

## Nepal Rastra Bank

## Economic Research Department, Baluwatar, Kathmandu Current Macroeconomic and Financial Situation of Nepal (Based on Eleven Months Data Ending Mid-June 2024/25)

ased on Eleven Month's Data Ending Mid-June 2024/2

## **Major Highlights**

- CPI-based inflation remained 2.72 percent on y-o-y basis.
- Balance of Payments remained at a surplus of Rs.491.44 billion.
- Imports and exports increased 13.1 percent and 77.8 percent respectively.
- Remittances increased 15.5 percent in NPR terms and 12.7 percent in USD terms. During mid-May to mid-June 2025 remittance inflows stood at Rs. 176.32 billion.
- Gross foreign exchange reserves stood at 18.65 billion in USD terms.
- Nepal Government expenditure amounted to Rs.1282.94 billion and revenue mobilization Rs.1016.09 billion.
- Broad money (M2) increased 8.2 percent. On y-o-y basis, M2 expanded 12.0 percent.
- Deposits at BFIs increased 8.0 percent and private sector credit increased 8.0 percent. On y-o-y basis, deposits increased 12.0 percent and private sector credit increased 8.7 percent.

## Inflation

#### **Consumer Price Inflation**

- The y-o-y consumer price inflation stood at 2.72 percent in mid-June 2025 compared to 4.17 percent a year ago. Food and beverage inflation stood at 0.54 percent whereas nonfood and service inflation stood at 3.94 percent in the review month. During the same period in the previous year, the price indices of these groups had increased 5.85 percent and 3.07 percent, respectively.
- Under the food and beverage category, y-o-y price index of ghee & oil sub-category increased 10.06 percent, non-alcoholic drinks 5.13 percent, fruit 3.51 percent and



pulses & legumes 2.85 percent while y-o-y price index of vegetable sub-category decreased 7.04 percent, spices 3.06 percent and meat & fish 2.91 percent.

- 3. Under the non-food and services category, y-o-y price index of miscellaneous goods & services sub-category increased 9.43 percent, clothes and footwear 6.82 percent, education 5.88 percent, furnishing & household equipment 5.06 percent, and tobacco products 4.68 percent.
- 4. During the review month, y-o-y price index in rural areas increased 2.90 percent, while in urban areas, it rose 2.66 percent.
- Based on provinces, in the review month, y-o-y consumer price inflation in Koshi Province is 4.18 percent, Madhesh Province 2.52 percent, Bagmati Province 2.29 percent, Gandaki Province 1.75 percent, Lumbini

Table 1: y-o-y Consumer Price Inflation   (Percent)						
Mid-Month						
Particulars	Weight	ight May/Jun A		May/Jun		
	(%)	2023/24	2024/25	2024/25		
<b>Overall Inflation</b>	100	4.17	2.77	2.72		
Food and Beverages	35.49	5.85	1.52	0.54		
Non-food and Service	64.51	3.07	3.45	3.94		

Province 2.39 percent, Karnali Province 2.54 percent, and Sudurpashchim Province 3.86 percent.

6. In the review month, y-o-y consumer price inflation in the Kathmandu Valley, Terai, Hill, and Mountain region stood at 2.73 percent, 2.58 percent, 2.48 percent, and 4.18 percent respectively.

#### Wholesale Price Inflation (WPI)

- 7. The y-o-y wholesale price inflation stood at 1.56 percent in mid-June 2025 compared to 5.48 percent a year ago.
- 8. The y-o-y wholesale price inflation of consumption goods stood at 5.66 percent while intermediate goods and capital goods stood at -0.93 percent and 2.99 percent respectively. The y-o-y wholesale price index of construction material increased 0.35 percent in the review month.

## **External Sector**

#### **Merchandise Trade**

9. During the eleven months of 2024/25, merchandise exports increased 77.8 percent to Rs. 247.57 billion against a decrease of 3.0 percent in the same period of the previous year. Destinationwise, exports to India, China, and other countries increased 112.6 percent, 3.0 percent, and 4.4 percent respectively. Exports of soyabean oil, polyster yarn and thread, jute goods, tea, and rosin



among others increased whereas exports of palm oil, zinc sheet, juice, readymade garments, and cardamom among others decreased in the review period.

10. During the eleven months of 2024/25, mercandise imports increased 13.1 percent to Rs.1644.80 billion against a decline of 1.8 percent a year ago. Destination-wise, imports from

India, China, and other countries increased 7.6 percent, 15.3 percent, and 29.5 percent respectively. Imports of crude soyabean oil, rice/paddy, transport equipment, vehicle and spare parts, edible oil, and sponge iron among others increased whereas imports of petroleum products, gold, electrical equipment, chemical fertilizer, and coal among others decreased in the review period.

- 11. Based on custom points, exports from Bhairahawa, Biratnagar, Birgunj, Dry Pot, Kailali, Krishnanagar, Mechi, Nepalgunj, Rasuwa and Tribhuwan Airport Custom offices increased whereas exports from all other major customs points decreased in the review period. On the import side, imports from Jaleshwor and Tribhuwan Airport Custom offices decreased whereas imports from all other major customs points increased in the review period.
- 12. Total trade deficit increased 6.3 percent to Rs.1397.23 billion during the eleven months of 2024/25. Such a deficit had decreased 1.7 percent in the corresponding period of the previous year. The export-import ratio increased to 15.1 percent in the review period from 9.6 percent in the corresponding period of the previous year.
- 13. During the eleven months of 2024/25, merchandise imports from India against payment in convertible foreign currency amounted Rs.167.30 billion. Such amount was Rs.137.13 billion in the same period of the previous year.

### **Composition of Foreign Trade**

- 14. As per the Broad Economic Categories (BEC), the final consumption, intermediate and capital goods accounted for 67.3 percent, 31.7 percent, 1.0 percent of the total exports respectively in the review period. In the same period of the previous year, the ratio of final consumption, intermediate and capital goods remained 42.8 percent, 56.5 percent, and 0.62 percent respectively in the same period of the previous year.
- 15. On the imports side, the share of final consumption, intermediate and capital goods remained 39.4 percent, 51.6 percent, and 9.1 percent in the review period. Such ratios were 41.9 percent, 48.7 percent, and 9.4 percent respectively in the same period of the previous year.

### **Export-Import Price Index**

16. The y-o-y unit value export price index, based on customs data, decreased 2.8 percent and the import price index also decreased 1.9 percent in the eleven months of 2024/25. The terms of trade (ToT) index decreased 0.9 percent in the review period.

Table 2: Some indicators related to BOP (Eleven months)					
Particulars	Values (	in Billion)	Percentage Change		
	2023/2024 <sup>R</sup>	2024/2025 <sup>P</sup>	2023/2024 <sup>R</sup>	2024/2025 <sup>P</sup>	
Travel income	76.88	82.20	31.8	6.9	
Travel payment	175.16	203.97	34.7	16.5	
Remittance inflows	1327.54	1532.93	17.2	15.5	
Direct Investment Inflows (Equity only)	8.24	11.09	23.6	34.7	
R=Revised P=Provisional					

#### Services

- 17. Net services income remained at a deficit of Rs.97.33 billion in the review period compared to a deficit of Rs.56.36 billion in the same period of the previous year.
- 18. Under the service account, travel income increased 6.9 percent to Rs.82.2 billion in the review period which was Rs.76.88 billion in the same period of the previous year.
- 19. Under the service account, travel payments increased 16.5 percent to Rs.203.97 billion, including Rs.124.8 billion for education. Such payments were Rs.175.16 billion and Rs.117.01 billion respectively in the same period of the previous year.

### Remittances

- 20. During the eleven months of 2024/25, remittance inflows increased 15.5 percent to Rs.1532.93 billion in the review period compared to an increase of 17.2 percent in the same period of the previous year. During mid-May to mid-June 2025 (Jestha month), remittance inflows stood at Rs. 176.32 billion. In the same period, such inflows were Rs. 128.91 billion.
- 21. In the US Dollar terms, remittance inflows increased 12.7 percent to 11.25 billion in the review period compared to an increase of 15.2 percent in the same period of the previous year.
- 22. Net secondary income (net transfer) reached Rs.1668.30 billion in the review period compared to Rs.1443.10 billion in the same period of the previous year.
- 23. The number of Nepali workers, both institutional and individual, taking first-time approval for foreign employment stands at 452,324 and taking approval for renew entry stands at 308,067. In the previous year, such numbers were 421,356 and 261,210 respectively.

### **Current Account and Balance of Payments**

- 24. The current account remained at a surplus of Rs. 307.31 billion in the review period compared to a surplus of Rs.200.38 billion in the same period of the previous year. In the US Dollar terms, the current account registered a surplus of 2.26 billion in the review period against a surplus of 1.51 billion in the same period last year.
- 25. In the review period, net capital transfer amounted to Rs.8.96 billion. In the same period of the previous year, such transfer amounted to Rs.5.46 billion. Similarly, in the review period, Rs.11.09 billion foreign direct investment (equity only) was received. In the same period of the previous year, foreign direct investment inflow (equity only) amounted to Rs.8.24 billion.
- 26. Balance of Payments (BOP) remained at a surplus of Rs.491.44 billion in the review period compared to a surplus of Rs.425.67 billion in the same period of the previous year. In the US Dollar terms, the BOP remained at a surplus of 3.62 billion in the review period compared to a surplus of 3.2 billion in the same period of the previous year.

#### **Foreign Exchange Reserves**

- 27. Gross foreign exchange reserves increased 25.9 percent to Rs.2569.38 billion in mid-June 2025 from Rs.2041.10 billion in mid-July 2024. In the US dollar terms, the gross foreign exchange reserves increased 22.2 percent to 18.65 billion in mid-June 2025 from 15.27 billion in mid-July 2024.
- 28. Of the total foreign exchange reserves, the reserves held by NRB increased 23.0 percent to Rs.2274.47



billion in mid-June 2025 from Rs.1848.55 billion in mid-July 2024. Reserves held by banks and financial institutions (except NRB) increased 53.2 percent to Rs.294.92 billion in mid-June 2025 from Rs.192.55 billion in mid-July 2024. The share of Indian currency in total reserves stood at 20.5 percent in mid-June 2025.

### **Foreign Exchange Adequacy Indicators**

29. Based on the imports of eleven months of 2024/25, the foreign exchange reserves of the banking sector is sufficient to cover the prospective merchandise imports of 17.6 months, and merchandise and services imports of 14.7 months. The ratio of reserves-to-GDP, reserves-to-imports and reserves-to-M2 stood at 42.1 percent, 122.9 percent, and 34.1 percent respectively in mid-June 2025. Such ratios were 35.8 percent, 108.6 percent, and 29.3 percent respectively in mid-July 2024.

### Price of Oil and Gold

30. The price of oil (Crude Oil Brent) in the international market decreased 12.52 percent to US dollar 71.29 per barrel in mid-June 2025 from US dollar 81.49 per barrel a year ago. The price of gold increased 47.41 percent to US dollar 3435.35 per ounce in mid-June 2025 from US dollar 2330.45 per ounce a year ago.

### **Exchange Rate**

31. Nepalese currency vis-à-vis the US dollar depreciated 2.97 percent in mid-June 2025 from mid-July 2024. It had depreciated 1.66 percent in the same period of the previous year. The buying exchange rate per US dollar stood at Rs.137.44 in mid-June 2025 compared to Rs.133.36 in mid-July 2024.

## **Fiscal Situation**

## **Government of Nepal**

## **Expenditure and Revenue**

32. According to the Ministry of Finance, Financial Comptroller General Office (FCGO), the total expenditure of the Government of Nepal Rs.1282.94 stood at billion during the eleven months of 2024/25. The expenditure, recurrent

Table 3: Government Expenditure and Revenue (Eleven Months)						
Particulars	Amou	nt (Rs. in ]	Percentage Change			
	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2023/24	2024/25	
Total Expenditure	1176.07	1181.30	1282.94	0.4	8.6	
Recurrent Expenditure	877.39	822.81	851.58	-6.2	3.5	
Capital Expenditure	153.08	134.98	143.39	-11.8	6.2	
Financial Management	145.59	223.51	287.97	53.5	28.8	
Total Revenue	836.85	919.19	1016.09	9.8	10.5	
Tax Revenue	759.00	829.04	918.00	9.2	10.7	
Non-Tax Revenue	77.85	90.15	98.08	15.8	8.8	

Source: Ministry of Finance (MoF), Financial Comptroller General Office

capital expenditure, and financial expenditure amounted to Rs.851.58 billion, Rs.143.39 billion, and Rs.287.97 billion respectively in the review period.

33. In the review period, total revenue mobilization of the Government of Nepal (including the amount to be transferred to provincial and local governments) stood at Rs.1016.09 billion. The total revenue comprises of tax revenue amounting Rs.918 billion and non-tax revenue Rs.98.08 billion in the review period (Table 3).

## **Cash Balance of the Government**

34. Cash Balance at various accounts of the GoN maintained with NRB remained Rs.339.98 billion (including Provincial Government and Local Government Accounts) in mid-June 2025. Such balance was Rs.93.96 billion in mid-July 2024.

## **Provincial Government**

### **Expenditure and Revenue**

35. In the review period, total expenditure of provincial governments stood Rs.124.90 billion and resource mobilization stood Rs.182.60 billion. The total resource mobilization of provincial governments includes the grants and revenue transferred from the Government of Nepal amounting Rs.139.86 billion and revenue and other receipts of the provincial governments amounting Rs.42.74 billion in the review period.

## **Monetary Situation**

### **Money Supply**

- 36. Broad money (M2) increased 8.2 percent in the review period compared to an increase of 9.1 percent in the corresponding period of the previous year. On y-o-y basis, M2 expanded 12.0 percent in mid-June 2025.
- 37. The net foreign assets (NFA, after adjusting foreign exchange valuation gain/loss) increased Rs.491.44 billion (24.7 percent) in the review period compared to an increase of Rs.425.67 billion (29.2 percent) in the corresponding period of the previous year.



38. Reserve money increased 6.4 percent in the review period compared to an increase of 2.3 percent in the corresponding period of the previous year. On y-o-y basis, reserve money increased 12.1 percent in mid-June 2025.

## **Domestic Credit**

- 39. Domestic credit increased 3.4 percent in the review period compared to an increase of 3.5 percent in the corresponding period of the previous year. On y-o-y basis, domestic credit increased 6.0 percent in mid-June 2025.
- 40. Monetary Sector's net claims on government decreased 22.1 percent in the review period compared to a decrease of 12.5 percent in the corresponding period of the previous year. On y-o-y basis, such claims decreased 7.6 percent in mid-June 2025.
- 41. Monetary Sector's claims on the private sector increased 8.7 percent in the review period compared to an increase of 6.6 percent in the corresponding period of the previous year. On y-o-y basis, such claims increased 8.2 percent in mid-June 2025.

## **Deposit Mobilization**

42. Deposits at Banks and Financial Institutions (BFIs) increased Rs.517.60 billion (8.0 percent) in the review period compared to an increase of Rs.514.57 billion (9.0 percent) in the corresponding period of the previous year. On y-o-y basis. deposits at BFIs expanded 12.0 percent in mid-June 2025.

Table 4: Deposits at Banks and FinancialInstitutions (Percentage Share)						
Deposits	Mid	-July	Mid-June			
	2023	2024	2024	2025		
Demand	7.7	5.8	5.2	5.7		
Saving	26.6	30.3	29.1	36.2		
Fixed	58.8	56.4	58.5	50.2		
Other	6.9	7.5	7.2	7.9		

- 43. The share of demand, saving and fixed deposits in total deposits stood at 5.7 percent, 36.2 percent and 50.2 percent respectively in mid-June 2025. Such shares were 5.2 percent, 29.1 percent and 58.5 percent respectively a year ago (Table 4).
- 44. The share of institutional deposits in total deposit of BFIs stood at 35.5 percent in mid-June 2025. Such a share was 36.0 percent a year ago.

### **Credit Disbursement**

- 45. Private sector credit from BFIs increased Rs.407.62 billion (8.0 percent) in the review period compared to an increase of Rs.246.80 billion (5.1 percent) in the corresponding period of previous year. On y-o-y basis, credit to the private sector from BFIs increased 8.7 percent in mid-June 2025.
- 46. The shares of private sector credit from BFIs to non-financial corporation and household stood at 63.0 percent and 37.0 percent respectively in mid-June 2025. Such shares were 63.5 percent and 36.5 percent a year ago.



- 47. In the review period, private sector credit from commercial banks, development banks and finance companies increased 8.4 percent, 4.7 percent and 6.9 percent respectively.
- 48. Out of the total outstanding credit of the BFIs as of mid-June 2025, 14.5 percent is against the collateral of current assets (such as agricultural and non-agricultural products) and 65.0 percent against land and building. Such ratios were 12.0 percent and 68.5 percent respectively a year ago.
- 49. In the review period, outstanding loan of BFIs to the industrial production sector increased 8.2 percent, construction sector 12.9 percent, wholesale and retail sector 5.2 percent, transportation, communication and public sector 13.5 percent, service industry sector 8.8 percent and consumable sector 10.9 percent.
- 50. In the review period, term loan extended by BFIs increased 5.1 percent, margin nature loan 42.8, trust receipt (import) loan 62.2 percent, hire purchase loan 5.5 percent, cash credit loan 0.6 percent and real estate loan (including residential personal home loan) increased 5.0 percent. However, the overdraft loan decreased 13.2 percent.

## Liquidity Management

- 51. In the review period, NRB absorbed, on transaction basis, a total liquidity of Rs.21,343.5 billion, including Rs.2,784.8 billion through deposit collection auction and Rs.18,558.7 billion through Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) whereas Overnight Liquidity Facility of Rs.2.7 billion was utilized. In the corresponding period of the previous year, Rs.1,900.84 billion net amount of liquidity was absorped through various instruments of monetary operations.
- 52. In the review period, NRB injected liquidity of Rs.673.25 billion through the net purchase of USD 5.01 billion from foreign exchange market. Liquidity of Rs.708.87 billion was injected through the net puchase of USD 5.33 billion in the corresponding period of the previous year.
- 53. The NRB purchased Indian currency (INR) equivalent to Rs.471.39 billion through the sale of USD 3.46 billion in the review period. INR equivalent to Rs.484.44 billion was purchased through the sale of USD 3.64 billion in the corresponding period of previous year.

## **Inter-bank Transaction**

54. In the review period, BFIs inter-bank transactions amounted Rs.1681.54 billion on a turnover basis, including Rs.1531.21 billion inter-bank transactions among commercial banks, and Rs.150.33 billion among other financial institutions (excluding transactions among commercial banks). In the corresponding period of the previous year, such transaction was Rs.4060.98 billion, including Rs.3701.43 billion among commercial banks and Rs.359.55 billion among other financial institutions (excluding transactions among other financial institutions (excluding transactions).

## **Interest Rate**

- 55. The weighted average 91-days treasury bills rate remained at 2.94 percent in the eleventh month of 2024/25. Such rate was 2.99 percent in the corresponding month a year ago. The weighted average inter-bank rate among BFIs, which was 2.95 percent a year ago, increased to 2.99 percent in the review month (Table 5).
- 56. The average base rates of commercial banks, development banks and finance companies stood 6.09 percent, 8.29 percent, and 9.02 percent respectively in the eleventh month of 2024/25. The average base rate of commercial banks, development banks companies and finance were

Table 5: Weighted Average Interest Rate (percent)						
Types	Mid-June 2024	Mid-June 2025				
91-days treasury bills rate	2.99	2.94				
Inter-bank rate of BFIs	2.95	2.99				
Base rate						
Commercial banks	8.17	6.09				
Development banks	9.96	8.29				
Finance companies	11.46	9.02				
Deposit rate						
Commercial banks	6.17	4.29				
Development banks	7.07	5.02				
Finance companies	8.28	6.09				
Lending Rate						
Commercial banks	10.15	7.99				
Development banks	11.63	9.40				
Finance companies	12.85	10.22				

8.17 percent, 9.96 percent, and 11.46 percent respectively in the corresponding month a year ago.

57. Weighted average deposit rates of commercial banks, development banks and finance companies stood 4.29 percent, 5.02 percent, and 6.09 percent respectively in the review month. Weighted

average deposit rate of commercial banks, development banks and finance companies were 6.17 percent, 7.07 percent, and 8.28 percent respectively in the corresponding month a year ago. Likewise, the weighted average lending rate of commercial banks, development banks and finance companies stood 7.99 percent, 9.40 percent, and 10.22 percent respectively in the review month. Such rate of commercial banks, development banks and finance companies were 10.15 percent, 11.63 percent, and 12.85 percent respectively in the corresponding month a year ago.

## **Financial Access**

58. The total number of BFIs licensed by NRB remained 107 in mid-June 2025 (Table 6). As of mid-June 2025, 20 commercial banks, 17 development banks, 17 finance companies, 52 microfinance financial institutions, and 1 infrastructure development bank are in operation. The number of BFIs branches remained 11,519 in mid-June 2025 compared to 11,530 in mid-July 2024.

Table 6: Number of BFIs and their Branches*							
	Number of BFIs			Branches of BFIs			
Bank and Financial	mid-	mid-	mid-	mid-	mid-	mid-	
Institutions	July	July	June	July	July	June	
	2023	2024	2025	2023	2024	2025	
Commercial Banks	20	20	20	5049	5056	5095	
Development Banks	17	17	17	1128	1135	1132	
Finance Companies	17	17	17	284	288	291	
Microfinance Financial	57	52	52	5128	5051	5001	
Institutions	57	32	32	5128	5051		
Infrastructure Development	1	1	1				
Bank	1	1	1	-	-	-	
Total	112	107	107	11,589	11,530	11,519	

\*Updated information is available at <u>http://emap.nrb.org.np/</u>

# **Capital Market**

- 59. NEPSE index stood 2655.39 in mid-June 2025 compared to 2112.30 in mid-June 2024.
- 60. Stock market capitalization in mid-June 2025 stood Rs.4423.04 billion compared to Rs.3349.48 billion in mid-June 2024.
- 61. Number of companies listed at NEPSE reached 272 in mid-June 2025. Out of the total listing, 132 are Bank and Financial Institutions (BFIs) and insurance companies, 91 hydropower companies, 23 manufacturing and processing



industries, 7 hotels, 7 investment companies, 4 trading companies, and 8 others. The number of companies listed at NEPSE were 270 in mid-June 2024.

62. Share of BFIs and insurance companies in stock market capitalization is 52.1 percent in mid-June 2025. Such a share for hydropower companies is 16.1 percent, investment companies 8.0 percent, manufacturing and processing industries 5.5 percent, trading companies 5.3 percent, hotels 2.8 percent and the share of other companies is 10.2 percent.

- 63. The paid-up value of 8.80 billion shares listed at NEPSE stood Rs.867.29 billion in mid-June 2025.
- 64. Securities worth Rs.63.50 billion were listed at NEPSE during the eleven months of FY 2024/25. Such securities comprise bonus shares worth Rs.23.63 billion, ordinary shares worth Rs.22.40 billion, right shares worth Rs.12.15 billion, mutual fund worth Rs.1.25 billion, FPO worth Rs.112 million, and others worth Rs.3.96 billion.
- 65. Securities Board of Nepal approved the total public issuance of securities worth Rs.39.12 billion in the review period which includes right share worth Rs.14.95 billion, mutual fund worth Rs.13.00 billion, debenture worth Rs.8.42 billion, and ordinary shares worth Rs.2.75 billion.