

**77th INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION (IEC)
GENERAL MEETING INAUGURATED**

77th International Electrotechnical Commission(IEC) General Meeting 2013 was inaugurated by Prof. K.V. Thomas, Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution held at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi which was attended by over 1000 delegates from about 100 countries. In his presidential address Prof. Thomas said that it is heartening to note that IEC work involves over 10,000 experts with participation of over 80 countries including that of India and that out of a total of 174 IEC Technical Committees and sub committees, India .He urged the Indian Industry to participate proactively in the technical work of the IEC in order to ensure that their technical inputs as well as their feedback is communicated during the standards development process.

He further added that India has made rapid advances in all spheres of technology. In the power sector, the installed power generation capacity in India stands at 227 Gega Watts, which is the world's fifth largest and is expected to grow further. Standards ensure not only the availability of quality product, but also provides methods for their evaluation to assure compliance to requirements. They also provide guidelines for proper selection, safe installation and efficient utilization and thereafter proper maintenance. We also recognize that standards are a major tool for protection of consumer interests. They set a framework where people can feel safe and confident in using a product.

In his special address, Shri Pankaj Agrawala, Secretary (Consumer Affairs) said that in a globalized world, it is critical to arrive at mutual agreements of standards between countries to promote international trade and to enable faster movement of goods. A common set of accepted standards become a guide to exporters for supplying standard goods overseas. The consumption of electrical and electronic goods is increasing exponentially. This demand is being met through indigenous as well as imported goods. It is thus of paramount importance that relevant national and International standards facilitate trade as well as consumer concerns.

Earlier in his welcome address Shri Sunil Soni, Director General, BID said that IEC General Meeting have always provided an excellent opportunity to all of us to exchange ideas and share our experiences in the field of electrotechnical standardization. This is especially important given the fact that IEC has a vital role in helping the world in overcoming the global energy challenges.

(H.L Kaul)
Director (Public Relations)



77th IEC General Meeting Opening Ceremony

Inauguration
by

Prof. K. V. Thomas

Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge)
for Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, Government of India

21 October 2013
Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, India

Organised by
INDIA NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF IEC & BUREAU OF INDIAN STANDARDS

ALKA PANDA

JUNJI NOMURA

PANKAJ AGRAWALA

Prof. K V THOMAS

KLAUS WUCHERER

SUNIL SONI

FRANS VREESWIJK