

**ANALYSIS OF INDIA'S PLASTICS EXPORT**  
**OCTOBER 2019**



**THE PLASTICS EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL**

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

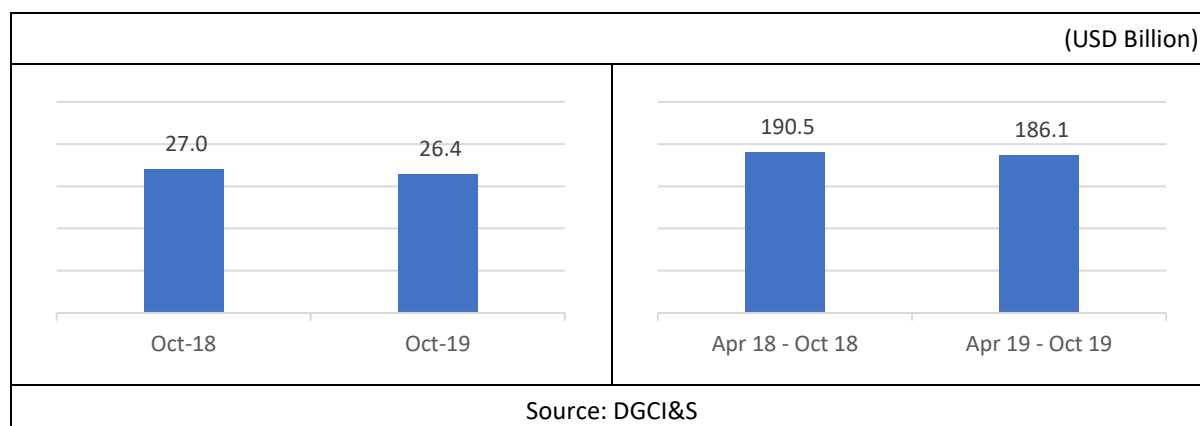
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Disclaimer: This report has been prepared on the basis of principal commodity level data sourced from the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCI&S) on November 22, 2019

## TREND IN OVERALL EXPORTS

India reported merchandise exports of USD 26.4 billion in October 2019, down 2.1% from USD 27.0 billion in October 2018. Cumulative value of merchandise exports during April 2019 – October 2019 was USD 186.1 billion as against USD 190.5 billion during the same period last year, reflecting a decline of 2.3%.

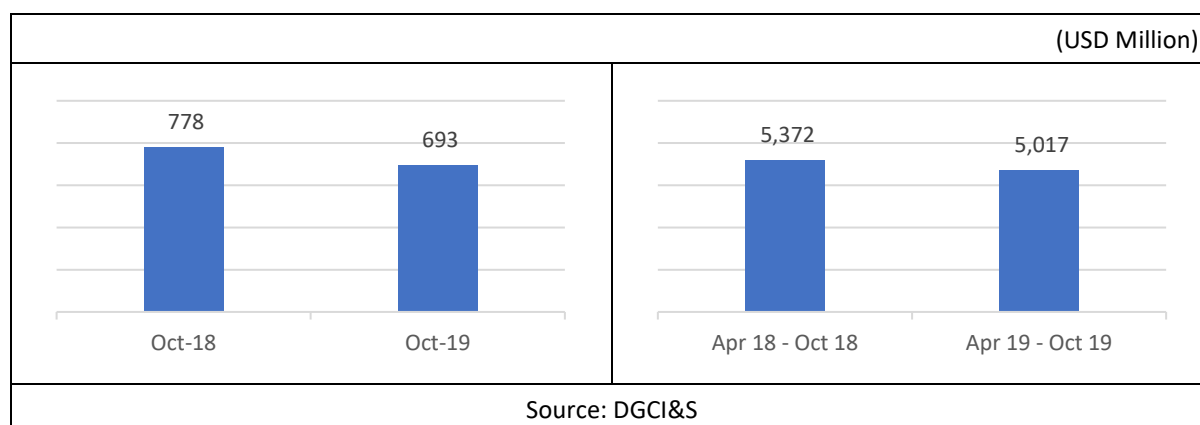
**Exhibit 1: Trend in overall merchandise exports from India**



## TREND IN PLASTICS EXPORT

During October 2019, India exported plastics worth USD 693 million, down 10.9% from USD 778 million in October 2018. Cumulative value of plastics export during April 2019 – October 2019 was USD 5,017 million as against USD 5,372 million during the same period last year, registering a negative growth of 6.6%.

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



- Plastics formed 2.70% of India's overall merchandise exports in April 2019 – October 2019
- India exported plastics to 210 countries in April 2019 – October 2019
- United States, China and United Arab Emirates were the top three buyers of plastics from India in April 2019 – October 2019

## PLASTICS EXPORT, BY PANEL

In October 2019, packaging materials witnessed year-on-year growth of 11.8%; followed by moulded & extruded goods (+8.2%); human hair, products thereof (+6.3%); stationery/office/school supply (+3.9%); and plastic sheet, film, plates (+1.3%). Product categories that reported negative growth include plastic raw materials (-26.7%); and optical items (-21.9%).

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

Panel	Oct-18	Oct-19	Growth	Apr 18- Oct 18	Apr 19- Oct 19	Growth
	(USD Mn)	(USD Mn)	(%)	(USD Mn)	(USD Mn)	(%)
Plastic raw materials	388.57	284.69	-26.7%	2,624.04	2,088.96	-20.4%
Plastic sheet, film, plates etc	122.40	124.02	1.3%	855.46	879.44	2.8%
Moulded & extruded goods	92.22	99.82	8.2%	644.10	734.44	14.0%
Packaging materials	70.28	78.59	11.8%	489.14	504.88	3.2%
Optical items (incl. lens etc)	37.73	29.48	-21.9%	276.94	261.20	-5.7%
Other plastic items	29.14	36.98	26.9%	212.57	258.75	21.7%
Stationery/Office/School Supply	18.26	18.98	3.9%	143.55	136.70	-4.8%
Human hair, products thereof	19.43	20.65	6.3%	126.49	152.38	20.5%
	<b>778.02</b>	<b>693.21</b>	<b>-10.9%</b>	<b>5,372.28</b>	<b>5,016.76</b>	<b>-6.6%</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 exports of Polyethylene terephthalate having a viscosity number of 78 ml/g or higher (HS code 39076100) fell 32.1% yoy to USD 66.4 million in October 2019 due to lower sales to Italy, Uruguay, Egypt, and Japan. Exports of another variety of Polyethylene terephthalate (HS code 39076990) slipped 68.1% yoy to USD 7.41 million in October 2019 due to lower sales to the Middle East and NAFTA countries. Likewise, exports of Polypropylene (HS code 39021000) witnessed a negative growth of 26.6% yoy to USD 50.56 million in October 2019 due to lower sales to Turkey, Indonesia and China. Even exports of Polyethylene having a specific gravity of 0.94 or more (HS code 39012000) was down 37.7% yoy to USD 28.4 million in October 2019 due to lower sales to China. Exports of Linear low-density polyethylene (HS code 39011010) were down 38.4% yoy to USD 26.4 million in October 2019 due to lower sales to China and Indonesia.
- Among value-added plastics products, export of optical items (incl. lens etc) from India was lower due to a decline in export of optical fibers, optical fibre bundles and cables (HS code 90011000), down 38.6% yoy to USD 13.8 million in October 2019 to countries like France.

## PLASTICS EXPORT, BY REGION

India's plastics export in October 2019 was positive in three territories including Commonwealth of Independent States (+42.7%); North America (+4.5%); and Africa (+1.6%). Export growth was negative in Latin America & Caribbean (-29.5%); European Union (-22.5%); North-East Asia (-15.3%); South Asia (-14.3%); Middle East (-11.3%) and ASEAN + 2 (-4.4%).

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

Region	Oct-18	Oct-19	Growth	Apr 18- Oct 18	Apr 19- Oct 19	Growth
	(USD Mn)	(USD Mn)	(%)	(USD Mn)	(USD Mn)	(%)
European Union (EU)	156.16	121.00	-22.5%	1,074.56	968.68	-9.9%
Middle East	115.40	102.34	-11.3%	826.69	782.13	-5.4%
North-East Asia	131.55	111.39	-15.3%	789.88	762.79	-3.4%
North America	102.00	106.56	4.5%	720.56	793.98	10.2%
Africa	87.18	88.61	1.6%	656.37	613.63	-6.5%
South Asia	70.34	60.25	-14.3%	497.31	445.47	-10.4%
ASEAN + 2	62.84	60.07	-4.4%	431.46	358.30	-17.0%
Latin America & Caribbean (LAC)	42.16	29.70	-29.5%	296.20	208.90	-29.5%
CIS	7.26	10.36	42.7%	53.49	64.56	20.7%
Others	3.14	2.94	-6.4%	25.75	18.31	-28.9%
	<b>778.02</b>	<b>693.21</b>	<b>-10.9%</b>	<b>5,372.28</b>	<b>5,016.76</b>	<b>-6.6%</b>

Source: DGCI&S

It is important to mention that India's plastics exports to Uruguay and Peru have witnessed a steep decline so far this year. Until last year, Uruguay was buying large quantities of Polyethylene terephthalate having a viscosity number of 78 ml/g or higher (HS code 39076100) from India, which have fallen down by 73.7% yoy to USD 9.62 million in Apr-Oct 2019. Likewise, Peru was also buying large quantities of Polypropylene (HS code 39021000) and Polyethylene terephthalate having a viscosity number of 78 ml/g or higher (HS code 39076100) from India which have now fallen down by 70.1% yoy and 87.7% to USD 5.14 million and USD 1.62 million in Apr-Oct 2019.

## PLASTICS EXPORT, BY DESTINATION COUNTRY

During October 2019, six 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 58.3% during the period.

On a cumulative basis, during April 2019 – October 2019, seven out of the top 25 destination countries recorded year-on-year growth in plastics export from India. Exports to Saudi Arabia and South Africa, witnessed high growth rates ranging between 30-35%, during the above period.

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

Country	Oct-18	Oct-19	Growth	Apr 18- Oct 18	Apr 19- Oct 19	Growth
	(USD Mn)	(USD Mn)	(%)	(USD Mn)	(USD Mn)	(%)
China	109.81	91.91	-16.3%	647.59	624.61	-3.5%
United States	79.45	88.54	11.4%	579.61	657.60	13.5%
United Arab Emirates	36.34	34.58	-4.9%	259.48	269.53	3.9%
Italy	38.15	21.72	-43.1%	225.67	166.49	-26.2%
Germany	24.98	20.28	-18.8%	187.52	173.75	-7.3%
Bangladesh	28.74	26.02	-9.4%	198.22	165.68	-16.4%
Turkey	20.53	13.64	-33.6%	167.46	123.18	-26.4%
United Kingdom	23.61	21.15	-10.4%	151.89	155.53	2.4%
Nepal	18.78	16.33	-13.1%	135.76	147.33	8.5%
Vietnam	15.41	14.86	-3.6%	120.86	83.80	-30.7%
France	16.82	9.37	-44.3%	108.85	98.46	-9.5%
Indonesia	20.40	10.25	-49.8%	107.76	61.14	-43.3%
Egypt	18.01	7.28	-59.6%	101.22	58.82	-41.9%
Belgium	10.29	7.92	-23.0%	77.09	66.28	-14.0%
Japan	13.51	9.92	-26.6%	81.62	65.66	-19.6%
Nigeria	11.77	13.62	15.7%	94.56	70.06	-25.9%
Pakistan	8.86	0.09	-98.9%	70.43	41.18	-41.5%
South Africa	9.37	8.95	-4.5%	65.79	86.43	31.4%
Israel	11.14	11.93	7.0%	75.13	67.73	-9.8%
Mexico	11.73	6.32	-46.1%	78.23	63.15	-19.3%
Kenya	8.30	8.36	0.7%	73.62	73.19	-0.6%
Spain	8.54	7.67	-10.3%	70.77	63.77	-9.9%
Sri Lanka	11.43	9.98	-12.7%	70.13	59.50	-15.2%
Canada	10.82	11.70	8.2%	62.73	73.22	16.7%
Saudi Arabia	6.39	10.12	58.3%	52.56	70.16	33.5%

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

Source: DGCI&S

India exported plastics to 188 countries in October 2019 as compared to 185 countries in October 2018.

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

Panel	Country	Apr 18- Oct 18	Apr 19- Oct 19	Growth
		(USD Mn)	(USD Mn)	(%)
Plastic raw materials	China	533.46	475.87	-10.8%
	Italy	158.90	96.94	-39.0%
	Turkey	144.13	105.94	-26.5%
	Bangladesh	140.74	108.93	-22.6%
	United Arab Emirates	123.73	100.24	-19.0%
	United States	103.65	80.23	-22.6%
	Vietnam	106.29	70.55	-33.6%
	Nepal	82.85	91.05	9.9%
	Indonesia	86.63	39.56	-54.3%
	Pakistan	64.70	37.93	-41.4%
Plastic sheet, film, plates etc	United States	131.32	159.64	21.6%
	United Arab Emirates	35.28	37.87	7.3%
	Germany	43.02	40.83	-5.1%
	South Africa	38.72	40.75	5.3%
	Nigeria	41.38	21.18	-48.8%
	Italy	30.86	28.28	-8.4%
	United Kingdom	28.41	34.03	19.8%
	Bangladesh	27.71	20.53	-25.9%
	Mexico	28.16	22.19	-21.2%
	Spain	21.47	22.19	3.3%
Moulded & extruded goods	United States	145.32	207.41	42.7%
	United Arab Emirates	39.83	58.15	46.0%
	United Kingdom	32.95	34.00	3.2%
	Germany	31.72	29.04	-8.4%
	Canada	28.39	37.96	33.7%
	Sri Lanka	15.25	8.01	-47.5%
	Spain	13.55	11.46	-15.5%
	Nigeria	11.29	12.50	10.7%
	Saudi Arabia	8.85	13.64	54.2%
	Brazil	10.72	14.46	34.8%
Packaging materials	United States	91.99	107.96	17.4%
	United Kingdom	41.35	37.55	-9.2%
	United Arab Emirates	24.79	29.21	17.8%
	Netherland	19.02	17.27	-9.2%
	Germany	14.83	11.72	-21.0%
	Belgium	13.52	5.55	-59.0%
	France	11.91	10.59	-11.1%
	Spain	10.63	10.59	-0.5%
	Djibouti	9.27	9.01	-2.8%
	Nepal	9.05	7.98	-11.8%

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

Source: DGCI&S

Panel	Country	Apr 18- Oct 18	Apr 19- Oct 19	Growth
		(USD Mn)	(USD Mn)	(%)
Optical items (incl. lens etc)	France	68.20	65.87	-3.4%
	Germany	29.37	27.38	-6.8%
	United Kingdom	24.56	23.83	-3.0%
	United States	16.93	6.48	-61.7%
	United Arab Emirates	7.34	11.70	59.4%
	Netherland	11.72	13.20	12.6%
	Poland	10.14	11.85	16.8%
	Italy	7.42	14.02	88.9%
	Russia	6.54	5.91	-9.5%
	Israel	4.98	4.92	-1.2%
Other plastic items	United States	48.63	53.25	9.5%
	Belgium	20.77	14.88	-28.3%
	United Arab Emirates	17.54	23.24	32.5%
	South Africa	5.72	19.64	243.1%
	United Kingdom	6.49	10.02	54.4%
	Italy	7.86	9.40	19.5%
	Germany	6.91	9.35	35.3%
	Poland	4.60	5.31	15.4%
	Nepal	5.69	5.55	-2.5%
	Saudi Arabia	4.80	5.78	20.3%
Human hair, products thereof	China	69.24	101.92	47.2%
	Myanmar	14.16	5.41	-61.8%
	United States	8.91	9.15	2.7%
	Tunisia	6.15	8.25	34.2%
	Hong Kong	5.25	7.16	36.5%
	Bangladesh	3.36	4.33	28.8%
	United Arab Emirates	3.25	2.19	-32.8%
	Vietnam	1.87	2.23	19.1%
	Indonesia	2.23	1.45	-34.8%
	Italy	2.24	1.59	-29.2%
Stationery/Office/School Supply	United States	32.87	33.48	1.9%
	United Arab Emirates	7.71	6.93	-10.0%
	United Kingdom	8.65	6.71	-22.4%
	Thailand	6.92	5.88	-15.1%
	Algeria	3.49	4.51	29.2%
	Bangladesh	3.43	4.18	22.0%
	Germany	3.74	3.15	-15.6%
	Mexico	2.96	1.97	-33.3%
	Latvia	3.14	1.57	-50.1%
	Nepal	3.23	2.86	-11.6%

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%
	<b>190.52</b>	<b>186.08</b>	<b>-2.3%</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%
	<b>5,372.28</b>	<b>5,016.76</b>	<b>-6.6%</b>

Source: DGCI&S

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