



RLA Market Insights – Thursday, 02 April 2026

India Scraps Customs Duty on Key Petrochemical Imports to Stabilize Supply Chains Amid West Asia Crisis

The government has temporarily removed customs duties on key petrochemical imports to stabilize supply chains and curb rising input costs amid disruptions caused by the West Asia crisis. This move aims to reduce cost pressures on finished goods and prevent supply shortages across downstream industries. The exemption, valid until June 30, is particularly important for sectors heavily dependent on petrochemical feedstocks, including plastics, packaging, textiles, pharmaceuticals, chemicals, automotive components, and broader manufacturing.

From a market standpoint, the decision is a strategic intervention to shield domestic industries from global supply volatility linked to geopolitical tensions affecting crude oil and its derivatives. By lowering import costs, the policy supports production continuity, helps manufacturers protect margins, and sustains competitiveness in both domestic and export markets.

The exemption covers a wide spectrum of petrochemical inputs such as anhydrous ammonia, methanol, toluene, styrene, vinyl chloride monomer (VCM), monoethylene glycol (MEG), phenol, acetic acid, and purified terephthalic acid (PTA), all of which are essential building blocks for multiple value chains. It also includes major polymers like polyethylene (PE), polypropylene (PP), polystyrene (PS), polyvinyl chloride (PVC), PET chips, and engineering plastics such as ABS and polycarbonates, widely used in automotive, electronics, and consumer goods.

Additionally, specialty chemicals like epoxy resins, polyurethanes, formaldehyde derivatives, and polyols are covered, supporting applications in coatings, adhesives, and construction. Overall, the move addresses supply risks stemming from disrupted shipping routes and reinforces industrial and agricultural resilience in a volatile global chemical and energy market.

Sr.No.	Chemical Name
1	Acetic Acid
2	Methanol
3	Monoethylene Glycol (MEG)
4	Phenol
5	Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC)
6	Styrene
7	Toluene
8	Vinyl Chloride Monomer (VCM)
9	Acrylonitrile Butadiene Styrene (ABS)
10	Anhydrous Ammonia
11	Polyethylene (PE)
12	Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET)
13	Polypropylene (PP)
14	Polystyrene (PS)
15	Purified Terephthalic Acid (PTA)



SHORT TERM OUTLOOK – OIL TANKER MARKET

A monthly report covering the next four months including trends in oil supply, demand and trade, tanker demand and supply, spot, and time charter rates for MRs up to VLCCs, comparisons with FFAs plus the latest news on developments impacting the oil and tanker sectors.

MEDIUM TERM OUTLOOK – OIL TANKER MARKET

Concise analyses of topical issues, consistent market data series and views on future trends in tanker charter rates. The report covers Oil Prices; Economic Developments; Oil Demand and Supply; Trade; Tanker Demand, Supply and Rates. Sent to clients around January, April, July and October each year

SHORT TERM OUTLOOK – VLGC MARKET

A monthly report looking four months ahead at likely trends in the VLGC Spot Market with the latest on key LPG carrier trades, benchmark LPG prices, arbitrage developments, a comparison with FFAs and recent news

MEDIUM TERM OUTLOOK – LPG CARRIER MARKET

A quarterly series of regular reviews, analyses and forecasts of the LPG Carrier Market. The report covers Economic Developments; LPG production, consumption and pricing; LPG, chemical gases and ammonia trade, LPG Carrier Demand, Supply and Rates for Fully Ref, Semi-Ref and Pressurised Ships. Reports are sent to clients around January, April, July and October each year.

CHEMICAL CARRIER WORLD SERVICE

An annual consultancy service currently providing Clients with an Annual Fundamentals Report, a Forecast Update, two quarterly Market Monitors, Monthly Commodity Trade Bulletins for key countries, an annual presentation on the market outlook and access to RLA's consultants and analysts to discuss issues arising from these reports.



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