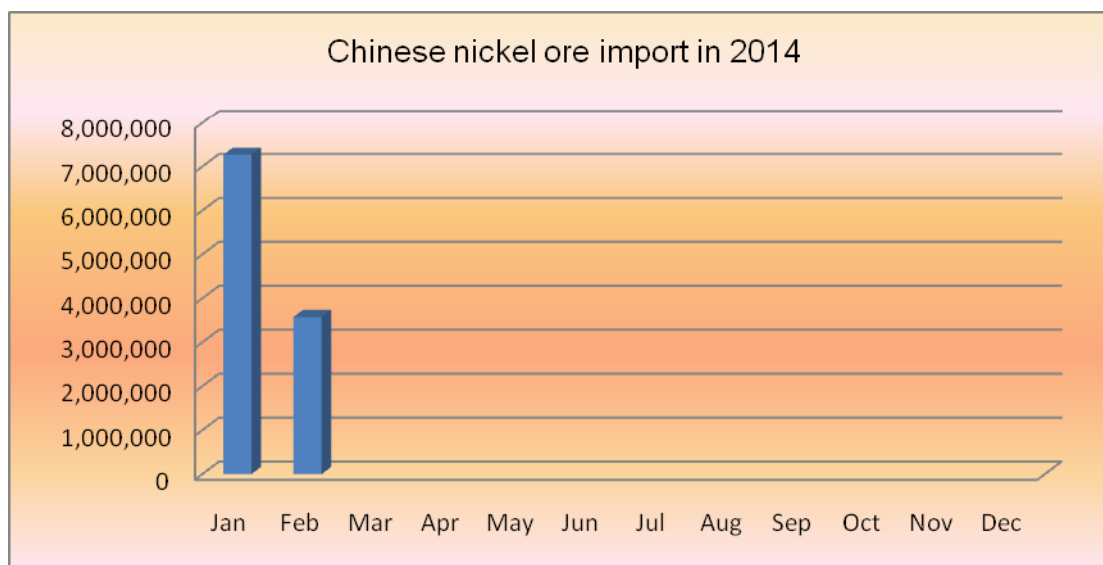


Chinese nickel ore imports down by 103.17% MOM in February

BEIJING (Asian Metal) 25 Mar 14 - According to statistics published by China Customs, the import volumes of nickel ore and concentrate were 3,577,927 tonnes in February 2014, down by 103.17% month-on-month and down by 8.7% year-on-year.



Picture 1 Chinese nickel ore imports in 2014

Indonesian government banned nickel ore export on January 12, so purchasers rushed to purchase nickel ore from Indonesia in January, and some ships returned in February. The import volumes from Indonesia decreased greatly and all the mines suspended nickel ore export in the second half of January. Moreover, because of the bad weather in the Philippines, the import volumes of nickel ore from the Philippines remained at a low level in rainy season. In this case, the import volumes of lateritic nickel ore decreased greatly February.

Indonesia and Philippines were the top two exporters to China in February, with the export volumes of 3,098,749t from Indonesia in February 2014, down by 49.37% month-on-month, 475,635t from Philippines, down by 56.03% month-on-month.

Lateritic nickel ore import areas in February:

Unit: Kg

	Volume (Unit: ton)	YOY %	Unit price (USD/ton)	Total Volume (Unit: ton)	YOY %
Nickel Ore	3,577,927	-8.7	71.84	10,840,795	22.54
Indonesia	3,098,749	-2.48	72.4	9,212,611	29.15
Philippines	475,635	-31.53	60.93	1,557,066	-4.46

Zimbabwe	2,064	-	843.3	13,736	-
American	775	-8.34	1,841.19	775	-8.34
Finland	457	-67.55	793.75	14,790	292.84
Japan	133	-	799.2	133	-
Thailand	100	-	502.82	289	-57.89
Mexico	15	-	197.47	15	-
Australian	0	100	0	24,310	-57.09
Malaysia	-	-	-	27	-66.55
South Africa	-	-	-	2	-
Canada	-	-	-	310	-71.46
Spain	-	-100	-	13,288	45.45
Vietnam	-	-	-	3,444	-