

Manak Samachar



Bureau of Indian Standards
The National Standards Body of India

February 2026

STRENGTHENING THE QUALITY ECOSYSTEM: BIS CELEBRATES 79th ANNIVERSARY WITH A RENEWED FOCUS ON MSMEs, WOMEN, AND YOUTH

The 79th Foundation Day of the Bureau of Indian Standards was celebrated across India, with the main event held at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi.

Addressing the event as Chief Guest, Shri Pralhad Joshi, Union Minister for Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, said - **"Quality should be synonymous with 'Made in India'. As envisioned by Honourable PM Narendra Modi – Quality in Governance, Quality in Manufacturing and Quality in Delivery are the three mantras for India's journey to Viksit Bharat. There should be a balance between Quality of Governance and Ease of Doing Business"**. He commended the BIS for its evolution from a traditional regulator into a facilitator for industry, noting its success in fostering a culture of standardisation rather than one of mere compliance.

On this occasion, **DG BIS, Shri Sanjay Garg**, presented the highlights of BIS activities and outlined the roadmap for the coming year - a fully integrated standardisation activities that prioritise sectors of national importance. He said **"Quality is the single most determine factor between a developed and developing nation and pursuit for Viksit Bharat cannot ignore Quality"**. He further added that BIS would be working towards a more collaborative approach with industries to encourage voluntary adaptation to standards.

In the presence of Union Minister for Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, Shri Pralhad Joshi, Minister of State Shri B. L. Verma, Additional Secretary of DoCA Shri Bharat Khera, members from the Government of India, BIS officers, and industry representatives, several key schemes and initiatives were launched on this occasion.

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT THROUGH SENSITISATION OF SELF-HELP GROUPS ON INDIAN STANDARDS

"SHINE- Standards Help Inform & Nurture Empowered Women" - is a new scheme of BIS that places women, at the center of India's quality journey. Through structured training, grassroots partnerships with NGOs and SHGs, and practical, locally delivered programmes, the scheme empowers women with knowledge that protects families from substandard products. This initiative envisions women not merely as consumers, but as change agents, spreading awareness about standards, safety, and quality within households, self-help groups, and communities.

BETA LAUNCH OF BIS STANDARDISATION PORTAL

Beta Version of the New BIS Standardisation Portal, is a future-ready digital platform that integrates the entire standards development lifecycle into a single interface and streamlines the complete workflow—from proposal to publication—through specialised modules for Standards Formulation, Review, and Collaboration of Experts. By featuring advanced data-driven dashboards and role-based access, the portal ensures enhanced transparency, inclusivity, and speed for stakeholders of Standards Formulation.

The past year has been transformative for the Bureau of Indian Standards, marked by the rollout of several key standards aimed at enhancing consumer safety, promoting environmental sustainability, and supporting technological sovereignty in national priority projects. The Bureau also hosted global events like IEC GM2025 and facilitated ease of doing business through simplified licensing, digitised processes, financial concessions for MSME segments, and the enhancement of laboratory infrastructure and capacity building.

Notable standards introduced include IS 19114:2025 for the Common Yoga Protocol and IS 5610: 2025 for Refrigerants, which aligns India with the Kigali Agreement by phasing out harmful substances in favour of zero-ozone-depleting alternatives. Additionally, IS 19321:2025 ensures the compatibility and performance of NavIC receivers, while IS 19348:2025 mandates rigorous durability and clarity tests for glass screen protectors. In the urban sector, IS 19413: 2025 introduces Intelligent Traffic Management, utilising adaptive signal controllers to reduce congestion and IS 19469:2025 establishes clear nomenclature for the diamond industry, distinguishing between natural and lab-grown stones to maintain market transparency. These standards, together create a robust quality ecosystem for an Atmanirbhar Bharat.

**"WE ALL SHOULD HAVE ONLY
— ONE MANTRA —
QUALITY
QUALITY, AND QUALITY"**

Let us resolve to improve the quality of whatever we manufacture.
Be it our textiles, technology, electronics, or packaging, the connotation of an Indian product should become **'top quality'**.
Let us make excellence our benchmark

Narendra Modi
Prime Minister



130th Episode
25 January 2026



ANNUAL PROGRAMME FOR STANDARDISATION 2026-27: A CONSULTATION MEETING WITH INDUSTRY ASSOCIATIONS

Bureau of Indian Standards hosted the Annual Programme for Standardisation (APS) 2026-27 on 21 January 2026 at Manak Bhawan. To finalise the upcoming year's technical roadmap, Shri Sanjay Pant, DDG (Standardisation-II), and Shri Chandan Bahl, DDG (International Relations), chaired the session, engaging over 65 industry leaders. The consultation focused on the MCM disciplines (Mechanical, Civil, and Metallurgy), identifying priorities for new standards and essential revisions. BIS Leadership requested industry representatives to maintain active participation in BIS Technical Committee meetings, not only to provide expert comments during the development phase but also to track the progress of the standardisation subjects they proposed.

TOP STORIES INSIDE

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STANDARDS IN NEWS

NOTIFIED QUALITY STANDARDS

BIS continues to expand and refine its collection of Quality Standards. To date, BIS has published 23,289 Indian Standards, ensuring safer products, stronger industries, and greater trust for consumers. In January 2026, 22 New Standards and 42 Revised Standards were published including:

Electronics And Information Technology

IS 19450: 2025 E-Textbooks in Education - Requirements

Medical Equipment and Hospital Planning

IS 19476: 2025 Pure-tone and Speech Audiometers - Specification

Management System

IS/ISO 55013: 2024 Asset Management - Guidance on the Management of Data Assets

Metallurgical

IS 19464: 2025 Steel Wire for Hose Reinforcement - Specification

Petroleum, Coal and Related Products

IS 1448 (Part 201): 2025 Petroleum and its Products - Methods of Test Part 201 Determination of Oxygenates Such as Ethers, Tertiary Amyl Alcohol and C1 to C4 Alcohols in Motor Gasoline by Gas Chromatography Method

Food and Agriculture

IS 19361: 2025 Unmanned Aerial Spraying System - Requirement and Test Procedure

IS 19397: 2025 Compounded Feed for Pregnant Cows and Buffaloes - Specification

IS 19434: 2025 Mobile Agro-Processing Units for Food Grains - Safety Requirements

IS 19458: 2025 Eggs and Egg Products - Determination of Fipronil and Metabolites Residues - Liquid Chromatography Tandem Mass Spectrometry Method

IS 19459: 2025 Meat and Meat Products Determination of Nitrite and Nitrate Content Ion Chromatography Method

STANDARD IN FOCUS

BIS Grants First All-India License for GFRP Bars Strengthening Infrastructure

In a landmark development for India's construction industry, Bureau of Indian Standards has granted the first all-India licence for **Glass Fibre Reinforced Polymer (GFRP) bars**. Issued under **IS 18256:2023**, this certification establishes a formal framework for a modern alternative to traditional steel reinforcement. The GFRP bars may be used for applications in reinforced concrete elements with low risk such as slab-on-grade (pavements, floorings), drainage structures, fences, and manhole covers. For application in roads, highways and bridges, relevant guidelines of Indian Road Congress may be referred.

Building Resilient Infrastructure

Standardising GFRP bars is a pivotal move toward building durable infrastructure across India's diverse geographic conditions. Key benefits include:

- **Corrosion Resistance:** Unlike steel, GFRP bars do not rust, making them ideal for coastal areas, and chemical-exposed environments.
- **Enhanced Longevity:** By eliminating rust-related degradation, these bars reduce maintenance costs and extend structural lifespans.
- **Logistical Efficiency:** Significantly lighter than steel, GFRP bars are easier to transport and handle, accelerating construction timelines and reducing labour effort.

ALL INDIA FIRST LICENSE	
Standard/Products	Licensee
IS 1628: 1986 Axle Oil	Prabhat Chemical Industries
IS 1573 : 1986 Electroplated Coatings of Zinc on Iron and Steel	HMB Ispat Pvt. Ltd.
IS 64 : 2023 Barium Sulphate Pigments for Paints	Vishnu Barium Pvt. Ltd.
IS 16718 : 2021 Agro Textiles - Polypropylene Spun Bonded Non-Woven Crop Covers and Fruit Skirting Bags for Agricultural and Horticultural Applications	Sidwin Fabric Pvt. Ltd.
IS 4665 (Part 2/Sec 1): 2023/ IEC 60745-2-1:2003 Hand-Held Motor-Operated Electric Tools Safety Part 2 Particular Requirements Section 1 Drills and Impact Drills	Hindmedico Product Pvt. Ltd.

STANDARD IN ACTION

IS 19418:2025 Campus Facilities and Accommodation Services for Educational Organisations - Requirements



IS 19418:2025 specifies requirements for campus facilities and accommodation services provided within educational organisation campuses, irrespective of their size, geographic location, or socio-cultural environment. Standalone accommodation facilities not located within campuses are excluded from the scope.

- It comprehensively covers aspects such as core infrastructure including classrooms, laboratories, libraries, health and wellness centers, sanitation, drinking water, lighting, electricity, and communication systems
- Accommodation-specific governance, residential amenities, dining services, and code of conduct
- Safety and security, including fire safety, surveillance, emergency preparedness, and compliance with statutory regulations
- Services for members with special needs, ensuring accessibility and inclusivity
- Sustainability practices related to energy efficiency, waste management, and environmental stewardship

Implementation of IS 19418:2025 is expected to:

- Enhance safety, comfort, and well-being of students, faculty, and staff
- Promote inclusive, accessible, and gender-sensitive campus environments
- Improve consistency and quality of campus service delivery across institutions
- Support sustainability and responsible resource management
- Strengthen institutional governance, transparency, and accountability
- Boost confidence among students, parents, regulators, and international partners

STANDARDS UNDER DEVELOPMENT

MEETING IN FOCUS: 26th Meeting of ETD 29 - Power Capacitors Sectional Committee

The meeting of ETD 29 was held on 23 January 2026 in an online mode and it was chaired by Dr. T. Bhavani Shanker, In-Individual Capacity, Former Additional Director, CPRI.

SCOPE OF WORK OF ETD 29

To prepare standards for:

- Shunt Capacitors, Series capacitors for Ac power systems
- Capacitors for surge protection for use in voltage system
- Shunt capacitors for the self-healing type and nonself-healing type for ac power systems
- Capacitors for electric fan motors, A.C. motor capacitors, Capacitors for microwave ovens
- Internal fuses and internal overpressure disconnectors for shunt capacitors & series capacitors and power electronic capacitors
- Coupling capacitor and capacitor dividers, Voltage grading capacitor Grading capacitors for high voltage alternating current circuit-breaker
- Capacitors for inductive heat generating plants & induction heating installations
- Power electronics capacitors, Energy storage capacitors

KEY DISCUSSIONS FOR STANDARD UNDER DEVELOPMENT

Scope Expansion for IS 11548:1986 - Specification for Capacitors for Surge Protection for use in Voltage System above 650 V and up to 33 KV

The Committee reviewed the draft for revision of Capacitors for Surge Protection with an updated scope covering rated voltages above 1,000 V and up to 45 kV. The Working Group was requested to further update the draft IS 11548 in line with the recommendations of the committee.

- **New Range:** The standard now covers voltages from 1,000 V up to 45 kV.
- **Previous Range:** This expands on the old limits, which stopped at 33 kV.

Proposed Scope: The new specification will be applicable to capacitors intended to be connected in parallel to an electrical equipment or a power system for the purpose of reducing dv/dt of transient voltage waveform in A.C. power systems having a rated voltage above 1000 V and up to 45 kV and frequencies of 15 Hz to 60 Hz.

Revision of IS 13666 : 1993 - Energy Storage Capacitors - Specification

This Standard covers tests and requirements for fixed capacitors designed essentially for DC with rated voltage up to 150 kVdc, using dielectric of plastic film or impregnated paper and electrodes of aluminium foil intended for use in energy storage and discharge.

During the meeting, the Committee noted that DRDO is a key user of energy storage capacitors for pulse power applications. It was decided that the draft of IS 13666 prepared by the Working Group shall be reviewed by DRDO to ensure comprehensive coverage of the scope.

ETD 29 Liasons With:

- IEC TC 33 - Power capacitors and their applications - Principle (P)
- IEC TC 34 - Lighting



DRAFTS UNDER WIDE CIRCULATION

Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) is advancing its inclusive approach to standardisation by inviting the comments for Wide Circulation Drafts, which include New, Revised, and Amended Standards. Some of the drafts under circulation in Feb 2026 include:

Chemical: Footwear Sizes in Mondopoint System Part 2 Length Grading Compressed Helium Gas - Specification, Light basic magnesium carbonate-Specification, Argon, Compressed and Liquid - Specification, Ammonium nitrate for nitrous oxide production - Specification

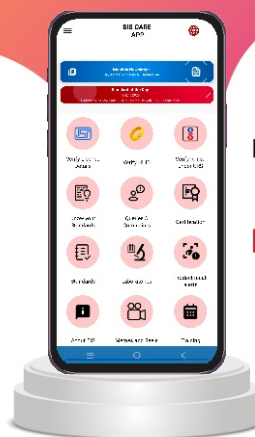
Civil Engineering: Glass Fibre Reinforced Plastics GRP Pipes Joints and Fittings for Use for Potable Water Supply - Specification, Scaffolds and Ladders - Code of Safety, Stainless steel sinks for domestic purposes - Specification

Electrotechnical: Electric Lamps for Railway Signalling - Specification, On-site Diagnostic Tests and Condition Monitoring of High Voltage Substation Equipment - Code of Practice

Environment: Control of Air Pollution from Coal Based Thermal Power Plant-Code of Practice, Treatment and Disposal of Effluents of Dairy Industry- Guidelines, Control of Air Pollution in Integrated Aluminium Industries - Code of Practice

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for Quality and Safety



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BIS CARE APP 3.0



“

From the days of '*Khadi for Nation*', we came to see '*Khadi for Fashion*', and now the country is moving towards '*Khadi for Transformation*'.

12/08/2020



Standardising the Fabric of Bharat

Khadi: The Original Sustainable Fabric

Khadi is a hand-spun and hand-woven fabric made from natural fibres such as cotton, silk, and wool using traditional charkhas and handlooms. Also known as Khaddar, it holds a distinctive place in India's history and cultural heritage. Closely linked with the freedom movement and the nation's vision of self-reliance, Khadi has emerged as an important pillar of rural employment and economic development, providing livelihood opportunities to around two crore spinners, weavers, and artisans across the country. Women constitute a significant share of this workforce. In recent times, Khadi has also gained wider acceptance in organised retail, institutional procurement, and sustainable fashion markets, reflecting its growing relevance in the contemporary economy.

Need for Standardisation in the Khadi Sector

Standardisation of Khadi products helps artisans and manufacturers to improve quality, reduce defects, and make production processes more efficient. By defining constructional, workmanship, and performance requirements, standards ensure quality, reliability, and durability of products. This increases consumer confidence in genuine Khadi and facilitates access to organised markets, institutional buyers, and export opportunities, leading to better earnings and recognition for spinners and weavers associated with khadi manufacturing.

Despite its cultural significance and economic contribution, the Khadi sector continues to face several challenges. One of the major concerns is the presence of imitation and semi-mechanised products being sold as Khadi, which creates confusion among consumers and adversely affects genuine artisans. Variations in quality, lack of uniform production practices, and limited awareness of technical requirements further affect market competitiveness. In this context, standardisation plays a vital role in strengthening the sector by ensuring consistency, authenticity, and reliability of Khadi products.

By promoting uniform practices and transparency, standardisation strengthens the authenticity and credibility of Khadi. It also supports national initiatives such as 'Vocal for Local' and 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' by encouraging indigenous industries and rural livelihoods. In this way, standards help connect traditional craftsmanship with modern market requirements and reinforce self-reliance through sustainable and quality-driven production.

Standardisation in the Field of Khadi

The standardisation of Khadi products in India is undertaken by the Handloom and Khadi Sectional Committee (TXD 08) under the Textile Division Council of the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS). This committee is responsible for formulating Indian Standards covering both handloom and Khadi products. So far, the committee has formulated 87 textile standards, of which 25 are specifically related to Khadi products. These standards cover a wide range of items such as Khadi yarn, bedsheets, pillow covers, towels, durries, napkins, blankets, bunting cloth, pugree cloth, dosuti fabric, polyvastra products, and the Khadi National Flag. They specify important constructional and performance requirements, including dimensions, yarn count, ends and picks per inch, GSM, tensile strength, colour fastness, pH value, shrinkage, and scouring loss. By prescribing these parameters, the standards ensure that Khadi products are durable, functional, and suitable for their intended use.

INDIAN STANDARDS FOR KHADI TEXTILES

IS 1 : 1968 Specification for the National Flag of India (Cotton Khadi)

This standard prescribes the design, constructional details and other particulars of the National Flag of India made of hand-spun and hand-woven cotton khadi bunting.

IS 17388: 2020 Polyvastra Bedsheets, Khadi

This standard prescribes constructional particulars and other requirements of Khadi Polyvastra pillow cover. It also specifies optional Fire resistant (FR) requirements for pillow covers. This standard does not specify the general appearance, feel, shade, etc, of the pillow cover.

IS 17549: 2021 Cotton Khadi Durries

This standard prescribes constructional particulars and other requirements for four varieties of Cotton Khadi durries. It does not specify general appearance, feel, finish, etc. of the durry.

IS 3769: 2019 Pugree Cloth, Cotton Khadi

This standard prescribes constructional particulars and other requirements of pugree cloth, cotton khadi, bleached or dyed. This standard does not specify the general appearance, feel, shade etc, of the cloth.

IS 3777: 2019 Dusters, Cotton Khadi

This standard prescribes constructional particulars and other requirements of dusters, cotton khadi, bleached. It does not specify the general appearance, feel, shade, etc, of the dusters.

IS 3781 : 2019 Honeycomb and Huckaback Towels, Cotton Khadi

This standard prescribes constructional particulars and other requirements of honeycomb and huckaback towels, cotton khadi, bleached or dyed. This standard does not specify the general appearance, feel, shade, etc, of the towels.

IS 4629 : 2023 Blankets Wool Khadi and Wool-Polyamide blended Khadi

This standard prescribes constructional particulars and other requirements for six varieties of khadi blankets. It does not specify the general appearance, feel, finish, shade, etc of the blankets.

IS 3773 : 2025 Napkins and Table Cloth, Bleached Cotton Khadi

This standard prescribes constructional particulars and other requirements of two varieties of napkins and table cloth, bleached cotton Khadi. It does not specify the general appearance, feel, shade, etc, of the cloth.

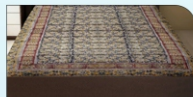
IS 13717 : 2025 Polyester Cotton blended Khadi (Polyvastra) Suitings for Uniform

This standard prescribes constructional particulars and performance requirements of Polyester Cotton blended Khadi (Polyvastra) suitings for making uniforms. It does not specify the general appearance, feel, shade, etc of the fabric.

In addition, standards related to Cotton, Wool, and Silk Khadi National Flags are currently under revision. To ensure uniform colour, the revision is being made with the help of a study conducted using colorimetric measurements to determine the appropriate shades of saffron, white, and green, so that they closely match the approved reference samples and maintain high quality and uniformity in products of national importance, while also aligning the standards with the latest manufacturing practices.



IS 1 : 1968
Specification for the
National Flag of India
(cotton khadi)



IS 17388 : 2020
Polyvastra Bedsheets,
Khadi



IS 17389 : 2020
Polyvastra Pillow
Cover, Khadi



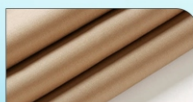
IS 3777 : 2019
Dusters, Cotton
Khadi



IS 3781 : 2019
Honeycomb and
Huckaback
Towels, Cotton Khadi



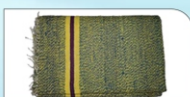
IS 4629 : 2023
Blankets Wool Khadi
and Wool-Polyamide
Blended Khadi



IS 13717 : 2025
Polyester Cotton
Blended Khadi (Polyvastra)
Suitings for Uniform



IS 3769 : 2019
Pugree Cloth,
Cotton Khadi



IS 17549 : 2021
Cotton Khadi
Durries

Challenges and Way Forward

Although standardisation has significantly strengthened the Khadi sector, certain challenges remain. The traditional nature of production leads to natural variations in texture and appearance, making strict uniformity difficult to achieve. Limited access to modern testing facilities, lack of technical awareness among small producers, and competition from low-cost machine-made textiles also pose difficulties.

These challenges can be addressed through continuous capacity building, wider dissemination of standards, and increased adoption and implementation of standards. Strengthening linkages between artisans, technical institutions, and regulatory bodies can further improve compliance and awareness.

Standardisation forms the foundation for the sustainable growth of the Khadi sector. By establishing clear technical and quality requirements, Indian Standards help to preserve the traditional identity of Khadi while meeting the performance requirements, enabling its acceptance in organised sectors and promoting sustainable rural livelihoods. Overall, standardisation not only preserves the true identity of Khadi but also contributes to rural development, cultural continuity, and India's vision of a self-reliant and sustainable economy.

The first Indian Standard published by the Bureau of Indian Standards (then the Indian Standards Institution, or ISI) is *IS 1:1951 Specifications for the National Flag of India (made of Hand-spun and Hand-woven Cotton Khadi Bunting)*, which prescribes the specifications for the National Flag of India.

It defines the constructional details, sizes, materials, and colours to ensure national uniformity and respect. The standard mandates a 3:2 length-to-width ratio, with three equal horizontal bands of deep saffron, white, and dark green, featuring a navy-blue chakra in the center. The standard was originally published in 1951 and was later revised to incorporate metric dimensions.



CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT

BIS RELAXES MANDATORY IN-HOUSE LABORATORY REQUIREMENT FOR PRODUCT CERTIFICATION

BIS has issued a significant regulatory update that brings major relief to manufacturers operating under the BIS Product Certification Scheme. As per the latest circular issued by the Central Marks Department-I on 16 December 2025, maintaining an in-house laboratory is no longer required for manufacturers for operation of BIS certification. This move is aimed at simplifying compliance, reducing operational costs, and providing manufacturers with greater flexibility in meeting quality and testing requirements.

Permitted Alternatives to In-House Testing

Manufacturers may now comply with BIS testing requirements through the following options:

- Shared Testing Resources like Common Facility
- Cluster Based Testing Facility
- Sub-contracting to outside laboratories which may either be:
 - a) BIS recognised/empanelled laboratories
 - b) Any accredited laboratory as per ISO/IEC 17025

The **Scheme of Inspection and Testing (SIT)** specified in the product manual documents made available by BIS are recommendatory in nature. Manufacturers are at liberty to declare their own **Quality Assurance Plan (QAP)** which they will follow to ensure compliance of products as per relevant Standards.

Products Exempted from this Relaxation:

The revised provisions do not apply to- DPIIT/PESO regulated products which are under pre-dispatch/lot inspection and cement products regulated by DPIIT/Cement Desk, Food products and Protective helmets for two-wheeler riders, Products where BIS certification is operated on factory testing basis, as per product specific guidelines.

BIS FIELD VISIT: INDUSTRY INTERACTION ON SILVER HALLMARKING IN JAIPUR

On January 21, 2026, the BIS Hallmarking Policy Team, led by Smt. Chitra Gupta (DDG, Hallmarking), visited Jaipur to evaluate the silver jewellery and artefacts sector. The visit focused on aligning the **Silver Hallmarking Scheme (IS 2112)** with current industry practices.

The team reviewed diverse manufacturing processes—including both traditional handmade techniques and modern casting—at small and large-scale units. During an interactive session with local artisans and jewellers, several key insights emerged:

- **Material Safety:** Manufacturers confirmed the widespread use of lead and cadmium-free soldering materials.
- **Market Demand:** There is strong industry support for mandatory silver hallmarking, with suggestions to include silver coins in the scheme.
- **Phased Rollout:** Stakeholders emphasised that mandatory implementation should be phased, citing the sector's high volume and the need for expanded infrastructure.



RAIDS ON NON-COMPLIANT PRODUCTS UNDER BIS ACT, 2016

BIS Hubli Branch Office, conducted a Search and Seizure operation on 23 January 2026 at M/s Chamunda Hardware and Paints, Bagewadi, Vijayapura. During the Search & Seizure, **the team found 94 nos. of General Purpose Plywood, Concrete Shuttering Plywood, Marine Plywood and Block boards**, in violation of BIS Act, 2016 and Quality Control Orders.

BIS Vijayawada Branch Office, carried out a search and seizure operation on 23 January 2026 at M/s Rahul Jewels, Jai hind complex, Governorpeta, Vijayawada. During the operation, BIS officials **seized a total of 233 gold articles weighing approximately 2,192 grams (2.192 kilograms)**, valued at over ₹3 crore. These ornaments were found to be without the mandatory HUID hallmarking, thereby constituting a clear violation of the compulsory hallmarking provisions under the BIS Act, 2016.

BIS Jaipur Branch Office raided at the factory premises of M/s Prins Polytech Private Limited, Boranada, Jodhpur, on 22 January 2026, for violations of the BIS Act, 2016. During the raid, **90 evaporative air coolers (desert coolers) were seized** without the mandatory BIS certification mark. The estimated commercial value of the seized products is approximately ₹3.2 lakh. The seized products fall under the Air Cooler and Air Filters (Quality Control) Order, 2025, which mandates compulsory BIS certification.

Manufacturing, storing, or selling such products without a valid BIS license constitutes a cognisable offence under Section 29 of the BIS Act, 2016, attracting penalties including fines or imprisonment. Following the search and seizure, legal proceedings will be initiated against the BIS requests every consumer to verify the authenticity of products on the BIS Care App, where they can submit complaints related to instances such as misuse of the Hallmark (i.e., without HUID) or fake ISI Marks on products.

EMPOWERING MSME through Standardisation

Bureau of Indian Standards is focusing on a business friendly environment for MSMEs by facilitating lower compliance costs, accelerated market access, and transparency, through digitisation, procedural simplification, and financial Concessions.

MSME in Focus Table & Desk

“After obtaining the BIS license, our manufacturing operations showed significant and measurable improvement. The licensing process required strict adherence to standardized procedures, which led to better process control, consistency, and traceability across all stages of production.”

We view BIS Marking and Certification as a benchmark of quality, safety, and compliance. It is not merely a regulatory formality but a vital system that ensures products conform to Indian Standards, promotes consistency in manufacturing, and builds confidence among customers, regulators, and stakeholders.”



RAKESH SUKHRAMANI
DIRECTOR
Impression Furniture Industries Pvt. Ltd.



INDUSTRY ACADEMIA PARTNERSHIP

10th ANNUAL MEETING OF INDO-GERMAN WORKING GROUP ON QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE

A review meeting of the Indo-German Working Group on Quality Infrastructure was held on 27 January 2026 between the Ministry Of Consumer Affairs, Food And Public Distribution the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWE).

The meeting was jointly chaired by Ms. Nidhi Khare, Secretary, Ministry Of Consumer Affairs, Food And Public Distribution (MoCA) and Dr Ole Janssen, Deputy Director General, BMW, with participation from colleagues from the Bureau of Indian Standards. The meeting was conducted to assess progress achieved in the implementation of activities under the Work Plan 2025-2026 (signed in July 2025) and also to exchange the views on current priorities and identify opportunities to further strengthen bilateral cooperation.



During the meeting, BIS informed that **bilateral cooperation on the Digital Product Passport (DPP)** has formally commenced, including BIS participation in the Technical Bureau Committee under ISO/IEC Joint Technical Committee 5. It was agreed that further areas for dialogue and cooperation should be explored to support compliance by Indian industry, while contributing to the development of robust global standards. BIS also suggested that future activities may be planned on topics such as **Digital Twin technologies and standardisation requirements related to Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) frameworks**. The meeting concluded with discussions on planning modalities for the 11th Annual Meeting of the Indo-German Working Group, scheduled to be held in Germany later.

Indo-German Working Group's activities will support elimination of non-tariff barriers to trade under EU-India Free Trade Agreement, opening the door to deeper integration of value chains, stronger technology cooperation, and significantly enhanced economic resilience for European and Indian businesses alike.

ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 37 BIOMETRICS PLENARY MEETING IN NEW YORK, USA

India participated in the ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 37 Biometrics Plenary Meeting held in New York, USA on 12-16 January 2026, contributing to global deliberations on biometric technologies, digital identity systems, and interoperability standards. Shri Sailendra Kumar Verma, Scientist C, BIS, was also present and actively engaged in discussions covering emerging biometric modalities, privacy preserving identity solutions, and security considerations for trusted digital ecosystems. The meeting concluded with the unanimous adoption of key resolutions reflecting collective progress on ongoing standards development, new work item proposals, and the harmonisation of international biometric frameworks.

WORKSHOP ON ENHANCING CRITICAL MINERALS DATA QUALITY & STANDARDS

A two-day workshop on Enhancing Critical Minerals Data Quality & Standards was organised between the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) and the British Standards Institution (BSI) at BIS HQ, New Delhi, on 19-20 January 2026 in New Delhi. The workshop, organised in collaboration with BSI as a result of UK-India Technology Security Initiative, was attended by stakeholders including government bodies, industry, academia from both India and UK. Around 33 stakeholders from India and 28 members of the UK delegation were present. During the workshop, the representatives from the Ministry of Mines, Government of India, Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM), British Geological Survey (BGS), industry, and international experts discussed policy reforms, data gaps, and opportunities for international collaboration.

AGENDA

To bridge gaps in data quality and create a standardisation ecosystem in the critical minerals sector.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS:

- Focus on data quality and standards as the foundation of resilient critical mineral supply chains
- India-UK partnership reflecting shared commitment to robust standards, best practices, and international cooperation
- Policy and legislative reforms addressing under-reporting and undocumented production of critical minerals
- Emphasis on harmonised standards, improved reporting frameworks, and international alignment
- Recognition of associated and by-product minerals as systematically under-reported
- Importance of open-access geoscience and production data for evidence-based policymaking



ILLUMINATING THE FUTURE OF LIGHTING STANDARDS IN INDIA

One-day Program on the National Lighting Code of India 2025 (SP 72) was jointly organised by the BIS and ELCOMA on 30 January 2026 at VJTI, Mumbai. The program aimed to enhance awareness on safe, efficient, and standardised lighting practices in India. More than 125 participants, including industry professionals, manufacturers, faculty members, and students were present. Participants were trained on Indian Lighting Standards, covering indoor/outdoor applications and key regulations like **BIS CRS, BEE Star Labelling, RoHS, and E-waste**. The program featured detailed sessions on LED lamps, luminaires, and driver standards, highlighting recent updates in safety and performance requirements. The interactive discussions and Q&A sessions enabled participants to clarify technical and compliance-related aspects.

STANDARDS' PROMOTION

BIS COMIC BOOKS ON RASHTRIYA E-PUSTAKALAY

To promote awareness about standards, quality, safety, and counterfeit products among children, BIS has developed engaging comic books in both print and 2D animated formats, as part of BIS Educational Series. Through simple language and visual storytelling, this initiative aims to build quality consciousness from an early age. These books are now available for Free Reading on the Rashtriya E - Pustakalaya platform, a flagship digital library initiative by the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education. Curated specifically for Children and adolescents, this national digital library has over 3.17 lakh registered users. This collaboration ensures that the "Science of Standards" becomes an accessible and integral part of every student's learning journey.

TWO-DAY RESIDENTIAL TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR MENTORS



BIS organised a two-day residential training programme for mentors of Standards Clubs on 8-9 January 2026 in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu. The programme aimed to equip mentors from schools and colleges with comprehensive knowledge on quality, standardisation, and BIS Standards Clubs operations. The training was inaugurated on the first day by Shri Rino John, Scientist-E/Director, BIS. A presentation on the overview of BIS activities was given by Shri Vinith Kumar G, Scientist-E/Director, subsequent sessions covered BIS standardisation, informational resources including the website and BIS Care App, Standards Clubs, and workshop demonstrated the development of Indian Standards. The second day of the training featured a recap of the previous day's programme, a hands-on standard writing workshop where mentor groups developed standards on assigned subjects, and a quiz competition testing knowledge of the covered topics.

TRAINING CALENDAR: FEBRUARY 2026

Name of the Programme	Date (s)	Venue	Fees(₹)
2 Day programme on Green House Gas Accounting and Carbon footprint	05-06 Feb	NITS	7000
2-Day Capsule Course on Safety Rules for Lifts, Escalators and Moving Walks	16-17 Feb	WRO	1500
Laboratory Quality Management System as per IS/ISO/IEC 17025:2017	17-20 Feb	NITS	13000
Awareness, Documentation & Internal Audit Course On Drinking Water Supply Management System As Per IS 17482:2020	19-20 Feb	NITS	7000
Measurement Uncertainty (MU)	23-24 Feb	NITS	7000

MoUs SIGNED WITH IITs TO INTEGRATE INDIAN STANDARDS INTO ACADEMIC CURRICULUM

On the occasion of the 79th BIS Foundation Day, BIS signed MoUs with three eminent institutes - IIIT Dharwad, IIT Palakkad, NIT Arunachal Pradesh to strengthen collaboration in the field of Standardisation and Conformity Assessment.

As MoU partner, currently, over 21,000 young engineering students are enrolled across 400+ Students Chapters. BIS has worked closely with academia to integrate standardisation concepts directly into the curriculum of 27 institutes and has established 17 Standardisation Chairs. This initiative aims to integrate Indian Standards into academic curricula, expand pre-standardisation R&D projects, and transform engineering students into standards-ready professionals, while further expand the academic outreach.

TWO-DAY DOCUMENTATION, AWARENESS AND INTERNAL AUDIT COURSE ON ASSET MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

A two-day documentation, awareness and Internal Audit course on Asset Management System was conducted on 8-9 January at NITS, Noida. It was inaugurated by Smt. Nitasha Doger, Scientist E and Head MSD, BIS. More than 30 participants from NPCIL, Kanin (India), Hamdard Laboratories India, Kohinoor Ropes Pvt. Ltd, etc, attended the training. External faculties - Dr. Navil Shetty, President, Institute of Asset Management, India and TC member, MSD 12, Shri N.P. Sundar, Chair-Membership (Individual and Corporate), Institute of Asset Management, India and TC member, MSD 12 were also present. The primary objective of the training was to aware the participants about the structure and purpose of an Asset Management system in an organisation, process to create and control documented information and concepts related to Internal Audit of an Asset Management system.

MANAK MANTHAN ON PRECAST CONCRETE CABLE COVERS AND CONCRETE PAVING BLOCKS

BIS conducted Manak Manthan programme on **IS 5280 : 2024 "Precast Concrete Cable covers" and IS 15658 : 2021 "Concrete Paving Blocks"** on 21 January 2026 in Jalandhar. It was chaired by Mr. Tilak Raj, Head, BIS JKBO, who highlighted the importance of adherence to Indian Standards in ensuring product quality, consumer safety, and market credibility. He emphasised BIS's role in supporting industry through standardisation, certification, and capacity-building initiatives. The session provided detailed insights into relevant Indian Standards for compliance requirements, certification processes, and common challenges faced by industry, followed by an interactive discussion.

NATIONAL SEMINAR ON LATEST TRENDS IN THE FIELD OF PRINTING MACHINERY

Mechanical Engineering Department (MED) of the Bureau of Indian Standards organised a National Seminar on "Latest Trends in the Field of Printing Machinery" on 8 January 2026 at National Centre for Flexible Electronics (NCFlexE), IIT Kanpur. Around 100 participants from academia, industry, R&D institutions, and government department were present. During the seminar, the expert speakers shared their knowledge on Indian Standards in the field of printing machinery and latest technologies in the field like Computer to Plate (CtP) Offset Machines, Printed Electronics, etc. The seminar strengthened awareness of quality, safety, and performance requirements, encouraged wider adoption of Indian Standards, and reinforced the critical role of standardisation in enhancing consumer confidence.