



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/362

Date: 03.08.2026

To
All Members of Plexconcil/COA

Dear Sir/Madam,

Subject: Urgent: Seeking Industry Inputs on India–Canada CEPA Negotiations for Plastic Products (HS 3915–3926) – Response by 4 August 2026

The Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals (DCPC), Government of India, has informed PLEXCONCIL that the negotiations for the **India–Canada Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)** are currently in the fast-track mode.

In this regard, the Department has sought industry inputs on **285 tariff lines** (attached) pertaining to **HS Codes 3915–3926 (Plastic Articles, including Waste and Scrap)**. The Department has specifically requested stakeholders to provide their comments on the following:

- 1. If these tariff lines are opened under the India–Canada CEPA in a phased manner, what should be the appropriate phase-out period for tariff reduction/elimination?**
- 2. What would be the cost advantage enjoyed by Canada for these tariff lines? Please provide product-specific details, wherever possible.**

The attached document (https://membership.plasticsepc.org/emails_images/20260803023035.xlsx) contains the abbreviations which are commonly used in **Free Trade Agreement (FTA)/CEPA tariff schedules** to indicate how a tariff line is treated during negotiations or implementation, same is given below for your reference :-

Code	Meaning	Explanation
EIF	Entry Into Force	The tariff is eliminated immediately when the FTA/CEPA comes into force (i.e., on Day 1 of implementation).
E10	Elimination in 10 Years	Customs duty is reduced gradually and becomes zero over a period of 10 years from the date the agreement enters into force. Similar codes may include E5, E7, E15, etc.
EL	Exclusion List / Excluded Line	The tariff line is excluded from tariff liberalisation. No preferential tariff concession is offered under the agreement.
X	Excluded	Indicates that the tariff line is not covered for tariff reduction and remains subject to the normal MFN (Most Favoured Nation) tariff. In many agreements, X and EL are used interchangeably.
EXC	Exception / Excluded Category	Indicates that the tariff line is treated as an exception and is excluded from tariff commitments or subject to special conditions. The exact meaning depends on the specific agreement's tariff schedule.

Exclusion	Exclusion from Tariff Commitments	The product is kept outside the scope of tariff concessions; the importing country retains its existing tariff on that product.
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The Department will hold a meeting chaired by the **Joint Secretary (Petrochemicals), Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals**, on 05 August 2026 (Wednesday).

Since the matter is time-sensitive and may have significant implications for the plastics sector, members are requested to provide their comments, concerns, and recommendations, along with supporting data or examples, if any.

Kindly send your inputs to **PLEXCONCIL** by **04th, August 2026 (Tuesday), 4:00 PM** to nilotp@plexconcil.org; bharti@plexconcil.org, to enable us to compile and submit the industry's consolidated views to the Government within the stipulated timeline.

Your timely response will help ensure that the interests of the Indian plastics export industry are adequately represented during the negotiations.

Regards,

Bharti Parave
Dy. Director (Trade & Policy)
PLEXCONCIL