

BUREAU OF INDIAN STANDARDS

MINUTES

<i>Committee</i>	<i>Meeting No.</i>	<i>Day, Date and Time</i>	<i>Venue</i>
Panel on Sustainable Beaches, SSD 02/P3	1st Meeting	Wednesday, 28 August 2024, 1500 hrs.	Hybrid Meeting

**Convenor: Shri Sundeep
Scientist – F, MoEFCC**

**Member Secretary: Shri Darpan Chalia
Scientist – C, BIS**

Members Present: Please see Annex – A (Page 4)

ITEM 0 GENERAL

0.1 Welcome Remark by BIS.

Shri Darpan Chalia, Member Secretary, welcomed the Convenor and all the members to the 1st meeting of the Panel on Sustainable Beaches, SSD 02/P3. He informed members that Travel, Tourism and Related Services Sectional Committee, SSD 02 has approved the subject for formulation of Indian standard on Sustainable Beaches to support Indian Certification on Beach parallel to Blue Flag Certification done by Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE), Denmark and constitute this panel, SSD 02/P3. The Subcommittee on Sustainable Tourism held a meeting and prepared the scope and composition of this panel, SSD 02/P3 under the Convenorship of Shri Sundeep, Scientist – F, MoEFCC. He suggested that members to examine the Blue Flag Certification Criteria (separately attached at **Annex – B**) and modify, add, or remove criteria as needed to align with the Indian scenario for sustainable beaches. He requested members to participate wholeheartedly and contribute in the formulation of indigenous standards on ‘Sustainable Beaches.’

0.2 Opening Remark by Shri Sundeep, Convenor, SSD 02/P3.

Shri Sundeep, Convenor of SSD 02/P3, welcomed all members present in the 1st meeting of the Panel on Sustainable Beaches, SSD 02/P3. He emphasized the importance of formulating an Indian standard on sustainable beaches and shared his insights on 14 Blue Flag Certified beaches in India. He provided an overview of Blue Flag Certification Program, which includes aspects of environmental sensitivity, health, safety and security that help tourists recognize beaches both nationally and internationally. He suggested categorizing beaches into different levels, such as basic (C), intermediate (B) and premium (A), to encourage gradual improvement and broader compliance across Indian beaches. He recommended to examine the Blue Flag Criteria’s and adapting them to the Indian context. Further, he emphasized the need for an Indian standard on sustainable beaches that is both achievable and practical. He requested the members to whole heartedly participate in the deliberations to follow.

ITEM 1 SCOPE AND COMPOSITION OF PANEL, SSD 02/P3

1.1 The panel deliberated upon the scope of panel and decided to recommend the following scope:

“Standardization in the field of sustainable beaches.”

1.2 The panel discussed on the composition and decided as follows:

- a) The panel requested that wherever the nominations are awaited from the organizations represented on the panel, BIS Secretariat again send a letter to these organizations requesting for nominations.
- b) The panel recommended to include the following organizations in the composition and requested BIS Secretariat to write to them offering representation in the panel:

S. No.	Organization/Individual Expert	Suggested by
1.	Central Water Commission, River Management Division, New Delhi	Smt. Sweta Vaidya, Senior Consultant (Cyclone), NDMA
2.	Andaman & Nicobar Tourism	Shri Robin R. S, Scientist – C, NCSCM
3.	U.T. Administration of Lakshadweep Tourism	
4.	Department of Tourism, Govt. of Goa	Dr S. R. Marigoudar, Scientist – E, NCCR

- c) Members also requested to send their suggestions for inclusion of experts in the field of environmental, ecological & social in the panel within **three weeks**.

ITEM 2 DISCUSSION ON PRELIMINARY DRAFT STRUCTURE FOR STANDARD ON SUSTAINABLE BEACHES

2.1 The panel deliberated on the preliminary draft structure on sustainable beaches attached at **Annex – C (Page no. 5-6)** and decided to segregate the scope of document into following specific requirements for the sustainable beaches:

- a) Environmental information
- b) Stakeholder education and participation
- c) Water quality management
- d) Beach environment management
- e) Safety and security
- f) Ecological conservation
- g) Beach infrastructure and services

2.2 Shri Sundeep, Convenor, SSD 02/P3, suggested that members provide inputs considering the following:

- a) Firstly, review the documents on ‘Blue Flag Certification Beaches’ based on the visitor’s perspective’s regardless of individual domain expertise and the objectives to be achieved.

- b) Members should identify the specific requirements for sustainable beaches within their areas expertise where they are willing to provide inputs.

2.3 Ms. Nayana Udayashankar, Senior Programme Officer, Dakshin Foundation takes the responsibility for providing inputs on the following specific requirements on sustainable beaches:

- a) Environmental Information
- b) Stakeholder Education and Participation
- c) Ecological Conservation

2.4 Members were requested to provide inputs on the **07 specific requirements for sustainable beaches** to BIS secretariat within the **three weeks**. Further, the panel requested the member secretary to compile all the inputs into draft document for the discussion in the next meeting.

ITEM 3 DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

It has been decided to hold the next meeting of the panel in the last week of September, 2024 after consultation with convenor.

ITEM 4 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

In the absence of any other business, the meeting ended with a hearty vote of thanks to the convenor and members present in the meeting.

ANNEX – A

Members Present:

1. Dr. Anjuna Dhir, Executive Director, Responsible Tourism Society of India, Delhi.
2. Ms. Nayana Udayashankar, Senior Programme Officer, Dakshin Foundation, Karnataka.
3. Ms. Madhuri Mondal, Senior Programme Officer, Dakshin Foundation, Karnataka.
4. Shri Arun Srivastava, Joint Director, Ministry of Tourism, New Delhi.
5. Dr. K. Ramu, Scientist F, National Centre for Coastal Research, Chennai.
6. Dr S. R. Marigoudar, Scientist E, National Centre for Coastal Research, Chennai.
7. Dr. Dipnarayan Ganguly, Scientist – C, National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management, Chennai.
8. Dr. Robin R.S, Scientist – C, National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management, Chennai.
9. Ms. Sweta Vaidya, Senior Consultant (Cyclone), National Disaster Management Authority, New Delhi.
10. Shri Vijay Lokesh Singh, Consultant (Earthquake Risk Mitigation), National Disaster Management Authority, New Delhi.

ANNEX - C

DRAFT STRUCTURE OF STANDARD ON SUSTAINABLE BEACHES

1. Scope

This standard specifies the requirements for environmental beach management, including

- a) Environmental Information
- b) Stakeholder Education and Participation
- c) Water Quality Management
- d) Beach Environment Management
- e) Safety & Security
- f) Ecological Conservation
- g) Beach Infrastructure and Services

2. References

<i>IS No.</i>	<i>Title</i>
IS/ISO 13009: 2015	Tourism and Related services – Requirements and Recommendations for Beach operation

3. Terminology

4. Classification of Beaches

5. General Requirements

5.1 Statutory and Regulatory Requirements

(Highlighting all regulatory requirement)

5.2 Beach Management Committee

6. Sustainable Beach Planning

7. Environmental Information

8. Water Quality Management

- 8.1** Sampling and Analysis of Water Quality
- 8.2** Requirements for Water Quality
- 8.3** Physical Parameters
- 8.4** No Industrial Discharges in Sea
- 8.5** Water Waste Management

9. Beach Environment Management

9.1 Biodiversity Protection

9.2 Sanitation

9.3

10. Safety & security

11. Ecological Conservation

12. Beach Infrastructure and Services