SESEI Newsletters

SECONDED EUROPEAN STANDARDIZATION EXPERT IN INDIA

European Committee for Standardization | European Committee for Electro Technical Standardization | European Telecommunications Standards Institute | European Commission | European Free Trade Association

Dear Readers,

We welcome you to the SESEI Newsletter- Europe for the month of June 2026, providing you with latest updates and information from India on Digitization, Clean & Green Technologies, and EU/EFTA- India Strategic engagements.

To ease the QCO Compliance concerns, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, has notified the **Transition Facilitation (Quality Control) Order, 2026**, introducing a risk-based compliance framework to ease the implementation of Quality Control Orders (QCOs) while maintaining product quality and consumer protection. Ministry of Consumer Affairs is also working towards **development of AI-enabled machine-readable SMART standards,** signalling India's intent to modernise standards development and reduce regulatory burden.

Digital Technologies remain a key policy priority. Indian think tank, NITI Aayog released a comprehensive **ten-year roadmap for the semiconductor sector**, outlining India's ambition to establish a USD 120–150 billion semiconductor ecosystems by 2035 through investments in design, manufacturing, advanced packaging, talent development and trusted international partnerships. Further support was provided through **import relaxations for Special Economic Zones**, facilitating faster establishment of semiconductor manufacturing facilities.

The Department of Telecommunications have also proposed a **new authorisation regime** to simplify telecom licensing, strengthen cybersecurity, mandate AI-based fraud prevention, and streamline regulatory processes. Additional policy developments covered **Satellite Communications, Connected Vehicle Cybersecurity, AI Governance, and India's rapidly expanding 5G ecosystem**, which is projected to exceed one billion subscriptions by 2031.

In the area of Clean & Green technologies, India has strengthened the implementation of its **National Green Hydrogen Mission** through the launch of the **Green Hydrogen Certification Portal**, providing a transparent framework for certification & compliance. Significant progress was also made in developing **domestic standards for Green Hydrogen and related products,** while investments in research, renewable energy and hydrogen infrastructure continued to expand.

The Govt. of India have also launched it's first **Wind Turbine Supply Chain Management Portal** to enhance domestic manufacturing capabilities and export readiness. India has also emerged as the **world's second-largest annual solar growth market**, reflecting the country's accelerating renewable energy transition. Complementing these efforts, new initiatives were launched to develop **sustainability certification mechanisms** that will help Indian exporters meet evolving international environmental and traceability requirements.

India's engagement with Europe continue to deepen across trade, technology, and digital cooperation. The first **"EU–India Tech Business Forum"** was also organised under the EU-India TTC WG-01, reinforcing the growing role of trusted technology partnerships and interoperability in supporting resilient digital value chains. Progress towards the **India–EU Free Trade Agreement (FTA)** gathered momentum, with both sides working for its formal signature by the year end.

At the bilateral level, discussions between India and France further strengthened the **Special Global Strategic Partnership**, with renewed commitments in critical technologies, supply chain resilience, mobility and implementation of the India–EU FTA.

Details of the important SESEI activities during the month of June 2026 and list of upcoming events and conferences to be held in India are included in the newsletter.

Happy Reading!!

Best regards,
Dinesh Chand Sharma

IN THIS ISSUE

Generic/Standards

- DPIIT Notifies Transition Facilitation (Quality Control) Order, 2026 to Strengthen Supply Chains and Facilitate Industry Compliance
- Govt Eases Footwear Import Norms for R&D, Extends Compliance Relief by 1 Year
- India to Use Artificial Intelligence for Machine-Readable Standards

Digitization

- NITI Aayog releases "Future of India's Semiconductor Industry" Roadmap
- Import Relaxations for SEZs Set to Accelerate India's Semiconductor Ambitions
- More News>>

Green and Clean Technologies

- Green Hydrogen Certification Portal to Enhance Transparency in Green Hydrogen Sector
- India Launches Sustainability Certification Initiative to Align Exports with Global Compliance Standards
- More News>>

EU/EFTA-India

- EU and India Host First Tech Business Forum in New Delhi to Strengthen Digital and Trade Cooperation
- India, EU Likely to Sign Free Trade Agreement by December 2026
- More News>>

Whitepaper/Publications

SESEI Key Activities

SESEI Key Reports

List of Draft/Published Standards

Upcoming Events

About Project SESEI

Generic/Standards

DPIIT Notifies Transition Facilitation (Quality Control) Order, 2026 to Strengthen Supply Chains and Facilitate Industry Compliance

In a significant step towards strengthening India's quality ecosystem and enhancing industrial competitiveness, the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, has notified the Transition Facilitation (Quality Control) Order, 2026. The Order introduces a framework aimed at balancing regulatory compliance with innovation, technological advancement and supply chain resilience.

The Government of India is working to build a robust quality ecosystem by ensuring the availability of safe, reliable and standards-compliant products. As part of this effort, DPIIT has notified Quality Control Orders (QCOs) for critical products to safeguard consumer interests, improve product reliability and enhance the competitiveness of domestic industry through standardisation and improved manufacturing practices.

Building upon this objective, the Transition Facilitation (Quality Control) Order, 2026 introduces an alternative risk-based compliance mechanism to facilitate a smooth transition for industry while maintaining quality assurance and consumer protection.

The Order enables domestic industry to procure supplies from manufacturers holding licences under Scheme II of Schedule II of the Bureau of Indian Standards (Conformity Assessment) Regulations, 2018, instead of Scheme I (ISI Mark Scheme) of BIS. Permissions under the mechanism will be granted based on technical capability, demonstrated compliance history and commitment towards technology advancement or adoption, development of design and research capabilities, innovation and strengthening domestic supply chain capabilities.

The Order also extends its benefits to manufacturers that have demonstrated consistent adherence to QCO requirements over a continuous period of three years without any default. The provision recognises sustained compliance with quality requirements and encourages continued adherence to prescribed standards.

The reform seeks to facilitate industry compliance while maintaining quality standards. By providing an alternative compliance mechanism, the Order is expected to support technological modernisation, innovation and the strengthening of India's manufacturing ecosystem.

The initiative is expected to strengthen domestic value chains, promote technology advancement, reduce compliance bottlenecks and enhance India's integration with global supply chains, while reinforcing consumer confidence in the quality and safety of products available in the Indian market.

Read More

Govt Eases Footwear Import Norms for R&D, Extends Compliance Relief by 1 Year

According to a notification issued by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), manufacturers of leather and footwear products will now be permitted to import up to 4,500 pairs of footwear annually for research, development and non-commercial purposes. The amendment forms part of the Footwear made from All Rubber and All Polymeric Material and its Components (Quality Control) Amendment Order, 2026.

Imported products cannot be sold commercially and must be marked "NOT FOR SALE". Manufacturers will also be required to maintain records of such imports and furnish them to the government whenever sought. The products can only be used for testing, product development and other non-commercial purposes.

The government has simultaneously extended an existing exemption under the Quality Control Order (QCO) framework by one year. The deadline specified in the earlier order has been revised from July 31, 2026, to July 31, 2027.

The move is expected to provide greater flexibility to footwear manufacturers that rely on global product samples for benchmarking, design studies, testing and innovation. Industry players have argued that access to international samples is essential for developing products that can compete in global markets, particularly as India seeks to strengthen its position as a manufacturing and export hub for footwear.

Quality Control Orders, which mandate compliance with Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) norms, have been rolled out across several sectors in recent years to improve product quality and curb the import of substandard goods. However, industry bodies have sought limited exemptions for research and development activities, contending that strict restrictions on sample imports could hamper innovation.

Read More

India to Use Artificial Intelligence for Machine-Readable Standards

The Consumer Affairs Ministry is planning to develop machine-readable, SMART standards using artificial intelligence tools to reduce compliance burden on industry. Machine-readable standards translate regulatory requirements into structured digital rules that computer systems can process directly, enabling automatic compliance verification without manual intervention.

SMART (Standard Machine Accessible, Readable and Transferable) formats go a step further by being dynamic, constantly updated and integrated into software and manufacturing lifecycles. The department was looking at ways to leverage emerging technologies, particularly AI, to modernise the country's standards ecosystem.

Read More

Digitization

NITI Aayog Releases "Future of India's Semiconductor Industry" Roadmap

Semiconductors are no longer just an industrial input. They are the foundation of national security, economic resilience, digital sovereignty and future competitiveness — powering everything from defence systems, telecom networks and AI infrastructure to automobiles, healthcare devices, digital public infrastructure and advanced manufacturing.

As global semiconductor supply chains are being reshaped by geopolitics, technology shifts and the race for trusted capacity, India has a historic opportunity to move from being a large semiconductor market to becoming a critical node in the global value chain.

Against this backdrop, NITI Aayog's Frontier Tech Hub released India's first comprehensive 10-year roadmap - "Future of India's Semiconductor Industry".

Developed in deep consultation with some of the best minds from industry and government, the roadmap lays out a clear, actionable vision for India to build a USD 120–150 billion semiconductor value chain by 2035.

Anchored in India's strengths in design talent, innovation capability, growing domestic demand, electronics manufacturing and materials, the roadmap is built around five mutually reinforcing pillars: Pioneering frontier R&D and design IP; Policy and Investment to mobilise long-horizon capital; Production focused on advanced packaging and compound semiconductors; People across the full semiconductor talent pyramid; and Partnerships with trusted nations and global industry.

Across these pillars, it sets clear goals, including positioning India as a leading global destination for advanced packaging and OSAT, emerging as a major supplier of wide-bandgap semiconductors, building leadership in compound semiconductor manufacturing, strengthening frontier design capabilities, and creating more than **100** advanced semiconductor design IPs.

The roadmap directly reinforces the priorities announced under the India Semiconductor Mission 2.0 in the Union Budget 2026 and marks India's shift from ecosystem creation to ecosystem deepening — from attracting investments and building foundational capacity to developing deeper capabilities across design, materials, manufacturing, packaging, talent, R&D and trusted global partnerships.

Read More

Import Relaxations for SEZs Set to Accelerate India's Semiconductor Ambitions

India's efforts to become a global hub for semiconductor manufacturing have received a notable push, as regulatory changes now promise to streamline the import of critical equipment and materials for Special Economic Zones (SEZs). The move is expected to save months off project timelines, making India a more attractive destination for global chipmakers and electronics manufacturers.

Regulatory shift removes major bottleneck for chipmakers: A recent amendment to the Foreign Trade Policy, announced by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) on June 1, has exempted all permissible imports by SEZ units and developers from Quality Control Orders (QCOs) and compliance with Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) requirements at the point of entry. This marks a significant expansion from the earlier regime, which offered exemptions only for goods directly linked to export production. The new framework allows SEZ entities to import a wide spectrum of inputs-including advanced machinery, specialty chemicals, spares, and raw materials-for any authorised operation without facing import-stage quality compliance hurdles. Domestic compliance will only be triggered when these goods are brought into India's domestic tariff area for sale.

Accelerating India's semiconductor roadmap: Industry experts say this policy realignment directly addresses a longstanding challenge within India's semiconductor sector, which relies heavily on imported tools and materials often certified only to international standards. Many of the most advanced chipmaking projects, particularly those under the India Semiconductor Mission (ISM), are being set up in SEZs. Relaxing import compliance will help companies avoid unnecessary delays, hastening the completion and commissioning of fabrication plants and assembly units. The new rules, also grant manufacturers the flexibility to swiftly source parts required for qualification and pilot production runs, which are vital for ramping up to commercial operations.

Read More

Road Safety Tech Plan Hit by Telcos-Auto Turf War

India's plans to deploy vehicle-to-everything (V2X) communications may be delayed till clarity is obtained on authority and responsibility between telecom operators, technology vendors and automotive bodies, with regard to who controls the ecosystem of the critical tool envisioned to help curb the country's high road fatalities.

The telecom regulator had invited comments from stakeholders on V2X. The technology, proposed to be deployed by city bodies or highway authorities, instead of a traditional, commercial, telecom service, enables real-time collision avoidance, emergency warnings and traffic optimisation to reduce road congestion. Road accidents claimed more than 173,000 (173K) lives in the country in 2023 alone.

The three private telcos have unanimously opposed the creation of a separate, dedicated authorisation for V2X, arguing that it will cause regulatory duplication and fragmented accountability. They told the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) that all V2X communications should be subsumed under the scope of the existing access service licences which they hold. They also want the data to be routed through licensed 4G/5G mobile networks.

Tech and auto bodies, though, have asked for a light-touch regulatory approach such as a general authorisation or a class licence framework, suggesting that heavy telecom-style licensing would stifle rapid deployment and innovation.

Read More

Telecom Department (DoT) Notifies Rules for New Authorisation Regime Aims to Ease Compliance

The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) notified provisional rules for the new authorisation regime, which will replace multiple licences with a single overarching permission to provide “principal telecom services”, including pan-Indian or circle-wise telecom, internet, and long distance services, thus enabling ease of doing business for the sector.

Existing legacy licence holders will migrate to authorisation, while new applicants would have to seek fresh authorisation, as per eligibility norms, through a single-window clearance mechanism for obtaining the same. The rules require telecom operators to deploy artificial intelligence (AI) and big data analytics for fraud prevention. Anti-spoofing and anti-fraud measures will also have to be implemented. Data will have to be kept within India, in adherence to existing data location norms.

The rules specify satellite network, earth stations, and VSAT (very small aperture terminal) providers within the ambit of authorisation, but clarify that this authorisation will not cover spectrum allocation or assignment or gateway permissions, and that separate government approvals and compliance rules will continue.

The rules also detail out security conditions that must be met by every new entity, including demonstrating lawful interception systems and lawful interception monitoring facilities, ensuring that the permitted satellite network is “not used for any unauthorised activities including surveillance and electronic warfare, or in a manner that may prejudice the sovereignty and security of India”. Terminals connecting to the service if imported must only be operable within Indian borders, and imports of such terminals may not need Customs clearance. Operation, maintenance, and control facility for the satellite earth station gateway and user terminals connected with the satellite network of a new authorised entity shall be located in India.

Read More

DoT Proposes Mandatory Security Clearance for Satellite Service Rollout

Merely getting a licence from the DoT to provide satellite communication services will no longer be enough, companies will need security clearance even after assignment of spectrum to roll out their services, according to draft rules issued by the government.

Satellite companies will get radio waves without auction through an administrative process against a fixed annual fee in range of INR 30,000 to INR 50 lakh (approx. **€277 to €46,138)** based on the service type per terminal basis and a non-refundable application fees of INR 1000 (approx. 9 Euro).

Though the companies will be assigned spectrum through administrative process, charges of radiowaves will be determined on the basis of market price.

The draft Telecommunications (Spectrum Assignment by Administrative Process) Rules, 2026 published by the DoT also makes it conditional for satellite companies like Elon Musk-led Starlink, Bharti group-backed Eutelsat OneWeb, and Jio Satcom to roll out satcom services for end consumers. Satcom companies will need permission from the Centre before starting satellite phone and broadband services for the public.

The rule mentions that companies will need security clearance for getting a letter of intent, which is issued before a company gets a licence. Satcom companies will then need spectrum allocation to start the service. The DoT has given 30 days for interested parties to comment on the draft rules.

Read More

Centre Drafts Cybersecurity, Over-The-Air (OTA) Update Rules for Connected and Autonomous Cars

The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) has published draft rules that would, for the first time, make cybersecurity and software update management mandatory for certain categories of motor vehicles in India.

The notification proposes inserting two new provisions, Rules 125-T and 125-U, into the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989. The draft is open for public comment for 30 days before the government finalizes it.

The move brings India in line with the United Nations framework, which already requires CSMS and SUMS certification for vehicle type approval in the EU, Japan, and South Korea. Those markets have treated cybersecurity as a type-approval condition, not an optional feature, for several years.

Read More

India's 5G Subscriptions to Reach 1.1 billion by 2031

India's 5G subscriptions are projected to cross 1.1 billion by the end of 2031, accounting for 81 per cent subscription penetration. At the end of 2025, 5G subscriptions reached 430 million and accounted for 35 per cent of total mobile subscriptions.

India also continues to lead globally in mobile data consumption per smartphone -- the average monthly usage already at 37 GB is expected to nearly double to 70 GB by 2031. The country is witnessing rapid 5G adoption, driven by affordable 5G devices, extensive network coverage, and growing uptake of Fixed Wireless Access (FWA) services.

Uplink traffic is growing faster than downlink for many service providers -- in some instances, "significantly faster".

5G adoption in India continues its growth momentum, driven by the availability of affordable 5G-enabled smartphones and devices, expanded network coverage across almost all districts, and the increasing rollout of 5G Fixed Wireless Access (FWA) services.

Read More

MeitY Tells Ministries to Tighten AI Cyber Defences, Issue OEM Guidelines

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has directed all central ministries, state governments, Union Territories and financial regulators to immediately strengthen their cybersecurity measures in response to the growing threat posed by artificial intelligence-powered cyberattacks.

The ministry has asked organisations to implement the recommendations outlined in the Indian Computer Emergency Response Team's blueprint for defending against AI-assisted cyber vulnerabilities. The document recommends continuous monitoring of digital systems, proactive exposure management & faster identification and containment of cyber threats instead of relying solely on periodic security assessments.

MeitY has also instructed authorities to circulate CERT-In's newly released cybersecurity guidelines among original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) and technology vendors. The guidelines call on companies to routinely assess products for security weaknesses, maintain updated software bill of materials (SBOMs), promptly disclose critical vulnerabilities and release security patches without delay.

Guidelines regarding AI-Accelerated Vulnerability Protection and Response Requirements for Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs), and Technology Providers

Read More

Green and Clean Technologies

Green Hydrogen Certification Portal to Enhance Transparency in Green Hydrogen Sector.

The Union Minister for New and Renewable Energy, launched the Green Hydrogen Certification Portal of India during the National Workshop on "Strengthening the National Green Hydrogen Mission: Through State Policies, Hubs & Infrastructure" organised by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy. Developed by MNRE, the portal will facilitate transparent certification and regulatory compliance under the Green Hydrogen Certification Scheme of India.

Speaking on the theme "Strengthening the National Green Hydrogen Mission: Through State Policies, Hubs & Infrastructure", Hon'ble Minister requested States to participate in advancing the National Green Hydrogen Mission. He said 6 states have already notified dedicated Green Hydrogen Policies, while 7 others have integrated hydrogen into their existing industrial & renewable energy policy frameworks. He added that four more States are in the process of finalising their policies.

Highlighting Govt's focus on innovation & standards, noting that an R&D roadmap worth ₹113 crore (approx. €10.4 million) is supporting 21 approved projects. He added that the regulatory framework has been streamlined through the launch of the Green Hydrogen Certification Scheme and the finalisation of standards for Green Ammonia & Green Methanol in recent months.

The Minister highlighted that the National Green Hydrogen Mission has taken a significant step towards reducing import dependence, with agreements signed for the supply of 670K MTPA of Green Ammonia to 11 fertiliser plants.He asserted that the Mission aims to establish 5 MMT of green hydrogen production capacity, supported by 125 GW of dedicated renewable energy capacity, catalysing investments exceeding ₹8 lakh crore (approx. €74 billion), creating over 600K jobs, and reducing annual carbon emissions by 50 million tonnes.

For additional details on:

a) Green Hydrogen Certification Portal, click:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1bfDtgiFTjWqCuX949Hrk3RLnrgxOjx9a/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=108802509289457962907&rtpof=true&sd=true

b) Workshop, click:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1eZz_kqHxpZHjys7JiRZHCWdwx-NK6PVY/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=108802509289457962907&rtpof=true&sd=true

Read More

India Launches Sustainability Certification Initiative to Align Exports with Global Compliance Standards

India is taking decisive steps to future-proof its export sector by embarking on an ambitious sustainability certification programme. This move is designed to not only safeguard Indian exporters from tightening green compliance standards in major economies, but also to boost the reputation and competitiveness of Indian goods across global markets.

Global trade shifting towards sustainability: As international markets, particularly in Europe and North America, increasingly prioritise environmental and ethical standards, Indian exporters are facing mounting pressure to demonstrate the sustainability of their products. Developed economies are rolling out regulations demanding transparency in sourcing, lower carbon footprints, and responsible supply chain practices. According to government data, Europe and North America together account for roughly 40 per cent of Indian exports, underscoring the strategic imperative for Indian businesses to adapt to these evolving expectations.

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry has initiated a comprehensive effort to gather information from export-focused sectors. The objective is to map out products that are likely to encounter sustainability-linked requirements in the near term, and to identify data points, traceability mechanisms, and verification methods that would form the backbone of an Indian certification standard. This information-gathering process is expected to involve not only central authorities but also state-level agencies, ensuring a broad-based and inclusive approach.

Read More

India Launches First Wind Turbine Supply Chain Management Portal to Boost Domestic Manufacturing, Exports

Union Minister for New and Renewable Energy launched India's first dedicated Wind Turbine Supply Chain Management (WT-MARUT) Portal, aimed at strengthening the country's domestic wind manufacturing ecosystem and accelerating its clean energy ambitions.

The WT-MARUT portal has been developed under the aegis of MNRE with support from IWTMA and is designed to provide visibility into component sourcing, facilitate compliance with domestic sourcing requirements under the Approved List of Models and Manufacturers (ALMM) framework, enable supplier discovery and qualification, strengthen collaboration across the supply chain, enhance export readiness and ensure secure hosting of industry data within India.

The launch comes amid strong growth in India's wind energy sector. India added a record 6.1 GW of new wind capacity in FY 2025-26, registering a 46 per cent year-on-year increase and marking the highest annual wind installation in the country's history.

Read More

India Overtakes US to Become Second-Largest Solar Growth Market in 2025

India has overtaken the United States in annual solar capacity addition to become the world's second-largest growth market in the sector. According to the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), India added 37 gigawatt (GW) of solar capacity last year, compared with the US' 34 GW. India is behind China, which added 315 GW.

As the fastest-growing major solar market, India is driving record capacity additions through strong policy support, innovation and world-class infrastructure. India added 9.6 GW and 25.4 GW of solar capacity in 2023 and 2024, respectively.

However, India is behind the US in total installed capacity. While the cumulative installed solar capacity in the US stood at 211.6 GW in 2025, it was 135.5 GW in India. India became the world's 3rd largest solar power producer in 2024, surpassing Japan which increased its solar power capacity from 87 GW in 2023 to nearly 90 GW.

Solar power installation in the country has picked up speed in the past decade. After crossing 50 GW installed capacity in 2022, India added the next 50 GW in three years. It added another 50 GW in 14 months — between January 2025 and March 2026 — to reach 154 GW capacity as of April 2026.

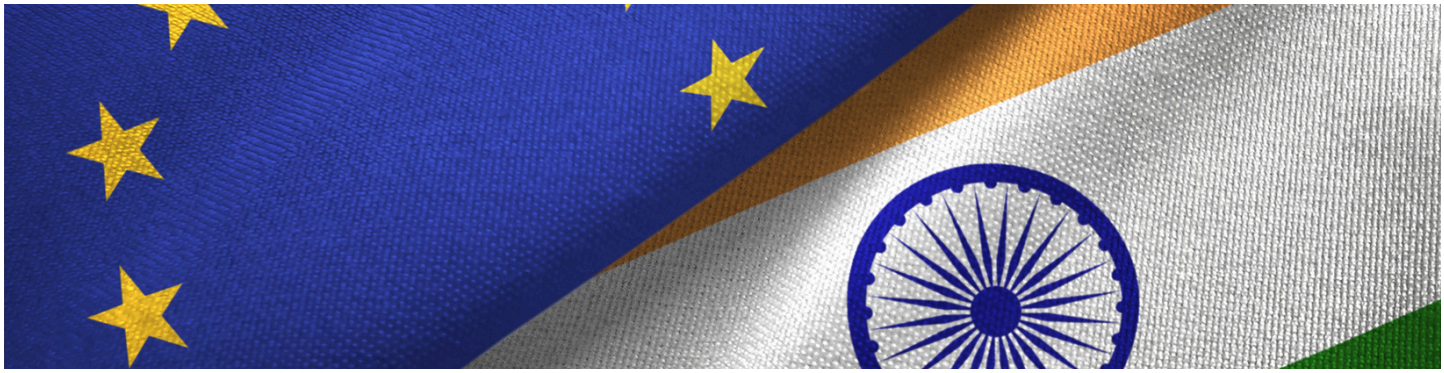
India aims to achieve 500 GW of renewable energy capacity by 2030. Half of its total installed capacity of 288 GW comes from non-fossil sources: Wind energy at 56 GW, large hydro at 51 GW, nuclear at 8.8 GW, bio energy at over 11 GW and small hydro at 5 GW as of April this year.

Read More

Notifications:

- Approved List of Models and Manufacturer for Wind Turbine Components (ALMM-WTC)

EU/EFTA-India



EU and India Host First Tech Business Forum in New Delhi to Strengthen Digital and Trade Cooperation

The European Union (EU) and India successfully concluded the **first EU-India Tech Business Forum** in New Delhi on 4th June, a key step in deepening digital and trade ties under the **Trade and Technology Council (TTC)**. Building on the Comprehensive Strategic Agenda Towards 2030, agreed by EU and Indian leaders earlier this year, the forum bought together businesses, policymakers, researchers, think tanks and civil society. The event focused on strengthening private sector collaboration and identifying opportunities for joint innovation and growth.

Organized by the EU Delegation to India and Bhutan and India's Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), the forum was supported by key industry partners, including the Federation of European Business in India (FEBI) and the National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM). A Team Europe initiative, Ambassadors from Lithuania H.E. Diana Mickevičienė and Sweden H.E. Jan Thesleff alongside representatives from Belgium, Estonia, France, Germany, Italy, and Spain alongside the EU Ambassador H.E. Hervé Delphin.

Over **100 European and Indian tech companies** took part in discussions on areas of advanced technologies including **semiconductors, artificial intelligence (AI), cybersecurity, data governance and digital public infrastructure**, focusing on how to boost private sector collaboration. Participants explored ways to **strengthen interoperability, cooperate on standards, and facilitate market access,** aiming to unlock new opportunities for businesses in both regions. The forum also emphasised the importance of co-creation across industry, research, and innovation ecosystems, marking the beginning of a **more action-driven phase of TTC cooperation.**

The Forum also serves as a mechanism to also operationalize both the recently concluded **EU–India Free Trade Agreement** and the **Administrative Arrangement on Advanced Electronic Signatures and Seals signed under TTC in January 2026,** catalyzing business-to-business cooperation between the two economic powerhouses. Additionally, the recently launched **European Legal Gateway Office in India** serves as a pilot initiative to facilitate mobility of Indian ICT professionals, students and researchers to the EU and addressing the EU Digital Decade target of 20 million ICT specialists by 2030.

At the core of the EU-India partnership is a shared commitment to leveraging digital technologies to drive competitiveness, ensure trusted governance, and build resilient value chains. India's rapidly expanding digital economy, characterised by its large-scale digital public infrastructure, vibrant innovation ecosystem, and ambitious national initiatives in semiconductors, telecoms, and AI, positions it as a strategic partner for the EU. Together, both regions are well-placed to shape global digital standards and frameworks, ensuring that technological advancements are inclusive, secure, and beneficial for all.

Read More

India, EU Likely to Sign Free Trade Agreement by December 2026

India and the European Union are expected to sign their long-awaited Free Trade Agreement (FTA) by December this year, with the pact likely to come into force between February and March 2027. The agreement will provide Indian businesses access to almost the entire European market at near-zero duty levels, significantly boosting export opportunities. He said around 93 per cent of Indian exports are expected to receive duty-free access under the proposed pact, which was concluded in principle earlier this year after prolonged negotiations between India and the 27-member European Union bloc.

The agreement is a major milestone for India's trade sector and said it would strengthen economic ties with one of the country's largest trading partners.

The India-EU trade deal, often described by policymakers as the "mother of all deals", was announced in January after negotiations spanning nearly two decades. It is currently undergoing legal scrutiny and procedural formalities before formal signing and implementation.

Read More

Prime Minister India Holds Official Talks with President of France

Prime Minister of India held bilateral talks with the President of France, at Villa Kerylos in Nice on 14 June 2026. This was the first meeting of the two leaders since the elevation of India-France ties to the level of 'Special Global Strategic Partnership' earlier this year.

The two leaders held extensive discussions covering diverse aspects of bilateral relations. They reviewed and discussed the progress across various domains especially cooperation in the **space sector** and discussed furthering collaboration in human spaceflight and space situational awareness.

Reviewing the progress under the Horizon 2047 Roadmap, both leaders also shared concrete ideas to strengthen and diversify bilateral ties in the fields of economic growth, technology and innovation, talent mobility and people-to-people and cultural exchanges. In this context, they noted the steady growth in bilateral trade and agreed to set up a High-level Mechanism to double it within five years. They called for early implementation of the India-EU Free Trade Agreement, which offers a unique opportunity to expand bilateral trade and investment. The leaders also discussed ways to enhance cooperation in the SME, aviation and railway sectors. They welcomed the agreement to establish a Centre of Excellence for Skilling in Aeronautics in Kanpur. Welcoming the establishment of a Dialogue on Economic Security, both leaders agreed to strengthen supply chain resilience, especially in critical minerals.

Read More

Whitepaper/Publication

EU-India Research and Innovation Cooperation

This short report examines research and innovation (R&I) cooperation between EU Member States and India over the past decade. It presents key figures and trends for the period 2015 to 2026, covering Framework Programme participation, co-publications, co-patents and policy influence. India participated as a third country in 142 projects under the European Framework Programmes, with involvement concentrated mainly in the natural sciences and engineering. In both patents and publications, the EU is India's second most important partner after the United States.

Read More/Download

SESEI Key Activities (June 26)

Events: SESEI as Speaker

- **EU–India TTC Business Forum: Fostering EU–India Tech Business Cooperation under the Trade and Technology Council:** SESEI participated in the panel discussion on **"Secure Connectivity and Global Standards: 5G, 6G and Open RAN"** and highlighted the importance of collaboration and harmonization of standards through participation in 3GPP, ITU, and ETSI, as well as SESEI's contributions to the EU–India partnership on 6G and the adoption of European standards (ENs).
- **EFTA TBT Committee Meeting:** SESEI expert delivered a presentation covering: (1) an overview of the SESEI project, (2) SESEI contributions and achievements, (3) EFTA–India relations and recent developments, (4) EU–India FTA and India's key initiatives in digitalization and green & clean technologies, and (5) Quality Control Orders (QCOs).
- **International Workshop on "Standard-Takers and Standard-Makers: Global Practices and Politics in the Age of AI", Humboldt University Berlin:** SESEI expert participated as a panelist in the roundtable discussion on **"Standards, Technology & Geopolitics: The New Normal – Balancing Technology, Business and Politics in Standard Setting"** and highlighted several key perspectives from India's standards and innovation ecosystem.

Events: SESEI as Delegate

- **Workshop on "Bolstering India's Exports: Leveraging the India–EU FTA with a Focus on Germany",** organized by ASSOCHAM: The workshop aimed to create awareness among exporters, MSMEs, and industry stakeholders regarding opportunities arising from the recently concluded India–EU Free Trade Agreement. SESEI expert, as a member of ASSOCHAM, attended the workshop to gain insights into recent developments related to the EU–India FTA.
- **GIZ EU/India DPI Interoperability Study – Workshop 6:** The workshop focused on reviewing findings and recommendations from the feasibility study, discussing key use cases, reviewing the sandbox blueprint, and identifying strategic next steps.
- **European Standardisation Panel Survey Stakeholder Workshop:** Important inputs gathered from the survey to strengthen innovation and European competitiveness were discussed during the workshop. SESEI expert attended the workshop to understand how these inputs contribute to the EU Standardisation Strategy.
- **Workshop on "Exploring the Metaverse: Technologies and Use Cases across Verticals",** organized by TEC: The workshop explored transformative metaverse technologies, the Industrial Metaverse, and infrastructure use cases in India, including digital twins and avatar layers across various sectors.
- **Open House Discussion (OHD) on TRAI Consultation Paper on "Formulation of a Regulatory Framework for ALTD Services (including FAST Services)":** TRAI released a consultation paper on Application-based Linear Television Distribution (ALTD) Services, including Free Ad-Supported Streaming Television (FAST) Services, and invited industry comments. In this regard, MAIT organized an Open House Discussion to deliberate on the draft consultation paper.
- **Webinar on "Strengthening Climate Action & Governance: Moving the Needle from Planning to Implementation":** The webinar focused on accelerating urban climate resilience and bridging the gap between climate strategies and their effective implementation on the ground.

SESEI Key Activities (June 26)

Meetings

- **21st Meeting of BIS LITD 13 – Interconnection and Information Exchange among IT Equipment and Systems:** The meeting focused on discussions related to the draft Network Maturity Assessment Model (NMAM), amendments to IS 16333 (Part 1):2015 "Mobile Phone Handsets," and other ongoing activities.
- **Meeting of LITD 35: WG 8:** The meeting reviewed IS 17802 and discussed its alignment with Draft EN 301 549 V4.1.0 and WCAG 2.2.
- **1st Meeting of the CII Delhi Panel on Emerging Technology:** The meeting focused on discussing the draft work plan for 2026–27. SESEI expert, as a member of CII, provided inputs on emerging technologies including 6G, AI, and quantum technologies.
- **SESEI Steering Committee #4:** Discussion on project progress, latest developments around priority topics in India, organization of the 5th EU–India Conference, potential conference themes, scheduling of the next Steering Committee meeting in February 2027.
- **ETSI Board Meeting:** SESEI expert presented updates on project achievements, EFTA–India TEPA developments, EU–India FTA progress, and key initiatives related to digitization.
- **Meeting with the Deputy Head of Unit, Joint Research Centre (JRC), European Commission:** The meeting focused on preparations for the upcoming India visit of Ms. Sabine Henzler, Director for Strategy and Impact, International Affairs at JRC, and discussions on facilitating meetings with BIS and CII officials.

Key Reports Published by SESEI

- Market Access Report (June 2026) & Its Presentation
- Sector Profile Report on Green & Clean Technologies India (March 2026) & Its Presentation
- Indian Standardizations Landscape Report (March 2025) & Its Presentation
- Report on Sector Profile Report on "Digitalisation" – September 2025 : India & its Presentation
- Bureau of Indian Standards- BIS Catalogue (July 2025) & Its Presentation

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 Cyber Security and Cloud Computing

When: 08 - 09 July 2026
Where: New Delhi

The International Conference on Cyber Security and Cloud Computing (ICCSCC) provides a global platform for researchers, academicians, industry professionals, and practitioners to present research, share innovations, and discuss recent developments in cybersecurity, cloud computing, and related technologies. Scheduled to be held on 08th - 09th Jul 2026 in New Delhi,India. ICCSCC aims to encourage knowledge exchange, collaboration, and dialogue on secure, scalable, and resilient digital systems. The conference will focus on emerging challenges, best practices, and future directions in cyber security and cloud infrastructure. The outcomes of ICCSCC are expected to support informed discussions, promote technological advancement, and contribute to the ongoing development of a secure global digital ecosystem.

More Information

India Energy Storage Week (IESW)

When: 08 - 10 July 2026
Where: Yashobhoomi, New Delhi, India

The 12th India Energy Storage Week (IESW) 2026 stands as the definitive global platform for the clean energy transition, uniting the entire value chain of E-mobility, battery manufacturing, recycling, stationary energy storage, and green hydrogen. As IESA's flagship annual event, it provides a high-impact ecosystem for over 200+ exhibitors and 10,000+ industry professionals to showcase cutting-edge innovations in e-mobility, recycling, and supply chain localization.

More Information

IEEE International Conference on Sustainable Energy and Future Electric Transportation (SEFET)

When: 08 - 11 July 2026
Where: Nagpur, India

The IEEE International Conference on Sustainable Energy and Future Electric Transportation is set to take place from July 8 to July 11, 2026, at the esteemed Visvesvaraya National Institute of Technology in Nagpur, India. This pivotal event aims to bring together esteemed researchers, industry professionals, and policymakers to discuss the latest advancements in sustainable energy solutions and the future of electric transportation.

More Information

Upcoming Events

Annual Conference on Wind Power in India

When: 14 - 15 July 2026
Where: New Delhi, India

The Annual Conference on Wind Power in India is set to take place at the prestigious Le Meridien New Delhi from July 14 to July 15, 2026. This two-day event will bring together industry leaders, policymakers, and experts to explore the latest advancements and trends in wind energy technologies.

More Information

Bharat AI & Data Centre Summit 2026

When: 17 July 2026
Where: Hilton, Chennai

Bharat AI Data Center & Cloud Summit (BAIDCS) 2026 is a premier industry event that brings together technology leaders, policymakers, cloud service providers, data center operators, and digital infrastructure experts to explore the future of AI, cloud computing, data centers, cybersecurity, and digital transformation.

More Information

Global Solar Expo

When: 24 - 25 July 2026
Where: New Delhi, India

Global Solar Expo 2026 is a premier renewable energy exhibition and conference that brings together industry leaders, policymakers, innovators, investors, and sustainability experts to showcase the latest advancements in solar energy, energy storage, clean technologies, and decarbonization solutions.

More Information

CII Uttar Pradesh - Clean Energy Summit

When: 20 August 2026
Where: Lucknow, India

The CII Uttar Pradesh - Clean Energy Summit is set to take place on July 10, 2026, in the vibrant city of Lucknow, India. This one-day summit aims to bring together industry leaders, policymakers, and innovators to discuss and promote sustainable energy solutions that can drive economic growth while addressing environmental challenges. Attendees will have the opportunity to engage in insightful sessions, panel discussions, and networking opportunities, all centered around the theme of clean energy and its pivotal role in shaping a sustainable future for Uttar Pradesh and beyond.

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 | Seconded European Standardisation Expert in India

Enabling Europe-India Cooperation on Standards

Address: AltF Coworking, 2nd Floor,
101, NH-19, CRRI, Ishwar Nagar,
Okhla, Delhi, New Delhi-110044
Mobile: +91 9810079461
E-mail: dinesh.chand.sharma@sesei.eu
Website: www.sesei.eu

CEN
European Committee for Standardization
www.cen.eu

CENELEC
European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization
www.cenelec.eu

ETSI
European Telecommunications Standards Institute
Institute www.etsi.eu

EC
European Commission
www.ec.europa.eu

EFTA
European Free Trade Association
www.efta.int