## MALAYSIA'S GLOBAL TRADE



Malaysia's global merchandise trade reached US\$118.3 billion in

1994, up from US\$30.6 billion a decade earlier. This demonstrates an average annual growth rate of 14.5% over the last 10-year period.

Both import and export levels have more than tripled since 1983. Malaysia recorded a trade deficit in 1994 of US\$900 million; its last deficit (US\$2.3 billion) had been in 1991

Total imports amounted to approximately US\$59.6 billion in 1994. Japan was the largest source of imports for Malaysia in 1994, accounting for 26.7%

of the total, followed by the ASEAN countries at 18.7% and the United States at 16.6%. Surging imports have been associated with improved consumer confidence and spending. Infrastructure development projects are also generating new demands for imported capital goods.

Total exports in 1994 amounted to just over US\$58.7 billion. Over half of Malaysia's exports go to the ASEAN countries, the United States and Japan. Malaysia's main exports in 1994 consisted of manufactured products and raw materials. They included electronics and electrical machinery as the most important exports, followed by petroleum and liquid natural gas, logs and timber, palm oil and textiles.



