भारत सरकार
Government of India

FROM
INDIAN ENTERPRISES
TO A BRIGHTER
GLOBAL TOMORROW

Export Promotion Mission - TRACE

Flagship scheme jointly implemented by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India.

25th September 2026

Vaniya Bhawan, New Delhi

STRONGER EXPORTS | COMPETITIVE MSMEs | A PROSPEROUS INDIA



Trade Regulations, Accreditation & Compliance Enablement (TRACE)

Export Promotion Mission (EPM) – Niryat Disha

Agenda

01 **Overview & Eligibility**
Objectives, scope, and eligible entities under TRACE

02 **Sub-Interventions: Overview**
All five sub-areas — scope, eligibility, and financial ceilings

03 **How to Apply**
Step-by-step walkthrough of the Trade Connect portal

04 **Role of EPCs under TRACE**
How EPCs can increase TRACE uptake

Trade Regulations, Accreditation & Compliance Enablement (TRACE)

As amended by Trade Notice No. 09/2026-27 dated 01 July 2026

Objective

Partial reimbursement to MSMEs for costs incurred on testing, inspection, certification, audits, traceability systems, and other conformity-assessment requirements that are mandated for market access or to demonstrate compliance with internationally recognised standards.

Eligibility

- **All MSMEs with an active IEC** (not on Denied Entity List) and a valid Udyam Registration Number, involved in international value chains.
- Eligibility is **prospective**. It applies only to certifications obtained **on or after 20 February 2026**.

Scope of Support

- **One-time Certification**
- **Recurring Certification**

Reimbursement Rates & Annual Cap

- **Micro & Small Enterprises**: **Up to 95%** of actual cost (net of taxes, duties, cess) or notified ceiling, whichever is lower.
- **Medium Enterprises**: **Up to 80%** of actual cost (net of taxes) or notified ceiling, whichever is lower.
- **Annual cap: ₹50 lakh per IEC** per financial year (cases exceeding ₹50 lakh considered on case-to-case basis).
- Reimbursement is admissible only after the MSME has **obtained the required certification (50%) and up on completion of exports of related products to the related markets (50%)**
- Support not admissible for deemed exports or exports to **Special Economic Zones (SEZs)**.

Certificates eligible under TRACE

- **462 certifications** notified under Annexure-I to Trade Notice No. 09/2026-27. Dynamic — periodically reviewed.

Cont…(TRACE) : Claim Process & Safeguards

As amended by Trade Notice No. 09/2026-27 dated 01 July 2026

Two-Stage Claim Process

Stage I — Intent-to-Claim (IC)

- Filed online before obtaining certifications.
- **Valid for 2 years** from date of filing.

Stage IIA — First Reimbursement Claim (RC-1)

- RC-1: Filed after obtaining certifications, test reports, and compliance documents.
- RC-2: Filed after demonstrating exports linked to the relevant certification and country, enclosing export evidence and proof of realisation.
- Must tag **the relevant IC and enclose**: copy of certificate/test report; invoice and proof of payment; **evidence of mandatory or market-driven requirement.**
- **Self-declaration** that the same expenditure **has not been claimed** under any other Central or State Government scheme.
- RC-1 disbursement: 50% of approved support, released on certification completion.
- RC-2 disbursement: remaining 50%, released on submission of export evidence linked to certification. Disbursement made **directly to IEC-linked bank** account.

Key Conditions

- Reimbursement is of **actual cost (net of taxes) or notified ceiling**, whichever is lower.
- Support covers only **complete certification**. Partial process completion does not qualify.

Governance

- **Sub-Committee** on Export Quality & Technical Compliances oversees TRACE implementation.
- Chaired by **Addl. Secretary, SPS & TBT Desk**, Department of Commerce. Convenor: Joint DGFT assigned to TRACE.

Safeguards

- IC lapses automatically if RC is not filed **within 2 years**. Applicant ineligible for claims in the subsequent financial year. Where RC-1 has been disbursed, RC-2 evidence must be submitted within 2 years; failing which RC-2 lapses and RC-1 may be subject to recovery.
- All applicants subject to **post-disbursement verification**.

Cont...(TRACE) : Key Changes in TRACE

STEERING COMMITTEE DECISIONS		
Provision	**Before**	**Revised Position (SC-Approved)**
Support Levels	Positive List: 60%; Priority List: 75%. Uniform — all MSME categories.	Micro & Small: 95% of cost (net of taxes). Medium: 80% of cost (net of taxes).
Annual Cap	₹25 lakh per IEC per FY.	₹50 lakh per IEC per FY.
Disbursement	Full reimbursement on claim clearance. No milestone structure.	50% on certification completion & submission. 50% on export completion linked to certification.
Positive List	31 certifications	Expanded to 462 certifications (unified list). EPCs may propose further additions.

KEY CHANGES — TRADE NOTICE NO. 09/2026-27		
Provision	**Before**	**Revised Position (as Notified)**
Disbursement Structure	Full reimbursement on claim clearance.	50% on RC-1 (certification completion); 50% on RC-2 (export evidence linked to certification). Recovery of first instalment if RC-2 not submitted within 2 years.
Eligible Certification List	Positive List (Annexure-V) and Priority Positive List (Annexure-VI) — two separate lists.	Monthly EPC reporting; Meetings: monthly initially, then quarterly.

Trade Regulations, Accreditation & Compliance Enablement (TRACE) – Summary

Objective

Provide financial support to exporters to meet **international Testing, Inspection, Certification** and other **conformity requirements.**

Eligibility

- **MSME Exporters** with a **valid IEC** and a **valid MSME Udyam Registration Number**
- Support for the notified eligible list of certifications has been **expanded** to **446 entries**

Implementation Status

- No. of **Applications received** in FY 2025-26: **15**
- No. of Applications received in FY 2026-27: **379** applications by **144 distinct IECs**
- No. of Reimbursement Applications received in FY 2026-27: **43** applications by **29 distinct IECs**

Maximum Support

- **Micro & Small Enterprises: 95%** of the actual cost net of taxes, or **₹50 lakh,** whichever is lower.
- **Medium Enterprises: 80%** of the actual cost net of taxes, or **₹50 lakh,** whichever is lower**.**
- Annual Cap: **₹50 lakh per exporter.**

NIRYAT DISHA – TRACE | Procedure for Application

Intent-to-Claim (IC) & Reimbursement Claim (RC)

01. INTENT-TO-CLAIM (IC)

APPLICATION

1 ACCESS TRACE
Log in to Trade Connect → Export Promotion Mission → Apply for Support under EPM → TRACE → select "Apply for support under

2 BASIC DETAILS
Verify: Claim Year, IEC No., Firm Name, Type of Exporter, MSME/Non-MSME, Type of MSME and Udyam Registration No.

3 CERTIFICATION DETAILS
Fill: Sector, Country of Export, HS Code (where applicable), Certification Name, Certifying Agency & Address, and Purpose for obtaining certification.

4 INTENDED EXPENDITURE
Enter Nature of Expenditure and amounts excluding / including taxes in INR. Click "Add" and verify Total Intended Amount.

02. REIMBURSEMENT CLAIM RC-1

CLAIM & EVIDENCE

1 SELECT INTENT CLAIM
Choose the relevant Intent Claim File Number(s). Verify Financial Year and Intent Amount before linking the reimbursement claim.

2 CLAIM & INVOICE DETAILS
Enter Certification Name, Certifying Agency, Nature of Expenditure, Certification Category, Currency, Invoice Amount, INR amount excluding tax, Invoice No. & Date, and Reimbursement Claimed.

3 UPLOAD EVIDENCE
Upload Certification Invoice, Certification Payment Proof, Copy of Certification Document and other supporting attachments required for the claim.

4 TOTAL CLAIM
Check the Total Reimbursement Claimed against the supporting invoice/evidence.

03. FINALISATION

REVIEW & SUBMISSION

1 BANK DETAILS
Select registered account and verify Account No., Account Holder Name, IFSC Code, Bank Name and Branch Name

2 DECLARATION
Confirm required undertakings: regulatory compliance, no default/ineligibility, accuracy of information, no duplicate Government assistance, and authorised submission.

3 SUMMARY REVIEW
Review Basic Details, Reimbursement Claim Details, Bank Details and Declaration. Confirm all attachments and claim amount.

4 SIGN & SUBMIT
Sign the application and submit. Note the generated application / file number.

PROCESS OUTPUT **IC recorded → eligible expenditure incurred → RC supported by invoice & proof → bank/declaration verified → signed claim submitted**

Expectations from Export Promotion Councils (EPCs)

EPCs as the key interface for outreach, facilitation and feedback under TRACE

1. Inclusion of Certification

Identify and provide a comprehensive list of high-cost certifications that should be considered for inclusion under TRACE, particularly those that impose a significant financial burden on Indian exporters.

2. Outreach & Awareness

Create awareness among eligible exporters and communicate scheme benefits, eligibility and application requirements.

3. Exporter Mobilisation

Identify and mobilise relevant exporters, particularly MSMEs, and encourage participation across sectors.

4. Handholding & Facilitation

Support exporters in understanding the process, documentation requirements and submission of claims/applications.

5. Feedback & Issue Escalation

Capture recurring issues from exporters and provide structured feedback for timely resolution and process improvement.

6. Coordination & Monitoring

Coordinate with DGFT/implementing teams, support follow-up on cases and share progress/feedback as required.

Key expectation: Reach the right exporters • simplify access • surface issues early • strengthen scheme implementation

Government of India
Ministry of Commerce and Industry
Department of Commerce

सत्यमेव जयते

TRACE

SCHEME

Trade Regulations, Accreditation and Compliance Enablement

— under —

Export Promotion Mission (EPM)

Applicable only for MSME Exporters.

Small & Micro Enterprises
95% *
Reimbursement

Medium Enterprises
80% *
Reimbursement

Comply. Compete. Export. Grow.

Apply for TRACE

Guidelines for TRACE



A Stronger Export Ecosystem for a Brighter India

Viksit India through Exports

*Subject to conditions given in the guidelines.



Thank you

Document Classification: Public