

REVIEW OF BIS ANNUAL REPORT 2013-14

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) was set up on 01 April 1987 as a statutory body, taking over the functions of the erstwhile Indian Standards Institution (ISI). Its major activities include Formulation of Standards, Product Certification, Hallmarking, various Management Systems Certification Schemes, Laboratory Services, Sale of Indian Standards and Training services. Besides, it is also engaged in Consumer related and Promotional Activities.

Major achievements of BIS during the year 2013-14, as reported in its Annual Report for this period are summarized below.

STANDARDIZATION

BIS is formulating need-based Indian standards in line with the National Priorities in a time-bound manner. It also harmonizes National Standards with International Standards in order to facilitate adoption of International Standards by all segments of industry and business.

During 2013-14, BIS formulated 547 standards bringing the total number of standards in force to 19199 as on 31 March 2014. In addition, 4436 standards were reviewed. 5259 Indian standards have been harmonized with International Standards so far (i.e. about 88.5% where corresponding ISO/IEC standards exist). During the year, BIS also organized 13 Seminars/ Workshops and participated in Conferences with a view to disseminate information about the availability of standards and to get feedback for further improvement/ updating as well as to find out fields where standardization is needed by the industry.

CERTIFICATION

PRODUCT CERTIFICATION

During the year 2013-14, BIS has granted 3580 new licences (excluding hallmarking). The total number of operative licences as on 31 March 2014 was 27887. Ten new products were covered for the first time under product certification. Under foreign manufacturers' certification scheme, 147 licences were granted, thus making a total of 379 licences located in various countries.

Registration Scheme

BIS has recently introduced Registration Scheme for 15 Electronics and Information Technology Goods (like LED/LCD TVs, Laptops, Printers, Set Top Box, Microwave Oven, Notebook/Tablets, Projectors, Servers, Storage, etc), notified by the Department of Electronics and Information Technology, Govt. of India, under the Compulsory Registration Scheme for Self declaration of conformity. Registration for self-declaration by the manufacturer is a simplified process of conformity assessment, which has been introduced, and is in addition to the existing system of licencing. BIS has granted 750 registrations to manufacturers located throughout the world, since its launch upto 31 Mar 2014.

Review Meetings

In order to acquire feedback on the operation of the BIS Certification Marks Scheme, review meetings with the licensees are organized on a regular basis. In 2013-14, 20 review meetings were organized.

HALLMARKING OF JEWELLERY/ ARTEFACTS

The Scheme for Hallmarking of Gold Jewellery, which was successfully launched by BIS in April 2000, continued to make considerable progress. 1666 Gold hallmarking licences and 193 Silver hallmarking licences have been granted during the year. The number of operative licences for Hallmarking of gold and silver jewellery was 11902 and 841 respectively, as on 31 March 2014. The number of BIS recognized assaying and hallmarking centres was 285 as on 31 March 2014. Regional and Branch offices of BIS organized 33 Awareness programmes for jewellers.

MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS CERTIFICATION

BIS continued to provide the following Management Systems Certification services as per the corresponding standards. 49 Quality Management System Certification licences, 14 Environmental Management Systems Certification licences, 08 Occupational Health & Safety Management Systems Certification licences, 01 Food Safety Management System Certification licence and 14 Service Quality Management System Certification licences were granted during the year. As on 31 March 2014, the total number of operative licences was 1247.

LABORATORY SERVICES

The network of eight BIS laboratories located in different regions of the country continued to undertake conformity testing of BIS certified products against relevant Indian standards. The number of samples tested and the number of test reports issued by BIS Laboratories were 15990 and 18622 respectively. Gold Referral Assaying Laboratory at Chennai started since December 2010, has issued 609 test reports during 2013 - 14.

BIS Lab Recognition Scheme

BIS lab recognition scheme supports operation of product certification scheme of BIS. The services of outside laboratories are availed in an eventuality of heavy load for testing in BIS Labs, any equipment being out of order or test facility not being there. As on 31 March 2013 there were 147 outside laboratories recognized by BIS. Besides, facilities of 24 Government laboratories (specialized labs/ other labs) are being utilized by BIS as and when required. To support newly launched BIS Registration Scheme, 11 outside labs were recognized for testing of IT products

i-Care

To deal with consumer the related activities in a more focused manner and for creating greater impact, departments of BIS having direct interface with the public and consumers namely, Consumer Affairs Department, Enforcement Department, Public relations Department and Sales department at BIS Head Quarters have been placed under a single activity. Besides, the activities of Standards Promotion, Consumer Affairs, Enforcement, Rajiv Gandhi National Quality Award and other such awards have been placed in the newly created i-Care Department by merging the existing Consumer Affairs and Enforcement Department and transferring work related to Rajiv Gandhi National Quality Award and other Awards.

STANDARDS PROMOTION AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS ACTIVITIES

During the year, 115 Consumer Awareness Programmes, 28 Industry Awareness Programmes and 25 Educational Utilization of Standards Programmes were organised.

Rajiv Gandhi National Quality Award

With a view to encourage manufacturers and service organizations to strive for excellence, Rajiv Gandhi National Quality Award was instituted by the Bureau in 1991. The fact finding and evaluation process of short listed applicant organizations for RGNQA 2012 have been completed by the Regional Evaluation Committees. The meeting of the National Awards Committee (NAC) was organized under the chairmanship of Secretary (CA) to decide the award winners and recipients of commendation certificates. Awards will be presented at the award function, to be organized.

World Standards Day

World Standards Day was celebrated on 14 October 2013 to commemorate the establishment of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). The theme of this year World Standards Day was “International Standards Ensure Positive Change”.

ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

In order to protect the common consumer from being cheated by those misusing BIS Standard Mark 97 raids were carried out all over the country. 66 cases filed in court were decided, out of which 63 cases were decided in favour of BIS.

INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

BIS, in its capacity as the National Standards Body of India, is a member of International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and International Electro-technical Commission (IEC). It is actively involved in the development of International Standards by acting as Participating (P) member or Observer (O) member on various Technical Committees, Sub-Committees, Working Groups, etc

INFORMATION SERVICES

Technical Information Service Centre

Technical Information Services are provided to Industry, importers, exporters, individuals and government agencies in response to their enquiries. In this endeavour, more than 400 enquiries were responded during the year 2013-14.

WTO/TBT Enquiry Point

BIS continues to handle the responsibilities of WTO-TBT Enquiry Point, as designated by Ministry of Commerce. During the period TBT Notifications were disseminated and efforts were made to sensitize the stakeholders

TRAINING SERVICES

During the period 01 April 2013 – 31 March 2014, National Institute of Training for Standardization (NITS) organized 47 In-house programmes, 29 Open programmes including 10 Lead Auditors courses for the industry thus generating revenue of around Rs. 1.59 crores. Besides above, 03 International Training Programmes and 16 programmes for BIS employees were also organised.

VIGILANCE ACTIVITIES

Vigilance set up of BIS is headed by the Chief Vigilance Officer (CVO) and comprises of Vigilance Department at the Headquarters and seven Vigilance Sections in the secretariat of each of the Disciplinary Authority for Ground B, C & D employees (Deputy Director General concerned). Training programmes on “Preventive Vigilance” was designed covering various aspects related to vigilance matters for senior officers of BIS, which were conducted at 05 different places, all over the Country. Vigilance Awareness Week was celebrated in BIS from 28 October to 02 November 2013.

XIIth PLAN PROJECTS

BIS is implementing following 02 Central Sector Schemes under XIIth Five year Plan (2012-17), as approved by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution:

- i. Gold Hallmarking
- ii. National System for Standardization

HUMAN RESOURCES

76 scientists have been recruited for the post of Scientist-B by direct recruitment, whereas 01 post of Scientist-B has been filled up by promotion from Group B laboratory technical posts through the Limited Departmental Competitive Examination. As on 31 March 2014, a total of 1480 persons were on roll in BIS .

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

For the Twenty Fifth consecutive year i.e. 2013-14, Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) continued to be self reliant in meeting its expenditure and other liabilities. Total income (excluding income from investment) during the year 2013-14 was Rs. 31443.12 lakh against Rs.28017.48 lakh in the previous year resulting in an increase of 12.23%, which includes income from the BIS Registration Scheme. The largest contribution to the income was from ISI Certification Marking Fee which stood at Rs. 27949.15 lakh against Rs. 24695.09 lakh in the previous year i.e. an increase of 13.18%. The total revenue expenditure during the year 2013-14 stood at Rs.18656.30 lakh as against Rs. 17838.12 lakh in 2012-13 registering an increase of 4.59%.