

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



**THE PLASTICS EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL**

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

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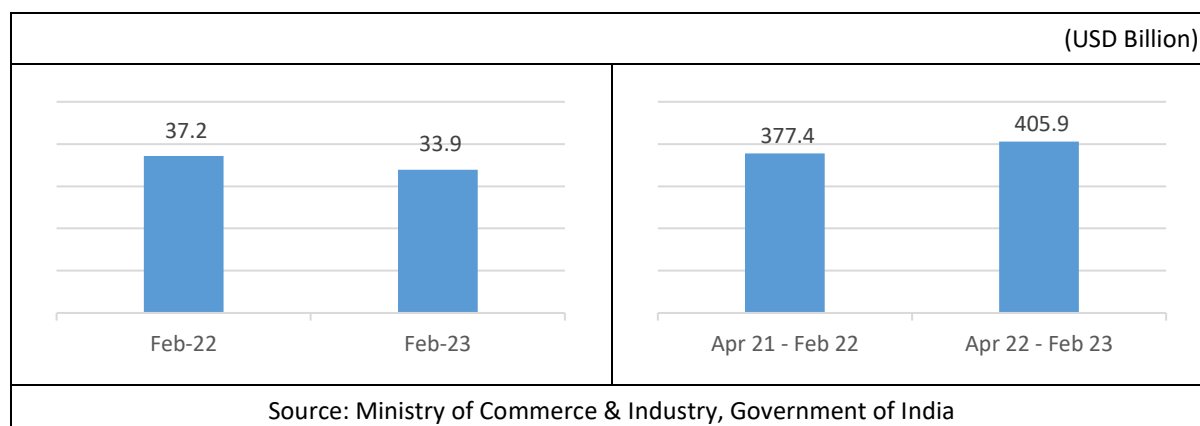
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Disclaimer: This report has been prepared on the basis of export data received from the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India.

## TREND IN OVERALL EXPORTS

India reported merchandise exports of USD 33.9 billion in February 2023, down by 8.8% from USD 37.2 billion in February 2022. Cumulative value of merchandise exports during April 2022 – February 2023 was USD 405.9 billion as against USD 377.4 billion during the same period last year, reflecting a growth of 7.6%.

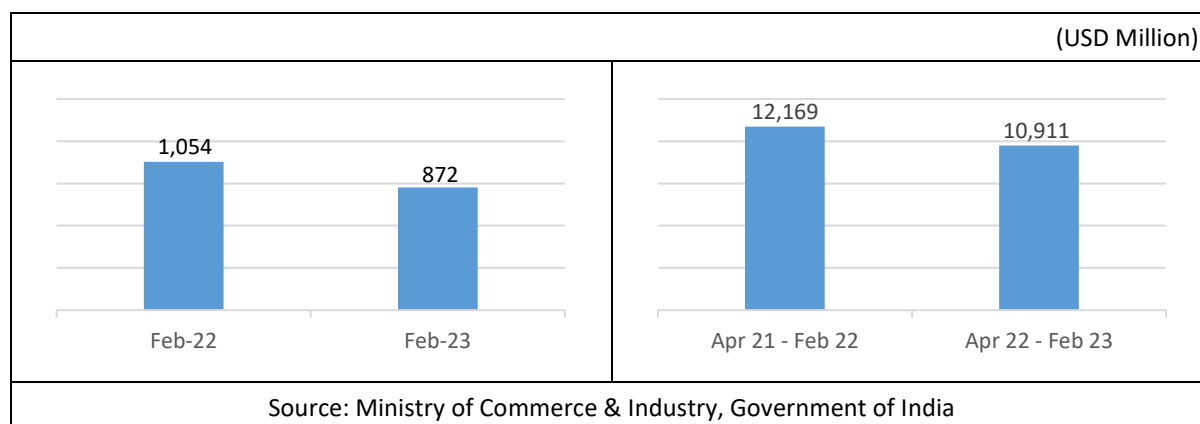
**Exhibit 1: Trend in overall merchandise exports from India**



## TREND IN PLASTICS EXPORT

During February 2023, India exported plastics worth USD 872 million, lower by 17.2% from USD 1,054 million in February 2022. Cumulative value of plastics export during April 2022 – February 2023 was USD 10,911 million as against USD 12,169 million during the same period last year, registering a decline of 10.3%.

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



## PLASTICS EXPORT, BY PANEL

In February 2023, most of the product panels, namely, Plastic raw materials; FIBC, woven sacks, woven fabrics, & tarpaulin; Plastic films & sheets; Floorcoverings, leathercloth & laminates; Packaging items - flexible, rigid; Cordage, fishnets & monofilaments; Consumer & houseware products; FRP & Composites; and Plastic pipes & fittings reported lower exports.

However, product panels like; Writing instruments & stationery; Medical items of plastics; Human hair & related products and Miscellaneous products reported a positive growth in exports.

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

Panel	Feb-22	Feb-23	Growth	Apr 21- Feb-22	Apr 22- Feb-23	Growth
	(USD Mn)	(USD Mn)	(%)	(USD Mn)	(USD Mn)	(%)
Consumer & houseware products	70.4	65.7	-6.6%	736.0	680.9	-7.5%
Cordage, fishnets & monofilaments	25.6	19.2	-25.1%	249.3	247.2	-0.8%
FIBC, woven sacks, woven fabrics, & tarpaulin	133.4	95.7	-28.2%	1,543.1	1,294.7	-16.1%
Floorcoverings, leathercloth & laminates	55.8	47.2	-15.4%	570.3	522.6	-8.4%
FRP & Composites	39.7	35.7	-9.9%	412.5	387.2	-6.1%
Human hair & related products	32.7	58.9	+79.9%	724.4	608.0	-16.1%
Medical items of plastics	38.4	40.0	+4.1%	376.8	448.6	+19.1%
Miscellaneous products & items	70.0	78.1	+11.5%	793.5	942.8	+18.8%
Packaging items - flexible, rigid	51.4	43.5	-15.4%	562.8	572.8	+1.8%
Plastic films & sheets	169.8	133.8	-21.2%	1,845.6	1,663.5	-9.9%
Plastic pipes & fittings	23.8	21.5	-9.8%	259.7	267.0	+2.8%
Plastic raw materials	323.7	211.8	-34.6%	3,901.7	3,033.9	-22.2%
Writing instruments & stationery	19.1	21.1	+10.9%	193.6	241.9	+25.0%
	<b>1,053.6</b>	<b>872.2</b>	<b>-17.2%</b>	<b>12,169.3</b>	<b>10,911.2</b>	<b>-10.3%</b>

Source: Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India

Export of **Consumer & houseware products** declined by 6.6% in February 2023 on account of lower sales of Tableware and kitchenware of plastics (HS code 392410); Other household articles of plastics (392490); Hand bags and shopping bags of plastics (420222); Jewellery box and similar box of plastics (420232); and Other switches of plastics (85365020). Exports of Toys of plastics (95030030) has also been showing a significant decline since May 2022 due to change in the HS code of Toys of plastics resulting in failure to capture the correct value of its exports from India.

**Cordage, fishnets & monofilaments** exports were lower by 25.1% in February 2023 due to a decline in sales of Other binder or baler twine of polyethylene or polypropylene (560749); and Made up fishing nets (560811).

In case of **FIBC, woven sacks, woven fabrics, & tarpaulin**, exports in February 2023 fell by 28.2% as Indian exporters reported a decline in sales of Sacks and bags of plastics (39232990); and Flexible intermediate bulk containers (630532). Exports of Flexible intermediate bulk

containers from India have hit a thirty-month low in February 2023. Indian exporters have also mentioned about a decline in price realisations for these products in the international market.

Export of **Floor coverings, leather cloth & laminates** declined by 15.4% during February 2023 on account of lower sales of PVC floor coverings (391810); Decorative laminates (482390); and Other textile fabrics of plastics (59039090). Indian exporters have mentioned about removal of Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) in the EU since January 2023.

Export of **FRP & Composites** was down by 9.9% due to lower sales of Articles of plastics and articles of other materials of heading 3901 to 3914, n.e.s (39269099).

Export of **Human hair & related products** increased by 79.9% due to higher sales of Human hair unworked (050100) and Human hair, dressed, thinned, bleached or otherwise worked (67030010). The high growth rate achieved in February 2023 is an effect of low base of export in February 2022. It may be noted that export of Human hair unworked was placed under restricted category by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade in the last week of January 2022.

Export of **Medical items of plastics** witnessed an increase of 4.1% in February 2023 due to higher sales of Spectacle lenses of polymers (900150) from India to France, United Arab Emirates and the United States of America.

Export of **Miscellaneous products & items nes** increased by 11.5% in February 2023 due to higher sales of Optical fibres, optical fibres bundles and cables (90011000).

**Packaging items - flexible, rigid** export declined by 15.4% on lower sales of Sacks and bags of polymers of ethylene (392321), and Other articles for the conveyance or packaging of goods of plastics (39239090).

**Plastic films & sheets** export were lower by 21.2% in February 2023 due to a slide in sales of Self-adhesive sheets and films of plastics (391910); Rigid and flexible sheets of polymers of propylene (392020); Flexible sheets and films of polyethylene terephthalate (39206220) and Flexible & metallised sheets and films of plastics (39219094); and Flexible & laminated sheets and films of plastics (39219096). Apparently, plastic films & sheets manufacturers in India have slashed production amid sluggish global demand and high inventory.

Export of **Plastic pipes & fittings** contracted by 9.8% due to poor sales of Other rigid tubes of polyethylene (39172110); Other tubes and pipes (391731, 391732).

**Plastics raw materials** export was lower by 34.6% in February 2023 due to a decline in sales of Linear low-density polyethylene (39014010); Polypropylene (390210); and Polyethylene terephthalate (390761, 390769) from India.

Export of **Writing instruments & stationery** witnessed an increase of 10.9% in February 2023 due to higher sales of Ball point pens of plastics (960810). This product segment has been doing quite well in the export market since the beginning of this year.

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

HS Code	Description	Apr 21- Feb-22	Apr 22- Feb-23	Growth
		(USD Mn)	(USD Mn)	(%)
63053200	Flexible intermediate bulk containers	915.1	792.6	-13.4%
39076190	Polyethylene terephthalate: Other primary form	713.9	553.7	-22.4%
39021000	Polypropylene, in primary forms	620.9	327.3	-47.3%
67030010	Human hair, dressed, thinned, bleached or otherwise worked	549.8	445.6	-18.9%
39232990	Other sacks and bags, incl. cones, of plastics	458.7	380.5	-17.0%
90011000	Optical fibres, optical fibre bundles and cables	414.2	643.4	+55.3%
39269099	Articles of plastics and articles of other materials of heading 3901 to 3914, n.e.s: Other	406.2	380.0	-6.5%
39202020	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular polymers of ethylene: Flexible, plain	303.1	231.7	-23.6%
39076990	Polyethylene terephthalate: Other primary form	269.7	185.7	-31.1%
39269080	Articles of plastics and articles of other materials of heading 3901 to 3914, n.e.s: Polypropylene articles, not elsewhere	265.6	196.0	-26.2%
48239019	Decorative laminates	244.4	260.2	+6.5%
39069090	Acrylic polymers, in primary forms (excl. polymethyl methacrylate): Other	250.0	182.4	-27.0%
39014010	Linear low-density polyethylene (LLDPE), in which ethylene monomer unit contributes less than 95 % by weight of the total polymer content	243.7	72.5	-70.3%
39206220	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular polyethylene terephthalate: Flexible, plain	235.7	192.0	-18.5%
39232100	Sacks and bags, incl. cones, of polymers of ethylene	201.7	190.7	-5.5%
39012000	Polyethylene with a specific gravity of >= 0,94, in primary forms	192.3	49.3	-74.4%
59039090	Textile fabrics impregnated, coated, covered or laminated with plastics other than polyvinyl chloride or polyurethane: Other	166.4	107.1	-35.6%
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: Other	162.8	140.7	-13.6%
39239090	Articles for the conveyance or packaging of goods, of plastics: Other	158.1	159.3	+0.7%
39046100	Polytetrafluoroethylene, in primary forms	150.4	140.8	-6.4%
05010010	Human hair, unworked; whether or not washed or scoured	149.1	147.6	-1.0%
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	119.4	89.6	-25.0%
56074900	Twine, cordage, ropes and cables of polyethylene or polypropylene	113.5	108.8	-4.2%
90015000	Spectacle lenses of materials other than glass	114.3	133.0	+16.4%
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: Other	113.3	101.3	-10.6%

HS Code	Description	Apr 21- Feb-22	Apr 22- Feb-23	Growth
		(USD Mn)	(USD Mn)	(%)
39073010	Epoxide resins, in primary forms: Epoxy resins	106.9	88.8	-16.9%
39206290	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: Other	103.7	86.4	-16.7%
90183930	Cannulae	100.1	127.6	+27.5%
96081019	Ball-point pens	96.5	126.0	+30.5%
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: Flexible, metallised	95.2	92.2	-3.2%
39199090	Self-adhesive plates, sheets, film, foil, tape, strip and other flat shapes, of plastics, whether or not in rolls > 20 cm wide: Other	91.5	79.4	-13.2%
95030030	Toys of plastics	92.9	11.3	-87.8%
39241090	Tableware and kitchenware, of plastics: Other	89.4	82.8	-7.4%
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: Other	83.6	87.7	+4.9%
96032100	Tooth brushes	85.1	90.9	+6.9%
39011090	Polyethylene with a specific gravity of < 0,94, in primary forms: Other	79.3	112.7	+42.2%
39011010	Linear low-density polyethylene (LLDPE), in which ethylene monomer unit contributes 95% or more by weight of the total polymer content	79.5	45.4	-42.9%
39219096	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of plastics, reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials: Flexible, laminated	80.1	74.8	-6.6%
39095000	Polyurethanes, in primary forms	72.5	82.4	+13.7%
39119090	Polysulphides, polysulphones and other polymers and prepolymers produced by chemical synthesis, n.e.s., in primary forms: Other	69.5	67.9	-2.4%
39140020	Ion-exchangers based on polymers of heading 3901 to 3913, in primary forms	68.7	78.4	+14.2%
39129090	Cellulose and chemical derivatives thereof, n.e.s., in primary forms: Other	68.2	82.7	+21.3%
39241010	Insulated tableware and kitchenware of plastics	67.3	55.1	-18.2%
39204900	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular polymers of vinyl chloride, containing by weight < 6% of plasticisers	64.5	75.7	+17.4%
59031090	Textile fabrics impregnated, coated, covered or laminated with polyvinyl chloride: Other	65.0	67.3	+3.6%
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	62.9	58.2	-7.5%

HS Code	Description	Apr 21- Feb-22	Apr 22- Feb-23	Growth
		(USD Mn)	(USD Mn)	(%)
	otherwise decorated, of polymers of vinyl chloride: Other			
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: Other	64.1	60.7	-5.3%
39235010	Stoppers, lids, caps and other closures, of plastics	62.4	62.6	+0.4%
39191000	Self-adhesive plates, sheets, film, foil, tape, strip and other flat shapes, of plastics, in rolls <= 20 cm wide	61.6	47.5	-22.9%
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: Other	59.7	58.3	-2.4%

Source: Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India

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