

# ANALYSIS OF INDIA'S PLASTICS EXPORT

## JANUARY 2024



### **THE PLASTICS EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL**

(Sponsored by Department of Commerce, Govt. of India)

Dynasty Business Park, B Wing, Unit 2

JB Nagar, Andheri Kurla Road

Andheri East, Mumbai

Maharashtra 400 059, INDIA

Tel: +91-22-40170000

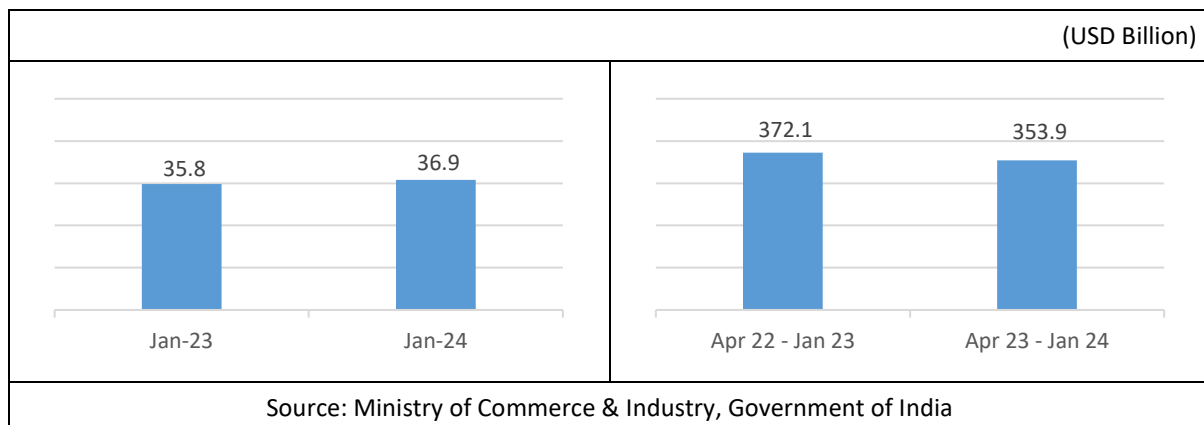
E-mail: [office@plexconcil.org](mailto:office@plexconcil.org)

Disclaimer: This report has been prepared on the basis of export data received from the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India.

## TREND IN OVERALL EXPORTS

India reported merchandise exports of USD 36.9 billion in January 2024, an increase of 3.1% from USD 35.8 billion in January 2023. Cumulative value of merchandise exports during April 2023 – January 2024 was USD 353.9 billion as against USD 372.1 billion during the same period last year, reflecting a decline of 4.9%.

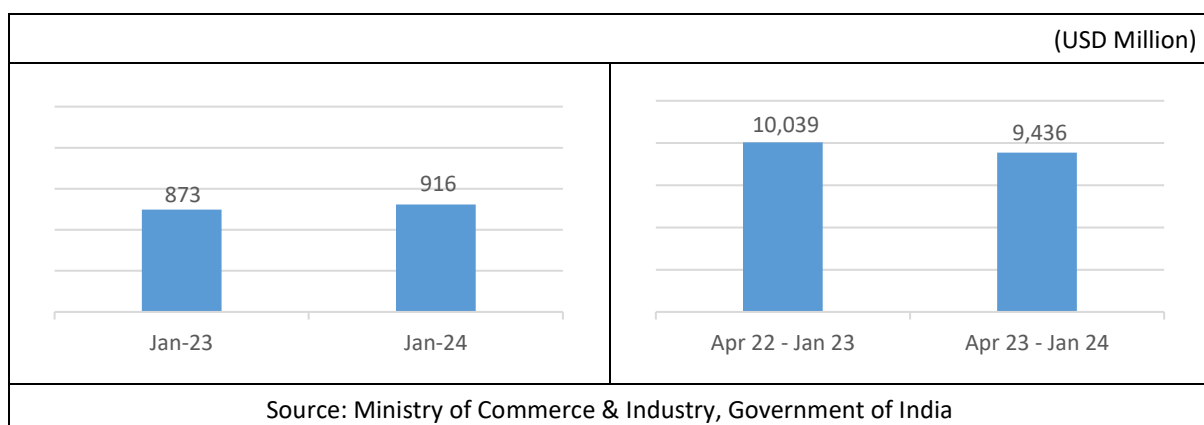
**Exhibit 1: Trend in overall merchandise exports from India**



## TREND IN PLASTICS EXPORT

During January 2024, India exported plastics worth USD 916 million, an increase of 5.0% from USD 873 million in January 2023. Cumulative value of plastics export during April 2023 – January 2024 was USD 9,436 million as against USD 10,039 million during the same period last year, registering a decline of 6.0%.

**Exhibit 2: Trend in plastics export by India**



## PLASTICS EXPORT, BY PANEL

In the month of January 2024, significant export growth was witnessed across majority of the product panels such as Plastic films and sheets; Plastic raw materials; FIBC, Woven sacks, Woven fabrics, Tarpaulin; Floorcoverings, leathercloth & laminates; Consumer & houseware products; Packaging items - flexible, rigid; FRP & Composites; Medical items of plastics; Plastic pipes & fittings and Human hair & related products. However, panels like Cordage, fishnets & monofilaments; Writing instruments & stationery and Miscellaneous products & items nes faced challenges in achieving growth during the same period.

**Exhibit 3: Panel-wise % growth in plastics export by India**

| Panel                                         | Jan-23       | Jan-24       | Growth       | Apr 22-<br>Jan 23 | Apr 23-<br>Jan 24 | Growth       |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------|
|                                               | (USD Mn)     | (USD Mn)     | (%)          | (USD Mn)          | (USD Mn)          | (%)          |
| Consumer & houseware products                 | 58.9         | 65.3         | +10.9%       | 615.2             | 694.0             | +12.8%       |
| Cordage, fishnets & monofilaments             | 25.5         | 21.9         | -14.1%       | 228.1             | 208.9             | -8.4%        |
| FIBC, woven sacks, woven fabrics, & tarpaulin | 99.3         | 112.4        | +13.2%       | 1,199.0           | 1,103.6           | -7.9%        |
| Floorcoverings, leathercloth & laminates      | 44.2         | 55.4         | +25.4%       | 475.5             | 565.3             | +18.9%       |
| FRP & Composites                              | 35.8         | 40.2         | +12.1%       | 351.5             | 396.8             | +12.9%       |
| Human hair & related products                 | 49.7         | 71.9         | +44.6%       | 549.1             | 633.9             | +15.4%       |
| Medical items of plastics                     | 38.9         | 39.8         | +2.2%        | 408.6             | 443.8             | +8.6%        |
| Miscellaneous products & items nes            | 93.2         | 48.9         | -47.5%       | 864.8             | 595.7             | -31.1%       |
| Packaging items - flexible, rigid             | 46.8         | 52.3         | +11.7%       | 529.3             | 516.2             | -2.5%        |
| Plastic films & sheets                        | 120.0        | 136.8        | +14.0%       | 1,529.7           | 1,410.7           | -7.8%        |
| Plastic pipes & fittings                      | 23.2         | 23.5         | +1.3%        | 245.6             | 234.6             | -4.5%        |
| Plastic raw materials                         | 215.3        | 230.6        | +7.1%        | 2,822.1           | 2,422.1           | -14.2%       |
| Writing instruments & stationery              | 21.8         | 17.1         | -21.5%       | 220.8             | 210.3             | -4.7%        |
|                                               | <b>872.6</b> | <b>916.0</b> | <b>+5.0%</b> | <b>10,039.0</b>   | <b>9,435.8</b>    | <b>-6.0%</b> |

Source: Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India

Exports of **Consumer & houseware products** witnessed a substantial growth of 10.9% in January 2024. This growth was primarily due to higher sales of tableware and kitchenware of plastics (392410); safety headgear (65061090) and spectacles & goggles (90049010). Notably, India has reported higher export of safety headgears and spectacles & goggles during the current year so far to Armenia.

Exports of **Cordage, fishnets & monofilaments** faced a decline of 14.1% in January 2024 due to weak sales of monofilaments of plastics (391690) along with twine, cordage, ropes and cables of polyethylene or polypropylene (560749).

In January 2024, the export of **FIBC, woven sacks, woven fabrics, & tarpaulin** showed a positive growth of 13.2% due to increased sales of sacks and bags of plastics (39232990) and flexible intermediate bulk containers (630532). The export of Flexible Intermediate Bulk Containers (FIBC) from India has experienced a notable increase, particularly in shipments to

the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Australia. It may be noted, India recently signed trade agreements with the UAE and Australia.

Export of **Floor coverings, leather cloth & laminates** surged by 25.4% during January 2024 on account of higher sales of floor coverings of polymers of vinyl chloride (39181090); decorative laminates (48239019) and textile fabrics impregnated, coated, covered or laminated with plastics (590390). India has been experiencing a surge in exports of decorative laminates to Thailand, Netherlands and Spain.

Export of **FRP & Composites** demonstrated a remarkable surge, registering a considerable growth of 12.1% during January 2024. This notable increase was due to higher exports of articles of plastics and articles of other materials of heading 3901 to 3914, n.e.s (39269099).

Export of **Human hair & related products** were up by 44.6% in January 2024 due to higher sales of human hair, dressed, thinned and bleached (67030010) to China.

**Medical items of plastics** exports were up by 2.2% in January 2024 due to increase in sales of catheters (90183910) and blood transfusion apparatus (90189032). Notably, India reported its highest-ever monthly export of blood transfusion apparatus in January 2024. Blood transfusion apparatus is majorly being exported from India to Belgium and Indonesia.

Export of **Miscellaneous products & items nes** fell by 47.5% in January 2024 due to lower shipments of optical fibres, optical fibre bundles and cables (90011000).

**Packaging items - flexible, rigid** export increased by 11.7% on account of higher sales of sacks and bags of plastics (392321); caps and closures of plastics for bottles (392350) articles for the conveyance or packaging of plastics (39239090). India mainly exports Packaging items - flexible, rigid to North America and Europe.

In January 2024, the export of **Plastic films & sheets** were higher by 14.0% on account of increased sales of films and sheets of polymers of propylene (392020), films and sheet of polyethylene terephthalate (392062) and films and sheets of non-cellular polyesters (39206919). Indian exporters of plastic films and sheets have informed that the export market has begun to show signs of improvement since the third quarter.

Export of **Plastic pipes & fittings** increased by 1.3% due to higher sales of flexible pipes and tubes of plastics (391731) and fittings like joints, elbows and flanges of plastics for pipes (391740).

**Plastics raw materials** exports increased by 7.1% in January 2024 due to a rise in sales of linear low-density polyethylene (390140); polypropylene (390210) and polyethylene terephthalate (39076990).

Export of **Writing instruments & stationery** declined by 21.5% in January 2024 due to decrease in sales of ball- point pens (960810) to Colombia, Viet Nam and the United States of America.

#### Exhibit 4: Details of % change seen in top 50 items of export

| HS Code  | Description                                                                                                                                           | Apr 22-<br>Jan 23 | Apr 23-<br>Jan 24 | Growth |
|----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------|
|          |                                                                                                                                                       | (USD Mn)          | (USD Mn)          | (%)    |
| 63053200 | Flexible intermediate bulk containers                                                                                                                 | 734.7             | 644.6             | -12.3% |
| 90011000 | Optical fibres, optical fibre bundles and cables                                                                                                      | 588.5             | 316.4             | -46.2% |
| 39076190 | Polyethylene terephthalate: Other primary form                                                                                                        | 528.8             | 261.0             | -50.6% |
| 67030010 | Human hair, dressed, thinned, bleached or otherwise worked                                                                                            | 404.0             | 479.0             | +18.6% |
| 39269099 | Articles of plastics and articles of other materials of heading 3901 to 3914, n.e.s: Other                                                            | 344.6             | 390.0             | +13.2% |
| 39232990 | Other sacks and bags, incl. cones, of plastics                                                                                                        | 352.0             | 350.5             | -0.4%  |
| 39021000 | Polypropylene, in primary forms                                                                                                                       | 305.7             | 285.9             | -6.5%  |
| 48239019 | Decorative laminates                                                                                                                                  | 238.4             | 252.8             | +6.0%  |
| 39202020 | Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular polymers of ethylene: Flexible, plain                                                           | 217.9             | 166.3             | -23.7% |
| 39269080 | Articles of plastics and articles of other materials of heading 3901 to 3914, n.e.s: Polypropylene articles, not elsewhere                            | 182.5             | 173.3             | -5.0%  |
| 39206220 | Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular polyethylene terephthalate: Flexible, plain                                                     | 174.8             | 173.6             | -0.7%  |
| 39232100 | Sacks and bags, incl. cones, of polymers of ethylene                                                                                                  | 177.5             | 170.6             | -3.9%  |
| 39069090 | Other acrylic polymers, in primary forms                                                                                                              | 171.0             | 172.7             | +1.0%  |
| 39076990 | Polyethylene terephthalate: Other primary form                                                                                                        | 176.0             | 115.1             | -34.6% |
| 39239090 | Articles for the conveyance or packaging of goods, of plastics: Other                                                                                 | 147.2             | 151.8             | +3.1%  |
| 05010010 | Human hair, unworked; whether or not washed or scoured                                                                                                | 132.0             | 144.4             | +9.4%  |
| 39202090 | Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular polymers of ethylene: Other                                                                     | 131.5             | 122.2             | -7.1%  |
| 39046100 | Polytetrafluoroethylene, in primary forms                                                                                                             | 129.6             | 101.2             | -21.9% |
| 90015000 | Spectacle lenses of materials other than glass                                                                                                        | 120.9             | 148.1             | +22.4% |
| 96081019 | Ball-point pens                                                                                                                                       | 115.1             | 112.0             | -2.7%  |
| 90183930 | Cannulae                                                                                                                                              | 116.3             | 108.4             | -6.8%  |
| 39011090 | Polyethylene with a specific gravity of < 0,94, in primary forms: Other                                                                               | 103.5             | 82.1              | -20.7% |
| 59039090 | Textile fabrics impregnated, coated, covered or laminated with plastics other than polyvinyl chloride or polyurethane: Other                          | 96.7              | 145.0             | +50.0% |
| 56074900 | Twine, cordage, ropes and cables of polyethylene or polypropylene                                                                                     | 100.8             | 91.3              | -9.5%  |
| 39219099 | Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of plastics, reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials: Other                 | 93.2              | 98.7              | +5.9%  |
| 39046990 | Other fluoro-polymers of vinyl chloride or of other halogenated olefins, in primary forms                                                             | 87.7              | 70.0              | -20.2% |
| 96032100 | Tooth brushes                                                                                                                                         | 83.1              | 66.1              | -20.4% |
| 39219094 | Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of plastics, reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials: Flexible, metallised  | 85.4              | 66.3              | -22.4% |
| 54072090 | Woven fabrics of strip or the like, of synthetic filament, incl. monofilament of >= 67 decitex and with a cross sectional dimension of <= 1 mm: Other | 82.4              | 86.6              | +5.1%  |

| HS Code  | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Apr 22-<br>Jan 23 | Apr 23-<br>Jan 24 | Growth |
|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------|
|          |                                                                                                                                                                                                              | (USD Mn)          | (USD Mn)          | (%)    |
| 39206919 | Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular polyesters, not reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials: Other                                                     | 80.3              | 79.2              | -1.4%  |
| 39073010 | Epoxy resins                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 82.0              | 51.2              | -37.5% |
| 39206290 | Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular polyethylene terephthalate, not reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials: Other                                     | 70.2              | 61.2              | -12.7% |
| 39129090 | Other cellulose and chemical derivatives thereof, n.e.s., in primary forms                                                                                                                                   | 74.8              | 83.9              | +12.1% |
| 39241090 | Other tableware and kitchenware, of plastics                                                                                                                                                                 | 75.7              | 81.0              | +7.0%  |
| 39095000 | Polyurethanes, in primary forms                                                                                                                                                                              | 75.5              | 65.2              | -13.6% |
| 39199090 | Self-adhesive plates, sheets, film, foil, tape, strip and other flat shapes, of plastics, whether or not in rolls > 20 cm wide: Other                                                                        | 73.4              | 93.9              | +27.9% |
| 39140020 | Ion-exchangers based on polymers of heading 3901 to 3913, in primary forms                                                                                                                                   | 71.7              | 65.8              | -8.1%  |
| 39014010 | Linear low-density polyethylene                                                                                                                                                                              | 65.5              | 103.8             | +58.6% |
| 39204900 | Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular polymers of vinyl chloride, containing by weight < 6% of plasticisers, not reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials | 67.8              | 64.7              | -4.7%  |
| 39219096 | Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of plastics, reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials: Flexible, laminated                                                          | 70.3              | 53.9              | -23.4% |
| 39119090 | Other polysulphides, polysulphones and other polymers and prepolymers produced by chemical synthesis, n.e.s., in primary forms                                                                               | 61.6              | 79.5              | +29.1% |
| 59031090 | Other textile fabrics impregnated, coated, covered or laminated with polyvinyl chloride                                                                                                                      | 60.5              | 61.4              | +1.4%  |
| 39235010 | Stoppers, lids, caps and other closures, of plastics                                                                                                                                                         | 57.5              | 55.5              | -3.4%  |
| 39100090 | Silicones in primary forms: Other                                                                                                                                                                            | 57.5              | 42.2              | -26.7% |
| 39249090 | Other household articles and toilet articles, of plastics                                                                                                                                                    | 58.7              | 55.6              | -5.3%  |
| 39172390 | Rigid tubes, pipes and hoses, and fittings therefor, of polymers of vinyl chloride: Other                                                                                                                    | 56.6              | 58.4              | +3.3%  |
| 39201019 | Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular plastics, not reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials: Other                                                       | 53.1              | 58.1              | +9.5%  |
| 39206929 | Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular polyesters, not reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials: Other                                                     | 57.7              | 50.2              | -13.0% |
| 39019000 | Other ethylene-alpha-olefin copolymers, having a specific gravity of less than 0.94                                                                                                                          | 56.3              | 49.0              | -13.0% |
| 39011020 | Low density polyethylene                                                                                                                                                                                     | 60.0              | 17.5              | -70.8% |

Source: Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India

----- End of report -----