

# ANALYSIS OF INDIA'S PLASTICS EXPORT

**February 2026**



## **THE PLASTICS EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL**

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

Dynasty Business Park, B Wing, Unit 2

JB Nagar, Andheri Kurla Road

Andheri East, Mumbai

Maharashtra 400 059, INDIA

Tel: +91-22-40170000

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

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

### Key Findings

Plastic Exports have been declining for the third consecutive month in February 2026 led by persistent fall in shipment of Raw Materials, Films & Sheets, Floor Covering, Packaging Items, FRP & Composites

Declining sales in USA because of high tariff is the principal reason for continued fall in overall plastic exports.

Domestic shortage of Raw Materials and Production disruption in Films & Sheets also contributed to contraction in exports

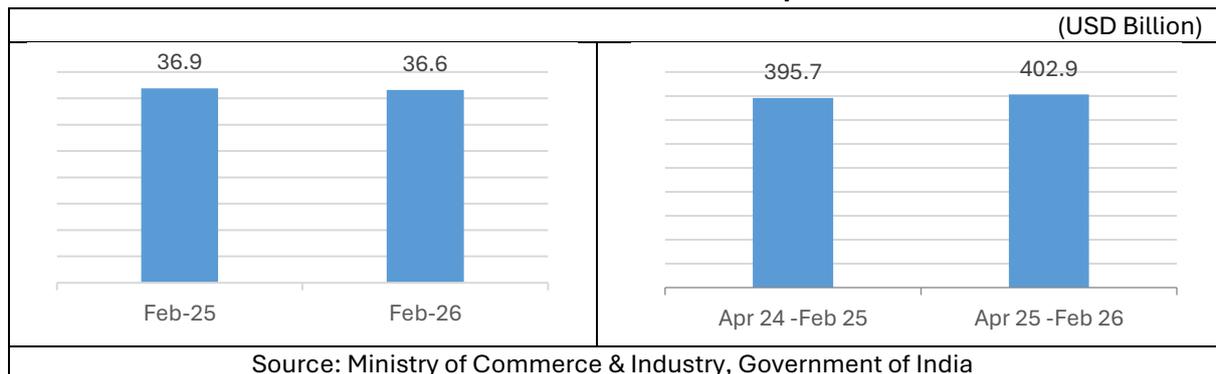
On the other hand, export of Consumer & Houseware products and FIBC managed to grow for the fourth consecutive month because of robust demand in Europe, Middle East and other prominent markets

### TREND IN OVERALL EXPORTS

India's merchandise exports declined marginally by 0.82% to USD 36.6 billion in February 2026 from USD 36.9 billion in the year ago month led by fall in shipment of Petroleum Products, Readymade garments, Iron Ore, Leather, Plastics and a few agro products.

Cumulative exports during April 2025 -February 2026 posted 1.84% growth to USD 402.9 billion from the year ago period.

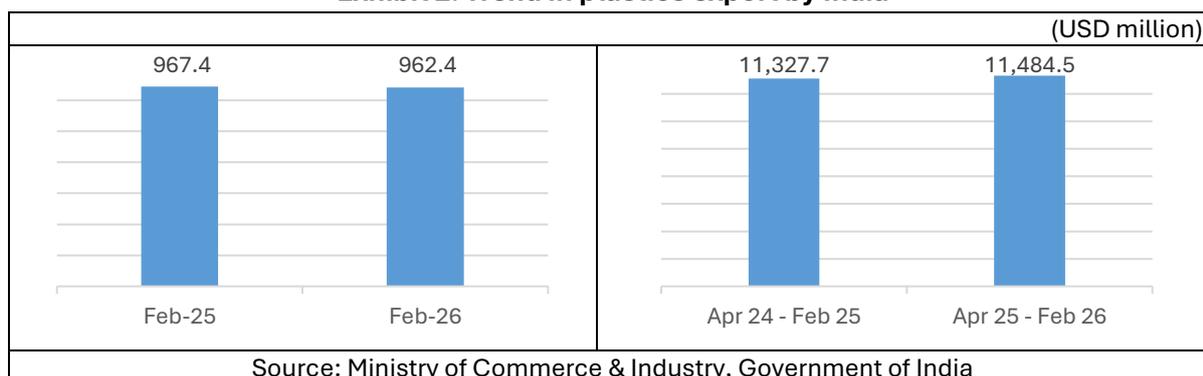
**Exhibit 1: Trend in overall merchandise exports from India**



### TREND IN PLASTICS EXPORT

Plastic and allied products exports declined 0.5% in February 2026 to USD 962.4 million from USD 967.4 million in the year ago month. Cumulative exports during April 2025 -February 2026 posted 1.4% growth to USD 11,484.5 million from USD 11,327.7 million in the year ago period led by growth in shipment of FIBC, Woven Sacks, Consumer & Houseware Products, Packaging items and Miscellaneous Plastic Products.

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



## PLASTICS EXPORT, BY PANEL

As mentioned earlier, Plastic and Allied Product exports declined 0.5% in February 2026 led by fall in shipment of Raw Materials, Films & Sheets, Floor Coverings, Packaging Items and Cordage & Fishnets.

At the same time, exports of Consumer & Houseware Products, FIBC & Woven Sacks, Human Hair, Medical Items, Pipes & Fittings and Writing Instruments posted growth during the month under review.

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

Panel	Feb -25	Feb -26	Growth	Apr 24- Feb -25	Apr 25- Feb -26	Growth
	USD million	USD million	%	USD million	USD million	%
Consumer & houseware products	66.8	73.0	+9.3%	717.4	802.2	+11.8%
Cordage, fishnets & monofilaments	24.5	21.4	-12.7%	276.5	252.5	-8.7%
FIBC, Woven sacks, Woven fabrics, Tarpaulin	132.0	135.8	+2.9%	1,426.4	1,640.1	+15.0%
Floorcoverings, leathercloth & laminates	61.5	54.2	-11.8%	697.7	624.5	-10.5%
FRP & Composites	38.1	34.4	-9.8%	465.4	441.7	-5.1%
Human hair & related products	71.3	77.2	+8.3%	699.2	848.9	+21.4%
Medical items of plastics	39.3	42.6	+8.4%	498.4	498.3	-0.0%
Miscellaneous products and items nes	52.2	76.5	+46.5%	617.1	810.1	+31.3%
Packaging items - flexible, rigid	54.6	53.7	-1.7%	622.6	634.1	+1.8%
Plastic films and sheets	151.3	147.5	-2.5%	1,835.7	1,723.8	-6.1%
Plastic pipes & fittings	20.8	24.6	+18.2%	298.6	286.2	-4.2%
Plastic raw materials	238.4	204.7	-14.1%	2,925.6	2,706.8	-7.5%
Writing instruments & stationery	16.7	16.9	+1.0%	247.2	215.4	-12.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>967.4</b>	<b>962.4</b>	<b>-0.5%</b>	<b>11,327.7</b>	<b>11,484.5</b>	<b>+1.4%</b>

Source: Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India

**Consumer & Houseware Products** is one of the few segments whose exports have been growing consecutively for the last four months since November 2025 because of healthy demand for key product categories. Overall panel export grew 9.3% in February 2026 led by strong order inflows for Building Elements of Plastics (HS 39259090), Travel Bags (HS 42029200), Plugs & Sockets (HS

85366910) and other materials. Especially, there is remarkable demand for Building Elements of Plastics (HS 39259090) from UAE, Egypt and Nepal. Demand for Travel Bags (HS 42029200) has been strong from USA and Australia. On the other hand, exporters benefitted from strong order inflows for Plugs & Sockets (HS 85366910) from Romania, Singapore, UK and other markets.

Export of **Cordage, Fishnets & Monofilaments** declined 12.7%, the third consecutive monthly decline since December 2025 led by fall in sales of Cordage (HS 56074900) to USA, Ghana, UAE, Netherland and other countries. There was also weak demand for Made-up Fishing Nets (HS 56081190) from Faroe Island, UK, Morocco and other countries.

Shipment of **FIBC, Woven Sacks and Woven Fabrics** grew 2.9%, the fourth consecutive growth since November 2025, led by strong demand for FIBC (HS 63053200) from European markets such as the Netherlands and Spain. Exporters also benefitted from healthy order inflows from Brazil, Morocco, Spain, UK and other European markets for Woven Fabrics (HS 54072090). Demand for Tents (HS 63062200) is also growing in USA, UK, France and other markets in recent months.

Export of **Floor Covering, Leather Cloth and Laminates** declined 11.8%, seventh consecutive monthly decline since August 2025 because of weak order inflows from USA, Canada, South Africa, Spain and other countries for Plastic Coated Fabrics (HS 59039090). Also, there was weak demand for Other Polymers of Vinyl Chloride (HS 39181090) in USA, Saudi Arabia, Nepal and other prominent markets.

Export of **FRP and Composites** fell 9.8%, second consecutive monthly decline because of weak demand for Other Plastic Articles (HS 39269099) in USA. At the same time, shipment of Reservoirs and Tanks (HS 39251000) grew 45% led by robust demand in UK, Seychelles and other markets.

Shipment of **Human Hair & Related Products** grew 8.3% led by increase in demand for value added Human Hair (HS 67030010) in China, Viet Nam, Myanmar and Paraguay. Also, there was growth in sales of Raw Human Hair (HS 05010010) in Myanmar and Bangladesh.

Export of **Medical Items of Plastics** grew 8.4% led by strong demand for HS 90015000 (Spectacle & Lenses) in France, Germany, UK and other markets. There was also robust order inflow for Cannulae HS (90183930) in Brazil and UAE. There is also revival of demand for Syringes (HS 90183100) in UK and strong demand in Sudan.

Shipments of **Miscellaneous plastic products and items (n.e.s.)** recorded a strong growth of 46.5%, driven by higher order inflows for optical fibres, bundles and cables (HS 90011000) from key markets such as the USA, Poland, and China. Exports of other plastic products (HS 90019090) also showed healthy growth, supported by increased demand from the USA, Japan, and the Philippines. In addition, Canada stepped up its sourcing of PVC belt conveyors (HS 39269010) from India, further contributing to the overall export expansion in this segment.

Exports of **flexible and rigid packaging items** registered a marginal decline of 1.7% during the period under review. The moderation was primarily due to lower shipments of conveyance or packaging articles (HS 39239090) to key markets such as Nepal, Japan, South Korea, and certain other destinations. Additionally, exports of polyethylene sacks and bags (HS 39232100) to the USA were impacted by higher tariff levels, leading to subdued demand and contributing to the overall decline in this product segment.

Exports of **plastic films and sheets** recorded a decline of 2.5% during the period under review because of domestic production disruption and supply constraint. High Tariffs in USA and emerging non-tariff barrier in Mexico also contributed to fall in shipments. There was lower demand for PET plates and sheets (HS 39206220) in key markets such as the USA, Italy, and Spain. Shipments of self-adhesive plates (HS 39199090) also witnessed a slowdown, particularly in the USA, UK, and Kenya, contributing to the overall decline. In addition, exporters faced subdued demand for films and sheets of polyethylene terephthalate (HS 39206290) from major destinations including Italy and the USA, further weighing on export performance in this segment.

Shipments of **plastic pipes and fittings** recorded a healthy growth of 18.2% in February 2026, recovering from decline in the previous two months. The recovery was primarily supported by higher order inflows for plastic fittings for tubes, pipes and hoses (HS 39174000) from key markets such as the USA, UAE, and the UK. Additionally, exports of rigid tubes and pipes of polymers of ethylene (HS 39172190) also witnessed improved traction, with fresh demand emerging from Nepal, further contributing to the overall growth in this product segment.

Exports of **plastic raw materials** registered a decline of 14.1% during the period under review, primarily impacted by shortage in the domestic market, which constrained export supply. Exports of polyethylene terephthalate (HS 39076190) moderated due to lower demand from key markets such as the UAE, Nepal, and Morocco. Similarly, shipments of polypropylene (HS 39021000) witnessed a reduction, mainly on account of subdued offtake from Turkey, Vietnam, and Thailand. In addition, exports of polyethylene (HS 39012000) also declined, reflecting weaker demand from Vietnam and China, which further contributed to the overall contraction in plastic raw material exports.

Exports of **writing instruments and stationery** recorded a modest growth of 1.0% in February 2026 supported by higher shipments of ball-point pens (HS 96081019) to key markets such as the USA, Thailand, and Colombia. Additionally, exports of plastic office or school supplies (HS 39261099) also witnessed improved traction, with increased demand from the USA, Mexico, and Germany, contributing to the overall growth in this segment.

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

Code	Description	Apr 24- Feb-25	Apr 25- Feb-26	Growth
		Values in USD Mn		(%)
'63053200	Flexible intermediate bulk containers, for the packing of goods, of synthetic or man-made textile materials	844.1	993.8	+17.7%
'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	526.8	589.9	+12.0%
'39269099	Articles of plastics and articles of other materials of heading 3901 to 3914, n.e.s: Other	458.9	434.9	-5.2%
'39232990	Sacks and bags, incl. cones, of plastics (excl. those of polymers of ethylene): Other	438.5	495.4	+13.0%
'39021000	Polypropylene, in primary forms	349.5	233.2	-33.3%
'39076190	Other primary form	294.8	223.9	-24.1%

Code	Description	Apr 24- Feb-25	Apr 25- Feb-26	Growth
		Values in USD Mn		(%)
'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	289.3	330.5	+14.2%
'90011000	Optical fibres, optical fibre bundles and cables (excl. made-up of individually sheathed fibres of heading 8544)	270.5	478.1	+76.8%
'39206220	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular poly"ethylene 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 poly"methyl methacrylate", self-adhesive products, and floor, wall and ceiling coverings of heading 3918): Flexible , plain	241.8	176.2	-27.1%
'39269080	Articles of plastics and articles of other materials of heading 3901 to 3914, n.e.s: Polypropylene articles , not elsewhere	236.2	200.7	-15.0%
'39069090	Acrylic polymers, in primary forms (excl. poly"methyl methacrylate"): Other	229.4	222.4	-3.1%
'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	214.4	179.8	-16.1%
'59039090	Textile fabrics impregnated, coated, covered or laminated with plastics other than poly"vinyl 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	200.6	139.3	-30.6%
'39232100	Sacks and bags, incl. cones, of polymers of ethylene	200.1	181.3	-9.4%
'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	191.7	197.2	+2.9%
'05010010	Human hair, unworked; whether or not washed or scoured	168.2	255.4	+51.8%
'39014010	Linear low density polyethylene (LLDPE), in which ethylene monomer unit contributes less than 95 % by weight of the total polymer content	170.9	95.0	-44.4%
'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	149.4	140.8	-5.8%

Code	Description	Apr 24- Feb-25	Apr 25- Feb-26	Growth
		Values in USD Mn		(%)
	squares or rectangles (excl. self-adhesive products, and floor, wall and ceiling coverings of heading 3918): Other			
'90015000	Spectacle lenses of materials other than glass	144.5	148.6	+2.9%
'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	135.3	152.1	+12.4%
'39012000	Polyethylene with a specific gravity of >= 0,94, in primary forms	133.1	105.1	-21.1%
'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	128.4	114.0	-11.2%
'96081019	Ball-point pens (detailed label not available)	121.5	113.8	-6.3%
'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	116.6	102.8	-11.8%
'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)	118.3	105.6	-10.7%
'39046100	Polytetrafluoroethylene, in primary forms	115.4	122.9	+6.5%
'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	115.1	110.5	-4.0%
'39076990	Other primary form	112.1	114.4	+2.1%
'39129090	Cellulose and chemical derivatives thereof, n.e.s., in primary forms (excl. cellulose acetates, cellulose nitrates and cellulose ethers): Other	106.5	128.7	+20.9%
'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	105.5	94.7	-10.2%
'39181090	Floor coverings, whether or not self-adhesive, in rolls or in the form of tiles, and wall or ceiling coverings "in rolls with a width of >= 45 cm, consisting of a layer of plastic fixed permanently on a backing of any material other than paper, the face side of which is grained, embossed, coloured, design-printed or otherwise decorated", of polymers of vinyl chloride: Other	102.0	52.2	-48.8%
'39046990	Fluoro-polymers of vinyl chloride or of other halogenated olefins, in primary forms (excl. polytetrafluoroethylene): Other	94.3	89.2	-5.5%
'39241090	Tableware and kitchenware, of plastics: Other	94.0	89.2	-5.1%
'39206919	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular polyesters, not reinforced, laminated, supported or	88.8	99.8	+12.4%

Code	Description	Apr 24- Feb-25	Apr 25- Feb-26	Growth
		Values in USD Mn		(%)
	similarly combined with other materials, not worked or only surface-worked, or only cut to rectangular, incl. square, shapes (excl. polycarbonates, polyethylene terephthalate and other unsaturated polyesters, self-adhesive products, and floor, wall and ceiling coverings in heading 3918): Other			
'39206290	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular poly"ethylene 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 poly"methyl methacrylate", self-adhesive products, and floor, wall and ceiling coverings of heading 3918): Other	86.5	74.3	-14.1%
'39072990	Other polyethers n.e.s	82.3	63.6	-22.7%
'39140020	Ion-exchangers based on polymers of heading 3901 to 3913, in primary forms: Ion exchangers of polymerisation or	79.5	80.7	+1.4%
'39095000	Polyurethanes, in primary forms	78.4	78.8	+0.5%
'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, polyethylene terephthalate and other unsaturated polyesters, self-adhesive products, and floor, wall and ceiling coverings in heading 3918): Other	74.7	76.0	+1.7%
'39204900	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular polymers of vinyl chloride, containing by weight < 6% of plasticisers, not reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials, 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)	74.9	76.1	+1.7%
'96032100	Tooth brushes, incl. dental-plate brushes	71.3	84.2	+18.1%
'39119090	Polysulphides, polysulphones and other polymers and prepolymers produced by chemical synthesis, n.e.s., in primary forms: Other	72.0	71.7	-0.5%
'59031090	Textile fabrics impregnated, coated, covered or laminated with poly"vinyl chloride" (excl. wall coverings of textile materials impregnated or covered with poly"vinyl chloride"; floor coverings consisting of a textile backing and a top layer or covering of poly"vinyl chloride"): Other	69.2	74.2	+7.3%
'39219096	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 , laminated	68.5	77.6	+13.2%
'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	68.1	80.9	+18.8%

Code	Description	Apr 24- Feb-25	Apr 25- Feb-26	Growth
		Values in USD Mn		(%)
	surface-worked or merely cut into squares or rectangles (excl. self-adhesive products, and floor, wall and ceiling coverings of heading 3918): Other			
'39235010	Stoppers, lids, caps and other closures, of plastics: Caps and closures for bottles	67.5	65.7	-2.6%
'39011090	Polyethylene with a specific gravity of < 0,94, in primary forms: Other	65.8	83.7	+27.4%
'39172390	Rigid tubes, pipes and hoses, and fittings therefor, of polymers of vinyl chloride: Other	64.6	69.3	+7.3%
'39076930	PET flake (chip)	63.2	58.7	-7.1%
'39241010	Tableware and kitchenware, of plastics: Insulated ware	64.0	74.1	+15.9%

Source: Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India

#### Exhibit 5: Reasons for major decline in plastic products exports

HS Code	Description	Apr 24- Feb 25	Apr 25- Feb 26	Reasons for decline
		(USD Mn)		
'39021000	Polypropylene, in primary forms	349.5	233.2	The fall in shipment is led by domestic shortage of this raw material. Also, slowdown in demand in key markets such as Bangladesh, Turkey and Viet Nam have affected overall exports
'39014010	Linear low density polyethylene (LLDPE)	170.9	95.0	Exports have declined as exporters preferred to meet domestic shortage, instead of catering to global demand.  India is a net importer of this product because of lack of sufficient domestic production capacity to meet rising demand.
'39076190	PET, Other primary form	294.8	223.9	Exports have fallen because of stiff competition in West Asia which is the prominent market for this product
'39206220	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip: Flexible, plain	241.8	176.2	Exporters are losing market share in USA as shipment has fallen 50% in April-February due to the punitive tariff.  Exporters are also facing increasing non-tariff barrier in Mexico, which is another major destination for this product.

HS Code	Description	Apr 24- Feb 25	Apr 25- Feb 26	Reasons for decline
		(USD Mn)		
				Mexico has imposed additional tariff, over and above its MFN tariff, on imports from all countries with which it has not signed free trade agreement since January 2026. Also, exporters are subject to the additional import security fees levied by Mexico on imports from non-FTA countries.
'59039090	Textile fabrics impregnated, coated, covered or laminated with plastics other than poly"vinyl chloride" or polyurethane: Other	200.6	139.3	Decline in exports is led by 45% fall in shipment to USA, which is the single largest market for this product (accounting for 83% of exports).
'39181090	Floor coverings, whether or not self-adhesive: Other	102.0	52.2	Exports have declined led by 61% contraction in shipments to USA, which is the primary market for this product.  USA is the single largest market, accounting for 77% of India's export of this product.
'39269080	Articles of plastics and articles of other materials of heading 3901 to 3914, n.e.s: Polypropylene articles , not elsewhere	236.2	200.7	Exports have fallen because of decline in order inflows from USA amidst high tariff; USA is the prominent destination, accounting for 56% of exports.

Source: Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India, Plexconcil Research

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