

Introduction

The Export Inspection Council (EIC) was set up by the Government of India under Section 3 of the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963 (22 of 1963), in order to ensure sound development of export trade of India through Quality Control and Inspection and for matters connected thereof.

EIC is an advisory body to the Central Government, which is empowered under the Act to:

- Notify commodities which will be subject to quality control and/ or inspection prior to export,
- Establish standards of quality for such notified commodities, and
- Specify the type of quality control and / or inspection to be applied to such commodities.

The role of EIC is to ensure the quality and food safety of notified export commodities and their compliance to minimum standards for export, generally International standards or standards of importing countries. This assurance is provided through a 3-Tier system of inspection, namely, (i) consignment wise inspection, (ii) in-process quality control system and (iii) food safety management system based certification through its field organization, the Export Inspection Agencies (EIAs) established in 1966 under the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963 having their regional offices at Mumbai, Kolkata, Kochi, Delhi and Chennai with a network of 30 sub-offices backed by the state-of-art National Accreditation Board for testing & Calibration Laboratories (NABL) accredited laboratories.

The official control of EIC is recognised by several trading partners like EU, USA, Japan, Canada, China, Russia Federation, Mauritius, Bhutan etc.

Organisation Setup

Under the Export Quality Control & Inspection Act, 1963, the Council, which is constituted by the Central Government, is the apex body, and has powers to constitute specialist committees to assist it in discharge of its functions. Accordingly, the Council has constituted Administrative Committee to advise it on administrative matters and a Technical Committee to advise it on technical matters. Besides, it has created some Standing Committees in specific technical areas as given below:

List of Council Members

In pursuance of Section 3 of the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963(22 of 1963) and in pursuance of rule 3 of the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Rules; 1964, the Central Government vide its S.O. no. 410(E) dated 05.05.2016, reconstituted the Export Inspection Council consisting of the following persons, for the period as indicated in column (3), namely:-

1	Sh. Alok Vardhan Chaturvedi, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry Department of Commerce, New Delhi.	Chairman	Two years from the date of publication of the Notification vide no. S.O. 410(E), dated 5 th February, 2016 amended vide notification no. S.O. 2706(E), dated 11 th August, 2016
2	Director of Inspection and Quality Control, Export Inspection Council, New Delhi	Member Secretary	-do-
3	Director General, Bureau of Indian Standards, New Delhi	Member <i>Ex-officio</i>	-do-
4	Agricultural Marketing Adviser to the Government of India, New Delhi	Member <i>Ex-officio</i>	-do-
5	Director General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Kolkata	Member <i>Ex-officio</i>	-do-
Other Nominated Members			
6	Joint Secretary (Export Inspection), Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, New Delhi.	Member	Two years from the date of publication of the Notification vide no. S.O. 410(E), dated 5 th February, 2016
7	Joint Secretary, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, New Delhi.	Member	-do-
8	Chairman, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority, New Delhi	Member	-do-
9	Chairman, Tea Board, Kolkata	Member	-do-
10	Chairman, Spices Board, Kochi	Member	-do-

Our Vision

To facilitate worldwide access for Indian exports through a credible and efficient inspection and certification system and earn global recognition as India's premier organization for certifying quality.

Our Mission

To create an export inspection & certification infrastructure within the country based on

- International Standards for Certification Authorities in consonance with WTO requirements.
- To instill confidence in importers about quality and safety of Indian exports.
- To provide accredited state-of-art testing facilities in chosen frontier areas.
- To enhance capability of manpower through trainings to meet International requirements.
- To obtain recognition for India's export certification system from our major trading partners.
- To participate in international fora and project in interest of Indian export trade.
- To be in sync with the latest technological advancements for capacity building.
- (EIC) stands out as the forerunner.

Our Services

EIC, either directly or through the Export Inspection Agencies, its field organizations, renders services in the areas of:

- Certification of quality of export commodities through installation of quality assurance systems (In-process Quality Control and Self-Certification) in the exporting units as well as consignment-wise inspection.
- Certification of quality of food items for export through installation of Food Safety Management Systems in the food processing units as per international standards.
- Issue of different types of Certificates such as Health, Authenticity etc. to exporters under various product schemes for export.
- Issue of Certificates of Origin to exporters under various preferential tariff schemes for export products.
- Laboratory testing services.
- Training and technical assistance to the industry in installation of Quality and Safety

- Management Systems based on principles of Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP), ISO-9001: 2000, ISO: 17025 and other related international standards, laboratory testing etc.
- Recognition of Inspection Agencies as per ISO 17020 and Laboratories as per ISO 17025 and utilizing them for export inspection and testing.
- In rendering the above services, EIAs are backed by qualified technical manpower, having nearly fifty years of diversified experience of quality control and inspection of notified commodities including their testing as per international standards/importing countries' standards or the foreign buyers' specifications.