

SESEI

SECONDED EUROPEAN
STANDARDIZATION
EXPERT IN INDIA

Newsletters



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Dear Readers,

We welcome you to our "SESEI Newsletter- Europe" for the month of January 2025, providing you the latest information and advancements in India around Digitization, Clean & Green Technologies, and other related Emerging Technologies as well.

India has been invited to join the UN Committee of Experts on "Big Data" and "Data Science" to contribute towards shaping global standards and practices in harnessing these important topics for official statistical purposes. India is also making big moves for driving the adoption and development of artificial intelligence (AI) in India. Ministry of Electronics & IT (Meity) has invited proposals from stakeholders for the development of technology tools to create a trusted AI ecosystem, including the detection of deepfakes. IndiaAI has signed up with Microsoft to drive skill development, AI innovation and productivity labs across India to ensure utilisation of full potential of Artificial Intelligence for inclusive development and economic transformation. Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT), the premier Telecom R&D centre is collaborating with the Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT's) for the development of "Building Blocks for THz Communication Front Ends" for 6G and "Semiconductor Chip of Wideband Spectrum Sensor for Dynamic Spectrum Access".

India has also reported remarkable progress in renewable energy sector marking an impressive 15.84% increase from 180.80 GW in Dec'2023 to 209.44 GW installed capacity in Dec'24. Solar power spearheaded this growth with bio energy and hydro power projects following closely. Decrease in Carbon emissions by 7.93% and emissions intensity reduction by 36%, has been reported in the India's Fourth Biennial Report. 127 Indian companies have committed to net-zero targets, primarily from non-hard-to-abate sectors like textiles, software, and pharmaceuticals, placing India as sixth in the ICRA ESG Ratings on Corporate Climate Action. To further bring down the harmful impact of industrial chemical processes scientists are working towards materials that address the growing need for green solutions in catalysis. A new copper-based catalyst with star-like Nano structure has been developed by scientists from Department of Science and Technology (DST), to perform catalysis sustainably under "green" conditions. New rules to enhance solid waste management and End-of-Life Vehicles (EoLV), vehicle scrapping policy have also been notified by the Government of India to ensure sustainable practices.

Significant advancement is being made in the EU-India trade and economic ties. A high-level dialogue was recently held between Minister of Commerce and Industry, India with his counterpart European Commissioner for Trade and Economic Security to set up a new framework for India-European Union strategic agenda in the area of trade and investments.

A sneak peak of activities of SESEI expert along with the links of its recent reports prepared and released by the SESEI Project are provided in the Newsletter. We hope you will find this newsletter extremely informative.

Happy Reading once again.

Best regards,
Dinesh Chand Sharma
Director Standards & Public Policy



Generic/Standards



India Joins the UN Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics

In a significant milestone, India has joined the prestigious UN Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics. The UN Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics (UN-CEBD) was created to further investigate the benefits and challenges of Big Data, including the potential for monitoring and reporting on the sustainable development goals.

The inclusion in this expert committee comes at a pivotal time, as India recently assumed membership of the United Nations Statistical Council after a significant gap. India's inclusion in the Committee of Experts represents a significant leap forward for the country's statistical ecosystem. As part of the committee, India will contribute **to shaping global standards and practices in harnessing big data and data science for official statistical purposes**. This milestone underscores India's growing stature in the global statistical community and highlights its **commitment to leveraging data and technology for informed decision-making**.

India's active engagement in the Committee of Experts will highlight its pioneering initiatives, including the establishment of the Data Innovation Lab and exploration of alternate data sources such as satellite imagery and machine learning for policy making. The opportunity to contribute at this global forum positions India as major player in this area. Membership in the Committee of Experts is a strategic opportunity for India to align its domestic advancements in big data and data science with international goals, showcasing the country's capability to lead transformative initiatives in the data domain. Big data and advanced data science techniques have the potential to revolutionize the production and dissemination of official statistics. By integrating non-traditional data sources such as IoT, satellite imagery, and private sector data streams, India aims to modernize its statistical processes, enhance the accuracy of estimates, and enable the timely availability of critical data for policy formulation and governance.

PIB



Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) celebrates 78th Foundation Day

Quality is not just a measure; it is a commitment and a way of life. It forms the foundation of trust; fuels progress and drives innovation, said Union Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution and New & Renewable Energy during his address at the 78th Foundation Day of Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) in New Delhi.

More than 23,500 standards have been enforced in every sector from bags to machines and engineering to medical goods, Shri Joshi said. He also mentioned that 94% of Indian standards have been harmonised with the International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) standards. From just 14 QCOs covering 106 products notified for compulsory BIS certification and implementation of Indian Standards in 2014. In contrast, today, 186 QCOs covering 760 products have been notified, the minister informed.

PIB



Govt amends Foreign Trade Policy, 2023 for Stakeholder Consultation; encourages inclusive decision-making

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) notified amendment in the Foreign Trade Policy, 2023 to include Para 1.07A and 1.07B to bring legal backing in the FTP to make it necessary to do consultation with stakeholders to seek views, suggestions, comments or feedback from relevant stakeholders, including importers /exporters /industry experts concerning the formulation or amendment of the Foreign Trade Policy.

It also provides the mechanism to inform reasons for not accepting views, suggestions, comments or feedback concerning the formulation or amendment of the Foreign Trade Policy, 2023. The latest amendments in the Foreign Trade Policy, 2023 reflect upon the Central Government's commitment towards strengthening the scope of Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) in India by encouraging stakeholder and expert participation through consultation in the decision-making process.

PIB





Digitization



C-DOT and IIT Delhi sign agreement for “Building Blocks for THz Communication Front Ends” for 6G

In the on-going process of developing indigenous hardware for next-generation telecommunications technology 6G, the Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT), the premier Telecom R&D centre of the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Government of India, has signed an agreement with the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IIT Delhi) for the development of "Building Blocks for THz Communication Front Ends" for 6G.

The agreement is signed under the Telecom Technology Development Fund (TTDF) 6G Call for proposal of the Department of Telecommunications, Government of India. This call for proposal is for accelerated research on developing 6G Eco-system, as part of the Bharat 6G vision to design, develop and deploy 6G network technologies that provide ubiquitous intelligent and secure connectivity for high quality living experience.

The aim of this project is the development of basic devices and components which are essential for THz systems envisaged for 6G communications, as well as other THz systems such as military communications and material characterization. With the recent program on setting up of chip fabrication facilities in India, this project is being initiated to develop some of the core components at IIT Delhi facilities, in association with SAMEER (Society for Applied Microwave Electronics Engineering and Research) Kolkata. This work will seamlessly lead to the fabrication of THz components at the production level. C-DOT is the implementing agency for this project.

PIB



Government released draft Digital Personal Data Protection Rules, 2025

Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MEITY) has drafted the [Digital Personal Data Protection Rules, 2025](#) to facilitate the implementation of the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023 (DPDP Act). It aims to strengthen the legal framework for-

-the protection of digital personal data by providing necessary details and an actionable framework.

The draft Rules details about the various implementation aspects such as the notice by the Data Fiduciary to the individuals, registration and obligations of Consent Manager, processing of personal data for issuance of subsidy, benefit, service etc. by State, applicability of reasonable security safeguards, intimation of personal data breach, providing details about availing of their rights by the individuals, processing of personal data of child or of person with disability, setting up the Data Protection Board, appointment and service conditions of the Chairperson and other members of the Board, functioning of Board as digital office, procedure to appeal to Appellate Tribunal among others.

In this regard, stakeholders are invited to share **feedback/comments** by 18th February, 2025 via the MyGov portal at the following link: <https://innovateindia.mygov.in/dpdp-rules-2025>. Please [Click here](#) to view Draft Digital Personal Data Protection Rules, 2025

C-DOT and IIT Mandi signs agreement for “Developing Semiconductor Chip of Wideband Spectrum Sensor for Dynamic Spectrum Access”

In a significant step towards developing Indigenous state-of-the-art next-generation telecom technology, the Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT), the premier Telecom R&D centre of the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Government of India has signed an agreement with the Indian Institute of Technology Mandi (IIT Mandi) in collaboration with Indian Institute of Technology Jammu (IIT Jammu), for the development of "Wideband Spectrum-Sensor ASIC-Chip for Enhancing the Spectrum Utilization".

The project aims to develop reliable and implementation-friendly wideband spectrum sensing (WSS) algorithm to improve spectrum efficiency by leveraging spectrum holes to deliver broadband services in rural India. Spectrum sensing enables cognitive Radio users to adapt to the environment by detecting spectrum holes without causing interference to the primary network.

This project will focus on the design of communication algorithms which are hardware friendly for sensing the wideband spectrum (beyond 2 GHz of bandwidth) for detecting and utilizing the under-utilized bands (or white spaces), thus, enhancing the spectrum utilization efficiency of any communication system. In addition, efficient hardware architectures of such spectrum sensors will be developed in this project that achieves short sensing time, high data-throughput and enhanced hardware efficiency. The initiative will provide a hardware solution capable of scanning over 2 GHz of spectrum with minimal sensing time, thereby boosting the throughput of cognitive radio networks. Additionally, it will demonstrate a wideband cognitive radio module targeting the 6 GHz satellite band (5.925–7.125 GHz) for spectrum sensing and communication. These designs will be emulated in the field-programmable gate-array (FPGA) environment initially and subsequently an application-specific integrated-circuits (ASIC) semiconductor-chip will be taped out that will lead to achieving better spectrum efficiency. The project will also lead to creation of intellectual properties (IPs) for the wideband spectrum sensing technology which is the key component for the dynamic spectrum access.

[PIB](#)

IndiaAI and Microsoft join hands to harness AI's potential for inclusive development and economic transformation

IndiaAI, an Independent Business Division (IBD) under the **Digital India Corporation**, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **Microsoft** to drive the adoption and development of artificial intelligence (AI) in India. This strategic partnership is aligned with the core objectives of India AI Mission.

The key highlights of the collaboration are as under:

- **Microsoft**, in partnership with **IndiaAI**, will skill **500K individuals**, including students, educators, developers, government officials, and women entrepreneurs, by 2026.
- Establish "AI Catalysts," a Center of Excellence, to promote rural **AI innovation in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities** and equip 100K AI innovators and developers through hackathons, community building, and an AI marketplace.
- Set up **AI Productivity Labs** in 20 National Skill Training Institutes (NSTIs)/NIELIT centers across 10 states to train 20K educators and empower 100K students with foundational AI courses in 200 Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs).
- Focus on developing **AI-enabled solutions** for critical sectors, leveraging Microsoft Research (MSR)'s expertise.

- Microsoft's Founders Hub program will extend benefits, including Azure credits, business resources, and mentorship, to up to **1K AI startups under the IndiaAI Mission**, fostering innovation and growth in India's startup ecosystem.
- Develop foundational models with Indic language support to address **India's linguistic diversity** and unique requirements, ensuring cultural and contextual relevance.
- Support IndiaAI in building a robust and scalable datasets platform, including tools for dataset curation, annotation, and synthetic data generation.
- Collaborate to create frameworks, standards, and evaluation metrics for responsible AI development, supporting the establishment of an **AI Safety Institute in India**.

[PIB](#)

Meity invites proposals for developing trusted AI ecosystem, tools

The IT ministry has invited proposals from entities for the development of technology tools to create a trusted AI ecosystem, including the detection of deepfakes, as per information published on Meity's website.

As part of IndiaAI mission, the Safe and Trusted AI pillar envisages the development of indigenous tools and frameworks and self-assessment checklists for innovators, among others, to put in place adequate guardrails to advance the responsible adoption of AI.

"To spearhead this movement, India AI is calling for Expressions of Interest (EOI) from individuals and organisations that want to lead AI development projects to foster accountability, mitigate AI harms and promote fairness in AI practices," the note for proposal said.

Meity has invited proposals for watermarking and labelling tools to authenticate AI-generated content, ensuring it is traceable, secure, and free of harmful materials. The proposal calls for the need to establish AI frameworks that align with global standards, ensuring AI respects human values and promotes fairness.

The proposal includes the creation of "Deepfake Detection Tools to enable real-time identification and mitigation of deepfakes, preventing misinformation and harm for a secure and trustworthy digital ecosystem". Meity, in the proposal, also seeks the creation of risk management tools and frameworks to enhance the safe deployment of AI in public services, stress-testing tools to evaluate how AI models perform under extreme scenarios, detect vulnerabilities, and build trust in AI for critical applications.

[Read More](#)

GoI Expert Subcommittee Publishes Report on AI Governance Guidelines

The report has been published by the Subcommittee on AI Governance and Guidelines Development formed under an advisory group chaired by the Principal Scientific Advisor, Government of India. The advisory group has been constituted to undertake the development of an 'AI for India-Specific Regulatory Framework'. The draft is open for public consultation until 27 January 2025.

- Based on its examination of key AI governance issues and a gap analysis of existing frameworks, has proposed a comprehensive approach to ensure the trustworthiness and accountability of AI systems.
- It highlights the importance of a coordinated, whole-of-government approach to enforce compliance and ensure effective governance as India's AI ecosystem evolves.
- It identifies three concepts for operationalising principles which should guide AI regulation: lifecycle approach (across development, deployment and diffusion of AI), ecosystem approach to involve multiple stakeholders) and techno-legal approach for AI governance.
- It also recommends means to strengthen AI governance such as, the creation of a technical secretariat for AI governance, instituting an AI incident database, the integration of AI specific measures in the Digital India Act and voluntary regulation for industry.

[IndiaAI](#) 

Indian Govt Working to Ensure Best Use of 6 GHz Spectrum: Report

The Indian telecom operators and private internet companies have been in a spat over the use of the 6 GHz spectrum. The Indian government has yet to take a call on how the bandwidth in this frequency will be used. The government is listening to the argument from both sides and will take a final call based on the best use of the 6 GHz spectrum. But the work is still left.

Secretary, Department of Telecommunications (DoT) stated that the department is aware of the need for 6 GHz band for both Wi-Fi and mobile services. Thus, it is working with all the stakeholders to find the best solution.

The private telcos want the government to use the 6 GHz spectrum for mobility. They believe that it is important for the deployment of 5G and 6G in the future. However, private internet companies believe that the 6 GHz band should be free from licensing. Hence, it should be available for Wi-Fi connectivity use case.

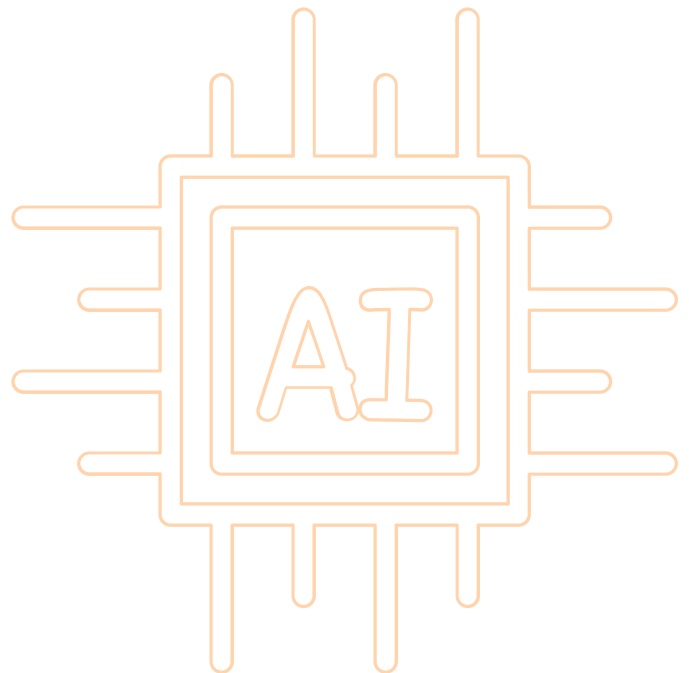
The industry bodies including COAI (Cellular Operators Association of India) and GSMA have requested the government several times that they need the 6 GHz spectrum's bandwidth for expansion of 5G in India and for deploying 6G in the future. India is taking the development of 6G very seriously and wants to be one of the leading countries in the deployment. To that extent, it will be interesting to see what the government will decide here.

Whatever is decided, it will affect the consumers at the end of the day. The availability of the 6 GHz band would mean that they would finally be able to use the Wi-Fi 6E and Wi-Fi 7 routers. At present, consumers own a Wi-Fi 6E router, but they can't really use it in India as the 6 GHz band is not available for connectivity.

[Read More](#) 

DoT/TEC/TSDSI Notifications:

- DoT order date Jan. 02, 2025 for "Mandatory Registration with DoT by 15.01.2025 for Entities Providing M2M Services". [Download Letter](#) .
- Inviting public comments for adoption of TSDSI transposed 3GPP standards from Release 13 to 18 (total 1657 documents) into national standards by Telecommunications Engineering Centre (TEC). [Read More](#)





Green and Clean Technologies



India's RE Capacity Registers 15.84% Year-on-Year Growth

Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has reported remarkable progress in India's renewable energy sector, highlighting significant achievements between December 2023 and December 2024. This growth reflects India's steadfast commitment to achieving its clean energy targets and its broader vision under the 'Panchamrit' goals announced by Prime Minister of India.

Record Capacity Additions

As of December 2024, India's total renewable energy installed capacity has reached 209.44 GW, marking an impressive 15.84% increase compared to 180.80 GW in December 2023. The total capacity added during 2024 amounted to 28.64 GW, representing a significant year-on-year increase of 119.46% compared to the 13.05 GW added in 2023.

Solar and wind surge

In 2024, solar power spearheaded this growth with the addition of 24.54 GW, reflecting a 33.47% rise in its cumulative installed capacity from 73.32 GW in 2023 to 97.86 GW in 2024. Wind energy also contributed to this expansion, with an additional 3.42 GW installed in 2024, increasing the total wind capacity to 48.16 GW, a growth of 7.64% from 2023.

Growth in Bioenergy and Small Hydro Power

Bioenergy has shown remarkable growth, with its installed capacity rising from 10.84 GW in December 2023 to 11.35 GW in December 2024, reflecting a 4.70% increase. Small hydro power projects saw incremental growth, with installed capacity increasing from 4.99 GW in 2023 to 5.10 GW in 2024, representing a 2.20% rise.

MNRE has been taking various key initiatives to achieve Government's vision of 500 GW of renewable energy by 2030, reflecting India's dedication to fulfilling its climate commitments while strengthening energy security. These impressive figures underscore the Government of India's continued efforts to scale up renewable energy capacity in India.



India's carbon emission down by 7.93% from 2019, emissions intensity reduced by 36%: Report

Between 2005 and 2020, carbon emission was down by 7.93% compared to 2019, while emissions intensity reduced by 36%, according to India's Fourth Biennial Report.

According to the report, the share of non-fossil sources in the installed electricity generation capacity was 46.52% by October 2024. Total installed capacity of renewable power is 156.25 GW. The report, which is a part of the United Nations Framework on Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), provides a comprehensive account of India's climate policies and actions.

"While coal remains the predominant source of electricity generation in India, renewable energy sources have grown by over 10.94 % in generation and over 14.7 % in installed capacity in the year 2023-24. Given India's growing economy and electricity needs, the challenge of low-carbon development in the power sector is significant," said the report submitted to UNFCCC on December 30, 2024.

In the FY 2022-23, the industrial sector grew by 6.7%. The manufacturing sector emerged as a key driver of economic expansion. Sectors such as automotive, engineering, cement, textiles, steel, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, and consumer durables were key to the growth trajectory.

The industrial sector was the largest energy consumer in the country, accounting for 48.95% of the total final energy consumption in FY 2022-23. The most energy-intensive subsector of the industrial sector was the iron and steel sector, accounting for 15.15% of energy use. Chemicals and petrochemicals accounted for 4.56% of energy use, followed by construction sector which was 1.80%.



Sustainable, efficient nano catalyst developed that can minimize Environmental impact in industrial chemical processes

A new copper-based catalyst with star-like Nano structure has been developed by scientists through the controlled growth of copper oxide nanostructures on a sporopollenin template offers a pathway to more sustainable industrial chemical reactions, with the potential to lower costs and reduce environmental impact across sectors, including pharmaceuticals and materials science.

To fulfil the need for replacing harmful processes with environmentally friendly methods, scientists are working towards materials that address the growing need for green solutions in catalysis, which can minimize environmental impact in industrial chemical processes.

The method of controlled growth of copper oxide nanostructures on a sporopollenin template, used by Scientists from Institute of Nano Science and Technology (INST), an autonomous institution of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), created a "morning star" structure, where bowl-shaped features of the sporopollenin and polyethyleneimine (PEI) activation facilitate the synthesis of these unique nano-star forms. This setup is optimized to perform catalysis sustainably under "green" conditions.

Sporopollenin which has a bowl-like outer structure, as a scaffold, enables the growth of copper oxide rods that form a nanostar shape. The surface of sporopollenin is functionalized with PEI, which provides amine groups crucial for the nucleation and growth of the copper oxide nanostructures. The catalyst thus formed is useful in organic reactions and can be used in environmental remediation, nanoscale electronics, and surface-enhanced Raman spectroscopy (SERS). It has excellent efficiency in water without additives, surpassing conventional catalysts which often require high temperatures, additives, or harsh solvents and is reusable across five cycles.

By utilizing spores—an abundant biomass waste—as a foundation for high-value catalysts, this innovation which was published in *Nanoscale* 2024, exemplifies the transformation of waste into wealth, addressing a critical need. Its eco-friendly synthesis aligns seamlessly with sustainable development goals, directly tackling environmental concerns tied to conventional catalytic processes.

[PIB](#)

Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change notified Environment Protection (End-of-Life Vehicles) Rules, 2025

Notified under **Environmental Protection Act, 1986**, the rules will come into force from **1st of April, 2025**.

- **End-of-Life Vehicles (EoLV)** means all **vehicles which are no longer validly registered or declared unfit through Automated Fitness Centres** or their registrations have been cancelled.

Key Highlights

- **Applicability:** Apply to **producer, registered owner of vehicles, Registered Vehicle Scrapping Facility (RVSF), automated testing stations** etc. involved in testing of vehicles, handling, processing and scrapping of EoLV.
- **Exception:** Not apply to
 - **Waste batteries** covered under **Battery Waste Management Rules, 2022**.
 - **Plastic packaging** covered under **Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016**.
 - **Waste tyres and used oil** covered under **Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016**.
 - **E-waste** covered under **E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2022**.
- **Responsibilities of Producer: Fulfil Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)** either through purchase of EPR certificate generated by its own RVSF or by any entity having RVSF.
- **EPR certificate:** Issued by **Central Pollution Control Board** through **centralised online portal** in favour of RVSF.
- **Responsibilities of registered owner and bulk consumer:** They must **deposit EoLV** at any of the **producer's designated sales outlet** or **designated Collection Centre** or **RVSF** within **180 days**.
- **Implementation Committee:** Constituted by Central Government and **chaired by CPCB Chairman** for effective implementation of rules.

[Download Notification](#)

India ranks sixth globally with 127 companies committed to net-zero targets: ICRA ESG

Out of these 127 companies with net-zero commitment from India, around 7 per cent belong to high emissions sectors like construction materials and mining and the rest hail from sectors like textiles, software and services, typically considered to be having low to medium level of carbon footprint.

India ranks sixth globally in corporate climate action, with 127 companies committed to science-based target initiative or SBTi net-zero targets, and these companies are primarily from non-hard-to-abate sectors like textiles, software, and pharmaceuticals, stated a report by ICRA ESG Ratings. Out of these 127 companies with net-zero commitment from India, around 7 per cent belong to high emissions sectors like construction materials and mining and the rest hail from sectors like textiles, software and services, typically considered to be having low to medium level of Carbon footprint. The report revealed a significant shift towards renewable energy in the power sector, particularly among companies with net-zero commitments, resulting in reduced emissions.

SBTi is a voluntary target-setting initiative whereby companies can commit to setting science-based targets and have their objectives independently assessed and validated. Commitments and target taking are done through stated sector wise guidelines by SBTi.

[Read More](#) 

Government's research arm to develop indigenous EV technology to cut foreign dependence

The Department of Science & Technology and Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF), headed by the Prime Minister, have launched a program to develop an EV ecosystem, which includes battery technology, power electronics, and charging infrastructure. ANRF will offer strategic directions for innovation and promote R&D and entrepreneurship.

The government has allocated Rs 14,000 crore (approx. €1.55 billion) for the next 5 years to drive the R&D culture in the country. ANRF hopes to at least push the development of battery technology and components in the next 3 years, with the long-term goals being charging infrastructure and power electronics.

Chief Executive of ANRF, said, "So we have launched the program to propel indigenous manufacturing of electric vehicles and components, which are now imported, and we are currently dependent upon supply chains from China and other countries."

[Read More](#) 

India proposes new rules to enhance solid waste management

The Indian government has proposed new solid waste management rules that aim to significantly improve waste handling practices across the country. These rules are set to come into effect on October 1, 2025, and cover a wide range of aspects, from urban waste management to rural waste management.

A crucial aspect of these rules is the empowerment of sanitation workers. They will be authorised to levy fines on individuals and entities that fail to segregate their waste at source. The rules mandate waste segregation for large establishments such as hotels, malls, residential complexes, and institutions. These entities will be required to segregate waste at source and facilitate the collection of segregated waste by authorised waste pickers or recyclers.

Recognising the importance of rural waste management, the rules emphasise the role of gram panchayats in preventing agricultural waste burning. Gram Panchayats will be responsible for ensuring proper collection and storage of agricultural residue, such as paddy stubble. They will also be required to submit annual reports on the management of agricultural waste within their jurisdiction.

The new rules encourage the adoption of circular economy principles in waste management. This includes promoting waste-to-energy processes and the manufacturing of products from recycled materials. The goal is to minimize waste generation and maximise resource utilisation. The rules strengthen monitoring and enforcement mechanisms to ensure compliance. This includes provisions for environmental compensation (penalties) for those who do not comply with their mandated tasks.

These new rules are expected to have a significant impact on waste management practices across India. By promoting source segregation, the government aims to encourage responsible waste disposal, and strengthen enforcement mechanisms.

[Read More](#) 

Ministry of Power and MNRE notifications:

- [Guidelines for Installation and Operation of Battery Swapping and Charging Stations](#)
- [Amendment in Guidelines for Installation and Operation of Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure-2024](#)
- [Scheme to support Pilot Projects on New and Innovative production techniques and applications of Green Hydrogen](#)





EU/EFTA-India

Commerce and Industry Minister (CIM) of India holds high level dialogue with European Commissioner for Trade and Economic Security

Commerce and Industry Minister (CIM) of India met with European Commissioner for Trade and Economic Security for a High Level Dialogue from 18-19 January 2025 in Brussels. This was the first in-person meeting between the two leaders, subsequent to the introductory video conference held in December 2024. The dialogue was marked by mutual respect, consideration towards each other's sensitivities and was aimed at setting up a new framework for India-European Union strategic agenda in the area of trade and investments.

The Minister underlined the commitment of Indian government towards transforming India into a developed country by 2047. The minister outlined the six broad principles for building a mutually beneficial partnership between India and the European Union:

- First, India would work together with the European Union, a relationship based on common values of democracy, rule of law and independent judiciary, as a trusted partner for developing an economic relationship which integrates the combined market currently estimated at over \$24 trillion, bringing unprecedented opportunities for the 2 billion people of India and the European Union.
- Second, India would build a commercially meaningful trade agenda with the EU, which is fair and equitable, addressing the tariff and non-tariff barriers through simplification and cost competitiveness for benefits of businesses from both sides, especially small and medium enterprises, farmers and fishermen.
- Third, in endeavour to build India as a high-quality product market in terms of Prime Minister's clarion call for a "zero defect" and "zero effect" production capability, it would engage with the European Union for exchange of best practices, harmonize standards and build mutual processes to achieve these objectives.
- Fourth, India would work together with the European Union for developing cutting edge technologies, secure critical raw material supply chains and build resilient supply chains- reducing dependencies on non-market economies and developing closer economic ties between India and the EU.

- Fifth, cooperation in the area of trade and sustainable development in a fair manner keeping in mind the respective level of developments and the principle of common but differentiated responsibility.
- Sixth, as a leader in harnessing technologies at scale and a nation home to young, aspirational and highly talented people, India would explore becoming a living bridge with the European Union to partner in mutual growth and development.

With a view to build a new India-EU strategic agenda, the two leaders outlined political directions to both the teams to develop a mutually beneficial agenda for trade and investment and a robust FTA in an expedited manner to meet global challenges. The two leaders reviewed progress in the trade and investment group of the India-EU Trade and Technology Council (TTC), agreed to address legacy issues & laid a roadmap for continuous consultations between senior officials from both sides and at ministerial level. The meeting was attended by senior officials from both sides.

[PIB](#)

India-EFTA trade pact may come into force before end of 2025: Goyal

The implementation process of free trade agreement (FTA) between India and the four-nation European bloc EFTA is progressing fast and is expected to come into force before the end of this year, Commerce and Industry Minister said.

The two sides signed the Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) on March 10, 2024. Under the pact, India has received an investment commitment of USD 100 billion in 15 years from the grouping while allowing several products such as Swiss watches, chocolates and cut and polished diamonds at lower or zero duties.

The minister said the Swiss Council of States has approved the agreement and now will go to their National Council for approval. So, this overwhelming support in political circles in Switzerland for the TEPA with EFTA is truly a sign of the times to come... and in their statement also, it shows that that it has cleared an important hurdle and they are hoping to bring in entry to force by autumn of 2025, before the end of calendar year 2025," minister said.

The bloc committed an investment of USD 100 billion -- USD 50 billion within 10 years after the implementation of the agreement and another USD 50 billion in the next five years -- which would facilitate the creation of 1 million direct jobs in India. This is a first-of-its-kind pledge agreed upon in any of the trade deals signed by India so far.

[Business Standard](#)



SESEI Key Activities (Dec '24 to Jan'25)



In this section we provide you with a brief insight of the various activities undertaken by the SESEI expert in the month of December 2024 and January 2025.

- **27th & 28th Meeting of Digital Signature Panel, SSD 10/P-4:** During the meetings the panel:
 - transposed ETSI TS 119 172-2 on "Electronic Signatures and Infrastructures (ESI); Signature Policies; Part 2: XML format for signature policies" , TSI TS 119 172-1 on "Electronic Signatures and Infrastructures (ESI); Signature Policies; Part 1: Building blocks and table of contents for human readable signature policy documents" and ETSI TS 119 172-3 on "Electronic Signatures and Infrastructures (ESI); Signature Policies; Part 3: ASN.1 format for signature policies" into Indian Standards IS-12 format. The panel also decided to transpose and review the following documents in next meeting:
 1. [ETSI TS 119 441 V1.2.1 \(2023-10\)](#): ESI; Policy requirements for TSP providing signature validation services.
 2. [ETSI TS 119 431-1 V1.3.1 \(2024-12\)](#) : ESI; Policy and security requirements for trust service providers; Part 1: TSP service components operating a remote QSCD / SCDev.
 3. [ETSI TS 119 431-2 V1.2.1 \(2023-06\)](#) : ESI; Policy and security requirements for trust service providers; Part 2: TSP service components supporting AdES digital signature creation.
 - EU Project INPACE (International Partnership for Advancing Cross-border Engineering) organised **webinar on Standardisation in Practice from research to high quality standards**: SESEI participated as a speaker and presented insights on EU Project SESEI, Indian Standardisation Bodies & their integration with International Standards Organisations, and why Research integration into Standards & Activities is critical. SESEI expert also provided an overview of the existing EU-India Partnership Instruments, and the work carried out by them.
 - **Meeting with Siemens Delegation from Germany and India**: Shared SESEI project Status, Deliverables and Achievements and suggested way forward on the ongoing issues around QCO and shared Market Access Report and Work Plan of BIS & CEN-CENELEC.
 - **Organised meeting between CEN-CENELEC and CII – IQ** to discuss topics of mutual interest with emphasis on Sustainability and Digital developments and proposed to hold a joint webinar for suppliers of the Ministry of Defence on the Digital Product Passport, scheduled for Q1 2025.
 - **Kick-off meeting of SESEI VI project with project partners** to share the SESEI-VI Workplan, deliverables and its timelines.
 - **First Steering committee meeting of SESEI VI with project partners**, discussions held on Steering Committee Terms of Reference (ToR), Project Status, Work Plan, deliverables, timelines & SESEI Expert Report on major activities, plans for next quarter etc.



SESEI Key Activities (Dec '24 to Jan'25)

- **Meeting with Director-General, European Commission, DG GROW** to give an update of SESEI project, its achievements, planned activities as way forward, Quality Control Orders (QCOs) and its linkages with supply chain, BIS Structure, Standards & its harmonisation with ISO/IEC.
- **Meeting with DG BIS along with European Commission DG GROW:** The Director-General, European Commission, DG GROW during her visit to India held a meeting with DG BIS along with BIS Senior officer to discuss the opportunities for continued cooperation around Standards between EU and India, BIS funding mechanism, QCO improvement possibility, possible new emerging areas of standards cooperation such as Green Steel, Cyber Security (Inverter) and Sustainable fuels, CEN-CENELEC-BIS workshop during IEC GM and CEN-CENELEC-BIS Framework Copyright License Agreements etc.
- **ETSI TC DECT Webinar on DECT-2020 NR technology introduction and release 2 functionality and application information:** This event is planned to provide information on DECT-2020 NR technology and standards proceeding and activities on this topic at ETSI TC DECT.



Keyreports published by SESEI

- [Indian Standardizations Landscape Report \(July 2023\)](#)
- [Report on Sector Profile Report on "Digitization and Green & Clean Technologies: India](#)
- [Bureau of Indian Standards- BIS Catalogue Aug 2023](#)
- [Market Access report](#)



List of Draft/Published Standards

Bureau of Indian Standards(BIS):

- For the list of draft standards under wide circulation at BIS, please [click here>>](#)

Telecommunication Engineering Centre (TEC):

- For the list of [Standards/specifications and Essential Requirements](#) developed by TEC, please [click here>>](#)

Telecommunications Standards Development Society, India (TSDSI):

- List of [Work Items \(WI\)](#), [Study work items contributions](#) and [New Item Proposals](#) is [available here>>](#)

 Upcoming Events

International Conference on Recent Advances in Artificial Intelligence, Communication and Electronic Systems

When: 5-7 February, 2025

Where: Bharati Vidyapeeth's Institute of Computer Applications & Management, New Delhi & Online

The International Conference on "Recent Advances in Artificial Intelligence, Communication and Electronic Systems (RAICE 2025)" serves as the pinnacle of innovation and stands as a pivotal forum, bringing together researchers, professionals, and academicians to delve into the cutting-edge developments in the realms of Electronics and Communication Engineering through its seamless integration with the transformative power of Artificial Intelligence.

[More Information >](#)

Bharat AI Cyber & Automation Summit 2025

When: 6 February 2025

Where: Hotel Shangri-La, New Delhi

The summit will serve as an influential platform that brings together thought leaders, industry experts, government representatives, and technology pioneers to explore the transformative impact of artificial intelligence (AI), cybersecurity, and automation on India's future.

[More Information >](#)

International Conference on Climate Change 2025

When: 9 February 2025

Where: New Delhi

International Conference on Climate Change aims to bring together leading academic scientists, researchers and research scholars to exchange and share their experiences and research results on all aspects of Climate Change. It also provides a premier interdisciplinary platform for researchers, practitioners and educators to present and discuss the most recent innovations, trends, and concerns as well as practical challenges encountered and solutions adopted in the fields of Climate Change.

[More Information >](#)

India Energy Week 2025

When: 11-14 February 2025

Where: Yashobhoomi, New Delhi, India

India Energy Week will highlight the nation's low-carbon growth model, showcasing energy access, security, and sustainability while fostering global collaboration and presenting innovative solutions and investment opportunities.

[More Information >](#)

Upcoming EventsoneM2M Stakeholders
Day**When: 12 February 2025**
Where: New Delhi, India

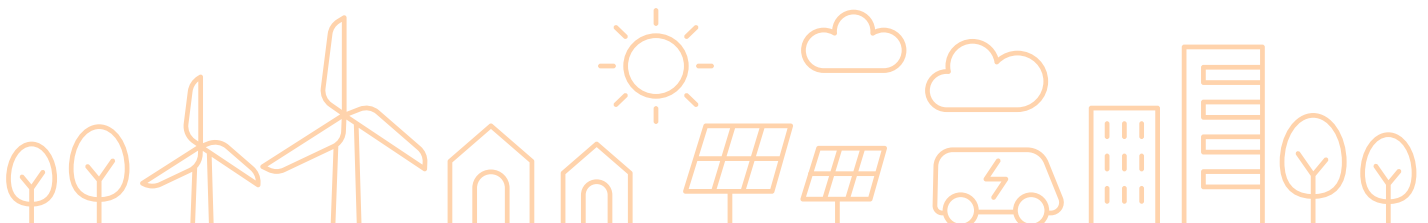
TSDSI, as Partner Type 1 of oneM2M, will be hosting the oneM2M Technical Plenary TP#68 from February 10th to 14th, 2025, alongside a mid-week Stakeholders Day conference co-located at Research & Innovation Park, IIT Delhi, Hauz Khas, New Delhi, India. The mid-week Stakeholders Day Conference is being organised on 12th February, a full day event that aims to bring together key stakeholders, experts, and industry leaders to explore the future of IoT and machine-to-machine (M2M) standards.

[More Information >](#)World Sustainable
Development Summit
2025**When: 5-7 March 2025**
Where: India Habitat Centre, New Delhi, India

The World Sustainable Development Summit focuses on sustainable development and climate justice, gathering leaders from various sectors to discuss integration, resilience, consumption, energy challenges, and climate action.

[More Information >](#)Global Symposium on
Resource Efficiency and
Circular Economy**When: 24-25 March 2025**
Where: New Delhi

The symposium will focus on enabling cutting-edge strategies and best practices that steer sustainable growth, operational resilience, and a new paradigm of economic productivity aligned with the principles of circularity. The symposium serves as a global forum, bringing together leaders and experts from around the world to discuss pressing issues & challenges in resource efficiency & circular economy.

[More Information >](#)

ABOUT PROJECT

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/>) 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>, as well as by the European Commission (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.



SESEI

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