

BUREAU OF INDIAN STANDARDS

164th Meeting of the Executive Committee

PROCEEDINGS – PART - I

Day and Date : Wednesday, 25 March, 2026

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

PRESENT:

Chairman : 1. Shri Sanjay Garg, DG, BIS
Members (Present) : 2. * Shri Sanjiv Shankar, Additional Secretary &
Financial Advisor, Ministry of Consumer Affairs,
Food & Public Distribution
3. Shri Bharat Khera, Additional Secretary,
Consumer Affairs;
4. Dr. Anant Sharma, National President;
Consumer Confederation of India (CCI);
5. * Prof. Rajat Moona, Director, IIT Gandhinagar;

Representatives : 1. Dr. Ashok Kumar, DDG, BEE;
(Represented Shri Krushna Chandra Panigrahy,
Director General, Bureau of Energy Efficiency-BEE)
2. *Dr. Ashish Kumar, Sr. Consultant, DPIIT;
(Represented Shri Sanjiv, Joint Secretary,
Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal
Trade-DPIIT)
3. *Smt. Prerna Sharma, Special Secretary to Govt. of
UP; (Represented Shri Alok Kumar, Principal
Secretary, Infrastructure and Industrial Development
Department Government of UP)
4. *Mr. Uttam Kumar, Dy. Director,
Product Divisions, IEEMA;

(Represented Ms. Charu Mathur, Director General,
Indian Electrical & Electronics Manufacturers'
Association-IEEMA)

5. Dr. Saood Ahmad, Chief Scientist (NPL);
(Represented Prof. Venugopal Achanta, Director,
Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) -
National Physical Laboratory (NPL)
6. * Prof Hemant B. Kaushik, DEAN, IIT Guwahati;
(Represented Prof. Devendra Jalihal, Director,
Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati)
7. * Dr. Bharat Kumar Yadav, Scientist - F / Director
MEITY; (Represented Shri Sushil Pal, Joint
Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and Information
Technology- MEITY)

**Members (Leave of
Absence)** : 1. Shri V Arun Roy, IAS, Secretary,
Industries Department Secretariat, Chennai
Government of Tamil Nadu;

**BIS Officers
in Attendance** : 1. Shri H.J.S. Pasricha, DDG (Certification);
2. Shri Sanjay Pant, DDG (Standardization-II);
3. Lt Col (Retd.) Kumar Shantanu,
DDG (Administration);
4. Shri Vinod Kumar, DDG (Finance);
5. Smt. Chitra Gupta, DDG (Hallmarking & Training);
6. Smt. Nishat S. Haque, DDG (Lab);
7. Smt. Reena Garg, DDG (Standardization-I);
8. Smt. Nitasha Doger, Sc. E, Head (MSD & Pub);
9. Shri. Ajay Tewari, Sc. E, Head (LRMD);
10. Ms. Alka, Secretary (BIS);
11. Smt. Neha Singhal, Head (GSD);
12. Shri Rajat Gupta, Sc. D (LPPD);
13. Shri Amit Kumar Singh, DD (M & CA) (PRD);
14. Shri Tejas Sandip Mahale, Sc. C (SCMD)

* Through video conference

Item 1 WELCOME BY THE CHAIRMAN

- 1.1 The 164th meeting of the Executive Committee (EC) of BIS was held on 25 March 2026 to discuss the Agenda, circulated to the members on 17 March 2026 and Revised on 24 March 2026.

Item 2 PRESENTATION ON IMPORTANT INITIATIVES TAKEN BY BIS SINCE LAST EC MEETING HELD ON 25 NOVEMBER 2025

- 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.

Item 3 CONFIRMATION OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF 163rd MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EC) OF BIS HELD ON 25 NOVEMBER 2025

- 3.1 There being no comments from the members, EC confirmed the proceedings of the 163rd meeting of the EC held on 25 November 2025 as given as Annex-3A of the agenda.

Item 4 ACTION TAKEN REPORT (ATR) ON THE DECISIONS TAKEN/ACTIONABLE POINTS OF THE 163rd MEETING OF EC HELD ON 25 NOVEMBER 2025

- 4.1 EC noted the Action Taken Report of the 163rd meeting of the EC held on 25 November 2025 as given in Annex-4A of the agenda.

Item 5. REVISION OF BIS LABORATORY RECOGNITION SCHEME (LRS)

Background

BIS operates the Laboratory Recognition Scheme (LRS) under the provisions of Section 13(4) of the BIS Act, 2016 and Rule 32 of the BIS Rules, 2018. These statutory provisions empower BIS to recognize laboratories in India or outside India for carrying out testing of samples in relation to conformity assessment and such other functions as assigned by the Bureau. The Rules also provide for issuance of guidelines relating to suspension, withdrawal, revocation, or renewal of recognition of laboratories.

The present version of the Laboratory Recognition Scheme (LRS), 2020, was approved by the Executive Committee of the Bureau in its 145th meeting held on 20 February 2020. At present, under LRS 2020, a total of 419 laboratories have been recognized for carrying out testing of samples under various BIS conformity assessment schemes.

With the implementation of the LIMS portal, the complete process of recognition of laboratories has been made online with effect from February 2021. The overall sample handling process of recognized laboratories has also been integrated with the LIMS portal.

Proposal made to the EC

Based on the experience gained from the operation of the Laboratory Recognition Scheme over the last few years, and with a view to simplify procedures, enhance quality testing infrastructure in the country, and reduce compliance burden, it has been decided to revise the Laboratory Recognition Scheme.

The proposed revisions were based on inputs received from recognized laboratories, BIS laboratories, and concerned Conformity Assessment Departments within BIS.

Decision of the EC

The EC deliberated upon the proposed scheme and approved it with recommendation that only Point 11.1 be retained and rest of the sub-points of Point-11 be deleted.

Item 6. FUND MANAGEMENT OF BIS

Background

EC in its 50th meeting held on 27.03.2002 had decided that all decisions of Investment Committee shall be reported to FAC/EC as and when their meetings are held and EC in its 114th meeting held on 25-09-2013 decided that such reporting should be made on quarterly basis. Further the Finance Advisory Committee (FAC) of BIS in its 63rd meeting held on 28.07.2021 decided that the Investment portfolios of the Capital/Corpus Fund, Pension & Gratuity Liability Fund and GPF should be maintained separately. Further, FAC also approved separate Investment Policies for Capital/Corpus Fund and Investment Policy for Pension & Gratuity Liability Fund. The Investment for Pension & Gratuity Liability Fund should be made as per Rule 44(5) of the BIS Rule 2018, which *inter alia* read with section 11(5) of the Income Tax Act, 1961. The GPF Fund is already maintained separately with separate books of accounts and separate investment portfolio as per the Investment guidelines of Ministry of Finance.

The details of investment made/matured up to 31.03.2025 (including investments of Pension & Gratuity Liability Fund) were reported to FAC in its 68th meeting held on 25.06.2025. The investments made during 01.04.2025 to 31.12.2025 in Capital/Corpus Fund, amounting to Rs. 653.37 Crore in SDLs and FDRs with PSU Banks. The investments were made after the recommendations of the M/s IDBI Capital Markets & Securities Ltd., (Fund Manager of BIS) and the recommendations of the Investment Committee comprising of DDGF as Chairman and DDGA, DDG (SSD-II) and DDG (Hallmarking, PR & NITS) as members. The investments made were approved by DG, BIS. During this period, investments of Capital/Corpus Fund, having Face Value of Rs. 278.00 Crore had matured.

A summary of Investments made/matured under Capital/Corpus Fund and Pension & Gratuity Liability Fund from 01.04.2025 to 31.12.2025 were presented before the EC.

Proposal made to the EC

EC was requested to note.

Decision of the EC

The Executive Committee noted.

Item 7. Appointment of M/s. IDBI Capital Markets & Securities Ltd. as Fund Manager to provide Fund Management services to BIS

Background

The investments of BIS-Corpus Fund (including Leave Encashment Fund), National Pension System Fund, Pension & Gratuity Liability Fund and General Provident Fund are made in accordance with the laid down procedure, which includes the advice of a professional Fund Manager. The Executive Committee of BIS in its 96th meeting dated 30.09.2010 decided to appoint M/s. IDBI Capital Markets & Securities Ltd as Fund Manager of BIS to provide Portfolio Fund Management Services on non-discretionary basis for a period of three calendar years from 2011 to 2013 extendable on yearly basis subject to satisfactory performance at an Annual Fee of Rs. 15,000/- (Rupees Fifteen Thousand only) plus GST (All statutory expenses such as stamp duty, taxes, legal expenses and incidental expenses such as Demat, Custodial, CSGL Charges etc. shall be reimbursed by BIS on actual basis). From time to time, EC in its different meetings had extended the services of the firm upto December 2025.

EC in its meeting dated 23.07.2025 for appointment/continuation of M/s IDBI Capital Markets & Securities Ltd. as Fund Manager of BIS for another three calendar years (2026, 2027 & 2028). The extension was accorded on the existing fee (i.e. Rs. 15,000 per annum plus GST), terms & conditions and agreement. However, after the approval was accorded by EC, Accounts Department is in receipt of email from M/s IDBI Capital Markets & Securities Ltd requesting increase in the price and has not agreed to the extension on the same rates. This position was informed to EC while submitting EC ATR in its 163rd meeting held on 25.11.2025.

Consequent upon the approval of the Competent Authority, the tender was floated on GeM Portal for the appointment of Fund Manager to provide portfolio management services to BIS and the contract for appointment of Fund Manager through GeM as per rule 149 (iii) of GFR, 2017 was awarded to the M/s IDBI Capital Markets & Securities Limited at a cost of ₹5,13,300/- inclusive of GST (18%), plus reimbursement of statutory charges on an actual basis, for a period of three years.

Proposal made to the EC

EC was requested to consider and approve.

Decision of the EC

The Executive Committee approved.

Item 8. MODIFICATION IN GUIDELINES ON SALE OF INDIGENOUS INDIAN STANDARDS

Background

Currently, the sale of Indian Standards is being done through following modes:

- a) e Sale Portal
- b) Online Subscription/DVDs

EC in its 152nd meeting dated 07 April 2022 had approved the existing guidelines for sale of Indian Standards and Special Publications.

Proposal made to the EC

The following was submitted for consideration and approval of EC, for inclusion in the guidelines on sales policy:

Notwithstanding the free availability of indigenous Indian Standards in soft copy, the following shall be permitted:

- a) On special requests, hard copies of indigenous Indian Standards other than those with special features, identified to be made available for sale in printed/hard copy form [as covered under 8.1.4 (b) of the agenda item, may also be made available for sale at the marked price (with applicable discount) to the users, who prefer printed copies for ease of reference, operational convenience, accessibility considerations or institutional requirements, without requiring prior permission of the Activity Head of Standardization.
- b) Indigenous Indian Standards may also be included and sold as part of bundled packages of standards offered through Online Subscription/DVDs as a value-added service, along with adopted standards. Such packages provide additional functionalities such as controlled access, automatic updates, integration of amendments, bookmarking, annotation facilities and e-mail alerts. The pricing of such packages shall be attributable to the value-added services provided and shall not affect the principle of free access to indigenous Indian Standards in standalone soft-copy form. Revenue generated through such packages by outsourced agencies, shall continue to be shared with the Bureau as per the approved arrangements.'

Decision of the EC

The Executive Committee accorded its approval.

Item 9. PRICING POLICY FOR SALE OF INDIAN STANDARDS AS A VALUE ADDED SERVICE PACKAGE THROUGH ONLINE SUBSCRIPTION/DVDS

Background

The existing prices of online subscription/DVD package are based upon the decision taken by EC in its 126th meeting dated 29 April 2015, that price of package for online subscription/DVD shall be 10 percent of hardcopy price of total standards in that package. Based on this decision, package price was calculated in year 2015 and the same were made part of the agreement between BIS and M/s Book Supply Bureau for licence to convert, package, duplicate, distribute and market Indian Standards on DVD and online subscription. These package prices are being continued till date.

The complete set of Indian Standards, as well as individual Technical Division-wise packages, along with their amendments and periodic updates, are made available to users as a value-added service through DVDs or online subscription.

In order to encourage the outreach and wider uptake of standards, it is important that the existing rate (i.e.10% percentage of the marked price of the group of Indian Standards in a package) for calculation of pricing of Online Subscription/DVDs of Indian Standards should not be increased. The current rates for both individual and multiple users may be retained.

The number of published Indian Standards has increased significantly over the last 10 years, since the last fixation of prices by EC. Additionally, three new Division Councils, namely SSDC, AYDC, and EEDC, have been established, the pricing of which is not covered under the current package price of Online Subscription/DVDs of Indian Standards.

The increase in the total number of standards will result in a corresponding increase in the package price of Online Subscription/DVDs for the complete set of Indian Standards as well as individual Technical Division-wise packages. This increase is necessary considering that Online Subscription/DVDs are provided as a value-added service and are managed through an outsourced agency. The increase in the number of standards entails an increase in the value-added services provided by the outsourced agency, including automatic updates, integration of amendments, bookmarking, annotation facilities, and e-mail alerts.

The number of Indian Standards in a package may increase or decrease based on the publication or withdrawal of standards. To ensure correct calculation of the package price as per the rate approved by EC, timely updation of the package price *vis-à-vis* changes in the number of standards is necessary.

The existing provision of six-monthly updates through DVD may be discontinued since considerable changes may occur within a six-month period, the users opting for six-monthly updates may not receive timely access to the new standards formulated, latest revisions, amendments, etc. By the time the user receives the next update, the period available for switchover to the latest version may be significantly shorter considering the generally permitted concurrent running period of six months.

Proposal made to the EC

Following was submitted for kind consideration and approval of EC:

- (i)** Retention of the existing rates for calculation of pricing of Online Subscription/DVDs of Indian Standards for both individual and multiple users as detailed in Para 9.1.3 of the agenda item, with continuation of 20% concession on subsequent renewal of Online Subscription/DVD service with bi-monthly updates only.
The existing provision of six-monthly updates through DVD may be discontinued since considerable changes may occur within six-month period.
- (ii)** Updation of package prices of Online Subscription/DVDs of Indian Standards for the complete set of Indian Standards as well as individual Technical Division-wise packages as per the number of Indian Standards as on 1 January 2026, in accordance with the existing rates.
- (iii)** Subsequent annual updation of package prices based on the prevailing number and pages of Indian Standards, with 1 January of every year to be taken as the reference date for calculation.

Decision of the EC

The Executive Committee approved the proposal.

Item 10. PURCHASE OF VEHICLE IN LIEU OF CONDEMNED VEHICLE

Background:

The Bureau currently owns 04 vehicles which are deployed at BIS Headquarters. One of the BIS owned vehicle Volkswagen Vento bearing Registration no. DL 8 CY 2259 was purchased by the Bureau in 2014 at a cost of Rs. 9,44,984/-. The vehicle has covered 1,94,593 kilometres and has completed its life both in terms of kilometres run and years of use and was eligible for mature condemnation as per Rule 13 of Delegation of Financial Powers Rules, 2024 by Department of Expenditure. The vehicle was in continuous use for official purposes for the past 11 years and is now off road. Accordingly, after approval of Competent Authority, the vehicle has been condemned on the basis of condemnation certificate dated 28.10.2025 issued by Airport Authority of India, as the vehicle was beyond economic repair and it fulfils all the conditions of condemnation as per Delegation of Financial Power Rules, Ministry of Finance.

The Bureau proposed to procure a new vehicle against the condemned vehicle as per Delegation of Financial Power Rules, 2024. However, in the absence of budget provision for procurement of new vehicle in RE 2025-26 & BE 2026-27, the matter is being placed before the EC for allocation of budget under Rule 38 of BIS Rules, which states as under:

“Provided that where the expenditure is of an emergent and essential character but provision for the same has not been made in the budget, it shall be incurred only after the approval by Executive Committee.”

Proposal made to the EC

The Executive Council is requested to consider & approve: Procurement of SUV (Preferably Toyota Innova – Hycross) at an estimated amount of Rs. 35 Lakhs under the budget head “Cap Exp – Vehicle (7301)” for operational requirement of the Bureau.

Decision of the EC

EC accorded its approval to allocate fund of Rs 35 lacs under the budget head “Cap Exp – Vehicle (7301)” for purchasing a suitable SUV for BIS.

Item 11. ANNUAL REPORT 2024-25

Background

An email was sent to DoCA on 12 Dec 2025 and it was requested to permit BIS to take approval of other GC members on this agenda by circulation by giving ten days' time. As desired by DoCA, the Hon'ble minister was requested that being the President of the Governing Council of BIS, he may approve the Annual Report 2024-25 of BIS. It was further informed that the same will be duly reported in the next meeting of the Governing Council of BIS. The Annual Report has been accorded approval by the Hon'ble minister on the same day, considering the exigency.

For EC members, an email was sent on 12 Dec 25 for their approval by 19 Dec 2025. The EC members were earlier requested to communicate their approval by 21 Dec 2025, nevertheless, considering the urgency of the matter, as explained above, the duration was abbreviated and members were requested to convey approval by 15 Dec 2025. Following members have communicated their approval on the agenda item:

- i) Prof. Venu Gopal Achanta, Director, CSIR- National Physical Laboratory;
- ii) Charu Mathur, Director General, IEEMA;
- iii) Sh Rajat Moona, Director, IIT, Gandhinagar.

Approval of other members has been assumed as no comment/query has been received from the rest of the members.

DG was informed and requested on 16 Dec 25 to accord post-facto approval to the BIS Annual Report 2024-25, being the Chairman of the EC of BIS.

In view of the above, we may consider that the above-stated agenda item has been approved by the members of the Executive Committee (EC) of BIS.

Proposal made to the EC

EC was requested to note.

Decision of the EC

The Executive Committee noted.

Item 12. PROPOSAL FOR ADDITIONAL BIS HALLMARKING AGENTS/ REPRESENTATIVES FOR STRENGTHENING HALLMARKING SCHEME

Background

The agenda item "Proposal for Additional BIS Hallmarking Agents/ Representatives for Strengthening Hallmarking Scheme" was received from the Hallmarking Department for approval of the EC members, via circulation, on 21 January 2026.

In view of urgency, the agenda item was circulated to EC members vide our e-mail dated 21 January 2026 with the request to approve the proposal by 28 January 2026.

Following members communicated their approval on the agenda item:

- i) Sh Sanjiv Shankar, ASFA;
- ii) Prof. Venu Gopal Achanta;
Physical Laboratory;
- iii) Sh Rajat Moona, Director, IIT, Gandhinagar.

Approval of other members was assumed as no comment/query has been received from the rest of the members.

Proposal made to the EC

It was for the information of the Executive Committee.

Decision of the EC

The Executive Committee noted.

Item 13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR

1. While presentation was made on the R&D projects allocated by BIS to various academic institutions, EC desired to know how these R&D projects have helped BIS be brought out on paper and be informed in the next EC meeting.
2. Because of advancement of technology and other requirements, there is a need of timely review and revision of standards. It was suggested to carry-out an internal exercise within the standardization division of BIS and prepare data of the standards which are being reviewed/ revised or pending to be reviewed/ revised. It was desired by EC that the said data be presented in the next EC meeting.
3. EC observed that BIS needs to have regular physical inspections of recognized labs to verify equipment and quality assurance of the testing. EC desired that a calendar be drawn of BIS labs' surveillance.
4. EC suggested that with respect to the surplus fund lying with BIS, a working-group be constituted which may recommend the suitable utilization of fund with respect to projects that can bring improvement in BIS activities and betterment of BIS office buildings infrastructure and renovation/ modernization of labs across country.

Item 14. ALIGNMENT OF BIS PAY SCALES WITH CENTRAL GOVERNMENT PAY MATRIX - PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO FIRST SCHEDULE (REGULATION 12) OF THE BIS (TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE OF EMPLOYEES) REGULATIONS, 2020

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) currently operates pay scales that are materially below the equivalent levels prescribed in the Central Government Pay Matrix. This misalignment is not a new concern - it has been examined by a dedicated internal committee (2018), acknowledged at the level of the Department of Consumer Affairs (DoCA), and is explicitly sanctioned for correction under a Department of Expenditure (DoE) Office Memorandum dated 04 January 2024. Thus the disparity continues to impair staff retention, restrict career mobility, and undermine the operational strength of the Administration and Finance Cadre.

The Executive Committee was requested to approve the proposed amendment to First Schedule (Regulation 12) of the BIS (Terms and Conditions of Service of Employees) Regulations, 2020, to bring BIS pay levels into alignment with those applicable to equivalent Central Government posts.

The regulatory mandate, the policy direction from DoCA, the 2018 Committee recommendation, and the documented operational impact - it was proposed that BIS:

- (i) Amend the First Schedule (Regulation 12) of the BIS (Terms and Conditions of Service of Employees) Regulations, 2020 to align BIS pay levels with those applicable to equivalent posts in the Central Government Pay Matrix including nomenclature and
- (ii) Refer the approved amendment to the Governing Council for ratification.

Proposal made to the EC

The Executive Committee was requested to:

- (i) **Consider and approve** the proposed amendment to First Schedule (Regulation 12) of the BIS (Terms and Conditions of Service of Employees) Regulations, 2020 and
- (ii) **Authorise** the placement of the approved amendment before the Governing Council for further ratification.

Decision of the EC

Considering a case already in court with similar demands, the committee recommended obtaining legal advice and put forth the proposal accordingly.