

INDIA-UK STRATEGIC DIALOGUE: CHARTING THE QUALITY ROADMAP FOR CETA

Bureau of Indian Standards hosted a high-level delegation from the UK House of Commons Business and Trade Select Committee on 19 March 2026 at Manak Bhawan, New Delhi. Led by the Rt. Hon. Liam Byrne MP, the visit marked a critical step in finalising the technical framework for the proposed Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA).



A Technical Blueprint for Trade

The dialogue, chaired by the Director General, BIS, focused on removing technical barriers to facilitate seamless market access. Senior leadership from BIS including DDG (Certification), DDG (Standardisation -II), DDG (International Relations) and DDG (Standardisation -I) engaged with UK Members of Parliament and officials from the British High Commission to align on:

- **WTO Commitments & Trade Facilitation:** Insights into BIS's institutional mechanisms that fulfill India's obligations under the **WTO Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Agreement**, emphasizing the Bureau's role in reducing trade friction.
- **Emerging Frontiers:** Strategic discussions on high-priority sectors such as Green Hydrogen and sustainable industrial practices.
- **Consumer Safety & Trust:** The delegation was briefed about the success of the **BIS Hallmarking Scheme and mandatory certification for toys sector**.

The visit concluded with a constructive exchange on enhancing bilateral cooperation in conformity assessment and standardisation. As both nations navigate the complexities of the proposed Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), this engagement marks a vital step toward harmonising standards and unlocking new economic opportunities for both India and the UK.

BIS STRATEGIC ROADMAP: PAVING THE WAY FOR A SUSTAINABLE & COMPETITIVE INDIA

Following intensive consultations with over 300 experts across 140+ Standardisation Cells, the **Annual Programme for Standardisation (APS)** of the Bureau of Indian Standards has laid out a visionary blueprint to align India's quality infrastructure with the goal of Viksit Bharat. It outlines the new standards to be formulated, and the existing standards to be reviewed or revised. APS takes into account national priorities including inputs received from various Ministries and Departments of the Government of India in support of different schemes and projects and also addresses industrial interests through inputs from Standardisation Cells of Industry Associations.

Key Pillars of the FY 2026-27 Action Plan

The upcoming fiscal year focuses on agility, inclusivity, and technical excellence. The strategy is built upon four critical cornerstones:

- **Strategic Sector Focus:** Prioritising high-growth and future-ready industries, including **Green Hydrogen, EV Infrastructure, Data Security, and Agri-drones**.
- **Policy Integration:** Aligning standards with Central Government schemes and strategic roadmap for industrial growth.
- **Inclusive Standardisation:** Strengthening coordination with MSMEs to enhance their participation in the national framework and taking startups on standardisation journey to compete on a global scale.
- **Continuous Review:** A rigorous evaluation of ongoing projects against past performance to proactively identify and bridge technical gaps.

This integrated approach ensures that India's standardisation framework remains agile, supporting sustainable development and global competitiveness across emerging and traditional sectors.

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BOPACKATHON 2026
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Biodegradable Packaging Solution Challenge for Pan Masala & Gutkha Sachets

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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 **22,962 Indian Standards**, ensuring safer products, stronger industries, and greater trust for consumers. In March 2026, **312 New Standards** and **400 Revised Standards** were published.

Transport Engineering

IS 17128 (Part 4): 2026 Automotive Vehicles – Vehicle Dynamics Test Methods Part 4 Ride Comfort Measurements

IS 17128 (Part 5): 2026 Automotive Vehicles - Vehicle Dynamics Test Methods Part 5 Subjective Evaluation Vehicle Ride, Handling, Steering

Chemical

IS 19410:2026 Solid Biofuels Sampling

IS 19486: 2026 Hexane, Industrial Solvent Grade- Specification

Medical Equipment and Hospital Planning

IS 19618: 2026 Dentistry Filling Instrument with Contra Angle

Metallurgical

IS 19497: 2026 Carbon and Low-Alloy Steel Wire Rods for Submerged Arc Welding and Gas Shielded Arc Welding Electrodes Specification

Mechanical Engineering

IS 19599: 2026 Gaskets and Packings - Oxidation of Expanded Graphite - Methods of Test

Production and General Engineering

IS 19666: 2026 Graphical Symbols - Safety Colours and Safety Signs Natural Disaster Safety Way Guidance System

Textile

IS 19593: 2026 Textiles - Woven Shirt - Specification

IS 19594: 2026 Textiles - Woven Trouser - Specification

IS 19662: 2026 Textiles - Field Service Cap - Specification

ALL INDIA FIRST LICENSE

Standard/Products	Licensee
IS 1809:2024 Nickel Salts for Electroplating	MALCO Energy Limited
IS 16468: 2016 Medical Textiles - Absorbent Cotton (Sterile and Non-Sterile)	Mohini Health & Hygiene Limited
IS 260 : 2024 Aluminium Sulphate, Non - Ferric	Amar Sulpha Chem Pvt. Ltd.
IS 16012 : 2012 Poly-Laminated Aluminium Cable Wrap	Nagreeka Indcon Products Pvt. Ltd.
IS 18874 : 2024/ IEC 60404-8-8 : 2017 Magnetic Materials - Specification for Individual Materials - Thin Electrical Steel Strip and Sheet for Use at Medium Frequencies	CSCI Steel Corporation India Pvt. Ltd.
IS 15340 : 2019 Coir Felt	Sri Venkateshwara Fibre Udyog Pvt. Ltd.
IS 4665: Part 2: Sec 6: 2023 Hand-Held Motor-Operated Electric Tools Safety - Part 2 Particular Requirements - Section 6 Hammers	Bosch Limited
IS 17806: 2022 Passenger lifts and service lifts Guide rails for lift cars and counterweights T-type	Savera India Riding Systems Company Pvt. Ltd.
IS 4665: Part 2: Sec 3: 2023 Hand-Held Motor-Operated Electric Tools Safety Part 2 Particular Requirements Section 3 Grinders Polishers and Disk-Type Sanders	Bosch Limited

STANDARD IN ACTION

IS 302 (PART 2/SECTION 6): 2009

SAFETY OF HOUSEHOLD AND SIMILAR ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES

Induction Stoves, Cooking Ranges, Hobs, Ovens and Similar Appliances

This standard applies to stationary induction stoves, cooking ranges, hobs, ovens, and similar equipment used in domestic environments.

Key features

- It primarily addresses **safety requirements to protect users** against common hazards, including electrical, mechanical, thermal, fire, and radiation risks during normal operation.
- It accounts for **electromagnetic phenomena** and how they might impact the safe operation of these appliances, which is a critical factor for induction-based technology.

Testing Procedures

- **Protection against Hazards:** Appliances must be examined and tested to ensure they provide an internationally accepted level of protection against risks such as electrical shock, mechanical failure, thermal damage, fire, and radiation.
- **Normal and Abnormal Operation:** Tests are conducted to evaluate the appliance during both standard use and "abnormal situations" that can be reasonably expected in practice.
- **Electromagnetic Phenomena:** Specific testing is required to determine how electromagnetic fields affect the safe operation of the appliance, which is particularly relevant for induction technology.
- **Feature and Construction Assessment:** Even if an appliance meets the written text of the standard, it will be tested for any "other features" that might impair safety. Conversely, innovative constructions differing from the standard are tested for "substantial equivalence" in safety.



STANDARD IN FOCUS

IS 19662: 2026 Textiles - Field Service Cap - Specification

A field service cap is a type of headgear worn by police and defence personnel during operational duties to provide protection from sunlight, dust and to facilitate identification and uniform appearance.

This standard has been formulated with a view to promoting uniformity in police service uniforms in India, in line with the objectives of the **'One Nation, One Uniform'** initiative, to ensure consistency in design, construction and quality.

Key Features

The cap is engineered for durability and operational comfort:

- **Material Composition:** The body of the cap shall be made of cotton and polyester (80:20) blended Khaki twill weave fabric, water replant having 250 gsm and knitted polyester mesh.
- **Enhanced Ventilation:** To improve thermal comfort during field duties, the cap features two panels of knitted polyester mesh.
- **Structural Components:** It includes a reinforced forehead piece made with HDPE dot printed fusible interlining fabric and an **LDPE-moulded** peak.
- **Adjustability:** The strap shall be fitted with hook-and-loop fasteners of width (20 ± 1) mm to facilitate adjustment.

STANDARDS UNDER DEVELOPMENT

MEETING IN FOCUS: 22nd Meeting of MHD 01- Surgical Instruments Technical Committee

The meeting of **Surgical Instruments Technical Committee (MHD 01)** under the **Medical Equipment and Hospital Planning Division Council** was held on 25 March 2026 under the chairpersonship of Dr. Pawanindra Lal, (Former Director Professor and Head of Surgery Maulana Azad Medical College, Delhi, in personal capacity). Ms. Nagavarshini M, Scientist C attended the meeting Member Secretary of the Technical Committee MHD 01.

SCOPE OF WORK OF MHD 01

To formulate Indian Standards for General, Paediatric, Urological, Gastrointestinal, and Plastic Surgery Instruments including endoscopic, laparoscopic and robotic surgery instruments and haemostatic devices.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MEETING

Development of New Standards

- The committee accepted the **project for developing New Standard** on Compression Therapy Device.
- Reviewed the **WC Draft** for standards on Surgical Instruments - Scalpel Handle, Scalpel Blade, Disposable Scalpel, & Biopsy Punch.
- Reviewed the **WD** for standards on Laparoscopic Insufflator, Suction and Irrigation Device, Laparoscopic Hand Instruments, Laparoscopic Access Devices, & Laparoscopic Energy Device.
- **Adoption** of ISO 6335-1:2026 Surgical Instruments- Staplers - Part 1: Vocabulary and ISO 6335-2:2026 Surgical Instruments- Staplers - Part 2: General Requirements.

Review of Indian Standards

IS 10383: 1982 Specification for Scissors, Nail, Curved on Flat, **IS 10384: 1982** Scissors, Bandage, Smith's Pattern, **IS 10445: 1982** Specification for Scissors, Bandage and Clothing, Angled to Side, **IS 10599: 1993** Surgical Instruments - Needle Holders, Hegar's Pattern - Sizes, Shape and Dimensions, **IS 10637: 1992** Surgical Instruments - Forceps, Spinter, Arthur's Pattern Shape and Dimensions, **IS 10984: 1984** Scissors, Dissecting, Curved on Flat, Pott's Pattern, **IS 11502: 1992** Surgical Instruments - Forceps Tissue, Adson - Browns Pattern Shape and Dimensions (First Revision), **IS 11595: 1992** Surgical Instruments - Peritoneum, Forceps, Mckulicz's Pattern - Shape and Dimensions, **IS 7388: 1992** Surgical Instruments - Forceps, Tissue, Allis Pattern - Shape, Size And Dimensions, **IS 9146: 1979** Scissors, Dissecting, Straight and Curved on Flat, Mayo's Pattern at **WD Stage** and **IS 4587: 1968** Specification for Raspatories, Cleft Palate, for Plastic Surgery at **WC Draft Stage**.

Withdrawal of Indian Standard: The committee decided to withdraw IS 11497: 2014.

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 April 2026 include:

AYUSH

- Test Methods for Homoeopathic Mother Tinctures (Hydro-Alcoholic Extracts)
- Code of Practice- Foot and Arm Bath

CHEMICAL

- Transparent Float Glass- Specification
- Safety Glass - Specification Part 3 Solar Applications
- Photography - 120-Size and 220-Size Films- Dimensions
- Specification for Leather Safety Boots and Shoes: Part 2 for Heavy Metal Industries (Fifth Revision)
- Gold Chloride (Chloroauric Acid)- Specification
- Particle Filters used in Respiratory Protective Equipment Specification

ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- Internet of Things (IoT) - Autonomous IoT Object Identification in a Connected Home – Requirements and Framework
- Digital twin - Maturity Model and Guidance for a Maturity Assessment

CIVIL ENGINEERING

- Unplasticised PVC Pipes for Potable Water Supplies - Specification
- Fabricated Polyethylene Fittings for Water Supply - Specification
- Specification for Sewer Bricks
- Wood-based panels- Determination of Formaldehyde Release - Desiccator Method - Method of Test



Scan for list of Wide Circulation Drafts

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Always check for Standard Mark
before buying electronic products



Standard Hai,
Toh Sahi Hai





FROM ASSEMBLY LINES TO HEALTHCARE: HOW STANDARDS ARE STEERING THE FUTURE OF INDIAN ROBOTICS

As India's manufacturing, healthcare, and logistics sectors undergo rapid digital transformation, industrial robot installations reached a milestone of **8,500 units in 2023**.

To ensure this growth is safe, interoperable, and globally competitive, **Bureau of Indian Standards** - through its **Industrial Automation Systems and Robotics Sectional Committee (PGD 18)**-is actively harmonising Indian Standards (IS) with international benchmarks.

Key Standards Empowering India's Robotics Ecosystem

The Architecture of Interoperability

For the Indian MSME sector to integrate robotics effectively, hardware must be interchangeable.

IS 15291:2024 provides the necessary vocabulary for automatic end-effector exchange systems, ensuring that "plug-and-play" capabilities are standardized across different manufacturers. **IS 15291 : 2024/ISO 11593 : 2022 Robots for Industrial Environments - Automatic End Effector Exchange Systems - Vocabulary** specifies requirements for the integration of industrial robot applications and industrial robot cells and deals with the significant hazards, hazardous situations or hazardous events when used as intended and under specified conditions of misuse which are reasonably foreseeable by the integrator.

Mechanical reliability is further anchored by **IS 13547 (Parts 1 & 2)**, which defines the dimensions for plates and shafts.

IS 13547 (Part 1) :2010/ISO 9409-1: 2004 Manipulating Industrial Robots - Mechanical Interfaces Part 1 Plates defines the main dimensions, designation and marking for a circular plate as a mechanical interface.

IS 13547 (Part 2) : 2010/ISO 9409-2: 2002 Manipulating Industrial Robots Mechanical Interfaces Part 2 Shafts defines the main dimensions, designation and marking for a shaft with cylindrical projection as mechanical interface. The mechanical interfaces specified in this part of ISO 9409 will also find application in simple handling systems which are not covered by the definition of manipulating industrial robots such as pick-and- place and master-slave units.

Safety in Human-Robot Interaction

As robots move from caged industrial floors to public spaces, safety is paramount.

Service Robots: IS 16608:2018/ISO 13482: 2014 Robots and Robotic Devices - Safety Requirements for Personal Care Robots addresses safety requirements for personal care robots, including mobile servants and person carriers. This standard is critical for India's burgeoning elder-care tech market, focusing on safe physical human-robot interaction.

Medical Precision: The medical field is seeing a rise in robotic-assisted surgeries. **IS 13450 (Part 4)** provides essential guidance for equipment employing a **Degree of Autonomy (DOA)** of Medical Electrical Equipment or a Medical Electrical System. It mandates rigorous risk management and usability engineering, ensuring that autonomous medical systems perform reliably in high-stakes clinical environments. **IS 13450: Part 4: Sec 1: 2020 (IEC TR 60601-4-1: 2017) Medical Electrical Equipment Part 4 Guidance and Interpretation Section 1 Medical electrical equipment and medical electrical systems employing a degree of autonomy** provides guidance to help the manufacturer in complying with the requirements of IEC 60601-1:2005 and IEC 60601-1:2005/AMD1:2012 for MEE and MES with DOA.

Defining Performance Benchmarks

Reliability is measured through precision. **IS 14533: 2005** sets the criteria for manipulating industrial robots, covering 14 key characteristics including pose accuracy, path repeatability, and static compliance. For wheeled service robots, **IS 17192 (Part 1)** provides the test methods for indoor locomotion, ensuring that "Made in India" robots meet international performance expectations, where as **IS 17912 (Part 4)** provides test method for lower-back support service robots.

The **Scope of PGD 18** extends beyond mere hardware; it encompasses the entire ecosystem of discrete part manufacturing, including programmable controllers and sensors. Looking toward the future, BIS is expanding the Indian robotics footprint through strategic collaborations:

- **Internet of Drones:** An MoU with DAICT is driving the development of standards for energy-efficient robotics and drone ecosystems.
- **Defense & Rehabilitation:** BIS is partnering with DEBEL (DRDO) to formulate standards for modular and exoskeleton robots, which will serve both the Indian Armed Forces and the medical rehabilitation sector.

By establishing a robust quality infrastructure, BIS is ensuring that India's robotics revolution is built on a foundation of safety, excellence, and global compatibility.

ROLE OF BIS IN STRENGTHENING THE ROLLOUT OF THE JAL JEEVAN MISSION

The **Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)** is a transformative national initiative aimed at providing safe and adequate drinking water through Functional Household Tap Connections to every rural household. While the Mission is widely recognised for expanding water supply infrastructure, its real success depends not only on connectivity but also on the quality, safety and reliability of the water supplied. In this context, the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) plays a vital role in strengthening the rollout of the Jal Jeevan Mission by providing standards, certification, laboratory support and capacity-building for drinking water and related systems.

Indian Standards for Drinking Water Quality

A central contribution of BIS to the Mission is the formulation of Indian Standards on drinking water quality, water treatment systems, testing methods, piping materials, storage systems and allied products. Among these, the Indian Standard **IS 10500: 2012 Drinking Water – Specification** functions as the primary national benchmark for determining the safety and suitability of water intended for human consumption. The **IS 10500: 2012** lays down the requirements for drinking water and specifies the acceptable and permissible limits for various physical, chemical and microbiological characteristics.

Ensuring Quality in Water Supply Infrastructure

Drinking water schemes rely on several components such as pipes, fittings, valves, storage tanks, treatment units and purification devices, the quality of which directly affects the efficiency, durability and safety of the water supply system. Through standards and certification, BIS helps ensure that these products meet prescribed quality and safety requirements.

Strengthening Water Quality Monitoring and Testing

At the same time, effective water quality monitoring requires consistency in how samples are collected, tested and interpreted. In this regard, the Jal Jeevan Mission framework emphasises strengthening laboratories, ensuring quality in testing, adopting standard methods, providing training and maintaining proper data reporting systems. BIS supports these efforts by providing Indian Standards for water quality testing and sampling, which can be followed by laboratories, implementing agencies and manufacturers, thereby ensuring reliable and consistent assessment of water quality. BIS also strengthens the testing ecosystem through its Laboratory Recognition Scheme, under which laboratories are recognised based on their competence to carry out testing as per relevant Indian Standards. Such BIS-recognised laboratories help States and implementing agencies generate water quality data thereby supporting effective monitoring.

Capacity Building and Awareness Initiatives

BIS also undertakes capacity-building and awareness programs to support the effective implementation of the Mission. As part of Jal Mahotsav 2026, BIS conducted a virtual orientation session on water quality on 19 March 2026 in collaboration with the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India. The programme was chaired by Ms. Suneeti Toteja, Scientist-F & Head, FAD, BIS, who emphasised the importance of drinking water quality and the role of Indian Standards in ensuring safe and reliable water for all. Technical sessions covered key aspects such as the provisions of IS 10500:2012, standardisation processes and BIS certification requirements for materials used in water supply systems. The session witnessed participation from over 650 officials, including laboratory personnel and representatives from State and District Water and Sanitation Missions.

Indian Standard IS 17482:2020 Drinking Water Supply Management System - Requirements for Piped Drinking Water Supply Service

IS 17482:2020 Drinking Water Supply Management System - Requirements for Piped Drinking Water Supply Service specifies the requirements for management system of drinking water supplier/utility and for the assessment of piped drinking water supply services where the water supplier/utility,

- needs to demonstrate its ability and performance to consistently provide drinking water and related utility services while ensuring compliance to applicable statutory and regulatory guidelines
- aims to ensure continuous supply of piped drinking water conforming to the acceptable limit of IS 10500

In line with the vision of the Government of India's Jal Jeevan Mission, the IS 17482:2020 certification scheme establishes a piped drinking water supply management system for Water Utilities and Jal Boards. The Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) is the first water board in India to receive certification from the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) for its piped drinking water supply management system. This certification ensures that citizens of Bangalore receive water that meets international safety standards, directly reducing the prevalence of waterborne diseases and the associated medical costs for families.

Conclusion

BIS strengthens the Jal Jeevan Mission by providing a robust framework of standards, certification, laboratories and capacity building to ensure the quality and safety of drinking water.



CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT

SAFETY OF HOUSEHOLD, COMMERCIAL AND SIMILAR ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES (QUALITY CONTROL) ORDER, 2025

Enforcement Date: 01 October 2026

IS 302 (Part 1): 2024 IEC 60335-1:2020

Products Covered: Cooking Ranges, Hobs, Ovens and Similar Appliances, Electrical Shavers and Similar Appliances, Tumbler Dryers, Warming Plates and Similar Appliances, Frying Pans, Deep Fat Fryers and Similar Appliances, Massage Appliances, Steam Cookers and Steam-Convection Ovens, Electric Heating Tools, Electric Steam Cookers, Insect Killers, Electric Call Bells and Buzzers for Indoor Use, Electric Water Boilers, Electric Coffee Makers, Electric Bean Slicers, Electric Can Openers, Electric Centrifugal Juicers, Electric Churn, Electric Citrusfruit Squeezers, Vacuum Cleaners and Water Suction Cleaning Appliances, Spin Extractors, Electric Knives, Electric Noodle Makers, Electric Potato Peelers, Electric Shredders, Electric Sieving Machines, Slicing Machines, Electric Hot Plates, Single Walled Baking Ovens, Low Speed Food Grinding Machines, Dishwashers, Floor Treatment Machines and Wet Scrubbing Machines, Food Waste Disposers, Blankets, Pads, Clothing and Similar Flexible Heating Appliances, Appliances for Skin Exposure to Optical Radiation, Commercial Electric Cooking Ranges, Surface-Cleaning Appliances for Household use Employing Liquids or Steam, Electrical Appliances for use with Aquariums and Garden Ponds, Commercial Electric Dishwashing Machines & Rinsing Sinks, Thermal Storage Room Heaters, Commercial Electric Kitchen Machines, Air-Cleaning Appliances, Water-Bed Heaters, Fixed Immersion Heaters, Foot Warmers and Heating Mats, Toilet Appliances, Fabric Steamers, Commercial Electric Hoods, Vaporizers, Gas, Oil and Solid-Fuel Burning Appliances Having Electrical Connections, Electrolysers, Beauty Care Appliances incorporating Lasers and Intense Light Sources, Personal-eTransporters, Skin Beauty Care Appliances, Furniture with Electrically Motorised Parts, Commercial Vacuum Packaging Appliances, Hand held electric Engraving Tools, DC supplied/ battery-operated vacuum cleaners, etc.

PHASE VI: THE GOLD HALLMARKING MAP EXPANDS

The sixth phase of the mandatory hallmarking vide **Hallmarking of Gold Jewellery and Gold Artefacts (Amendment) Order, 2026** is in force from **2 March 2026**. With the roll out of this order, mandatory hallmarking will cover additional 7 new districts **Rupnagar** (Punjab), **Banda** (Uttar Pradesh), **Beed** (Maharashtra), **Gomati** (Tripura), **Katihar** (Bihar), **Beawar** (Rajasthan) and **Neemuch** (Madhya Pradesh), making the total number of districts covered under mandatory hallmarking as **380**. The list of districts and the list of recognised Assaying and Hallmarking centres can be accessed on www.bis.gov.in

Mandatory hallmarking covers 6 caratages of gold jewellery and artefacts - **14K, 18K, 20K, 22K, 23K and 24KS**. However, as per Indian Standard **IS 1417: 2016** a provision of 9K Hallmarking is also available, which is currently a voluntary grade.

From 01 July 2021 to 05 March 2026, more than **60 Cr Gold Items** are hallmarked with HUID so far. BIS also carries out several enforcement activities, including raids, based on complaints/information received on misuse of Hallmark or Hallmarking Quality Control Order. These actions aim to protect consumers and strengthen trust in the hallmarking system. In 2025-26, more than **30 enforcement activities** were conducted against jewellers for such violations.

ENFORCEMENT ACTION AGAINST FIRMS SELLING FAKE ISI MARK PRODUCTS IN NOIDA

A major search & seizure operation was conducted on 23 March 2026, in Noida at three firms:

- M/s Sohan Lal Gupta
- BDN Fasteners India Pvt. Ltd.
- SLG Fasteners Pvt. Ltd.

During the operation, these firms were found misusing ISI Marks on Screws & Washers and violating Quality Control Orders by selling products without a valid BIS licence.

Approximately, **₹20 Lakhs** worth of non-compliant goods were seized and confiscated under the BIS Act, 2016. The operation was carried out under the guidance of senior officials from BIS Noida Branch with support from Noida Phase-II Police Station. All seized goods have been sealed, and legal action will follow as per BIS Act provisions.

BIS urges every consumer to always verify products with ISI, Hallmark or CRS Marks using the BIS Care App before purchase.

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

General Purpose Chairs and Stools

"It is our responsibility as true citizens to contribute to the progress of the country. The Government of India's focus is on exports, which is impossible without high-standard products. To increase our exports, we must manufacture quality products, without which it is difficult to compete globally. This is why adopting BIS standards is not just a requirement, but a necessity for growth."

Vinod Bafna
Managing Director
Bonton Technomake Pvt. Ltd.



EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW
on
BIS HALLMARKING
with
Chitra Gupta, Deputy Director General, BIS
&
Ankur Goel, President (Works), MMTC

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INDUSTRY ACADEMIA PARTNERSHIP

STRENGTHENING COLLABORATION THROUGH THE AUSTRALIA-INDIA STANDARDS TRADE ENABLING PROJECT (AI-STEP)

Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), in collaboration with Standards Australia (SA), organised a workshop under the Australia-India Standards Trade Enabling Project (AI-STEP) on 11 March 2026 in a virtual mode. The workshop focused on cooperation in the Green Hydrogen sector, bringing together experts, industry representatives, and standards professionals from India and Australia. The objective of the workshop was to deliberate on the role of standards in enabling the safe, reliable, and scalable development of green hydrogen technologies. The session opened with remarks by Mr. Rajneesh Khosla (Head, International relations, BIS) and Mr. Adam Stingemore (Chief Development Officer, Standards Australia). Presentations were delivered by Mr. Michael Waldron (SA), Mr. Gaurav Jayaswal (BIS), and Ms. Nancy Norton (Ark Energy Corporation), followed by a panel discussion moderated by Ms. Claire McFarland. The panel featured Mr. Siddharth Gupta (L&T Electrolysers Limited), Mr. Naveen Kumar Jain (Time Technoplast Limited), Mr. Muthu Kumar (Ashok Leyland), Dr. Fiona Simon (Australian Hydrogen Council), Dr. Patrick Hartley (CSIRO Hydrogen Industry Mission), and Ms. Nancy Norton (Ark Energy Corporation). Industry perspectives highlighted practical challenges and opportunities in hydrogen production, storage, transportation, and mobility applications. This workshop shows that there is a need to align standards with emerging technologies and market needs, and promote international harmonisation of standards to support the growth of the green hydrogen economy.

PLENARY AND WORKING GROUP MEETINGS OF ISO/TC 34/SC 2 AND ISO/TC 34/SC 11



BIS hosted the Plenary and Working Group Meetings of ISO/TC 34/SC 2 Oleaginous Seeds and Fruits & Oilseed Meals and ISO/TC 34/SC 11 Animal and Vegetable Fats & Oils from 10-13 March 2026 at BIS Headquarters, New Delhi. Delegations from China, Canada, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Malaysia, Tanzania, and Uganda, along with representatives from AOCS and FOSEA, participated in person, while delegates from the Italy, China, Netherlands and the USA joined virtually. Indian delegation comprising of BIS officials and experts from R&D institutions and industry actively participated in the meetings. ISO/TC 34/SC 2 agreed to initiate revision of ISO 17059 Oilseeds-Extraction of Oil and Preparation of Methyl Esters of Triglyceride Fatty Acids for Analysis by Gas Chromatography (Rapid Method) under the leadership of India. ISO/TC 34/SC 11 created new ad hoc groups on Pesticides to review possibility of development of ISO Standards on pesticide residue analysis in oils and fats and Triacylglycerol by HPLC to suggest method for development of ISO Standard for determination of triacylglycerol composition of fats and oil by HPLC. Convenorship of both the ad hoc groups has been assigned to India.

ONE-DAY AWARENESS PROGRAMME ON GAP AREAS IN INDIAN FISHERY STANDARDISATION

BIS organised a one-day programme on Gap Areas in Indian Fishery Standardisation on 18 March 2026 at Manak Bhawan, New Delhi, with over 120 participants from academia, industry, government bodies, and NGOs. During the inaugural session, Ms. Suneeti Toteja, Scientist-F / Senior Director & Head, Food and Agriculture Department, BIS, outlined the objectives of the awareness programme, Shri Sanjay Pant, Scientist G & DDG (Standardization-II), BIS, emphasised the importance of Standardisation in Fisheries and Aquaculture sector and Dr. J. K Jena, DDG (Fisheries Science), Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi and Chairperson, Fish, Fisheries and Aquaculture Sectional Committee, FAD 12 highlighted the importance of various gap areas in Indian Fishery Sector for Standardisation.

Technical sessions by national experts covered aquaculture practices, aquafeed standards, processed fish products, global traceability frameworks, and ornamental fisheries. Key gap areas identified included guidelines for mariculture, reservoir and cage culture, cold water fisheries, food traceability systems, good aquaculture practices, and standards for processed fish products such as marinated fish, MAP fresh fish, surimi products, retort pouch fish curry, and smoked fermented fish.

BIS PARTICIPATES AT 10TH IEC-IEEE-BIS SMART ENERGY STANDARDISATION COORDINATION WORKSHOP

BIS participates at the 10th BIS IEC IEEE Smart Energy Standardisation Coordination Workshop, in collaboration with IEEE and IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission), on 10 March 2026 at India Smart Utility Week 2026 in Regency 5, New Delhi. Mr. Reji Kumar Pillai, President, ISGF and Chairman, Global Smart Energy Federation; Mr. Vimal Mahendru, Vice President, IEC; Mr. Richard Schomberg, Special Envoy on Smart Electrification, IEC; Srikanth Chandrasekaran, Senior Director, IEEE and Reena Garg, DDG (Standardisation-I), BIS were present in the workshop.

Focus Areas:

- Alignment of IS 18968:2025 implementation across states
- Roadmap for adoption of IEEE 2800-2022 & IEC 63584:2024 in India
- Grid-forming inverter requirements and transmission-level stability
- AI standardisation frameworks for power system applications
- Cybersecurity compliance under IEC 62433 (2024) and related standards

During the workshop, BIS officials Shri Asit Kumar Maharana, Head ETD, participated as a panelist in Session 1 titled **From Standards to Practice - Regulatory and Utility Perspectives on DER and EV Grid Integration** and Shri Kshitij Bathla, Scientist-D/Joint Director, served as a panelist in Session 2 on **Standards for Artificial Intelligence and Cybersecurity for Smart Energy Systems**.

AWARENESS SEMINAR ON ISO 14001:2026 - ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

BIS organised an Awareness Seminar on ISO 14001:2026 - Environmental Management Systems on 6 March 2026 at Manak Bhawan, New Delhi. The seminar aimed to familiarise participants with the key updates in the forthcoming revision of ISO 14001, which has recently completed the Final Draft International Standard (FDIS) stage at the International Organisation for Standardisation. The programme was inaugurated by Shri Chandan Bahl, DDG, BIS, with welcome remarks by Shri Virendra Singh, Head, EED and remarks by Shri S.K. Sharma, Chairperson, Environmental Management Sectional Committee EED 01.

Focus Areas:

- Key changes introduced in the revised Environmental Management Systems standard and practical aspects related to implementation, auditing, and certification.
- Discussions on supporting organisations in ensuring an effective transition to the new version of ISO 14001, enabling them to strengthen their environmental management practices in line with evolving global expectations.

Technical Sessions:

- Key changes in ISO 14001:2026 by Shri Debasish Nath, Consultant - Environmental Sustainability, Health & Safety, Tata Consultancy Services
- Guide for Auditing Environmental Management Systems by Shri Virendra Mathur, EHS Management Systems Expert
- Standards supporting the implementation of EMS by Shri Lalit Yadav, Sc-C, EED
- EMS Certification by Shri Barun Das, Sc-D, BIS

STANDARDS' PROMOTION

MANAK MANTHAN PROGRAMME ON IS 21101:2014 ADVENTURE TOURISM SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

BIS Dehradun Branch Office organised a "Manak Manthan" programme on 27 February 2026 to promote awareness and effective implementation of IS 21101:2014 Adventure Tourism Safety Management System Requirements. The programme aimed to strengthen safety practices and encourage adoption of standardised risk-based management systems in the rapidly growing adventure tourism sector. The event witnessed active participation of more than 100 stakeholders, including adventure tourism operators, certification bodies, testing and inspection agencies, regulatory authorities, industry associations, and consumer representatives, reflecting strong industry interest in structured safety frameworks.

LABORATORY QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (LQMS) TRAINING PROGRAMME AT NITS

The Laboratory Quality Management System (LQMS) training programme was organised from 10-13 March 2026 with the objective of enhancing participants' knowledge and practical understanding of quality management systems in testing and calibration laboratories. It was attended by 43 participants representing government testing laboratories, BIS-recognised laboratories, academic and research institutions, and public and private sector laboratories, including professionals such as Quality Managers, Technical Officers, Analysts, and Faculty Members. Shri V. Gopinath, DDG (West) also participated in the training programme, adding significant value through his presence and interactions.

The sessions were conducted by Shri Dileep Kumar, Scientist-F, Ex-BIS, and Shri Kumar Manish Raja, Scientist-E, NITS, who delivered sessions enriched with practical examples and real-world applications. The programme focused on the effective implementation, maintenance, and auditing of laboratory quality systems in alignment with BIS requirements and international standards. The key topics included quality documentation and record control, technical competence of laboratories, risk-based thinking and its application, internal audits and audit techniques, management review processes, handling of non-conformities and corrective actions, and continual improvement in laboratory systems. The **IS/ISO/IEC 17025:2017 - General Requirements for the Competence of Testing and Calibration Laboratories** was extensively covered in the programme.

THIRD TRAINING PROGRAM ON SHINE (STANDARDS HELP INFORM & NURTURE EMPOWERED WOMEN) AT NITS

BIS conducted its third training program on SHINE (Standards Help Inform & Nurture Empowered Women) on 11-12 March 2026 at NITS, Noida. The program is specifically designed to empower women by enhancing their knowledge of standards, quality protocols, safety norms, and informed consumer practices. During the inaugural session, Smt. Chitra Gupta, Deputy Director General, BIS, highlighted that "Standardisation is not merely about technical specifications, it is the silent guardian of every household. By empowering women through the SHINE initiative, BIS is not just sharing knowledge, it is building a foundation of trust and excellence that will strengthen the entire nation".



"Standards are essential in everyday life, yet awareness remains low among rural and tribal women. This programme has strengthened my understanding of quality products, and I am committed to spreading this knowledge through community engagement, helping women make safer and more informed choices".

Dr. N. Bhuvaneshwari
Assistant Professor, BIS Mentor & Resource Person

STANDARD WALA SATURDAY: AN INTERACTIVE RADIO OUTREACH

The month-long "Radio Blitz" across major FM networks—including Fever 104, Big FM, Radio City, Radio Mirchi, and Red FM—was highlighted by the "Standard Wala Saturday" initiative. Every Saturday, interactive "RJ Talks" and interviews with BIS experts were conducted to foster deeper consumer engagement. In these special segments, BIS Scientists joined popular RJs to discuss critical quality benchmarks for non-fossil fuel cooking options (such as induction stoves and rice cookers), furniture, and home interiors. These sessions provided listeners with practical knowledge on key standards and the direct benefits of choosing certified products.



"STANDARD HAL, TOH SAHI HAI" ON E-COMMERCE PLATFORMS

BIS is running a Pan-India digital consumer awareness campaign on leading e-commerce platforms, such as Amazon and Zepto, to influence consumer behavior at the point of purchase. By placing banner advertisements directly within shopping interfaces, the campaign prompted online shoppers to verify BIS Quality Marks before finalising their purchases. The initiative also targeted platform sellers, encouraging them to join the standardisation movement through the "MSME Champions" campaign. Through these high-traffic digital touchpoints, the Bureau effectively reached out to over 1 crore consumers daily during the campaign period.

हर खरीद को बनाएं क्वालिटी वाली खरीद।
मानक चिन्ह वाले उत्पाद ही अपनाएं।

खरीदने से पहले स्टैंडर्ड मार्क ज़रूर जांचें।

स्टैंडर्ड है, तो सही है

New TVC by BIS