input For You on “Outsourcing Services in India”. The presentations were followed by a question and answer session. The seminar concluded with a reception hosted by the Mission which provided further opportunity to the participants for business interaction. About 50 people participated in the Seminar who found the presentations and discussions very useful.

F. TRADE ENQUIRIES:

During the month, the Commercial Section received 83 trade enquiries. Appropriate action was taken on each of them.

G. TENDERS:

During the month, the Commercial Section received 38 tender notices. These were widely publicized among the Chambers of Commerce and relevant Trade Associations in Belgium and Luxembourg. And also put on the Embassy website.

H. TRADE FAIRS:

During the month, information relating to 4 trade fairs taking place in India was received. This was widely publicized among the Chambers of Commerce and relevant Trade Associations in Belgium and Luxembourg. And also put on the Embassy website.

I. BILATERAL TRADE:

India-Belgium Trade:

Figures in Thousand Euro

Product	Jan-Aug 04	Jan-Aug 05	%change	%share
India's exports	1479183	1703758	15.2	32.8
India's Imports	2977162	3483301	17.0	67.2
Total Trade	4456345	5187059		

Major items of Indian exports to Belgium:

Figures in Thousand Euro

Product	Jan-Aug 04	Jan-Aug 05	%change	%share
Natural/cultured pearls, Precious stones and metals	863122	898976	4.2	52.8
Textiles and articles	204153	226389	10.9	13.3
Base metals	105937	201604	90.3	11.8
Iron and steel	78693	166208	111.2	9.8
Chemical products	42055	68936	63.9	4.0
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted	62249	68503	10.0	4.0
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, not knitted or crocheted	54178	67959	25.4	4.0
Mineral products	63297	55688	-12.0	3.3
Organic chemicals	26247	45452	73.2	2.7
Live animal/prod.	34180	42446	24.2	2.5

Major items of Indian imports from Belgium:

Figures in Thousand Euro

Product	Jan-Aug 04	Jan-Aug 05	%change	%share
Natural/cultured pearls, Precious stones and metals	2585388	2976000	15.1	85.4
Base metals	89355	171252	91.7	4.9
Iron and steel	52184	129660	148.5	3.7
Machine/electric equipment	89780	123784	37.9	3.6
Chemical products	109618	115708	5.6	3.3
Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances	74322	110937	49.3	3.2
Organic chemicals	35561	53446	50.3	1.5
Plastic and rubber	37667	38362	1.8	1.1
Plastics and articles thereof	34828	33421	-4.0	1.0
Pharmaceutical products	48022	22988	-52.1	0.7

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

Product	Jan-May 04	Jan-May 05	%change	%share
India's exports	5125	5789	13.0	52
India's Imports	2430	5351	120.2	48
Total Trade	7555	11140		

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

Product	Jan-May 04	Jan-May 05	%change	%share
Man-made filaments	2427	2705	11.5	46.7
Electrical machinery and equipments and parts thereof	140	1263	802.1	21.8
Articles of iron or steel	1376	806	-41.4	13.9
Plastics and plastic products	80	217	171.3	3.7
Nuclear reactors, boilers, mechanical applicants	262	217	-17.2	3.7
Tanning or dyeing extracts, tannins and their derivatives	96	125	30.2	2.2
Glass and glassware	114	111	-2.6	1.9
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted	106	89	-16.0	1.5
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, not knitted or crocheted	76	75	-1.3	1.3
Miscellaneous chemical products	18	68	277.8	1.2

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

Product	Jan-May 04	Jan-May 05	%change	%share
Natural/cultured pearls, Precious stones and metals	1608	4117	156.0	76.9
Iron and steel	73	300	310.1	5.6
Plastic and plastic products	116	230	97.8	4.3
Articles of iron or iron steels	56	166	194.3	3.1
Copper and article thereof	14	112	685.7	2.1
Electrical machinery and equipments and parts thereof	50	40	-18.9	0.7
Optical, photographic, cinematographic, measuring	105	40	-62.2	0.7
Toys, games and sports	0	34		0.6

requisites				
Other base metals	62	22	-64.2	0.4
Glass and glass ware	0	7		0.1

Trade/Investment Enquiries:

Total of enquiries for the month of November - 83

Textile industries and related accessories	9
Home Furnishing Products and Handicrafts	8
Stainless Steel and Engineering Goods	7
Dyes and pigments	5
Knitted garments and high fashionable lady garments	4
Automobile Engines and parts	4
Agricultural products (fish and vegetable)	3
Hardware goods and Software Technologies	3
Confectionery machinery and machine tools	2
Fashion Designer	2
General information	2
Herbal Items and Spice Powders	2
Laboratory equipment	2
Metal Manufacturer and scraps	2
Pharmaceutical Company	2
Pepper products	2
Carpet	1
Ceiling fans	1
Chemicals and aromatic chemicals	1
Door mats and mattings	1
Fashion accessories	1
Heat treatment furnaces	1
High security registration plate	1
Leather goods	1
Logistic real state	1
Metal Products	1
Mustard oil	1
Natural stone	1
Optical and hospital disposable products	1
Polyester Filament Yarn	1
Pulses	1
Plastic bag	1
Raw Cotton	1
Surgical dressing	1
Sliver artifacts and embroidered wall hanging	1
Tungsten Carbide Draw Dies	1
Translation bureaus	1
Wooden wall clock	1
Woven sacks	1
Yarn	1

**Dissemination of Information on Tenders
(During November)**

1	Indian Railways Office of the Controller of Stores	14
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	Diesel Locomotive Works	
2	Ministry of Railways Executive Director/Stores RDSO	14
3	General Manager (PC-IC), FACT Corporate Office, Udyogamandal	4
4	Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited Materials Management Department Mumbai	3
5	THE General Manager Metal and Steel Factory	1
6	General Manager, Gun Carriage Factory Engineering Division, Jabalpur	1
7	The General Manager Ordnance Factory, Varangaon	1

**Dissemination of Information on Fairs in India
(During November)**

Sl. No.	Name of Fair	Date of Event	Place of Event
1	India International Seafood Show 2006	3-5 February 2006	Netaji Indoor Stadium, Kolkata
2	International Conference on Plasticsulture and Percision Farming	17 – 21 November 2005	The Ashok, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi
3	The 21 st edition of the Indian International Leather Fair 2006	January 31 st – February 3 rd 2006	Chennai, India
4	11 th India International Civil Defence Equipment and Systems Exhibition and Conference 2006	12 – 16 September 2006	The Ashok, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi

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