

REVIEW OF BIS ANNUAL REPORT 2014-15

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) was set up on 01 April 1987 as a statutory body, taking over the functions of the erstwhile Indian Standards Institution (ISI). Its major activities include Formulation of Standards, Product Certification, Hallmarking, various Management Systems Certification Schemes, Laboratory Services, Sale of Indian Standards and Training services. Besides, it is also engaged in Consumer related and Promotional Activities.

Major achievements of BIS during the year 2014-15, as reported in its Annual Report are summarized below:

STANDARDIZATION

BIS is formulating need-based Indian standards in line with the National Priorities in a time-bound manner. It also harmonizes National Standards with International Standards in order to facilitate adoption of International Standards by all segments of industry and business.

During 2014-15, BIS formulated 746 standards bringing the total number of standards in force to 19295 as on 31 March 2015. In addition, 3228 standards were reviewed. 5249 Indian standards have been harmonized with International Standards so far. During the year, BIS also organized 12 Seminars/ Workshops and participated in Conferences with a view to disseminate information about the availability of standards and to get feedback for further improvement/ updating as well as to find out fields where standardization is needed by the industry.

CERTIFICATION

PRODUCT CERTIFICATION

During the year 2014-15, BIS has granted 3202 new licences (excluding hallmarking). The total number of operative licences as on 31 March 2014 was 29516. Ten new products were covered for the first time under product certification. Under foreign manufacturers' certification scheme, 111 licences were granted, thus making a total of 470 licences located in various countries.

Registration Scheme

Registration Scheme is being operated by BIS as per BIS Rules - Chapter IV A "REGISTRATION". The Department of Electronics and Information Technology, Ministry of Communication & Information Technology, had issued "Electronics and Information Technology Goods (Requirements for Compulsory Registration) Order, 2012" notifying 15 products for compulsory registration w.e.f. 03 April 2013. Govt. of India, has notified 15 more Electronics and IT goods during Nov 2014, taking the total number of products under this scheme to 30. As on 31 Mar 2015, a total of 1428 registrations have been granted to manufacturers located throughout the world for the above mentioned products.

Review Meetings

In order to acquire feedback on the operation of the BIS Certification Marks Scheme, review meetings with the licensees are organized on a regular basis. In 2014-15, 60 review meetings were organized.

LABORATORY SERVICES

The network of eight BIS laboratories located in different regions of the country continued to undertake conformity testing of BIS certified products against relevant Indian standards. The number of samples tested by BIS Laboratories was 14966. Gold Referral Assaying Laboratory at Chennai started since December 2010, has issued 1174 test reports during 2014-15. As on March 2015, 143 outside labs stood recognised by BIS.

BIS Lab Recognition Scheme

BIS lab recognition scheme supports operation of product certification scheme of BIS. The services of outside laboratories are availed in an eventuality of heavy load for testing in BIS Labs, any equipment being out of order or test facility not being there. As on 31 March 2015, there were 143 outside laboratories recognized by BIS. Besides, facilities of 46 Government laboratories (specialized labs/ other labs) are being utilized by BIS as and when required. To support newly launched BIS Registration Scheme, 93 outside labs were recognized for testing of IT products.

HALLMARKING OF JEWELLERY/ ARTEFACTS

The Scheme for Hallmarking of Gold Jewellery, which was successfully launched by BIS in April 2000, continued to make considerable progress. 1995 Gold hallmarking licences and 176 Silver hallmarking licences have been granted during the year. The number of operative licences for Hallmarking of gold and silver jewellery was 13112 and 936 respectively, as on 31 March 2015. The number of BIS recognized assaying and hallmarking centres was 331 as on 31 March 2015. Regional and Branch offices of BIS organized 40 Awareness programmes for jewellers.

MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS CERTIFICATION

BIS continued to provide the following Management Systems Certification services as per the corresponding standards. 53 Quality Management System Certification licences, 27 Environmental Management Systems Certification licences, 13 Occupational Health & Safety Management Systems Certification licences, 01 Food Safety Management System Certification licence, 17 Service Quality Management System Certification licences and 06 Energy Management System Certification licences were granted during the year. As on 31 March 2015, the total number of operative licences was 1295.

INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

BIS, in its capacity as the National Standards Body of India, is a member of International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and International Electro-technical Commission (IEC). It is actively involved in the development of International Standards by acting as Participating (P) member or Observer (O) member on various Technical Committees, Sub-Committees, Working Groups, etc.

BIS was also actively involved in the Regional and Bi-lateral Co-operation Programmes pertaining to standardization, testing, certification, training etc. So far, BIS has signed MoU/MRA with national standards bodies of 26 countries.

Information services

Technical Information Service Centre

Technical Information Services are provided to Industry, importers, exporters, individuals and government agencies in response to their enquiries. In this endeavour, more than 400 enquiries were responded during the year 2014-15.

WTO/TBT Enquiry Point

BIS continued its activities as the WTO / TBT Enquiry Point. BIS worked in close interaction with the Ministry of Commerce and Industry on various issues of national interest. All valid queries pertaining to Standards and Conformity Assessment systems, both national and of other countries were replied.

TRAINING SERVICES

During 2014-15, National Institute of Training for Standardization (NITS) organized 53 In-house programmes, 49 Open programmes including 7 Lead Auditors courses for the industry, 4 programs for consumer organizations and 5 programs for Technical Committee Members & Standards Developing Organizations under XII plan thus generating revenue of around Rs. 3.62 crores. Besides above, 04 International Training Programmes and 21 programmes for BIS employees were also organised

CONSUMER AFFAIRS

BIS endeavours to provide its services and the benefits of standardization and certification to all its stakeholders in a focused, time bound manner and satisfactory manner. The department handles consumer related activities which includes organizing various awareness programmes for the stakeholders of BIS, organising Rajiv Gandhi National Quality Award and World Standards Day.

Standards Promotion and Consumer Affairs

During the year, 292 consumer awareness programs, 113 Industry awareness programs and 62 programs for educational utilization of standards were organized. 96 grievances/complaints were received and 80 grievances/complaints were redressed.

Rajiv Gandhi National Quality Award

With a view to encourage manufacturers and service organizations to strive for excellence, Rajiv Gandhi National Quality Award was instituted by the Bureau in 1991. The awards for Rajiv Gandhi National Quality Awards for the year 2012 were announced by the Hon'ble Minister for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Government of India. The awards announced included 'Best of All Award' and 03 Category awards (01 Large Scale Manufacturing Industry, 01 Large Scale Service Industry and 01 Small Scale Manufacturing

Industry) and 09 Commendation Certificates. The fact finding and evaluation process for RGNQA 2013 is in progress.

World Standards Day

World Standards Day was celebrated on 14 October 2014 to commemorate the establishment of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). The theme of this year World Standards Day was “Standards level the playing field”.

Enforcement

During the year, 67 enforcement raids were carried out all over India on firms misusing the BIS Standard Mark. 18 cases filed in court were decided, all were decided in favour of BIS.

XIIth PLAN PROJECTS

BIS is implementing following 02 Central Sector Schemes under XIIth Five year Plan (2012-17), as approved by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution:

- i. Gold Hallmarking
- ii. National System for Standardization

VIGILANCE ACTIVITIES

The vigilance Set up of Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) is headed by the Chief Vigilance Officer (CVO) and comprises of Vigilance Department at BIS Headquarters. During 2014-15, a two-day training programme on Preventive Vigilance for the senior officers of BIS was conducted for each of the five regions at NITS, NOIDA, WRO, Mumbai, SRO, Chennai, NRO, Chandigarh and ERO, Kolkata during the year. 78 Senior Officers of BIS participated in these five training programmes. The Vigilance Awareness Week was celebrated in Bureau of Indian Standards from 27 October 2014 to 01 November 2014.

HUMAN RESOURCES

During the year, 67 scientists were recruited for the post of Scientist-B by direct recruitment. As on 31 March 2015, a total of 1532 persons were on roll in BIS.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

For the Twenty Sixth consecutive year i.e. 2014-15, Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) continued to be self reliant in meeting its expenditure and other liabilities. Total income (excluding income from investment) during the year 2014-15 was Rs. 34542.86 lakh as against Rs.31443.12 lakh in the previous year, resulting in an increase of 9.86%. The largest contribution to the income was from ISI Certification Marking Fee which stood at Rs. 30813.14 lakh against Rs. 27949.15 lakh in the previous year i.e. an increase of 10.25%. The total revenue expenditure during the year 2014-15 was Rs. 18765.93 lakh as against Rs. 18656.30 lakh in 2013-14 registering a marginal increase of 0.59%.