

# ANALYSIS OF INDIA'S PLASTICS EXPORT

MARCH 2024



## **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

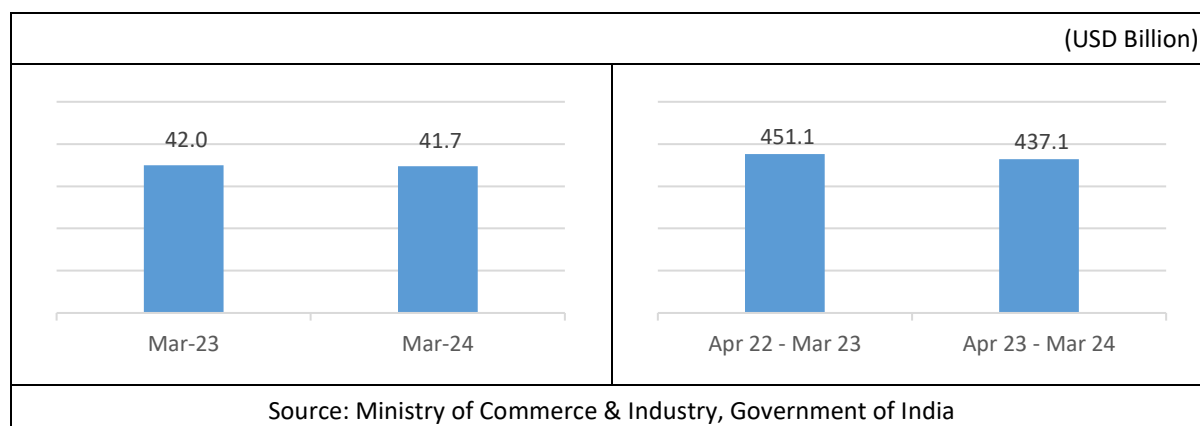
E-mail: [office@plexconcil.org](mailto:office@plexconcil.org)

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

## TREND IN OVERALL EXPORTS

India reported merchandise exports of USD 41.7 billion in March 2024, lower by 0.7% from USD 42.0 billion in March 2023. Cumulative value of merchandise exports during April 2023 – March 2024 was USD 437.1 billion as against USD 451.1 billion during the same period last year, reflecting a decline of 3.1%.

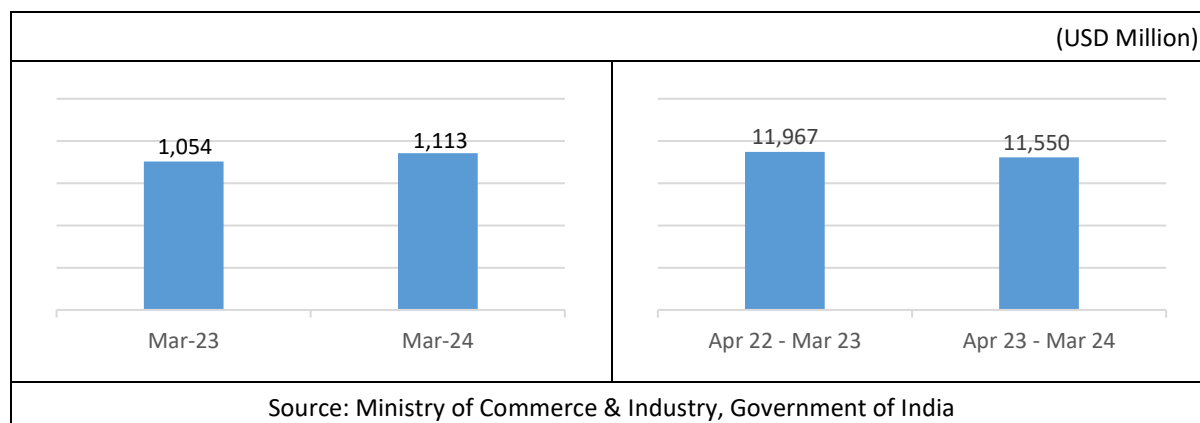
**Exhibit 1: Trend in overall merchandise exports from India**



## TREND IN PLASTICS EXPORT

During March 2024, India exported plastics worth USD 1,113 million, higher by 5.6% from USD 1,054 million in March 2023. Cumulative value of plastics export during April 2023 – March 2024 was USD 11,550 million as against USD 11,967 million during the same period last year, registering a decline of 3.5%.

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



## PLASTICS EXPORT, BY PANEL

In March 2023, most of the product panels, namely, Plastic films and sheets; FIBC, Woven sacks, Woven fabrics, Tarpaulin; Floorcoverings, leathercloth & laminates; Packaging items - flexible, rigid; Plastic pipes & fittings; FRP & Composites; Plastic raw materials; Medical items of plastics; Cordage, fishnets & monofilaments; and Human hair & related products reported higher exports. However, product panels like Miscellaneous products and items nes; Consumer & houseware products; and Writing instruments & stationery reported a negative growth in exports.

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

Panel	Mar-23	Mar-24	Growth	Apr 22- Mar-23	Apr 23- Mar-24	Growth
	(USD Mn)	(USD Mn)	(%)	(USD Mn)	(USD Mn)	(%)
Consumer & houseware products	71.6	69.7	-2.6%	752.6	828.1	+10.0%
Cordage, fishnets & monofilaments	25.3	26.2	+3.7%	272.6	259.8	-4.7%
FIBC, woven sacks, woven fabrics, & tarpaulin	110.7	128.5	+16.1%	1,405.4	1,354.6	-3.6%
Floorcoverings, leathercloth & laminates	57.2	68.1	+19.0%	579.9	693.7	+19.6%
FRP & Composites	38.0	44.9	+18.4%	425.1	480.1	+12.9%
Human hair & related products	75.9	79.9	+5.2%	683.9	765.0	+11.9%
Medical items of plastics	44.1	48.7	+10.4%	493.0	537.4	+9.0%
Miscellaneous products & items nes	89.1	59.1	-33.6%	1,031.9	715.9	-30.6%
Packaging items - flexible, rigid	51.9	62.3	+20.2%	624.7	633.7	+1.4%
Plastic films & sheets	154.6	176.8	+14.3%	1,818.1	1,750.2	-3.7%
Plastic pipes & fittings	23.4	30.4	+30.2%	290.4	289.6	-0.3%
Plastic raw materials	287.0	293.4	+2.2%	3,322.3	2,987.9	-10.1%
Writing instruments & stationery	25.0	24.5	-2.0%	266.9	254.0	-4.8%
	<b>1,053.7</b>	<b>1,112.7</b>	<b>+5.6%</b>	<b>11,966.7</b>	<b>11,549.9</b>	<b>-3.5%</b>

Source: Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India

Exports of **Consumer & houseware products** witnessed a slight decline of 2.6% in March 2024 on account of lower sales of Other builders ware of plastics (39259090) and tooth brushes of plastics (96032100). India's export of tooth brushes has fallen to key destinations including the United States, Brazil, South Korea and Indonesia due to increased competition from Viet Nam.

Exports of **Cordage, fishnets & monofilaments** increased by 3.7% in March 2024 due to improved sales of twine, cordage, ropes and cables of polyethylene or polypropylene (560749) and made-up fishing nets (560811). It may be noted that India reported its highest-ever monthly export of made-up fishing nets during March 2024. India also closed this financial year with record high exports of made-up fishing nets.

In March 2024, the export of **FIBC, woven sacks, woven fabrics, & tarpaulin** showed a positive growth of 16.1% due to higher sales of sacks and bags of plastics (39232990) and flexible intermediate bulk containers (630532).

Export of **Floor coverings, leather cloth & laminates** surged by 19.0% during March 2024 on account of higher sales of floor coverings of polymers of vinyl chloride (391810); decorative laminates (48239019) and textile fabrics impregnated, coated, covered or laminated with plastics (590390). India closed this financial year with record high exports of decorative laminates.

Export of **FRP & Composites** demonstrated a growth of 18.4% during March 2024. 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** moved up by 5.2% in March 2024 on account of higher sales of human hair, dressed, thinned and bleached (67030010) to China. India closed this financial year with record high exports of human hair, unworked (05010010).

**Medical items of plastics** exports were up by 10.4% in March 2024 due to increase in sales of spectacle lenses (90015000); syringes (90183100); catheters (90183910, 90183920); and cannulae (90183930). India closed this financial year with record high exports of spectacle lenses, contact lenses, syringes, and catheters.

Export of **Miscellaneous products & items nes** fell by 33.6% in March 2024 due to lower shipments of optical fibres, optical fibre bundles and cables (90011000).

**Packaging items - flexible, rigid** export increased by 20.2% on account of higher sales of sacks and bags of plastics (392321); caps and closures of plastics (392350); and other articles for the conveyance or packaging of goods (39239090).

In March 2024, the export of **Plastic films & sheets** was higher by 14.3% due to increased sales of self-adhesive films and sheets of plastics (3919); flexible films and sheets of polyethylene terephthalate (39206220); other sun and dust control films of plastics (39206929); and other flexible metallised films and sheets of plastics (39219094).

Export of **Plastic pipes & fittings** increased by 30.2% as higher sales of flexible tubes, pipes and hoses, having a minimum burst pressure of 27.6 MPa (39173100); and fittings like joints, elbows and flanges of plastics (391740) supported the growth. India closed this financial year with record high exports of tubes and pipes of polymers of vinyl chloride; and fittings like joints, elbows and flanges of plastics.

**Plastics raw materials** exports moved up by 2.2% in March 2024 due to a rise in sales of polyethylene having a specific gravity of 0.94 or more (390120); other acrylic polymers (39069090); other poly ethers (39072990); polyethylene terephthalate (390769).

Export of **Writing instruments & stationery** declined by 2.0% in March 2024 due to lower sales of ball- point pens (96081019).

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

HS Code	Description	Apr 22- Mar-23	Apr 23- Mar-24	Growth
		(USD Mn)	(USD Mn)	(%)
63053200	Flexible intermediate bulk containers	861.1	785.4	-8.8%
90011000	Optical fibres, optical fibre bundles and cables	703.0	363.6	-48.3%
39076190	Polyethylene terephthalate: Other primary form	590.4	322.1	-45.4%
67030010	Human hair, dressed, thinned, bleached or otherwise worked	498.6	574.5	+15.2%
39269099	Articles of plastics and articles of other materials of heading 3901 to 3914, n.e.s: Other	417.3	471.9	+13.1%
39232990	Other sacks and bags, incl. cones, of plastics	411.2	430.2	+4.6%
39021000	Polypropylene, in primary forms	365.5	360.6	-1.3%
48239019	Decorative laminates	286.0	308.7	+7.9%
39202020	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular polymers of ethylene: Flexible, plain	251.8	204.6	-18.8%
39269080	Articles of plastics and articles of other materials of heading 3901 to 3914, n.e.s: Polypropylene articles, not elsewhere	212.2	222.2	+4.7%
39206220	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular polyethylene terephthalate: Flexible, plain	211.1	220.7	+4.5%
39232100	Sacks and bags, incl. cones, of polymers of ethylene	205.8	206.7	+0.5%
39069090	Other acrylic polymers, in primary forms	203.2	213.1	+4.9%
39076990	Polyethylene terephthalate: Other primary form	196.9	142.0	-27.9%
39239090	Articles for the conveyance or packaging of goods, of plastics: Other	174.2	188.2	+8.0%
05010010	Human hair, unworked; whether or not washed or scoured	169.2	179.6	+6.1%
39202090	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular polymers of ethylene: Other	153.4	149.4	-2.6%
39046100	Polytetrafluoroethylene, in primary forms	152.6	122.7	-19.6%
90015000	Spectacle lenses of materials other than glass	146.3	174.7	+19.4%
96081019	Ball-point pens	140.1	134.6	-3.9%
90183930	Cannulae	138.7	132.9	-4.2%
39011090	Polyethylene with a specific gravity of < 0,94, in primary forms: Other	124.5	98.5	-20.9%
59039090	Textile fabrics impregnated, coated, covered or laminated with plastics other than polyvinyl chloride or polyurethane: Other	121.4	181.0	+49.1%
56074900	Twine, cordage, ropes and cables of polyethylene or polypropylene	118.1	111.8	-5.3%
39219099	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of plastics, reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials: Other	111.7	120.4	+7.8%
39046990	Other fluoro-polymers of vinyl chloride or of other halogenated olefins, in primary forms	105.7	88.0	-16.7%
96032100	Tooth brushes	99.7	79.3	-20.5%
39219094	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of plastics, reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials: Flexible, metallised	99.1	84.9	-14.4%
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	99.1	111.5	+12.6%

HS Code	Description	Apr 22- Mar-23	Apr 23- Mar-24	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	95.3	95.8	+0.6%
39073010	Epoxy resins	95.1	62.1	-34.7%
39206290	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular polyethylene terephthalate, not reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials: Other	95.1	78.4	-17.6%
39129090	Other cellulose and chemical derivatives thereof, n.e.s., in primary forms	92.0	101.3	+10.2%
39241090	Other tableware and kitchenware, of plastics	90.2	99.6	+10.5%
39095000	Polyurethanes, in primary forms	89.7	79.8	-11.1%
39199090	Self-adhesive plates, sheets, film, foil, tape, strip and other flat shapes, of plastics, whether or not in rolls > 20 cm wide: Other	88.1	118.0	+33.9%
39140020	Ion-exchangers based on polymers of heading 3901 to 3913, in primary forms	85.3	80.8	-5.3%
39014010	Linear low-density polyethylene	83.6	131.2	+57.0%
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	83.2	78.5	-5.6%
39219096	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of plastics, reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials: Flexible, laminated	80.0	67.8	-15.2%
39119090	Other polysulphides, polysulphones and other polymers and prepolymers produced by chemical synthesis, n.e.s., in primary forms	77.5	96.5	+24.4%
59031090	Other textile fabrics impregnated, coated, covered or laminated with polyvinyl chloride	75.2	74.4	-1.1%
39235010	Stoppers, lids, caps and other closures, of plastics	68.6	68.0	-0.9%
39100090	Silicones in primary forms: Other	68.0	52.0	-23.6%
39249090	Other household articles and toilet articles, of plastics	68.0	66.7	-1.9%
39172390	Rigid tubes, pipes and hoses, and fittings therefor, of polymers of vinyl chloride: Other	67.3	70.7	+5.0%
39201019	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular plastics, not reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials: Other	65.8	71.2	+8.1%
39206929	Plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of non-cellular polyesters, not reinforced, laminated, supported or similarly combined with other materials: Other	65.6	65.1	-0.8%
39019000	Other ethylene-alpha-olefin copolymers, having a specific gravity of less than 0.94	65.0	60.2	-7.4%
39011020	Low density polyethylene	64.9	21.4	-67.0%

Source: Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India

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