



THE PLASTICS EXPORT
PROMOTION COUNCIL

दि प्लास्टिक एक्स्पोर्ट प्रमोशन कौन्सिल

(भारत सरकार, वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय, वाणिज्य विभाग द्वारा प्रायोजित)

THE PLASTICS EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL

(Sponsored By The Ministry Of Commerce & Industry, Deptt. Of Commerce, Government Of India)

Ref. No. Plex/Cir/967

20.03.2026

To,

All Members of Plexconcil / COA

Dear Sir/Madam,

Subject: Time-limited Support for Exporters in view of Geopolitical Disruptions in the Gulf and West Asia Maritime Corridor.

We wish to inform that Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India, has issued **Notification No. 65/2025-26 dated 19 March 2026**, introducing the **Support for Indian Exporters, Resilience & Logistics Intervention for Export Facilitation (RELIEF), under the Export Promotion Mission(EPM)**.

The intervention is aimed at supporting Indian exporters affected by extraordinary freight escalation, heightened insurance premia and war-related export risks arising from disruptions in the Gulf and wider West Asia maritime corridor.

The Gulf and West Asia region constitutes a strategically significant trade corridor for India. Recent geopolitical developments in West Asia, particularly the escalation of tensions involving Iran and the evolving security environment around the Strait of Hormuz and the wider Gulf maritime corridor, have led to disruptions in maritime logistics arrangements. Shipping lines and insurers have imposed a number of additional charges on cargo moving through the region, including Additional War Risk Premiums (AWRP), War Risk Surcharges (WRS), Emergency Conflict Surcharges (ECS) and other extraordinary freight levies.

These developments have resulted in a sudden escalation in outbound logistics costs for exporters, driven by vessel diversions, longer maritime routes, higher insurance premia, and congestion at regional transshipment hubs.

Given the strategic importance of the Gulf and West Asia region for India's merchandise exports, prolonged logistics disruptions and extraordinary freight surcharges, a calibrated, time-limited, targeted and exceptional intervention under the Export Promotion Mission (EPM), called RELIEF - Resilience & Logistics Intervention for Export Facilitation, has been approved to support Indian exporters.

- The approved intervention - RELIEF- shall consist of three complementary components aimed at addressing the principal stress points faced by the exporters, namely: -
 1. enhanced war/political risk support for eligible ECGC's already insured exporters;
 2. time-limited support to encourage and facilitate ECGC coverage for eligible exporters for upcoming exports; and,

3. time-limited reimbursement support for extraordinary freight and insurance surcharge burden borne by eligible non-ECGC-insured MSME exporters in respect of customs-cleared cargo.

Given the experience of ECGC in handling export credit risks and claims administration, ECGC shall act as the nodal and implementing agency for the three interventions under RELIEF, including disbursement and verification, in accordance with Government-approved guidelines.

Members are advised to refer to the detailed notification explaining the three components :

- RELIEF Component-I: Export Credit Support for ECGC's already insured exporters.
- RELIEF Component-II: Encourage and facilitate ECGC coverage for Export Credit Support for upcoming exports in the region
- RELIEF Component-III: Reimbursement support for extraordinary freight and insurance surcharge borne by eligible non-ECGC-insured MSME exporters

Effect of the Notification: A time-limited RELIEF intervention under the Export Promotion Mission, to be implemented through the Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India (ECGC), is operationalised to address elevated export risks arising from geopolitical disruptions in the Gulf and West Asia maritime corridor.

Members are advised to review the eligibility criteria carefully and prepare necessary documentation for claims under the RELIEF scheme.

Please refer to the detailed notification here:

https://membership.plasticsepc.org/mails_images/20260320114607.pdf

This is for your information

With Best Regards

Bharti Parave (Trade and Policy)

PLEXCONCIL
