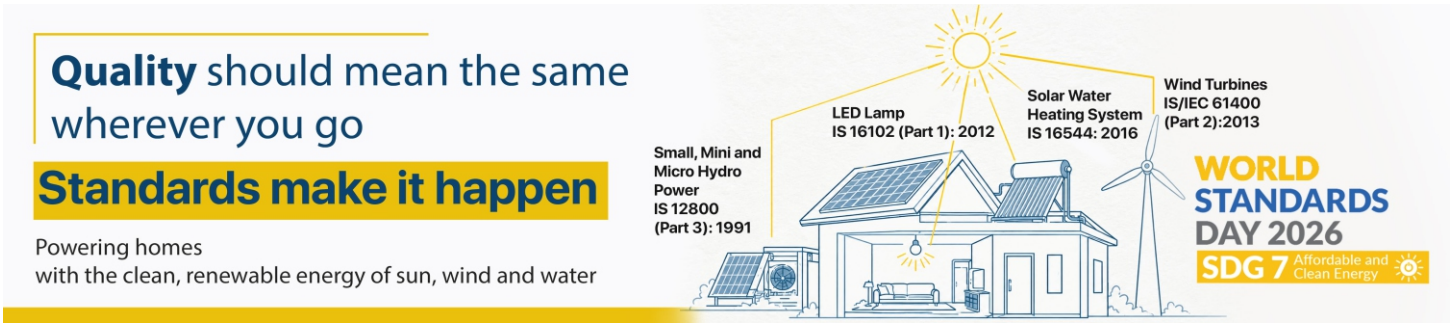
MANAK SAMACHAR

Monthly Newsletter | Volume XIX | OCTOBER 2026

मानकः पथप्रदर्शकः
Bureau of Indian Standards
The National Standards Body of India



UNION MINISTER OF STATE B.L. VERMA REVIEWS TESTING INFRASTRUCTURE AT SOUTHERN REGIONAL LABORATORY

Shri B.L. Verma, Union Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution visited the Southern Regional Laboratory (SRL), of the Bureau of Indian Standards in Chennai to review its infrastructure and operations. Addressing a delegation of senior BIS officials led by Shri M. A. J. Vinod, Scientist-F & DDG (Southern Region), the Minister commended BIS for safeguarding consumer interests.



Shri Verma also interacted with section in-charges and technical staff at various testing sections, to understand testing procedures, laboratory infrastructure, and conformity assessment processes. He praised the facility's state-of-the-art testing capabilities and the team's contribution to strengthening the national quality ecosystem.

STANDARDISING CREATIVE ECONOMY: SEMINAR ON CINEMA THEATRES, MUSIC METADATA & MEDIA INSTITUTES

Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), in partnership with the Asian Academy of Film and Television (AAFT), hosted a seminar on 'Emerging Standards in the Media and Entertainment Sector' on 1 September 2026 in Noida Film City, Uttar Pradesh. Shri Rajneesh Khosla, Deputy Director General (International Relations), BIS, delivered opening remarks outlining the role of BIS, as the National Standards Body, in creating a quality ecosystem in India.

Deliberations focused on three key standards under development:

Media & Entertainment Services – Skill Development Institutes – Requirements: Outlining requirements to enhance the quality and effectiveness of skill development institutes serving the Media & Entertainment sector.

Information & Documentation – Music Metadata Management: Establishing a standardised framework for music metadata exchange, enabling accurate tracking and accounting of rights and royalties.

Cinema Theatres – General Services Requirements: Providing requirements and recommendations to enhance service quality, consistency, and the overall experience of cinema services.

To drive these standardisation efforts forward, the event convened leaders across industry, academia, and allied fields. Shri Alok Singh, Scientist F & Head of the Services Sector Department, BIS, highlighted the importance of collaborative standardisation. The session featured insights from key contributors, including Dr. Sandeep Marwah, Founder & President, AAFT (Chairperson, SSD 13); Prof. Shashwati Goswami, Regional Director, IIMC Aizawl; Shri Atul Churamani, Managing Director, Turnkey Music; and Shri Tarunkumar Mazumdar, Former Vice President, PVR Inox Cinemas.

GOLD HALLMARKING FEE REVISED TO ₹75 PER ARTICLE AFTER FOUR-AND-A-HALF YEARS

The hallmarking fee for gold jewellery and artefacts has been revised from ₹45 to ₹75 per article with effect from 14 September 2026. The revision has been made after a period of four-and-a-half years. The minimum consignment fee for gold remains unchanged at ₹200.

The hallmarking fee for gold articles was last revised in March 2022. Since then, BIS-recognised Assaying and Hallmarking Centres (AHCs), which undertake the assaying and hallmarking of precious metal articles, have witnessed a substantial increase in operational expenditure. This increase has been driven by inflation, rising costs of consumables and manpower, as well as the implementation of various measures aimed at strengthening consumer protection and enhancing transparency in the hallmarking ecosystem.

The present revision is limited to the hallmarking fee applicable to gold jewellery and artefacts. The hallmarking fee for silver articles remains unchanged at ₹35 per article, with the minimum consignment fee for silver remaining at ₹150.



TOP STORIES INSIDE

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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 **22,239 Indian Standards in force,** ensuring safer products, stronger industries, and greater trust for consumers. Some of the newly published Indian Standards include -

Civil Engineering

IS 19609: 2026 uPVC Profile Framed Doors, Windows and Sliders - Specification

Food and Agriculture

IS 19913: 2026 Agricultural Produce Milling Machinery - Hammer Mill - Specification and Test Code

IS 19890: 2026 Induction Based Air-Assisted Electrostatic Spraying System - Performance Test Method

IS 19892: 2026 Agricultural Vehicles - Mechanical Coupling between Towed and Towing Vehicles - Requirements

Chemical

IS 19904: 2026 Shock Tube - Specification

IS 101 (Part 2/Sec 6): 2026 Methods of Sampling and Test for Paints, Varnishes and Related Products Part 2 Test on Liquid Paints(Chemical Examination)Section 6 Determination of In-can Free Formaldehyde in Water-Dilutable Coating Materials

Electronic and Information Technology

IS 19903: 2026 Information Technology for Learning, Education and Training - Learning Analytics Interoperability Part 4: Privacy and Data Protection Policies

STANDARD IN FOCUS

Paediatric Panchakarma Equipment Part - 1 Droni

This standard has been prepared to specify the essential requirements for the design, materials, dimensions, safety and performance of Paediatric Panchakarma Droni, a specialised therapeutic table used in Ayurvedic Panchakarma procedures for infants and children. In paediatric practice, ensuring safe positioning, comfort, stability and appropriate scaling of equipment is of critical importance. This standard has therefore been developed to guide manufacturers and healthcare institutions in producing Dronis suitable for use with paediatric patients. The Droni used for paediatric Panchakarma procedures differs from adult versions in terms of size, load-bearing capacity, structural detailing and safety considerations. To address these requirements, this standard classifies Paediatric Dronis into two types based on age category and corresponding dimensional specifications.

Materials: The Paediatric Droni shall be made using heartwood of durable timber species or heavy-duty fibre materials such as Glass Reinforced Plastic (GRP), Fibre Reinforced Plastic (FRP) or polyurethane-foam-filled fibre.

Shape and Dimensions: Two types shall be provided: Type 1 for children aged 0 to 2 years and Type 2 for children aged 2 to 10 years.

Coating and Performance: The coating shall be non-toxic, odour-free and resistant to Panchakarma oils at 40 °C to 45 °C.

The standard thus provides a structured framework for manufacturers and healthcare institutions to ensure safer Paediatric Dronis.



ALL INDIA FIRST LICENSE

Standard/Products	Licensee
IS 13450 : Part 2 : Sec 18 : 2014 Medical Electrical Equipment	Mitra Medical Services LLP
IS 4217 : 2026 Rolling Bearings - Needle Rollers	NRB Bearings Limited
IS 19363 : 2025 Metallic or Polymer Coated - Welded Wire Mesh Fencing	Eastern Weldmesh Private Limited
IS 17721 : 2024 In-vitro Diagnostic (IVD) Devices - Electrolyte Analyzer	AGD Bio Medicals Private Limited

STANDARD IN ACTION

Cycles - Electrically Power Assisted Cycles (EPAC)

This standard specifies safety and performance requirements for the design, assembly, and testing of Electrically Power Assisted Cycles (EPAC). It applies to pedal-assisted bicycles intended for public road use with a maximum saddle height of 635 mm or more. The standard covers city, trekking, young adult, and folding bicycles for private or commercial use, excluding hire bicycles from unattended stations.

Electrical Requirements and Power Limits

EPACs must feature an auxiliary electric motor with a maximum continuous rated power of 0.25 kW. Key electrical specifications include:

Cut-Off Speed: Motor assistance must progressively reduce and completely cut off when reaching 25 km/h (±10% allowance) or when pedaling stops.

Start-Up Assistance Mode: Walk-assist mode operates up to 6 km/h and requires continuous user activation.

System Voltage & Ingress Protection: Covers electrical circuits up to 48 V d.c. and requires an IPX4 moisture resistance rating.

Safety Controls: Must feature short-circuit protection, an easily accessible master control switch, anti-tampering measures, and anti-overheating protections.



Mechanical Safety and Testing Standard

EPACs must undergo rigorous mechanical testing to ensure structural integrity:

- **Braking Systems:** Requires two independent braking systems (front and rear).
- **Structural Fatigue & Impact:** Frame and front fork assemblies undergo static bending, drop-mass impact, and dynamic fatigue tests exceeding 100,000 cycles.
- **Fasteners & Folding:** Safety fasteners require locking mechanisms, and folding systems must prevent unintentional unlocking during operation.

Together, these electrical and mechanical requirements are designed to ensure that EPACs deliver reliable assisted mobility while maintaining essential safety, stability and performance during everyday use.

STANDARDS UNDER DEVELOPMENT

MEETING IN FOCUS: 14th Homoeopathy Sectional Committee Meeting

The **14th Meeting of AYD-07**, held on 24 September 2026 and was chaired by Dr. Raj K. Manchanda, Chairperson, AYD-07.

SCOPE OF WORK OF AYD 07

Standardisation in the field of Homoeopathy including traditional and modern aspects of products and services.



IMPORTANT DECISIONS

Elaboration of Scope of AYD 07

The committee deliberated the expanded scope of standardisation covering terminology, raw and source materials, vehicles and excipients, dosage forms, manufacturing and potentisation processes, devices, equipment, SOPs, guidelines, containers and packaging materials.

New Areas of Standardisation

The committee approved the publishing of draft of Indian Standards including **IS 19897: 2026** Homoeopathic Mother Tinctures (Hydro-Alcoholic Extracts) - Test Methods, and **IS 19901: 2026** Safe Handling of Biotherapeutic Products Used in Homoeopathy - Guidelines.

Research & Development

Two R&D projects have been proposed under AYD 07:

- **AYD TOR 0004 -** Method Development and Validation of Microwave Digestion and ICP-MS for Detection and Quantification of Active Ingredient, Key Elemental Composition, and Quality Parameters in 1X, 3X and 6X Potencies
- **AYD TOR 0005 -** Development of Quality Parameters and Phytochemical Profiling of Five Pharmacopoeial Herbs and their Mother Tinctures

Standards Under Publication

IS 19935 (Part 1): 2026 Biochemic Tablets for Use in Homoeopathy - Specification Part 1 Calcarea Sulphurica

IS 19933: 2026 Anhydrous Calcium Sulphate for Pharmaceutical Use - Specification

IS 19311: 2025 Standard Abbreviations of Homoeopathic Drugs

DRAFTS UNDER WIDE CIRCULATION

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 October 2026 include:

CHEMICAL

- Aluminium Paint, Heat Resistant - Specification
- Harness Leather - Specification
- Methods of Micro-Biological, Colour Fastness and Microscopical Test for Leather Part 6 Colour Fastness to Perspiration
- Personal Protective Equipment Part 3 Protective Footwear

ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

- Passive RF and Microwave Devices Intermodulation Level Measurement Part 1 General Requirements and Measuring Methods
- Electrotechnical Vocabulary: Part 56 Microwave Components and Accessories
- Systems and Software Engineering - Systems Resilience Concepts
- Environmental Conditions Part 3 Classification of Groups of Environmental Parameters and their Severities Section 5 Ground Vehicle Installations
- Akshar Coded Character Set and Composition Rules Language: Marathi

METALLURGICAL ENGINEERING

- Hardmetals Palmqvist Toughness Test
- Biotechnology - Biobanking - Requirements for Primary Containers for Storing Biological Materials in Biobanks
- Biotechnology - Massively Parallel Sequencing Part 3: General Requirements and Guidance for Metagenomics

MANAGEMENT AND SYSTEMS

- Quality Management - Requirements for Measurement Management Systems
- Guidelines for Auditing Management Systems
- Quality Management - Fundamentals and Vocabulary

CIVIL ENGINEERING

- Wooden Handles for Wood Working Chisels and Gouges - Specification
- Pull Handles - Specification
- Method of Identification of Natural Building

Scan for a comprehensive list of Drafts Under Wide Circulation

BIS requests professionals, researchers, industries, and consumers to visit the Draft Portal and actively contribute with feedback.



STREAMLINING PROCESSES, ENFORCING STANDARDS

How Modernised BIS Certification Processes and the New TFQCO Framework Support Business Growth while Safeguarding Consumer Interests in India

Mandatory Compliance: Quality Control Orders (QCOs) continue to enforce adherence to Indian Standards for products entering or produced within the Indian market.

EoDBR-Focused Overhaul: Procedural reforms by the Bureau of Indian Standards including self-developed QAPs, shared testing, 5-year licences, and concessions up to 80% reduce routine operational friction for compliant manufacturers.

Pragmatic Transition Bridge: The TFQCO, 2026 introduced by DPIIT creates an interim Scheme-II route without factory audits, enabling industry to build domestic manufacturing capacity without disrupting market supply.

Ensuring that products available in the Indian market meet prescribed standards of quality and safety has been a growing focus of the country's quality-control framework. To further this objective, the Government of India has progressively brought a wider range of products under mandatory compliance with Indian Standards through Quality Control Orders (QCOs).

Although **BIS certification is ordinarily voluntary, it can be made mandatory for specified products where considerations such as public interest, protection of human, animal or plant health, environmental safety, prevention of unfair trade practices or national security warrant regulatory intervention.** Once a product is brought under a QCO, manufacturers of the covered product, whether in India or overseas, are required to obtain certification from the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) before supplying the product in India.

As mandatory certification has expanded, an accompanying challenge has been to ensure that the certification process itself does not become an unnecessary compliance burden for manufacturers. BIS has, in recent years, made substantial changes to the way its product certification system operates.

A Modernised, Risk-Based Regulatory Framework by BIS

With the recent structural reforms, BIS has taken an approach to concentrate resources on verifying actual product conformity and on manufacturers presenting greater compliance risk, while subjecting consistently compliant manufacturers to fewer routine interventions.

- **Self-Developed Quality Assurance Plans (QAPs):** Manufacturers now have greater flexibility to develop their own Quality Assurance Plans (QAPs) for ensuring conformity, rather than relying solely on BIS-prescribed testing plans.
- **Flexible Testing Infrastructure:** The requirement to maintain an in-house testing facility has been relaxed, with manufacturers having the option to utilise shared or cluster-based testing facilities, BIS-recognised laboratories or other accredited laboratories as part of their quality-assurance arrangements.
- **Market-Driven Surveillance:** Routine surveillance has shifted its focus away from factory visits toward post-market sampling of off-the-shelf products. Consistently compliant units face factory surveillance as once every five years, while a higher frequency is retained for products that are not amenable to market surveillance and for cases warranting closer scrutiny.
- **Rationalised Administration & Reduced Costs:** Licence terms now extend up to 5 years with annual fee payments, eliminating yearly administrative churn. Financial concessions on Minimum Marking Fee have also been extended until 31 May 2029, with concessions of 80% for micro enterprises and start-ups, 50% for small enterprises and 20% for medium enterprises, along with an additional 10% concession for women entrepreneurs and units in the North-East Region.

A Transition Route for Manufacturers

To bridge the gap between rigorous quality enforcement and market readiness, the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) introduced the Transition Facilitation (Quality Control) Order, 2026 (TFQCO) in June 2026 providing an additional mechanism to address practical difficulties that may arise as manufacturers and their supply chains transition to mandatory quality-control requirements.

For specified product categories and eligible companies, the Order provides access to a certification route that does not require assessment of the manufacturing site. The mechanism currently covers specified QCOs relating to products including toys, PPE footwear, air conditioners, footwear, domestic water heating and clothes-washing appliances, hinges, furniture and household, commercial and similar electrical appliances.

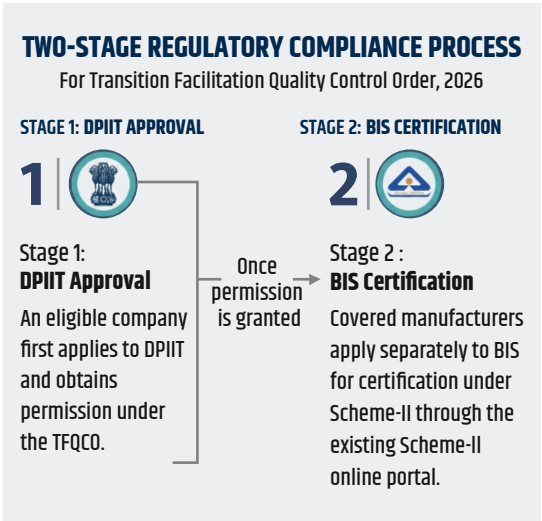
Scheme – I & Scheme II: How the routes differ

Under the regular QCO framework, these products ordinarily require certification under Scheme-I, the familiar ISI Mark scheme. Scheme-I certification involves establishing product conformity through independent testing as well as assessment of the manufacturing and quality-assurance system at the production site, with the objective of ensuring continued conformity with the applicable Indian Standard.

The TFQCO creates an alternative pathway for eligible cases by permitting certification under Scheme-II, where certification is based on independent testing of the product AT A BIS recognised lab and does not involve the factory assessment associated with Scheme-I. A manufacturer supplying goods to a company specifically permitted by DPIIT can therefore obtain a BIS licence under Scheme-II, subject to the conditions of the transition framework.

In practice, the process operates in two stages:

1. **DPIIT Approval:** An eligible company first applies to DPIIT and obtains permission under the TFQCO.
2. **BIS Certification:** Once permission is granted, covered manufacturers apply separately to BIS for certification under Scheme-II through the existing Scheme-II online portal.

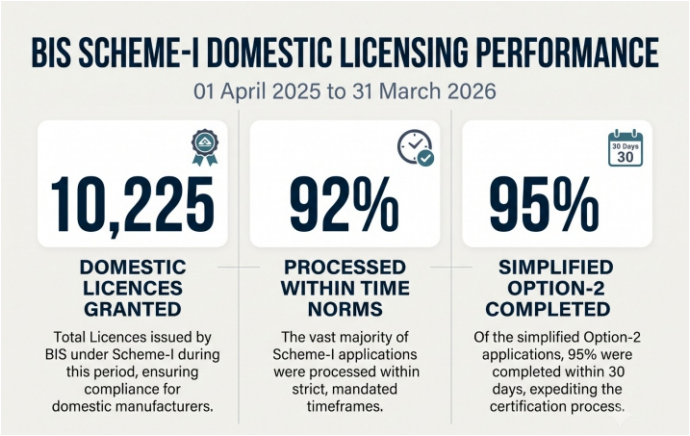


Strategic Supply-Chain Alignment: Addressing Real-World Constraints in Transition

While the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) continues to streamline its certification workflows, practical operational friction often stems from factors outside the Bureau's processing clock.

For executive leadership, the core challenge lies in the physical execution of supply-chain transformations. Establishing a manufacturing plant in India, scaling existing assembly lines, or localizing tier-1 vendor ecosystems requires substantial lead time. To maintain market presence and fulfill customer demand during this build-out phase, companies must temporarily rely on established global manufacturing hubs.

While overseas suppliers can pursue standard Scheme-I ISI certification, coordinating mandatory overseas factory audits introduces significant variables—including international travel scheduling, visa delays, and geopolitical or regional travel advisories. These external dependencies create supply bottlenecks even when BIS approval timelines are operating efficiently.



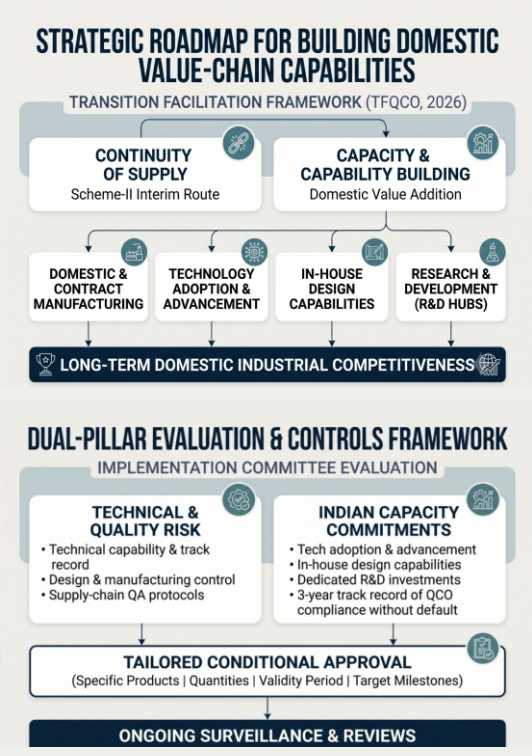
The Transition Facilitation (Quality Control) Order, 2026 (TFQCO) bridges this operational gap. By securing initial approval from the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), eligible firms can enable their global supply partners to utilize the site audit-free Scheme-II pathway. This ensures uninterrupted product supply into India while domestic plants are constructed, commissioned, and validated.

Far from serving merely as an import-facilitation channel during transition periods, this framework actively propels long-term domestic capability development. By aligning interim regulatory flexibility with clear operational milestones, the framework supports:

a) Domestic & Contract Manufacturing: Facilitating the localized assembly and scaling of physical production assets.
b) Technology Adoption & Advancement: Upgrading manufacturing lines with advanced automation and process technology.
c) Design Capability Development: Institutionalizing localized product engineering and design modifications.
d) Research & Development (R&D): Fostering long-term innovation and intellectual property generation within India.

Strategic Governance & Safeguards: Controlled Oversight with Operational Agility

Access to the Scheme-II alternative route under the TFQCO framework does not provide an exemption from compliance with Indian Standards. Goods supplied through the mechanism must continue to conform to the same applicable Indian Standards prescribed under the relevant QCO and must bear the applicable Standard Mark under a BIS licence. Approval is granted based on a comprehensive assessment conducted by an inter-ministerial **Implementation Committee** composed of senior leadership from key regulatory and economic departments such as **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Department of Consumer Affairs, Department of Commerce, Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT)** and **Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)** with provision for participation by other domain-specific government bodies as required.



The committee can consider the applicant's technical capability and its control over design and manufacturing, the manner in which quality is assured across its supply chain, and its past record of conduct and regulatory compliance. It can also consider commitments to develop supply-chain capabilities in India through Technology adoption or advancement, or research and development and, where applicable, a record of compliance with the concerned QCO for a continuous period of three years without default.

Tailored Approvals & Regulatory Accountability

Rather than functioning as an open-ended waiver, permissions are bespoke and tightly bound to corporate transition commitments. DPIIT defines precise boundaries for each approval, including covered product lines, approved production volumes, validity windows, authorized overseas facilities, and mandatory capability-building milestones. Companies operating under this route must maintain full cooperation with post-market surveillance protocols and submit periodic compliance reports against their committed localization targets. Permissions are subject to active review covering ongoing product conformity, market sampling results, and milestone execution. Any material misrepresentation, breach of conditions, or failure to meet Indian Standards results in immediate suspension or revocation of the permission.

A Defined Sunset Window

The TFQCO functions as a structural bridge rather than a permanent carve-out. Eligible entities must submit applications within 24 months of the Order's commencement. The underlying Order remains in force for five years (unless extended by the Central Government), while individual permissions operate strictly according to the specific validity period assigned by DPIIT. This bounded timeline ensures that supply continuity, domestic capital investment, and regulatory compliance proceed in lockstep while new Indian manufacturing facilities or contract-manufacturing networks are brought fully online.

Harmonizing Quality Assurance with Ease of Doing Business

The broader value of these regulatory enhancements lies in embedding Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) into India's quality infrastructure. Mandatory Quality Control Orders continue to mandate uncompromised adherence to Indian Standards. By providing an interim operational bridge during supply-chain realignments, capacity expansions, and technology transfers, the TFQCO ensures that quality enforcement and industrial growth reinforce one another. The standard of safety remains non-negotiable, while the pathway to compliance becomes pragmatic, predictable, and aligned with modern manufacturing realities.

Sekhar, Scientist-D (Central Marks Department – I) Bureau of Indian Standards

CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT

QCOs IN NEWS

SAFETY OF HOUSEHOLD, COMMERCIAL AND SIMILAR ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES (QUALITY CONTROL) ORDER, 2026

In a major push for standardisation and quality assurance, the **Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)** has issued crucial Quality Control Order (QCO) for Household, Commercial and Similar Electrical Appliances.

IS 302 (Part 1): 2024 IEC 60335-1: 2020 Household and Similar Electrical Appliances-Safety Part 1 General Requirements

Products Covered: Vacuum Cleaners and Water Suction Cleaning Appliances, Spin Extractors, Cooking Ranges, Hobs, Ovens and Similar Appliances, Electrical Shavers Hair, Clippers and Similar Appliances, Tumbler Dryers, Warming Plates and Similar Appliances, Frying Pans, Deep Fat Fryers and similar appliances, Massage Appliances, Electric Forced Convection Ovens, Steam Cookers and Steam-Convection Ovens, Electric Heating Tools, Electric Steam Cookers, and many more.

The order takes effect on **1 October 2026** (for general enterprises) and will take effect on **1 January 2027** (for small enterprises) and 1 April 2027 (for micro enterprises).

Gazette Notification



BIS ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS ON VIOLATION OF BIS ACT, 2016

BIS Guwahati Branch Office conducted an enforcement action at a unit on 15 September 2026 at Shiv Alloys Steel, NH 37, Paschim Boragaon, Guwahati, Assam - 781033. During the action, approximately **173.5 metric tonnes** of Ingots, costing almost Rs. 87 Lakhs were seized.



Raid in Guwahati, Assam

BIS Bengaluru Branch Office conducted a search and seizure operation on 9 September 2026 at the premises of M/s Zeblaze Solutions LLP, located at 731, 3rd Floor, 1st Main Road, New Town Main Road, 4th Phase, Yelahanka New Town, Bengaluru, Karnataka . During the course of the operation, officials seized **1,350** electronic video projectors, with an estimated market value of approximately **₹5 Crore.**

BIS Hyderabad Branch Office raided 2 jewellery shops in Bhadrachalam, Telangana, on 11 September 2026. During the enforcement action, the BIS team seized **522.337g** gold jewellery from M/s Sri Devi Jewellers, Shop 5, UB Road, Masjid Complex, IG Road **(272.084g)** and M/s Sri Venkata Ratna Jewellers, Shop 4, Masjid Complex, IG Road **(250.257g).** The jewellery shops were found selling jewellery without a valid BIS hallmarking licence, without HUID (Hallmark Unique Identification) numbers, and with spurious BIS logo and fineness markings.

BIS urges every consumer to use the BIS Care app and verify the quality mark before purchase.

BIS CERTIFICATION MANDATORY FOR SMARTPHONE SCREEN PROTECTORS UNDER COMPULSORY REGISTRATION ORDER, 2021

The Government of India has mandated **Bureau of Indian Standards Certification for Smartphone Screen Protectors,** strengthening quality requirements in the Indian market. The notification dated **21 September 2026** brings Screen Protectors for Smartphones under the provisions of the **Electronics and Information Technology Goods (Requirement of Compulsory Registration) Order, 2021.** Screen Protectors for Smartphones will be required to conform to Indian Standard **IS 19348:2025 Glass Screen Protector - Specification,** coming into effect from **1 April 2027.**



What is changing?

From 1 April 2027, smartphone screen protectors covered under the notification will have to meet the applicable BIS requirements before being sold in India. Non-compliant products will not be permitted for sale under the mandatory registration framework.

Why is it important?

The requirement will help ensure that smartphone screen protectors available to consumers conform to specified quality and safety requirements. It will also encourage manufacturers to adopt consistent quality practices and contribute to the development of a quality-focused domestic manufacturing ecosystem.

When will the requirement take effect?

The new requirement will come into effect on 1 April 2027, giving manufacturers and other stakeholders time to prepare for compliance.

Smartphone screen protectors are the **66th product category** to be notified under the compulsory registration framework, which also covers several electronic and information technology products, including smartphones, laptops, mobile and laptop chargers, LED televisions, microwave ovens, printers and set-top

The introduction of IS 19348:2025 marks an important step towards strengthening quality assurance for smartphone screen protectors and supporting a quality-led, Made-in-India ecosystem. Manufacturers and other stakeholders will need to ensure conformity with the applicable Indian Standard and BIS certification requirements before the implementation date.



INDUSTRY ACADEMIA PARTNERSHIP

INDIA PARTICIPATES IN GLOBAL DIALOGUE AT ISO ANNUAL MEETING 2026

The Indian Delegation participated in the **ISO Annual Meeting 2026,** held from **28 September to 2 October 2026** at CNIT Forest, La Défense, Paris, France, under the theme **Building trust in a changing world.** During the meeting, **Smt. Nidhi Khare, Secretary, Department of Consumer Affairs,** led the delegation comprising **Shri Sanjay Garg, Director General, Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS); Smt. Nitasha Doger, Scientist-E & Head, International Relations Department, BIS; and Shri Dharamsoth Santhosh, Scientist-D, International Relations Department, BIS.**



The Annual Meeting brought together national standards bodies, policymakers, industry leaders and technical experts from across the world to discuss how International Standards could strengthen cooperation, enable responsible innovation and address emerging global challenges, with a focus on **People & Planet, Emerging Technology & AI, and Trade & Development.**

Strengthening Bilateral Cooperation

- Discussions with the **British Standards Institution (BSI)** covered emerging areas including green energy, electric vehicles, artificial intelligence and water resource infrastructure, along with technical cooperation and support for India's New Work Item Proposals (NWIPs).
- BIS also held a **bilateral meeting with the Standards Organisation of Zimbabwe**, focusing on technical cooperation in areas including security equipment and light EV charging infrastructure, capacity building, exchange of expertise and mutual support in ISO/IEC governance positions.
- Engagements with the **Swedish Institute for Standards (SIS)** explored cooperation in circular economy, quantum technology, AI, renewable energy, plastic waste management, and women's health and menstrual products, along with collaboration on NWIPs and a possible MoU on Standardisation and Conformity Assessment.
- The **bilateral meeting with the Spanish Association for Standardization (UNE)** explored cooperation in AI, renewable energy, smart tourism destinations and Digital Product Passport (DPP), with UNE expressing support for India's NWIPs.

33rd PLENARY MEETING OF ISO/TC 113 – HYDROMETRY

The 33rd Plenary Meeting of **ISO/TC 113 – Hydrometry** was held in Tokyo, Japan, from 28 September to 2 October 2026, with Japan as host and the **Bureau of Indian Standards as the Secretariat of ISO/TC 113.** The meeting witnessed wide international participation in a hybrid format, with delegations from China, Japan and KATS (Republic of Korea) participating physically and representatives from the UK, Austria, Finland and other countries joining online. The programme included meetings of **ISO/TC 113 Subcommittees SC 1, SC 5, SC 6 and SC 8**, along with their Working Groups and associated groups.

BIS holds the Secretariats of SC 1 and SC 6, China holds the Secretariat of SC 5, and KATS holds the Secretariat of SC 8, reflecting the collaborative international structure of ISO/TC 113.

A key highlight was the **ISO/TC 113–IWA 50 Joint Workshop**, focusing on hydrological observation data, hydrological disaster risk management, prevention and mitigation in the context of climate change, and emerging global needs for hydrological data. As a significant outcome of the deliberations, a Study Group has been constituted under **ISO/TC 113** to study the expansion of the scope of **ISO/TC 113** towards Hydrometry.

SEMINAR ON MARINE ENERGY AT IIT GUWAHATI

Bureau of Indian Standards organised a Seminar on Marine Energy in collaboration with IIT Guwahati on 02 September 2026 at IIT Guwahati. The seminar highlighted the role of standardisation, research and technological collaboration in advancing marine energy technologies. The programme brought together experts, researchers, policymakers and stakeholders from BIS, IIT Guwahati, NIOT, MNRE, NIO and NRDC.



Shri Asit Kumar Maharana, Head, ETD, BIS, highlighted the MoU's role in promoting collaboration in standardisation, research and capacity building. Prof. Devendra Jalihal, Director, IIT Guwahati, emphasised the role of standards in ensuring quality and safety. Dr. Purnima Jalihal, Chair, ETD 54, outlined the committee's work on Marine Energy Conversion Systems and standardisation efforts. Technical sessions covered OTEC, renewable energy policies, hydrokinetic turbines, wave and tidal energy, marine energy devices, design and manufacturing, IPR, TRL assessment, and renewable energy initiatives at IIT Guwahati.

SOUTHERN REGIONAL HALLMARKING MEET 2026

BIS organised two separate meetings with BIS Registered Jewellers and BIS Recognised Assaying & Hallmarking Centres (AHCs) from the southern region on 24 September 2026 at Kozhikode, Kerala, as part of the two-day Southern Regional Hallmarking Meet 2026.



Participants were briefed on the recently introduced provisions for photographic capture and automatic weight recording of gold articles and Transfer of HUID, aimed at strengthening traceability and helping curb instances of misuse and fake hallmarking. The meetings also provided an interactive platform for jewellers and AHCs to raise queries, discuss implementation-related issues and seek clarifications on the recent initiatives. Feedback and suggestions from Jewellers' Associations and AHC Associations were also invited to further strengthen and improve the implementation of the Hallmarking Scheme.

STRENGTHENING INDIA-NEPAL COOPERATION IN STANDARDISATION

Mr. Sanjay Garg, Director General, Bureau of Indian Standards held a meeting with Ms. Kumari Jyoti Joshi, Director General, Nepal Bureau of Standards & Metrology (NBSM), and Mr. Rabindra Jung Thapa, Economic Counsellor, Embassy of Nepal on 17 September 2026. The meeting was also attended by the BIS officials - Mr. Rajneesh Khosla, DDG (IRD) and Ms. Nitasha Doger, Head (IRD).

The meeting provided an opportunity to exchange views on India-Nepal cooperation in standardisation, with discussions focusing on harmonisation of standards, exchange of information and knowledge, and identification of new areas for collaboration. The discussions also explored opportunities for enhanced coordination on conformity. assessment-related matters with a view to facilitating smoother cooperation and further strengthening institutional linkages between BIS and NBSM.

STANDARDS' PROMOTION

MANAK SAMVAAD FOR NEWLY LICENSED MANUFACTURERS IN HYDERABAD

BIS Hyderabad Branch Office organised a Manak Samvaad on 15 September 2026 for newly licensed manufacturers as part of the World Standards Day outreach initiatives. The interaction brought together stakeholders representing various sectors, providing an opportunity for manufacturers to understand BIS requirements and interact with BIS officials on matters related to standardisation and certification. Addressing the participants, Shri P.V. Srikanth, Director/Scientist-E & Head, BIS Hyderabad Branch Office, highlighted the significance of regular engagement between BIS and industry.

A detailed technical interaction was conducted by Shri K. Kavin, Scientist-C/Deputy Director, BIS Hyderabad, covering important aspects of BIS licence operation, product marking requirements, surveillance activities and compliance responsibilities.

The manufacturers were advised to ensure continued conformity to the relevant Indian Standards and comply with all applicable BIS requirements. They were also encouraged to actively participate in BIS awareness programmes and initiatives aimed at strengthening the quality ecosystem. The importance of authenticating the ISI Mark, Hallmark and CRS registrations through the BIS Care App and BIS portal was also highlighted.

MSME AWARENESS PROGRAMME FOR MANUFACTURERS OF UTENSILS & FLASKS

BIS Chennai Branch Office organised a Stakeholder Conclave for MSMEs on 10 September 2026 at the CIT Campus, Chennai, with special emphasis on manufacturers of utensils and flasks. It aimed to create awareness about applicable Indian Standards, Quality Control Orders (QCOs), BIS Certification, conformity assessment procedures and testing requirements for cookware, utensils, flasks and related products. The conclave witnessed active participation from 30 MSMEs, manufacturers, entrepreneurs and industry representatives. Participants were familiarised with the support and facilitation measures extended by BIS to enable timely compliance with quality and safety requirements. Manufacturers were advised to use approved raw materials and obtain BIS Certification in accordance with applicable QCOs. The transition timeline for implementation of the QCO for Aluminium Utensils was also discussed, with compliance becoming mandatory from 1 October 2026 for Large and Medium Enterprises, 1 January 2027 for Small Enterprises and 1 April 2027 for Micro Enterprises. Technical sessions covered BIS financial assistance for establishing testing facilities for MSME clusters, concessions available to MSMEs for certification, and testing, calibration, consultancy and training facilities offered by the National Test House.



TRAINING CALENDAR: OCTOBER 2026

Name of the Programme	Date (s)	Venue	Fees(₹)
Inter Laboratory Comparison, Proficiency Testing and Evaluation of Scores (ILC, PT)	08-09 Oct	NITS	7000
Laboratory Quality Management System as per IS/ISO/IEC 17025: 2017	13-16 Oct	Online NITS	11700
Laboratory Quality Management System as per IS/ISO/IEC 17025: 2017	28-31 Oct	NITS	13000

SENSITISATION PROGRAMME AT CENTRAL AYURVEDA RESEARCH INSTITUTE, BENGALURU

BIS organised a Sensitisation Programme for CCRAS Scientists at the Central Ayurveda Research Institute, Bengaluru on 16 September 2026, under the Memorandum of Understanding between BIS and the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences. The programme aimed to orient CCRAS scientists on the national standardisation ecosystem and explore collaboration between the two institutions.



The event witnessed the participation of scientists, researchers, and administrators from CCRAS institutes across the country, marking a significant milestone in the shared journey of promoting quality, safety, and global recognition for Ayurveda. True to BIS's enduring slogan **"Manakah Patha Pradarshaka,"** the programme underscored the indispensable role of standards in harmonising the ancient wisdom of Ayurveda with the demands of modern scientific rigour. The programme concluded with a way forward session, emphasizing sustained collaboration between CCRAS and BIS to strengthen a credible, globally competitive Ayurvedic healthcare system.

EXPOSURE VISIT TO STUDENTS OF STANDARDS CLUB AT BIS LABORATORY, HYDERABAD

BIS Hyderabad Branch Office organised an exposure visit for the members of the Standards Club at Zilla Parishad High School, Mallapur. Around 50 students, accompanied by their mentor and teachers, visited the BIS Hyderabad Branch Office and Laboratory at Moulali. Shri P. V. Srikanth, Director and Head, BIS Hyderabad Branch Office, welcomed the students and interacted with them, encouraging them to learn more about the importance of standards in everyday life.

BIS officials introduced the students to BIS, its mandate, activities and the importance of standardisation through an interactive presentation. The students were then taken on a guided visit to the BIS Hyderabad Laboratory, Referral Assaying Laboratory (RAL), Textile Testing Laboratory, and Exhibition of ISI-marked products arranged at the office. They explored a variety of products and learned how consumers can verify the authenticity of the ISI Mark and other BIS certifications using the BIS CARE App. The live demonstration helped the students understand how standards and conformity assessment contribute to consumer safety and quality.

TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR BIS OFFICERS ON PUBLIC RELATIONS & MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS

A one-day training programme on **Skill Upgradation – Public Relations** was organised at NITS on 28 September 2026 for representatives of BIS Regional Offices (ROs) and Branch Offices (BOs). The programme provided participants with practical insights into effective public relations and communication practices to support their day-to-day responsibilities.

