

4 Tips For Expanding & Importing into India



Planning

CUSTOMS CLEARANCE TIP

Standard documentation clearance and regulatory approvals take 48 hours. In India, using a so called 'Advance Bill of Entry' (ABE) is possible to facilitate quicker customs clearance. Using an ABE is not allowed when special testing approvals are needed (e.g. pharmaceuticals, garments).



Trading in India

REGULATION TIP

India is made up of 29 states and seven union territories which has historically complicated the movement of goods due to multiple taxes charged at state and central level. Today, it is easier for companies to enter India thanks to the introduction of the standard 'Goods and Services Tax'. This measure has removed tax disparity between states as well as reduced local tax evasion.



Port and Airport Infrastructure

SHIPMENT TIP

India's infrastructure is still behind in comparison to global standards. Associated risks include delays in shipping timelines and misplacement or even loss of cargo. Using experienced local forwarding agents that know how to handle information and documentation correctly help to reduce these risks.



Supplier and General Contractor

PARTNERING TIP

Define a clear handling and management SLA before the project execution. This will reduce hidden costs due to poor labor planning and or higher duties due to incorrect product classification.

It is vital to perform background checks and check certificates and accreditations; supply chain services in India have historically been established in the unorganized sector.

Read our "Why it's Time to Enter India" blog to find out more about India's retail sector.