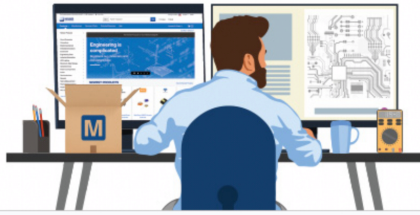


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Apple exports more than \$50bn worth of iPhones from India as manufacturing role expands

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Apple has exported more than \$50 billion worth of iPhones from India, marking a significant milestone in the company's efforts to diversify its global manufacturing base away from China.



India's role in manufacturing Apple devices expands Credit: adobe.stock.com

The achievement was reached by December 2025, according to reports confirmed by the Indian government, just four years after Apple joined India's smartphone Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme in the 2021–22 financial year.

Officials said the milestone reflects a broader sixfold rise in electronics production over the past 11 years under the country's "Make in India" initiative.

Government data indicates that iPhone shipments from India totalled almost \$16 billion during the first nine months of the 2025–26 financial year. Mobile phones, driven largely by iPhone exports, accounted for about 75 per cent of India's total smartphone exports and became the country's single largest export category in 2024–25.

India's role in Apple's supply chain is also expanding beyond final assembly. According to the Times of India, the country has begun exporting selected electronic components to manufacturing hubs in China and Vietnam for the production of Apple products including iPhones, Macs, AirPods, Apple Watch and Apple Pencil. The development highlights a shift in regional manufacturing responsibilities amid ongoing geopolitical tensions between the US and China.

The scale of Apple's expansion into India stands in contrast to other manufacturers. Samsung, for example, is reported to have exported about \$17 billion worth of devices during its five-year participation in the PLI scheme between 2020–21 and 2024–25, underscoring Apple's faster ramp-up and its focus on export-led, premium manufacturing rather than serving only the domestic market.

Industry estimates suggest India accounted for roughly a quarter of global iPhone production last

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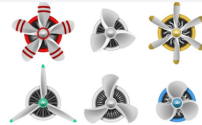
year, a share that could rise to between 26 and 30 per cent by 2027. Apple is also reported to be planning to manufacture the majority of iPhones sold in the US in India by the end of 2026.

At present, Apple sells more than 60 million iPhones each year in the US, with around 80 per cent still produced in China. While manufacturing costs in India are estimated to be 5 to 8 per cent higher than in China – potentially rising to around 10 per cent – Apple is believed to be willing to absorb the additional cost in order to reduce supply-chain risk and limit exposure to geopolitical uncertainty.

Apple's manufacturing footprint in India now includes five major assembly plants, three operated by companies under the Tata Group and two by Foxconn. These facilities are supported by an ecosystem of around 45 component suppliers, illustrating India's gradual transition from a final-assembly location to a more comprehensive electronics manufacturing hub.

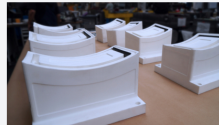
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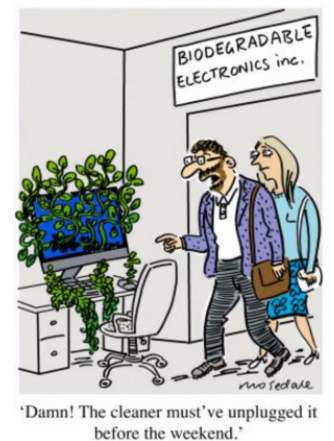
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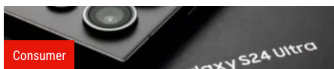
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