

B-Ready FAQs
Topic: International Trade - Goods

A. Practices Supporting International Trade in Goods

B-Ready assessment area	Relevant Provisions/Links	Link
Facilitated Temporary Admission of Goods	Section 2, Notification No. 157/90-Customs, 1990 ; Para 1-3, Notification No. 04/2018-Customs dated 18.01.2018. India has been accepting the ATA Carnet (International Customs Document) for the temporary admission of goods specified in Customs notification no. 4/2018 dated 18.01.2018.	https://www.atacarnet.in/pdf/custom_notificationonn_157_90.pdf https://www.atacarnet.in/ata-ststem.html https://taxinformation.cbic.gov.in/viewpdf/1000412/ENG/Notifications
Duty-Free Treatment for Low-Value Commercial Shipments (De Minimis Threshold)	Section 25, Customs Act, 1962	https://www.indiacode.nic.in/show-data?abv=CEN&statehandle=123456789/1362&Actid=AC_CEN_2_2_00042_196252_1534829466423&sectionId=24860&sectionno=25&orderno=39&orgActid=AC_CEN_2_2_00042_196252_1534829466423
Availability of advance rulings on tariff classification	Section 28H (2) (a), Customs Act, 1962	https://www.indiacode.nic.in/bitstream/123456789/15359/1/the_Customs_Act%2C_1962.pdf
Availability of advance rulings on origin	Section 28H (2) (e), Customs Act, 1962	https://www.indiacode.nic.in/bitstream/123456789/15359/1/the_customs_act%2C_1962.pdf
Availability of advance rulings on customs value	Section 28H (2) (c), Customs Act, 1962	https://www.indiacode.nic.in/bitstream/123456789/15359/1/the_customs_act%2C_1962.pdf
Existence of binding deadline for issuance of advance rulings	Section 28I (6), the Customs Act, 1962	https://www.indiacode.nic.in/bitstream/123456789/15359/1/the_customs_act%2C_1962.pdf
Existence of binding deadline for appeals of customs decisions	Section 129D, Customs Act, 1962	https://www.indiacode.nic.in/bitstream/123456789/15359/1/the_customs_act%2C_1962.pdf

B. Regulatory Governance for International Trade in Goods

B-Ready assessment area	Relevant Provisions/Links	Link
Existence of legal framework for science-based risk assessment for SPS measures	Clause 7(i), Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) Order, 2003 ; Section 16(2)(i) and 16(3)(c) and 18(2)(c), Food safety and Standards Act, 2006 ; Section 3, Livestock Importation Act., 1898.	https://pqms.cgg.gov.in/pqms-angular/homeGuidelines/Import https://www.fssai.gov.in/upload/uploadfiles/files/FOOD-ACT.pdf https://www.dahd.gov.in/sites/default/files/2023-07/TheLivestockImportationAct1898.pdf https://www.dahd.gov.in/sites/default/files/2026-02/PetFoodProbioticsAdditionalCondition.pdf
Publication in practice of at least one science-based SPS risk assessment (past three years)	Chapter II (3) (7) Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) Order, 2003 ; Section 3, Livestock Importation Act, 1898.	https://pqms.cgg.gov.in/pqms-angular/homeGuidelines/Import https://fssai.gov.in/upload/uploadfiles/files/Guidance_Document_SOP_MRL_16_03_2022.pdf https://www.dahd.gov.in/sites/default/files/2023-07/TheLivestockImportationAct1898.pdf https://www.dahd.gov.in/sites/default/files/2026-02/PetFoodProbioticsAdditionalCondition.pdf https://www.dahd.gov.in/sites/default/files/2024-

B-Ready assessment area	Relevant Provisions/Links	Link
		08/IntegratedVHCFForImportOfMilkAndMilkProducts.pdf
Existence of legal framework establishing ex-ante RIA requirements for technical regulations	<p>Section 18 (2) (d), Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 Further, When India adopts or amends a technical regulation (such as a Quality Control Order) under the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 2016, WTO obligations become relevant if the measure qualifies as a “technical regulation” under the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade. Under Articles 2.9 & 2.10 of Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade, India has to notify the draft measure to the WTO Secretariat, allow a reasonable period (typically 60 days) for comments, consider comments received from other WTO Members and then publish the final regulation.</p> <p>Pre-Legislative Consultation Policy (PLCP), 2014, requires that the concerned Ministry/Department place draft legislation or rules in the public domain for at least 30 days, along with an explanatory note. This note must set out: (i) the policy objective and rationale for the proposed measure; (ii) the problem being addressed; (iii) the legal framework within which the proposal is situated; (iv) the financial implications, including estimated costs to the government; and (v) the likely impAct of the proposal on affected stakeholders, including citizens, industry, and other interested parties. In addition, Ministries are required to provide a summary of comments received and place these, along with their responses, in the public domain.</p>	<p>https://fssai.gov.in/upload/uploaddfiles/files/FOOD-ACT.pdf</p> <p>https://cdnbbsr.s3waas.gov.in/s380537a945c7aaa788ccfcdf1b99b5d8f/uploads/2023/02/2023021333.pdf</p>
Publication in practice of at least one ex-ante RIA prior to adoption or amendment of a technical regulation (past three years)	<p>Handbook on writing Cabinet notes. https://gad.delhi.gov.in/sites/default/files/gad/generic_multiple_files/handbook_on_cabinet_note-goi.pdf ; Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) — Approach Paper on Terms & Conditions of Tariff Regulations (tariff period 1.4.2024–31.3.2029). https://cercind.gov.in/2023/Approach_paper/Approach%20Paper-Tariff%20Regulations%202024-29.pdf</p>	-
Existence of legal framework establishing formal public	Section 92 (1), Food Safety And Standards Act, 2006; Section 15, Bureau of Indian Standards Rules, 2018 Further, When India adopts or amends a technical regulation (such as a Quality	<p>https://cercind.gov.in/Act-with-amendment.pdf</p> <p>https://fssai.gov.in/upload/uploaddfiles/files/FOOD-ACT.pdf</p>

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<p>consultation requirements for technical regulations, open to all interested parties</p>	<p>Control Order) under the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 2016, WTO obligations become relevant if the measure qualifies as a “technical regulation” under the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade. Under Articles 2.9 & 2.10 of Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade, India has to notify the draft measure to the WTO Secretariat, allow a reasonable period (typically 60 days) for comments, consider comments received from other WTO Members and then publish the final regulation.</p> <p>Moreover, DGFT conducts public consultation process which is open to all interested parties such as exporters, importers and relevant stakeholders before introducing or amending a technical regulation. There is no restriction on participation, ensuring openness and non-discrimination. For instance, under Trade Notice No. 07/2025-26 consultation was invited public feedback from industry stakeholders on draft changes affecting export controls for Special Chemicals, Organisms, Materials, Equipment and Technologies (SCOMET), which are technical regulations governing controlled export categories.</p>	<p>dfiles/files/FOOD-ACT.pdf https://www.bis.gov.in/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/BIS-Rules-2018_amendments_Sep_15102020.pdf</p>
<p>Conduct in practice of at least one formal public consultation on a technical regulation (past three years)</p>	<p>DGFT conducts public consultation process on its official website. DGFT issues a Trade Notice on the official DGFT website seeking inputs which is open to all for comments and suggestions. It is open to all interested parties such as exporters, importers and relevant stakeholders before introducing or amending a technical regulation.</p>	<p>https://fssai.gov.in/ ; https://www.bis.gov.in/?lang=en ; https://www.dgft.gov.in/CP/?opt=notification</p>
<p>Minimum public consultation period set at ≥ 30 calendar days in practice</p>	<p>Draft Notification of Food Safety and Standards (Labelling and Display) Amendment Regulations, 2020, available at - https://fssai.gov.in/upload/uploadfiles/files/Draft%20FSS_Labeling%20and%20Display_Amendment%20Regulations_2025.pdf . Draft Indian Standard Textiles — Determination of dimensional change of fabrics — Accelerated machine method, dated 16.07.2025, available at - https://iccicbe.in/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/WCTXD6128384_16072025_1.pdf?utm_source. DGFT seek views and hold consultation for formulation of Foreign Trade Policy and other trade matters under the handbook procedures. To make it more specific DGFT issued a notification No. 47/2024-2025 to bring in all the elements of</p>	<p>-</p>

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	<p>public consultation. Foreign Trade Policy, 2023 was amended to include Para 1.07A and 1.07B for consultation with stakeholders to seek views, suggestions, comments or feedback from relevant stakeholders, including importers/exporters/industry experts concerning the formulation or amendment of the FTP. Further, all interested parties participating in online formal public consultations on technical regulations are given at least 30 calendar days to provide comments.</p>	
<p>Addressing consultation comments through publication of a consolidated consultation report</p>	<p>BIS (https://www.bis.gov.in/?lang=en) ; FSSAI (https://fssai.gov.in/) ; Comments of Stakeholders for on Draft Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2019 for the tariff period from 1.4.2019 to 31.3.2024. https://cercind.gov.in/Comments_Stakeholders.html</p>	-

C. Sustainable Trade Policy

B-Ready assessment area	Relevant Provisions/Links	Link
Separate Permit Required for Trade in Endangered Species	Chapter VA, the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972	https://www.indiacode.nic.in/bitstream/123456789/1726/1/aA1972-53.pdf?utm_source=chatgpt.com
Documentary Evidence of Environmentally Sound Management Contract Required for Hazardous Waste Exports	Rule 13, Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016	https://upload.indiacode.nic.in/showfile?actid=AC_RJ_83_1096_00001_00001_1563872109827&type=rule&filename=hazardous_and_other_wastes_(management_and_transboundary_movement)_rules,_2016.pdf
Labelling of Chemical Shipments in Accordance with the Globally Harmonized System Required of Exporters	Chapter 5.2, IMDG code, 2024	www.unece.org/DAM/trans/danger/publi/unrec/rev16/English/07E_Part5.pdf

D. International Trade Cooperation

B-Ready assessment area	Relevant Provisions/Links	Link
No Preferential Trade Agreement Not Formally Notified to the World Trade Organization*	India formally notifies all the preferential trade agreements to the World Trade Organization (WTO).	-
Establishment of Free Trade Agreement or Customs Union Covering Substantially All Trade with a Main Trading Partner	India-UAE CEPA (Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement)	-
Justiciable Commitments in an International Agreement with a Main Trading Partner–Mutual Recognition of Conformity Assessments	Article 5.7, India-UAE CEPA, 2022	
Justiciable Commitments in an International Agreement with a Main Trading Partner–Mutual Recognition of Equivalence of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures	Chapter 4, India-UAE CEPA, 2022	https://www.commerce.gov.in/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Chapter-4.pdf
Justiciable Commitments in an International Agreement with a Main Trading Partner–Mutual Recognition of Professional Qualifications and Certifications in the Transport and Logistics Sectors	Article 8.11, India-UAE CEPA, 2022 In Article 8.11 of Chapter 8 (Trade in Services) under Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) between India and UAE, both the parties have commitments on the mutual recognition of professional qualifications and certifications that enable professionals to provide services across borders.	https://commerce.gov.in/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Chapter-8.pdf

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Justiciable Commitments in an International Agreement with a Main Trading Partner–Temporary Movement of Natural Persons for Business Purposes	Article 8.19, India-UAE CEPA, 2022	https://www.commerce.gov.in/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Chapter-8.pdf
Justiciable Commitments in an International Agreement with a Main Trading Partner–Pathway for Private Parties to Address Violations of Collective Bargaining and Freedom of Association	Article 1.5, India-UAE CEPA, 2022 Article 11.6 (ILO Standards) of India-EFTA TEPA, states that the Parties, in obligations as members of the ILO, commit to respect, promote and realise, in good faith, the fundamental principles and rights at work as per ILO Conventions, including ‘Freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining’. https://commerce.gov.in/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/11-Trade-and-Sustainable-Development_India-EFTA-TEPA.pdf	https://www.commerce.gov.in/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Chapter-1.pdf
Justiciable Commitments in an International Agreement with a Main Trading Partner–Cross-Border Data Transfer for Business	Article 9.11, India-UAE CEPA, 2022 India and UEA under Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) ensure cross border electronic data flows. This is mentioned in Article 9.11 (Cross-Border Flow of Information) of Chapter 9 (Digital Trade).	https://commerce.gov.in/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Chapter-9.pdf
Justiciable Commitments in an International Agreement with a Main Trading Partner- Personal Data Protection for Cross-Border Digital Trade	Article 9.10 , India-UAE CEPA, 2022 Yes, India and UEA under Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) have commitments on cross border electronic data flows which include safety mechanisms for personal information. This is mentioned in Article 9.10 (Personal Data Protection) of Chapter 9 (Digital Trade).	https://commerce.gov.in/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Chapter-9.pdf
Justiciable Commitments in an International Agreement with a Main Trading Partner–Prohibition of Mandatory Disclosure of Source Code or Algorithms	India has undertaken justiciable commitments with the UK and EU, respectively, prohibiting the mandatory disclosure of source code (or algorithms) as a condition for market access. For India-UK CETA, this is covered under Article 12.15, of Chapter 12-Digital Trade. https://www.commerce.gov.in/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/12-Digital-Trade.pdf	
Existence of National Mechanism to Address Complaints on Trade-Agreement Compliance	Article 8.04, Foreign Trade Policy, 2023	https://content.dgft.gov.in/Website/dgftprod/1e6558c6-0265-45b7-b005-1d06bbbd9be7/FTP2023_Chapter08.pdf

E. Non-Tariff Measures

B-Ready assessment area	Relevant Provisions/Links	Link
Absence of mandatory pre-shipment inspection requirements for imports	There is no mandatory pre-shipment inspection in India's FTP, 2023.	-
Absence of quantitative restrictions on imports	Article II, GATT, 1947	https://www.wto.org/english/docs_e/legal_e/gatt47_e.htm#art2
Absence of price control measures on imports	There are no minimum import prices, reference prices, or variable levies, applied under India's FTP, 2023.	
Absence of advance import deposits or cash margin requirements	There is no requirement of deposit of a portion or all of import value by importer under India's FTP, 2023.	