

**ANALYSIS OF INDIA'S PLASTICS EXPORT**  
**JANUARY 2020**



**THE PLASTICS EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL**

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

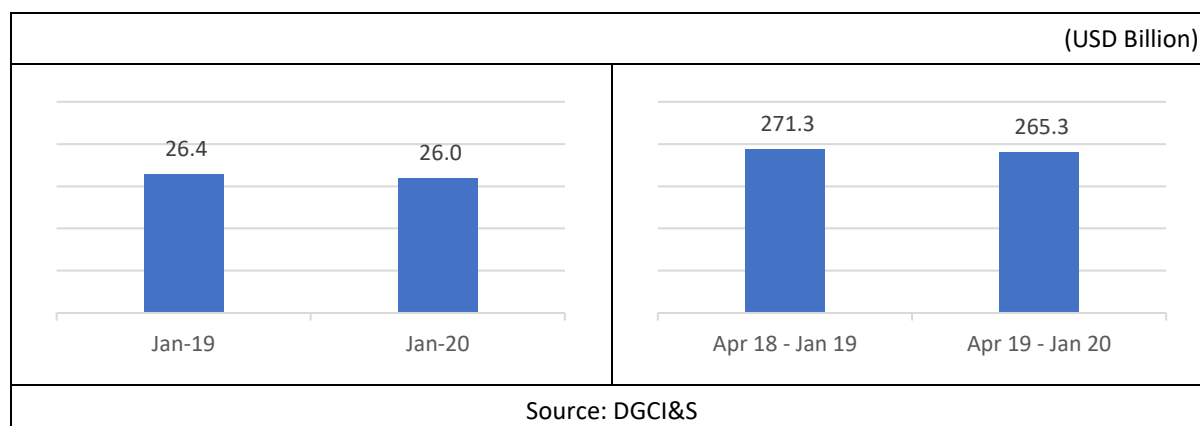
Crystal Tower, Ground Floor  
Gundivali Road No. 3, Off Sir M. V. Road  
Andheri East, Mumbai  
Maharashtra 400 069, INDIA  
Tel: +91-22-26833951  
E-mail: [office@plexconcil.org](mailto:office@plexconcil.org)

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) on February 26, 2020

## TREND IN OVERALL EXPORTS

India reported merchandise exports of USD 26.0 billion in January 2020, down 1.5% from USD 26.4 billion in January 2019. Cumulative value of merchandise exports during April 2019 – January 2020 was USD 265.3 billion as against USD 271.3 billion during the same period last year, reflecting a decline of 2.2%.

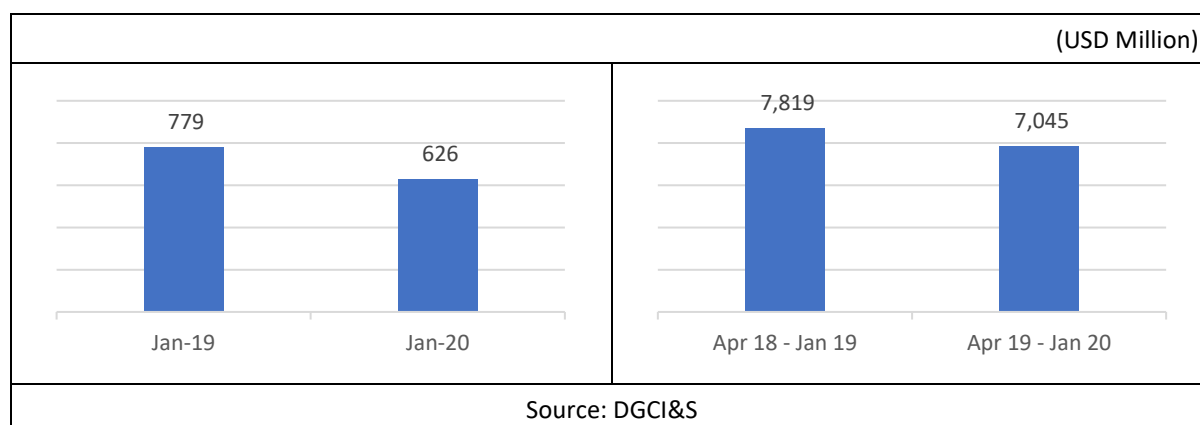
**Exhibit 1: Trend in overall merchandise exports from India**



## TREND IN PLASTICS EXPORT

During January 2020, India exported plastics worth USD 626 million, down 19.6% from USD 779 million in January 2019. Cumulative value of plastics export during April 2019 – January 2020 was USD 7,045 million as against USD 7,819 million during the same period last year, registering a negative growth of 9.9%.

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



- Plastics formed 2.66% of India's overall merchandise exports in April 2019 – January 2020
- India exported plastics to 210 countries in April 2019 – January 2020
- China, United States and United Arab Emirates were the top three buyers of plastics from India in April 2019 – January 2020

## PLASTICS EXPORT, BY PANEL

In January 2020, Other plastic items witnessed year-on-year growth of 8.1%; followed by packaging materials (+1.5%) and moulded & extruded goods (+0.5%). Product categories that reported negative growth include plastic raw materials (-35.8%); human hair, products thereof (-30.5%), stationery/office/school supply (-14.9%); plastic sheet, film, plates (-13.0%); and optical items (-1.1%).

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

Panel	Jan-19	Jan-20	Growth	Apr 18- Jan 19	Apr 19- Jan 20	Growth
	(USD Mn)	(USD Mn)	(%)	(USD Mn)	(USD Mn)	(%)
Plastic raw materials	363.78	233.58	-35.8%	3,849.14	2,915.60	-24.3%
Plastic sheet, film, plates etc	130.45	113.54	-13.0%	1,230.25	1,224.43	-0.5%
Moulded & extruded goods	99.69	100.21	0.5%	938.43	1,033.99	10.2%
Packaging materials	72.29	73.38	1.5%	696.68	722.47	3.7%
Optical items (incl. lens etc)	35.01	34.62	-1.1%	389.07	360.38	-7.4%
Other plastic items	34.85	37.67	8.1%	304.43	365.56	20.1%
Stationery/Office/School Supply	21.08	17.94	-14.9%	206.31	193.79	-6.1%
Human hair, products thereof	21.96	15.26	-30.5%	204.20	228.85	12.1%
	<b>779.10</b>	<b>626.20</b>	<b>-19.6%</b>	<b>7,818.50</b>	<b>7,045.09</b>	<b>-9.9%</b>

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

Source: DGCI&S

Some of the products which witnessed a huge decline in exports from India were:

- Within plastics raw materials, India's export of Polypropylene (HS code 39021000) fell 48.8% yoy to USD 38.0 million in January 2020 due to lower sales to Pakistan, Italy, and China, and continued weakness in demand from key end-use sectors such as autos coupled with decline in prices. Likewise, export of Polyethylene terephthalate having a viscosity number of 78 ml/g or higher (HS code 39076100) fell 39.3% yoy to USD 42.0 million in January 2020 due to lower sales to Italy, Romania, and Japan and decline in prices. Export of Linear low-density polyethylene (HS code 39011010) and Polyethylene having a specific gravity of 0.94 or more (HS code 39012000) fell 46.4% yoy to USD 24.8 million and 41.0% to USD 28.3 million in January 2020 due to lower sales to China.
- Among value-added plastics products, export of Stationery / Office / School Supply was lower due to a decline in export of office supplies classified under HS codes 39261019, down 92.2% yoy to USD 0.29 million in January 2020 to the Middle East in particular. Export of Plastic sheet, film, plates etc, particularly 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 (HS code 39219099) fell due to lower sales to the United Arab Emirates. Export of human hair products under HS Code 67030010 from India was lower due to a decline in export to China in January 2020.

## PLASTICS EXPORT, BY REGION

India's plastics export in January 2020 was positive in Commonwealth of Independent States (+43.5%). Export growth was negative in North-East Asia (-38.4%); European Union (-27.0%); South Asia (-24.0%); Middle East (-18.5%); Latin America & Caribbean (-13.3%); Africa (-9.2%); ASEAN + 2 (-6.1%); and North America (-0.2%).

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

Region	Jan-19	Jan-20	Growth	Apr 18- Jan 19	Apr 19- Jan 20	Growth
	(USD Mn)	(USD Mn)	(%)	(USD Mn)	(USD Mn)	(%)
European Union (EU)	168.92	123.26	-27.0%	1,575.68	1,336.97	-15.1%
North-East Asia	136.85	84.36	-38.4%	1,277.52	1,120.38	-12.3%
Middle East	117.82	96.04	-18.5%	1,172.35	1,077.52	-8.1%
North America	102.66	102.50	-0.2%	1,026.39	1,100.49	7.2%
Africa	89.01	80.84	-9.2%	923.72	867.78	-6.1%
South Asia	69.80	53.06	-24.0%	713.80	608.98	-14.7%
ASEAN + 2	50.28	47.22	-6.1%	610.25	517.77	-15.2%
Latin America & Caribbean (LAC)	30.90	26.79	-13.3%	406.25	297.52	-26.8%
CIS	6.50	9.33	43.5%	75.62	91.61	21.1%
Others	6.35	2.79	-56.1%	36.92	26.07	-29.4%
	<b>779.10</b>	<b>626.20</b>	<b>-19.6%</b>	<b>7,818.50</b>	<b>7,045.09</b>	<b>-9.9%</b>

Source: DGCI&S

India's plastics exports to North-East Asia witnessed a decline due to lower sales of plastics raw materials, particularly Polyethylene (HS code 39011010, 39012000) and Polypropylene (HS code 39021000) to China and Japan.

India's plastics exports to European Union witnessed a decline due to lower sales of plastic raw materials, particularly Polyethylene Terephthalate (HS code 39076100) to Italy, Romania, and Japan and Polypropylene (HS code 39021000) to Pakistan, Italy, and China. A decline in export of Flexible Intermediate Bulk Containers (HS code 63053200) to UK and USA also affected India's plastics exports.

India's plastics exports to South Asia weakened on account of lower sales to Pakistan. India's trade with Pakistan has been negatively affected due to strained trade relations between the two countries since the start of the year.

India's plastics exports to Middle East witnessed a decline due to lower sales of certain grades of Polyethylene Terephthalate like 39076990 and 39076910 and Plastic sheet, film, plates etc under HS code 39219099 to the UAE and Egypt. Most of the products being exported to Iran were also down in general.

India's plastics exports to LAC fell on account of lower sales to Paraguay, Peru, Ecuador, and Dominican Republic while exports to Africa were lower to South Africa and Djibouti.

India's plastics exports to ASEAN + 2 witnessed a decline due to lower sales of human hair to Myanmar, along with drop in sales of polyethylene terephthalate and linear low-density polyethylene to Indonesia.

## PLASTICS EXPORT, BY DESTINATION COUNTRY

During January 2020, six out of the top 25 destination countries recorded year-on-year growth in plastics export from India. Export to Nigeria witnessed a high growth rate of 19.8% during the period.

On a cumulative basis, during April 2019 – January 2020, five out of the top 25 destination countries recorded year-on-year growth in plastics export from India. Exports to Saudi Arabia witnessed a high growth rate of 27.8%, during the above period.

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

Country	Jan-19	Jan-20	Growth	Apr 18- Jan 19	Apr 19- Jan 20	Growth
	(USD Mn)	(USD Mn)	(%)	(USD Mn)	(USD Mn)	(%)
China	116.81	69.02	-40.9%	1,068.78	928.43	-13.1%
United States	83.45	83.01	-0.5%	825.88	906.46	9.8%
United Arab Emirates	47.29	39.40	-16.7%	379.34	370.76	-2.3%
Italy	37.83	17.65	-53.3%	332.18	225.90	-32.0%
Germany	28.87	19.91	-31.1%	270.41	233.17	-13.8%
Bangladesh	19.66	21.05	7.1%	269.26	229.18	-14.9%
Turkey	18.13	13.84	-23.7%	232.32	169.62	-27.0%
United Kingdom	23.49	24.49	4.3%	225.23	224.71	-0.2%
Nepal	19.99	21.16	5.9%	197.95	210.93	6.6%
Vietnam	10.99	10.35	-5.8%	170.09	125.09	-26.5%
France	14.12	9.52	-32.6%	153.77	129.04	-16.1%
Indonesia	10.45	5.59	-46.5%	147.52	85.52	-42.0%
Egypt	8.14	4.48	-44.9%	132.17	79.27	-40.0%
Belgium	14.10	7.95	-43.6%	119.20	90.70	-23.9%
Japan	12.61	9.00	-28.6%	123.94	93.30	-24.7%
Nigeria	9.77	11.71	19.8%	123.33	106.42	-13.7%
Pakistan	18.40	0.30	-98.4%	115.51	42.12	-63.5%
South Africa	19.21	9.84	-48.8%	101.63	112.73	10.9%
Israel	10.21	8.39	-17.8%	109.73	92.40	-15.8%
Mexico	10.11	9.06	-10.4%	109.23	88.86	-18.7%
Kenya	8.76	8.23	-6.0%	108.84	99.39	-8.7%
Spain	9.24	10.01	8.4%	101.65	90.25	-11.2%
Sri Lanka	8.92	7.56	-15.2%	98.03	83.79	-14.5%
Canada	9.10	10.43	14.5%	91.28	105.17	15.2%
Saudi Arabia	11.37	10.75	-5.5%	82.08	104.88	27.8%

Note: Top 25 destinations based on 2018-19 plastic exports by India

Source: DGCI&S

India exported plastics to 176 countries in January 2020 as compared to 182 countries in January 2019.

**Exhibit 6: Panels with details of % growth seen in top 10 export destinations**

Panel	Country	Apr 18- Jan 19	Apr 19- Jan 20	Growth
		(USD Mn)	(USD Mn)	(%)
Plastic raw materials	China	888.86	703.40	-20.9%
	Italy	237.15	131.96	-44.4%
	Turkey	202.55	143.99	-28.9%
	Bangladesh	189.15	148.48	-21.5%
	United Arab Emirates	166.02	129.86	-21.8%
	United States	146.23	106.13	-27.4%
	Vietnam	148.78	104.64	-29.7%
	Nepal	120.97	124.51	2.9%
	Indonesia	115.25	54.80	-52.4%
	Pakistan	106.42	38.87	-63.5%
Plastic sheet, film, plates etc	United States	184.85	212.69	15.1%
	United Arab Emirates	61.71	60.32	-2.2%
	Germany	60.92	55.39	-9.1%
	South Africa	57.87	54.94	-5.1%
	Nigeria	51.23	32.65	-36.3%
	Italy	44.23	36.45	-17.6%
	United Kingdom	43.70	49.90	14.2%
	Bangladesh	38.96	31.01	-20.4%
	Mexico	39.62	31.13	-21.4%
	Spain	32.72	30.90	-5.6%
Moulded & extruded goods	United States	216.81	285.49	31.7%
	United Arab Emirates	59.26	76.69	29.4%
	United Kingdom	49.61	48.70	-1.8%
	Germany	45.85	40.00	-12.8%
	Canada	38.89	55.22	42.0%
	Sri Lanka	19.52	11.22	-42.6%
	Spain	18.28	16.46	-10.0%
	Nigeria	16.98	21.16	24.7%
	Saudi Arabia	14.10	20.93	48.4%
	Brazil	16.14	19.87	23.1%
Packaging materials	United States	133.39	151.31	13.4%
	United Kingdom	57.79	53.11	-8.1%
	United Arab Emirates	35.70	43.54	22.0%
	Netherland	26.88	24.68	-8.2%
	Germany	21.71	15.99	-26.3%
	Belgium	18.71	7.78	-58.4%
	France	16.63	14.61	-12.1%
	Spain	16.09	15.27	-5.1%
	Djibouti	13.73	9.37	-31.8%
	Nepal	13.17	11.71	-11.1%

Note: Top 10 destinations based on India's 2018-19 exports under the eight plastic product panels

Source: DGCI&S

Panel	Country	Apr 18- Jan 19	Apr 19- Jan 20	Growth
		(USD Mn)	(USD Mn)	(%)
Optical items (incl. lens etc)	France	99.76	83.40	-16.4%
	Germany	40.89	36.25	-11.3%
	United Kingdom	36.87	34.92	-5.3%
	United States	20.62	8.56	-58.5%
	United Arab Emirates	14.54	15.86	9.1%
	Netherland	15.74	20.63	31.1%
	Poland	12.04	16.23	34.8%
	Italy	11.51	19.38	68.4%
	Russia	9.88	8.98	-9.1%
	Israel	7.33	6.84	-6.7%
Other plastic items	United States	69.73	83.59	19.9%
	Belgium	27.99	22.29	-20.4%
	United Arab Emirates	23.45	31.00	32.2%
	South Africa	12.92	23.38	81.0%
	United Kingdom	10.61	14.14	33.3%
	Italy	10.81	12.14	12.3%
	Germany	9.48	11.89	25.4%
	Poland	8.30	6.55	-21.1%
	Nepal	7.73	8.36	8.2%
	Saudi Arabia	7.42	8.12	9.5%
Human hair, products thereof	China	117.34	157.91	34.6%
	Myanmar	24.04	6.74	-72.0%
	United States	12.89	12.81	-0.6%
	Tunisia	8.83	11.08	25.5%
	Hong Kong	7.34	10.76	46.6%
	Bangladesh	5.15	5.06	-1.8%
	United Arab Emirates	4.88	3.86	-20.9%
	Vietnam	3.41	3.94	15.6%
	Indonesia	3.16	2.34	-25.9%
	Italy	3.15	1.88	-40.5%
Stationery/Office/School Supply	United States	41.36	45.88	10.9%
	United Arab Emirates	13.79	9.63	-30.2%
	United Kingdom	12.33	9.23	-25.2%
	Thailand	10.01	8.44	-15.7%
	Algeria	5.68	6.10	7.4%
	Bangladesh	5.18	6.58	27.0%
	Germany	5.38	4.60	-14.5%
	Mexico	5.00	4.17	-16.7%
	Latvia	4.90	2.39	-51.3%
	Nepal	4.40	4.18	-5.0%

Note: Top 10 destinations based on India's 2018-19 exports under the eight plastic product panels

Source: DGCI&S

## ANNEXURE-I

### Trend in overall exports by India

Month	2018-19	2019-20	Growth
	(USD Bn)	(USD Bn)	(%)
April	25.95	26.07	0.5%
May	28.78	30.01	4.3%
June	27.15	25.01	-7.9%
July	25.89	26.32	1.7%
August	27.87	26.13	-6.3%
September	27.90	26.11	-6.4%
October	26.98	26.43	-2.1%
November	26.46	25.94	-2.0%
December	27.91	27.35	-2.0%
January	26.36	25.97	-1.5%
	<b>271.25</b>	<b>265.35</b>	<b>-2.2%</b>

Source: DGCI&S

## ANNEXURE-II

### Trend in plastics export by India

Month	2018-19	2019-20	Growth
	(USD Mn)	(USD Mn)	(%)
April	742.66	702.53	-5.4%
May	741.65	830.55	12.0%
June	769.08	732.57	-4.7%
July	730.46	709.33	-2.9%
August	830.05	699.40	-15.7%
September	780.35	649.17	-16.8%
October	778.02	693.21	-10.9%
November	845.42	720.60	-14.8%
December	821.71	681.54	-17.1%
January	779.10	626.20	-19.6%
	<b>7,818.50</b>	<b>7,045.09</b>	<b>-9.9%</b>

Source: DGCI&S

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