

Is a Tea Board Registration Certificate Mandatory for Tea Businesses?

Starting a tea business in India involves more than sourcing quality tea and finding customers. Depending on whether you manufacture, package, store, trade, or export tea, you may need a specific license or registration from Tea Board India. The important point is that not every tea business requires the same certificate.

A small business selling packaged tea, a tea manufacturing unit, and an exporter may have different regulatory obligations. Understanding these differences before starting operations can help you avoid unnecessary applications, delays, and compliance issues.

In this guide, we explain when a [Tea Board registration certificate](#) is required, which businesses may need it, what documents are commonly requested, and how the applicable fees work.



The banner features the Agile Regulatory logo on the left, with the text 'Tea Board Registration Certificate' in large green font. Below this, it says 'Get your Tea Board Registration with expert guidance and hassle-free support.' Four icons represent services: Complete Application Support, Faster Processing, Regulatory Compliance, and End-to-End Assistance. A central image shows a cup of tea and a bowl of tea leaves next to a 'TEA BOARD OF INDIA REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE'. A green banner at the bottom left says 'Start Your Tea Business with Confidence'. The bottom right text reads 'Your Trusted Partner for Licenses | Registrations | Certifications Across India'. The footer contains contact information: email, phone, and website.

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Across India

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What Is a Tea Board Registration Certificate?

Tea Board India is a statutory organization that regulates and supports different aspects of the Indian tea industry. It administers licensing and registration requirements under relevant orders, including the Tea (Marketing) Control Order, 2003, and the Tea (Distribution and Export) Control Order, 2005.

The phrase “Tea Board registration certificate” can refer to different approvals, depending on the business activity. These may include registration of a tea manufacturing unit, buyer registration, or an exporter license.

For example, a business manufacturing tea for sale through auction channels may need manufacturing-unit registration. A business intending to export tea from India must obtain the applicable exporter license from Tea Board India.

Therefore, it is important to identify the correct approval instead of applying for a generic certificate.

Is a Tea Board Registration Certificate Mandatory?

It depends on the activity your business carries out. Tea Board licensing requirements apply to specified activities and categories rather than automatically to every business that sells tea.

Here are some common examples.

1. Tea Manufacturers

Businesses manufacturing tea must check the registration requirements applicable to their factory. Tea Board India states that tea manufacturers should register with the Board for manufacturing and selling tea through auction centres.

A new manufacturing unit may also need to obtain a No Objection Certificate (NOC) before construction, where the applicable procedure requires it.

2. Tea Exporters

If your business plans to export tea from India, you need the applicable Tea Board exporter license. This requirement is particularly important for businesses entering international markets for the first time.

A business planning a [Tea Export Business](#) should check its exporter license requirements early, alongside other applicable export formalities, such as obtaining an Importer Exporter Code (IEC) from the Directorate General of Foreign Trade.

3. Tea Buyers and Auction Participants

Businesses purchasing tea through regulated auction systems should verify whether buyer registration is required for their intended activities. Tea Board India lists buyer registration as a specific category.

4. Tea Warehouse Operators

A business operating a warehouse for tea storage connected with auction, blending, packaging, or export may require a Tea Board warehouse license. The relevant licensing order and current guidelines should be checked before operations begin.

5. Tea Waste Dealers

Businesses buying, holding, selling, or otherwise dealing with tea waste must check the applicable Tea Waste (Control) Order requirements. A valid license may be required for the activities covered by that order.

6. Tea Traders and Packaged Tea Sellers

A retailer or trader that only resells finished, packaged tea should not assume that it needs every type of Tea Board registration. The requirement depends on its precise activities, such as whether it manufactures, exports, participates in tea auctions, or operates a regulated facility.

Food businesses must also separately assess applicable FSSAI licensing or registration requirements. Tea Board approval and FSSAI compliance serve different purposes.

Tea Board Registration Fees in India

The fees depend on the type of license or registration your business needs. Tea Board India publishes separate charges for manufacturing units, exporters, buyers, warehouses, and other regulated activities.

Examples of fees listed on the official fee schedule include:

- Tea manufacturing unit registration: ₹1,41,600, including 18% GST.
- Tea exporter license: ₹3,304, including 18% GST.
- Permanent exporter license: ₹3,304, including 18% GST.
- Buyer registration: ₹10,620, including 18% GST.
- Tea warehouse license: ₹16,520, including 18% GST.
- Mini tea factory certificate: ₹1,180, including 18% GST.
- Tea garden registration: ₹6,608, including 18% GST.

These are examples from the published fee schedule; they are not interchangeable application charges. Some licenses require renewal fees, while others have lifetime validity. Check the official Tea Board fee structure before applying, as fees and requirements may change.

Professional consultancy charges, if you engage a consultant, are separate from government fees.

Documents Required for Tea Board Registration

The documents depend on the approval category and the nature of the business. Applicants should consult the relevant checklist before uploading their application.

Common documents may include:

- PAN card of the proprietor or business entity.
- Business constitution documents, such as a partnership deed or certificate of incorporation.
- Identity and address proof of the applicant or authorized signatory.
- [GST registration](#) details, where applicable.
- Importer Exporter Code for the relevant export activity.
- Factory registration or manufacturing details, where applicable.
- Product and business activity information.
- Supporting documents specified for the selected license category.

For instance, a tea exporter and a manufacturing unit will not necessarily submit the same documents. You can check the official Tea Board supporting documents list to identify the requirements for your application.

How to Apply for Tea Board Registration Online

Tea Board India provides an online application portal for relevant licenses and registrations.

The general process is as follows:

1. Create an account: Visit the official Tea Board online portal and register your user details.
2. Select the application category: Choose the license or registration matching your business activity.
3. Enter business details: Complete the application with the requested information.
4. Upload supporting documents: Submit the required documents in the specified format.
5. Pay the applicable fee: Make the payment online where required.
6. Submit the signed application: Follow the portal's instructions for signing and uploading the application form.
7. Track the application: Monitor your application status and respond to any clarification requested by Tea Board officials.

Submitting an application does not automatically mean approval. The authority may examine documents or request additional information before issuing the relevant license or certificate.

Tea Board Registration Support in Noida and Gurgaon

Businesses do not need to be located in a traditional tea-producing region to seek guidance on applicable registrations. Companies based in other commercial centres should identify the requirements based on their actual operations.

Tea Board Registration in Noida

Businesses searching for [Tea Board Registration in Noida](#) may need assistance identifying the appropriate license for tea trading, manufacturing, packaging, or exports. The first step is to establish exactly what the business does and which approval applies.

Agile Regulatory can assist with understanding the applicable documentation, reviewing application details, and navigating the registration process.

Tea Board Registration Gurgaon

For businesses seeking [Tea Board Registration Gurgaon](#), the relevant requirements likewise depend on the activity rather than the company's city alone. An exporter, warehouse operator, or manufacturer may need a different approval from a simple retailer.

Agile Regulatory provides regulatory compliance guidance to help businesses understand their registration requirements and prepare their applications.

Conclusion

A Tea Board registration certificate is mandatory for certain tea-related activities, but the exact requirement depends on whether you manufacture, export, trade through regulated auctions, or operate a facility covered by the relevant control orders.

Before applying, identify the correct license, check the current fee schedule, and prepare the required documents. [Agile Regulatory](#) can help your business understand the applicable registration requirements and navigate the documentation and application process.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Is Tea Board registration mandatory for every tea seller?

No. The requirement depends on the business activity. Specific categories, including tea exporters, manufacturing units, and certain warehouse operators, must obtain the relevant license or registration.

2. What is the fee for a Tea Board exporter license?

The published fee is ₹3,304, including 18% GST, for a new exporter license. Verify the latest official fee schedule before applying.

3. Can I apply for Tea Board registration online?

Yes. Tea Board India provides an online portal for relevant license and registration applications, document uploads, payments, and application tracking.

4. Does a tea business also need an FSSAI license?

Food businesses may need an FSSAI license or registration depending on their activities and applicable requirements. This is separate from Tea Board licensing.

5. Can a business in Noida or Gurgaon apply?

Yes. Businesses in Noida, Gurgaon, and other Indian cities can explore the applicable registration process according to their business activities and eligibility.