



MARKET DATA • TRADE FLOWS • INDUSTRY INSIGHTS

CASHEW TRADE INTELLIGENCE

India & Global Market Dashboard

October 2026

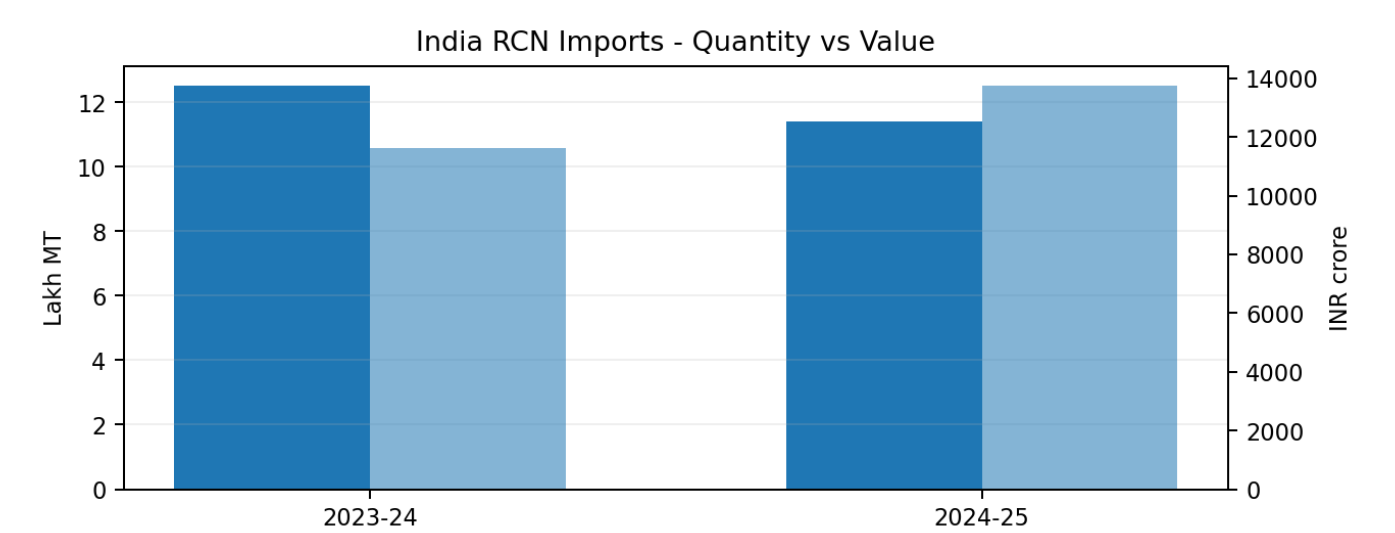
A consolidated intelligence brief combining official Indian trade statistics with indicative industry market benchmarks supplied for AICTIC use.

IMPORTANT: Weekly price, parity, freight and operational benchmarks are indicative, commercially sensitive and can change quickly. They should be reconfirmed before contracting or publication as live market quotations.

India Cashew Trade - Key Indicators

India remains one of the world's major cashew processing and consumption markets, with a large installed processing base and continued reliance on imported raw cashew nuts (RCN). The current trade picture shows lower FY2024-25 RCN import volume but materially higher import value and unit cost, alongside a continued reduction in kernel export volumes.

11.41 lakh MT RCN imports, FY 2024-25 INR 13,742 crore import value	INR 120.38/kg Average RCN import price, FY 2024-25 +29.49% vs FY 2023-24
32,998.91 MT Cashew kernel exports, FY 2025-26 USD 265.08 million	495,607 MT In-shell cashew imports, Apr-Jul 2026 USD 770.75 million



Interpretation: FY 2024-25 RCN import quantity declined by about 8.77%, but import value rose as the average import price increased from INR 92.96/kg to INR 120.38/kg.

India Trade Structure & Supply Dependence

- India's installed cashew processing capacity is approximately 20 lakh MT per year, while domestic raw material availability is not sufficient to fully support that capacity. Imports therefore remain structurally important to factory utilization.
- Major RCN sources cited by CEPCI / Kerala Economic Review include Côte d'Ivoire, Tanzania, Guinea-Bissau, Benin, Ghana, Mozambique, Nigeria and Senegal.
- APEDA / DGCI&S data for April-July 2026 records 495,607.12 MT of fresh/dried cashew nuts in shell imported into India, valued at USD 770.75 million.

OFFICIAL TRADE DATA

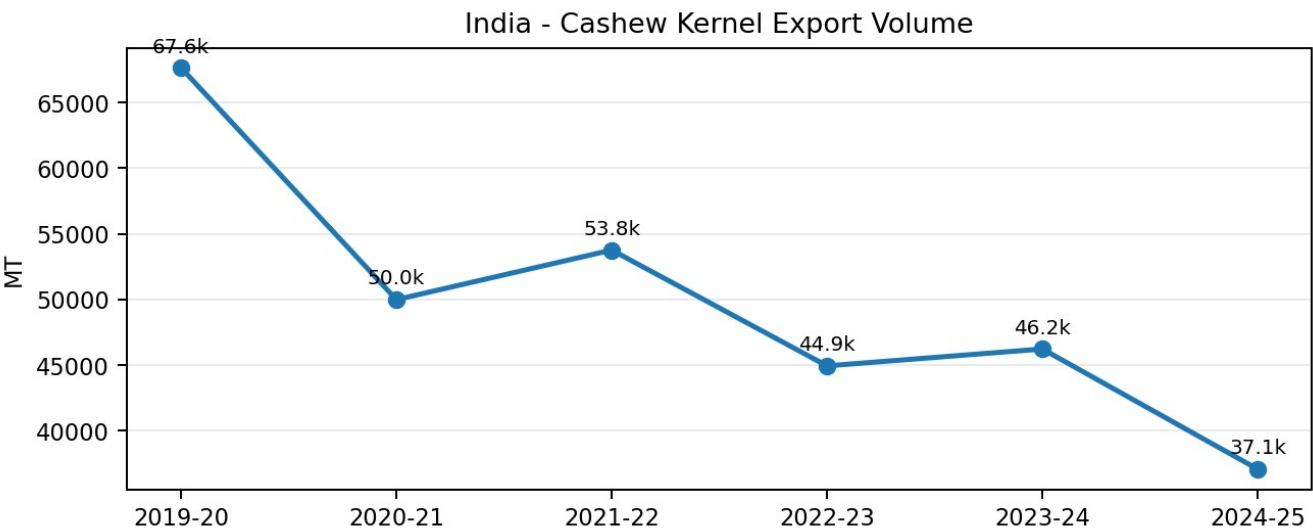
India - RCN Imports & Kernel Exports

Raw Cashew Nut Imports

Financial Year	RCN Import Quantity	Import Value	Average Import Price
2023-24	12.51 lakh MT	INR 11,633 crore	INR 92.96/kg
2024-25	11.41 lakh MT	INR 13,742 crore	INR 120.38/kg

FY 2024-25 import volume fell by 8.77% year-on-year, while the average import price increased by 29.49%.

Cashew Kernel Export Trend



Kernel export volume declined from 67,647 MT in FY 2019-20 to 37,084 MT in FY 2024-25. The FY 2024-25 export value was approximately INR 2,473.11 crore.

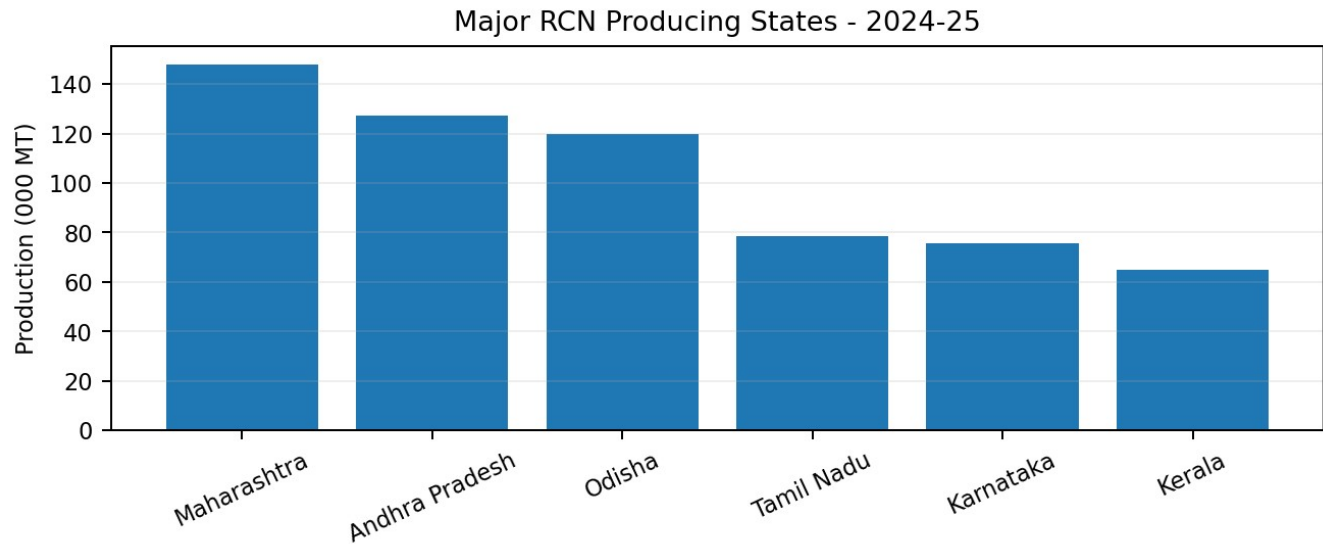
FY 2025-26 Cashew Export Mix

Product	Export Volume (MT)	Export Value (USD mn)
Cashew Kernels	32,998.91	265.08
Cashew Nuts Fresh/Dried In Shell	77,806.41	114.12
Roasted / Value-Added Cashew	3,001.82	24.62

Product	Export Volume (MT)	Export Value (USD mn)
Cashew Nut Shell Liquid (CNSL)	38,648.74	26.76

Major export destinations reported by APEDA for FY 2025-26 include Vietnam, UAE, Netherlands, Japan and Spain.

Domestic RCN Production - Major States (2024-25)



DCCD data reported in Kerala Economic Review 2025 shows Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Odisha as the three largest producing states among the major states listed.

Global RCN Origin Parity - CNF Indian Ports

Indicative weekly benchmark for major Indian gateways including Visakhapatnam, Tuticorin, Mangalore, Cochin and JNPT. These values were supplied for this AICTIC brief and have not been independently verified against executed contracts. Quality, crop, port, freight, payment terms and timing can materially change parity.

Origin	KOR / Outturn	Nut Count / kg	Indicative CNF India (USD/MT)	Market Tone
Côte d'Ivoire	47-49 lbs	195-205	1,480-1,550	Steady
Ghana (Techiman/Wenchi)	48-50 lbs	185-195	1,560-1,620	Active buying
Benin (Cotonou)	49-51 lbs	180-190	1,620-1,680	Firm
Guinea-Bissau	52-54 lbs	175-185	1,720-1,780	High premium
Nigeria (Ogbomosho)	48-50 lbs	190-200	1,520-1,580	Regular supply
Tanzania (Mtwara - new crop)	50-52 lbs	175-185	1,800-1,920	Auction premium
Indonesia / Cambodia	50-52 lbs	170-180	1,650-1,720	Selective demand

Commercial note: KOR/outturn and nut count should be read together with moisture, defective-nut tolerance, foreign matter, crop age, stuffing quality, fumigation status and contractual quality guarantees.

Domestic Cashew Kernel Wholesale Benchmark

Indicative ex-factory / mandi benchmark across major processing clusters including Mangalore, Kollam, Palasa, Panruti and Khed. Prices are supplied market indications, not official quotations.

Grade	Description	Indicative Price (INR/kg)	Weekly Tone
W180	Jumbo White Whole	1,150-1,250	Strong
W210	Large White Whole	920-980	Firm
W240	Standard Large / Table Grade	820-860	Stable
W320	Medium Wholes / National Benchmark	740-780	High volume
W400 / Small Wholes	Budget Wholes	680-710	Steady
JH / Splits / Halves	Premium splits for sweets / retail	630-670	Festive demand
LWP	Large White Pieces - bakery / culinary	540-580	Active
SWP / BB	Small pieces / baby bits	420-460	Firm

Supply-Demand Signals & Global Competitive Context

INDIA SUPPLY BALANCE APEDA market intelligence projected FY 2025-26 RCN imports at about 14.0 lakh MT, domestic RCN production around 7.9 lakh MT, and domestic kernel demand around 4.8 lakh MT. These are projections, not final trade statistics.	DOMESTIC DEMAND APEDA/Crisil intelligence indicates domestic kernel consumption has been rising and was projected to grow roughly 5-7% year-on-year, tightening available stocks.
KERNEL EXPORTS Indian kernel exports have trended lower over the medium term; APEDA reported 32,998.91 MT in FY 2025-26 versus 37,084 MT in FY 2024-25.	ORIGIN PROCESSING Côte d’Ivoire and other African origins are investing in domestic processing, gradually changing the historic model of exporting most RCN to India and Vietnam.
VIETNAM COMPETITION Vietnam remains a dominant cashew kernel exporter and a major RCN importer, increasing competition for West African raw material and global kernel market share.	STRATEGIC IMPLICATION Indian processors need procurement discipline, automation, yield improvement, quality consistency, working-capital efficiency and stronger domestic / premium-market positioning.

AICTIC Trade Watch - Suggested Dashboard Categories

- RCN Supply:** Crop arrivals, origin availability, KOR/outturn, nut count, shipment schedules and exporter reliability.
- Kernel Demand:** Domestic wholesaler / retail demand, festive buying, export enquiries and grade-wise price realization.
- Freight & Logistics:** Ocean freight, container supply, transshipment risk, port congestion, detention and demurrage exposure.
- Processing Economics:** RCN landed cost, recovery yield, grade mix, by-product realization, labour / energy cost and margin sensitivity.
- Currency:** USD/INR movement and its impact on landed RCN cost and export competitiveness.
- Policy & Regulation:** DGFT import policy, customs duty, Plant Quarantine, FSSAI controls and relevant government notifications.

Operational Advisory - Ports, Documentation & Freight

The following operational notes are intended as a practical trade checklist. Port dwell times, container availability, freight and documentation requirements vary by line, vessel, port, commodity condition and regulatory inspection. Confirm shipment-specific requirements before dispatch.

Port Clearance & Demurrage	Plant Quarantine & Fumigation	Freight & Container Availability
Gateways commonly used by the trade include Visakhapatnam, Tuticorin and Mangalore. Member/operator indications cite routine post-berthing dwell windows around 48-72 hours in normal cases, but this is not a guaranteed service level. Importers should consider advance filing of the Bill of Entry where permitted and keep original / electronic documents ready to reduce detention exposure.	For RCN consignments, confirm Plant Quarantine and phytosanitary requirements applicable to the origin and port of entry. Certificates, treatment details, pest declarations and shipment documentation should be checked before Bill of Lading issuance to reduce border delays.	West Africa-to-India freight conditions can shift by season and shipping-line deployment. For heavy RCN cargo, confirm 20-ft container payload, food-grade suitability, floor condition, moisture protection, free days, detention slabs and transshipment routing before booking.

Pre-shipment Commercial Checklist

- Quality specification: KOR/outturn, nut count, moisture, defective nuts, foreign matter and crop year.
- Commercial terms: CNF/CIF port, LC/CAD/advance terms, survey, claim process and tolerances.
- Shipping: line, route, container payload, free days, transshipment and expected arrival window.
- Documents: invoice, packing list, Bill of Lading, certificate of origin, phytosanitary / fumigation documents and insurance as applicable.
- Arrival: customs broker readiness, port charges, examination risk, weighment and claim evidence.

Policy, Tariff & Regulatory Desk

This section separates verified policy framework from proposed AICTIC advocacy priorities. AICTIC should approve the advocacy wording before publishing it as an official representation.

Cashew Kernel Minimum Import Price (MIP) - policy framework

DGFT policy has used minimum import price controls for cashew kernels. A 21 February 2023 amendment provided that the MIP would not apply to imports by 100% EOUs and SEZ units subject to conditions preventing sale into the Domestic Tariff Area. Users should check the latest DGFT notification before relying on the policy position.

RCN Customs Duty - suggested AICTIC advocacy position

Support a raw-material import regime that enables competitive utilization of India's large processing capacity. Any statement that AICTIC has formally represented for a particular duty rate should be published only after matching it to the actual submission / memorandum made to the Ministry of Commerce or Ministry of Finance.

FSSAI / Quality Compliance

Maintain shipment-specific food-safety, packaging, hygiene and testing compliance. Rather than publishing a generic moisture threshold as a legal FSSAI requirement, AICTIC should cite the specific applicable standard / contract specification and keep regulatory links current.

Plant Quarantine

Importers should ensure origin-specific phytosanitary and treatment documentation complies with current Plant Quarantine requirements. Procedures can change and should be verified with the competent authority / CHA before shipment.

DATA GOVERNANCE

Publication Notes, Definitions & Sources

How to Use This Intelligence

- Official statistics are suited to public website dashboards when the source period and unit are shown clearly.
- Market parity and wholesale price tables should carry an "Indicative / Last Updated" stamp and ideally be refreshed weekly.
- Do not present member-supplied trade indications as executed prices, official statistics or offers capable of acceptance.
- For RCN, publish KOR/outurn, nut count, moisture and origin together; price alone is not a sufficient quality comparison.
- Keep policy statements linked to the current DGFT / Customs / Plant Quarantine / FSSAI notification rather than relying on static summaries.

Definitions

RCN	Raw Cashew Nut, typically traded in shell.
KOR / Outturn	Indicative kernel recovery from a standard weight of raw nuts; commercial methods and contract conventions should be stated.
CNF / CFR	Cost and Freight to named port; insurance is normally for buyer account unless terms state otherwise.
CIF	Cost, Insurance and Freight to named port.
Nut Count	Approximate number of raw nuts per kilogram;

	generally used with outturn as a quality indicator.
Ex-Factory	Price at seller's factory before onward freight and other buyer-side costs unless stated.

Sources

- APEDA - Cashew product page / DGCI&S FY 2025-26 export statistics: <https://apeda.gov.in/cashew>
- APEDA AgriExchange - India Import Statistics, FY 2026-27 April-July: <https://agriexchange.apeda.gov.in/India/IndiaImportGenReport/Index>
- Kerala State Planning Board - Economic Review 2025, Cashew section (CEPCI / DCCD data): <https://spb.kerala.gov.in/sites/default/files/2026-01/ER%202025%20Volume1%20Eng%20final.pdf>
- APEDA Market Intelligence Cell - Cashew Monthly Dashboard (Jan 2026): https://apeda.gov.in/sites/default/files/2026-04/MIC_january_Monthly_dashboard_Cashew_050326.pdf
- Department of Commerce, Government of India - TradeStat: <https://tradestat.commerce.gov.in/>
- Department of Commerce - February 2023 major achievements / DGFT cashew kernel MIP amendment summary: <https://www.commerce.gov.in/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Major-Achievement-Feb-2023.pdf>
- Industry / AICTIC input supplied for this brief. Indicative RCN parity, domestic kernel benchmark, logistics observations and proposed policy/advocacy points provided by the user for consolidation; these are not independently verified official statistics.

DATA DISCLAIMER

Trade statistics and market information are compiled from government / statutory / recognized industry sources and from indicative industry inputs supplied for this brief. Official figures may be provisional or revised. Market prices, freight conditions and parity move continuously. AICTIC should independently validate any live commercial benchmark before website publication or use in contracting. This document is for industry information and does not constitute an offer, investment advice, legal advice or a guarantee of price / quality / shipment performance.