

Malaysia's terms of trade improve month-on-month in July

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia's terms of trade increased 0.6% month-on-month to 111 points in July, according to the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DoSM).

Chief Statistician Datuk Seri Dr Mohd Uzir Mahidin said export prices in July declined by 0.1% to 141.6 points from June, led by the decrease in the indices of animal and vegetable oils and fats by 4.2%, chemicals (0.6%) and mineral fuels (0.2%).

"In addition, the export volume index fell by

5.7% in the same month, in line with the decrease in the indices of mineral fuels (13.9%), machinery and transport equipment (7.5%) and manufactured goods (7.2%)," he said in a statement yesterday.

Mohd Uzir said the seasonally adjusted export volume index declined 1.3% to 155.7 points from 157.7 points previously.

On an annual comparison, the unit value and the volume indices decreased by 6.5% and 7% respectively.

Mohd Uzir said import prices fell 0.7% to 127.6 points in July compared with the month before.

He said the unit value index contracted by 0.7% last month, attributed to the decrease in the indices for machinery and transport equipment (2%), animal and vegetable oils and fats (0.7%) and chemicals (0.3%).

The import volume index rose 2% in July compared with June, contributed by increases in the indices for machinery and transport

equipment (7.8%), miscellaneous manufactured articles (6.9%) and manufactured goods (5%).

"In addition, Malaysia's terms of trade increased by 0.6% month-on-month to 111 points in July 2023, driven by the rise in the index of machinery and transport equipment (2.7%), miscellaneous manufactured articles (1.1%) and inedible crude materials (0.8%).

"However, Malaysia's terms of trade shrank by 1% year-on-year from 112.2 points in July of the previous year," he added. – Bernama