

**ANALYSIS OF INDIA'S PLASTICS EXPORT**  
**DECEMBER 2023**



**THE PLASTICS EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL**

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

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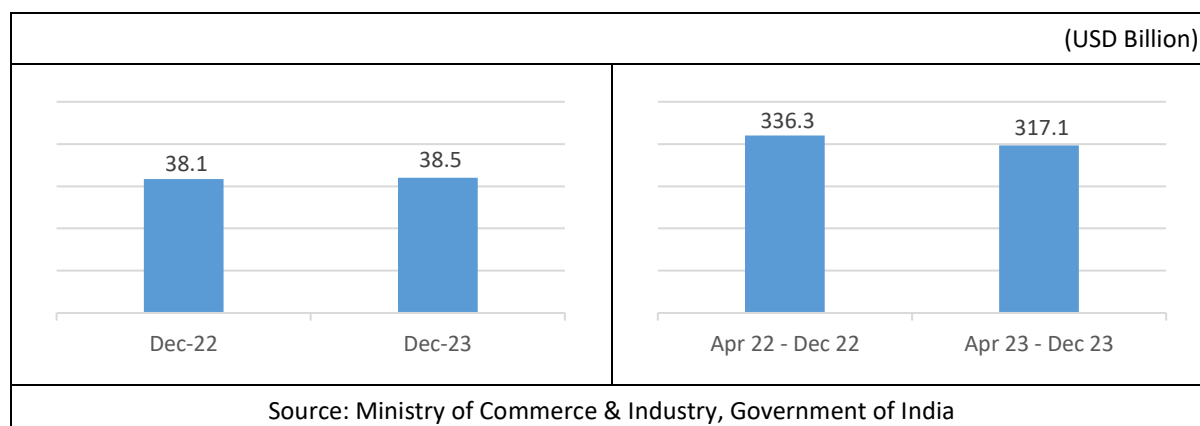
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Disclaimer: This report has been prepared on the basis of export data received from the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India.

## TREND IN OVERALL EXPORTS

India reported merchandise exports of USD 38.5 billion in December 2023, an increase of 1.0% from USD 38.1 billion in December 2022. Cumulative value of merchandise exports during April 2023 – December 2023 was USD 317.1 billion as against USD 336.3 billion during the same period last year, reflecting a decline of 5.7%.

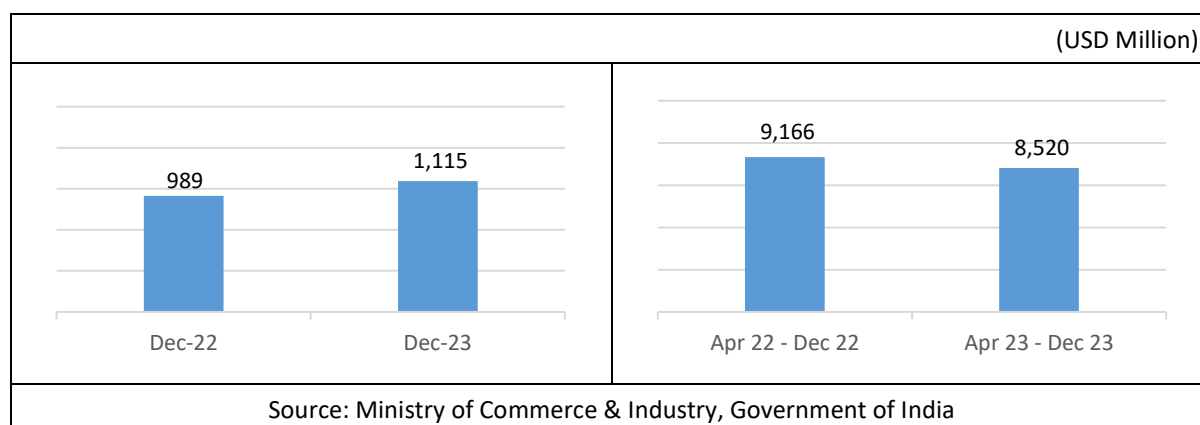
**Exhibit 1: Trend in overall merchandise exports from India**



## TREND IN PLASTICS EXPORT

During December 2023, India exported plastics worth USD 1,115 million, an increase of 12.7% from USD 989 million in December 2022. Cumulative value of plastics export during April 2023 – December 2023 was USD 8,520 million as against USD 9,166 million during the same period last year, registering a decline of 7.1%.

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



## PLASTICS EXPORT, BY PANEL

In the month of December 2023, a notable surge in exports was observed across majority of the product panels such as Consumer & houseware products; Plastic films and sheets; Plastic raw materials; FRP & Composites; Floorcoverings, leathercloth & laminates; Medical items of plastics; FIBC, Woven sacks, Woven fabrics, Tarpaulin; Plastic pipes & fittings; Packaging items - flexible, rigid and Human hair & related products. The panels which struggled to grow were Cordage, fishnets & monofilaments; Writing instruments & stationery and Miscellaneous products & items nes.

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

Panel	Dec-22	Dec-23	Growth	Apr 22- Dec 22	Apr 23- Dec 23	Growth
	(USD Mn)	(USD Mn)	(%)	(USD Mn)	(USD Mn)	(%)
Consumer & houseware products	61.8	147.8	+139.1%	556.3	628.7	+13.0%
Cordage, fishnets & monofilaments	24.1	20.3	-15.6%	202.6	187.0	-7.7%
FIBC, woven sacks, woven fabrics, & tarpaulin	113.4	117.6	+3.7%	1,099.6	991.2	-9.9%
Floorcoverings, leathercloth & laminates	50.0	59.4	+19.0%	431.3	509.9	+18.2%
FRP & Composites	30.3	42.5	+40.1%	315.7	356.6	+13.0%
Human hair & related products	64.4	76.1	+18.3%	499.4	562.0	+12.5%
Medical items of plastics	44.5	49.3	+10.8%	369.8	404.1	+9.3%
Miscellaneous products & items nes	95.6	52.7	-44.9%	771.5	546.8	-29.1%
Packaging items - flexible, rigid	50.5	52.3	+3.6%	482.5	463.9	-3.9%
Plastic films & sheets	143.4	165.1	+15.2%	1,409.7	1,273.9	-9.6%
Plastic pipes & fittings	22.4	26.0	+16.1%	222.4	211.1	-5.1%
Plastic raw materials	266.8	285.3	+6.9%	2,606.8	2,191.5	-15.9%
Writing instruments & stationery	22.0	20.7	-5.9%	198.9	193.2	-2.9%
	<b>989.0</b>	<b>1,115.1</b>	<b>+12.7%</b>	<b>9,166.5</b>	<b>8,519.8</b>	<b>-7.1%</b>

Source: Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India

Exports of **Consumer & houseware products** witnessed a significant growth of 139.1% in December 2023. This growth was primarily due to higher sales of tableware and kitchenware of plastics (39241090); wallets, purses and similar articles (42023290); safety headgear (65061090) and sunglasses (900410). Notably, India experienced a surge in both export and import of sunglasses during the month.

Exports of **Cordage, fishnets & monofilaments** faced a decline of 15.6% in December 2023 due to weak sales of monofilaments of plastics (391690) along with made up knotted fishing nets (56081190).

In December 2023, the export of **FIBC, woven sacks, woven fabrics, & tarpaulin** showed a positive growth of 3.7% due to increased sales of sacks and bags of plastics (39232990) to the United States of America and woven fabrics (54072090) to Canada.

Export of **Floor coverings, leather cloth & laminates** surged by 19.0% during December 2023 on account of higher sales of decorative laminates (48239019) and textile fabrics impregnated, coated, covered or laminated with plastics (590390).

Export of **FRP & Composites** demonstrated a remarkable surge, registering a substantial growth of 40.1% during December 2023. This notable increase was due to higher exports of articles of plastics and articles of other materials of heading 3901 to 3914, n.e.s (39269099).

Export of **Human hair & related products** were up by 18.3% in December 2023 due to higher sales of human hair, dressed, thinned and bleached (67030010) to China.

**Medical items of plastics** continued to perform well and its exports were up by 10.8% in December 2023 due to increase in sales of contact lenses (900130); spectacles and goggles (90049090) and syringes, with or without needles, used in medical, surgical, dental or veterinary sciences (90183100). Notably, India reported its highest monthly export of spectacles and goggles in December 2023 in as many as 60 months.

Export of **Miscellaneous products & items nes** fell by 44.9% in December 2023 due to lower shipments of optical fibres, optical fibre bundles and cables (90011000).

**Packaging items - flexible, rigid** export increased by 3.6% on account of higher sales of sacks and bags of plastics (392321) and articles for the conveyance or packaging of goods, of plastics (39239090). India mainly exports Packaging items - flexible, rigid to North America and Europe.

In December 2023, the export of **Plastic films & sheets** were higher by 15.2% on account of increased sales of self-adhesive plates and sheets (39199090); films and sheets of polymers of propylene (392020) & films and sheet of polyethylene terephthalate (392062). Nonetheless, Indian exporters of plastic films and sheets have informed that the export market has begun to show signs of improvement as it has now getting better because inflation is under control in Europe to a large extent.

Export of **Plastic pipes & fittings** increased by 16.1% due to higher sales of rigid tubes and pipes of polyethylene (391721) to some of the countries in Africa region; rigid tubes and pipes of polymers of vinyl chloride (39172390) and fittings like joints, elbows and flanges of plastics for pipes (391740).

**Plastics raw materials** exports increased by 6.9% in December 2023 due to a rise in sales of polyethylene with a specific gravity of  $\geq 0.94$  (39012000); linear low-density polyethylene (390140); and polypropylene (390210). In December 2023, export of polypropylene from India reached its highest-monthly value during the current year.

Export of **Writing instruments & stationery** declined by 5.9% in December 2023 due to decrease in sales of ball- point pens (960810) to Congo DRC, Viet Nam and the United States of America.

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

HS Code	Description	Apr 22- Dec 22	Apr 23- Dec 23	Growth
		(USD Mn)	(USD Mn)	(%)
63053200	Flexible intermediate bulk containers	673.2	581.0	-13.7%
90011000	Optical fibres, optical fibre bundles and cables	520.2	296.6	-43.0%
39076190	Polyethylene terephthalate: Other primary form	505.5	237.2	-53.1%
67030010	Human hair, dressed, thinned, bleached or otherwise worked	371.3	424.2	+14.3%
39269099	Articles of plastics and articles of other materials of heading 3901 to 3914, n.e.s: Other	309.9	351.0	+13.2%
39232990	Other sacks and bags, incl. cones, of plastics	323.3	315.7	-2.4%
39021000	Polypropylene, in primary forms	277.4	252.9	-8.8%
48239019	Decorative laminates	215.8	226.5	+5.0%
39202020	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular polymers of ethylene: Flexible, plain	202.9	150.5	-25.9%
39269080	Articles of plastics and articles of other materials of heading 3901 to 3914, n.e.s: Polypropylene articles, not elsewhere	167.0	154.9	-7.2%
39206220	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular polyethylene terephthalate: Flexible, plain	162.2	154.4	-4.8%
39232100	Sacks and bags, incl. cones, of polymers of ethylene	162.3	152.8	-5.9%
39069090	Other acrylic polymers, in primary forms	153.7	156.8	+2.0%
39076990	Polyethylene terephthalate: Other primary form	170.2	105.0	-38.3%
39239090	Articles for the conveyance or packaging of goods, of plastics: Other	135.5	137.0	+1.1%
05010010	Human hair, unworked; whether or not washed or scoured	117.7	127.7	+8.5%
39202090	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular polymers of ethylene: Other	121.6	109.9	-9.6%
39046100	Polytetrafluoroethylene, in primary forms	117.2	90.5	-22.7%
90015000	Spectacle lenses of materials other than glass	108.7	136.6	+25.7%
96081019	Ball-point pens	103.5	102.3	-1.1%
90183930	Cannulae	106.2	99.0	-6.8%
39011090	Polyethylene with a specific gravity of < 0,94, in primary forms: Other	95.2	75.2	-21.0%
59039090	Textile fabrics impregnated, coated, covered or laminated with plastics other than polyvinyl chloride or polyurethane: Other	87.0	129.8	+49.3%
56074900	Twine, cordage, ropes and cables of polyethylene or polypropylene	91.0	82.3	-9.6%
39219099	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of plastics, reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials: Other	83.8	89.6	+7.0%
39046990	Other fluoro-polymers of vinyl chloride or of other halogenated olefins, in primary forms	78.5	62.3	-20.7%
96032100	Tooth brushes	74.5	59.5	-20.1%
39219094	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of plastics, reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials: Flexible, metallised	79.3	59.0	-25.6%
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	75.5	75.3	-0.3%

HS Code	Description	Apr 22- Dec 22	Apr 23- Dec 23	Growth
		(USD Mn)	(USD Mn)	(%)
39206919	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular polyesters, not reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials: Other	74.0	70.3	-5.0%
39073010	Epoxy resins	76.1	45.5	-40.2%
39206290	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular polyethylene terephthalate, not reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials: Other	65.3	54.4	-16.7%
39129090	Other cellulose and chemical derivatives thereof, n.e.s., in primary forms	66.9	76.0	+13.5%
39241090	Other tableware and kitchenware, of plastics	68.3	72.4	+6.0%
39095000	Polyurethanes, in primary forms	68.6	59.2	-13.7%
39199090	Self-adhesive plates, sheets, film, foil, tape, strip and other flat shapes, of plastics, whether or not in rolls > 20 cm wide: Other	68.4	87.9	+28.5%
39140020	Ion-exchangers based on polymers of heading 3901 to 3913, in primary forms	64.6	59.8	-7.5%
39014010	Linear low-density polyethylene	60.3	87.5	+45.0%
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	61.4	59.0	-4.0%
39219096	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of plastics, reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials: Flexible, laminated	66.1	47.8	-27.6%
39119090	Other polysulphides, polysulphones and other polymers and prepolymers produced by chemical synthesis, n.e.s., in primary forms	55.4	75.3	+36.1%
59031090	Other textile fabrics impregnated, coated, covered or laminated with polyvinyl chloride	54.8	56.7	+3.4%
39235010	Stoppers, lids, caps and other closures, of plastics	52.8	50.4	-4.6%
39100090	Silicones in primary forms: Other	53.1	38.4	-27.6%
39249090	Other household articles and toilet articles, of plastics	53.4	51.2	-4.2%
39172390	Rigid tubes, pipes and hoses, and fittings therefor, of polymers of vinyl chloride: Other	51.6	53.5	+3.6%
39201019	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular plastics, not reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials: Other	47.8	51.9	+8.5%
39206929	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular polyesters, not reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials: Other	53.5	45.9	-14.3%
39019000	Other ethylene-alpha-olefin copolymers, having a specific gravity of less than 0.94	52.3	44.3	-15.3%
39011020	Low density polyethylene	60.0	16.9	-71.9%

Source: Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India

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