

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



**THE PLASTICS EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL**

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

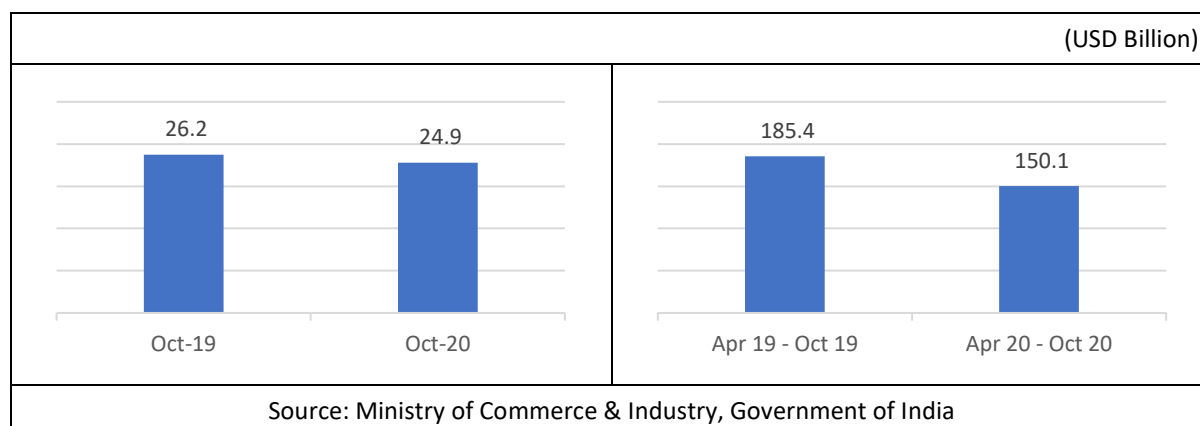
Crystal Tower, Ground Floor  
Gundivali Road No. 3, Off Sir M. V. Road  
Andheri East, Mumbai  
Maharashtra 400 069, INDIA  
Tel: +91-22-26833951  
E-mail: [office@plexconcil.org](mailto:office@plexconcil.org)

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

## TREND IN OVERALL EXPORTS

India reported merchandise exports of USD 24.9 billion in October 2020, down 5.1% from USD 26.2 billion in October 2019. Cumulative value of merchandise exports during April 2020 – October 2020 was USD 150.1 billion as against USD 185.4 billion during the same period last year, reflecting a decline of 19.0%.

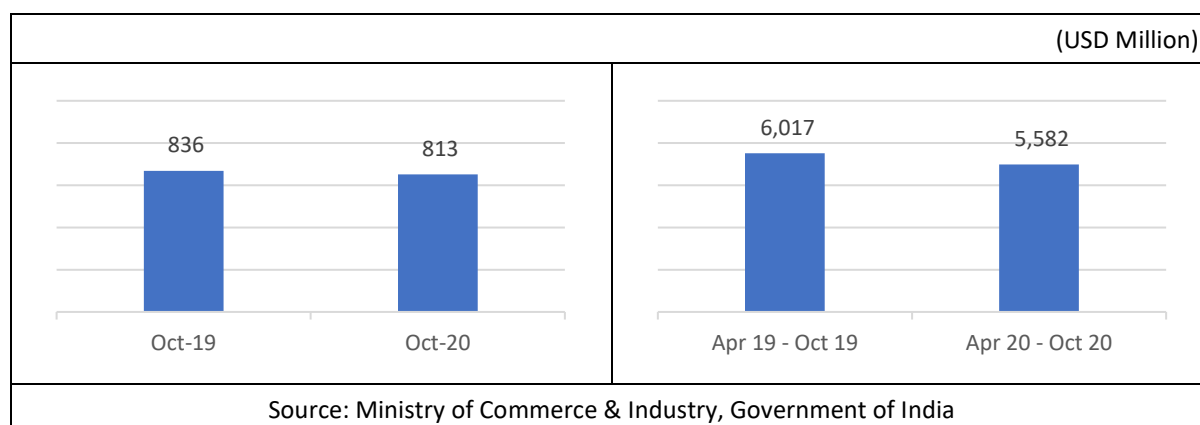
**Exhibit 1: Trend in overall merchandise exports from India**



## TREND IN PLASTICS EXPORT

During October 2020, India exported plastics worth USD 813 million, down 2.7% from USD 836 million in October 2019. Cumulative value of plastics export during April 2020 – October 2020 was USD 5,582 million as against USD 6,017 million during the same period last year, registering a negative growth of 7.2%.

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



## PLASTICS EXPORT, BY PANEL

In October 2020, seven of the product panels, namely, Consumer & houseware; Cordage & fishnets; Floor Coverings, leathercloth & laminates; Human hair; Pipes & fittings; Rigid packaging & PET preforms; and Miscellaneous products witnessed a positive growth in exports. The remaining panels, particularly, Writing instruments; Raw materials and Polyester films, struggled to perform.

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

| Panel                                      | Oct-19       | Oct -20      | Growth       | Apr 19-<br>Oct 19 | Apr 20-<br>Oct 20 | Growth       |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------|
|  | (USD Mn)     | (USD Mn)     | (%)          | (USD Mn)          | (USD Mn)          | (%)          |
| Consumer & House ware                      | 51.9         | 52.0         | +0.2%        | 350.7             | 264.3             | -24.7%       |
| Cordage & Fishnets                         | 13.2         | 14.0         | +6.0%        | 95.8              | 89.9              | -6.2%        |
| Composites / FRP products                  | 28.2         | 27.7         | -1.9%        | 193.6             | 150.6             | -22.2%       |
| Floor Coverings, Leather cloth & Laminates | 34.8         | 45.8         | +31.6%       | 251.9             | 236.0             | -6.3%        |
| Human Hair & Related Products              | 20.6         | 35.8         | +73.6%       | 152.4             | 175.2             | +15.0%       |
| Miscellaneous Products                     | 127.8        | 140.9        | +10.3%       | 946.4             | 790.9             | -16.4%       |
| Pipes & Fittings                           | 15.2         | 17.3         | +14.4%       | 107.9             | 95.0              | -11.9%       |
| Polyester Films                            | 124.2        | 115.6        | -6.9%        | 880.3             | 894.7             | +1.6%        |
| Raw Materials                              | 289.3        | 240.0        | -17.0%       | 2,120.0           | 2,193.2           | +3.5%        |
| Rigid Packaging & PET Preforms             | 28.4         | 28.4         | +0.1%        | 194.7             | 181.3             | -6.9%        |
| Woven Sacks / FIBCs                        | 85.1         | 81.8         | -3.8%        | 604.3             | 429.5             | -28.9%       |
| Writing Instruments                        | 17.3         | 14.0         | -19.5%       | 119.1             | 81.3              | -31.8%       |
|  | <b>835.9</b> | <b>813.4</b> | <b>-2.7%</b> | <b>6,017.1</b>    | <b>5,581.9</b>    | <b>-7.2%</b> |

Source: Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India

Export of **Consumer & house ware** products increased by 0.2% in October 2020. The export growth was supported by higher sales of Tableware and kitchenware of plastics (HS code 392410) and Other household and toilet articles of plastics (HS code 392490) to the United States in particular and that of Electrical switches, of plastics (HS code 85365020) to Czech Republic and Turkey.

**Cordage & fishnets** export witnessed a rise of 6.0% in October 2020 on account of higher sales of Made-up fishing nets (HS code 56081190) to the United Kingdom and Canada, and that of Other knotted netting of twine, cordage or rope of man-made textile materials (HS code 56081900) to Brazil, Turkey, Italy and the United Arab Emirates.

Export of **Composites** fell by 1.9% due to reduced sales of Articles of plastics and articles of other materials of heading 3901 to 3914, nes (HS code 39269099).

In case of **Floor coverings, leather cloth & laminates**, exports in October 2020 were up 31.6% due to increased sales of Textile fabrics impregnated, coated, covered or laminated with plastics other than PVC or PU: Other (HS code 59039090) to the United States, and that of Decorative laminates (HS code 48239019) to Egypt, Nepal and Saudi Arabia.

Export of **Human hair & related products** clocked an impressive 73.6% growth due to strong sales of Human hair, dressed, thinned, bleached or otherwise worked (HS code 67030010) to China.

**Miscellaneous products** export increased by 10.3% in October 2020 due to higher sales of Optical fibres, optical fibre bundles and cables (HS code 90011000) to the United Kingdom, Russia and France; along with improved shipments of Polypropylene articles, nes (HS code 39269080) to the United States.

Export of **Pipes & fittings** witnessed a growth of 14.4% due to improved sales of various tubes pipes and hoses as well their fittings to the United States and Egypt.

**Polyester films** witnessed a decline of 6.9% in exports in October 2020 due to lower shipments of Other plates, sheets, film, foil and strip, of plastic (HS code 39219099) to the United States; BOPET sheets and films, flexible plain (HS code 39206220) to Germany, Italy, Russia and Egypt; and BOPP sheets and films, flexible plain (HS code 39202020) to Colombia, Honduras and the United States. It may be noted that India's export of Polyester films has been on a constant decline for three months now.

**Plastics raw materials** export fell by 17.0% in October 2020 due to lower shipments of Other polymers of ethylene (HS code 39011090) and Polyethylene having a specific gravity of 0.94 or more (HS code 39012000) to China; Polypropylene (HS code 39021000) to China and Vietnam; and Other Polymers of styrene (HS code 39031990) to Bangladesh, Hong Kong and Italy. India had exported large volumes of Plastics raw materials in April and May 2020 due to low domestic demand.

**Rigid packaging & PET performs** export was near unchanged. The panel witnessed higher sales of Stoppers, lids, caps and other closures, of plastics (HS code 39235010) to Zimbabwe, Portugal, China and the United Kingdom.

Export of **Woven sacks and FIBCs** fell by 3.8% during October 2020 due to decline in sales of Woven fabrics obtained from strip or the like (HS code 54072030 and 54072040) to Afghanistan, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. Exports of FIBC (HS code 63053200) rebounded strongly in October 2020.

Export of **Writing instruments** slipped by 19.5% in October 2020, mainly on account of a decline in sales of Ball-point pens with liquid ink (HS code 96081019) to United States, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates.

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

| HS Code  | Description   | Apr 19-<br>Oct 19 | Apr 20-<br>Oct 20 | Growth |
|----------|---|-------------------|-------------------|--------|
|          |   | (USD Mn)          | (USD Mn)          | (%)    |
| 39076100 | Polyethylene terephthalate: having a viscosity number of 78 ml/g or higher  | 453.32            | -                 | NM     |
| 63053200 | Flexible intermediate bulk containers   | 408.49            | 346.99            | -15.1% |
| 39021000 | Polypropylene, in primary forms   | 286.14            | 492.91            | +72.3% |
| 39012000 | Polyethylene with a specific gravity of >= 0.94   | 259.09            | 228.49            | -11.8% |
| 39232990 | Sacks and bags, incl. cones, of plastics (excl. those of polymers of ethylene): Other   | 220.87            | 194.08            | -12.1% |
| 39011010 | Linear low-density polyethylene (LLDPE)   | 209.65            | 83.69             | -60.1% |
| 39269099 | Articles of plastics and articles of other materials of heading 3901 to 3914, n.e.s: Other  | 190.99            | 148.24            | -22.4% |
| 67030010 | Human hair, dressed, thinned, bleached or otherwise worked  | 145.20            | 168.13            | +15.8% |
| 90011000 | Optical fibres, optical fibre bundles and cables (excl. made-up of individually sheathed fibres of heading 8544)  | 145.84            | 114.78            | -21.3% |
| 48239019 | Decorative laminates  | 118.57            | 106.31            | -10.3% |
| 39206220 | 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 (excl. those of polymethyl methacrylate, self-adhesive products, and floor, wall and ceiling coverings of heading 3918): Flexible, plain | 126.66            | 123.44            | -2.5%  |
| 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   | 73.62             | 51.03             | -30.7% |
| 39269080 | Polypropylene articles, not elsewhere   | 100.75            | 99.81             | -0.9%  |
| 39232100 | Sacks and bags, incl. cones, of polymers of ethylene  | 94.90             | 85.73             | -9.7%  |
| 39076990 | Other, polyethylene terephthalate   | 103.81            | 87.52             | -15.7% |
| 39239090 | Articles for the conveyance or packaging of goods, of plastics (excl. boxes, cases, crates and similar articles; sacks and bags, incl. cones; carboys, bottles, flasks and similar articles; spools, spindles, bobbins and similar supports; stoppers, lids, caps and other closures): Other  | 91.41             | 82.23             | -10.0% |
| 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 (excl. of cellular plastic; self-adhesive products, floor, wall and ceiling coverings of heading 3918): Other  | 105.19            | 61.56             | -41.5% |
| 39202020 | 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 (excl. self-adhesive products, and floor, wall and ceiling coverings of heading 3918): Flexible, plain   | 85.56             | 118.21            | +38.2% |

| HS Code  | Description   | Apr 19-<br>Oct 19 | Apr 20-<br>Oct 20 | Growth |
|----------|---|-------------------|-------------------|--------|
|          |   | (USD Mn)          | (USD Mn)          | (%)    |
| 39011090 | Polyethylene with a specific gravity of < 0.94: Other   | 95.77             | 27.88             | -70.9% |
| 54072030 | Woven fabrics of strip or the like, of synthetic filament, incl. monofilament of >= 67 decitex and with a cross sectional dimension of <= 1 mm: Dyed  | 84.35             | 20.70             | -75.5% |
| 90015000 | Spectacle lenses of materials other than glass  | 81.29             | 65.29             | -19.7% |
| 96081019 | Ball-point pens   | 72.20             | 48.54             | -32.8% |
| 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 (excl. self-adhesive products, and floor, wall and ceiling coverings of heading 3918): Other   | 70.07             | 63.86             | -8.9%  |
| 39046100 | Polytetrafluoroethylene, in primary forms   | 66.70             | 55.26             | -17.2% |
| 90183930 | Cannulae  | 55.32             | 54.76             | -1.0%  |
| 39241090 | Tableware and kitchenware, of plastics: Other   | 54.80             | 41.58             | -24.1% |
| 96032100 | Tooth brushes, incl. dental-plate brushes   | 50.02             | 36.09             | -27.8% |
| 39069090 | Acrylic polymers, in primary forms (excl. polymethyl methacrylate): Other   | 49.00             | 53.95             | +10.1% |
| 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 (excl. those of polymethyl methacrylate, self-adhesive products, and floor, wall and ceiling coverings of heading 3918): Other                       | 47.74             | 59.73             | +25.1% |
| 95030030 | Tricycles, scooters, pedal cars and similar wheeled toys; dolls' carriages; dolls; other toys; reduced-size ("scale") models and similar recreational models, working or not; puzzles of all kinds: tricycles, scooters, pedal cars and similar wheeled toys; dolls' carriages; dolls; other toys; reduced-size ("scale") models and similar recreational models, working or not; puzzles of all kinds: of plastics | 50.78             | 45.50             | -10.4% |
| 56074900 | Twine, cordage, ropes and cables of polyethylene or polypropylene, whether or not plaited or braided and whether or not impregnated, coated, covered or sheathed with rubber or plastics  | 44.24             | 41.43             | -6.4%  |
| 59031090 | Textile fabrics impregnated, coated, covered or laminated with polyvinyl chloride (excl. wall coverings of textile materials impregnated or covered with polyvinyl chloride; floor coverings consisting of a textile backing and a top layer or covering of polyvinyl chloride): Other  | 42.74             | 32.11             | -24.9% |
| 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 (excl. polycarbonates, polyethylene terephthalate and other unsaturated polyesters, self-adhesive products, and floor, wall and ceiling coverings in heading 3918): Other    | 45.71             | 42.32             | -7.4%  |

| HS Code  | Description  | Apr 19-<br>Oct 19 | Apr 20-<br>Oct 20 | Growth  |
|----------|--|-------------------|-------------------|---------|
|          |  | (USD Mn)          | (USD Mn)          | (%)     |
| 59039090 | Textile fabrics impregnated, coated, covered or laminated with plastics other than polyvinyl chloride or polyurethane (excl. tyre cord fabric of high tenacity yarn of nylon or other polyamides, polyesters or viscose rayon; wall coverings of textile materials impregnated or covered with plastic; floor coverings consisting of a textile backing and a top layer or covering of plastics): Other                                  | 30.72             | 71.26             | +132.0% |
| 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, without backing, unworked or merely surface-worked or merely cut into squares or rectangles (excl. self-adhesive products, and floor, wall and ceiling coverings of heading 3918)  | 43.06             | 33.50             | -22.2%  |
| 39140020 | Ion-exchangers based on polymers of heading 3901 to 3913, in primary forms: Ion exchangers of polymerisation   | 40.02             | 37.37             | -6.6%   |
| 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 (excl. of cellular plastic; self-adhesive products, floor, wall and ceiling coverings of heading 3918): Flexible, metallised  | 38.62             | 47.02             | +21.8%  |
| 39219096 | 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 (excl. of cellular plastic; self-adhesive products, floor, wall and ceiling coverings of heading 3918): Flexible, laminated   | 36.63             | 57.24             | +56.3%  |
| 39199090 | Self-adhesive plates, sheets, film, foil, tape, strip and other flat shapes, of plastics, whether or not in rolls > 20 cm wide (excl. floor, wall and ceiling coverings of heading 3918): Other  | 40.43             | 46.45             | +14.9%  |
| 39072090 | Polyethers, in primary forms (excl. polyacetals): Other  | 27.49             | 50.05             | +82.1%  |
| 39241010 | Insulated ware of plastics   | 30.67             | 25.03             | -18.4%  |
| 39073010 | Epoxy resins   | 37.72             | 22.76             | -39.7%  |
| 39259090 | Building elements for the manufacture of floors, walls, partition walls, ceilings, roofs, etc., of plastic; gutters and accessories of plastic; railings, fences and similar barriers, of plastic; large shelves, for assembly and permanent installation in shops, workshops, etc., of plastic; architectural ornaments, e.g. friezes, of plastic; fittings and similar products for permanent mounting on buildings, of plastic: Other | 45.62             | 13.41             | -70.6%  |
| 39095000 | Polyurethanes, in primary forms  | 32.04             | 31.67             | -1.2%   |
| 39100090 | Silicones in primary forms: Other  | 32.66             | 20.71             | -36.6%  |
| 39235010 | Stoppers, lids, caps and other closures, of plastics: Caps and closures for bottles  | 27.94             | 28.63             | +2.5%   |

| HS Code  | Description   | Apr 19-<br>Oct 19 | Apr 20-<br>Oct 20 | Growth |
|----------|---|-------------------|-------------------|--------|
|          |   | (USD Mn)          | (USD Mn)          | (%)    |
| 39129090 | Cellulose and chemical derivatives thereof, n.e.s., in primary forms (excl. cellulose acetates, cellulose nitrates and cellulose ethers): Other | 31.09             | 32.65             | +5.0%  |
| 39119090 | Polysulphides, polysulphones and other polymers and prepolymers produced by chemical synthesis, n.e.s., in primary forms: Other                 | 28.87             | 29.68             | +2.8%  |
| 39031990 | Polystyrene, in primary forms (excl. expansible): Other   | 36.79             | 19.94             | -45.8% |
| 39269069 | Articles of plastics and articles of other materials of heading 3901 to 3914, n.e.s: Other  | 26.42             | 17.52             | -33.7% |

Source: Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India

----- End of report -----