

Bids for Evolving Criteria for Accreditation of Multi-functional Nodal Agencies

Government of India in the Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) for 2009-2014 has introduced a new system for Streamlining of Procedures relating to the export of Perishable Agricultural Produce. APEDA shall be the authority to administer and regulate the system. The detailed system may be seen at Appendix 40 in the Handbook of Procedures, Volume 1 of the FTP.

Bids are invited from the firms/organisations familiar with the functioning of agencies such as Custom House Agents and Laboratories to evolve a criteria for accreditation of multi-functional nodal agencies to be followed by APEDA for the purpose to ensure effective implementation of the system. The detailed terms of reference may be seen at website www.apeda.gov.in under Tender section.

Technical and Financial bids in two separate sealed covers may be submitted by May 31, 2010 (5 p.m.) to:

Director
Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority, Ministry of Commerce, Govt. of India, NCUI Building, 3 Siri Institutional Area, August Kranti Marg ,
New Delhi 110 016

TOR for selection of Consultant for Development of Accreditation criteria for selection of multi-functional nodal agencies

Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) has issued a notification about streamlining of procedures relating to the export of perishable agricultural produce mentioned at Appendix 40 in the Handbook of Procedures Vol. 1(2009-2014). The objective of the notification is to streamline the export process for perishable agricultural produce with a view to enhancing its competitiveness in the international market through following major export facilitation measures by nodal agency to compile, consolidate and capture data from the exporter or other concerned agencies in a web enabled system for clearance of cargo for exports:

1. Streamlining of documentation and processes.
2. Setting up of a system of multifunctional nodal agencies to operate single window system for expeditious clearing of exports.
3. Setting up of a single point payment system for all levies and charges.
4. Introduction of EDI / Web enablement.
5. A highly responsive redressal system.

The single window clearance system will involve creation of multi-functional nodal agencies, which will be required to be mandatorily accredited by APEDA. The accreditation would enable them to function as a single window for clearance of perishable produce to either issuing of facilitating the requisite documentation / clearances, under one roof by acting as a coordinating agency for exporters. These agencies would be working in addition to the currently empowered agencies under various Acts / Rules, and will have the same powers of clearance / certification for export of perishable goods covering documents listing in Schedule A to the Appendix.

Accreditation criteria needs to be developed for selection of multi-functional nodal agencies, to be accredited by APEDA, to enable them to function as a single window for clearance of perishable produce. The accreditation criteria to be developed will include complete process with procedures, inspection and penalties. This will also include the guidelines for administration and regulation of the Single Window Clearance system relating to the export documentation and levy of charges thereupon for facilitating the export of perishable produce.

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*** Copy of Appendix 40 of the Handbook of Procedures, Volume I of the Foreign
Trade Policy 2009-2014 enclosed**