

REVIEW OF BIS ANNUAL REPORT 2016-17

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), the National Standard Body of India was established under the BIS Act 1986, assuming the functions of the erstwhile Indian Standards Institution (ISI). BIS is responsible for the harmonious development of the activities of standardization, marking and quality certification of goods and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

STANDARDIZATION

The process of standards development adopted by BIS follows internationally accepted good standardization practices and in compliance with the WTO-TBT code of good practice for preparation, adoption and application of standards. In the development of National Standards, BIS provides all interested stakeholders, with a neutral platform to come together and work towards common agreements. BIS currently provides a forum for 325 Sectional Committees, representing over a thousand experts from organized consumers & consumer bodies, regulatory and other government bodies, industries, scientists, technologists, testing organizations and individual experts. Also includes concerned officials of BIS. These committees work cooperatively to develop consensus based voluntary National standards with stakeholder consultations.

A total of 286 Technical committee meetings were held during 2016-17, to consider draft standards and related technical documents in detail. It is the policy of BIS to formulate Indian Standards on emerging technologies and to withdraw obsolete standards.

During 2016-17, 722 (new 371 and revised 351) standards were formulated. The total number of standards in force, as on 31 March 2017 was 19025.

CERTIFICATION

BIS operates a Product Certification Scheme under the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986 and the Rules and Regulations framed there-under. Under this Certification scheme, a manufacturer of a particular product is given the self marking rights of the BIS standards mark (ISI mark) on his product after ensuring that his product complies with the relevant Indian Standard. Presence of Standard Mark (popularly known as ISI mark) on a product indicates its conformity to the relevant Indian Standard. The certification scheme is voluntary in nature, except for 109 product standards that have been made mandatory by the Central Government on considerations of health and safety of the consumer.

During the year, 4098 new licences were granted, which include 17 products covered for the first time under the scheme. The total number of Indian Standards which have been covered so far under BIS Certification Marks Scheme are 927. The total number of operative licences as on 31 March 2016 was 31347 which increased to 33230 by March 2017.

Surveillance

In order to monitor the operation of licences, during the year, a total number of 10162 inspections and 8256 lot inspections were carried out. In addition, about 21384 samples (including samples procured from market) were drawn for independent testing.

Foreign Manufactures Certification Scheme (FMCS)

BIS has been operating separate Scheme for foreign manufacturers. Under this Scheme, foreign manufacturers can seek certification from BIS for use of BIS Standard Mark on their product(s). During 2016-17, 190 licences were issued under FMCS, taking the total number of operative licences to 671 against 83 Indian Standards. The licences granted covered products such as Steel & Steel products; Cement; PVC Insulated Cables; Tyres & Tubes for Automotive Vehicles; Plastic Feeding Bottles; Switchgear products; Plugs & Socket-Outlets and Switches; HDPE & UPVC Pipes; Infant milk formula; ac Static Energy Meters etc. from around 48 countries across the globe.

Compulsory Registration Scheme (CRS)

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), then known as Department of Electronics & Information Technology (DeitY), in consultation with BIS, notified 'Electronics and Information Technology Goods (Requirements for Compulsory Registration) Order, 2012' on 3 October 2012 mandating Compulsory Registration from BIS for 15 Electronics and Information Technology products based on its safety compliance to Indian Standards. A second Order was notified on 13 November 2014, bringing 15 more electronics and Information Technology products under the ambit of the Scheme. The Compulsory Registration Scheme is being operated by BIS under the BIS Act, 1986 and the Rules, framed thereunder for this purpose.

The first Registration was granted by BIS in June 2013. As on 31 March 2017, BIS has granted 8316 registrations to manufacturers in various countries including domestic manufacturers.

LABORATORY SERVICES

In order to support the activities of the product certification marks scheme, BIS has established eight laboratories in the country to cater to the testing need of samples generated from Product Certification Scheme, beginning with the establishment of Central Laboratory at Sahibabad in 1962. Subsequently, four regional laboratories at Mohali, Kolkata, Mumbai and Chennai and three branch office laboratories at Patna, Bangalore and Guwahati were established. BIS laboratories have facilities for testing of products in chemical, microbiological, electrical and mechanical discipline.

BIS labs have complete test facilities for 376 Indian Standards and partial test facilities for 358 Indian Standards. During the year, the BIS laboratories tested 18502 samples of various products covered under BIS Certification. In addition, the Gold Referral Assaying Laboratory at Chennai has issued 2965 test reports during the year.

Lab Recognition Scheme

As the volume of work for testing of samples generated from product certification scheme is much larger than the available facilities and capacity in BIS labs, BIS has established Laboratory Recognition Scheme (LRS) for recognition of outside laboratories (OSLs). The services of such laboratories are utilized when it is economically not viable to develop test facilities in BIS labs or when BIS labs are overloaded.

During 2016-17, 25 new labs were recognized and 6 labs were de-recognized. As on 31 March 2017, the total number of operative BIS recognized labs were 179, which included reputed R&D organizations, technical institutions, Government labs and Private sector labs. Besides this, services of 47 Government laboratories of specialized nature are utilized for different products, as and when required.

To support the newly launched BIS Compulsory Registration Scheme, 33 outside labs are testing IT products, which were covered under Electronics and Information Technology Goods (Requirement for Compulsory Registration) Order, 2012 of Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).

HALLMARKING

Hallmarking of gold jewellery was launched by BIS in April 2000 to provide third party assurance to consumers on the purity of gold jewellery or its fineness. The scheme for Hallmarking of silver jewellery/ artefacts was launched in October 2005. Under these Scheme, while the jewellers are granted licence to sell hallmarked jewellery, Assaying & Hallmarking (A&H) centres are recognized to assay the purity of the jewellery submitted by the licensed jeweller, along with declaration of purity.

As on 31 March 2017, the number of operative licences for Hallmarking of gold and silver jewellery were 18112 and 1494 respectively. The number of operative BIS recognized A&H centres was 454. During the year, 3.16 crore articles of gold and silver jewellery/ artefacts were hallmarked.

Hallmark of Gold Bullion/Coin

Hallmarking of gold Bullion/Coin in the fineness of 999 & 995 by giving licence to refineries/Mint was started in October 2015. During 2016-17, two licences have been granted to the refineries for the hallmarking of gold Bullions/Coins. As on 31 March 2017, 10 licences have been granted to refineries/ India Government Mint for Gold bullion and coin.

GOLD MONETIZATION SCHEME

Government of India has launched Gold Monetization Scheme on 5 November 2015. BIS has played an important role in finalization and implementation of the Gold Monetization Scheme in association with Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance and Reserve Bank of India. Under the scheme A&H Centres recognized by BIS have been

qualified to act as Collection and Purity Testing Centres (CPTC). So far 48 A&H centres and one Jeweller have been qualified to act as CPTC. The gold collected by CPTCs is to be refined by refineries licenced by BIS.

Promotion of Hallmarking

To promote hallmarking in the country for effective consumer protection in purchase of gold jewellery, awareness programmes for jewellers are organized by BIS through its various Regional and Branch offices across the country. During 2016-17, 53 such jewellers' awareness programmes were organized.

MANAGEMENT SYSTEM CERTIFICATION

BIS is operating various Management Systems Certification schemes and licences granted as on 31 March 2017, 867 Quality Management System Certification (QMS) licences, 203 Environmental Management Systems (EMS) Certification licences, 102 Occupational Health & Safety Management Systems (OHSMS) Certification licences, two Hazards Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) stand-alone licences, 35 HACCP licences integrated with QMS, 14 Food Safety Management System (FSMS) licences, 101 Service Quality Management System (SQMS) licences, 20 Energy Management System (EnMS) licences and one Medical Devices Management System (MDMS) licences were in operation.

INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND TECHNICAL INFORMATION SERVICES

- BIS in its capacity as the National Standards Body of India, is a member of International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and through the Indian National Committee a member of International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC). BIS actively participates in the activities of these International bodies and is involved in development of International Standards as Participating (P) member or Observer (O) member on various Technical Committees and Sub-Committees; and nominates technical experts in Working Groups of these bodies. As on 31 March 2017, BIS is a 'P' member in 433 Technical Committees/ Subcommittees of ISO and 86 Technical Committees/Subcommittees of IEC, and 'O' Member in 219 Technical Committees/Subcommittees of ISO and 72 Technical Committees/ Subcommittees of IEC. The Secretariat of 8 important ISO Committees dealing with subjects that are of interest to India are being held by India through BIS.

BIS has entered into Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) and Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRAs) with the National Standards Bodies of various countries for cooperation in the areas of standards, Conformity assessment, testing and training/ capacity building and for mutual acceptance of each other's conformity assessment results respectively. BIS has so far signed 32 MoUs and 6 MRAs of which 7 MoUs and 1 MRA were concluded during 2016-17.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION SERVICES & WTO-TBT ENQUIRY POINT

BIS provides technical information services in the field of standards and conformity assessment to industry, importers, exporters and government agencies in response to their enquiries. 1079 enquiries were responded during the period from April 2016 to March 2017.

Sponsorship of Identification Numbers

- ***Issuer Identification Number (IIN)***

BIS facilitates issue of IINs as per ISO/IEC 7812 'Identification Cards - Identification of issuers' by sponsoring applications of Banks/ Financial Organizations to the American Bankers Association (ABA). The ISO/IEC 7812 specifies a numbering system for the identification of issuers of the identification cards used in international and/ or inter-industry interchange. During this period, BIS had taken up the application of M/s National Payment Cooperation of India (NPCI), (an autonomous body set up by the Reserve Bank of India as an Umbrella organization for retail payments in India) for allotment of 3000 IINs under Card Scheme Block Holder, for enabling them to further the Government of India initiative of Digital India.

- ***World Manufacturer Identifier (WMI) Number***

In co-ordination with the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE), USA; BIS issues WMI Codes as per ISO 3780 : 2009 'Road Vehicles - World Manufacturer Identifier (WMI) Code' to automobile manufacturers and exporters in India. 180 WMI Codes have been allotted to various vehicle manufacturers during 2016-17.

TRAINING SERVICES

National Institute of Training for Standardization (NITS) was set up under the aegis of BIS in 1995 to meet the growing needs and expectations of the industry for quality training in the fields of standardization, quality assurance, management systems, certification, laboratory testing, etc. NITS has also been organizing various International Training Programmes for the developing countries of Asia, Africa, Europe and Latin and South America. The programmes are conducted by a team of well-experienced, qualified and trained faculty.

During year 2016-17, NITS conducted a number of training programmes for the Industry, International participants and BIS employees. There has been an increase in the number of programmes organized during the period as well as the number of persons trained vis-à-vis the number of programmes carried out and the number of persons trained in the previous years. The total number of programmes conducted during this period is 177. The number of personnel trained during 2016-17 for the industry was 2355 which is about 13.5% more than the last year figures of 2075.

CONSUMER AFFAIRS

BIS endeavours to provide its services and the benefits of standardization and certification to all its stakeholders in a focused manner. The Consumer Affairs department of BIS handles various consumer related activities which include redressal of public grievances, organizing various awareness programmes for the stakeholders of BIS and holding of World Standards Day.

During the year, 163 consumer awareness programmes, 62 Industry awareness programmes, 39 Educational Utilization of Standards Programmes were organized across the country.

World Standards Day :

BIS celebrated the World Standards Day on 14 October 2016 at New Delhi to pay tribute to the collaborative efforts of thousands of experts worldwide, who develop voluntary technical agreements that are published as International or National Standards. The World Standards Day theme for the year 2016 was 'Standards Build Trust'. BIS on the occasion also organized a seminar on this theme. World Standards Day programmes were also held across the country by BIS Regional and Branch Offices.

PUBLICITY

The publicity activity of BIS is aimed at creating awareness for various BIS activities among its target audience including the Industry and common Consumer, significantly relating to Standardization, Certification of goods & services and Hallmarking of Gold Jewellery. The publicity was done through print, electronic and outdoor media.

Aggressive publicity campaigns were taken up aiming at persuading consumers to buy ISI Marked goods and Hallmarked Gold Jewellery. Consumers were also informed about the mechanism regarding the redressal of complaints relating to BIS. BIS also participated in popular consumer and industrial fairs/exhibitions to disseminate information on the various activities of BIS.

SALE OF STANDARDS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS

BIS sells Indian Standards and Special Publications through 25 different sales outlets located at the Headquarters (HQs), Regional Offices and Branch Offices. Sale is also done through registered booksellers. BIS also sells foreign standards (ISO, IEC, BSI London, DIN Germany, JIS Japan) in India. BIS also sells Indian Standards through e-portal. Standards can be downloaded in the form of soft copy. Alternatively, an order for hard copy can be placed through the e-portal. Online payment can be made over the portal through credit/debit card. Customers can also make payment for standards through NEFT/RTGS.

HINDI ACTIVITIES

BIS is following all the act, rules, directions and orders issued by the Department of Official Language regarding official language. Official Language Committee of HQ conducted all its four quarterly meetings on time. The Second Sub Committee of Committee of Parliament on Official Language inspected Headquarter on 18 February 2017. The Committee expressed satisfaction over the progressive use of Hindi in BIS. During the year, 53 standards were translated and titles of 540 standards were also made bilingual.

PLAN SCHEMES

Hallmarking:

BIS has been implementing the Plan scheme for setting up of gold Assaying and Hallmarking (A&H) centres in India with central assistance. The scheme on Hallmarking, operative since the Xth Plan has continued in the XIIth Plan.

During 2016-17, BIS received ₹ 117.8 lakhs and ₹ 32.2 lakhs carry-over of pervious year (total amount 150 lakhs) under this scheme and spent ₹ 147 lakhs. Sixteen artisan training programmes, six A&H personnel training programmes and three Training of Trainers programme were conducted.

National System for Standardization:

The scheme on National System of Standardization (NSS) which commenced during the XIth Plan has continued to operate in the XIIth Plan.

During 2016-17, BIS has spent about Rs. 164.53 lakhs and no grant received for NSS activities.

INFORMATION TECHNOIOLOGY SERVICES

In line with the Government's initiatives for computerization and to make day to day functioning of BIS online, IT is being enabled as a strategic resource for development and continual improvement of systems. The overall objective is to improve services by increasing efficiency, transparency and ensuring reliability and timely delivery to BIS stakeholders.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND WORKS

The works relating to construction of new office buildings for BIS Offices and renovation works in existing buildings is undertaken by Project Management and Works Department (PMWD) of BIS.

PMWD has also undertaken a 'green' initiative under which projects for installation of Rooftop Solar Power Plants in BIS buildings are being undertaken through the Solar Energy Corporation of India.

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 and a Vigilance Section in the Secretariat of each of the Disciplinary Authority for Group B, C & D employees (Deputy Director General concerned).

The Vigilance Department functions in close coordination with Central Vigilance Commission (CVC), Central Bureau of Investigations (CBI) and Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution. It is entrusted with the responsibility of managing all vigilance related activities of the Bureau in accordance with the guidelines on the subject issued by Central Vigilance Commission and DoPT etc.

HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT, ADMINISTRATION AND GENERAL SERVICES

Recruitment - During the year, 13 scientists in waiting list of the recruitment process of 2015-16 joined as Scientist-B through direct recruitment.

Swachh Bharat Mission - The Swachh Bharat drive was carried out in BIS in two phases i.e. 16– 31 May 2016 & 16 – 31 October 2016.

Staff Welfare - BIS continued its welfare measures for its employees namely by way of Group Insurance Schemes, facility of Holiday Homes, subsidized refreshments, provision of newspapers at the reception counter and to officers of the level of Deputy Director General and above, Children Scholarship Scheme, etc.

Library Services - BIS technical Library located at Headquarters is a national resources centre for information on standards and related matters and meets the needs of industry, trade, government, researchers and consumers alike.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT OF WORKING WOMEN AT WORKPLACE - In compliance with the guidelines of the Supreme Court of India on the prevention of sexual harassment of women at work place, an Internal Complaints Committee at BIS Headquarters was constituted under Section 4 of (i) Rule 3-C and Government of India's Decisions (25) under said Rule of the Central Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964; (ii) Sexual Harassment of Women at Work Place [Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal] Act, April 2013; and (iii) Sexual Harassment of Women at Work Place (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Rules, December 2013; and re-constituted on 5 November 2015 for a period of two years. The composition of the newly constituted Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) at BIS Headquarters consists of a senior level women employee as Presiding Officer and three other members including one member from All India Democratic Women's Association (AIDWA), New Delhi. In addition, ICCs have also been constituted in the four Regional Offices at Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai & Chandigarh.

FINANCE ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT

For the Twenty Eighth consecutive year i.e. 2016-17, Bureau of Indian Standards continued to be self reliant in meeting its expenditure and other liabilities. Total income (excluding income from investment) during the year 2016-17 amounted to Rs. 45663.38 lakh as against Rs. 39082.83 lakh in the previous year resulting in an increase of 16.84%. The largest contribution to the income was from Product Certification Marking Fee which stood at Rs. 38930.80 lakh against Rs. 32611.05 lakh in the previous year i.e. an increase of 19.38%. The total revenue expenditure during the year 2016-17 amounted to Rs. 21633.58 lakh as against Rs. 21001.20 lakh in 2015-16 registering a increase of 3.01%.