

# ANALYSIS OF INDIA'S PLASTICS EXPORT

DECEMBER 2018



## **THE PLASTICS EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL**

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

Crystal Tower, Ground Floor

Gundivali Road No. 3, Off Sir M. V. Road

Andheri East, Mumbai

Maharashtra 400 069, INDIA

Tel: +91-22-26833951

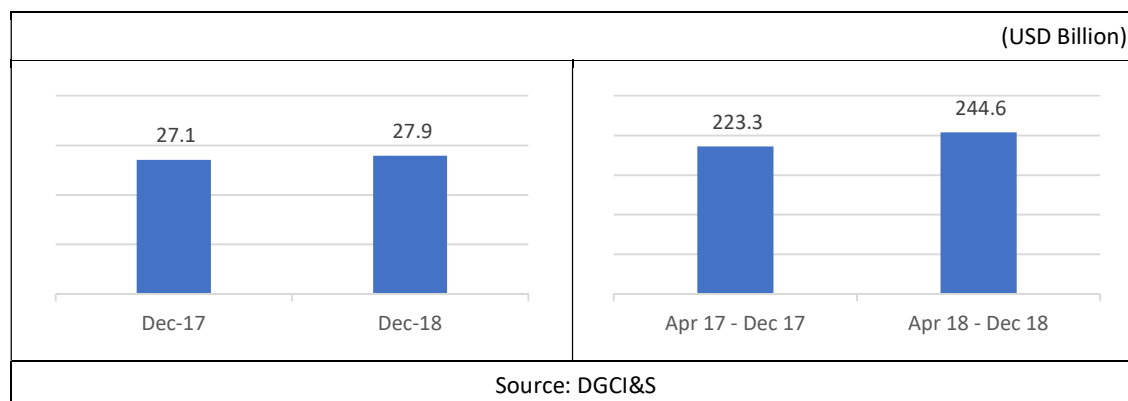
E-mail: [office@plexconcil.org](mailto:office@plexconcil.org)

Disclaimer: This report has been prepared on the basis of principal commodity level data sourced from the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCI&S) website on January 22, 2018

## TREND IN OVERALL EXPORTS

India reported merchandise exports of USD 27.9 billion in December 2018, up 3.1% from USD 27.1 billion in December 2017. Cumulative value of merchandise exports during April 18 – December 18 was USD 244.6 billion as against USD 223.3 billion during the same period last year, reflecting a growth of 9.5%.

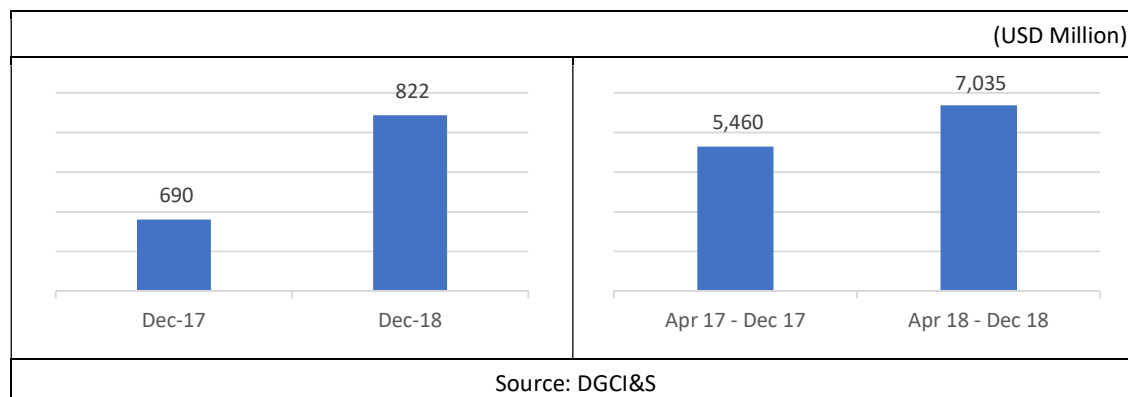
**Exhibit 1: Trend in overall merchandise exports from India**



## TREND IN PLASTICS EXPORT

Export of plastics from India continued to grow at a faster clip than the overall merchandise exports. During December 2018, India exported plastics worth USD 822 million, up 19.0% from USD 690 million in December 2017. Cumulative value of plastics export during April 18 – December 18 was USD 7,035 million as against USD 5,460 million during the same period last year, registering a staggering growth of 28.9%.

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



- Plastics formed 2.94% of India's overall merchandise exports in April 2018 – December 2018
- India exported plastics to 207 countries in April 2018 – December 2018
- China, United States, and United Arab Emirates were the top three buyers of plastics from India in April 2018 – December 2018

## PLASTICS EXPORT, BY PANEL

In December 2018, products grouped under plastic raw materials witnessed year-on-year growth of 31.2%; followed by stationery/office/school supply (+24.0%); other plastic items (+20.6%); moulded & extruded goods (+12.4%); packaging materials (+11.7%); plastic sheet, film, plates etc (+11.6%); and human hair, products thereof (+1.3%).

Export of products grouped under optical items registered a decline of 10.7% in December 2018.

On a cumulative basis, during April 18 – December 18, products grouped under plastic raw materials witnessed year-on-year growth of 55.0%; followed by plastic sheet, film, plates etc (+20.2%); packaging materials (+14.3%); stationery/office/school supply (+11.2%); other plastic items (+9.4%); moulded & extruded goods (+5.7%); and optical items (+1.9%).

Export of products grouped under human hair, products thereof registered a decline of 8.5% during April 18 – December 18.

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

Panel	Dec-17	Dec-18	Growth	Apr 17- Dec 17	Apr 18- Dec 18	Growth
	(USD Mn)	(USD Mn)	(%)	(USD Mn)	(USD Mn)	(%)
Plastic raw materials	298.36	391.49	31.2%	2,247.36	3,483.69	55.0%
Plastic sheet, film, plates etc	114.57	127.88	11.6%	914.69	1,099.03	20.2%
Moulded & extruded goods	95.70	107.56	12.4%	792.83	838.01	5.7%
Packaging materials	66.36	74.13	11.7%	545.43	623.47	14.3%
Optical items (incl. lens etc)	43.83	39.14	-10.7%	347.30	354.03	1.9%
Other plastic items	25.09	30.26	20.6%	246.28	269.37	9.4%
Human hair, products thereof	27.28	27.63	1.3%	199.14	182.23	-8.5%
Stationery/Office/School Supply	19.05	23.62	24.0%	166.61	185.22	11.2%
	<b>690.24</b>	<b>821.71</b>	<b>19.0%</b>	<b>5,459.64</b>	<b>7,035.05</b>	<b>28.9%</b>

Note: Plastics are segregated under eight panels by DGCI&S

Source: DGCI&S

Export of human hair, products thereof from India have been on a decline due to lower sales to key destinations including China, Myanmar, and Italy. India's human hair exports to these countries have fallen by 10-50% so far in 2018-19. India's export of human hair has weakened on account of large-scale purchase of raw human hair by foreign buyers (coming from China), who in turn transport it from India to destinations like Myanmar for further processing due to availability of cheap labour there. These buyers also engage in under invoicing/wrong declaration as well as smuggling of raw human hair while transporting it from India to their preferred destinations, especially to countries which share land border with India. The All India Human Hair Exporters Association has already made written representations to the Department of Commerce highlighting the above and various other issues faced by them.

The negative export growth in December 2018 for Optical items was on account of lower exports to Poland, Turkey, United States, China, and Saudi Arabia. Unfortunately, this is the fourth consecutive month of decline in export of Optical items from India.

## PLASTICS EXPORT, BY REGION

India's plastics export in December 2018 were boosted by higher exports to North-East Asia (up 44.9% year-on-year), Commonwealth of Independent States (+32.4%), ASEAN + 2 (+28.8%), South Asia (+28.3%), European Union (+26.7%), Africa (+22.4%), and North America (+21.2%), which helped offset the decline in exports to Latin America & Caribbean (-31.1%), and Middle East (-5.3%).

On a cumulative basis, during April 18 – December 18, India's plastics export witnessed positive growth across regions, especially in North-East Asia (up 93.2% year-on-year), ASEAN + 2 (+43.7%), South Asia (+33.4%), Commonwealth of Independent States (+32.3%), Africa (+27.5%), and North America (+21.2%).

**Exhibit 4: Region-wise trend in plastics export by India**

Region	Dec-17	Dec-18	Growth	Apr 17- Dec 17	Apr 18- Dec 18	Growth
	(USD Mn)	(USD Mn)	(%)	(USD Mn)	(USD Mn)	(%)
European Union (EU)	141.28	179.06	26.7%	1,217.24	1,406.86	15.6%
Middle East	116.57	110.40	-5.3%	946.66	1,054.53	11.4%
North America	88.13	106.79	21.2%	762.10	923.62	21.2%
Africa	74.97	91.76	22.4%	654.60	834.72	27.5%
North-East Asia	109.17	158.20	44.9%	590.46	1,140.91	93.2%
South Asia	52.26	67.03	28.3%	479.06	639.09	33.4%
ASEAN + 2	50.53	65.09	28.8%	389.86	560.08	43.7%
Latin America & Caribbean (LAC)	48.59	33.50	-31.1%	340.61	375.54	10.3%
CIS	5.38	7.12	32.4%	52.23	69.12	32.3%
Others	3.35	2.76	-17.5%	26.83	30.57	14.0%
	<b>690.24</b>	<b>821.71</b>	<b>19.0%</b>	<b>5,459.64</b>	<b>7,035.05</b>	<b>28.9%</b>

Source: DGCI&S

## PLASTICS EXPORT, BY DESTINATION COUNTRY

During December 2018, 22 out of the top 25 destination countries recorded year-on-year growth in plastics export from India. Exports to China, Nepal and Mexico witnessed high growth rates ranging between 50-90%, during the period.

On a cumulative basis, during April 18 – December 18, 22 out of the top 25 destination countries recorded year-on-year growth in plastics export from India. Exports to China, Vietnam, Mexico, Kenya and France witnessed high growth rates ranging between 40-110%, during the above period.

**Exhibit 5: Top 25 destinations of plastics exported by India**

Country	Dec-17	Dec-18	Growth	Apr 17- Dec 17	Apr 18- Dec 18	Growth
	(USD Mn)	(USD Mn)	(%)	(USD Mn)	(USD Mn)	(%)
United States	74.81	86.28	15.3%	635.52	742.43	16.8%
China	89.64	136.15	51.9%	466.60	952.21	104.1%
United Arab Emirates	38.11	39.46	3.5%	284.54	332.05	16.7%
Italy	27.21	38.28	40.7%	252.57	294.46	16.6%
Turkey	26.70	19.66	-26.4%	228.21	214.19	-6.1%
Germany	24.38	29.87	22.5%	214.45	241.53	12.6%
Bangladesh	18.47	22.03	19.2%	175.86	249.61	41.9%
United Kingdom	22.26	28.22	26.8%	182.28	201.74	10.7%
Nepal	11.55	21.76	88.3%	130.55	172.94	32.5%
Vietnam	15.28	19.49	27.5%	95.26	159.22	67.1%
Egypt	11.61	9.55	-17.8%	109.93	124.02	12.8%
France	13.74	15.26	11.1%	95.93	139.65	45.6%
Belgium	11.47	16.31	42.2%	95.90	105.10	9.6%
Pakistan	9.87	9.94	0.7%	71.52	97.22	35.9%
Nigeria	10.14	10.36	2.2%	90.38	113.55	25.6%
Spain	9.68	11.92	23.2%	82.28	92.43	12.3%
Sri Lanka	8.84	9.18	3.8%	78.49	89.10	13.5%
Israel	8.96	9.03	0.7%	73.28	99.51	35.8%
South Africa	8.85	8.78	-0.7%	74.65	82.42	10.4%
Kenya	7.94	11.63	46.5%	64.46	100.08	55.2%
Saudi Arabia	8.41	11.63	38.3%	75.20	70.71	-6.0%
Poland	7.05	7.76	10.2%	72.51	67.88	-6.4%
Canada	7.59	9.55	25.9%	65.59	82.18	25.3%
Netherlands	7.84	9.12	16.3%	64.86	71.43	10.1%
Mexico	5.74	10.96	90.8%	60.99	99.02	62.4%

Note: Top 25 destinations based on 2017-18 plastic exports by India

Source: DGCI&S

During December 2018, plastics export to three countries (of the top 25 destinations) witnessed a decline. Plastics exports to Turkey fell due to lower export of plastics raw material and optical items. India's exports to Egypt also slid on account of lower export of plastics raw material. Exports to South Africa were negatively affected due to a decline in export of plastics raw material and packaging materials.

India exported plastics to 185 countries in December 2018 as compared to 190 countries in December 2017.

On a cumulative basis, during April 18 – December 18, India exported plastics to 207 countries as compared to 205 countries in the comparative period of 2017-18. New destination countries added during the above period included Mayotte, Monaco, Montserrat, Palau, Nauru Republic, Guam, and Lesotho.

**Exhibit 6: New destinations added for plastics exports by India**

Country	Dec-17	Dec-18	Growth	Apr 17- Dec 17	Apr 18- Dec 18	Growth
	(USD)	(USD)	(%)	(USD)	(USD)	(%)
Mayotte	-	4,260	-	-	26,960	-
Monaco	-	-	-	-	9,095	-
Montserrat	-	-	-	-	2,167	-
Palau	-	-	-	-	856	-
Nauru Republic	-	-	-	-	373	-
Guam	-	-	-	-	309	-
Lesotho	-	-	-	-	113	-

Source: DGCI&S

**Exhibit 7: Panels with details of % growth seen in top 10 export destinations**

Panel	Country	Apr 17- Dec 17	Apr 18- Dec 18	Growth
		(USD Mn)	(USD Mn)	(%)
Plastic raw materials	China	296.00	791.30	167.3%
	Turkey	183.86	186.27	1.3%
	Italy	167.59	209.97	25.3%
	United Arab Emirates	120.01	150.88	25.7%
	Bangladesh	116.80	176.51	51.1%
	United States	91.92	133.26	45.0%
	Vietnam	77.62	139.93	80.3%
	Egypt	87.57	88.99	1.6%
	Pakistan	64.97	88.94	36.9%
	Nepal	70.88	106.37	50.1%
Plastic sheet, film, plates etc	United States	147.19	166.27	13.0%
	Italy	39.34	38.47	-2.2%
	South Africa	39.94	47.80	19.7%
	Germany	36.11	54.94	52.2%
	United Arab Emirates	37.80	47.56	25.8%
	United Kingdom	32.12	38.82	20.9%
	Nigeria	29.18	48.77	67.1%
	Bangladesh	26.71	35.28	32.1%
	Nepal	26.11	29.02	11.1%
	China	23.89	26.01	8.9%
Moulded & extruded goods	United States	196.31	191.92	-2.2%
	United Kingdom	44.47	43.90	-1.3%
	United Arab Emirates	40.33	52.46	30.1%
	Germany	36.34	39.81	9.5%
	Canada	27.57	35.88	30.1%
	Spain	20.59	16.69	-18.9%
	Nigeria	20.90	14.59	-30.2%
	Brazil	17.33	14.64	-15.5%
	Nepal	13.77	13.70	-0.5%
	Australia	13.62	14.41	5.8%
Packaging materials	United States	102.43	119.94	17.1%
	United Kingdom	44.77	51.91	16.0%
	United Arab Emirates	34.89	31.87	-8.7%
	Netherlands	21.55	24.38	13.1%
	Germany	20.68	19.25	-6.9%
	Belgium	12.43	16.49	32.6%
	France	12.26	14.61	19.2%
	Spain	12.77	14.37	12.5%
	Nepal	10.19	10.74	5.4%
	Italy	8.91	11.73	31.7%

Note: Top 10 destinations based on India's 2017-18 exports under the eight plastic product panels

Source: DGCI&S

Panel	Country	Apr 17- Dec 17	Apr 18- Dec 18	Growth
		(USD Mn)	(USD Mn)	(%)
Optical items (incl. lens etc)	France	49.85	90.93	82.4%
	Germany	42.48	36.84	-13.3%
	United Kingdom	32.37	33.73	4.2%
	Poland	23.43	11.27	-51.9%
	United States	21.22	19.69	-7.2%
	Italy	14.67	9.81	-33.1%
	Netherlands	12.59	14.59	15.9%
	Denmark	10.44	6.39	-38.8%
	Israel	9.70	6.99	-27.9%
	United Arab Emirates	10.02	11.22	11.9%
Other plastic items	United States	37.34	62.07	66.2%
	United Arab Emirates	26.45	21.45	-18.9%
	Belgium	16.29	25.32	55.4%
	South Africa	8.06	6.57	-18.4%
	Ethiopia	7.93	1.30	-83.6%
	United Kingdom	7.72	9.49	22.8%
	Germany	7.96	8.68	9.1%
	Saudi Arabia	7.87	6.75	-14.3%
	Turkey	7.85	4.73	-39.7%
	Italy	6.08	10.40	71.0%
Human hair, products thereof	China	115.34	103.95	-9.9%
	Myanmar	23.35	20.53	-12.1%
	United States	10.86	11.64	7.1%
	Tunisia	8.22	8.46	2.9%
	Italy	5.29	2.71	-48.7%
	Hong Kong	6.04	7.03	16.3%
	United Arab Emirates	4.53	4.22	-6.8%
	Bangladesh	4.75	4.81	1.3%
	Vietnam	3.64	3.06	-16.0%
	Paraguay	2.90	2.73	-5.8%
Stationery/Office/School Supply	United States	28.25	37.64	33.3%
	United Kingdom	12.85	11.09	-13.7%
	United Arab Emirates	10.51	12.39	17.8%
	Thailand	9.16	9.06	-1.1%
	Germany	6.04	4.86	-19.6%
	Bangladesh	4.30	4.60	7.0%
	Mexico	3.73	4.14	11.0%
	Myanmar	3.06	3.20	4.5%
	Colombia	3.76	3.43	-8.6%
	Saudi Arabia	3.45	3.73	8.3%

Note: Top 10 destinations based on India's 2017-18 exports under the eight plastic product panels

Source: DGCI&S



## ANNEXURE-I

### Trend in overall exports by India

Month	2017-18	2018-19	Growth
	(USD Bn)	(USD Bn)	(%)
April	24.60	25.64	4.2%
May	24.03	28.78	19.7%
June	23.58	27.15	15.1%
July	22.54	25.89	14.9%
August	23.85	27.87	16.9%
September	28.64	27.90	-2.6%
October	23.05	26.98	17.1%
November	25.92	26.46	2.1%
December	27.07	27.91	3.1%
	<b>223.28</b>	<b>244.59</b>	<b>9.5%</b>

Source: DGCI&S

## ANNEXURE-II

### Trend in plastics export by India

Month	2017-18	2018-19	Growth
	(USD Mn)	(USD Mn)	(%)
April	576.31	738.31	28.1%
May	551.40	741.65	34.5%
June	547.65	769.08	40.4%
July	581.63	730.46	25.6%
August	600.99	830.05	38.1%
September	630.93	780.35	23.7%
October	608.92	778.02	27.8%
November	671.56	845.42	25.9%
December	690.24	821.71	19.0%
	<b>5,459.64</b>	<b>7,035.05</b>	<b>28.9%</b>

Source: DGCI&S

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