

Urgent: Industry Inputs Required On USTR Section 301 Investigations (Deadline: 23 March 2026)



THE PLASTICS EXPORT
PROMOTION COUNCIL

दि प्लास्टिक एक्सपोर्ट 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/969

Date : 20.03.2026

To,

All Members of Plexconcil/COA Members

Dear Sir/Madam,

Subject: Urgent: Industry Inputs Required on USTR Section 301 Investigations (Deadline: 23 March 2026)

This refers to the ongoing Section 301 investigation initiated by the U.S. authorities. We wish to inform you that on 11th March 2026, the United States Trade Representative announced the initiation of investigations regarding the acts, policies, and practices of various economies under Section 301(b) of the Trade Act of 1974 relating to structural excess capacity and production in manufacturing sectors. The investigations will determine whether those acts, policies, and practices are unreasonable or discriminatory and burden or restrict U.S. commerce.

The economies subject to these investigations are China, the European Union, Singapore, Switzerland, Norway, Indonesia, Malaysia, Cambodia, Thailand, Korea, Vietnam, Taiwan, Bangladesh, Mexico, Japan, and **India**.

Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (Trade Act), is designed to address unfair foreign practices affecting U.S. commerce. Section 301 may be used to respond to unjustifiable, unreasonable, or discriminatory foreign government practices that burden or restrict U.S. commerce.

Under Section 302(b) of the Trade Act, the United States Trade Representative may self-initiate an investigation under Section 301. An investigation under Section 301(b) of the Trade Act examines whether the acts, policies, or practices of a foreign country are unreasonable or discriminatory and burden or restrict U.S. commerce. After considering the advice of the inter-agency Section 301 Committee, and consulting with appropriate advisory committees, the United States Trade Representative has initiated these investigations.

Please find here "USTR Initiates Section 301 Investigations Relating to Structural Excess Capacity and Production in Manufacturing Sectors" https://membership.plasticsepc.org/mails_images/20260320033831.pdf

and Docket No. USTR-2026-0067 and USTR-2026-0068 . https://membership.plasticsepc.org/mails_images/20260320033652.pdf is available for download.

In this regard, the Department of Commerce, Government of India, has sought inputs from the plastics industry on certain key aspects.

We request esteemed members to kindly provide their views and inputs on the following points:

- The acts, policies, and practices of India that may be creating or maintaining structural excess capacity or production in specific sectors.
- Whether such acts, policies, and practices are unreasonable or discriminatory.
- Whether these acts, policies, and practices burden or restrict U.S. commerce, and if so, the nature and extent of such burden or restriction, including any economic assessment.
- Whether these acts, policies, and practices are actionable under Section 301(b) of the Trade Act, and what actions, if any, may be considered, including tariff and non-tariff measures.
- Any additional considerations relevant to assessing acts, policies, and practices that contribute to structural excess capacity or production in manufacturing sectors.

Your inputs will greatly assist us in consolidating a comprehensive response for submission to the Ministry.

Please share your inputs (as per format only- click to download https://membership.plasticsepc.org/mails_images/20260320033922.docx latest by **23rd March, 2026** at bharti@plexconcil.org; research@plexconcil.org

Important Note: The data shared by the members will be kept confidential and will only be submitted to the Department of Commerce, Government of India.

Best Regards

PLEXCONCIL TEAM
