India International Chamber of Knowledge & Commerce (IICKC)

Empowering Global Trade Through Knowledge Partnerships

Documentation Required for Exporting Goods from India

Exporting goods from India involves adhering to customs, regulatory, and destination-country requirements. Below is a comprehensive checklist of documents required for exporters. This guide is provided by India International Chamber of Knowledge & Commerce (IICKC) to support MSMEs and businesses.

1. Mandatory Documents for All Exports

Document	Issued By	Purpose	Mandatory/Conditional
Import Export Code (IEC)	DGFT	Authorization to export goods	Mandatory
Shipping Bill / Bill of Export	Indian Customs (ICEGATE)	Primary document for customs clearance	Mandatory
Commercial Invoice	Exporter	Declares product details, value, Incoterms	Mandatory
Packing List	Exporter	Provides details of packages, weight, volume, description	Mandatory
Bill of Lading (Sea) / Airway Bill (Air)	Shipping Line / Airline	Proof of shipment & transport contract	Mandatory
Export Declaration Form (EDF)	Exporter / RBI (through AD Bank)	Ensures compliance with FEMA & RBI	Mandatory

2. Financial & Regulatory Documents

Document	Issued By	Purpose	Mandatory/Conditional
Letter of Credit (LC) / Bank Realisation Certificate (BRC)	Importer's Bank / Exporter's Bank	Ensures payment compliance & foreign exchange regulations	Conditional
Foreign Inward Remittance Certificate (FIRC)	Exporter's Bank	Proof of receipt of foreign currency	Conditional
Export License / Authorisation	DGFT	For restricted/prohibited goods	Conditional

3. Certificates Based on Product / Destination

Document	Issued By	Required For
Certificate of Origin (CoO)	Exporter's Chamber of Commerce / Export Promotion Council	Required by many countries for duty benefits under FTAs
GSP Certificate	Export Inspection Agency	Duty benefits for exports to developed nations (EU, UK, etc.)
Health / Sanitary / Phytosanitary Certificate	Exporter's Govt. Authority	For food, agriculture, dairy, meat, plants
Fumigation Certificate	Plant Quarantine Authority	For wood, agro-products

Inspection Certificate	Export Inspection Agency (EIA)	For quality and safety verification
Drug / Cosmetic License (CDSCO Approval)	CDSCO	For medicines, cosmetics, medical devices
Halal / Kosher Certification	Approved Certification Bodies	For food exports to Middle East, Islamic countries, Jewish markets
CE / UL / ISO Certification	Standards Bodies	For exports of electronics, engineering, and industrial goods

4. Region-Specific Export Documents

Region	Additional Documentation Required
European Union (EU)	CE Marking, REACH Compliance, GSP Certificate
USA	FDA Approval (for food/pharma), UL Certification (for electronics), USDA Permits
Middle East (GCC Nations)	Halal Certificate, SASO Certificate (Saudi), Conformity Certificates
Africa	Pre-shipment Inspection (PSI) Certificate, SONCAP (Nigeria), COO
ASEAN Countries	Certificate of Origin (Form AI), Product Safety Certificates
Australia / New Zealand	Bio-security & Quarantine Clearances

5. Post-Shipment / Compliance Documents

Document	Issued By	Purpose
Bank Realisation Certificate (BRC)	Exporter's Bank	Proof of realization of export proceeds
Foreign Inward Remittance Certificate (FIRC)	Exporter's Bank	Proof of forex inflow
GST Refund / Rebate Documents	GSTN / Customs	For claiming export incentives
Shipping Line Delivery Order	Shipping Line	To release goods at destination port

Quick Reference – Core Documents (Always Needed)

- Import Export Code (IEC)
- Commercial Invoice
- Bill of Lading / Airway Bill
- Shipping Bill / Bill of Export
- Packing List
- Certificate of Origin (CoO)

Please contact us for specific information