

Sri Lankan tea exports up 14 pct in H1

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Sri Lanka's tea exports earnings have risen 14 percent in the first half of 2021 compared to the same period last year, local media citing leading tea broker Asia Siyaka Commodities reported Friday.

Sri Lanka's tea export earnings in the first half of 2021 stood at 650 million U.S. dollars compared to 571 million U.S. dollars for the same period last year. Data showed that increased earnings were driven largely by a 10-percent rise in export volumes.

A total of 136.9 million kg of tea were exported between January to June 2021, higher than the same period in 2020 but lower than the 2019 volume of 145 million kg.

Turkey was Sri Lanka's largest tea export market in the first half of 2021, importing 17 million kg. Iraq, Russia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) imported 16 million kg, 13.3 million kg, and 10.2 million kg respectively.

Exports to China rose 47 percent, from 5 million kg to 7.4 million kg. Exports to Iran decreased from 8.9 million kg to 6.3 million kg.