

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6825
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2003
PUBLICITY TO BIS STANDARDS
SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PATIL)

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bureau of Indian Standards(BIS) have any mechanism to keep track of scientific and technical developments in key areas so that the standards are updated on a continuous basis;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, reasons therefor; and

(d) the fresh steps taken by the Government to give wide publicity to proposals for new standards or revisions to provide greater transparency ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The mechanism of Bureau of Indian Standards(BIS) to keep track of scientific & technical developments in all areas of standards formulation is through its technical committees which include Divisional Councils, Sectional Committees, Subcommittees and Panels. For each technical field there is a Divisional Council which advises the various Sectional Committees on policy matters. These technical committees comprise of experts drawn from representatives of various interests such as consumers, regulatory and other government bodies, industry, scientists, technologists and testing organizations. A Division Council is set up by the Bureau in defined areas of industries and technologies for formulation of standards with one of the major objective to advise on the matters relating to research and development required for the formulation/revision of standards. It also examines the standards formulation by various other international standards bodies of different countries.

(c) : Does not arise.

(d) : To further improve the system, it has been decided to put on the website the list of draft standards issued by the Bureau inviting comments from all the stakeholders. The stakeholders can obtain a copy of the draft standard directly from the website. A proposal for formulation/revision/amendment/cancellation of a standard can also be given by any Ministry/Department of the Central Government, State Government, Union Territory Administration, Consumer Organizations, Industrial Units, Industries Associations, Professional Bodies, Members of the Bureau and Members of its Technical Committees. BIS is also considering to put the constituents of the various committees/panels involved in the formulation of standards on the website.