India’s electronics exports gain momentum

PIB analysis

What is happening in India’s electronics exports?

- For years, India’s electronics export story was largely associated with final mobile phone assembly.
- In simple terms, India was increasingly putting finished phones together and shipping them abroad.
- **The New Momentum-** During April–September 2026–27, non-smartphone electronics expanded from **US$ 8.81 billion** to **US$ 13.79 billion**.
- **Rising Share-** Non-smartphone products increased their share of India’s total electronics exports from **39.7% to 43.2%**.
- **Smartphones Still Lead in Volume-** Smartphone exports rose **35.8%** from **US$ 13.38 billion** (April–September 2025–26) to **US$ 18.17 billion** (April–September 2026–27).
- Though their share in total electronics exports moderated from **60.3% to 56.8%** due to faster growth in other segments.

What are the key non-smartphone growth drivers (April–September 2026–27)?

Product Category	Export Surge	Key Export Destinations
Parts & Accessories – Mounted Printed Circuit Boards (PCBs)	**+3,219%** (from US$ 63.3 million to **US$ 2.10 billion**)	Singapore (US$ 1.87 billion), China (US$ 111.5 million)
Populated / Loaded / Stuffed PCBs	**+304%** (from US$ 213.7 million to **US$ 864.1 million**)	China (US$ 789.2 million), Hong Kong (US$ 25.3 million)
Network Transmission & Routing Equipment	**+98%** (from US$ 732.9 million to **US$ 1.45 billion**)	Hong Kong (US$ 857.7 million), United States (US$ 130.9 million), Netherlands (US$ 124.4 million)
Memory Integrated Circuits	**+2,333%** (from US$ 23.1 million to **US$ 562.4 million**)	Malaysia (US$ 390.8 million), Singapore (US$ 102.4 million), Hong Kong (US$ 25.2 million)
Solid-State Non-Volatile Storage Devices	**+1,680%** (from US$ 14.6 million to **US$ 260.5 million**)	China (US$ 108.6 million), Singapore (US$ 76.8 million), Hong Kong (US$ 22.3 million), United States (US$ 20.7 million)

Why diversification matters for India’s economy?

- **Lower Over-Dependence on One Product -** Relying heavily on a single consumer product exposes exports to global demand cycles or brand-level shifts.
- Expanding into components, networking hardware, memory, and storage spreads risk across multiple industries.
- **Deeper Integration into Global Value Chains (GVCs)-** Supplying circuit boards, storage

modules, and network gear connects Indian manufacturers to regional and global electronics supply networks across hubs like Singapore, Malaysia, Hong Kong, China, the US, and Europe.

- **Higher Value Addition Over Time-** Moving beyond basic assembly toward intermediate components and specialized equipment helps build industrial capabilities, technical skills, and domestic supplier ecosystems.



What are the challenges to sustain this momentum?

- **Import Intensity -** Many electronics sub-assemblies and specialized inputs still rely on imported raw materials, capital equipment, or precision components, meaning gross export growth must be matched by rising domestic value addition.
- **Intense Global Competition-** East and Southeast Asian hubs such as Vietnam, Malaysia, Taiwan, South Korea, and China compete aggressively on scale, supply-chain speed, and component ecosystems.
- **Rapid Technological Shifts-** Faster product cycles in computing, networking, and data storage require continuous investment in R&D, testing infrastructure, and workforce skilling.

What is the way forward?

- **Build Domestic Component Ecosystems-** Encourage backward linkages in printed circuit boards, sensors, enclosures, power electronics, and testing facilities so domestic value addition rises alongside export volume.
- **Support Export Market -** Streamline customs clearance, trade finance, and logistics connectivity to keep Indian exporters competitive in high-growth Asian and Western markets.
- **Invest in Skills and R&D -** Align engineering and vocational training with hardware design, precision manufacturing, and quality assurance to move steadily up the electronics value chain.

Reference

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