

BUREAU OF INDIAN STANDARDS
160th Meeting of the Executive Committee

PROCEEDINGS

Day and Date : Tuesday, 19 November 2024

Venue : Bureau of Indian Standards,
DG's Committee Room,
Manak Bhavan, 9, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg,
New Delhi - 110002

PRESENT:

Chairman : 1. Shri Pramod Kumar Tiwari, DG, BIS

Members (Present) : 2. Shri Bharat Khera, Additional Secretary,
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public
Distribution
3. Dr. Anant Sharma, National President
Consumer Confederation of India (CCI);
4. *Shri Suhshil Pal, Joint Secretary, MEITY;
5. *Shri Anil Kumar Sagar, Principal Secretary, Infrastructure and
Industrial Development Department Government of UP
6. *Prof. Devendra Jalihal
Director, IIT Guwahati
7. * Prof. Venugopal Achanta, Director, NPL

Representatives : 1. Shri Aashish Kumar, Sr. Consultant
Director Level, DPIIT (represented Shri Sanjiv,
Joint Secretary, DPIIT);
2. Shri Milind Deore, Secretary, BEE (represented Shri Shrikant
Nagulpalli, Director General, Bureau of Energy Efficiency
(BEE))

**Members (Leave of
Absence)** : 1. Shri Shantmanu, AS&FA, MoCA, F & PD;
2. Shri. V. Arun Roy, IAS, Secretary, Industries
Department, Chennai, Government of Tamil Nadu;
3. Ms. Charu Mathur, Director General, IEEMA;
4. Shri Rajat Moona, Director, IIT Gandhinagar;

***BIS Officers
in Attendance***

- :
1. Shri H.J.S. Pasricha, DDG (Certification);
 2. Shri Rajeev Sharma, DDG (Standardization-I);
 3. Shri Chandan Bahl, DDG (IR & TIS, MSC & SCM);
 4. Lt Col (Retd.) Kumar Shantanu, DDG (Administration);
 5. Shri Vinod Kumar, DDG (Finance);
 6. Shri A Chatterjee, Head (NITS);
 7. Shri. Ajay Tiwari, H (LRMD)
 8. Ms. Alka, Secretary (BIS);
 9. Smt Neha Singhal, Director (GSD)

** Through video conference*

Item 1. WELCOME BY THE CHAIRMAN

The 160th meeting of the Executive Committee (EC) of BIS was held on 19 November 2024 to discuss the Agenda circulated to the members on 12 November 2024.

Item 2. PRESENTATION ON IMPORTANT INITIATIVES TAKEN BY BIS SINCE LAST EC MEETING HELD ON 06 AUGUST 2024

2.1 DG, BIS welcomed the members. A presentation on activities of BIS, highlighting the important initiatives and achievements by BIS in recent past was made by the activity heads of BIS.

The presentation is enclosed as **Annexure 2A**.

Item 3. CONFIRMATION OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF 159th MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EC) OF BIS HELD ON 06 AUGUST 2024

3.1 There being no comments from the members, EC confirmed the proceedings of the 159th meeting of EC held on 06 August 2024 as given as **Annexure 3A** (enclosed) of the agenda.

Item 4. ACTION TAKEN REPORT (ATR) ON THE DECISIONS TAKEN/ACTIONABLE POINTS OF THE 159th MEETING OF EC HELD ON 06 AUGUST 2024

4.1 EC noted the Action Taken Report of the 159th meeting of EC, held on 06 August 2024 as given in **Annexure 4A** (enclosed) of the agenda.

Item 5 Revision in Guidelines for Hiring of Consultants

Background

As approved by the 159th Executive Committee, the provisions in guidelines for engagement of consultants were revised.

However, it was informed that considering the large number of candidates to be interviewed (scheduled during second week of November 2024), the current provision of Selection Committee for engagement of consultants needs to be modified. In view of the same, following modifications have been made in the existing guidelines:

Sl No	Cl No	Old provisions	Revised provisions
1	6	<p>The decision to engage a Consultant shall be taken with the approval of DG BIS. HRD shall process for appointment of Consultants for Standardization through an open advertisement, followed by selection of the Consultant by a Selection Committee comprising the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Chairperson of concerned Technical Committee (Chairperson)2. One Member of the Technical committee concerned as nominated by Chair.3. Head of the concerned Technical Department4. Member secretary of the concerned Technical Committee (Member Secretary)	<p>The decision to engage a Consultant shall be taken with the approval of DG BIS. HRD shall process for appointment of Consultants for Standardization through an open advertisement, followed by selection of the Consultant by a Selection Committee comprising the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Chairperson of concerned Technical Committee (Chairperson) OR one senior member of the Technical committee2. One Member of the Technical committee concerned as nominated by Chair.3. Head of the concerned Technical Department OR Senior Officer of the concerned Technical Department4. Member secretary of the concerned Technical Committee (Member Secretary)

Proposal made to the EC

The Executive Committee was requested to accord post-facto approval.

Decision of the EC

EC approved.

**Item 6 CONSTITUTION OF ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE FOR PROMOTION UPTO
THE LEVEL OF SCIENTIST-E**

Background

The agenda was circulated to the EC members on 19 September 2024 for approval, considering the urgency of matter and was approved by EC on 26 September 2024.

Proposal made to the EC

The Executive Committee was informed about the approval via circulation.

Decision of the EC

EC noted.

Item 7 ANY OTHER BUSINESS WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR

Following points were deliberated by the committee while discussing the update on BIS activities:

1. Regarding the QCOs, it was suggested that the list of QCOs can be uploaded on the BIS website. Chairman emphasised on more awareness on the QCOs and desired that all the branch offices of BIS should release newspaper advertisements on the same.
2. While discussing about Hallmarking, it was suggested by the Executive Committee that though the list of districts under mandatory Hallmarking is available on BIS website, but same may also be added to the BIS Care App for convenience of common consumer. Committee also suggested BIS to explore the provision of mentioning the weight of the hallmarked ornament along with other details. This will bring fairer practice as the scope of cheating by copying the hallmark code will mitigate to large extent.
3. It was also suggested by the committee to engage social media influencer along with celebrities for promotion of BIS standard marks and standards, harnessing benefit of their large popularity.

**Item 8 ENGAGEMENT OF 01 ADVISOR & 01 CONSULTANT FOR OFFICE OF
HON'BLE PRESIDENT OF BUREAU & HON'BLE MINISTER OF
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION**

Background:

Office of the Hon'ble Minister of Consumer Affairs had asked BIS for engaging 01 Advisor (w.e.f 01.07.2024) & 01 Consultant (w.e.f 01.10.2024) in the Office of Hon'ble President of BIS & Hon'ble Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution at a salary of Rs. 1,25,000/- per month.

As per Sl. no. 46 of Schedule of Bureau of Indian Standards (Powers and Duties of Director General) Regulations, 2018, to appoint persons on contract or on tenure basis to meet the exigencies of work the DG:BIS has full power with prior approval of Central Government. However, it was 'agreed' with the consideration that ratification of DoCA will be obtained and EC will be informed in the next meeting.

Proposal made to the EC

The agenda item was submitted for information of the Executive Committee.

Decision of the EC

EC noted.

Item 9 REVISED ESTIMATE (RE) 2024-2025 AND BUDGET ESTIMATE (BE) 2025-2026

Background:

As per Section 22 of the BIS Act, 2016 read with Rule 38 of BIS Rules, 2018, Bureau shall prepare Budget Estimate (BE) for the next year and Revised Estimates (RE) for the current year showing estimated receipts and expenditure and forward the same to Central Government. The Governing Council (GC) in its first meeting held on 22.11.2017 had delegated this to DG with the approval of Executive Committee (EC). as per Rule 39 of the BIS Rules, 2018, *“the funds provided in the sanctioned budget shall be deemed to be at the disposal of the Director General who shall have full powers to appropriate sums therefrom to meet expenditure under different heads of accounts for activities and purposes authorized and provided for in the budget.”*

DDG (Finance) presented the summary of proposal of budget under RE 2024-2025 and BE 2025-2026. The detailed proposal under various Budget Head for RE 2024-2025 and BE 2025-2026 along with explanatory details was informed as:

Part – 1 : Revenue Budget

Part – 2 : Capital Budget (Internal Resources)

Part – 3 : Advance (Internal Resources)

The proposals of RE 2024-25 and BE 2025-26 were placed before Finance Advisory Committee (FAC) of BIS in its 67th Meeting held on 14 November 2024. FAC had recommended the same for approval of Executive Committee (EC).

Proposal made to the EC

The Executive Committee was requested to consider the RE 2024-25 and BE 2025-26 as recommended by FAC of BIS.

Decision of the EC

EC approved.

ITEM:10 LEASED ACCOMMODATION POLICY FOR BIS EMPLOYEES

Background:

BIS employees are not covered under Central Government General Pool Residential Accommodation (CGPRA) and BIS owns limited flats at few locations, and therefore considering the accommodation crunch, a committee was constituted by the Competent Authority to address the issues and explore possibilities and way forward.

A request for addressing the accommodation issues was also received from Bureau of Indian Standards Laboratory Employees' Association (BISLEA) and Bureau of Indian Standards Employees' Union (BISEU).

The committee after deliberations observed as under:

- (i) BIS is the National Standards Body of India and its employees are working round the clock in "national interest".
- (ii) BIS employees have an All India Transfer liability and have to move at different locations sometimes as early as 2-3 years. Further, a significant number of officials particularly Group-A and Group-B are posted out of their hometown.
- (iii) The degree of transfer of Group-A and Group-B employees is much more than that of Group-C employees and Group-C are mostly posted either at their home town or at the same station for a long tenure.
- (iv) BIS does not have own flats at all the locations also BIS do not have sufficient flats to cater to the housing requirements of all its employees. Further, the flats available are of comparatively smaller in size than the entitled limits of the officers and also not commensurate to the HRA being drawn by the officers leading to majority of such flats lying vacant.
- (v) BIS owns a 107 no. of flats across India. The location details of the BIS owned flats is tabulated as under:

LOCATION	NO. OF FLATS
CHANDIGARH	10
BHOPAL	12
AHMEDABAD	12
COIMBATORE	04
CHENNAI	06
JAIPUR	06
MUMBAI	33
UTTAR PRADESH (Kaushambi)	24

- (vi) The committee was of the view that with the increased cost of living, it becomes very difficult for the employees to take rented accommodation in the HRA limits especially at the metro cities.

(vii) The committee noted that multiple statutory and autonomous bodies like FSSAI, ICMR, ICAR, Prasar Bharti, CBSE, CSIR, etc. are already availing accommodation under the general pool.

(viii) The committee recommended that BIS is by and large fulfilling all the parameters for eligibility under General Pool Residential Accommodation and recommended BIS should immediately apply for Central Government Housing Pool so that the housing problem of its employees can be addressed.

After the approval of the Competent Authority, the matter regarding inclusion of BIS under CGPRA was referred to DoCA and however, DoCA vide letter No. V-11/48/2022-BIS dated 26.09.2022 Annexure-10B (page no. 166) informed the conditions for eligibility under CGPRA which mandatorily required that the staff is to be paid from the Consolidated Fund of India. Since, salaries of BIS employees are paid from BIS funds and not from Consolidated Fund of India, it was found that BIS employees are not eligible for CGPRA.

The committee then deliberated on a separate leased accommodation policy for BIS employees and discussed lease accommodation policies of various PSU/Central Government and State Government organizations. The committee noted that National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), a statutory body under Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, also has a leased accommodation policy in place and NHAI employees draw salaries in CDA scales similar to BIS employees. The committee was of the view that NHAI being a dedicated wing of Government of India for infrastructure purposes and has come out with a recent lease policy for its employee which is better to adopt, therefore the Committee recommended that lease policy of NHAI may be adopted in BIS by making suitable amendments as per requirements of BIS.

The draft lease policy prepared by the committee and approved by DG: BIS.

On the recommendation of the committee, following has been approved by DG: BIS:

(i) The limited BIS owned flats, wherever available and presently restricted for allotment to Group-A employees, may be allotted to all eligible employees as per the entitlements given in CGPRA Rules, 2017.

(ii) Two flats at each location may be reserved as guest house as a welfare measure to serve the BIS employees at large.

The estimated annual financial implication on the implementation of the policy will be Rs. 14.50 crores.

As per Regulation 12(3) of BIS (Terms and Conditions of Services of Employees) 2020 i.e., Dearness Allowance, House Rent Allowance, Overtime Allowance and other tough location allowances I, II, III shall be the same as applicable to the employees of the Central Government except for such modifications as may be made by the Executive Committee with the approval of the Central Government.

Proposal made to the EC

In view of the above, the Executive Committee was requested to review the recommendations and approve the implementation of the lease accommodation policy for BIS employees in terms of Regulation 12(3) of BIS (Terms and Conditions of Services of Employees), 2020.

Decision of the EC

After deliberation EC recommended that the said policy be implemented in 'X' category cities initially. The experience and feedback be observed and EC may review it after sometime. EC further recommended that considering the litigations that BIS may face with implementation of this policy, the terms and conditions of lease may be modified suitably.

Considering the transfer aspect and the difficulties being faced by employees, EC also suggested that in place of the proposed policy, like many other Govt. organisations and PSUs are practicing, BIS may explore enhancing the HRA on the basis of location.

It was decided that BIS will bring a revised proposal after considering the suggestion above.

Item: 11 ITP for senior officials of National Standards Bodies.

Background:

International Training Programmes (ITP) is being conducted by NITS since 1968 every year for the developing countries under the flagship of ITEC, Ministry of External Affairs, GoI on the Management Systems, Standardization and Conformity Assessment and Competence of Laboratories and their Management System.

In the current year i.e. 2024-25, NITS has already organized 20th ITP on Management Systems. The 55th ITP on Standardization and Conformity Assessment is scheduled from 20th November 2024 to 03rd December 2024 while the 15th ITP on Competence of Laboratories and their Management System is scheduled on 05th to 18th February 2025.

It is pertinent to mention that participation in these ITPs is permitted for all officials including officials from NSBs, Regulatory bodies, Academia etc. In the ITPs organized so far it has been observed that participation of senior officials from NSBs is less. Therefore, a need has been felt to organize an ITP on standardization exclusively for senior officials of NSBs with the purpose of creating awareness on the availability of Indian Standards in emerging and priorities areas so that, the same may be adopted by these NSBs which in turn may enhance trade between India and such countries.

Proposal made to the EC

In view of above, it is intended to have an ITP on standardization exclusively for senior officials of NSBs under the flagship of ITEC, Ministry of External Affairs, GoI. Considering that this programme will be attended by the senior officials, the duration of the programme has been kept as 5 days. Committee was requested to consider.

Decision of the EC

EC appreciated the initiative and accorded its approval.