IBDIC Glossary

Explore key terms, acronyms, and abbreviations used across India's trade finance and Digital Public Infrastructure ecosystem, and how IBDIC's platforms fit into them.

A

Account Aggregator (AA)

A category of RBI-licensed non-banking financial company that enables individuals and businesses to securely share their financial data, such as bank statements or GST returns, with lenders and other institutions on a consent basis, without the data passing through the aggregator's own systems.

API (Application Programming Interface)

A set of protocols that allows different software systems, such as a bank's core banking platform and IBDIC's infrastructure, to securely exchange data and connect with one another.

B

Bharat Trade Network (BTN)

A national-level Digital Public Infrastructure initiative led by the

Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), Ministry of Commerce & Industry, aimed at enabling trusted, interoperable, and data-driven trade across India's ecosystem. IBDIC is the strategic, knowledge, and development partner for BTN through OneTrade.

Bill of Lading (BL)

A legal document issued by a carrier to a shipper, detailing the type, quantity, and destination of goods being shipped. It serves as a receipt of shipment and a document of title in international trade.

Blockchain

A distributed digital ledger technology that records transactions across multiple systems in a way that is transparent, tamper-resistant, and shared among participants, without relying on a single central authority.

D

Deep-Tier Financing (DTF)

A blockchain-based invoice tokenization platform that extends affordable credit to deep-tier MSMEs, even those that do not supply directly to a large, creditworthy corporate but are part of its extended supply chain.

Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI)

A shared digital foundation that enables secure, interoperable, and trusted interactions across an ecosystem of participants. DPI allows multiple stakeholders, such as banks, corporates, and regulators, to collaborate through common digital platforms that drive transparency and inclusive growth.

Digital Trust Infrastructure

The underlying network of standards, validation mechanisms, and shared data infrastructure that allows banks, corporates, and other participants in the trade finance ecosystem to transact with confidence and reduced fraud risk.

Documentary Credit (Letter of Credit / LC)

A commitment issued by a bank on behalf of a buyer, guaranteeing payment to a seller once specified conditions and documents are presented, commonly used to reduce payment risk in trade transactions.

Duplicate Invoice Financing

A form of fraud in which the same invoice is presented to multiple financiers for funding. Ecosystem-wide validation, such as the kind InvoiceHub provides, helps detect and prevent this across participating banks.

E

eBRC (Electronic Bank Realisation Certificate)

An electronic certificate issued by banks confirming that export proceeds have been realised, used by exporters for compliance and by regulators for trade monitoring.

F

Factoring

A financial arrangement in which a business sells its receivables (unpaid invoices) to a third party at a discount in exchange for immediate funds, improving working capital.

FinTech

Short for "financial technology," referring to companies and platforms that use technology to deliver, improve, or enable financial services, often in partnership with regulated banks and financial institutions.

G

GST e-Invoicing

A government mandate requiring eligible GST-registered businesses to report their invoices to a government portal for validation, which issues a unique reference number and QR code. This creates a verified, standardised record of a transaction that can support downstream trade financing and compliance checks.

I

I/EDPMS (Import/Export Data Processing and Monitoring System)

Two linked RBI systems, IDPMS for imports and EDPMS for exports, that connect Customs and authorised dealer banks to track and monitor trade transactions, ensuring every shipment is matched against its corresponding payment for regulatory compliance.

Interoperability

The ability of different systems, platforms, and institutions to exchange and make use of information seamlessly, a core principle underlying Digital Public Infrastructure.

Invoice Discounting

A financing method where a business receives an advance against unpaid invoices, allowing it to access funds before the invoice's due date.

InvoiceHub

IBDIC's platform and India's universal repository for verified and funded invoices, built to support safer invoice financing through real-time duplicate detection, standardised fingerprinting, and ecosystem-wide validation. InvoiceHub is integrated with the RBI's Unified Lending Interface (ULI).

K

KYC (Know Your Customer)

The process banks and financial institutions use to verify the identity of their customers, a standard compliance requirement across financial services.

M

MSME (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises)

Businesses classified by investment and turnover thresholds under

Indian law. MSMEs, particularly those deep in supply chains, are a key focus of IBDIC's financial inclusion efforts.

O

OCEN (Open Credit Enablement Network)

An open API framework that allows digital platforms to plug into a common lending infrastructure, connecting borrowers with lenders through standardised protocols, and extending credit access to underserved MSMEs and individuals beyond traditional banking channels.

OneCompliance

IBDIC's digital utility that brings trade data into a single view for corporates and exporters, offering eBRC and I/EDPMS-ready outputs, automated reconciliation, and real-time audit visibility.

OneTrade

IBDIC's unified platform for the seamless flow of data and documents across the trade ecosystem, enabling paperless and presence-less trade transactions.

R

RBI Regulatory Sandbox

A framework introduced by the Reserve Bank of India that allows fintech and financial infrastructure providers to test innovative products in a controlled, real-world environment under regulatory oversight. IBDIC's Deep-Tier Financing platform successfully exited RBI's 5th Regulatory Sandbox Cohort.

S

Supply Chain Finance

A set of financing solutions that optimise cash flow for both buyers and suppliers across a supply chain, extending affordable credit access beyond a corporate's direct, Tier-1 suppliers.

T

Tokenization

The process of converting rights to an asset, such as an invoice, into a digital token that can be securely tracked, verified, and financed on a shared infrastructure.

Trade Finance

Financial instruments and products used by companies to facilitate international and domestic trade, helping manage the risks and cash flow needs involved in buying and selling goods.

TReDS (Trade Receivables Discounting System)

An RBI-regulated electronic platform for facilitating the financing of trade receivables of MSMEs through multiple financiers.

U

ULI (Unified Lending Interface)

An initiative conceived by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), with the Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH) leading its design and technical development, that enables standardised, industry-wide connectivity across lending institutions for faster and more reliable credit decisioning. InvoiceHub is integrated with ULI.