

Annual Convention with Deans & HoDs of MoU Partner Institutes

Discipline: Electrical Engineering

Date and Place: 30th & 31st Aug 2024, Kochi

The first day of Annual Convention started with lighting of lamp, and introduction of participants, followed by addresses by DDG (Southern Region), BIS Shri Praveen Khanna and DDG (Standardization-1), Shri Rajeev Sharma. In his address, DDG (Standardization-1) highlighted the opportunities that are available through the standardization platform for the academia to present its research findings and key developments in the sector.

In his keynote address, DG: BIS while highlighting the fact that standards are increasingly being used as a strategic tool to control international trade, he stressed upon the need to have deeper engagement between academic institutions and BIS to strengthen the Standardization eco-system by leveraging from the research and innovation taking place in these institutions. He outlined how developed countries have comprehensive programmes run by their standardization bodies such as ASTM, ASME, IEEE etc. to engage with the academia and stressed upon the fact that this BIS-Academia engagement is essential as the country aims to become a developed nation by 2047. He called for adoption of a two-way approach – standardization needs can form the research goals and projects; and in turn, the research output can shape our standards.

Shri Ritwik Anand, Sc-D briefed about the standard formulation process, standards portal, academic dashboard and other digital solutions that are available for the academia. Shri A K Maharana, Head, ETD further informed about the electro technical division council (ETDC) structure and the range of topics being covered under it for standardization. Shri Tushar Sharma Sc-D gave a presentation on Power Capacitors which has been developed for the purpose of lecture series at MoU partner institutions. While informing that BIS has developed ten such lectures on important subjects under the electrical engineering discipline, HETD requested the Deans and HoDs to provide their feedback on improvising these contents.

On the second day, feedback was sought from the participants on how to take this MoU forward and make this engagement mutually more beneficial.

Some important takeaways for BIS included as follows:

- The process of submission of proposals against R&D projects to be made online.
- Access of academic portal should be made open to all the faculty members of MoU partner institutes.
- Possibility of publication of research findings having impact on standardization activity may be explored.
- BIS may consider instituting Faculty Development Programme to sensitize all faculty members on the importance of and opportunities in standardization activity.
- Standardization may be included as subject in the curriculum through AICTE and UGC.
- BIS may explore to work with the Consortium for Educational Communication (CEC), New Delhi for launching massive open online courses (MOOCs) on standardization.
- The presentations developed under the lecture series must include information on the economic and manufacturing scenario in the area of the product, and its impact on the sector.
- Recognition and felicitation of academia who contribute to standardization may also be considered.
- Case studies on impact of standardization highlighting the risks and dangers in absence of standards, may be developed, so that students can appreciate the importance of standards.

- Incubation Hub/Startup Centre at Educational Institutes may be approached for obtaining inputs with respect to development of Standards on a new subject.
- Videos on Indian Standards may be developed.

For academic institutions, the key takeaways included as follows:

- Research projects at UG, PG and PhD level to mandatorily have a chapter on impact on national standardization.
- Incorporation of Course/Module on Standardization and Indian Standards available on subjects included in the academic curricula to be referred during delivering of the lectures by the faculties.
- Submission of Plan for organizing technical sessions on Indian Standards at MOU partner Institutes.
- Quiz and other competitions on standards to be conducted extensively for broadening engagement with students.

This was followed by a field visit. Overall, this convention marks a significant step forward in bridging the gap between academia and standardization bodies, creating pathways for research which will directly impact policy and industry practices. It set the stage for a more dynamic partnership, ensuring that India's standards are not only in tune with global developments but are also at the forefront of technological and scientific advancements.

Below are some of the photographs of the convention.











