

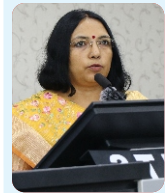
BIS CONVENES NATIONAL WORKSHOP TO SHAPE INDIA'S AI & ROBOTICS STANDARDS ROADMAP

Outcome-driven dialogue defines safety, ethics, and global competitiveness frameworks

In a significant step towards shaping India's regulatory and quality framework for emerging technologies, Bureau of Indian Standards, convened a one-day national workshop on "Usage of Artificial Intelligence and Robotics: Standardization Perspective" at the National Institute of Training for Standardisation, Noida on 16 April, 2026.

Leadership Underscores Urgency of Responsible AI Frameworks

The workshop was inaugurated by Smt. Nidhi Khare, Secretary, Department of Consumer Affairs, who highlighted the urgency of building trust-led and globally aligned standards frameworks for emerging technologies. She encouraged BIS scientists to lead with vision in developing standards and forward-looking frameworks.



"Today, everyone is engaging with products and services powered by AI and Robotics, reflecting their transformative impact on our lives. It is imperative that we proactively explore their meaningful integration into public governance."

Nidhi Khare, IAS
Secretary, Department of Consumer Affairs, GoI

"In the rapidly evolving domains of AI and Robotics, standards serve as the strategic cornerstone for national competitiveness. Our commitment to robust standardization ensures that Indian innovation is not only synonymous with excellence but is also positioned as a primary driver of international norms and technical benchmarks."

Sanjay Garg, IAS
Director General, BIS



Technical Highlights and Strategic Dialogue

The workshop focused on the responsible deployment of AI & Robotics, where experts deliberated on the **Quality Infrastructure** for robotics manufacturing in India, including laboratory and testing perspectives, sectoral integration in agriculture and the power sector, and the safety of robotics in Industrial AI.

Experts also highlighted the intersection of **Natural Language Processing (NLP)** and **human-centric standardisation**, ensuring that technological innovation does not come at the cost of human values.

The workshop strengthened collaboration between BIS, leading academic institutions, and industry bodies, concluding with a prioritised list of critical gaps in existing Indian Standards and a definitive roadmap for the development of new standards under relevant BIS technical committees.

NATIONAL BUILDING CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS (NBCS) 2026

Driving Regional Development Through a Robust Technical Safety Framework

Released on 30 April 2026, **NBCS 2026** represents a landmark shift in India's regulatory framework, transitioning from the previous National Building Code (NBC) to a modern, performance-oriented system, designed to support rapid infrastructure growth while anchoring every development in technical excellence. Development of NBCS, involved extensive consultations with stakeholders, including central and state governments, industry, academia, and technical experts; and with the Deregulation Cell in the Cabinet Secretariat and the High Level Committee on Non-Financial Regulatory Reforms under NITI Aayog.

Strategic Reform: Enhancing Ease of Doing Business:- By delinking administrative and development control norms—which fall under state and local jurisdiction—the standards empower local authorities to implement region-specific building developments. The shift toward a performance-based framework provides ample scope for innovation and faster decision-making, significantly aiding the construction industry's efficiency.

Uncompromising Safety Standards:- While the administrative burden has been reduced, the NBCS 2026 retains a rigid focus on the technical pillars of building safety:

Structural and Electrical Integrity: The standards maintain critical technical provisions to ensure buildings perform safely under diverse environmental and operational stresses.

Modernised Fire Safety: Fire safety norms have been rationalised by removing height restrictions, liberalising travel distance requirements, and optimising storage water requirements.

Future-Ready Infrastructure: The standards introduce comprehensive safety and performance protocols for new-age technologies, such as 3D-printed concrete and prefabricated volumetric construction, EV charging infrastructure, updated digital connectivity requirements in buildings, advanced safety & performance requirements for tall concrete buildings, water-efficient fixtures and Sustainable Waste Management like biodigesters and packaged sewage treatment plants.



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STANDARDS IN NEWS

NOTIFIED QUALITY STANDARDS

BIS continues to expand and refine its collection of Quality Standards. As on date, there are **23,414 Indian Standards in force**, ensuring safer products, stronger industries, and greater trust for consumers. In April 2026, 3 New Standards and 14 Revised Standards were Published whereas 19 Indian Standards were amended. Some of the newly published Indian Standards include -

Transport Engineering

IS 19771: 2026 Medical Electrical Equipment Dosimeters with Ionization Chambers as Used in Radiotherapy

Water Resources

IS 19744: 2026 Preparation of Catchment Area Treatment (CAT) Plan - Guidelines

Petroleum, Coal and Related Products

IS 19487: 2026 Safe Handling of Bitumen and Bituminous Products - Code of Practice

IS 19681: 2026 Face Wash - Specification

IS 19682: 2026 Shower Gel (Body Wash) - Specification

STANDARD IN FOCUS

Standards for Medical Assistive Technologies as part of NLEAP

BIS has released a set of indigenous standards to enhance universal accessibility and independence for individuals with mobility impairments. Developed in alignment with the **National List of Essential Assistive Products (NLEAP)**, these standards ensure that assistive technologies are safe, durable, and effective for domestic and international markets.

IS 5145: 2026 – Walking Sticks

This standard outlines comprehensive requirements for walking sticks made from various materials, including wood, cane, aluminium, plastic, and rubber. It focuses on ergonomics, workmanship, and mechanical performance to guarantee user safety.

Key Performance Tests:

- **Strength Test (Non-Aluminium):** Evaluates structural integrity by gripping the stick horizontally and applying a **196 N load** near the handle. The stick must show no signs of damage or breakage.
- **Joint Strength Test:** Ensures handle security by hanging a **20 kg load** from the handle for one minute while the stick is held vertically. The handle must remain firmly attached and undamaged.

IS 19631: 2026 – Portable Ramps

Designed to improve freedom of movement, this standard specifies requirements for portable ramps used by wheelchair users, strollers, and carts to navigate steps and buildings. These ramps are vital for the elderly, children, and persons with mobility issues in homes, workplaces, and public spaces.

Key Performance Tests:

- **Load Testing:** Weights are gradually applied to the center of the ramp up to its maximum capacity to check for structural failure or bending.
- **Slip Resistance:** Surfaces are tested under dry, wet, and icy conditions using the **British Pendulum Method** to prevent accidents.
- **Stability:** A **300 kg center weight** is applied alongside sideways and slope forces to ensure the ramp does not slide during use.
- **Durability:** Weights are applied and removed 10 times to simulate wear and ensure surface longevity.

These indigenous standards represent a major step toward the **Accessible India Campaign (Sugamya Bharat Abhiyaan)**, fostering innovation while ensuring high-quality benchmarks for Indian manufacturers.

ALL INDIA FIRST LICENSE	
Standard/Products	Licensee
IS 2603: 1983 Copper Anodes for Electroplating	Cupron Industries Private Limited
IS 19267: 2025 Oriented Strand Boards	Strandply LLP
IS 17585: 2021 Beta (Outflow) Valves for Gravity Type Flushing Cisterns	Captain Polyplast
IS 9202: 2020 Rolling Bearings Cylindrical Rollers — Specification (First Revision)	Timken Engineering & Research India Private Limited

STANDARD IN ACTION

IS 19685 : 2026 Sunscreen Cosmetics Products — Specification

BIS has introduced **IS 19685: 2026**, a comprehensive specification for **Sunscreen Cosmetics Products**. This standard ensures that leave-on preparations like creams, lotions, and gels are both safe and effective in protecting users from harmful Ultraviolet (UV) radiation.

What Defines a Standard Sunscreen?

According to **IS 19685: 2026**, sunscreen products are defined as preparations intended for contact with human skin or lips to absorb, reflect, or scatter UV radiation between **290 nm and 400 nm**.

The standard categorises protection into four key areas:

- **UVB Protection:** Measured by **SPF (Sun Protection Factor)**, protecting against radiation that causes sunburn (290 nm to 320 nm).
- **UVA Protection:** Measured by **UVA PF or PA rating**, targeting deeper-penetrating radiation (320 nm to 400 nm) associated with skin aging.
- **Broad Spectrum Protection:** Products meeting specific criteria for both UVA and UVB coverage.
- **Water Resistance:** The ability to maintain SPF protection after water immersion for **40 minutes** ("Water Resistant") or **80 minutes** ("Very Water Resistant").

Technical & Safety Requirements

Minimum UVB Protection	All products must provide at least SPF 6.0
Broad Spectrum Criteria	Must have a UVA PF/SPF ratio of at least 1/3 and a critical wavelength of at least 370 nm
Novel Ingredients	New ingredients must undergo safety evaluations per IS 4011

Standardised Testing Methods

Compliance is verified through internationally aligned testing protocols:

- **SPF (UVB):** Tested via **IS 17494**
- **UVA PF / PA:** Verified using **IS 17492**
- **Water Resistance:** Measured per **IS 17660**
- Validated using the **IS 17493**

Consumer Guidance & Labelling

The standard mandates clear labelling to prevent misleading claims. Products cannot use terms like "**sunblock**" or "**total protection**", as no product provides 100% UV defense.

Key Labelling Tiers:

- **SPF Labels:** Range from **SPF 6** (Low Protection) to **SPF 50+** (Very High Protection)
- **PA Ratings:** Range from **PA+** (UVA PF 2.0–3.9) to **PA++++** (UVA PF ≥ 16.0).

By implementing **IS 19685: 2026**, the BIS provides a robust framework that empowers consumers to make informed choices while encouraging the cosmetic industry to maintain high-quality safety standards.

STANDARDS UNDER DEVELOPMENT

MEETING IN FOCUS: 14th Meeting of MSD 19 – Human Resource & Innovation Management Sectional Committee

14th Meeting of MSD 19, held on 10 April 2026 in Hybrid mode at Manak Bhawan, New Delhi was chaired by Dr. B. Metri, Director, IIM Nagpur.

SCOPE OF WORK OF MSD 19

Standardisation in the field of Management including Innovation, and Human Resource

1. Indian Standard for Innovation Management System Requirement –

The Committee finalised the **Indian Standard for Innovation Management System Requirement for publication. This standard specifies requirements for an innovation management system that an organisation can use to develop and demonstrate its innovation capability, enhance its innovation performance, and realise value for users, customers and other interested parties.**

This standard is designed to be inclusive, ensuring that any organization—from a small startup to a large public sector enterprise—can foster a culture of continuous improvement and global competitiveness.

2. Working Group for New ISO Standard on Sustainable Human Resource Management (SRHM) –

Committee decided to constitute a working group (WG 18) for development of a new ISO standard on Sustainable Human Resource Management under ISO/TC260. This is subsequent to the approval of the proposal by Indian for formulation of international standard on SRHM.

LIAISON WITH ISO AS PARTICIPATORY (P) MEMBER:

- i. ISO/TC 260 Human Resource Management,
- ii. ISO/TC 279 Innovation Management.

3. New Subjects Identified for Indian Standard Formulation –

Committee recommended 3 new subject areas related to a) Human resource management – workforce allocation, b) Human resource management – workforce data quality and Innovation Management – Tools and c) Methods for Innovation Operation measurement – guidance for standard formulation. These standards can provide structured approach for the dynamic allocation of human capital based on verified competencies, reducing operational waste and de-risking strategic decision-making.

Draft Finalised for Publication

Indian Standard for Innovation Management System Requirement

Draft finalised for Wide Circulation

1. IS/ISO 30414:2018 Human Resource Management – Guidelines for internal and external human capital reporting
2. IS/ISO 56000 Innovation Management – Fundamentals and Vocabulary

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 May 2026 include:

CIVIL

- Ready Mix Mortar – Specification
- Unbacked Flexible PVC Flooring - Specification Part 1 Homogeneous Flooring
- Structured-Wall Plastics Piping Systems for Non-Pressure Drainage and Sewerage - Specification: Part 2 Pipes and Fittings with Non-Smooth External Surface, Type B

MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

- Household sewing machines - Flywheel bush - Specification
- Studio Spot-Lights for use in motion picture studios - Specification
- Heat Pump for Water Heating - Specification Part 1 Heat Pump Equipment

ELECTROTECHNICAL

- Energy performance of lifts escalators and moving walks Part 2: Energy calculation and classification for lifts elevators
- Polyvinyl Chloride Insulated Unsheathed and Sheathed Cables Cords with Rigid and Flexible Conductor for Rated Voltages Up to and Including 1100 V

BIS requests professionals, researchers, industries, and consumers to visit the Draft Portal (www.bis.gov.in) and actively contribute with feedback.



Scan for list of Wide Circulation Drafts

SUMMER ESSENTIALS
NOW STANDARDISED FOR YOUR SAFETY

- IS 19681: 2026 Face Wash Specification
- IS 19682: 2026 Shower Gel (Body Wash) Specification
- IS 19683: 2026 Face Scrub and Body Scrub Specification
- IS 19684: 2026 Oral Rinses for Cosmetics Specification
- IS 19685: 2026 Sunscreen Cosmetic Products Specification

These standards are currently voluntary in nature

BOPACKATHON 2026
Reinventing Sachets for a Litter-Free India
Biodegradable Packaging Solution Challenge for Pan Masala & Gutkha Sachets

SUBMISSION DEADLINE EXTENDED
24 May 2026

First Prize: 10 Lakhs
Second Prize: 7 Lakhs
Third Prize: 5 Lakhs

SCAN TO KNOW MORE



ENABLING INDIA'S NEXT FRONTIER IN SPACE THROUGH STANDARDISATION

Space is no longer the exclusive domain of national agencies. It is rapidly transforming into a dynamic ecosystem of commercial enterprises, startups, research institutions, and global partnerships. As India accelerates its journey from a government-led programme to a thriving space economy, standardisation has emerged as a critical enabler of safety, interoperability, reliability, and global competitiveness. At the centre of this transformation is the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) in harmonisation with standards developed by International Organization for Standardisation, is developing a robust portfolio of Indian Standards (IS) for space systems. These standards are designed to support the entire lifecycle of space missions, from design and manufacturing to launch, operation, and decommissioning, while also fostering private sector participation and innovation.

Building a Standardised Space Ecosystem

The creation of a robust and standardised space ecosystem is essential to support the rapid growth and diversification of space activities. As participation expands beyond traditional government agencies to include private enterprises, startups, and academic institutions, the need for harmonised standards becomes increasingly critical. Standardisation ensures consistency in design, development, testing, and operations, enabling seamless collaboration across stakeholders and geographies. It enhances safety, reliability, and interoperability while reducing risks and costs associated with space missions. By establishing a common framework, a standardised ecosystem not only strengthens mission success rates but also fosters innovation, scalability, and global competitiveness in the evolving space sector.

The rise of small satellites has democratised access to space, enabling startups, universities, and emerging players to participate in space missions. Standards such as **IS 19067:2024** (Requirements for Small Spacecraft) and **IS 18891:2024** (Cube Satellites) provide a structured framework for design, performance, and operational requirements.

These standards ensure that even low-cost missions adhere to high benchmarks of safety and reliability, making them compatible with global launch and operational systems. They also facilitate scalability and interoperability, allowing multiple satellites to function cohesively in constellations.

Technology Readiness and Programme Management

Space missions demand high levels of technological maturity and disciplined project execution. **IS 18330:2023** (Technology Readiness Levels) introduces a systematic methodology to evaluate the maturity of technologies, reducing risks during mission development. Complementing this, **IS 18336:2023** (Programme Management Quality Assurance Requirements) ensures that mission planning, execution, and quality control processes meet stringent benchmarks. Together, these standards help organisations make informed investment decisions and improve mission success rates.

Structural Integrity and Product Assurance

The harsh environment of space necessitates robust structural design and uncompromising quality assurance. **IS 18893:2024** (Structural Components and Assemblies) defines requirements for mechanical integrity, material selection, and assembly practices. Meanwhile, **IS 18915:2025** (Product Assurance for Commercial Satellites) establishes a comprehensive framework for ensuring reliability, safety, and mission assurance, particularly for private sector-led satellite programmes. These standards are vital for building trust among stakeholders, including investors, insurers, and international partners.

Launch Interfaces and Flight Environment

Seamless integration between spacecraft and launch vehicles is essential for mission success. **IS 18914: 2024** (Spacecraft Interface Requirements for Launch Vehicle Services) standardises the interface documentation and compatibility requirements between spacecraft and launch systems. Further, **IS 19259: 2025** (Flight Environments Telemetry Data Processing) addresses the processing and interpretation of telemetry data during launch, ensuring accurate monitoring of environmental conditions such as vibration, temperature, and pressure.

Testing, Qualification, and Electromagnetic Compatibility

Testing is the backbone of mission assurance in space systems. **IS 18912: 2024** (General Test Methods) and **IS 19217: 2025** (Design Qualification and Acceptance Tests) provide detailed methodologies for validating spacecraft and subsystem performance under simulated space conditions. In addition, **IS 19064: 2025** (Electromagnetic Compatibility Requirements) ensures that electronic systems on-board spacecraft operate without interference, a critical factor given the dense and sensitive nature of on-board electronics.

Risk Management and Operational Safety

Space missions inherently involve high levels of risk. **IS 19289: 2025** (Risk Management) provides a structured approach to identifying, assessing, and mitigating risks throughout the mission lifecycle. Equally important is **IS 19069: 2024** (Avoiding Collisions Among Orbiting Objects), which addresses the growing concern of space debris and orbital congestion. By promoting collision avoidance strategies and responsible space operations, this standard contributes to the long-term sustainability of outer space activities.

Cleanliness and Reliability of Systems

Contamination in space systems can lead to mission failure. **IS 19065:2024** (Surface Cleanliness of Fluid Systems) establishes cleanliness levels and control measures to ensure the reliability of propulsion and fluid systems, which are critical for spacecraft manoeuvrability and longevity.

Strategic Importance of Space Standardisation

Standardisation in space systems is not merely a technical necessity—it is a strategic imperative. As India expands its footprint in the global space economy, adherence to internationally harmonised standards enhances credibility, facilitates cross-border collaborations, and opens new markets for Indian space products and services.

Through its leadership, BIS is enabling:

- Standards reduce **ambiguity and compliance costs** for industry players.
- **Private Sector Growth:** Startups and MSMEs can align with globally accepted practices, improving their competitiveness.
- **Global Integration:** Harmonisation with ISO standards ensures that Indian systems are interoperable with international missions.
- **Sustainability:** Standards addressing debris mitigation and responsible operations safeguard the long-term usability of space.

Scope of Work - TED 14 Air and Space Vehicles Sectional Committee Sectional Committee

- Standardisation of systems, accessories, fittings, test method, performance requirements of aircraft, and space vehicles, aircraft electrical and allied equipment, air cargo handling and specialised ground handling equipment
- Co-ordination of work with **ISO/TC 20 & its sub-committees ISO/TC 20/SC 1, ISO/TC 20/SC 4, ISO/TC 20/SC 6, ISO/TC 20/SC 8, ISO/TC 20/SC 9, ISO/TC 20/SC 10, ISO/TC 20/SC 13 and ISO/TC 20/SC 14**
- Co-ordination of work with **ISO/TC 31** and its relevant subcommittee **ISO/TC 31/SC 8**
- Co-ordination of work with **ISO/TC 192**

Conclusion

As India enters a new era of space exploration and commercialisation, standardisation will serve as the backbone of this transformation. The comprehensive suite of BIS standards for space systems reflects a forward-looking vision- one that balances innovation with safety, and growth with sustainability.

Ravindra Beniwal

Scientist 'D' / Joint Director, Member Secretary (Air and Space Vehicles)
Transport Engineering Department

India Hosts ISO International Subcommittee Meetings on 'Space Systems and Operations' for the First Time

Bureau of Indian Standards, the National Standards Body of India, is hosting the 35th Plenary and Working Groups meetings of the ISO TC 20 / SC 14 'Space Systems and Operations' subcommittee of International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) from 4-8 May, 2026. An international workshop on Space Systems Standardisation is also being organized on 7 May 2026 as part of the events.

ISO TC 20/SC 14 "Space Systems and Operations", one of the 11 Sub-committees under ISO TC 20 (Air and Space Vehicles Technical Committee of ISO) is involved in the development of ISO standards for "Standardisation of crewed and uncrewed space systems that include management of space programmes, design, production, verification, launch, operations, maintenance, and disposal of space systems, end user applications and services, and for the environment in which the space programmes operate."

BIS technical committee TED 14 – Air and Space Vehicles is the National Mirror Committee for ISO TC 20 and its subcommittees. The committee is chaired by Mr. Rajiv Jyoti, Director (Technical), Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe). Experts from eminent institutions such as ISRO, IN-SPACe, Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd., National Aerospace Laboratory, DRDO and Directorate of Standardisation – Ministry of Defence are members of TED 14 committee of BIS.

More than 130 international delegates from 13 countries representing National Standards Bodies, experts from International Space Agencies including ISRO from India, Space Industry, and Academia will participate in the 35th plenary meeting and working group meetings scheduled from 4-8 May 2026 related to Space Operations, Space Environment (natural and artificial), Design Engineering and Production, Space System Program management and Quality, Orbital Debris Working Group, Downstream Space Services, space-based application and Design Engineering and production.

BIS has so far adopted 67 standards related to Space Systems which have been formulated by ISO TC 20/SC14. BIS Standards are used by IN-SPACe for regulating private sector involved in space systems manufacturing thus play an important role in boosting the private space sector economy in India.

India's hosting of this important international meeting reflects its growing stature in the global space sector, supported by advancements led by ISRO and the expanding participation of private industry through recent space sector reforms under IN-SPACe.

The engagement also aligns with India's commitment to contribute actively to the formulation of international standards in emerging domains such as space sustainability, debris mitigation, and mission operations.

INDIA

HOSTS GLOBAL SPACE LEADERS

ISO TC 20/SC 14

SPACE SYSTEMS & OPERATIONS
MEETINGS

4-8 May 2026

Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi



CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT

CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS, 2026 NOTIFIED

BIS has recently notified the **Bureau of Indian Standards (Conformity Assessment) Amendment Regulations, 2026**, which introduce critical updates to licensing and suspension procedures. These regulations emphasise a shift toward a systematic, annual financial obligation for licensees and certificate holders to ensure the continuity of their operations.

Mandatory Annual Advance Fee and Production Statements

A primary feature of the amendment is the requirement for the **requisite fee** to be paid in advance on an annual basis. This applies to both the initial grant of a licence and the continued operation of a valid licence. **Licensees are now explicitly required to submit their production statement along with the annual fee before the specified due date. Similar provisions have been extended to holders of Certificates of Conformity, ensuring uniformity across different certification schemes.**

Revised Suspension and Cancellation Rules

The amendment introduces strict consequences for non-compliance with fee schedules. If the annual fee and production statement are not received by the due date, the licence or certificate will be **placed under suspension** for a period of ninety days.

- **Revocation of Suspension:** Suspension may be revoked if the dues are cleared within ninety days, along with a **late fee of ₹5000**.
- **Automatic Cancellation:** Failure to pay within the ninety-day suspension window will result in the **cancellation** of the licence or certificate.
- **Notice Period:** While the Bureau generally provides a **twenty-one day notice** before suspending or cancelling a licence for other non-compliances, this notice period **does not apply** to cases of non-payment of annual fees, where the provisions of Regulation 8 or 16 apply immediately.

Licence Validity and Scheme-Specific Updates

Under the revised **Scheme-I** and **Scheme-II**, licences are initially granted for a period of up to **five years** and are renewable for subsequent five-year periods. The regulations also detail **concessions on resource fees** for Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and Start-ups, with rebates ranging from 20% to 80% depending on the enterprise category and the effective date.

BIS SEIZES SUBSTANDARD PRODUCTS IN AGRA, GUWAHATI AND TAMIL NADU

BIS Chennai Branch Office carried out an Enforcement search and seizure operation on 18 April 2026 at the warehouse premises of **M/s Flipkart India Private Limited in Tamil Nadu**. During the inspection of the premises, BIS officials found **eight deep freezers** without ISI Mark and CM/L Number, violating the provisions of Sections 28 of the BIS Act, 2016.

BIS Noida Branch Office conducted a search and seizure operation on **M/s Lokesh Machinery Store located in Jagner, Agra**, on 17 April 2026. During the operation, the shop was found to be indulging in misuse of the BIS Act by selling and storing **PVC Insulated Cables and Submersible Pump Sets with fake ISI Marks**, in violation of the Quality Control Order for electric cables, and without a valid licence from BIS. A total of approx Rs. 2 Lakhs worth misuse goods were seized which has violated BIS act 2016 were confiscated.

BIS Guwahati Branch Office conducted an enforcement raid at the premises of **M/s Pushpa Enterprise in Manpara, Guwahati** on 8 April 2026. During the operation, the establishment was found to be engaged in the sale and storage of **plywood products, including plywood, concrete shuttering plywood, flush doors and block boards**, of substandard quality. A total of 3,533 items bearing spurious or unauthorised ISI Mark were seized during the raid.



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

Copper Tubes for Plumbing

"Adopting IS 14811 for our plumbing products was a pivotal step in our growth. The BIS licensing process was remarkably smooth and efficient, from the online application to the plant audit and laboratory testing.

For us, the BIS Mark is the gold standard and I believe every MSME and small industry unit should embrace BIS certification- a Mark of quality that we are incredibly proud to carry."

Nishat Marakia
Director
Mehta Tubes



EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW

EASE OF DOING BUSINESS WITH BIS CERTIFICATION



Scan to Watch



H.J.S. Pasricha
Deputy Director General, BIS

INDUSTRY ACADEMIA PARTNERSHIP

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

India Hosts Inaugural BRICS Meeting of National Standards Bodies

Guided by the theme '**Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability**' of the BRICS Chairship for 2026, India is leading a strategic dialogue on cooperation in the field of **standardisation**.



The national standards body of India, **Bureau of Indian Standards** hosted the first virtual meeting of the BRICS Heads of National Standards Bodies (NSBs) on 28 April 2026 for **formalising** a unified framework for **standardisation** among the world's major emerging economies.

A Landmark MoU for Global Cooperation

The primary objective of the meeting was the **finalisation** of a proposed **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Cooperation in the Field of Standardisation**. This framework is designed to:

- **Formalise Institutional Ties:** Strengthen collaboration and information exchange between member nations.
- **Establish Dialogue Mechanisms:** Create regular platforms for joint activities and technical discussions.
- **Coordinated Global Engagement:** Promote a unified BRICS approach in international **standardisation** processes.

The meeting saw robust engagement from BRICS member countries. Participating institutions included **ABNT** (Brazil), **SAC** (China), **EOS** (Egypt), **IES** (Ethiopia), **BIS** (India), **BSN** (Indonesia), **INSO** (Iran), **GOST-R** (Russia), and **SABS** (South Africa).

Shri Sanjay Garg, Director General, BIS, welcomed the delegates and highlighted the importance of BRICS as a platform for global cooperation and economic governance. He emphasised the critical role of international standards in promoting **harmonisation**, facilitating trade, fostering innovation, and ensuring safety and sustainable development. Furthermore, he underscored the significance of the **BRICS Working Group on Standardisation** as a key outcome and invited member countries to the upcoming BRICS engagements in India in July 2026. **Shri Chandan Bahl, DDG-BIS (International Relations)**, highlighted the need for international cooperation to address differences in national standards and reduce Technical Barriers to Trade.

The deliberations successfully led to the **finalisation** of the draft MoU. Following a final review by the respective NSBs, the MoU is slated to be formally taken up during the high-level, **in-person meeting scheduled for 16–17 July 2026 in Bengaluru, India**.

India's Participates in 17th ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 42 Plenary
Bureau of Indian Standards in coordination with the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)**, represented Indian delegation in the **17th Plenary of ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 42 on Artificial Intelligence**, held in **Singapore from 20–24 April 2026**.

Key initiatives presented by India include **Framework for Agentic AI System Architecture**, (Interoperability, and Orchestration), **AI Agent Capability Description** and **Framework for Fairness Assessment in AI Systems**.

INDUSTRY CONNECT

BIS Charts the Roadmap for Silver Hallmarking 2.0 at the 4th India Silver Conference

At the **4th India Silver Conference (ISC 2026)** held in Dehradun, Bureau of Indian Standards reinforced its commitment to transforming the silver sector through enhanced quality control and standardisation. Smt. Nisha Bura, Director & Head (Hallmarking Department), outlined the Bureau's strategic progress toward a robust silver quality ecosystem:

Key Takeaways: The BIS Address

- **HUID-Based Transition:** Implementing a Hallmarking Unique ID (HUID) system to ensure digital traceability and heighten consumer trust.
- **Revised Standard IS 2112:2025:** Introduction of updated specifications covering widely used silver grades to align with modern manufacturing.
- **Addressing Technical Challenges:** Ongoing assessment of implementation hurdles, particularly for intricate products like **filigree, bandhel jewellery**, and bulky artefacts.
- **Jeweller Readiness:** A nationwide survey is currently underway to evaluate the readiness of silver jewellers for the transition to a mandatory regime.

The Path to Mandatory Hallmarking

BIS is actively consulting with stakeholders—including producers, bullion suppliers, and retailers—to prepare a phase-wise implementation roadmap. This strategy focuses on:

- **Expansion of Infrastructure:** Increasing the number of **Assaying & Hallmarking Centres (AHCs)** across the country.
- **Strategic Exemptions:** Providing provisions for specific categories where testing constraints exist.
- **Capacity Building:** Launching focused awareness initiatives to ensure the value chain is equipped for compliance.

This standardisation push aims to eliminate issues like **undercaratage** and the use of hazardous materials like **cadmium**, ensuring Indian silver meets international quality benchmarks.

National Workshop: Standardisation of Unani Medicine

BIS convened a **National Workshop: Standardisation in the Field of Unani Medicine** on 13 April 2026 at Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru. This workshop focused on the **integration of classical Unani practices with contemporary scientific and regulatory requirements**. Key sessions included **Emerging Topics: Identifying new frontiers within Unani medicine** that require standardized quality benchmarks and **Research-Driven Standards: Exploring how rigorous academic research can validate and enhance the standardisation process to ensure global acceptance**. The workshop served as a collaborative hub for nearly 100 delegates, including prominent regulators, academic researchers, and industry leaders from across India.

Workshop on Managing Persistent Organic Pollutants

BIS hosted a workshop on **POPs and Chemicals of Concern in Products** in collaboration with **CSIR-NEERI under the GEF-UNEP Project**, on 28 April 2026 at Manak Bhawan, New Delhi.

The session focused on updating India's **National Implementation Plan in Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)**, aligning national standards with the Stockholm Convention, understanding the sources, environmental persistence and health impacts of POPs, along with their regulation under Stockholm Convention.

Key discussions addressed an overview of key POPs, their occurrence in consumer products and environment, sampling and analytical techniques and strategies for monitoring and control and the **role of standardisation in minimising hazardous exposure** and ensuring safer materials and practices.

STANDARDS' PROMOTION

MANAK SAMVAAD FOR NEW LICENSEES IN CHANDIGARH

BIS organised Manak Samvaad in Chandigarh on 17 April 2026 to onboard new licensees and raise awareness about standardisation, tools, and services. The session featured presentations on licensing procedures, compliance, and handling non-conformities, helping clarify processes and encourage adherence to Indian Standards.

Officials addressed queries during an interactive Q&A, while leadership highlighted initiatives to strengthen industry engagement and promote collaboration. The discussion also covered evolving quality standards and BIS's efforts to align with global practices, making the session informative and impactful.

MANAK MANTHAN ON IS 9873:2025 IN CHENNAI

BIS conducted Manak Manthan on IS 9873:2025 on 16 April 2026 at the CIT Campus Taramani, Chennai. It was attended by representatives from 40 participants from laboratory officers, educational organisation, faculty members and college students. Shri Muninarayanan Scientist-E/Director, BIS Chennai emphasised the importance of the standards in improving safety of toys. Shri Pakki Balu, Scientist-C/Deputy Director, BIS highlighted BIS's role in promoting quality and safety of toys.

The technical session on the standard was led by Smt. Anmol Agarwal, Scientist-C/Assistant Director, BIS Chennai, who elaborated on the key provisions of IS 9873(Part1): 2025 - Safety of Toys Part 1 Safety Aspects Related to Mechanical and Physical Properties. She explained the requirements related to Quality, Safety Measures, Mandatory and Optional Requirements of the particular Standard.

AWARENESS PROGRAMME UNDER SHINE INITIATIVE FOR OFFICIALS OF RURAL LIVELIHOOD MISSION

BIS organised an awareness programme on 8 April 2026 in Shimla under the "Standard Help, Inform and Empower Women (SHINE)" initiative for officials of the Rural Livelihood Mission. Around 60 officials participated, and they were informed about the importance of BIS standards and the benefits of using certified products.

Focus Areas

- Awareness on quality standards and safe products among officials and Self-Help Groups (SHGs)
- Importance of checking ISI Mark, Hallmark, and other standard marks for ensuring safety and quality
- Consumer rights awareness and identification of substandard products
- Promoting informed purchasing decisions
- Capacity building of SHGs through adoption of standards in production activities
- Enhancing product quality, market access, and income generation opportunities
- Encouraging safe, hygienic, and sustainable practices

Participants were encouraged to act as "quality ambassadors" and spread awareness in their communities. The programme concluded with a pledge to promote the SHINE initiative.

9th SAFETY CONCLAVE 2026 IN COIMBATORE

BIS participated in the 9th Safety Conclave 2026 organised by the Coimbatore Productivity Council (CPC) in Coimbatore on 9 April 2026. Smt. G. Bhavani, Scientist-F/Senior Director & Head, BIS Coimbatore Branch Office, graced the occasion as the Guest of Honor, highlighting the importance of standards in ensuring safety, quality, and reliability across industries. Shri G. Vinith Kumar, Scientist-E/Director, BIS Coimbatore, addressed the importance of safety in alignment with BIS certification, emphasising adherence to standards for ensuring product safety and quality. BIS Coimbatore also set up an informative stall at the conclave, showcasing various standards, certification schemes, and initiatives that support industrial safety and best practices. The stall attracted participants and industry professionals, creating awareness about the role of BIS in strengthening safety culture. The conclave, themed "Engage, Educate and Empower People for Safety Excellence", served as a platform for knowledge.

FACULTY SENSITISATION AND STUDENT ORIENTATION PROGRAMME AT IIT, PALAKKAD

BIS conducted a **Faculty Sensitisation and Student Orientation Programme** on 11 April 2026 at IIT Palakkad, aimed at awareness among faculty members and students on standardisation, quality infrastructure, and opportunities for academic collaboration with BIS. It was attended by 60 participants from IIT Palakkad.

Highlights:

The session began with a welcome address delivered by Dr. M. Sabarimalai Manikandan, Associate Professor and Nodal Faculty at IIT Palakkad. This was followed by the inaugural address by Prof. A. Seshadri Sekhar, Director, IIT Palakkad, who highlighted the importance of integrating standards into academic and research activities. The keynote address was delivered by Shri Narender Reddy Beesu, Head, BIS Kochi Branch Office, who emphasised the role of standardisation in ensuring quality, safety, and global competitiveness.

Technical Sessions:

- **Presentation on Overview of BIS and its functions** by Smt. Hemalatha Panicker, Sc E/Director, BIS Kochi Branch Office
- **Detailed session on National Standardisation Ecosystem and Standards Formulation Process at BIS** by Shri Manikandan K, Head IT Dept, BIS
- Session on "**Standards Awareness Challenge: Faculty Edition**" was delivered by Smt. Neha Yadav, Sc E/Director, SCMD, BIS
- **BIS Student Chapters and their role** was presented by Shri Tejas Mahale, Sc C/ Deputy Director, SCMD, BIS
- **Live Demonstration of BIS digital initiatives** such as BIS website, e-BIS, Standards Portal, and Programme of Work (PoW)

EXPOSURE VISIT TO DUTRON PLASTICS PVT. LTD. AND DUTRON POLYMER

BIS organised an exposure visit to Dutron Plastics Pvt. Ltd. and Dutron Polymer on 21 April 2026 for students and faculty of the Plastic Technology Department at LDCE as part of the BIS Student Chapter. A total of 47 students from Semesters 4 and 6, along with Prof. Kintu Jain, Prof. Hetal Shah, and Prof. Stuti Shah from the Plastic Department of LDCE, Ahmedabad, were present. The visit aimed to provide students with firsthand exposure to industrial operations, quality control measures, and storage systems. It offered a comprehensive understanding of the manufacturing and testing processes of high-quality pipes, reinforcing the curriculum taught at LDCE and highlighting the role of BIS in the plastic industry.

