



PLEXCONNECT

EDITION 81, JULY 2026

PRODUCT OF THE MONTH Pg No. 32

Made up fishing nets of man-made textile materials

**INTERVIEW OF AN
INDUSTRY LEADER**

Pg No. 35

Ms. Suranya Smrithy Sajay
Director,
Sreema Filaments Pvt. Ltd.

STATE PROFILE

Pg No. 38

Punjab

COUNTRY PROFILE

Pg No. 43

Namibia

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1	➤	From the Chairman's Desk	4
2	➤	Council Activities (June 2026)	6
3	➤	Export Performance of May 2026	19
4	➤	Government Notifications	29
5	➤	Product of The Month Made up fishing nets of man-made textile materials	32
6	➤	Interview of an Industry Leader Ms. Suranya Smrithy Sajay, Director, Sreema Filaments Pvt. Ltd.	35
7	➤	State Profile Punjab	38
8	➤	Country Profile Namibia	43
9	➤	Global Trends and Innovation	46
10	➤	India News	50
11	➤	Why Become a Plexconcil Member	54
12	➤	List of New Members	56



"THIS POSITIVE MOMENTUM WILL CONTINUE IN THE MONTHS AHEAD AS INDIAN EXPORTERS INCREASINGLY DIVERSIFY INTO NEW AND EMERGING MARKETS, REDUCING THEIR DEPENDENCE ON THE TROUBLED WEST ASIAN REGION."

Dear Members,

India's plastics exports have demonstrated remarkable resilience in recent months despite the challenges posed by elevated raw material prices and higher freight costs arising from the West Asia crisis. I am pleased to note that our export performance has remained encouraging. During May 2026, India's plastics exports recorded an impressive 21.3% growth, marking the second consecutive month of expansion in the current financial year.



This growth was driven by a robust 32.5% increase in exports of raw materials, largely reflecting the sharp rise in international prices of key petrochemical products following the onset of the West Asia crisis. Exports of value-added plastic products also registered a healthy 17.3% growth, while Human Hair exports recorded an encouraging 19.6% increase during the month.

We are optimistic that this positive momentum will continue in the months ahead as Indian exporters increasingly diversify into new and emerging markets, reducing their dependence on the troubled West Asian region.

We welcome the recent progress towards de-escalation in West Asia, although several critical issues remain to be resolved before lasting peace can be achieved and unrestricted navigation through the Strait of Hormuz is fully restored. A stable geopolitical environment will be crucial for sustaining global trade and easing supply chain disruptions.

The outlook for Indian exports is also expected to improve with the implementation of several landmark free trade agreements. We congratulate the Government of India and the United Kingdom for finalising the implementation of the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) from 15 July 2026.



★ FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK

The agreement is expected to unlock significant opportunities for Indian plastic exporters in the UK market, particularly in packaging materials, films and sheets, consumer and houseware products, medical devices, and other value-added plastic products.

Similarly, the India-Oman Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), which came into force on 1 June 2026, is expected to enhance the competitiveness of Indian exporters in the Omani market by providing preferential market access over several competing countries. Oman can also serve as an important gateway for expanding India's exports to the wider Middle East and East African regions.

In the coming months, we also look forward to the implementation of the India-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement and the successful conclusion of the India-European Union Free Trade Agreement, both of which hold immense potential for expanding India's export footprint. We remain equally optimistic about the early conclusion of the proposed India-US Bilateral Trade Agreement, which is expected to restore India's competitiveness and help regain market share affected by the punitive tariffs imposed in August 2025.



On the trade promotion front, Plexconcil is actively preparing for India's participation at PACK EXPO 2026 in Chicago, USA (18-21 October 2026), and Plastimagen 2026 in Mexico (10-13 November 2026). These prestigious international exhibitions will provide valuable opportunities for Indian exporters to showcase their capabilities, establish strategic business partnerships, and strengthen their presence in key global markets.

Preparations are also underway to mobilise strong Indian participation at ArabPlast 2027 (24-26 March 2027), Chinaplas 2027 (13-16 April 2027), and NPE 2027 in the USA (3-7 May 2027). These globally recognised exhibitions will serve as important platforms to promote Indian brands, showcase innovation, and deepen our engagement across the Middle East, Asia, and North American markets.

To further accelerate export growth and market diversification, Plexconcil has proposed a series of Buyer-Seller Meets focusing on promising markets such as Kenya, Tanzania, Sweden, Australia, and New Zealand during the current financial year.

In parallel, the Council will actively support the Government of India's flagship initiatives, including the Export Promotion Mission and Districts as Export Hubs, by organising capacity-building programmes across various manufacturing clusters in the country. These initiatives will equip exporters—particularly MSMEs—with the knowledge, market intelligence, and institutional support needed to expand their global footprint.



Together, let us build a resilient, innovative, sustainable, and future-ready Indian plastics industry that continues to expand its global presence and reinforce India's position as a trusted and preferred sourcing destination for quality plastic products across the world.

Warm regards,
Vikram Bhaduria
Chairman, PLEXCONCIL

MEETINGS WITH VARIOUS STAKEHOLDERS

1st June 2026: Participation in the District Export Promotion Committee (DEPC) Meeting - Mumbai District | Western Region

A District Export Promotion Committee (DEPC) meeting was convened to review the implementation of the District Export Action Plan and discuss measures for promoting exports from Mumbai District. PLEXCONCIL was represented physically by Ms. Bharti Parave, Deputy Director.

Meeting Details

Date: 01 June 2026 (Monday)

Venue: Mumbai

Chair: Additional Director General of Foreign Trade (Addl. DGFT), Mumbai, and District Collector, Mumbai

PARTICIPATION OF PLEXCONCIL

The meeting reviewed the progress of the District Export Action Plan and discussed export promotion initiatives, district export potential, and issues faced by exporters. Representatives from government departments, export promotion organizations, and the exporter community participated in the deliberations. PLEXCONCIL participated in the discussions and reaffirmed its commitment to support activities under the Districts as Export Hubs (DEH) Initiative and promote export development in the district.



1st June 2026: India-Oman CEPA Operationalization Ceremony | Eastern Region

India-Oman CEPA Operationalisation ceremony held under the chairmanship of Shri. Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister of Commerce & Industry. Mr Nilotpal Biswas, RD(East) joined the program through online mode.

4th June 2026: Meeting with DoC, Govt. of India | Western Region

EPCAP organized a meeting on Import Substitution and High Potential Items to identify opportunities for enhancing domestic manufacturing, reducing import dependence, and promoting products with significant export potential. Attendees: Executive Director (Mr Sribash Das-mohapatra) Regional Director, East Mr Nilotpal Biswas, Deputy Director- Trade & Policy- Mrs Bharti Parave and Senior Manager - Research and Development Mr Raja Narayana.

08th & 29th June 2026: Meeting with Joint DGFT, RA Chennai | Southern Region

The R.O. Chennai officials met with Ms. Rajalakshmi De-varaj, IDAS., Joint DGFT, Chennai at Zonal DGFT HQ in Chennai to discuss on the proposal to organise PLEX-CONNECT - 2026 - AN INDUSTRY CONFERENCE with the theme of "India's Future in Polymers, Innovation & Export Growth", a premier one-day conference to be held on Tuesday, 30th July 2026, at Hotel ITC Grand Chola, Chennai, from 09:00 AM to 06:00 PM, to promote exports from Tamil Nadu jointly with Zonal DGFT- Chennai.

The program will be aimed to raise awareness among MS-MEs about EPM & FTA's in export promotion, including the benefits of exports, government schemes, international marketing strategies for identifying potential buyers, and access to banking and financial support for export activities. Attendees: Mr. Ruban Hobday, Regional Director-South and Mr. R. Dayanidhi, Asst. Director.

08th June 2026: Meeting with DGFT RA Ahmedabad | Western Region

The meeting was held with Ms Divya Patel, Assistant DGFT, DGFT RA AHMEDABAD regarding planning and

coordination regarding Seminar dated 11th June, 2026 on “Leveraging Free Trade Agreements, Foreign Trade Policy and Export Promotion Mission for Plastics Export Growth.” From Plexconcil- Ahmedabad office, meeting was attended by Mr Naman Marjadi and Mr Mukesh Bisht.

08th & 29th June 2026: Meeting with DBS Bank, Chennai | Southern Region

The DBS Bank Chennai officials had a meeting with Plexconcil Southern Region to discuss on the proposal to be a Trade Finance Partner towards the PLEXCONNECT – 2026 – AN INDUSTRY CONFERENCE with the theme of “India’s Future in Polymers, Innovation & Export Growth”, a premier one-day conference scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 30th July 2026, at Hotel ITC Grand Chola, Chennai, from 09:00 AM to 06:00 PM to promote exports from Tamil Nadu. Attendees: Mr. Ruban Hobday, Regional Director-South and Mr. R. Dayanidhi, Asst. Director.

09th June 2026: Meeting with Director General, CIPET, CIPET H.O. | Southern Region

The R.O. Chennai officials met with Mr. Sishir Sinha, Director General, CIPET H.O. at CIPET HQ in Chennai to discuss on the proposal to jointly organise PLEXCONNECT – 2026 – AN INDUSTRY CONFERENCE with the theme of “India’s Future in Polymers, Innovation & Export Growth”, a premier one-day conference to be held on Tuesday, 30th July 2026, at Hotel ITC Grand Chola, Chennai to promote latest manufacturing technology jointly with CIPET- Chennai. Attendees: Mr. Ruban Hobday, Regional Director-South and Mr. R. Dayanidhi, Asst. Director.

10th & 12th June 2026: Participation in the District Export Promotion Committee (DEPC) Meetings - Nashik and Jalgaon Districts | Western Region

District Export Promotion Committee (DEPC) meetings were convened to review the implementation of the District Export Action Plan, promote exports from the respective districts, and address issues faced by exporters. PLEXCONCIL was represented physically at both meetings by Ms. Bharti Parave, Deputy Director, and Mr. Kuldeep Singh, Assistant Manager.

1. DEPC Meeting - Nashik District Meeting Details

- Date: 10 June 2026 (Wednesday)
 - Venue: Collector Office, Nashik
 - Chair: Additional Director General of Foreign Trade (Addl. DGFT), Mumbai, and District Collector, Nashik
- The meeting reviewed the implementation of the District

Export Action Plan and discussed various export-related issues and opportunities for promoting exports from Nashik District. Stakeholders from government departments, export promotion organizations, and the exporter community participated in the deliberations.

2. DEPC Meeting - Jalgaon District Meeting Details

- Date: 12 June 2026 (Friday)
- Venue: District Collector Office, Jalgaon
- Chair: Additional Director General of Foreign Trade (Addl. DGFT), Mumbai, and District Collector, Jalgaon.

The meeting focused on reviewing the progress of the District Export Action Plan, identifying export potential within the district, and discussing challenges faced by exporters. Various stakeholders shared their suggestions and concerns to strengthen the export ecosystem and improve district-level export performance.

During the Jalgaon meeting, PLEXCONCIL agreed to organize webinars on Plastic Regulations as requested by the District Collector’s Office and to share information on relevant international exhibitions and trade fairs for the plastics sector. PLEXCONCIL also reaffirmed its commitment to undertake activities in line with the guidelines and objectives of the Districts as Export Hubs (DEH) Initiative and extend necessary support for export promotion in the district.



11th June 2026: 4th Review Meeting on Export Performance (NEA Division, Department of Commerce) | Southern Region

4th Review Meeting on Export Performance was organised by the FT-NEA Division, Department of Commerce, and chaired by Ms. Kapil Chaudhary, Joint Secretary to review the export performance and to discuss the ways for enhancing India’s exports to NEA countries. Mr. Sribash Dasmohapatra, Executive Director and Mr. Ruban Hobday, Regional Director (South) represented the Council at the meeting.

11th June 2026:

"Structured Domestic Outreach on India's Anti-Corruption Reforms/Outcomes relevant to the Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI)" | Eastern Region

The program on Structured Domestic Outreach on India's Anti-Corruption Reforms/Outcomes relevant to the Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) was organized by the O/o Addl. DGFT, Kolkata on VC mode. Mr Nilotpal Biswas, RD(East) joined the program through online mode.

12th June 2026:

Meeting on Focus Country Saudi Arabia | Eastern Region

The said meeting was organized by DoC, under the Chairmanship of Director(WANA) to discuss export promotion in various important sectors and explore opportunities for enhancing India's exports to the Saudi Arabia. Mr Nilotpal Biswas, RD(East) represented the Council at this meeting.

12th June 2026:

Meeting with FT (SA) Division, DoC | Western Region

The FT (SA) Division, Department of Commerce, organized a virtual meeting with the Export Promotion Councils (EPCs) and Indian Missions to review the issues discussed during the previous meeting held on 27.04.2026, deliberate on fresh trade-related issues, and discuss bilateral trade matters with a view to facilitating enhanced trade with the South Asia region. Attendees: Regional Director, East Mr Nilotpal Biswas, and Senior Manager – Research and Development Mr Raja Narayana.

15th June 2026:

Meeting with Director - MSME Development & Facilitation Office - Chennai, Ministry of MSME, Govt. of India | Southern Region

Mr. Ruban Hobday, Regional Director – Plexconcil-SR and Mr. R. Dayanidhi, Asst. Director had a meeting with Mr. Dhayalan, Director of the MSME Development and Facilitation Office, Chennai, who has recently taken charge of MSME DI-Chennai to seek his guidance and financial support for hosting awareness meetings in Tamil Nadu and also to invite him as a Special Speaker during the proposed PLEXCONNECT – 2026 – AN INDUSTRY CONFERENCE with the theme of "India's Future in Polymers, Innovation & Export Growth", a premier one-day conference to be held on Tuesday, 30th July 2026, at Hotel ITC Grand Chola, Chennai.

16th June 2026:

Meeting with UCO Bank, Chennai | Southern Region

The UCO Bank Chennai officials had a meeting with Plexconcil Southern Region to discuss the proposal of Banking Partner association for PLEXCONNECT 2026 – AN INDUSTRY CONFERENCE with the theme of "India's Future in Polymers, Innovation & Export Growth", a premier one-day conference scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 30th July 2026, at Hotel ITC Grand Chola, Chennai. Attendees: Mr. Ruban Hobday, Regional Director-South and Mr. R. Dayanidhi, Asst. Director.

12th June 2026:

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15th June 2026:

Meeting with Director - MSME Development & Facilitation Office - Chennai, Ministry of MSME, Govt. of India | Southern Region

Mr. Ruban Hobday, Regional Director – Plexconcil-SR and Mr. R. Dayanidhi, Asst. Director had a meeting with Mr. Dhayalan, Director of the MSME Development and Facilitation Office, Chennai, who has been recently taken charge of MSME DI-Chennai to seek his guidance and financial support for hosting awareness meetings in Tamil Nadu and also to invite him as a Special Speaker during the proposed PLEXCONNECT – 2026 – AN INDUSTRY CONFERENCE with the theme of "India's Future in Polymers, Innovation & Export Growth", a premier one-day conference to be held on Tuesday, 30th July 2026, at Hotel ITC Grand Chola, Chennai.

16th June 2026: **Meeting with UCO Bank, Chennai |** **Southern Region**

The UCO Bank Chennai officials had a meeting with Plexconcil Southern Region to discuss on the proposal to be as a Banking Partner towards the PLEXCONNECT - 2026 - AN INDUSTRY CONFERENCE with the theme of "India's Future in Polymers, Innovation & Export Growth", a premier one-day conference scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 30th July 2026, at Hotel ITC Grand Chola, Chennai. Attendees: Mr. Ruban Hobday, Regional Director-South and Mr. R. Dayanidhi, Asst. Director.



16th June 2026: **Meeting with DGFT, Delhi | Western Region**

DGFT organized a meeting of the Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG) on Supply Chain Resilience, under the Chairmanship of Shri Abhinav Gupta, Additional DGFT, in hybrid mode to assess the impact of recent developments in West Asia on India's EXIM trade and review the implications of supply chain disruptions on domestic production. Relevant stakeholders participated in the deliberations and shared sector-specific inputs. Attendees: Virtual Mode: Mr Sribash Dasmohapatra, Executive Director and in person attended by Mr Sanjay Singh, Dy. Director.

16th June 2026: **Stakeholder consultation before 11th WGT |** **Eastern Region**

The Stakeholder consultation meeting was organized by FT(NEA) Division, Department of Commerce. Mr Nilotpal Biswas, RD(East) joined the meeting online mode.

17th June 2026: **Webinar Session on Icegate PGA Registration |** **Eastern Region**

The webinar session organized by Icegate-CBIC. Mr Nilotpal Biswas, RD(East), Mr Kuldeep & Mr Samit joined the session online mode.

17th June 2026: **Participation in the District Export Promotion** **Committee (DEPC) Meeting - Raigad District |** **Western Region**

A District Export Promotion Committee (DEPC) meeting was convened to review the implementation of the District Export Action Plan and discuss measures for promoting exports from Raigad District. PLEXCONCIL was represented virtually by Ms. Bharti Parave, Deputy Director. Meeting Details: Venue: District Collector Office, Raigad Chair: Additional Director General of Foreign Trade (Addl. DGFT), Mumbai, and District Collector, Raigad.

Participation of PLEXCONCIL: The meeting reviewed the progress of the District Export Action Plan and discussed export promotion initiatives, district export potential, and issues faced by exporters. Representatives from government departments, export promotion organizations, and the exporter community participated in the deliberations. PLEXCONCIL participated in the discussions and reaffirmed its commitment to support activities under the Districts as Export Hubs (DEH) Initiative and promote export development in the district.

18th June 2026: **Meeting with DC, MEPZ - Chennai |** **Southern Region**

The R.O. Chennai officials met with Mr. Alex Paul Menon, IAS, Development Commissioner-Chennai at MEPZ HQ in Chennai to discuss on the proposal to organise PLEXCONNECT - 2026 - AN INDUSTRY CONFERENCE with the theme of "India's Future in Polymers, Innovation & Export Growth", a premier one-day conference to be held on Tuesday, 30th July 2026, at Hotel ITC Grand Chola, Chennai, from 09:00 AM to 06:00 PM, to promote exports from Tamil Nadu jointly with MEPZ- Chennai.

The program will be aimed to raise awareness among MSMEs to convert their existing manufacturing setup as EOU/DTA which will benefit them in directly through various exim schemes. Attendees: Mr. Ruban Hobday, Regional Director-South and Mr. R. Dayanidhi, Asst. Director.

19th June 2026: **Meeting with MSME Department, Govt. of Tamil** **Nadu | Southern Region**

Mr. G. Chandrasekar, Regional Chairman, PLEXCONCIL and R.O. Chennai officials met with Dr Atul Anand, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary to the Government, MSME Department, Govt of Tamil Nadu to invite him as a Chief Guest for the proposed PLEXCONNECT - 2026 - AN INDUSTRY CONFERENCE with the theme of "India's Future

★ COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

in Polymers, Innovation & Export Growth”, a premier one-day conference to be held on Tuesday, 30th July 2026, at Hotel ITC Grand Chola, Chennai.

Mr. G. Chandrasekar, Regional Chairman, PLEXCONCIL also emphasized on the potential opportunities for attracting investments and strengthening the plastics and polymer industry, particularly exports in the State.



22nd June 2026: Meeting with EPCs / Boards to Discuss Trade-Related Issues for the 2nd India-Indone- sia JWGTI | Eastern Region

The said meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary - FT (ASEAN) Division, Department of Commerce, to discuss trade related issues with Indonesia. Mr Nilotpai Biswas, RD(East) joined the meeting on-line mode.

22nd June 2026: Meeting with FITSOL, Chennai | Southern Region

The FITSOL Chennai officials had a meeting with Plexconcil Southern Region to discuss on the proposal to become Recycling Partner for PLEXCONNECT - 2026 - AN INDUSTRY CONFERENCE with the theme of “India’s Future in Polymers, Innovation & Export Growth”, a premier one-day conference scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 30th July 2026, at Hotel ITC Grand Chola, Chennai. Attendees: Mr. Ruban Hobday, Regional Director-South and Mr. R. Dayanidhi, Asst. Director.

22nd June 2026: Meeting with SICCI, Chennai | Southern Region

The R.O. Chennai officials met with Mr. Vinod Solomon, Secretary, SICCI-Chennai to discuss the proposal of becoming a Knowledge Partner for PLEXCONNECT - 2026 - AN INDUSTRY CONFERENCE with the theme of “India’s Future in Polymers, Innovation & Export Growth”, a premier one-day conference to be held on Tuesday, 30th July 2026, at Hotel ITC Grand Chola, Chennai.

As a Knowledge Partner, SICCI would be releasing a booklet on Advantage on FTA’s Countries with respect to the Plastic Sector. Attendees: Mr. Ruban Hobday, Regional Director-South and Mr. R. Dayanidhi, Asst. Director.

22nd June 2026: Meeting with Jwala EPR, Chennai | Southern Region

The Jwala officials had a meeting with Plexconcil Southern Region to discuss the proposal of becoming a Recycling Partner for PLEXCONNECT - 2026 - AN INDUSTRY CONFERENCE with the theme of “India’s Future in Polymers, Innovation & Export Growth”, a premier one-day conference scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 30th July 2026, at Hotel ITC Grand Chola, Chennai. Attendees: Mr. Ruban Hobday, Regional Director-South and Mr. R. Dayanidhi, Asst. Director.

24th June 2026: Industrial Visit to M/s. Shibaura Machines India, Chennai | Southern Region

The R.O. Chennai officials met with Mr. M. Kumar, Managing Director, M/s. Shibaura Machines India and their Senior Officials and toured their expanded new state of the art manufacturing facility. The Council discussed the proposal of becoming a Technology Partner for PLEXCONNECT - 2026 - AN INDUSTRY CONFERENCE with the theme of “India’s Future in Polymers, Innovation & Export Growth”, a premier one-day conference to be held on Tuesday, 30th July 2026, at Hotel ITC Grand Chola, Chennai. The Council also placed its standee at their office premises to promote the Council’s activities, especially the membership initiatives.

The Council appreciated their kind gesture and support in allowing this outreach activity at their office, which will help create greater awareness among industry visitors. Attendees: Mr. Ruban Hobday, Regional Director-South and Mr. R. Dayanidhi, Asst. Director.

24th June 2026: DGFT review meeting with EPC’s | Western Region

DGFT organized a review meeting with the Export Promotion Councils (EPCs), during which AEPC, SEPC, CLE, and EEPC India made presentations before the Hon’ble Commerce & Industry Minister in the prescribed format. The meeting also reviewed the proposed Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for EPCs and the status of submission of baseline data.

★ COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

The remaining EPCs were requested to furnish the requisite baseline data in the revised format at the earliest to facilitate a comprehensive assessment and periodic performance review. Attendees: Mr Sribash Dasmohapatra, Executive Director and Mr Sanjay Singh, Dy. Director.

24th June 2026: **Meeting with Chairman, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Govt. of Tamil Nadu | Southern Region**

The R.O. Chennai officials met with Mr. Anurag Mishra, IFS, Chairman (FAC) TNPCB, Govt of Tamil Nadu to invite him as a Special Guest for the proposed PLEXCONNECT – 2026 – AN INDUSTRY CONFERENCE with the theme of “India’s Future in Polymers, Innovation & Export Growth”, a premier one-day conference to be held on Tuesday, 30th July 2026, at Hotel ITC Grand Chola, Chennai. Attendees: Mr. Ruban Hobday, Regional Director-South and Mr. R. Dayanidhi, Asst. Director.

25th June 2026: **Performance Review of various RAs and Districts post the launch of the DEH Drive | Western Region**

Meeting was held under the Chairmanship of ADG, DGFT (Shri Abhinav Gupta) in virtual mode to discuss the status of implementation of various activities from DEH stakeholders under the ongoing DEH Drive on 1st June 2026. The meeting was attended by Mr Naman Marjadi, Assistant Director, Plexconcil.

26th June 2026: **HIPLEX Road Show at Chennai | Southern Region**

The R.O. Chennai officials attended the Road Show of the HIPLEX show scheduled to be held in Hyderabad from 7-10, August 2026. The R.O. Chennai officials met Committee members of both the TAPMA – Tamil Nadu and TAPMA – Hyderabad.

27th June 2026: **Plexconcil Participates in Maharashtra SME Summit & Awards 2026 | Western Region**

Plexconcil participated in the Maharashtra SME Summit & Awards 2026, organized by the Maharashtra Small Scale Industries Development Corporation (MSSIDC) on 27 June 2026 at Navi Mumbai. The Summit brought together over 2,000 MSME entrepreneurs, along with representa-

tives from financial institutions, investors, industry leaders, and ecosystem partners.

During the event, officials from EXIM Bank, ECGC, and Amazon Global Selling shared insights on export finance schemes, export credit insurance, and global e-commerce opportunities for MSMEs. On the sidelines of the Summit, Plexconcil interacted with senior officials from EXIM Bank and ECGC and invited them to participate in upcoming capacity-building programmes for plastic exporters to enhance awareness of export finance and risk management solutions.

27th June 2026: **Export Import Conclave 2.0 for the Plastic Industry | Eastern Region**

The Export Import Conclave 2.0 for the Plastic Industry was successfully held in Kolkata on June 27, 2026. Organized by the PLEXCONCIL & IPF. The conclave focused on boosting global trade with Govt. scheme – (EPM), Free Trade Agreements (FTAs). Mr. Khalid Aizaz Anwar, I.A.S Secretary, Finance & Revenue Department & Commissioner, Directorate of Commercial Taxes, Government of West Bengal was the chief guest & Mr. Samrat Rahi, I.R.S., Deputy Chairperson - Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port Kolkata was the guest of honour. Mr. Alok Tibrewala Regional Chairman, PLEXCONCIL, Mr. Amit Agarwal, President, IPF also spoke during the program.



29th June 2026: **Visit to Guindy Industrial Estate, Chennai | Southern Region**

The R.O. Chennai officials visited Guindy Industrial Estate to meet its association members and also the Council met the M/s. Polyhose Group to be part of the forthcoming PLEXCONNECT – 2026 – AN INDUSTRY CONFERENCE.

29th June 2026:

Meeting with EPCAP, DoC | Western Region

EPCAP organized a virtual meeting under the Chairmanship of the Director (EPCAP) to deliberate on the India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA). The meeting provided a platform for stakeholders to discuss key provisions of the Agreement, sector-specific opportunities, implementation-related issues, and the way forward for maximizing export potential. Attendees: Mr Raja Narayana, Senior Manager – Research and Development.

30th June 2026:

Plexconcil Engages with Indian Missions in EFTA | Western Region

Plexconcil participated in a virtual meeting organised by the Department of Commerce on 30 June 2026 with Indian Missions in the EFTA countries, Export Promotion Councils, trade bodies, and State Governments to strengthen trade promotion efforts under the India-EFTA Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA).

During the meeting, Plexconcil requested the Embassy of India in Iceland to facilitate capacity-building programmes on Iceland's plastic sustainability regulations and quality standards to help Indian exporters enhance their market readiness and leverage opportunities in the EFTA region.

30th June 2026:

Meeting with Addl. DGFT, Kolkata | Eastern Region

The Trade facilitation meeting was held in Kolkata and was chaired by Mr C K Misra, Addl DGFT. RD (East) represent the council at this meeting.

30th June 2026:

Meeting with DoC, Govt. of India | Western Region

The Europe-I Division, Department of Commerce, organized a virtual meeting under the chairpersonship of Shri Mohit Yadav, Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce, with Indian Missions, Export Promotion Councils (EPCs), Trade Bodies, and State Governments to review ongoing trade promotion initiatives, facilitate continuous coordination among stakeholders, and align efforts for enhancing India's exports.

Attendees: Mrs Bharti Parave, Deputy Director- Trade & Policy and Mr Raja Narayana, Senior Manager – Research and Development.

30th June 2026:

Objective of strengthening exports by addressing sector-specific issues

Shri C. K. Mishra, Additional Director General of Foreign Trade (Addl. DGFT), Kolkata, chaired a meeting in Kolkata on 30 June 2026 with the objective of strengthening exports by addressing sector-specific issues and enhancing coordination between the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) and Export Promotion Councils (EPCs). The meeting served as a platform for discussions among key stakeholders on strategies to strengthen the export ecosystem of the Eastern Region and enhance its global competitiveness.

The deliberations focused on the implementation of the Districts as Export Hubs (DEH) initiative, the proposed Export Promotion Mission, and the opportunities arising from Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) for expanding market access and facilitating export growth. Shri Vishnu Kant, Joint Director General of Foreign Trade (Jt. DGFT), and Shri Himanshu Dhar Pandey, Deputy Director General of Foreign Trade (Dy. DGFT), also attended the meeting. Mr. Nilotpal Biswas, Regional Director, represented the Council and actively participated in the deliberations, reaffirming the Council's commitment to fostering coordinated efforts with the DGFT and other stakeholders to promote exports from the Eastern Region.



WEBINARS

29th May 2026:

Webinar with Walmart on “Discover Pathways for Export to USA for Indian Exporters and MS-MEs. | Western Region

The Consulate General of India, New York, in association with Walmart, organized this webinar as part of its knowledge series for registered Indian exporters on the India-USA Trade Facilitation Portal.

The webinar provided valuable insights for Indian exporters and MSMEs on engaging with one of the world’s largest retail companies- Walmart, understanding supply chain requirements, and exploring opportunities in the U.S. market. PLEXCONCIL promoted this webinar among registered members of India USA Trade Portal.

24th June 2026:

The Amazon Briefing Session webinar on India-USA Trade Facilitation Portal | Western Region

The Consulate General of India, Seattle, in partnership with The Consulate General of India, New York is organized Briefing Session with Amazon on the India USA Trade Facilitation Portal.

The session provided a valuable opportunity to explore how to expand exports to the USA market and effectively leverage the India-USA Trade Facilitation Portal through Amazon. PLEXCONCIL promoted this webinar among registered members of India USA Trade Portal.

STATE OUTREACH INITIATIVES

11TH June 2026:

Seminar on “Leveraging Free Trade Agreements, Foreign Trade Policy and Export Promotion Mission for Plastics Export Growth.” | Western Region

The Plastics Export Promotion Council (Plexconcil) in collaboration with The Office of the Additional Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) Ahmedabad, and the Gujarat State Plastic Manufacturers Association (GSPMA) organized a seminar on 11 June 2026 in Ahmedabad titled “Leveraging Free Trade Agreements, Foreign Trade Policy and Export Promotion Mission for Plastics Export Growth.”

Held under the DGFT’s Niryat Bandhu Scheme, the program mentored plastic manufacturers and traders on maximizing benefits through India’s Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) and enhancing export competitiveness via the Foreign Trade Policy and Export Promotion Mission.



The program opened with a welcome address by Mr. Anish Patel, President of GSPMA. During the program, presentation on Leveraging Free Trade Agreements (FTAs)



★ COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

was given by Ms Divya Patel, Assistant DGFT, DGFT RA AHMEDABAD and Presentation on Export Promotion Mission was given by Ms Ananya Singh, Young Professional, DGFT RA AHMEDABAD.

Presentation on Dak Ghar Niryat Kendra (DNK) of India Post was given by Mr Khemchand Rathod, Marketing Executive, India Post Ahmedabad. Mr Naman Marjadi, Assistant Director, Plexconcil gave an overview of Gujarat's Plastic Exports and role of PLEXCONCIL in Export promotion. The seminar featured a Q&A session where participants addressed their queries. The program was concluded with a vote of thanks by Shri Mansukh G Savaliya, Hon. Secretary, GSPMA.



The program was well-attended by plastic exporters, Plexconcil CoA member- Mr. Jayarajan C Nair, and Mr. Darshan Shah and officials from Plexconcil- Mr Mukesh Bisht and Mr Naman Marjadi. The program provided valuable insights into the progress of Gujarat's SEZs and the vision for the future development of Industries and exports.



17th June 2026: **Participation in "Outreach Program on 12 years of achievements and progress of SEZs of Gujarat & vision for future" | Western Region**

Zonal Development Commissioner, Gujarat SEZs and EOUs in association with Industries Commissionerate, Gujarat and DGFT Ahmedabad organized "Outreach Program on 12 years of achievements and progress of SEZs of Gujarat & vision for future" on 17th June, 2026 at Ahmedabad.

Chief Guest of the program was Shri Ajay Bhadoo, IAS, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India and Shri Swaroop P, IAS, Industries Commissioner, Gujarat was the Guest of honour.

★ THE EXPORT IMPORT CONCLAVE 2.0 FOR THE PLASTIC INDUSTRY AT KOLKATA

The Export Import Conclave 2.0 for the Plastic Industry was successfully held in Kolkata on **June 27, 2026**. Organized by PLEXCONCIL and IPF, the event focused on boosting global trade through government schemes like EPM and Free Trade Agreements (FTAs).



During the program, export-import experts, industry veterans and distinguished speakers shared valuable insights on global market opportunities, government schemes, Free Trade Agreements (FTAs), buyer acquisition, raw material trends, and strategies for international business expansion.



The conclave featured Mr. Khalid Aizaz Anwar, I.A.S. (Secretary, Finance & Revenue Department & Commissioner, Directorate of Commercial Taxes, Government of West Bengal) as the Chief Guest, and Mr. Samrat Rahi, I.R.S. (Deputy Chairperson, Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port Kolkata) as the Guest of Honour. Mr. Alok Tibrewala, Regional Chairman of PLEXCONCIL, and Mr. Amit Agarwal, President of IPF also addressed the participants during the program.



The program also included insightful presentations from the following experts:

- Mr. Manoj Singh, ITS, Asst. DGFT, RA, Kolkata
- Mr. Nilotpal Biswas, RD, PLEXCONCIL
- Shri Sanjeev Baranwal, G.M., Indian Oil Corporation Limited
- Shri Rajib Bhagat, D.G.M., GAIL (India) Limited
- Mr. Sudhakar Kasture, International Trade Consultant and Director, EXIM Institute, Mumbai
- CA Ishan Tulsian, Partner, R. Tulsian & Co. LLP



LIST OF REPRESENTATIONS MADE IN JUNE 2026

1. Representation to O/o. DGFT regarding request for Incorporation of New HS Codes 39232991 and 39232999 on DGFT Portal and Clarification on Advance Authorisation/EPCG Compliance.
2. Representation to RBI regarding request for Clarification on Acceptance of Export Realisation Reported under Purpose Code P1505 for Supplies to SEZ under Advance Authorisation.
3. Representation to Department of Revenue regarding request Not to Impose Bilateral Safeguard Duty on Imports of DOTP and DEHCH from the Republic of Korea.
4. Representation to DGFT regarding clarification confirming the eligibility position of DFIA exports under the Rod TEP Scheme.
5. Representation to The Zonal Office of the Additional Director General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) regarding request for early closure of pending EPCG licences and streamlining of EODC process on behalf of Dhvani Polyprint's Pvt Ltd.
6. Representation to Embassy of India, Vietnam regarding request for Assistance in Recovery of Long Outstanding Export Dues from Vietnamese Importer - M/s Phu Truong Gia Co. Ltd., Hanoi on behalf of Kolor Impex.
7. Representation to O/o. DGFT regarding Countervailing duty investigation concerning imports of "Calcium Carbonate Filler Masterbatch" originating in or exported from Vietnam conducted by the DGTR Case No. - CVD(OI) - 03/2024.
8. Representation to IC Division, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises regarding Request for Clarification and Continuation of the Capacity Building of First Time MSE Exporters (CBFTE) Scheme.
9. Representation to EP CAP, DOC regarding request for continuing Polypropylene (PP) Mats (Shifted from Chapter 39 to Chapter 46) under the administrative purview of Plexconcil.
10. Representation to Industries, Energy & Labour Department, Government of Maharashtra regarding request for State Participation in International Plastics Exhibitions and Buyer-Seller Meets to Enhance Maharashtra's Plastics Exports.
11. Submission of inputs to Foreign Exchange Department, RBI high-level meeting with Exporters' Bodies, chaired by the Governor, Reserve Bank of India.
12. Submissions to Joint Secretary - FT(NAFTA), Department of Commerce regarding Appeal for Urgent Intervention from the Government in the Current Crisis in Petrochemical Industry.
13. Submissions of inputs to TNM Division - TBT/ TRIPS Desk, DOC regarding issues relating to the Grant/ Renewal of BIS Certification Mark Licences under Foreign Manufacturer Certification Scheme (FMCS).
14. Submission of inputs for 14th India-Philippines Joint Working Group on Trade and Investment to FT(ASEAN) Division, Dept of Commerce
15. Submission of inputs to EP(CAP) Division, Department of Commerce Category-wise Inputs on Identified Products for Import Substitution

16. Submission of inputs for India-EAEU FTA to Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, Govt of India
17. Submission of inputs on promoting plastics trade with Seychelles to FT(Africa) Division, Department of Commerce
18. Submission of inputs for Vision Document to promote trade with South Africa to FT(Africa) Division, Dept of Commerce
19. Submission of inputs on Import Substitution to EP (CAP) Division, Department of Commerce
20. Submission of inputs for Export Strategy Document for Australia to FT(Oceania) Division, Department of Commerce
21. Submission of inputs Reason for growth in import and decline in exports of highlighted products in May 2026 to EP (CAP) Division, Department of Commerce
22. Submission of inputs for export strategy for Germany to EP (CAP) Division, Department of Commerce
23. Submission of inputs on Sustainability Certifications to TNM Division, Department of Commerce
24. Submission of inputs on promoting trade with Cambodia, Viet Nam, and Singapore to Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals.
25. Submission of inputs for 1st Review of the ASEAN-India Trade in Goods agreement (AITIGA) to Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals
26. Submission of inputs on Import Dependent supply chain to EP (CAP) Division, Department of Commerce
27. Submission of revised Details of Shipment on Entry into Force of India-UK CETA to EP CAP Division, Department of Commerce

SUMMARY OF EXPORTS

In May 2026, India's plastic exports grew 21.3% year-on-year to USD 1.30 billion, compared to USD 1.09 billion in May 2025, marking the second consecutive monthly expansion in the current financial year.

The growth was primarily driven by a sharp increase in the prices of key petrochemical products following the onset of the West Asia crisis, which raised the value of export consignments. In addition, the recent depreciation of the Indian Rupee enhanced the cost competitiveness of Indian exporters, further supporting export growth.

Exports of value-added plastic products increased by 17.3%, while shipments of plastic raw materials recorded a robust growth of 32.5%. Exports of Human Hair & Related Products also registered a healthy growth of 19.6%, supported by strong demand and robust export orders from diversified international markets.

To view detailed reports for any of the previous months please visit: <https://plexconcil.org/statistics>



THE PLASTICS EXPORT
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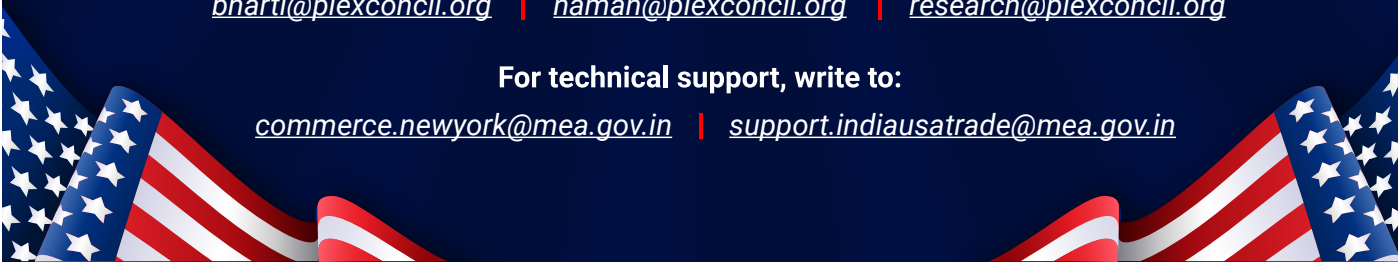
| Watch the video on How to Register as an Exporter on the [link](#).

For more queries, contact:

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commerce.newyork@mea.gov.in | support.indiausatrade@mea.gov.in





THE PLASTICS EXPORT
PROMOTION COUNCIL

Present

PLEXCONNECT²⁰²⁶

AN INDUSTRY CONFERENCE ON

“India’s Future in Polymers, Innovation & Export Growth”



THURSDAY
30TH JULY 2026



HOTEL ITC GRAND
CHOLA CHENNAI



0900 AM
0600 PM



PLEXCONCIL and SICCI will jointly unveil a special **Exporter's Handbook on FTAs and their benefits for the Plastic Industry** during the Inaugural Session.

The Plastics Export Promotion Council (PLEXCONCIL) and CIPET under the Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, Government of India, jointly present PLEXCONNECT 2026 – An Industry Conference.

Global tensions in West Asia and disruptions in the Strait of Hormuz have led to higher crude oil prices and increased costs of key plastic raw materials. At the same time, India's recently signed FTAs offer new avenues for exporters – but are these opportunities translating into real benefits?

This one-day conference will bring together industry leaders, exporters, MSMEs, policymakers, regulators, innovators, financial institutions, media and international representatives to deliberate on opportunities, challenges and the future direction of India's plastics and petrochemical industry.

KEY SESSIONS



FTAs – Fact or Fiction?



Trade Finance in a Changing Economy



Oil Wells to Value Chains



Tamil Nadu Engineering Plastics – The Next Export Frontier



The Business of Recycling: EPR and Industry Readiness

WHY ATTEND?



Hear diverse perspectives from industry stakeholders.



Discuss critical issues affecting the plastics export and domestic markets.



Contribute to actionable recommendations for policy and industry development.



Network with key decision-makers and thought leaders.

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ANALYSIS OF INDIA'S PLASTICS EXPORT

MAY 2026



KEY FINDINGS

Export of plastic products grew 21.3% in May 2026, marking the second consecutive monthly growth in shipments in the current financial year.

The growth was led by 32.5% rise in export of raw materials due to considerable increase in price of key petrochemical products since the onset of the West Asia crisis; Export of Value Added plastics grew 17.3%, while Human Hair posted 19.6% growth.

Rupee depreciation and diversification of exports to near-by Asian countries also supported export growth.

Specifically, demand for Packaging products grew considerably from Nepal, China, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and other Asian countries.

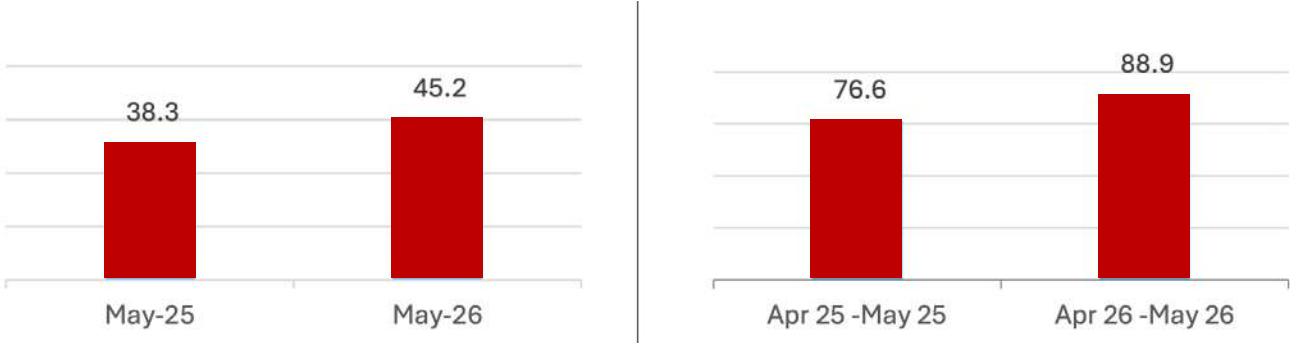
Exports of FRP & Composites have grown after declining consecutively in the past four months; Similarly, shipment of pipes and tubes have recovered after declining in the past two months.



TREND IN OVERALL EXPORTS

India’s merchandise exports posted a whopping 18% growth to USD 45.2 billion in May 2026 from USD 38.3 billion in the year ago month led by sharp rise in shipment of petroleum products, cut & polished diamonds, smartphones, defence equipments, machineries, automobiles and so on.

Exhibit 1: Trend in overall merchandise exports from India (USD Billion)

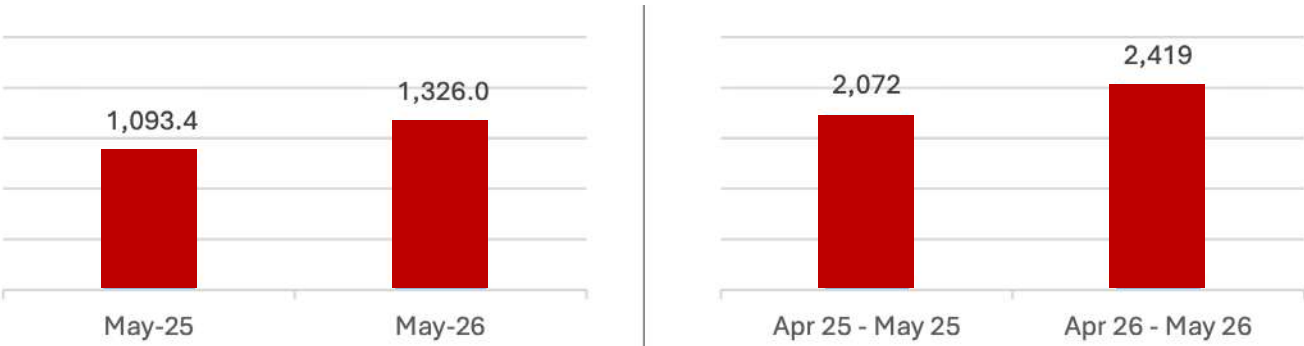


Source: Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India

TREND IN PLASTICS EXPORT

India’s plastics and allied product exports posted 21.3% growth to USD 1326.0 million in May 2026 from USD 1093.4 million in the year ago month led by rise in shipment of raw materials, films & sheets, Human Hair, Packaging items, Pipes & Fittings and so on.

Exhibit 2: Trend in plastics export by India (USD Million)



Source: Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India

PLASTICS EXPORT, BY PANEL

As mentioned earlier, shipment of Raw Materials, Human Hair, Films & Sheets, Packaging products and Pipes & Fittings led the growth in overall plastic exports in May 2026.

Growth in export of FRP & Composites and Miscellaneous products also contributed to overall rise in shipments.

At the same time, there was notable decline in shipment of Consumer & Houseware products, FIBC, Woven Sacks, Floor Coverings, Cordage & Fishnets, Medical Items and Writings Instruments.

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

Panel	May-25	May-26	Growth	Apr 25- May-25	Apr 26- May-26	Growth
	USD million	USD million	%	USD million	USD million	%
Consumer & houseware products	74.6	70.5	-5.5%	144.9	142.1	-1.9%
Cordage, fishnets & monofilaments	23.0	22.0	-4.2%	45.3	44.0	-2.8%
FIBC, Woven sacks, Woven fabrics, Tarpaulin	146.7	140.1	-4.5%	281.7	273.6	-2.9%
Floorcoverings, leathercloth & laminates	65.1	63.8	-2.1%	122.9	114.6	-6.8%
FRP & Composites	42.4	45.5	+7.5%	82.4	83.9	+1.9%
Human hair & related products	76.9	92.0	+19.6%	128.6	175.1	+36.2%
Medical items of plastics	47.4	41.7	-12.0%	93.5	87.7	-6.2%
Miscellaneous products and items nes	67.8	124.8	+84.1%	126.4	213.1	+68.5%
Packaging items - flexible, rigid	58.0	59.8	+3.1%	111.8	114.3	+2.2%
Plastic films and sheets	169.7	252.6	+48.8%	327.7	455.1	+38.9%
Plastic pipes & fittings	24.3	27.3	+12.6%	49.9	51.9	+4.1%
Plastic raw materials	274.6	364.1	+32.6%	512.9	617.6	+20.4%
Writing instruments & stationery	23.1	21.9	-5.1%	44.7	45.8	+2.5%
Grand Total	1,093.4	1,326.0	+21.3%	2,072.4	2,418.6	+16.7%

Source: Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India



Exports of Consumer & Houseware Products

witnessed 5.5% decline led by fall in shipment of Tableware & Kitchenware (HS 39241090), Switches (HS 85365020), Building elements (HS 39259090), Safety Headgear (HS 65061090), Trunk, Suitcases, bags (HS 42021220) and so on. Weak demand in USA and high freight cost for shipment to UAE, Saudi Arabia and other Middle East countries led to fall in exports in this category. Also, high raw material prices affected cost competitiveness of Indian manufacturers.

Cordage, Fishnets & Monofilaments fell 4.2% because of fall in demand for Twine, Cordage (HS '56074900), Made-up Knitted Fishing nets (HS 56081110) and so on in Morocco and Norway. Also, shipments to UAE was affected by Middle East tension and high freight cost.



FIBC, Woven Sacks and Women Fabrics witnessed 4.5% decline because of fall in shipment of FIBC materials (HS 63053200) to key destinations such as USA and Belgium also because of high freight cost. Rising cost of raw materials also led to erosion of export competitiveness in the global market.

Shipment of Floor Coverings, Leather Cloth & Laminates contracted 2.1% because of fall in shipment of Textile fabrics (HS '59039090) to USA, Canada and Spain. Also, weak demand in Bangladesh led to fall in shipment in this product category. Also, shipment of PVC Floor Covering (HS '39181090) is affected to Saudi Arabia due to shipping line disruption in this region.



Export of FRP & Composites has grown 7.5% because of firm demand for Composite plastic articles (HS 39269099) in USA and other prominent markets. There is also strong demand for Other Plastic articles (HS 39269079) in Russian market, which aided overall export growth in this segment.

Export of Human Hair & Related Products grew 19.6% because of strong demand for value added Human Hair (HS 67030010) in China, Tunisia, Indonesia, Singapore and other markets. Specifically, there is 87% jump in demand for Human Hair in Tunisia, while shipment to Singapore more than doubled this month.



Medical Items of Plastics recorded 12.0% decline because of fall in shipment of Needles, Catheters (HS 90183930), Syringes (HS 90183100), Spectacles, Goggles (HS 90049090), especially to USA and some European countries. There is also fall in shipment of Blood transfusion apparatus (HS 90189032), especially to Thailand, Belgium and Malaysia.



Miscellaneous Products & Items n.e.s. recorded a robust export growth of 84.1%, led by sharp rise in shipment of Optical Fibres (HS 90011000), Objective Lenses (HS 90021100), Other Lenses (HS 90019090) and other Plastic Articles (HS 39269049). Exporters benefitted from new order inflows from Angola, Mexico, France and other markets for products in this category.

Packaging Items - Flexible, Rigid registered 3.1% growth, supported by improved demand for Carboys, Bottles, Flasks (HS 39233090), Boxes, Cases, Crates and other articles (HS 39231090). Exporters benefitted from rise in demands for packaging items in Asian countries such as Nepal, China, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Thailand.



★ EXPORT PERFORMANCE

Shipment of **Plastic Films & Sheets** recorded a robust growth of 48.8% led by increase in demand for Flexible, Plain Sheets (HS 39202020), Flexible, Plain Plates, Films & Sheets (HS 39206220) and Other Plates & Sheets (HS 39202090). There was a broad based rise in demand from across geographies ranging from UK, South Africa, Italy, Nigeria and Spain to Brazil, Russia and Turkey.



Export of **Plastic Pipes & Fittings** grew 12.6% led by growth in shipment of Other Tubes, Pipes & Hoses (HS 39173990) to Australia, USA, UAE and other markets; Exporters also received strong orders for Flexible Tubes, Pipes & Hoses (HS 39173100) from Germany, France and Singapore; There was also rising demand for Rigid Tubes, Pipes & Hoses (HS 39172110) from Bhutan, Russia and Thailand.



Export of **Plastic Raw Materials** registered a growth of 32.6% led by sharp rise in the price of key raw materials and strong demand in key markets such as Turkey, Kenya, Germany, Nigeria, Tanzania, Canada and other markets. Particularly, there was growth in shipments of polyacetals, polyethers, epoxide resins, polycarbonates (HS 39076190) to Canada, Algeria, Haiti, Bangladesh. Exporters also received sizeable orders for Polypropylene (HS 39021000) from Kenya, Mexico, Tanzania and other markets.

Export of **Writing Instruments & Stationery** declined 5.1% because of weak demand in USA, UAE, Saudi Arabia, Algeria and Nepal. Specifically, there is weak demand for Other Ball point pens (HS 96081019) in Algeria, Kenya and UAE. Exports of Office or School Supplies, of Plastics (HS 39261099) declined because of subdued orders from China and other markets. Demand for Refills for Ball Point Pens (HS 960860) was low in UK and Algeria.



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

Code	Description	Apr 25- May-25	Apr 26- May 26	Growth
		Values in USD Mn		(%)
'63053200	Flexible intermediate bulk containers, for the packing of goods, of synthetic or man-made textile materials	171.35	161.95	-5.5%
'67030010	Human hair, dressed, thinned, bleached or otherwise worked; wool, other animal hair or other textile materials, prepared for use in making wigs or the like (excl. natural plaits of human hair, whether or not washed and degreased, but not otherwise processed): Human hair, dressed, thinned, bleached or	91.98	128.11	+39.3%
'90011000	Optical fibres, optical fibre bundles and cables (excl. made-up of individually sheathed fibres of heading 8544)	56.79	147.80	+160.3%
'39232990	Sacks and bags, incl. cones, of plastics (excl. those of polymers of ethylene): Other <u>(Note that this HS Code has been replaced with HS 39232991HS 39232999 from this financial year)</u>	82.28	75.95	-7.7%
'39269099	Articles of plastics and articles of other materials of heading 3901 to 3914, n.e.s.: Other	81.58	83.01	+1.8%
'48239019	Paper, paperboard, cellulose wadding and webs of cellulose fibres, in strips or rolls of a width <= 36 cm, in rectangular or square sheets, of which no side > 36 cm in the unfolded state, or cut to shape other than rectangular or square, and articles of paper pulp, paper, cellulose wadding or webs of cellulose fibres, n.e.s.: Decorative laminates	52.05	57.44	+10.4%
'05010010	Human hair, unworked; whether or not washed or scoured	35.78	46.37	+29.6%
'39069090	Acrylic polymers, in primary forms (excl. polymethyl methacrylate): Other	39.86	49.59	+24.4%
'39021000	Polypropylene, in primary forms	45.67	52.18	+14.3%
'39076190	Other primary form	49.40	72.74	+47.2%
'39269080	Articles of plastics and articles of other materials of heading 3901 to 3914, n.e.s.: Polypropylene articles , not elsewhere	45.33	38.42	-15.2%
'39239090	Articles for the conveyance or packaging of goods, of plastics (excl. boxes, cases, crates and similar articles; sacks and bags, incl. cones; carboys, bottles, flasks and similar articles; sppols, spindles, bobbins and similar supports; stoppers, lids, caps and other closures): Other	34.44	36.43	+5.8%
'39232100	Sacks and bags, incl. cones, of polymers of ethylene	34.67	32.90	-5.1%
'39206220	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular polyethylene terephthalate, not reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials, without backing, unworked or merely surface-worked or merely cut into squares or rectangles (excl. those of polymethyl methacrylate, self-adhesive products, and floor, wall and ceiling coverings of heading 3918): Flexible , plain	40.64	59.44	+46.3%

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

Code	Description	Apr 25- May-25	Apr 26- May 26	Growth
		Values in USD Mn		(%)
'39202020	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular polymers of ethylene, not reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials, without backing, unworked or merely surface-worked or merely cut into squares or rectangles (excl. self-adhesive products, and floor, wall and ceiling coverings of heading 3918): Flexible, plain	38.03	78.98	+107.7%
'90015000	Spectacle lenses of materials other than glass	28.52	27.51	-3.5%
'90183930	Needles, catheters, cannulae and the like, used in medical, surgical, dental or veterinary sciences (excl. syringes, tubular metal needles and needles for sutures): Cannulae	26.47	26.59	+0.5%
'39202090	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular polymers of ethylene, not reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials, without backing, unworked or merely surface-worked or merely cut into squares or rectangles (excl. self-adhesive products, and floor, wall and ceiling coverings of heading 3918): Other	27.93	36.70	+31.4%
'59039090	Textile fabrics impregnated, coated, covered or laminated with plastics other than polyvinyl chloride or polyurethane (excl. tyre cord fabric of high tenacity yarn of nylon or other polyamides, polyesters or viscose rayon; wall coverings of textile materials impregnated or covered with plastic; floor coverings consisting of a textile backing and a top layer or covering of plastics): Other	36.43	31.53	-13.5%
'39129090	Cellulose and chemical derivatives thereof, n.e.s., in primary forms (excl. cellulose acetates, cellulose nitrates and cellulose ethers): Other	22.16	24.68	+11.4%
'39046100	Polytetrafluoroethylene, in primary forms	22.86	23.15	+1.3%
'96081019	Ball-point pens (detailed label not available)	19.77	19.65	-0.6%
'39219099	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of plastics, reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials, unworked or merely surface-worked or merely cut into squares or rectangles (excl. of cellular plastic; self-adhesive products, floor, wall and ceiling coverings of heading 3918): Other	23.04	24.69	+7.2%
'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	19.76	25.92	+31.2%
'39076990	Other primary form	19.79	30.49	+54.1%
'39199090	Self-adhesive plates, sheets, film, foil, tape, strip and other flat shapes, of plastics, whether or not in rolls > 20 cm wide (excl. floor, wall and ceiling coverings of heading 3918): Other	16.33	20.44	+25.2%
'56074900	Twine, cordage, ropes and cables of polyethylene or polypropylene, whether or not plaited or braided and whether or not impregnated, coated, covered or sheathed with rubber or plastics (excl. binder or baler twine)	19.21	17.29	-10.0%
'39012000	Polyethylene with a specific gravity of >= 0,94, in primary forms	17.71	21.17	+19.5%

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

Code	Description	Apr 25- May-25	Apr 26- May 26	Growth
		Values in USD Mn		(%)
'39206919	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular polyesters, not reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials, not worked or only surface-worked, or only cut to rectangular, incl. square, shapes (excl. polycarbonates, polythylene terephthalate and other unsaturated polyesters, self-adhesive products, and floor, wall and ceiling coverings in heading 3918): Other	19.08	21.19	+11.1%
'39219094	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of plastics, reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials, unworked or merely surface-worked or merely cut into squares or rectangles (excl. of cellular plastic; self-adhesive products, floor, wall and ceiling coverings of heading 3918): Flexible , metallised	18.36	28.27	+54.0%
'39046990	Fluoro-polymers of vinyl chloride or of other halogenated olefins, in primary forms (excl. polytetrafluoroethylene): Other	16.98	21.53	+26.8%
'39014010	Linear low density polyethylene (LLDPE), in which ethylene monomer unit contributes less than 95 % by weight of the total polymer content	18.45	28.73	+55.7%
'39073010	Epoxide resins, in primary forms: Epoxy resins	15.53	29.93	+92.7%
'39241090	Tableware and kitchenware, of plastics: Other	18.75	13.17	-29.8%
'96032100	Tooth brushes, incl. dental-plate brushes	15.79	16.70	+5.8%
'39011090	Polyethylene with a specific gravity of < 0,94, in primary forms: Other	13.54	23.88	+76.4%
'39140020	Ion-exchangers based on polymers of heading 3901 to 3913, in primary forms: Ion exchangers of polymerisation	11.46	15.45	34.8%
'39201019	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular plastics, not reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials, without backing, unworked or merely surface-worked or merely cut into squares or rectangles (excl. self-adhesive products, and floor, wall and ceiling coverings of heading 3918): Other	12.99	19.74	+52.0%
'39095000	Polyurethanes, in primary forms	13.73	17.09	+24.5%
'39206929	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular polyesters, not reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials, not worked or only surface-worked, or only cut to rectangular, incl. square, shapes (excl. polycarbonates, polythylene terephthalate and other unsaturated polyesters, self-adhesive products, and floor, wall and ceiling coverings in heading 3918): Other	13.84	15.38	+11.1%

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

Exhibit 5: Reasons for major decline in plastic products exports

HS Code	Description	Apr 25- May 25	Apr 26 - May 26	Reasons for decline
		(USD Mn)		
'63053200	Flexible intermediate bulk containers, for the packing of goods, of synthetic or man-made textile materials	171.35	161.95	Exports have fallen because of rising freight cost, high raw material prices and weak demand in prominent markets such as USA and European countries
'39232990	Sacks and bags, incl. cones, of plastics (excl. those of polymers of ethylene): Other (Note that this HS Code has been replaced with HS 39232991HS 39232999 from this financial year)	82.28	75.95	Exports have fallen because of intensifying competition from China and ASEAN countries in prominent markets.
'39269080	Articles of plastics and articles of other materials of heading 3901 to 3914, n.e.s: Polypropylene articles , not elsewhere	45.33	38.42	This is a residual category encompassing a wide range of plastic products that are not classified under specific HS codes. As the exact products exported under this category cannot be identified from the available trade data, it is difficult to ascertain the precise factors contributing to the decline in shipments. To improve the accuracy of trade analysis and enable better monitoring of export trends, the Government may consider introducing additional product-specific HS codes for items currently classified under this residual category. Greater product-level disaggregation would facilitate more effective tracking of export performance and support informed policy interventions.
'39232100	Sacks and bags, incl. cones, of polymers of ethylene	34.67	32.90	Exports have declined due to intensifying price competition in key markets such as the United States, the United Kingdom, and the Netherlands. Indian exporters face a competitive disadvantage compared to several Asian competitors owing to relatively limited and less cost-effective access to raw materials, which impacts their pricing competitiveness in international markets.
'90015000	Spectacle lenses of materials other than glass	28.52	27.51	Exports have fallen due to subdued demand in key European markets and the Middle East. Also, high freight cost eroded price competitiveness of Indian suppliers vis a vis European suppliers.
'59039090	Textile fabrics impregnated, coated, covered or laminated with plastics other than polyvinyl chloride or polyurethane (excl. tyre cord fabric of high tenacity yarn of nylon or other polyamides, polyesters or viscose rayon; wall coverings of textile materials impregnated or covered with plastic; floor coverings consisting of a textile backing and a top layer or covering of plastics): Other	36.43	31.53	Exports have fallen due to rising raw material prices, high freight cost and subdued demand in key markets such as USA and Canada.



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MORE DETAILS

1. Extension of timelines under Component II of RELIEF Intervention

DGFT has extended the eligibility period for Component II of the Resilience & Logistics Intervention for Export Facilitation (RELIEF) under the Export Promotion Mission (EPM) up to 30th September 2026.

[Link to the PDF](#)

Conclusion:

Members may take note of the extended timeline and plan their shipments accordingly to avail benefits under the RELIEF (Component II) intervention.

2. Extension of Customs Duty Exemption Period

The Ministry of Finance has extended the customs duty exemption period for specified imported goods till 15th July 2026.

[Link to the PDF](#)

Conclusion:

Members may refer the official notification and avail customs duty waiver on the specified goods until 15th July 2026.

3. First tranche of tariff concessions under India-Oman CEPA

India's Ministry of Finance issued a notification regarding implementation of the first tranche of tariff concessions under the India-Oman Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA).

[Link to the PDF](#)

Conclusion:

Members may refer the notification for preferential import duties on designated items imported from Oman under this agreement.

4. Preferential Certificate of Origin (CoO) under India-Oman CEPA

DGFT has issued a Trade Notice regarding introduction of electronic filing and Issuance of Preferential Certificate of Origin (CoO) under India-Oman Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (India-Oman CEPA).

[Link to the PDF](#)

Conclusion:

Members may obtain eCOO via the "Certificate of Origin" service on Trade Connect ePlatform and avail tariff benefit under India-Oman CEPA

5. RBI Tightens Export Realisation Timeline

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has amended Regulation 9 of the Foreign Exchange Management (Export of Goods and Services) Regulations through notification dated 5th June 2026. According to this amendment, RBI reduced the maximum period available for realization and repatriation of export proceeds from 15 months to 9 months.

[Link to the PDF](#)

Conclusion:

Members may adhere to the revised realization period to avoid regulatory action.

6. Alignment of Schedule-II (Export Policy) of ITC (HS), 2022

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) is in the process of aligning Schedule-II (Export Policy) of ITC (HS) 2022 according to the amendments in HS Codes introduced in the Finance Act, 2026. According to this amendment, HS Code 3923 29 90 is split into HS 3923 29 91 (Biodegradable) and HS 3923 29 99 (Other).

[Link to the PDF](#)

Conclusion:

Members are advised to note this change in HS Code.

7. Applicability of QCOs/BIS on imports by SEZ Units and Developers

DGFT has issued a notification dated June 1, 2026 to align the provisions relating to exemption from applicability of Quality Control Orders (QCOs) for imports by SEZ Units and Developers with the provisions of the SEZ Act, 2005 and SEZ Rules, 2006, and to bring clarity regarding the applicability of QCOs.

[Link to the PDF](#)

Conclusion:

SEZ Units and Developers will be exempt from BIS Quality Control Orders (QCOs) for imports of permissible goods required for authorised operations within SEZs.

8. Update on Anti-Dumping Investigation on Imports of Titanium Dioxide from China

Members may note that anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of Titanium Dioxide originating in or exported from China PR is currently under remand proceedings before the Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR). DGTR issued a Disclosure Statement on 12 May 2026, setting out the essential facts and proposed conclusions in the remand proceedings.

[Link to the PDF](#)

Conclusion:

Conclusion of remand proceedings may bring regulatory certainty and assist industry stakeholders in making informed procurement and business decisions.





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MADE-UP FISHING NETS OF MAN-MADE TEXTILE MATERIALS - HS 560811



Made-up fishing nets of man-made textile materials (HS 560811) play a vital role in supporting India's fisheries and aquaculture sectors while emerging as a globally competitive export product. These ready-to-use fishing nets, manufactured primarily from nylon (polyamide), polyethylene (PE), polypropylene (PP), and polyester, are extensively used in marine fisheries, inland fishing, aquaculture, and shrimp farming. Unlike netting sold in rolls, these are finished products fitted with ropes, floats, sinkers, and other accessories, ready for immediate deployment.

India's robust fisheries and aquaculture sectors, coupled with sustained government initiatives under the Blue Economy and fisheries development programmes, continue to drive strong domestic demand. Backed by established manufacturing clusters in Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, and other coastal states, India has developed a globally competitive ecosystem for the production of high-quality fishing nets.

The country's growing manufacturing strength is reflected in its trade performance. During 2025-26, India exported USD 88.9 million worth of made-up fishing nets while importing USD 33.0 million, making it a net exporter of the product (Source: DGCIS). India is now the second-largest exporter globally, accounting for 8.3% of world exports, up from 5.1% a decade ago, demonstrating a significant improvement in its global competitiveness. At the same time, India ranks as the seventh-largest importer, with a 3.7% share of global imports, reflecting domestic demand for certain specialised varieties and raw materials. (Calendar year 2025 data - ITC Trademap).

MARKET DYNAMICS

The world import demand for this product has grown at a CAGR of 6.4% from USD 474.7 million in 2015 to USD 886.0 million in 2025.

- 🔥 The top five exporters of this product and their global market share are: China (41.6%), India (8.3%), Thailand (7.9%), Lithuania (5%) and Viet Nam (5%).
- 🔥 The top five importers of this product and their global import share are: Norway (7.5%), South Korea (7.4%), Viet Nam (7%), Angola (4.9%) and Chile (4.3%).

INDIA'S PERFORMANCE (EXPORTS)

In the last 10 years ending 2025, India's exports have grown at a CAGR of 6.5% to USD 90.1 million from USD 48.2 million in the year ago period. (Source: ITC Trademap, Calendar Year)

In terms of financial year, shipments have grown at a CAGR of 5.2% from USD 62.3 million before the pandemic (2018-19) to USD 88.9 million in 2025-26.

In quantity terms, exports have grown at 4.6% CAGR from 9.8 thousand tonne in 2018-19 to 13.5 thousand tonne in 2025-26. In the last one year (2025-26), exports have dropped marginally.

The following table provides value-wise and quantity-wise exports of this product to top 10 countries in 2025-26.

Top 10 Destinations in value and quantity terms 2025-26

Sr. No	Destination Country	Value (USD Mn)	Share in total exports (%)	Destination Country	Qty. (thousand tonne)	Share in total exports (%)
1	Chile	19.3	22%	Chile	2.4	18%
2	Norway	12.4	14%	Oman	1.9	14%
3	Oman	10.2	11%	UAE	1.6	12%
4	UAE	7.5	8%	Norway	1.4	10%
5	Canada	6.1	7%	Morocco	1.0	7%
6	Morocco	4.7	5%	Sri Lanka	0.6	5%
7	Faroe Is	3.3	4%	Canada	0.6	4%
8	Sri Lanka	3.0	3%	Kenya	0.5	4%
9	UK	2.9	3%	UK	0.4	3%
10	Kenya	2.3	3%	Russia	0.3	2%
	Total of top 10 countries	71.5	80%	Total of top 10 countries	10.6	79%
	Total of all countries	88.91	100%	Total of all countries	13.5	100%

Source: Department of Commerce, Govt. of India, Plexconcil Research

INDIA'S PERFORMANCE (IMPORTS)

India's imports have grown at a CAGR of 17% from USD 6.8 million in 2015 to USD 32.8 million in 2025 (Source: ITC Trademap, Calendar Year).

In terms of financial year, India's imports have grown 20.2% CAGR from USD 9.1million in 2018-19 to USD 33.0 million in 2025-26. In quantity terms, imports have grown 25.9% from 2.2 thousand tonne to 11.2 thousand tonne during this period. In the last one year (2025-26), imports have grown 10.4% in value terms and 20.2% in quantity terms.

The following table provides value-wise and quantity-wise imports of this product to top 10 countries in 2024-25.

The following table provides value-wise and quantity-wise imports of this product to top 10 countries last year.

Top 10 Sources in value and quantity terms 2025-26

Sr. No	Source Country	Value (USD Mn)	Share in total imports (%)	Source Country	Qty. (thousand tonne)	Share in total imports (%)
1	Bangladesh	22.4	68%	Bangladesh	9.0	80%
2	Thailand	4.3	13%	Indonesia	0.7	6%
3	Indonesia	3.9	12%	Thailand	0.7	6%
4	China	1.0	3%	China	0.6	5%
5	Viet Nam	0.6	2%	Sri Lanka	0.1	1%
6	Brazil	0.4	1%	Viet Nam	0.1	1%
7	Sri Lanka	0.3	1%	Brazil	0.0	0%
8	UAE	0.1	0%	UAE	0.0	0%
9	Singapore	0.0	0%	Turkey	0.0	0%
10	Turkey	0.0	0%	USA	0.0	0%
	Total of top 10 countries	33.0	100%	Total of top 10 countries	11.2	100%
	Total of all countries	33.0	100%	Total of all countries	11.2	100%

Source: Department of Commerce, Govt. of India, Plexconcil Research

OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIAN EXPORTERS

India largely caters to Chile, Norway, Oman, UAE, Canada, Morocco and Sri Lanka. In future, India can diversify its exports to other markets such as South Korea, Angola, Viet Nam, Malaysia, Ghana and Indonesia, which are also potential markets for this product.

South Korea is the second largest importer of this product; India has access to this market at zero tariff under India-South Korea CEPA (trade agreement).

Viet Nam is the third largest importer of this product; India may explore market opportunity in this country by availing zero duty under India-ASEAN free trade agreement.

Angola is the fourth largest importer of this product and its MFN duty is zero, which makes it an attractive market for Indian exporters.

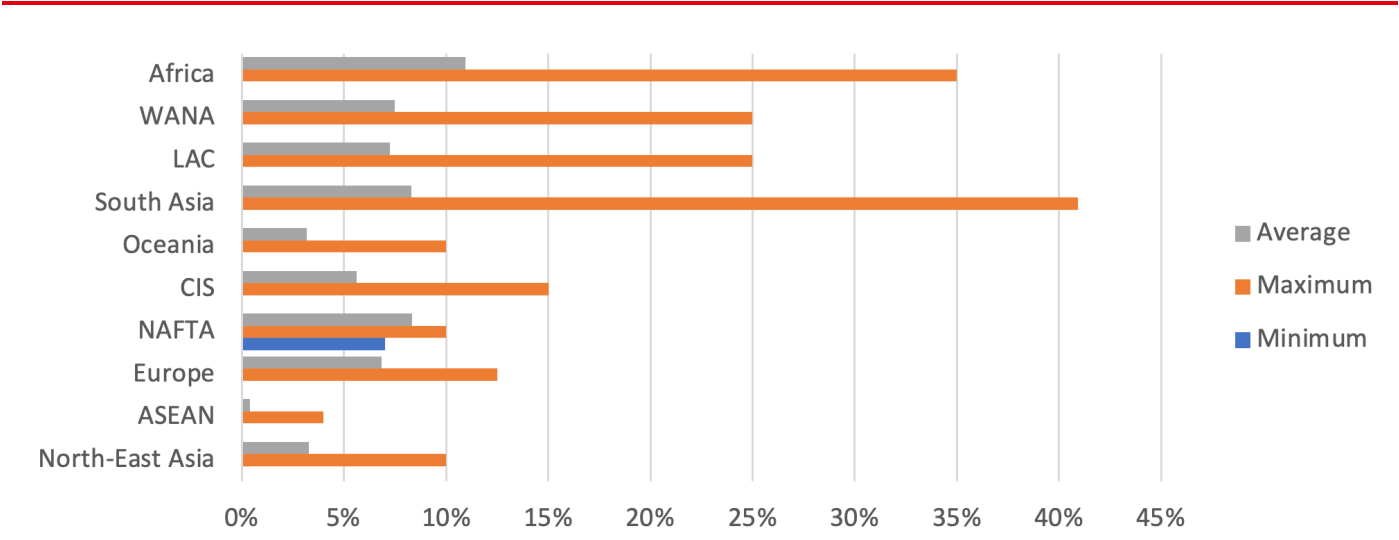
Malaysia also offers duty-free market access to India under India-ASEAN free trade agreement; India can explore market opportunity in this country as it is the 8th largest importer in the world.

Indonesia is the 14th largest market for this product; The country applies 4% concessional duty against 5% MFN duty under India-ASEAN trade agreement.

Unfortunately, Indian exporters do not enjoy preferential duty benefit in most of the countries in LAC and CIS region, which makes them less promising compared to the above listed countries.



Effective tariff applied by various regions on import of Made-up Fishing nets of Manmade textile fabrics from India



Source: Latest data from Market Access Map, Plexconcil Research



Ms. Suranya Smrithy Sajay Director, Sreema Filaments Private Ltd.

1. Growth Journey: Could you outline your company's growth journey since your first manufacturing facility that came up in January, 2006 in Nagercoil, Kanyakumari District?

“ We started out with a single netting machine imported from Japan. Nagercoil has traditionally been a hub for fishnet manufacturers — in those days, anyone with some capital and land would set up a netting factory with just one machine. Our unit began exactly in that spirit in January 2006. From that single-machine beginning, we steadily built up scale, automated our processes, and expanded into extrusion, twisting, and advanced netting technology, growing into the integrated, export-oriented manufacturer we are today. ”

2. Milestones and Recognition: Your company has come out with many innovations like Specialty High tenacity Monofilament nylon Yarn. Could you highlight some key milestones and recognitions?

“ Some of our key milestones include:
2010–Our first export shipment.
2011–Backward integration into yarn extrusion.
2016–Backward integration with a multi-yarn twisting plant.
2019 –Installation of the first Japanese-model netting machine in India.

Alongside these, our development of Specialty High Tenacity Monofilament Nylon Yarn has been a key innovation, offering higher value addition compared to normal-denier synthetic yarns. ”

3. Manufacturing Excellence: When it comes to manufacturing you have come out with efficient

processes like “extruding technology,” and “special processing technology” on dyeing and coating to ensure consistency. Please share some of the best practices adopted in manufacturing & operational excellence across your facilities.

“ Our focus has been on automating process by process, rather than attempting a wholesale overhaul. Step by step, we have automated extrusion, dyeing, coating, and processing stages, which has helped us concentrate on large-volume production while maintaining consistency and quality across every batch. ”



4. Sustainability Benchmarks: What are some of the steps you are adopting to make your products and manufacturing more in line with evolving sustainability benchmarks?

“ We have set up a system to collect plastic waste generated at our factories, which is outsourced for conversion into granules and then bought back by us. These recycled granules feed into our own injection moulding operations, where we manufacture bobbins for captive consumption in our yarn extrusion process — turning what would otherwise be waste into a resource within our own production loop. ”

5. Focus Area and Future Expansion: Which is the product portfolio that is the focus area for the company now? Do you have any plans for any diversification in the future? Are you looking at any strategic or technology partnerships?

Our focus remains on producing the finest, world-class quality yarn and netting. Operationally, we run our factories on a Japanese rhythm of factory management — achieving the best quality with fewer resources — and we manage our facilities using the Japanese 5S model to keep operations orderly and efficient. "



6. Emerging Trends: What are some of the emerging trends in the category? How do you see the outlook for domestic demand, production, and exports evolving in the near future?

We see a strong opportunity to work with the Plastics Export Promotion Council, along with fellow manufacturers across Kanyakumari district, to help all local factories increase their export orientation. Our broader goal is to see Nagercoil established as the world's leading hub for netting exports. "

7. Global Presence: Which are your strong export markets and strategic plan for global expansion? Have you captured any new market in the recent past or planning to enter into any new FTA countries (such as Switzerland, Norway, New Zealand, Oman etc.)?

We currently export to a number of countries, and the new FTAs have been very welcoming for our industry. We would encourage every netting manufacturer to explore the opportunities these agreements open up. Among the countries on the new FTA list, we are already doing business in some, and we have begun exploring opportunities in others. "

8. Export Processes: In a very competitive market and highly volatile geopolitical environment, what are some of the challenges you are facing in your export business? Please mention some of the areas you would seek intervention from the government to make the export processes even more seamless.

We export under licenses, and the two major hurdles we face are procedural. First, obtaining the Export Obligation Discharge Certificate (EODC) from the JDGFT after export completion currently takes around six months. Second, once the EODC is issued, bond cancellation with Customs takes a further three months or so. If both of these timelines could be shortened, fishnet exports from India could grow to become among the largest in the world. "





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STATE PROFILE

Punjab is located in northwestern India, bordered by Jammu & Kashmir to the north, Himachal Pradesh to the north-east, Haryana to the south and southeast, Rajasthan to the southwest, and the Pakistani province of Punjab to the west. Spread across an area of approximately 50,362 sq. km., the state is characterised by fertile alluvial plains, an extensive canal irrigation network, and a strategic location along India's north-western border. Punjab comprises 23 districts and plays an important role in India's agriculture, agro-processing, textiles, sports goods, and light engineering sectors.

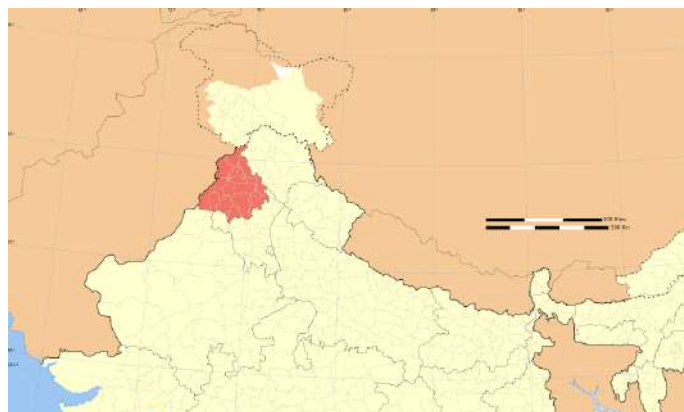
With around 2.3% of India's population, Punjab's gross state domestic product (GSDP) is estimated at Rs. 8.91 trillion (approximately USD 101 billion) in 2025-26.

Known historically as the 'Breadbasket of India' for its pivotal role in the Green Revolution, Punjab's economy remains anchored in agriculture and allied activities, alongside a well-established base in textiles, hosiery, sports goods, auto components, and light engineering. The state accounts for a significant share of India's woolen knitwear, sewing machine, and sports goods production, supported by strong industrial clusters in Ludhiana, Jalandhar, and Amritsar.

Industrial activity in Punjab is concentrated in cities such as Ludhiana, Jalandhar, and Amritsar, which have developed into important manufacturing hubs for engineering goods, plastics, hosiery, and export-oriented products. The state's plastics processing industry has grown alongside its packaging, automotive component, and consumer goods sectors, supported by improving industrial infrastructure and connectivity to northern consumption centres and international land borders.

Punjab also has a developing base in agro-processing, pharmaceuticals, and IT-enabled services, adding further diversification to its industrial economy.

Renowned for its agricultural strength, industrious workforce, and long-standing manufacturing base, Punjab



continues to contribute to India's economic landscape by leveraging its agro-industrial ecosystem, export-oriented manufacturing clusters, and strategic border location to drive growth across sectors.



OVERVIEW OF THE PLASTICS INDUSTRY IN PUNJAB

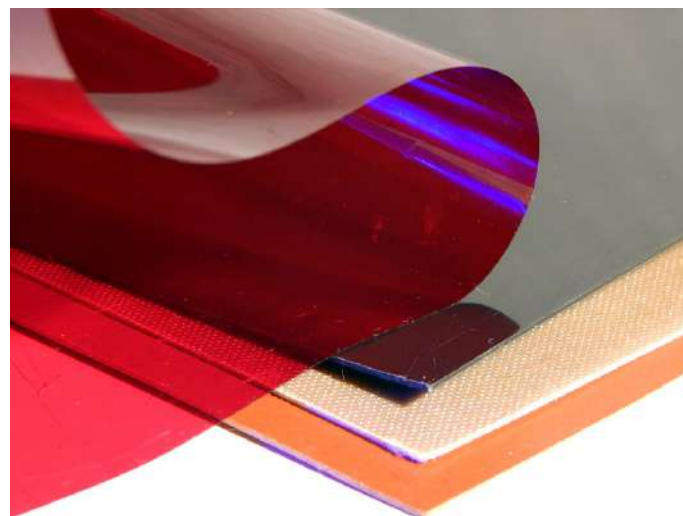
Punjab ranks 15th in India's exports of Plastics. Punjab's plastics exports reached USD 115.69 million in 2024 - 25, up from USD 93.59 million in 2023 - 24, registering strong growth of 23.6% and reflecting robust momentum and strengthening export competitiveness across the state's plastics processing industry.

Panel wise, exports from Punjab for the past two years

Product Panels	2023 - 24 (USD Million)	2024 - 25 (USD Million)	Growth %
Consumer & Houseware Products	12.87	14.86	+15.4%
Cordage, Fishnets & Monofilaments	1.27	1.41	+10.5%
FIBC, Woven Sacks, Woven Fabrics, Tarpaulin	1.05	1.07	+2.8%
Floorcoverings, Leathercloth & Laminates	0.96	1.05	+9.9%
FRP & Composites	4.79	6.19	+29.1%
Human Hair & Related Products	1.27	0.40	-68.6%
Medical Items of Plastics	0.09	0.11	+17.9%
Miscellaneous Products and Items Nes	1.78	1.73	-2.8%
Packaging Items - Flexible, Rigid	7.08	4.31	-39.1%
Plastic Films and Sheets	48.90	58.46	+19.6%
Plastic Pipes & Fittings	3.86	4.01	+3.7%
Plastic Raw Materials	9.25	21.68	+134.5%
Writing Instruments & Stationery	0.43	0.42	-2.6%
Grand Total	93.59	115.69	+23.6%

Source: DGCIS, Plexconcil Research

- Punjab's plastics exports registered strong growth of +23.6%, increasing from USD 93.59 million in 2023 - 24 to USD 115.69 million in 2024 - 25, driven by a sharp rise in select product categories.
- Plastic Raw Materials emerged as the fastest-growing major segment, more than doubling from USD 9.25 million to USD 21.68 million, a growth of +134.5%, reflecting expanding capacity in primary polymer processing.
- Plastic Films and Sheets remained the largest export category, rising from USD 48.90 million to USD 58.46 million (+19.6%), reaffirming its position as the mainstay of the state's plastics exports.
- FRP & Composites and Medical Items of Plastics posted healthy growth of +29.1% and +17.9% respectively, pointing to rising demand from industrial and healthcare-linked applications.
- However, certain segments recorded declines, notably Human Hair & Related Products (-68.6%), Packaging Items - Flexible, Rigid (-39.1%), and Writing Instruments & Stationery (-2.6%), indicating weaker demand in these product categories.



The export basket is led by films & sheets of non-cellular polyethylene, valued at USD 34.96 million, followed by reinforced and laminated plastic sheets at USD 18.30 million, both reflecting the state's established base in flexible packaging and industrial film production.

Primary-form polymers such as polyethylene (specific gravity ≥ 0.94) and linear low density polyethylene (LLDPE) together account for a notable share of exports, underscoring Punjab's growing role in polymer raw material processing.

The presence of travel bags, safety headgear, and articles of plastics among the top export items reflects the diversity of Punjab's consumer goods and industrial component manufacturing base.

TOP 10 ITEMS OF PLASTICS EXPORT FROM PUNJAB

Punjab's top 10 plastic export items highlight the state's strength in polymer film & sheet manufacturing, engineering plastics, and packaging products, together forming a significant share of the state's overall plastics exports during FY 2024-25.

Source: DGCIS, Plexconcil Research

During 2024 - 25, Shahid Bhagat Singh Nagar, Ludhiana, and Jalandhar emerged as the leading exporting districts of Punjab, together contributing over 62% of the state's plastics export performance, while Bathinda, Pathankot, Amritsar, and S.A.S Nagar added further scale, highlighting a broader spread of manufacturing activity across the state's industrial belt.

Source: DGCIS 2024-25, Plexconcil Research (Data for FY 2024–25 has been proportionately prorated based on the district-wise distribution of FY 2023–24 data.)

BOOSTING PUNJAB'S EXPORT SECTOR

The steady growth of Punjab's plastics export sector is strengthening the state's position as an important manufacturing and export hub in northern India. Supported by its industrial infrastructure, agro-industrial base, and expanding value-added manufacturing capabilities, the state is creating new opportunities across domestic and global markets:

Strengthening Foreign Exchange Earnings: Punjab's plastics exports reached USD 115.69 million in FY 2024-25, registering healthy growth of 23.6% over the previous year, thereby contributing to India's foreign exchange earnings and export competitiveness.

Building a Diversified Export Basket: The state's export profile reflects a mix of packaging films, polymer raw materials, engineering and consumer plastic products, highlighting Punjab's diversified manufacturing capabilities.

Strengthening Packaging and Polymer Manufacturing: Large export volumes in Plastic Films & Sheets and Plastic Raw Materials demonstrate Punjab's strong presence in packaging-grade polymers and downstream plastic processing industries.

Generating Employment Opportunities: Export growth is supporting industrial activity and employment generation across major manufacturing hubs such as Shahid Bhagat Singh Nagar, Ludhiana, and Jalandhar, which together account for the majority of the state's plastics exports.

Enhancing Industrial Competitiveness: Punjab's established industrial clusters, connectivity with northern consumption centres, and proximity to international land borders are enabling industries to scale production and improve competitiveness in international markets.

Punjab's overall export trajectory remains positive. With continued focus on value addition, industrial expansion, and diversification across polymer and packaging sectors, the state is well-positioned to strengthen its role in India's plastics export growth story.



PLEXCONCIL'S Punjab Operations Are Coordinated Through Its New Delhi Regional Office

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NAMIBIA



ECONOMIC OVERVIEW

Namibia is located on the southwestern coast of Africa, bordered by Angola to the north, Zambia to the northeast, Botswana to the east, South Africa to the south, and the Atlantic Ocean to the west. Owing to its strategic location along major international shipping routes, Namibia serves as an important logistics and trade gateway for Southern Africa. The country has invested significantly in transport infrastructure, with the Port of Walvis Bay acting as a key maritime hub that provides access to landlocked neighbouring countries, including Botswana, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and parts of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Namibia has an upper-middle-income, resource-based economy that is supported by mining, agriculture, fishing, manufacturing, tourism, and services. The mining sector remains the backbone of the economy, with Namibia being one of the world's leading producers of uranium and an important producer of diamonds, zinc, gold, and copper. The services sector contributes the largest share to GDP, driven by wholesale and retail trade, financial services, transport, telecommunications, and public administration. Manufacturing activities primarily include food processing, fish processing, beverages, and mineral beneficiation, while the country is increasingly promoting value-added industrial development.

wildlife conservation areas, and world-renowned national parks also make tourism a major contributor to foreign exchange earnings and economic growth.



Namibia has a population of approximately 3.1 million, with around 55% of its population residing in urban areas. Windhoek, the capital city, serves as the country's administrative, commercial, and financial centre, while Walvis Bay functions as its principal port and logistics gateway. Supported by political stability, sound macroeconomic management, abundant natural resources, expanding infrastructure, and growing investments in renewable energy and logistics, Namibia continues to strengthen its position as an emerging investment destination in Southern Africa.

As of recent data, Fitch Ratings assigns Namibia a 'BB-' rating with a Stable Outlook, while Moody's Investors Service rates the country 'Ba3' with a Stable Outlook. S&P Global Ratings does not currently maintain a sovereign credit rating for Namibia. These ratings reflect Namibia's prudent macroeconomic management, improving fiscal performance, strong mining sector, and medium-term growth prospects, while also acknowledging challenges related to economic diversification, unemployment, and external vulnerabilities.

Sources: International Monetary Fund (IMF); World Bank; African Development Bank (AfDB); Bank of Namibia; Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA); Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board (NIPDB); Fitch Ratings; Moody's Investors Service; Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD); United Nations Data (UNData).



The country possesses abundant renewable energy resources, particularly solar and wind, and is actively pursuing investments in green hydrogen production to position itself as a future exporter of clean energy. Agriculture continues to play an important role in employment and rural livelihoods, with livestock farming, crop cultivation, and fisheries contributing significantly to economic activity and exports. Namibia's diverse natural landscapes,

Economic Indicators		2023	2024	2025
Nominal GDP	USD Billion	12.4	13.4	14.8
Nominal GDP per capita	USD	4,236	4,472	4,862
Real GDP growth	%	4.4	3.7	2.4
Total Population	Million	2.9	3.0	3.0
Average inflation	%	5.9	4.2	3.5
Total merchandise exports	USD Billion	5.7	6.5	6.5
Total merchandise imports	USD Billion	7.4	8.8	8.0

Source: IMF, Trade Map

EXPORT PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW

India’s exports of plastics to Namibia stood at USD 1.97 million in FY 2025-26, compared to USD 2.54 million in FY 2024-25, reflecting a decline of 22.4% year-on-year.

Key export categories include FIBC, Woven Sacks, Woven Fabrics & Tarpaulin (+127.5%), which emerged as the standout growth segment, while Plastic Pipes & Fittings remained stable at USD 0.17 million. Declines were observed in Plastic Raw Materials (-98.6%), Miscellaneous Products (-70.2%), FRP & Composites (-54.4%), and Medical Items (-53.1%).

Notably, Plastic Pipes & Fittings (HSN 3917) represents a category of strategic significance for Namibia, given the country’s strong policy focus on water conservation infrastructure, micro-irrigation systems, and agricultural piping systems.



Category-wise Export Performance: FY 2024-25 vs FY 2025-26

Product Panel	2024-25 (USD Mn)	2025-26 (USD Mn)	% Change
Consumer & houseware products	0.01	0.02	+99.6%
Cordage, fishnets & monofilaments	0.01	0.02	+54.9%
FIBC, Woven sacks, Woven fabrics, Tarpaulin	0.36	0.83	+127.5%
FRP & Composites	0.23	0.10	-54.4%
Medical items of plastics	0.46	0.22	-53.1%
Miscellaneous products and items nes	0.42	0.13	-70.2%
Packaging items - flexible, rigid	0.08	0.10	+19.8%
Plastic films and sheets	0.54	0.38	-28.8%
Plastic pipes & fittings	0.17	0.17	-0.9%
Plastic raw materials	0.24	0.00	-98.6%
Writing instruments & stationery	0.00	0.00	+36.1%
Grand Total	2.54	1.97	-22.4%

Source: Source: DGCIS, PLEXCONCIL Research)

NAMIBIA'S IMPORT OF PLASTICS

Namibia's plastic imports are currently dominated by South Africa (59.8%) and China (15.1%), collectively accounting for nearly three-quarters of all imports. India's share stands at just 1.4%, underscoring the significant untapped market opportunity available for Indian exporters.

While the Namibian market is relatively small compared to other African economies, it holds strong strategic importance for plastic piping systems — particularly for Agriculture and Building & Construction industries — given the country's arid geography, desert regions, and critically low rainfall patterns.



EXPORT POTENTIAL

India's total addressable export potential for plastics to Namibia is estimated at approximately USD 295 million across all plastic product categories. With current exports at USD 1.97 million, there exists substantial headroom for market penetration — particularly in Plastic Raw Materials, Consumer & Houseware Products, Packaging Items, Medical Items and Plastic Pipes & Fittings.

Product-wise Export Potential

Product Category	India's Exports to Namibia (USD Mn)	Namibia's World Imports (USD Mn)	India's Exports to World (USD Mn)	Trade Potential (USD Mn)
Consumer & houseware products	0.22	53.72	1,836.58	53.10
Cordage, fishnets & monofilaments	0.02	7.67	283.27	7.65
FIBC, Woven sacks, Woven fabrics, Tarpaulin	0.45	11.90	1,779.44	9.71
Floorcoverings, leathercloth & laminates	0.00	4.59	904.40	4.59
FRP & Composites	0.00	0.66	5.78	0.66
Human hair & related products	0.00	1.04	904.30	1.04
Medical items of plastics	0.53	41.15	1,293.26	40.62
Miscellaneous products and items nes	0.48	21.62	1,327.81	21.16
Packaging items - flexible, rigid	0.07	47.56	693.21	47.49
Plastic films and sheets	0.48	23.62	1,559.53	23.19
Plastic pipes & fittings (HSN 3917)	0.17	24.09	319.16	23.92
Plastic raw materials	0.16	56.59	3,051.06	56.44
Writing instruments & stationery	0.00	5.98	241.73	5.98

Source: TradeMap, PLEXCONCIL Research)



The plastics industry is evolving at a rapid clip. Driven by advancements in sustainability, automation, and material science. With an increasing demand for environment friendly productions, newer technology and innovations are reshaping how plastics are designed, produced, and utilized. Whether it is bio-degradable & recycled plastics, or smart data driven manufacturing or more and more stringent compliance requirements, or advancements in polymer chemistry, the industry is going through a process of transformation.

Here are a few of the cutting edge global trends and innovation that is shaping the future of the Plastics Industry.

POLYMER CONCRETE DRIVES ZERO-WASTE MODULAR CONSTRUCTION

Source: *Plastics Engineering*

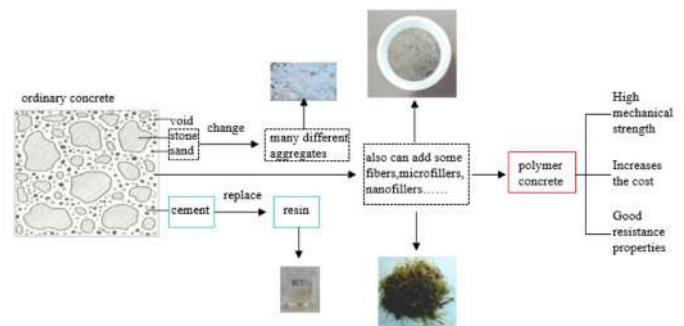
1

Manufacturers encapsulate raw construction waste within these high-strength blocks, eliminating calcination emissions and accelerating rapid, mortar-free assembly.

Artificial intelligence is reshaping polymer science by turning processability and performance into explicit design targets. Through feature reduction and generalization, AI enables models to navigate complex relationships and accelerate materials discovery.

ENGINEERS ELIMINATE CALCINATION EMISSIONS BY ENCAPSULATING WASTE INSIDE CROSS-LINKED POLYMERS, CREATING LOAD-BEARING, MODULAR BLOCKS FOR RAPID DEPLOYMENT.

The construction industry battles massive carbon emissions from Portland cement calcination and fragile structures. To solve this crisis, materials engineers replace reactive cement with highly cross-linked polymer networks. These advanced matrices physically encapsulate raw construction waste, forming exceptionally durable polymer concrete structures. By eliminating internal hydration voids entirely, developers establish a new paradigm for sustainable, high-strength industrial architecture.



Transition from ordinary concrete to polymer concrete. Courtesy of Review of Component Materials and Diverse Applications of Polymer Concrete.

Standard organic polymer matrices inherently reject highly porous, variable-textured aggregate particles such as crushed brick or recycled waste glass. As a result, formulators rely on physical encapsulation rather than chemical reactivity to create resilient composite materials. To achieve this, technicians apply precise silane coupling agents, specifically 3-methacryloxypropyl trimethoxy silane, to improve wetting of the aggregate particles. In turn, this pretreatment transforms the interfacial transition zone and significantly improves water resistance and

chemical stability. At the same time, formulators carefully pair specific silanes with corresponding resins, using Dynasil DEMO for polyester mixtures and Dynasil AMEO for epoxies. By also replacing fine aggregates with seven to twenty-five percent waste glass, manufacturers optimize density and ensure that hydrophobic polymer particles effectively wrap the aggregates. Consequently, these targeted combinations lock waste materials securely within the matrix and permanently block microvoids.

COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE METRICS

To evaluate commercial viability, researchers benchmark polymer concrete against traditional materials



Performance Metric	Traditional Portland Concrete	Advanced Polymer Concrete
Compressive Strength	Baseline Standard	70 to 130 MPa
Flexural Strength	Baseline Standard	20 to 40 MPa
Material Volume Required	100%	20%
Chemical Resistance	Weak (Prone to Voids)	Exceptional (Hydrophobic)
Lifecycle Carbon Emissions	100%	40% (60% Reduction)
Functional Curing Time	Multi-Week Maturation	24 Hours at Room Temperature

Performance comparison between traditional and polymer concrete. Adapted from Utilization of Polymer Concrete Composites for a Circular Economy: A Comparative Review for Assessment of Recycling and Waste Utilization Reviewing these metrics, structural engineers extract immense value from substituting traditional concrete. The highly cross-linked network completely blocks internal micro voids, creating a seamless barrier that deflects severe sulfuric acid and sodium carbonate attacks. Because polymer concrete achieves up to five times the compressive strength of legacy materials, architects manufacture load-bearing elements using eighty percent less mass. Furthermore, rigorous thirty-year accelerated weathering simulations reveal zero performance degradation, con-

firmed the material maintains structural integrity for a lifespan exceeding one hundred years.

DRIVING MODULAR COMMERCIAL APPLICATION

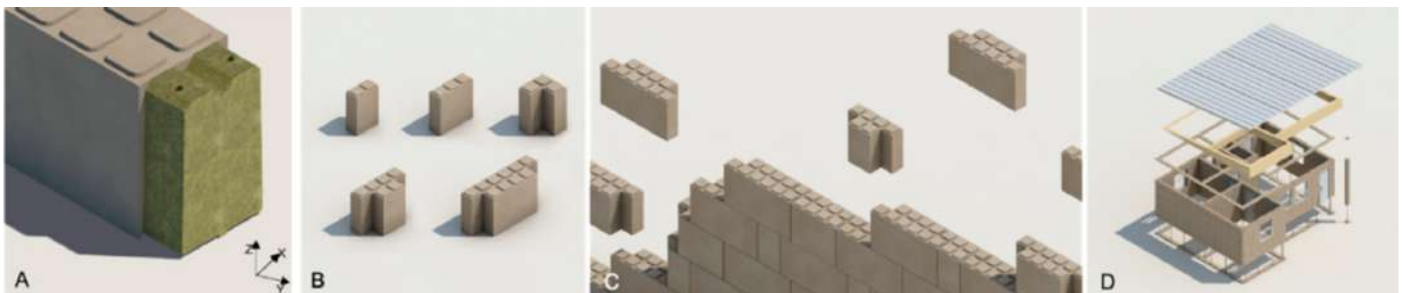
Manufacturers are already translating these mechanical advantages into high-speed production lines. For instance, facilities cast building modules with an unsaturated terephthalic polyester resin containing thirty-eight percent recycled plastic. Since the material cures without external heat, the blocks reach functional strength within twenty-four hours. That rapid turnaround, in turn, allows

factory teams to produce enough components for a sixty-square-meter facility in a single eight-hour shift.

The strongest example appears in the Polycare module system. Here, designers engineer precast units measuring six hundred millimeters and weighing under eighteen kilograms, with a solid polymer concrete outer shell surrounding an insulating inner core. Although the shell delivers most of the strength, it makes up only twenty percent of the block's volume. As a result, crews can stack the lightweight modules manually on site and secure them with continuous threaded rods. Because the system elim-

inates mortar, it also creates true end-of-life modularity. In practice, that means crews can selectively disassemble walls, repair localized damage, and fully reclaim materials.

Polymer concrete is reshaping sustainable manufacturing and infrastructure development. Because it combines high compressive strength with rapid room-temperature curing, industrial suppliers can deliver high-performance structural modules at unprecedented commercial speeds. Meanwhile, as builders seek more resilient circular materials, engineers are increasingly treating physical waste encapsulation as a core strategy for modular construction.



Modular design of the Polyblock system; (A) section of a typical Polyblock, (B) five distinct types of Polyblocks, (C) a straight wall configuration built with different Polyblock types, (D) assembly of a typical rectangular Polyblock building. Courtesy of Circular, Local, Open: A Recipe for Sustainable Building Construction.

BEYOND FLAPS: HOW COMPOSITE SKINS ENABLE MORPHING WING

Source: *Plastics Engineering*

2

Engineers and researchers are radically transforming aerodynamics with morphing wings that redefine the traditional concept of flight.

MORPHING TECHNOLOGY IS KEY TO GREEN AVIATION, ENABLING REAL-TIME ADAPTATION THAT SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVES AERODYNAMIC EFFICIENCY

Traditional aircraft design optimizes performance for a single phase of flight. This phase is cruise, and aircraft use discrete surfaces such as flaps and slats for other phases or conditions. The concept of morphing refers to a structure's ability to undergo continuous geometric changes. In this way, the mission profile can be optimized at all stages. In short, advanced polymeric and composite materials are the foundation upon which engineers are building the more efficient NGA.



Engineers and researchers are radically transforming aerodynamics with morphing wings that redefine the traditional concept of flight.

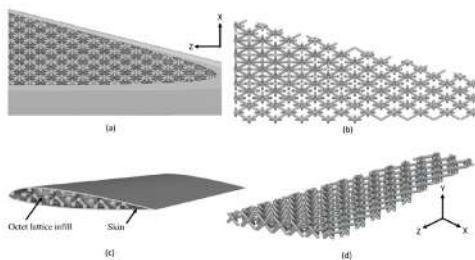
POLYMERIC MATERIALS AND COMPOSITES AS TECHNICAL ENABLERS

Engineers can combine structural properties with adaptive flexibility to break away from the limitations of traditional designs and materials. Aero-structural researchers are currently working with the following types of materials for structures and skins.

Shape Memory Polymers (SMP) and Composites (SMPC): These materials can remember their original shape and return to it after the deforming effect of thermal or electrical stimuli. This makes SMPCs particularly attractive for wing skin applications with variable stiffness.

Carbon Fiber Reinforced Polymers (CFRP) and Nanocomposites (PNC): CFRPs offer a high strength-to-weight ratio and directional properties that engineers can exploit through aeroelastic tailoring. This directionality allows for the induction of preset couplings between bending and torsion. Additionally, the use of polymer nanocomposites (PNC) promises further increases in structural stiffness and strength.

Elastomers for Flexible Skins & Internal Structure: The surface must remain smooth and continuous even with high deformation, which requires skins with low elastic modulus. For example, natural rubber or silicone are strong candidates for tightly conform to the internal lattice structure. The final goal is to prevent surface discontinuities that would increase aerodynamic drag.



Morphing wing architecture based on octet lattice: (a) structural integration, (b) adaptive topology, (c) configuration with flexible skin, (d) three-dimensional representation of lattice structure. Courtesy of Non-Conventional Wing Structure Design with Lattice Infilled through Design for Additive Manufacturing.

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

The technical revolution of these materials and advanced mixtures requires continuous integration between structure, performance, and detection. From this perspective, lattice structures offer advantages such as spatial variation of material properties, better called functional grading. Advanced additive manufacturing techniques such as Digital Light Synthesis (DLS) achieve these structures. The main goal is to design unit cells with locally varying

beam dimensions and thickness. Thus, the wing can be rigid at the root (high loads) and highly flexible at the tip (high torsion and displacements). On the other hand, the use of bistable laminated composites allows the structure to support two stable configurations. So, continuous energy input is no longer a necessity, which optimizes the consumption of the actuation system.



Current actuation systems are based on discrete control surfaces. The aeroelastic design of morphing wings is significantly more complex when moving from discrete surfaces to continuous surfaces.

IMPACT ON AERODYNAMIC EFFICIENCY

Not using hinges or gaps reduces parasitic drag and flow separation. In addition, continuous camber control feature allows the aircraft to adjust the lift coefficient and minimize drag at various speeds. Recent studies show 23% reductions in drag on variable-span UAV wings and improvements in the lift-drag ratio. Finally, projects such as NASA's ACTE have achieved a 30% reduction in noise during takeoff and landing. This has been the result of eliminating gaps in conventional flaps using flexible composite skins.





DUTY WAIVER ON PETROCHEMICAL PRODUCTS EXTENDED TILL JULY 15TH.

Source: *The Economic Times* (1st July, 2026)

Indian manufacturers will continue to benefit from a full customs duty exemption on imported petrochemicals until July 15. This extension aims to stabilize input costs for sectors like plastics, packaging, and textiles, which are still navigating supply chain recovery post-West Asia conflict. The move ensures a steady flow of essential raw materials, bolstering domestic production and market availability as global supply chains gradually normalize.

The Centre on Tuesday extended the full customs duty exemption on imports of select petrochemical products till July 15, allowing manufacturers to continue sourcing critical input materials at lower costs as supply chains are recovering from disruptions triggered by the West Asia Conflict.

The decision is expected to provide relief to a wide range of sectors such as plastics, packaging, textiles, pharmaceuticals, chemicals and auto components by keeping input costs in check and ensuring uninterrupted availability of raw materials. The government said the measure will continue to support domestic manufacturing while ensuring adequate availability of critical petrochemicals in the domestic market as the global supply situation gradually normalises.



YOUR EMPTY PLASTIC BOTTLE COULD ONE DAY POWER AN ELECTRIC VEHICLE, SCIENTISTS SAY.

Source: *The Economic Times* (30th June, 2026)

A discarded plastic bottle may soon become more than waste. Plastic waste to battery graphite innovation reveals how scientists are transforming everyday materials into advanced energy solutions. Researchers are exploring recycled plastic carbon for lithium-ion batteries, electric vehicles, and renewable energy storage. A plastic bottle thrown away after a single use may one day become part



of the technology that powers electric vehicles, smart-phones, and renewable energy systems. Researchers at Penn State University have discovered a way to transform waste plastic into highly ordered synthetic graphite, a material essential for modern lithium-ion batteries.

The idea challenges the way society thinks about plastic waste. For decades, discarded bottles have been viewed mainly as an environmental burden. Now, scientists are exploring whether the same material could become a valuable resource for clean energy.

The research focuses on polyethylene terephthalate, commonly known as PET, the plastic widely used in beverage bottles. Through a carefully controlled process, scientists converted PET into a crystalline carbon structure similar to graphite used in battery anodes.

COULD PLASTIC WASTE BECOME THE FUTURE SOURCE OF BATTERY MATERIALS?

Plastic recycling has traditionally focused on turning old products into new plastic items. But the Penn State research explores a different possibility:

1. Changing plastic itself into an advanced energy material. The team converted PET waste into synthetic graphite, a form of carbon known for its ability to store and release electrical charges. In lithium-ion batteries, graphite plays a crucial role as the anode material, helping batteries function efficiently.

2. The researchers found that the graphite created from plastic waste showed highly organized carbon layers. That matters because battery performance depends heavily on the quality of the materials inside. A well-structured graphite anode can influence how efficiently a battery charges, stores energy, and operates over time. The discovery does not mean every discarded bottle can immediately become a battery component. More testing and scaling are needed. However, it opens a new pathway where recycling connects directly with clean energy innovation.

WHY IS GRAPHITE BECOMING SUCH AN IMPORTANT RESOURCE?

Graphite may not receive as much attention as lithium or other battery materials, but it remains one of the most important parts of modern energy storage. Every lithium-ion battery requires graphite because it acts as the location where lithium ions move during charging and discharging. Without graphite, many of the devices people rely on every day would not function the same way.

As electric vehicles become more common and renewable energy systems expand, the need for battery-grade graphite continues to grow. This creates a challenge: Finding enough high-quality graphite while reducing environmental damage from mining and processing.

The United States Department of Energy classifies graphite as a critical mineral because of its importance to modern technology and energy systems. The plastic-to-graphite approach offers a different way to think about supply chains. Instead of searching only underground for resources, scientists are exploring whether existing waste streams can provide new materials.



HOW DID RESEARCHERS TRANSFORM A PLASTIC BOTTLE INTO GRAPHITE?

Turning PET plastic into graphite requires more than simply heating it. Scientists used a controlled thermal process designed to reorganize the carbon atoms inside the material. The researchers combined shredded PET with a small amount of graphene oxide, a carbon-based material that helped guide the transformation. The graphene oxide acted as a structural template, encouraging carbon atoms to arrange into graphite-like layers. The team discovered that using around 2.5% graphene oxide produced the most ordered graphite structure. The resulting material showed crystallite properties that compared favorably with commercial natural graphite samples.

This process is different from many traditional methods of making synthetic graphite. Conventional techniques often depend on metal catalysts such as iron, nickel, or cobalt, which can introduce impurities.



By using graphene-based additives instead, the researchers aimed to create cleaner graphite while reducing the need for extra purification steps. That could make future production more efficient and environmentally friendly.

COULD RECYCLING CHANGE HOW WE VIEW PLASTIC FOREVER?

The deeper meaning of this research goes beyond batteries. It challenges the idea that waste has no value after its original purpose is finished. A plastic bottle usually represents a short moment of convenience followed by years of environmental impact. But if that same material can become part of an energy storage system, its lifecycle could look very different. This does not solve the global plastic pollution crisis overnight. Reducing unnecessary plastic use and improving recycling systems remain essential.



INDIA'S PLASTIC WASTE LAW SIGNALS "STRUCTURAL SHIFT" FOR RECYCLING SECTOR.

Source: packaginginsights.com (28th May, 2026)

Key Takeaways:

India's updated Plastic Waste Management Rules reinforce circular economy goals and boost investor confidence in recycling. FSSAI-approved rPET plants now meet international food-grade standards, supporting the 40% recycled content mandate for 2026-2027.

Policy clarity enables brands to carry forward shortfalls, accelerating adoption of recycled plastics and reducing reliance on virgin materials.

India's amended Plastic Waste Management (PWM) Rules are a "welcome step in the right direction" for India's recycling industry, according to Goutham Jain, director general at the Indian Association of PET Recyclers (APR Bharat). "The recent notification has reinforced the government's commitment to moving toward circular and closed-loop manufacturing and boosted investor confidence in the plastic waste recycling ecosystem," Jain tells Packaging Insights.

The update aims to facilitate circularity through the mandatory use of recycled plastic and reusable packaging. APR Bharat focuses on the food-grade recycled PET (rPET) industry. Jain says that the recent authorization of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) of 17 recycled PET plants would further support the country's recycling sector, enhancing production capacity to 3 lakh tons (300,000 metric tons).



"This is sufficient to cater to the 40% rPET mandate requirement [under the PWM] for the financial year 2026-2027." He describes the FSSAI-approved facilities as aligned with international standards set by the European Food Safety Authority and the US Food and Drug Agency, ensuring that rPET used in food-contact applications meets stringent safety and quality benchmarks.

"This directly addresses the biggest barrier to adoption, the trust in safety and consistency at scale," explains Jain.

"More importantly, this signals a structural shift beyond the rPET industry. Waste is being reintegrated as a regulated, high-quality industrial input, not treated as an externality. That is the foundation of a functional circular economy." The rising prices of oil and virgin plastic amid ongoing supply chain pressures are pushing countries and companies to consider recycled plastic for packaging.



Clarifying PWM Mandate:

Jain explains that the PWM Rules from 2022 had already mandated the use of recycled content for food packaging from April 2025 onward, with a mandate of 30% set to increase to 60% by the financial year 2028-2029. However, he emphasizes that the recent update has provided "clarity on the provisions of draft notification issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change of India on June 3, 2025, and allowed brands and producers to carry forward shortfalls in meeting the 30% rPET target for food contact applications for 2025-2026 over the next three years."

"Starting April 1, 2026, brands and producers have been required to use 40% recycled content in packaging. In addition, they are also expected to carry forward an unfulfilled target for mandatory use of recycled content for 2025-2026 [30%] for a period of up to three consecutive years, with a minimum of one third of the carry forward target to be achieved every year," says Jain.

Jain argues that this clarity on the minimum mandate can accelerate the adoption of rPET across the F&B sector, "creating robust demand for high-quality recycled materials while strengthening the domestic recycling ecosystem."

"By closing the loop on plastic use, the policy will play a pivotal role in reducing plastic waste leakage into the environment and minimizing dependence on virgin plastics."



He asserts that the updated targets in the PWM are realistic and in line with the country's recycling capacity, as a "large-scale expansion" is already underway. "APR Bharat members are expanding at scale. Their food-grade rPET capacity is expected to reach 7.5 lakh tonnes (750,000 metric tons) by March 2027, positioning the industry to serve the market demand sustainably for the coming decade."





**THE PLASTICS EXPORT
PROMOTION COUNCIL**

Established in 1955, the Plastics Export Promotion Council (PLEXCONCIL), sponsored by the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India, is the apex body dedicated to promoting India's plastics exports. As a leading non-profit organization representing exporters across the plastics industry, PLEXCONCIL plays a critical role in strengthening India's global trade presence and enhancing export competitiveness.

Driven by a strong commitment to excellence, the Council delivers actionable trade intelligence through in-depth analysis of export trends, evolving global regulations, and emerging market opportunities—enabling Indian exporters to remain competitive in an increasingly dynamic international landscape. It also plays a pivotal role in shaping a balanced and growth-oriented policy framework by consistently representing industry concerns and engaging with the Government to promote domestic competitiveness, strengthen the Make in India initiative, and boost exports.



It actively promotes the industry by facilitating participation in major international trade fairs, organizing business delegations to key global markets, hosting foreign buyer delegations in India, and conducting buyer-seller meets both domestically and overseas.

★ WHY BECOME A PLEXCONCIL MEMBER? ★

The Council also strongly supports MSMEs, as well as aspiring and existing exporters, through high-impact capacity building programs, knowledge sessions, and specialized workshops on emerging trade regulations, free trade agreements, quality standards, and non-tariff barriers, equipping them to compete effectively in global markets.

Beyond trade promotion, PLEXCONCIL honours excellence through its prestigious Annual Export Awards. It also actively monitors emerging technologies to keep its members informed and future-ready. The Council also plays a vital role in fostering global collaborations, joint ventures, and strategic partnerships with international companies and trade associations. Through its multifaceted initiatives, PLEXCONCIL serves as a catalyst for growth, driving innovation, enabling global connections, and positioning India as a strong and reliable player in the global plastics trade.



The Council represents a wide variety of plastics products including - Plastics Raw Materials, Masterbatch, Packaging Materials, Films, Consumer Goods, Writing Instruments, Travel ware, Plastic Sheets, Leather Cloth, Vinyl Floor Coverings, Pipes and Fittings, Water Storage Tanks, Custom made plastic Items from a range of plastic materials including Engineered Plastics, Electrical Accessories, FRP/ GRP Products, Sanitary Fittings, Tarpaulins, Laminates, Fishing Lines/Fishnets, Cordage/Ropes/Twines, Laboratory Ware; Eye Ware, Surgical/Medical Disposables.



MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- **Subsidised rates** at International Trade Fairs and Exhibitions
- **Organizing Buyer Seller Meets (BSM)** in targeted markets / **Reverse Buyer Seller Meets (RBSM)** in India
- Compiling, analysing **plastics export data**, and sharing insights with trade members
- Addressing members' **day-to-day export operation issues** with relevant authorities and striving for resolution
- **Financial benefits** to exporters, as available through Government of India
- Issuance of Certificate of Origin (COO) & Export turn-over certificate for getting **customs duty exemption**
- Access to **India-US Trade Facilitation Portal**
- **Disseminating trade enquiries/trade leads**
- **Free Webinars** & Capacity Building Programs
- Instituting **Export Awards** in recognition of outstanding export performance
- Assistance on **export financing** with various institutions and banks
- **Networking opportunities** within the plastics industry
- **Special price** for Dun & Bradstreet's DUNS Registered Solution, Global Profiler, and ESG Report
- Advocating **policy related issues**
- Any other activity based on the need of the member exporters



★ NEW MEMBERS FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2026

Sr. No	Name of the Company	Address	City	Pin	State	Email
1	Advance Rotoflex Private Limited	Survey No. 9/3/2, 10/1, R R Cat Road, Rau,	Indore	453331	Madhya Pradesh	abhayagrawal0305@gmail.com
2	Apex Irrigation	N.H. 8-B, B/H. Maruti Petrol Pump, Shapar-Veraval,	Rajkot	360024	Gujarat	apex_irrigation@yahoo.co.in
3	Bubber Plastics Private Limited	C-16 Growth Centre, Upside Industrial Area, Bijaoli Jhansi,	Jhansi	284135	Uttar Pradesh	bubberplasticsjhs@gmail.com
4	Csv Polytech Private Limited	Office No. 303 3rd Floor, Pre-rana Business Hub Apartment, Tidke Colony	Nashik	422002	Maharashtra	csvpolytech@gmail.com
5	Jasud Enterprises Private Limited	10, Nutan Society, B/H Su-vidha Shopping Centre, Paldi,	Ahmedabad	380007	Gujarat	accounts@jasud.com
6	Kaival Plastic Private Limited	C/1, Plot No. 30/39, Phase-3, Naroda Gidc, Gate No 2, Noroda	Ahmedabad	382330	Gujarat	kaivalplasticprivateltd@gmail.com
7	Lift And Lash Private Limited	11, Nilkanth Villa, T.P.-44, B/H: Radhaswami Satsang, Chandkheda,	Ahmedabad	382424	Gujarat	narayan@swadesh.co.in
8	Marks Emballage Private Limited	Plot No.1, Industrial Area, Bhatoli Kalan, Baddi, Solan,	Solan	173205	Himachal Pradesh	meenu.tiwari@marksgroup.in
9	Mek Aizar Private Limited	Viii/357b Industrial Development Area, Erumathala P.O Aluva Ernakulam Kerala 683112	Ernakulam	683112	Kerala	younaskk@aizar.in
10	Nilkanth Global	1939, Ganpatiparu, Umiyanagar. Brahmanvada	Brahmanvada	384135	Gujarat	info@nilkanthglobal.com
11	Omflex Packagings Private Limited	Plot No-42, Sector-68, Imt Ballabhgarh, Faridabad,	Faridabad	121004	Haryana	amitkumar68816@gmail.com
12	Paxora Packaging	Plot 4, Vyankatesh Society, Padole Layout, Bidgoan Road, Kapsi	Nagpur	440008	Maharashtra	workforharsh18@gmail.com
13	R.L. Khanna & Co. (Overseas)	C-68/3, Okhla Industrial Area Phase-II New Delhi,	New Delhi	110020	Delhi	kapil@rlkhanna.com
14	Sa Traders	Mouza-Stu No. 3 Sunapali, Ps- Sambalpur, Tahasil And Dist-Sambalpur Khata No-344/3503, Plot No-317/7463	Sambalpur	768001	Orissa	sayedabdullah4u@gmail.com
15	Sandip Giri	S/O Tapan Giri Patna, Paschim Patna, Chandipur, Medinipur East	Chandipur	721659	West Bengal	sandipgiri19907@gmail.com
16	Sherapen Industries Private Limited	3rd Floor, O, Vill And P.O-Sirakole Usthi, Southi 24 Pgs	Southi 24 Pgs	743513	West Bengal	sherapenindustries@gmail.com
17	Sinhal Care Private Limited	Block No. 48, Plot No. J-1, 1st Floor, Pipodra Industrial Estate, Po. Pipodra, Ta. Mangrol, Nh.8	Surat	394110	Gujarat	kush@pigeonbrush.com
18	Soham Worldtrade Private Limited	Pu 27, Pitampura, Pitampura, West Delhi,	Delhi	110034	Delhi	soham.world.trade1@gmail.com
19	Sundaram Polypack And Print	Plot No-160/A/B, Ground Floor, Narayan Estate, Anjana Mithi Khadi Road, Anjana Farm, Surat	Surat	395002	Gujarat	sundarampolypack@gmail.com
20	Sunma Fishnet	397, Pungaiyadi Vinayagar Street, Elanakadai Nagercoil Kanyakumari Tamil Nadu 629002	Nagercoil	629002	Tamil Nadu	sunmafshnet@gmail.com