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WORLD STANDARDS DAY CELEBRATED

The World Standards Day was celebrated by Bureau of Indian Standards on 14 October 2013 which is celebrated the world over as the Foundation Day of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). The seminar was inaugurated by Prof K.V. Thomas, Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Govt. of India.

In his inaugural address Prof Thomas said the theme is indeed very relevant in today's globally competitive environment, when the world is faced with various challenges like sustainability and financial uncertainty which require organizations to be efficient and cost effective. Efficiency is the ability to achieve objectives by implementing processes to develop products or services of optimum quality and with minimum waste, expense or unnecessary effort. Standards provide interchangeability and are necessary for interoperability. They lay down the requirements of quality, safety and performance of products and services.

He further added that Conformance to standards provides consumer's assurance of the quality of goods and services purchased and get better value for money spent. Standards thereby promote consumer confidence. It has been the constant endeavour of BIS to take the benefits of standardization to consumers by way of conformity assessment of products against specified Indian standards. This not only assures quality products to consumers but also takes care of public health and safety.

Shri Panakaj Agrawala, Secretary, Department of Consumer Affairs, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, Government of India in his special address said that the theme of the World Standards Day is very apt in today's context because with the growth of the world population, the demand of natural resources, such as fossil fuels, minerals, forests, land mass near coastal areas is increasing. Hence it is crucial to reduce waste and increase efficiency in all our activities. We can overcome this challenge by making efficient use of energy and other natural resources, increased use of renewable raw material, increased reuse, recycling and recovery, greater use of non-conventional energies like solar and wind, use of alternative bio-fuels, CNG, etc.

Shri Sunil Soni, Director General, BIS said the theme is very relevant in today's context. It is often said that change is the only constraint in this world. We are changing fast than ever before in every field be it technological advancement in transportation, energy, healthcare and every other field. These are affecting us in every work of our life.

(H.L. Kaul)

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