

COUNTRY INFORMATION SHEET: INDIA



Summary

Independent republic within the Commonwealth.

Capital: New Delhi

Principal Ports

Kolkata, Calicut, Cochin, Jamnagar, Chennai (Madras), Mangalore, Mumbai, Vishakapatnam

Population 1.34 billion

International Country Code IN

Language(s)

Hindi, Bengali, Telugu, Marathi, Tamil, Urdu, Gujarati, Malayalam, Kannada, Oriya, Punjabi, Assamese, Kashmiri, Sindhi, Sanskrit, Hindustani, English

Why Select India as a Market?

- During 2018, UK goods exports to India increased to £4.95 billion, recovering from recent falls after touching a high of £5.2 billion in 2013. These annual figures traditionally include almost 40% of scrap, diamonds and precious metals. Baseline data for new manufactured goods purchased from the UK is a much more useful indicator.
- Engineered mechanical goods sold to India reached £1.2 billion in 2018 and electrical goods £310 million.
- Trade opportunities in India are still pushed heavily by the UK Government, which set up the membership organisation UK India Business Council in 2007, but barriers to trade still deter many SMEs.
- •British culture and brands understood, but UK's share of India's imports has declined to just 1.1% in 2018, less than half the amount imported from Germany.
- •Democratic and politically stable, although corruption is rife

Main Industries

Textiles, chemicals, food processing, steel, transportation equipment, cement, mining, petroleum, machinery, software

Main Products Exported

Petroleum products, precious stones, machinery, iron and steel, chemicals, vehicles, apparel

For more
in-country
support
and advice

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UK INDIA
BUSINESS COUNCIL

DOCUMENTATION GUIDE

CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN

Certificates of Origin (COs) are no longer mandatory for EU shipments.

Note: A CO may still be specifically requested in the contract or under the terms of a letter of credit. The document can also be a requirement for specific goods such as woollen or woollen blended textiles. If required, it generally has to be issued in three copies. Some Indian companies may accept a manufacturer's CO raised on the supplier's own letterhead.

COMMERCIAL INVOICE

Invoice to be issued as one original. Further copies may be required depending on the request of the importer and other authorities. Invoices must include a full and accurate description of goods; first six digits of the commodity code (HS code); transport details, weights and dimensions (including, when relevant, number and type of packages and packing details for loose cargo or container number for full containers); value and currency of the supply including separate indication of additional costs such as freight and insurance; the shipping term (the Incoterms® 2010 rule, eg FCA, CIP, DAP); country of origin and the full addresses of all parties concerned; the import licence number (when applicable); and, if insured in India, information about the insurance policy covering the shipment. If possible, exporters are recommended to obtain the India importer's business identification number (BIN) to quote on the invoice. If goods are not sold CIF, a separate freight note should be prepared showing amount of freight and insurance payable. It is advisable to display the following declaration on the commercial invoice: "We declare that the invoice shows the actual price of the goods described and that all particulars are true and correct."

Note: It is a legal requirement to show the full transaction price of the sale on the commercial invoice at export. There have been some instances of undervaluing goods at import and customs authorities are taking a strong line in combating this fraud.