## Working of TReDS

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## Setting the scope

- MSME financing is the bigger problem
  - ► Invoice financing is one of the solutions to address this problem
    - TReDS deals with ONLY invoice financing on an electronic platform

#### What is TReDS?

Trade Receivables Discounting System (TReDS) is digital platform for facilitating MSMEs to auction their trade receivables at competitive rates through online bidding by multiple financiers (Banks and NBFC factors).

## Challenges of MSME financing

- Funding gap (World Bank globally USD 3 trillion)
- Market power of buyers: MSMEs operate on tight margins (average payment cycle is 90-120 days)<sup>1</sup>
- MSME's access to Finance Indonesia, Phillippines, Malaysia,
   Srilanka 21% India ONLY 4%
- Strong negative relation between length of firm's cash conversion cycle and its profitability.<sup>2</sup>
- Profitability of Indian MSMEs can increase by 25%.3

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>CRISIL study on 5000 firms

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Survey of Japanese firms from 1990 to 2004

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Dun & Bradstreet Survey, 2018

## Challenges of invoice financing

- Information asymmetry for financiers; lack of awareness
- Entry barrier: Discounting landscape still dominated by banks

## Why TReDS?

- Objective of RBI:<sup>4</sup>
  - Need for institutional set-up to boost invoice discounting
  - ► Address the problem of information asymmetry and high rates
  - ► Reduce duration of payment cycle

Not envisaged as solution to all problems: For e.g., Market power?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>TReDS is based on Mexican NAFIN model

## Eligibility criteria for setting up TReDS

#### • Financial criteria

- Minimum paid up equity capital Rs 25 crore
- ► Shareholding by other entities Maximum 10 percent equity
- Overall financial strength promoters/entity

#### • Due diligence of promoters

- Fit and proper SEBI(Issue of Capital and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2009
- ► Track record of 5 years
- Technological capability Minimum requirements
  - ► Electronic platforms
  - ▶ Information dissemination on real time basis
  - ► Robust MIS
  - ► Online surveillance capacity

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No risk for TReDS platform

## On-boarding of participants - One time Master agreements

- Financier and TReDS
- Buyers and TReDS
  - ► Obligation to pay on due date i.e., max 45 days
  - ► No recourse to dispute
  - ► No set offs
- MSME sellers and TReDS Declaration of no charge

## On-boarding of participants - One time Master agreements

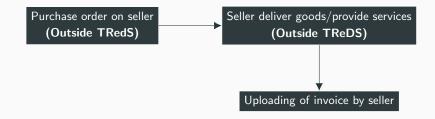
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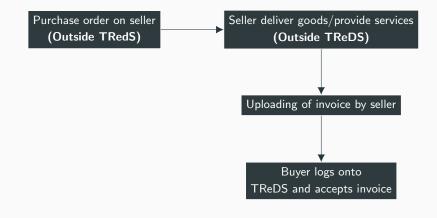
Adherence to regulatory norms
Legal proceedings outside the purview of TReDS

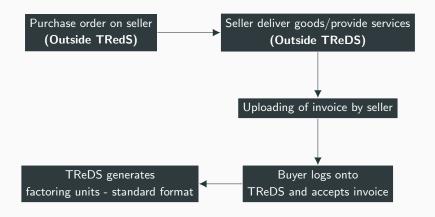
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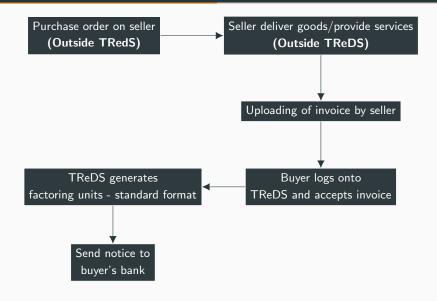
Purchase order on seller (Outside TRedS)

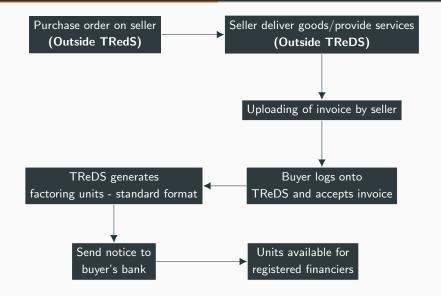


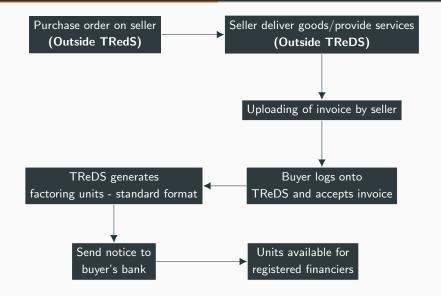


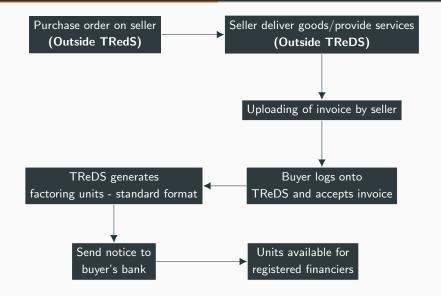




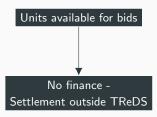




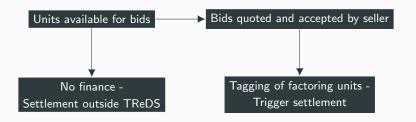


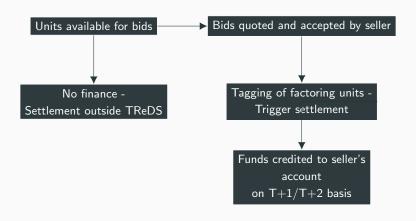


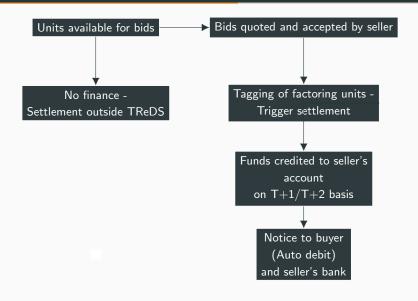
Units available for bids

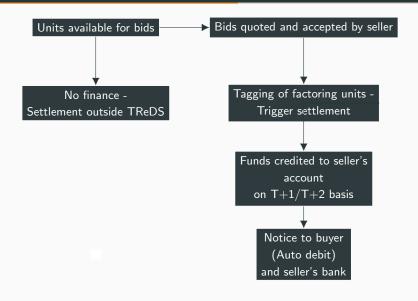


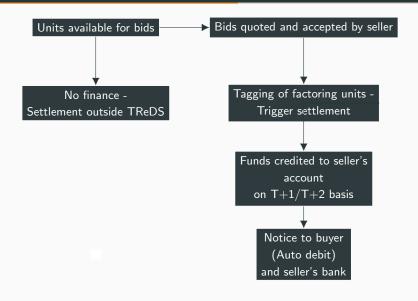






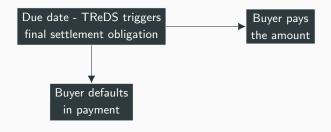


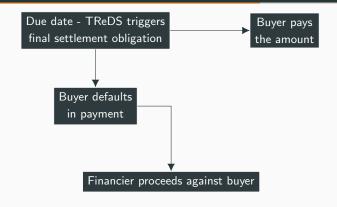


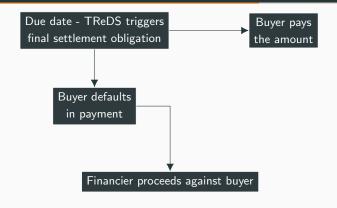


Due date - TReDS triggers final settlement obligation









Non recourse to MSME seller and outside the purview of TReDS

## Benefits for participants

- Financier
  - ► Financing done on credit rating of established buyers
  - ► Reduces due diligence cost for financiers, cross-selling
  - ► Minimize invoice discounting fraud (blockchain solution)
- Seller
  - ► No collaterals for invoice financing
  - ► Competitive rates for suppliers:(8-10)% on TReDS against average 12.5%
  - ▶ Without recourse to seller
- Buyer
  - Optimisation of working capital

## What do buyers think about TReDS?

- Obligation to settle payment within 45 days (MSMED Act, 2006)
- No option of raising disputes, no set-off
- Factoring done on no-recourse to seller basis
- Cost of integration, existing relationship

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Vendors instructed not to sign up for TReDS

# Possible options

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- Remove obligation of 45 days<sup>5</sup>
- Adopt *light touch* approach
  - Disclosures of payment practices on TReDS
  - System of black listing regular defaulters (Collective action of MSME associations)
- Option to settle disputes<sup>6</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>NAFIN model gives flexibility to buyers and financiers to negotiate timeline.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>NAFIN model provides this option.

## Possible options

- Integrating TReDS with GSTN<sup>7</sup>
- Allow more participants to lend<sup>8</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>Awaiting approval of GoM.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup>UK based MarketInvoice allows individuals to participate.

# Regulatory Intervention

## **Compulsory registration + Disclosure**

Year	Developments
November 2, 2018	<ul> <li>Compulsory registration on TReDS fo CPSE and Cos with turnover more than INR 500 Cr</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Cos whose payments to MSMEs exceeds 45 days from date of acceptance (deemed) must file an half yearly return to MCA:</li> </ul>
	<ul><li>Amount of payment dues; and</li><li>Reasons of delay.</li></ul>

# Possible implications?

## Thank You