

## Export Inspection Council (EIC)

### Why in News?

*Recently, the Export Inspection Council (EIC) has initiated an assessment on food testing infrastructure for exports.*

- **EIC** - It is the apex advisory body to the Government.
- **Established in** - 1963, under section 3 of the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963.
- **Nodal agency** - Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- **Vision** - To facilitate worldwide access for Indian exports to meet international norms.
- **Objectives** - To create an **export inspection & certification infrastructure** based on International Standards for Certification Authority in consonance with World Trade Organizations requirements.
- To instill confidence in importers as well as regulatory authorities of India's trading partners about quality and safety of products.
- **Role** - Notify commodities which will be subjected to quality control and/or inspection prior to export.
- Establish standards of quality for such notified commodities.
- Specify the type of quality control and/or inspection to be applied to such commodities.
- **Powers** - It exercises administrative control over the 5 Export Inspection Agencies (EIAs).
  - EIAs are located at Chennai, Delhi, Kochi, Kolkata and Mumbai.
- Issue Certificates of origin to exporters under various preferential tariff schemes for export product
- **Certification types**
  - Consignment wise inspection
  - Certification of quality of food items for export through installation of Food safety Management System in the food processing units.
- **International Recognitions** - It is recognized by European Union, United States, Australia, Turkey, Korea, Japan and among others.
- **Initiatives** - It is set to launch a user-friendly online portal integrating traceability modules, a Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) and E-Health features.

### References

1. [The Indian Express| EIC & Its International Recognitions](#)
2. [EIC India| Export Inspection Council \(EIC\)](#)



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