



# SESEI

SECONDED EUROPEAN  
STANDARDIZATION EXPERT  
IN INDIA

# Newsletter



**NOVEMBER  
2023**



European  
Committee for  
Standardization



European Committee  
for Electro Technical  
Standardization



European  
Telecommunications  
Standards Institute



European  
Commission



European  
Free Trade  
Association

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### About Project SESEI

## Greeting from SESEI!



Dear Reader's

We once again welcome you to read our SESEI Newsletter Europe for the month of November 2023. November has been a month of immense action and important dialogues.

Following the G20 Summit in India during September 2023, India hosted the G20 Standards Dialogue 2023, engaging G20 member countries, alongside the World Standards Cooperation, in forging a path towards a more sustainable, inclusive, and regulated future in line with the vision of 'Zero Defect and Zero Effect'.

India is taking all necessary action to steer the standardization for 6G technologies. India is contributing hugely to the massive escalation of global data volume and presents a fertile use case scenario for influencing the 6G research and the standardization in a vastly different way. Many European Countries including Finland has expressed keen interest in fostering collaborating with India to work on emerging and cutting-edge technologies, such as 6G, quantum computing, and green hydrogen. India and European Union also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on cooperation on the semiconductor ecosystem which will facilitate investments, joint ventures and technology partnership including manufacturing facilities.

Stringent measures are being taken by the Indian government to control carbon emissions. [Draft detailing the procedures for a compliance mechanism under the Carbon Credit Trading Program was recently issued by Bureau of Energy Efficiency.](#) The ministry of environment, forest and climate change is set to announce greenhouse gas (GHG) emission intensity targets for obligated entities.

New Policies are being introduced by the Government of India to promote Electrical Vehicles and, EV Charging is one of the most important domain for creating effective eco-system for take up of EV's in the country. It is also set to initiate an ambitious plan for production of batteries for Electrical vehicles. The scheme will mandate successful bidders to establish cutting-edge chemistry battery plants, collectively generating a capacity of 20 gigawatt-hours.

Information on latest developments around policy and standards concerning the Project priority sectors along with highlights of the SESEI activities are provided in this newsletter.

Wish you all a very Happy Reading!!!

Warm regards,  
**Dinesh Chand Sharma**

Director Standards & Public Policy



## Generic/Standards/Market Access (TBT)

### G20 Standards Dialogue 2023

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), operating under India's G20 presidency, inaugurated the G20 Standards Dialogue 2023 at the iconic Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi. Shri Ashwini Kumar Choubey, Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, Environment, Forest & Climate Change, presided over the event, emphasizing its significance in guiding the world towards sustainable resource utilization.

The theme of the dialogue, 'Zero Defect Zero Effect', underscores its consumer-centric focus and critical role in shaping global standards. The collaboration between BIS, the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, and the Ministry of Commerce & Industry of the Government of India highlights the collective effort to promote sustainable practices.

During the event, key stakeholders, including Shri Rohit Kumar Singh, Secretary Department of Consumer Affairs, Gol, and Shri Sunil Barthwal, Secretary, Department of Commerce, Gol, highlighted the pivotal role of standards in ensuring quality, facilitating global trade, and guiding innovation, sustainability, and inclusivity.

Sergio Mujica, Secretary-General, International Organisation for Standardization (ISO), emphasized the broader benefits of standardization for both the global community and businesses. Philippe Metzger, Secretary-General & CEO, International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), highlighted the instrumental role of standardized benchmarks in governing various aspects of daily life.

Shri Pramod Kumar Tiwari, Director General, BIS, outlined the purpose of the G20 Standards Dialogue, emphasizing its potential in facilitating productive discussions, gaining valuable insights, and addressing future challenges. The dialogue engages G20 member countries, alongside the World Standards Cooperation, in forging a path towards a more sustainable, inclusive, and regulated future in line with the vision of 'Zero Defect and Zero Effect'.

The event serves as a platform for industry leaders, government officials, standards professionals, regulators, and policy makers to collaborate and



drive advancements in standardization and global regulatory environments. It aligns with the G20 vision of 'One Earth, One Family, One Future', establishing a foundation of standards to realize this vision. Sustainability, regulatory excellence, and stakeholder engagement are central themes, setting the stage for shaping tomorrow's standards.

Press Information Bureau

### India has Submitted Following "Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) notifications" to the World Trade Organization (WTO)

- [G/TBT/N/IND/231/Add.1](#) Amendment to Notification on Mandatory Testing and Certification of Telecommunication Systems (MTCTE) – Phase III & IV



## Digitization including Services



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### Recent Indian Government Policy Announcements:

- [National Quantum Mission](#)
- [Indian Space Policy 2023](#)
- [Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023](#)
- [National Data Governance Framework Policy 2022 \(draft\)](#)
- [India Data Accessibility and Use policy 2022](#)

### Government Launched CITIIS 2.0 Challenge

“CITIIS 2.0 will complement the Smart Cities Mission and converge with the Swachh Bharat Mission to enable innovation throughout the value chain of waste management in our cities”, said Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, Minister of Housing & Urban Affairs and Petroleum & Natural Gas. Speaking at the launch of CITIIS 2.0 Challenge, he noted that the programme also aims to tie up with the Gobar Dhan mission to generate bio-fuels from organic waste. He urged all 100 Smart Cities under the Smart Cities Mission to apply for the challenge and assured them of the full

support and guidance of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

CITIIS 2.0 was approved by the Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, on 31 May 2023. The CITIIS 2.0 Challenge was launched by Union Minister Shri Hardeep Singh Puri on 16 November 2023. H.E. Shri Hervé Delphin, Ambassador of the European Union to India, and Shri Manoj Joshi, Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) also attended the event.

The Minister thanked the international partners who have supported the CITIIS programme and the Smart Cities Mission. The total funding for CITIIS 2.0 includes a loan of Rs. 1,760 crores, or EUR 200 million, from AFD and KfW (EUR 100 million each). The programme will also receive a technical assistance grant of Rs. 106 crores (EUR 12 million) from the EU.

Addressing the gathering, Shri Puri highlighted the achievements of CITIIS 1.0, which include introduction of over 1,000 new electric vehicles; development of over 100 kilometers of non-motorized transport corridors; creation of over 750 acres of green open spaces; and construction of 1,400 affordable housing units; operationalization of 350 educational facilities and 51 health facilities. The CITIIS project in Hubbali-



Dharwad won the Smart City Award-2022 under the Innovation category from the Hon'ble President of India recently, the Minister noted.

Drawing attention to the increased focus of Government on growth and development of Urbanization sector in India, Shri Hardeep Singh Puri said that the country is now undertaking the world's largest planned urbanisation programme in the world. Since 2014, he highlighted that the total investments in urban development have risen 10-fold to more than 18 lakh crores (Euro 204 billion) in comparison to the 10-year period between 2004 and 2014.

Speaking about the efforts of government towards achieving circular economy in country's urban areas, the Minister noted that, under the Swachh Bharat Mission, we have already set up 112 bi-methanation plants, 2,391 waste-to-compost plants, 55 waste-to-energy plants, 2,281 material recovery facilities, 972 construction and demolition waste management plants, and 335 solid and liquid resource management plants. "AMRUT and AMRUT 2.0 have made transformational progress in making our cities water secure. SBM-U 2.0 will make our cities garbage free and remediate all legacy waste in the country", he added further.

Press Information Bureau

[Click here](#) to read the address by Hervé Delphin, Ambassador of the European Union to India at the launch of the CITIIS 2.0 Challenge.

## Finland to Collaborate with India in Cutting-edge Technologies including 6G

Finland's Minister for Foreign Trade and Development, Ville Tavio, expressed keen interest in fostering collaboration with India in high-tech sectors such as 6G, quantum computing, and green hydrogen. Tavio, who headed a business delegation to attend the India Nordic-Baltic Business Conclave, met Union Power Minister R.K Singh and Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal to discuss potential partnerships.

"We have a good trade going on already between Finland and India, and we see lots of potential for growing that trade. Finland is happy to work with India, and we already have some big companies well established here," Tavio stated during his visit.

Finland places a significant emphasis on clean technology, biofuels, waste-to-energy solutions, and sustainable practices. Tavio discussed the 'Desi' program, an initiative facilitating networking between Finnish and Indian companies with a sectoral approach, focusing on digitalisation, education, sustainability, and innovation.

Furthermore, the minister mentioned about the meeting with Invest India, the counterpart for new businesses, and expressed hopes for startup collaborations. Tavio spoke about the importance of more trade and the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations between the European Union and India. "It would be mutually beneficial if it succeeds," he said.

As a representative of Finland, he urged both India and the European Union to keep the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations going on.

The Week

## India can Steer 6G Standardization, become Global Exporter of such Tech

With its indigenous 5G technology in place, a committed and dedicated team of researchers in academia, industry players and startups India has an ecosystem to bring the country to a position of strength in terms of mobile network technologies. This was stated by Professor Abhay Karandikar, Secretary Department of Science and Technology (DST), at the India Mobile Congress (IMC) on October 29.

"We have an opportunity to steer the 6G standardization in a way which we have not really thought of before, as well as become a global exporter of such technologies in the years to come," Professor Karandikar said at his session during Second International Workshop on 6G Standardization.

"As you know that the 5G itself was a paradigm shift from 2G and 3G mobile networks, while 6G would be really a game changer and India presents a fertile use case scenario for influencing the 6G research and the standardization in a vastly different way," DST Secretary added.

He said that with the advent of mobile communication, India is contributing hugely to the massive escalation of global data volume and by 2030 India's share may increase to one third or even more of the total data generated from the standard mobile communication.



"We will have a variety of use cases from very high to a very low data rate, from very stringent latency environments to latency tolerant applications, heterogeneous radio access technologies and a range of access devices. This diversity in India will be a useful test scenario for cellular mobile communications, and also devices connected through Wi-Fi, drones, satellite, terrestrial networks, sensors as well as IoT," Professor Karandikar pointed out.

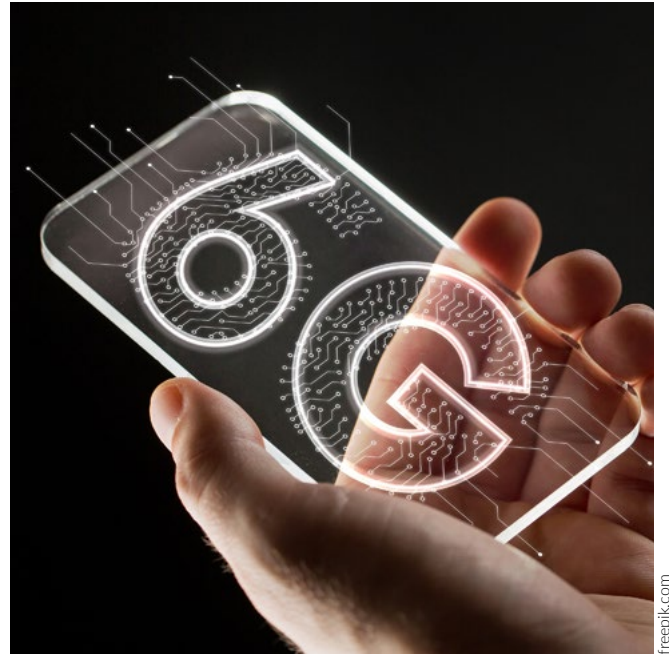
"However, we still have a long way to go as far as research on standardization and filing patents is concerned. Also, a significant amount of work needs to be done in the core network itself. Core networks will present huge scalability challenges and to overcome this, an efficient heterogeneous radio access technology which can help pumping in large volumes of data to the core networks would be very useful," he explained.

"The research challenges that these areas throw up, can be supported by the Department of Science and Technology through its initiatives like the National Mission for Cyber Physical Systems (NMICPS). Besides primary telephone connectivity, it can span communication in sectors of agriculture, health, transportation, logistics and so on. Besides, with the ANRF soon to be operational, some of these advanced areas can have new mechanisms of funding in place," Professor Karandikar said.

Economic Times

## 6G will Require 100% Fiberization of Towers in India from Current 38%: Report

6G will require 100% fiberisation of towers and given that the current state of fiberisation of towers stands at 38%, the country will have to develop an expedited plan to meet the above targets, a new report showed. India should continue investing in research and development activities to contribute to the advancement of 6G technology - to strengthen the global knowledge base and help shape the future of this technology, according to the report by KPMG in India, in association with India Mobile Congress (IMC) 2023. India should continue playing an active role in establishing global standards for 6G technology by leveraging its manufacturing capabilities to produce and export 6G equipment to other countries, the report added.



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"India's forward-looking 6G vision document has positioned its digital prowess on the global technology forefront," said Yezdi Nagporewalla, CEO, KPMG in India. Furthermore, India's population dividend and technological progress give it a tremendous advantage and can help the country achieve its goal of becoming a dependable global digital leader with cooperative action on digital literacy, cybersecurity, new technologies, and export promotion, Nagporewalla added.

India is focusing on development and adoption of cutting-edge technologies across 5G/6G, Satellite Communication (SatCom), and semiconductors. KPMG estimates these three technologies to collectively add approximately \$240 billion to the nation's economy in the next five years and estimates it to contribute an additional 1.6% to the national GDP by FY2028.

Recognising the potential in the semiconductor space, the government is working aggressively to enable India to be at the centre stage of the global semiconductor supply chain and is offering some of the most attractive incentives globally. In total, India is offering \$30 billion in support for semiconductors and related industries. "The Information and Communication Technology (ICT) sector's robust growth trajectory indicates, major industry players looking to address the needs of this customer base have also found the opportunity to be global suppliers, supported by the government's thrust on conducive policy and enabling infrastructure," said P Ramakrishna, CEO, India Mobile Congress.

[Read more](#)



## Green and Clean Technologies



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### Recent Indian Government Policy Announcements

- [National Green Hydrogen Mission](#)
- [Green Hydrogen policy](#)
- [Green Hydrogen Standard for India](#)
- [Green Credit Program \(GCP\)](#)
- [Eco-mark scheme](#)

### India Tightens Climate Goals with New Carbon Credit Trading Compliance Draft

The [Bureau of Energy Efficiency \(BEE\)](#) has issued a [draft detailing the procedures for a compliance mechanism under the Carbon Credit Trading Program](#) in India. The **ministry of environment, forest and climate change** is set to announce greenhouse gas (GHG) emission intensity targets for obligated entities, in terms of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO<sub>2</sub>e) per unit of product, for each defined trajectory cycle.

These obligated entities, as per the draft, will be informed of an annual target spanning three years, post which, revisions will be made based on the trajectory outcomes. They are to comply with the GHG emission intensity targets within each annual compliance cycle.

Entities surpassing their emission targets will be eligible for carbon credit certificates, calculated on the discrepancy between the targeted and actual GHG emission intensity for their production volume in that cycle. Should an entity fail to meet the emission targets, it has the option to purchase carbon credit certificates to achieve compliance.

To establish these targets, the BEE's technical committee will conduct baseline GHG emission intensity calculations and set the target for each compliance cycle, factoring in India's nationally determined contribution commitments, fuel switch potential, non-fossil fuel energy usage, de-carbonization of the sector, and the cost and availability of technology.

The compliance mechanism will encompass direct and indirect GHG emissions, including those from the combustion of fossil fuels in stationary equipment



and emissions from industrial processes not related to combustion. Obligated entities are to identify all potential emission sources, meticulously calculate their GHG emissions into tCO<sub>2</sub>e, and undergo independent verification.

The performance assessment document, alongside a verification certificate from an accredited carbon verification agency, must be submitted within three months of the compliance cycle's conclusion. The BEE, upon receipt of a complaint, reserves the right to independently review compliance reports.

Following the verification process, obligated entities are required to register on the Indian Carbon Market (ICM) Registry to trade their carbon credit certificates. In the case of surplus certificates, entities will have the provision to bank them for future compliance cycles.

This procedural draft comes in the wake of the Ministry of Power's launch of the Carbon Trading Program 2023, which aims to streamline the carbon credit trading system in India, in alignment with the Bureau of Energy Efficiency's regulatory framework.

Economic Times

## New Policy to Boost EV Charger Manufacturing in India

The [Ministry of Heavy Industries \(MHI\)](#) has released a new [phased manufacturing program \(PMP\) for electric vehicle \(EV\) charger parts](#) to support the [FAME India Scheme Phase-II](#), aimed at boosting domestic manufacturing.

In a [recent notification](#) dated November 7, 2023, the government outlined a comprehensive list of charger components alongside their respective timelines for indigenization, meaning the switch to domestically manufactured parts. The list includes essential parts like charger enclosures, internal wiring harnesses, and software for charge point operators (CPO) and management systems (CMS), with immediate effect from 1 December 2021. More complex parts such as power electronics and various types of charging guns are slated for indigenization by January 2023 and June 2024, respectively.

This policy stipulates that to be eligible under the FAME-II scheme, EV charger manufacturers must achieve a minimum of 50% domestic value addition



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by 1 December 2024. This is calculated based on the ex-factory price of the charger minus the value of imported components, ensuring that a significant portion of the manufacturing value chain remains within the country.

The move is expected to incentivize the setting up of more public EV charging stations, which is currently seen as a bottleneck in the adoption of EVs due to range anxiety among consumers. By establishing a timeline for indigenous manufacturing, the government aims to reduce import dependency and foster a self-sufficient ecosystem for EV infrastructure.

To ensure compliance, the financial claims of domestic value addition will be supported by audited financial statements and verified by the testing agency of the ministry of heavy industries. This detailed manufacturing roadmap is anticipated to not only boost the local automotive parts industry but also align with the government's broader goals of environmental sustainability and reduction of fossil fuel dependence.

The directive has been approved by the competent authority and is in line with the Government of India's vision of achieving a greater degree of self-reliance and boosting the domestic manufacturing sector as outlined in the 'Make in India' initiative.

Economic Times

## India Unveils Ambitious Rs 8000 Crore Plan to Boost Electric Vehicle Battery Production: Report

India is set to initiate the bidding process for an approximately Rs 8,000 crore (\$960 million) incentive scheme dedicated to the production of electric vehicle batteries, as disclosed in a Bloomberg report. The scheme will mandate successful bidders to establish cutting-edge chemistry battery plants, collectively generating a capacity of 20 gigawatt-hours. The government is slated to invite bids from potential investors in the coming month.

Several companies, including South Korea's LG Energy Solution Ltd., and prominent local entities such as Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd., Amara Raja Energy & Mobility Ltd., Exide Industries Ltd., and Larsen & Toubro Ltd., expressed interest during a consultation meeting with government officials, as per the insiders quoted by Bloomberg. Incentives will be provided to companies over a five-year period based on the sales of locally manufactured batteries.

In the previous year, Reliance Industries Ltd., Ola Electric Mobility Pvt., and Rajesh Exports Ltd. were selected to produce 30 gigawatt-hours of battery capacity and received incentives in the initial phase of the government program.

Anticipating a surge in demand, a report published by research centre RMI India and the government's think tank NITI Aayog predicts the need for 260 gigawatt-hours of batteries by 2030, serving the expanding markets of electric vehicles, grid-scale energy storage, and consumer electronics.

This battery-centric initiative aligns with India's broader goal of promoting cleaner transportation. The administration, led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, is reportedly contemplating a reduction in import taxes for battery-powered vehicles to attract companies like Tesla. Additionally, the government aims to bolster local electric vehicle production through a \$3.1 billion incentive program launched in 2021.

Meanwhile, recently, Piyush Goyal, the Union Minister for Commerce and Industry, toured Tesla's manufacturing facility in Fremont, California. During the visit, he revealed that the American electric car manufacturer is contemplating a twofold increase in its component imports from India.

[Read more](#)

## India's Energy Transition Vision Earns Praise from Upcoming COP28 President

Dr Sultan Al Jaber, the CO president-designate, praised India for its progressive approach to the energy transition. He recognised the urgent need for a "new paradigm" in climate finance so that nations in the global south could more easily adopt low-carbon growth.

Speaking at the 'From G20 to CO' special session in Abu Dhabi, Dr. Al Jaber emphasised that the UAE and India have a common goal of coordinating the energy transition with sustainable socio-economic growth.

Under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Conference of Parties (COP), an annual climate change negotiation, will take place in Dubai starting on November 30.

Dr. Al Jaber described renewable energy as a huge opportunity and underlined its great potential for the economic growth of both nations.

He continued by saying that the UAE is a leader in renewable energy, having some of the largest solar projects globally and being one of the greatest investors in the industry worldwide.

He praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership in particular for bringing about a global accord and emphasised the Indian government's robust collaboration and multilateralism policies, which the COP president seeks to imitate.

Speaking about how CO would "frame climate action as an opportunity for growth," he added that the organisation would strive for fair and ambitious results from the first Global Stocktake, covering mitigation, adaptation, and implementation strategies.

Al Jaber complimented Prime Minister Modi on his dedication to multilateralism and reminded the delegates that, with his leadership, 85 per cent of the world's economy has agreed to CO's global goal of tripling renewable energy capacity and doubling energy efficiency by 2030.

[Read more](#)





## EU/EFTA-India

### India and EU Sign MoU on Semiconductor Cooperation

India and the European Union signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on cooperation on the semiconductor ecosystem which will facilitate investments, joint ventures and technology partnership including manufacturing facilities.

The move is in sync with India's plan to provide incentives worth \$10 billion for chip manufacturing in the country.

The MoU was signed at the second India-EU Trade and Technology Council (TTC) meeting held virtually for deepening cooperation on semiconductors ecosystem, supply chain and innovation. The TTC meeting also reviewed the progress achieved by the working groups of the council particularly in the areas of high-performance computing, digital public infrastructure, EV batteries and its recycling, waste to energy, resilient supply chains and FDI screening.

The first meeting of the TTC was held in May in Brussels. India is the second country after the US with which the EU has a TTC mechanism. The role of TTC is to deepen strategic engagement on trade and technology between both partners.

The Trade and Technology Council meeting was co-chaired on the Indian side by External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal and Minister of Electronics and Information Technology Ashwini Vaishnaw.

Executive Vice-President Valdis Dombrovskis and Vice-President Vera Jourova chaired the meeting from the European side.

[Read more](#)

### Momentum High for India-EU FTA, Have Never Seen Such Political Will, says Lithuanian Envoy

India stands out as the biggest democracy in the world, has behaved according to international rules



and will be a key player in upholding the rules-based order, Lithuania's ambassador to India, Diana Mickevičienė, has said.

Speaking about the Lithuanian outlook towards India in an interview with ThePrint, Mickevičienė said that it is important today to engage with India "more than usual", given its role in the Indo-Pacific region. The ambassador conceded that Lithuania is a new player in the region and many "first steps" have to be taken, but there is political will to intensify relations with India.

Lithuania is a country of about 2.6 million people, according to the CIA World Factbook. A former Soviet republic, it is located on the shore of the Baltic Sea in Eastern Europe, bordering Russia. The country has been a member of the European Union since 2004 and is also a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO).

Earlier in October, the Lithuanian embassy in India held a lecture series showcasing how close their language, Lithuanian, is to Sanskrit. During that lecture series, the ambassador had said that Lithuanian is the "closest living sister language to Sanskrit" as [reported](#) by ThePrint earlier.



On the topic of the cultural ties between India and Lithuania, Mickevičienė told ThePrint that as a native Lithuanian speaker, she can “testify” to its very close link with Sanskrit. “There are not only common words, which are plenty, but the grammatical structures are quite similar. When we change nouns, when we conjugate verbs, it’s striking how similar the structure is. Which points to a deeper connection beyond borrowing the words,” she said.

“Lithuania in particular has been a hub for Indology studies in the Baltic states. We have a group of faculty and professors who study India and Sanskrit. We have felt that this is a connection that deserves the attention of the state; it needs to be studied,” Mickevičienė added.

On 27 October, while addressing a Tulsi Peeth programme in Madhya Pradesh, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had acknowledged the ambassador’s efforts in learning Sanskrit while talking about the research being done on the language globally.

In April 2023, India operationalised its embassy in Vilnius, Lithuania. The decision for this was taken by the Union Cabinet in 2022. Lithuania became the first of the three Baltic states to open an embassy in India in 2008.

[Read more](#)

## EFTA and India Advance Talks in 20th Round of Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement Negotiations

Representatives from the EFTA States (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, and Switzerland) and India convened in Geneva and by videoconference from 20 to 30 November 2023 for the 20th round of negotiations towards a Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA).

Ambassador Markus Schlagenhof, Delegate of the Federal Council for Trade Agreements and head of the World Trade Division at the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs, acted as the EFTA spokesperson, while L. Satya Srinivas, Additional Secretary, Department of Commerce, led the Indian delegation.

The sessions focused on trade in goods, trade in services, rules of origin, trade facilitation, technical barriers to trade (TBT), sanitary and phytosanitary measures (SPS), intellectual property rights (IPR),

trade and sustainable development, as well as trade remedies.

In addition to expert discussions, a hybrid-format meeting between high-level representatives from India and the EFTA States took place to evaluate progress and address crucial challenges. Commerce Secretary Sunil Barthwal represented India, while the EFTA delegation was led by Helene Budliger Artieda, Swiss State Secretary at the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs. The EFTA delegation also included Jan Christian Vestre, Minister of Trade and Industry of Norway; Martin Eyjólfsson, Permanent Secretary of State of Iceland at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs; and Kurt Jäger, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Liechtenstein to EFTA, WTO, and the UN in Geneva.

Reflecting on the ongoing negotiations, EFTA expressed its satisfaction with the progress made in various areas, emphasising the collaborative efforts of experts to streamline discussions and bridge gaps, while acknowledging the existence of challenging issues.

The EFTA spokesperson further highlighted the shared commitment to maintaining momentum and working constructively towards a swift and efficient conclusion of a mutually beneficial agreement. The focus is now on ensuring that the necessary improvements are prioritised for the earliest realisation of the benefits of a closer partnership for both sides. Another high-level meeting is to be anticipated in the near future.

### Economic relations between the EFTA States and India

Over the past two decades, the total trade between the EFTA States and India has been growing steadily. In 2022, the combined EFTA-India merchandise trade surpassed USD 6.1 billion. The primary imports to the EFTA States consisted of organic chemicals (27.5%), while machinery (17.5%) and pharmaceutical products (11.4%), excluding gold, constituted the main exports to India. Furthermore, services trade and foreign direct investment have also reached substantial levels. Read more about merchandise trade between EFTA and India [here](#).





## Overview of SESEI Monthly Activities

One of the most important objectives of the SESEI project is to create awareness on the European Standards and technologies in India and create opportunities to share best practices, work together with Indian standards development bodies and create synergy in areas of mutual interest.

During November 2023, SESEI was engaged in 14 meetings, participated in 10 events and addressed 2 queries. In this section, we have provided readers a glimpse of few of these important activities undertaken by SESEI during the month period.

### G-20 Standards Dialogue 2023

Within the framework of India's G20 presidency, Bureau of Indian Standards organized the G20 Standards Dialogue 2023 on 02 and 03 November 2023 at the iconic Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, India. The dialogue explored how sustainability can be addressed through inclusive standardisation and good regulatory practices to achieve 'Zero Defect and Zero Effect'. The event was organized with the support and guidance of Ministry on Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, and Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India.

This event witnessed participation from World Standards Cooperation, a high-level collaboration between the three world-wide international standards development organizations, the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), G20 member countries and invitees. The dialogue provided a platform for industry leaders, government officials, standards professionals, regulators and policy makers to come together and drive progress in standardization and global regulatory environment.

SESEI Expert Attended the G-20 Standards Dialogue 2023.

### 3rd International Convention on Sustainable Trade and Standards (ICSTS) jointly organized by the Quality Council of India and the UNFSS

SESEI was invited by QCI to attend the 3<sup>rd</sup> ICSTS as a key speaker and give a presentation during the

Opening Plenary Session on "Sustainability Standards as a Tool for Advancing Global Sustainability Goals in advance". SESEI used this opportunity and shared a presentation covering Sustainable development and SDGs, Circular Economy and its benefits, key Policy Initiatives in India and EU that are contributing significantly to achieving SDGs, Role of Voluntary Sustainability Standards (VSS) in achieving SDGs and EU-India Partnership.

### Industry Meet on Connected Vehicle Technologies for India on 17th Nov, 2023

C-DAC Hyderabad & Thiruvananthapuram organized a One Day Industry meet on "CONNECTED VEHICLE TECHNOLOGIES FOR INDIA" on 17th November 2023, at Hyderabad. C-DAC invited SESEI expert to join the meeting and share his viewpoints regarding standards associated with the connected vehicles/devices space. SESEI used this opportunity and shared insights covering policy initiatives and standardization work around Intelligent Transport System (ITS) in India and Europe.

Royal Alliances and Capital Summit India 2023 by "The Private Office of His Royal Highness Sheikh Ahmed Bin Faisal Al-Qassimi"

The Royal Alliances & Capital Summit '23 was strategically curated for High Net Worth Individuals (HNIs), Ultra High Net Worth Individuals (UHNIs), influential Business Leaders, Real-Estate Developers, New Age-tech Companies, Global Fund Managers, and Educational Industrialist. SESEI expert was invited to attend the "RACS 23" and share his insights on key policy initiatives and standards to address the issue of circularity and carbon footprint in C&D waste management in EU and India.

### CII "Global MSME Business Summit" on 23rd November 2023

The theme, of summit was "**Business Beyond Borders**" and role of standards has an importance in this framework. SESEI expert was invited by CII to attend the session on "Role of Standards & Quality in Strengthening MSME Exports" as a panelist. SESEI expert used this opportunity and shared a presentation during panel discussion. The presentation highlighted: SESEI Project, standards and its Role in strengthening MSMEs, How Standards can help MSMEs address key elements to elevate their brand, Benefits of participating in standardization, SME Toolbox & Blue Guide etc.





## Upcoming Events

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### ESG & Sustainability Strategy India Summit 2023

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*When: 18-19 December 2023*

*Where: Pride Plaza Hotel Aerocity, New Delhi, New Delhi, India*

ESG & Sustainability Strategy India Summit is one of the country's premier dedicated conference, that provides a common platform for the industry and other stakeholders to come together to discuss the key challenges, learn from the best practices adopted across India with focus on compliance, regulatory guidelines and the latest innovations in sustainability. [More Information](#)

### Nasscom Dsci Information Security Summit 2023

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*When: 19-21 December 2023*

*Where: The Leela Ambience Gurugram Hotel & Residences, Gurgaon, India*

Nasscom Dsci Information Security Summit shall entail deliberations organized around the broad areas of Security Technology Leadership, Privacy at the Core, Security Engineering and Innovation, Quantum-Safe Transition, Secure DPI, digital crimes spectrum, development, Future of Security, the resiliency of digital enterprises, and mobile threat defense. [More Information](#)

### International Conference on Grid Stability with Enhanced Penetration of Renewables 2024

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*When: 11-12 January 2024*

*Where: Hotel Le Meridien, New Delhi*

A conference focusing on cyber security challenges for power grid and smart grid networks will address topics such as cyber security fundamentals, power grid threats, and substation automation. [More Information](#)

### Smart Tech India 2024

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*When: 17-19 January 2024*

*Where: Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, India*

India is adopting the circular economy approach, focusing on 'Rethink, Redesign, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle' to reduce waste and promote sustainable resource reuse. The Water & CleanTech India Expo offers solutions to tackle waste, provide clean water, and create a cleaner future, aligning with the Swachh Bharat Mission and prioritizing citizen well-being. [More Information](#)



# Annexure 1

## Electro-Technical Department (ETD)

The following Draft Indian Standards were issued by Electro-Technical division council at BIS during the last month for eliciting technical comment:

Electro-technical (ETD)				
S. No.	Document No.	Document title	IEC/ISO	Last date of comment
1	ETD 40(23992)	High-voltage direct current HVDC power transmission using voltage sourced converters VSC	IEC / SC 22F (P); IEC TC 115 (P)	29-12-2023
2	ETD 9(22546)	Cross-Linked Polyethylene Insulated Thermoplastic Sheathed Cables Specification Part 3 for working voltages above 33 kV up to and including 400 kV	IEC TC-20 (P)	14-12-2023
3	ETD 18(22820)	Methods of tests for electro - Slag remelting furnaces	IEC TC- (P) IEC TC- 65 A SC- 65 A (P); IEC TC- 65 B SC- 65 B (P); IEC TC- (O)	17-12-2023
4	ETD 19(23933)	INSULATION COORDINATION FOR EQUIPMENT WITHIN LOW-VOLTAGE SYSTEMS Part 4: Consideration of High-Frequency Voltage Stress Second Revision	IEC TC-28 (P); IEC TC-42 (P); IEC TC-109 (O)	22-12-2023
5	ETD 19(23935)	INSULATION COORDINATION FOR EQUIPMENT WITHIN LOW-VOLTAGE SYSTEMS Part 3: Use of Coating Potting or Molding for Protection against Pollution Second Revision	IEC TC-28 (P); IEC TC-42 (P); IEC TC-109 (O)	22-12-2023
6	ETD 19(23936)	INSULATION CO-ORDINATION Part 2: Application Guidelines Second Revision	IEC TC-28 (P); IEC TC-42 (P); IEC TC-109 (O)	22-12-2023

[https://www.services.bis.gov.in/php/BIS\\_2.0/dgdashboard/draft/darftdetail/65/3/ETD](https://www.services.bis.gov.in/php/BIS_2.0/dgdashboard/draft/darftdetail/65/3/ETD)

## Electronics and Information Technology Department (LITD)

The following Draft Indian Standards were issued by Electronics and Information Technology division council (LITD) of BIS for eliciting technical comments:

Electronics and Information Technology Department (LITD)				
S. No.	Document No.	Document title	ISO/IEC	Last date of comment
1	LITD 23(23681)	Information technology - Computer graphics and image processing - Graphical Kernel System GKS Part 1: Functional description (First Revision)	ISO/IEC/JTC1 TC- 24 SC- 24 (O); ISO/IEC/JTC1 TC-SC 29 SC- (P):	05-12-2023
2	LITD 23(23682)	Information technology - Computer graphics and image processing - Graphical Kernel System GKS Part 2: NDC metafile	ISO/IEC/JTC1 TC- 24 SC- 24 (O); ISO/IEC/JTC1 TC-SC 29 SC- (P):	05-12-2023
3	LITD 23(23683)	Information technology - Computer graphics and image processing - Graphical Kernel System GKS Part 3: Audit trail	ISO/IEC/JTC1 TC- 24 SC- 24 (O); ISO/IEC/JTC1 TC-SC 29 SC- (P):	05-12-2023
4	LITD 23(23684)	Information technology - Computer graphics and image processing - Graphical Kernel System GKS Part 4: Picture part archive	ISO/IEC/JTC1 TC- 24 SC- 24 (O); ISO/IEC/JTC1 TC-SC 29 SC- (P):	05-12-2023
5	LITD 33(24124)	Wearable Electronic Devices and Technologies Part 101: Section1: Terminology	ISO TC-TC SC-124 (P)	19-01-2024
6	LITD 33(24125)	Wearable Electronic Devices and Technologies Part 201: Electronic Textile Section 1: Measurement Methods for Basic Properties of Conductive Yarns	ISO TC-TC SC-124 (P)	19-01-2024
7	LITD 33(24126)	Wearable electronic devices and technologies Part 201-2: Electronic textile Section 2: Measurement methods for basic properties of conductive fabrics and insulation materials	ISO TC-TC SC-124 (P)	19-01-2024

8	LITD 33(24127)	Wearable electronic devices and technologies Part 201 Electronic textile Section 3: Determination of electrical resistance of conductive textiles under simulated microclimate	ISO TC-TC SC-124 (P)	19-01-2024
9	LITD 33(24128)	Wearable electronic devices and technologies Part 204 Electronic textile Section 1: Test method for assessing washing durability of E-textile products	ISO TC-TC SC-124 (P)	19-01-2024
10	LITD 33(24129)	Wearable electronic devices and technologies Part 250 Electronic textile Section 1: Snap fastener connectors between e-textiles and detachable electronic devices	ISO TC-TC SC-124 (P)	19-01-2024
11	LITD 33(24130)	Wearable electronic devices and technologies Part 801: Smart body area network SmartBAN Section 2: Low complexity medium access control MAC for SmartBAN	ISO TC-TC SC-124 (P)	19-01-2024
12	LITD 33(24132)	Wearable electronic devices and technologies Part 801: Smart body area network SmartBAN Section 1: Enhanced ultra-low power physical layer	ISO TC-TC SC-124 (P)	19-01-2024
13	LITD 33(24133)	Wearable electronic devices and technologies Part 406: Test method for measuring surface temperature of wrist- Section 1: worn wearable electronic devices while in contact with human skin	ISO TC-TC SC-124 (P)	19-01-2024
14	LITD 33(24135)	Wearable electronic devices and technologies Part 402 : Performance measurement of fitness wearables Section 1: Test methods of glove-type motion sensors for measuring finger movements	ISO TC-TC SC-124 (P)	19-01-2024
15	LITD 33(24136)	Wearable electronic devices and technologies Part 401: Devices and systems: functional elements Section 1: Evaluation method of the stretchable resistive strain sensor	ISO TC-TC SC-124 (P)	19-01-2024

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## Service Sector Department

The following Draft Indian Standards were issued by SSD of BIS during the last month for eliciting technical comment:

Services				
S. No.	Document No.	Document title	IEC/ISO	Last date of comment
1	SSD 3(23837)	Mobile financial services Customer identification guidelines	ISO TC 68 - (P); ISO TC 222 - (O)	22-12-2023
2	SSD 3(23838)	Best practices for an internal BPoS handbook	ISO TC 68 - (P); ISO TC 222 - (O)	22-12-2023
3	SSD 3(23839)	Reference data distribution in financial services	ISO TC 68 - (P); ISO TC 222 - (O)	22-12-2023
4	SSD 3(23840)	Financial services Semantic technology Part 3: Semantic enrichment of the ISO 20022 conceptual model	ISO TC 68 - (P); ISO TC 222 - (O)	25-12-2023
5	SSD 3(23841)	Financial services Semantic technology Part 5: Mapping from FIX Orchestra to the common model	ISO TC 68 - (P); ISO TC 222 - (O)	25-12-2023

[https://www.services.bis.gov.in/php/BIS\\_2.0/dgdashboard/draft/darftdetail/107/3/SSD](https://www.services.bis.gov.in/php/BIS_2.0/dgdashboard/draft/darftdetail/107/3/SSD)

## Mobility/Transport (TED)

The following Draft Indian Standards were issued by Transport engineering division council at BIS during the last month for eliciting technical comment:

Transport Engineering Department (TED)				
S. No.	Document No.	Document title	IEC/ISO	Last date of comment
1	TED 28(21134)	Intelligent Traffic Management System Components General Specifications	ISO TC- 204 (P); ISO TC- 241 (P)	19-01-2024

[https://www.services.bis.gov.in/php/BIS\\_2.0/dgdashboard/draft/darftdetail/67/3/TED](https://www.services.bis.gov.in/php/BIS_2.0/dgdashboard/draft/darftdetail/67/3/TED)



## Petroleum, Coal and Related Products Department (PCD)

The following Draft Indian Standards were issued by Petroleum, Coal and Related Products Department (PCD) at BIS during the last month for eliciting technical comment:

Petroleum, Coal and Related Products Department (PCD)				
S. No.	Document No.	Document title	IEC/ISO	Last date of comment
1	PCD 12(23782)	PLASTIC RECYCLATES FROM POST - CONSUMER BOTTLES AND OTHER FORMS OF POLYETHYLENE TEREPHTHALATE PET PART 1 DESIGNATION SYSTEM AND BASIS FOR SPECIFICATIONS	ISO TC 61/2,4,5,6,9 / SC 61/2,4,5,6,9	11-12-2023
2	PCD 12(23783)	PLASTICS RECYCLATES FROM POST-CONSUMER BOTTLES AND OTHER FORMS OF POLY ETHYLENE TEREPHTHALATE PET PART 2 PREPARATION OF TEST SPECIMENS AND DETERMINATION OF PROPERTIES	ISO TC 61/2,4,5,6,9 / SC 61/2,4,5,6,9	11-12-2023
3	PCD 27(24009)	PLASTICS METHODS OF TESTING PART 5 MECHANICAL PROPERTIES SECTION 14 DETERMINATION OF INDENTATION HARDNESS OF RIGID PLASTIC BY MEANS OF BARCOL IMPRESSER	ISO TC- 61 and SC 2, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13 SC-PCD 27 (P)	30-12-2023
4	PCD 27(24010)	PLASTICS METHODS OF TESTING PART 6 THERMAL PROPERTIES SECTION 9 DETERMINATION OF DENSITY OF SMOKE FROM THE BURNING OR DECOMPOSITION OF PLASTICS	ISO TC- 61 and SC 2, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13 SC-PCD 27 (P)	30-12-2023
5	PCD 27(24011)	PLASTICS METHODS OF TESTING PART 1 INTRODUCTION	ISO TC- 61 and SC 2, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13 SC-PCD 27 (P)	30-12-2023

[https://www.services.bis.gov.in/php/BIS\\_2.0/dgdashboard/draft/darftdetail/69/3/PCD](https://www.services.bis.gov.in/php/BIS_2.0/dgdashboard/draft/darftdetail/69/3/PCD)

## ICT at TEC

ICT At Telecommunication Engineering Centre (TEC)				
S. No.	Standard/ER No	Name of standard /ER	Standard type	Date of Issue
1	TEC 38050:2023	Radio Modems in Unlicensed (2.4/5 GHz) Band	GR	01-11-2023

<https://www.tec.gov.in/standards-specifications>

<https://www.tec.gov.in/essential-requirements>

## ICT at TSDSI

ICT At Telecommunications Standards Development Society, India (TSDSI)				
New Item Proposals				
S. No.	New Item Proposal	Name	Version	Status
1	<a href="#">NIP330</a>	Standardization of common data payload for adaptive traffic control system and other Intelligent transportation system products for interoperability	TSDSI-SGSS-NIP330-V1.0.0	Approved
<a href="https://tsdsi.in/new-item-proposals/">https://tsdsi.in/new-item-proposals/</a>				
Study Items				
S. No.	Study Item	Name	Version	Status
1	<a href="#">SI116</a>	NIP327 – Study on the Usage of oneM2M for Smart Agriculture end-to-end monitoring use case in Indian context	TSDSI-SGSS-NIP327-V3.0.1 20231025	--
<a href="https://tsdsi.in/study-item/">https://tsdsi.in/study-item/</a>				
Study Work Items Contributions				
S. No.	SWIC	Name	Version	Status
No new SWIC has been reported				
<a href="https://tsdsi.in/study-work-items-proposals/19/">https://tsdsi.in/study-work-items-proposals/19/</a>				



## About Project

**SESEI** | Seconded European  
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The SESEI project (Seconded European Standardization Expert in India) is a project cofunded by five European partners, operating from New Delhi, India, with the objective to increase the visibility of European standardization in India and to promote EU/EFTA-India cooperation on standards and related activities. The SESEI Project (<http://sesei.eu/>) is managed by the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI - <http://www.etsi.org/> - EU recognized Standards Organization for Telecommunication sectors) and is further supported by two other EU recognized Standards Organization, namely the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) and the European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization (CENELEC) - <http://www.cencenelec.eu> - which develop and adopt European standards in a wide range of products, services and processes, as well as by the European Commission ([www.ec.europa.eu](http://www.ec.europa.eu)) and the European Free Trade Association (<http://www.efta.int/>). It is a Standardization focused project, with a priority emphasis on the sectors falling under Digitization and Clean & Green Technologies etc.

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