

Complete Import Checklist: Goods from China to India

1. Business & Compliance Setup

- Obtain IEC from DGFT — mandatory for all importers
- GST registration — required for duty payment and ITC claim
- Identify correct HS Code — determines duty rate (use ICEGATE tool)
- Check if product needs BIS/CRS (electronics), FSSAI (food), or other approvals

2. Supplier Sourcing & Verification

- Find reliable suppliers on Alibaba/1688/Global Sources — check reviews, trade assurance
- Request samples and verify quality — third-party inspection recommended
- Negotiate terms: price, MOQ, payment (T/T or LC), Incoterms (FOB preferred)
- Sign clear Purchase Order with specs, packaging, delivery timeline

3. Ordering & Pre-Shipment

- Book third-party inspection (SGS/Bureau Veritas) — ensures quality before payment
- Arrange pre-shipment compliance if needed (BIS testing in China)

- Confirm packaging meets Indian standards (labels in English/Hindi if required)
- Purchase marine insurance — protects against damage/loss

4. Documentation

- Commercial Invoice & Packing List from supplier
- Bill of Lading/Air Waybill
- Certificate of Origin (if claiming preferential duty)
- Test reports/compliance certificates

5. Shipping & Customs Clearance

- Choose sea (FCL/LCL) or air based on urgency/value
- File Bill of Entry (advance filing possible) via CHA
- Pay BCD + IGST + SWS — claim ITC later
- Customs examination → Out of Charge → delivery

6. Post-Clearance

- Transport to warehouse maintaining conditions (if temperature-sensitive)
- Final quality check upon receipt
- File for duty drawbacks/refunds if eligible
- Store documents for audits/GST compliance

Overwhelmed by the process?

We handle everything — from sourcing to delivery — so you focus on growing your business.
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