कॉर्पोरेट सामाजिक जिम्मेदारी — अपेक्षाएँ

(पहला पुनरीक्षण)

Corporate Social Responsibility — Requirements

(First Revision)

ICS 03.100.01

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FOREWORD

This Indian Standard (First Revision) was adopted by the Bureau of Indian Standards, after the draft finalized by the Social Responsibility Sectional Committee had been approved by the Management and Systems Division Council.

This standard specifies the requirement for corporate social responsibility (CSR). This standard was first published in 2020 to provide guidance on various aspects on corporate social responsibility. This revision has been brought out to take care of the experience gained since the publication of the first version of the standard.

Following are the major changes that have been incorporated in this revision:

- a) Scope of the standard has been modified;
- b) New terms 'Implementing agency' and 'star rating', has been defined;
- c) CSR specific compliance requirements has been modified;
- d) CSR planning has been modified. Concept of 'log frame' has been introduced;
- e) CSR reporting has been modified;
- f) New clauses of monitoring, improvement and evaluation of CSR framework has been added;
- g) New clause of review of CSR activity has been added;
- h) Star rating criteria has been modified;
- j) The star rating criteria as outlined in <u>Annex A</u>;
- k) The CSR star rating criteria for (1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 star) is provided in <u>Annex B</u>; and
- m) The Committee composition has been added.

With the formalization of Section 135, under the *Companies Act*, 2013, India emerged as one of the pioneering nations to mandatorily adopt corporate social responsibility (CSR). This historic progression was instrumental in re-defining the narrative of CSR, the vital espousal of which led companies to transcend from traditional philanthropy towards institutionalizing CSR across all levels from governance to policy and even within the operational set up of businesses.

The CSR law has advanced by several years and companies are extensively implementing their CSR activities across India. As a result, an immediate necessity has emerged to uniformly assess the CSR performance of companies especially in terms of implementation, reporting and real-time impact. The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) with the sole directive to formulate standard to assess and certify products and systems in the country, undertook the responsibility to devise Indian Standard on 'corporate social responsibility'.

BIS further realized the need to institute a system-based standard in the realm of CSR, which will act as a strengthened framework for companies to embed an ideal CSR management system across governance, policy, designing, implementation, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting.

With this initiative, India symbolically directs a strong message, as for the first time, a standard is being formulated in the world that is voluntary and certifiable, making CSR integral to management systems of companies. Companies applying for this standard will realize the requirement to instil 'strategic CSR' processes thereby ensuring that CSR plans drawn at the table are implemented with accountability and utmost transparency. The formalization of the standard and the attendant certification will bring in a spirit of aspiration for companies to achieve star rating by effectively building a business case for CSR that will yield long-term impact for both the company and the community.

BIS has envisaged the CSR requirement standard as one of the foremost standards being developed by India to be positioned at the global level. The innovativeness of the standards lies in the unique set of principles and parameters that will assess and measure the performance of companies. The formulation process of the standard ensures that contemporary disclosure on CSR and various national and international frameworks are well reflected and aligned to confirm its global relevance.

(*Continued on third cover*)

Indian Standard

CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY — REQUIREMENTS

(First Revision)

1 SCOPE

1.1 This standard facilitates a company to effectively establish and implement a corporate social responsibility (CSR) framework that is supported by appropriate processes, with an overall objective to ensure that it has an effective mechanism to:

- a) Develop and institutionalize a strong CSR governance as per the CSR policy of the company;
- b) Identify appropriate and need-based CSR projects;
- c) Identify CSR specific applicable legal requirements and ensure compliance with such requirements;
- d) Design, develop, implement, and monitor CSR projects for the enhancement of its performance and fulfilment of its objectives; and
- e) Evaluate and report the performance of the CSR project activities implemented.

This standard specifies the certification requirements for CSR activities that a company can use to enhance its CSR performance and credibility.

1.2 This standard is applicable for all types of companies irrespective of their size, nature of business, CSR project activity and CSR budget, except for such companies that have been defined as implementing agencies by the laws of the land, if any.

2 REFERENCES

The standard given below contains provisions, which through reference in this text constitute provision of this standard. At the time of publication, the editions indicated were valid. All standards are subject to revision and parties to agreements based on this standard are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of these standards:

IS No. Title

IS 26002 Assurance engagement standard:

(Part 1) : Conducting assuranceengagements 2022 for all matters other than statutory financialminformation — Requirement IS No. Title

- (Part 2) : Conducting assurance 2021 engagements for all matters other than statutory financial information — Guidance
- (Part 3) : Competence of individual, firms 2022 and reporting entities for conducting assurance engagements — Requirement

3 TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this standard, the following terms and definitions applies.

3.1 Authorized Agent/Committee — A person, company or committee of persons authorized by the company to carry out its assessment for compliance of this standard and assigning star rating, which can be put to the company's board/committee for approval.

3.2 Corporate Social Responsibility — The responsibility of a company for the impacts of its decisions and activities on society and the environment through transparent and ethical behaviour that:

- a) contributes to sustainable development, including health and welfare of society and environment;
- b) takes into account the expectations of stakeholders;
- c) is in compliance with applicable law and consistent with national and/or international norms of behaviour; and
- d) is integrated throughout the company processes.

3.3 CSR Policy — Intentions and direction of a company related to societal and environmental development and performance, as formally expressed by its board and top management, in alignment with the requirements of the company's policies and statutory and regulatory requirements, if any, specific to CSR.

3.4 Compliance Obligations — Legal, regulatory and other requirements that a companyshall comply

with or chooses to comply with CSR specific applicable legal requirements and agreements with relevant stakeholders that the company considers is necessary.

3.5 Empanelled Auditor/Auditing Firm — A person and/or an auditing firm that complies with the competence criteria as per IS 26002 (Part 3) empanelled by recognized body and is authorized to issue an assurance report as per IS 26002 (Part 1).

3.6 Implementing Agency — Agency or employee or partner of a company that is engaged in executing and managing its CSR project activities, monitoring the project's progress; managing project staff and funds, and carrying out other project management functions including reporting. Such implementing agencies could also be defined as per the applicable laws of the land.

3.7 Star rating — The provisions of 'CSR star rating' in a scale of one to 5 star CSR rating that may be assigned by the company's authorized agent/committee on the basis of the company's performance in the internal assessment.

The star rating shall only be provided subjected to:

- a) fulfilment of the criteria as given in <u>Annex A;</u>
- b) fulfilment of the criteria corresponding to the star rating in respect to all parametersas per <u>Annex B</u>; and
- c) after assessment and evaluation by the authorised auditor(s) appointed by the board and/or top management. In the process of star rating, assessment may be done by authorised agent and/or empanelled auditor and/or auditing firm.

The final star rating shall be as approved by the board or the top management of the companyand accepted by appropriate authority of certification body.

4 CSR SPECIFIC COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS

4.1 For a company seeking certification, the company shall establish, implement, and maintainan appropriate CSR specific legal compliance framework, including appropriate documents. Such a compliance framework shall clearly be able to identify the process of:

- a) Updating and accessing the CSR specific applicable requirements;
- b) Assessment of the status of compliance and identification of gaps;
- c) Taking actions on deviations identified and/or for further improving the performance; and
- d) Reporting as per the requirements specified in the applicable rules.

Such documents shall be adequate and controlled.

4.2 Any non-compliance report/information intimated and/or furnished by the internal audit team of the company and/or authorized agent or committee and/or any external organization, inclusive of regulatory authorities, shall be maintained. The status of actions initiated on the same, inclusive of outcomes, shall be clearly documented in the CSR specific legal/compliance framework that is established by the company.

5 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

5.1 Risk to CSR activity

The company shall identify risk to CSR activity and take appropriate actions to remove, reduce or mitigate such risks. The risk evaluation shall be done periodically.

5.2 CSR Governance

Following parameters aim to delineate the roles and functions of the board and CSR Committee of the company.

5.2.1 Functions and Responsibilities of the Board of the Company

The board of the company shall be fully accountable and responsible for the execution and implementation of the CSR policy and all CSR projects formulated thereunder. The board of the company shall ensure the following:

- a) Commitment to corporate social responsibility;
- b) Engagement of relevant stakeholders in the decision-making process;
- c) Provision of appropriate resources for the design, development, implementation, maintenance and continual improvement of the CSR framework;
- d) Creation of awareness and advocacy of corporate social responsibility as an integral part of the company's culture;
- e) Approval, maintenance and review of a CSR policy within the defined scope of its CSR framework;
- f) Periodic monitoring and review of the implementation of the CSR project activities, the associated risks, disbursement and utilization of the funds, CSR budget and compliance with the CSR specific applicable legal requirements and accordingly, take appropriate actions for deviations *identified* or for further improvement;

- g) Constitution of CSR-committee and periodic evaluation of the performance of the CSR Committee;
- j) Periodic reporting of the performance of the CSR projects/programmes, with a focus on the need for implementing such CSR project activities and the impacts derived by the beneficiaries from such implemented projects; and
- k) Compliance with all CSR specific applicable legal requirements.

5.2.2 *Composition and Constitution of the CSR Committee of the Company*

The composition of the CSR Committee shall be in line with CSR specific laws, where applicable, it shall define the processes and procedures for the composition and constitution of the CSR Committee, with an emphasis on the compliance with requirements of the CSR specific rules, wherever applicable. The CSR Committee shall appoint a responsible CSR coordinator [or management representative (MR)] who shall be a member of the managementand shall be responsible for the work related to CSR.

5.2.3 Functions and Responsibilities of the CSR Committee

The CSR Committee shall ensure the designing, developing, implementing, and monitoring of CSR framework, followed by evaluation of the programme or projects implemented by the company, including star rating, inclusive of its applicable CSR specific legal requirements, and accordingly report the performance of the CSR projects/programmes.

The coordinator shall also have the responsibility and authority to ensure that processes that are required for establishing the CSR framework, as per the requirements of this standard are designed, developed, implemented, maintained, periodically reviewed for further improvement, and accordingly the performance of the CSR project activities is reported. The coordinator shall also communicate and report relevant matters specific to the CSR projects to the CSR Committee and board at intervals.

The CSR Committee shall also formulate a CSR policy for the effective implementation, maintenance, periodic review and improvement of the CSR framework and recommend to the board for approval. Such a CSR policy post approval shall be issued, appropriately implemented, maintained, communicated, reviewed and updated, as and when required.

The CSR Committee shall establish, seek approval,

implement and maintain a CSR policy within the defined scope of its CSR framework, which:

- a) is appropriate to the purpose of its CSR projects;
- b) contains the approach and direction given by the board of a company, taking into account the recommendations of its CSR Committee, and includes guiding principles for selection, implementation and monitoring of the CSR project activities as well as formulation of the annual action plan;
- c) provides a framework for setting the CSR objectives and targets;
- d) includes a commitment of improving the lives of the targeted beneficiaries, protection of the environment, and other specific commitment(s) relevant to the CSR projects;
- e) incorporates in it, specific matters that are applicable from legal perspective and a commitment to fulfil and comply with the CSR specific compliance obligations and requirements;
- f) includes a commitment to continually improve the CSR framework to enhance its performance;
- g) is appropriately documented and displayed for effective communication to concerned and interested stakeholder.

The CSR Committee shall also evaluate the CSR projects for star rating as per the requirements of this standard.

5.3 CSR Planning

The company shall plan and implement the CSR projects or programmes and clearly outline mechanisms and modalities of implementation of CSR projects/programmes. The planning process shall comprise of designing appropriate processes and frameworks, for facilitating the development of appropriate procedures for effective the implementation, review, monitoring and evaluation of the CSR projects, followed by reporting of the CSR performance. The company shall align prospective CSR projects/activities in accordance with activities mentioned in CSR specific applicable rules, if any.

The company shall take into account the risk and opportunities while identifying and planningof CSR projects and on boarding CSR projects or programmes and credible implementing agencies by

the company shall take into account of following criteria:

5.3.1 Engagement with Relevant Stakeholders in the Identification, Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation of CSR Projects

The company shall engage with identified and relevant stakeholders, in the selection of projects, planning, development and implementation phase, in accordance with the company's CSR policy. The company may also engage appropriate stakeholders in the monitoring and evaluation of its CSR performance, wherever felt appropriate and necessary. The company shall implement such CSR projects that have been approved by the board of the company.

5.3.2 Identification of Credible Implementing Agencies

The company may implement CSR project directly on its own, and or indirectly through implementing agencies. The company shall determine the criteria for compliance and carry out due diligence with regard to reputation and integrity of implementing agency and its personnel prior to hiring of their services in the implementation of the company's CSR projects/activities. Such diligence shall facilitate in ascertaining the following:

- a) The extent to which the senior management (governing body, top and middle management), of the implementing agency is independent of the company;
- b) The risks as well as benefits of working with the prospective implementing agency; and
- c) A memorandum of understanding with the implementing agency shall be established indicating inter alia, key performance indicators (KPIs), the baseline and targeted performance of the KPIs, monitoring and reporting mechanism, timeliness, scope, risk mitigation strategies, dispute/conflict resolution mechanism and audit criteria.

5.3.3 Development of a Framework for Impact Assessment of the CSR Projects

a) A company shall define a methodology, supported by appropriate effective and efficient process and procedures for: concerns, needs and expectations, based on which the CSR projects shall be prioritized and the objective of the project activities shall be established; achieving the overall objective of the

- achieving the overall objective of the CSR projects through identification of appropriate economic, environmental, social and governance based key performance indicator(s) (KPIs) for deriving the desired impacts of sustainabledevelopment;
- developing appropriate process and procedures for the KPIs for achieving the desired impacts within a defined time-frame;
- 4) communicating the impacts of the CSR projects implemented; and
- 5) preparing a log frame (*see* Note) for each CSR project.

NOTE — A log frame is another name for logical framework, a planning tool consisting of a 4×4 matrix which provides an overview of a project's goal, activities and anticipated results. It provides a structure to help specify the components of a project and its activities and for relating them to one another. It also identifies the measures by which the project's anticipated results will be monitored. For example, see the following mentioned table (this is for illustration only):

- b) Every KPI identified shall be material, relevant, specific, realistic, achievable, time-bound and coherent to the CSR policy of the company. In addition, to the extent possible, each KPI shall be defined in quantitative and monetized form. supported by established, documented baseline and target, for measurement of the degree of impacton social value delivered for money spent, at respective stages of implementation of a CSR project activity. The KPIs, wherever possible, shall be able to compare the performance, vis-s-vis:
 - 1) the previous performance within the company; and/or
 - 2) similar projects implemented elsewhere; and/or
 - 3) national average; and/or
 - 4) the market trend/practice.

Sl No.		Indicator	Verification source	Assumption
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
i)	Goal	—	—	—
ii)	Purpose/Impact	_	—	—
iii)	Outcome			—
iv)	Output			—
v)	Activity	_	—	—

1) identifying the beneficiaries and their

A company, wherever applicable, shall apply an appropriate universal/ international/national/indigenously established technical framework for deriving the targeted project deliverables from a KPI.

During the time of approval of the CSR project, for the CSR impact evaluation engagement to be carried out by an external agency for the CSR project, the CSR Committee shall define and approve the terms of reference (TOR), apart from other relevant matters and specifically mention the KPIs that shall be audited. Reasons for change in the TOR later, if any, shall be recorded in writing and approved by the CSR Committee, prior to the conduct of an external audit.

5.4 Funds and Resources for Implementing CSR Projects

The company shall identify and provide the necessary funds, technology and any other resource(including competence, training, human resource) that is necessary for the identification, planning, designing, development, implementation, maintenance, monitoring, evaluation and periodic reporting of the CSR performance to ensure continual improvement and sustenance of the CSR projects. The details of CSR spent shall include all expenditure arising from various CSR activities undertaken for each project and/or contribution to corpus.

Further, the company shall review risk, mitigation measures and establish good practices for timely implementation of the CSR projects.

5.5 CSR Documentation and Reporting

All process and procedures in the CSR framework, including voluntary commitment to CSR performance of the CSR project activities and CSR specific mandatory regulatory disclosures, if any shall be documented.

The company shall maintain appropriate documents for criteria for star rating, inclusive of all CSR specific applicable legal matters and requirements. The relevant documents shall be maintained by the company for a period that is deemed appropriate. The documents shall be kept in safe custody and safe environment for easy access and retrieval. The documents shall be adequate to trace the issuance of an opinion, if any, or the star rating.

NOTE — Also refer **4.1** for documents.

5.6 Monitoring, Improvement and Evaluation of the CSR Framework

The company shall monitor and evaluate CSR projects as outlined in the CSR policy. The company shall specify the process of monitoring. For the CSR framework established by the company, the company shall devise appropriate:

- a) internal method of monitoring; and
- b) internal and external methods for objectively evaluating the performance of the CSR projects and activities for the purpose of star rating and certification.

5.6.1 Establishing a Process for Monitoring CSR Project Activities

The company shall establish, implement and maintain processes for the performance of the CSR framework and the CSR project activities. The processes shall be adequate for implementation and achievement of the CSR objectives. The objectives shall be periodically reviewed for continual improvement.

The company must put in place a detailed project monitoring mechanism for tracking the implementation and monitoring of performance of each CSR project. Further, the company shall ensure that the periodicity of monitoring of the CSR projects is maintained as planned.

5.6.2 Improvement

The performance of the CSR projects shall be monitored for continual improvement.

5.6.3 Reporting of CSR Performance

The CSR Committee and or designated resources of the company shall at appropriate intervals, formally communicate through a report on the CSR performance of the implemented CSR project activities, to its relevant stakeholders. The reporting shall at a minimum include:

- a) The company's (i) CSR policy, (ii) key/significant stakeholders and their expectations, concerns and interests; and (iii) CSR project activities, its objectives and the impacts that such projects are intended to deliver;
- b) Alignment of the CSR project activities with various national and global frameworks, and applicable legal requirements, if any;
- c) The impacts and or value created by the

CSR projects in the form of:

- 1) qualitative and or quantitative;
- 2) monetized (in the form of impact per money spent) or non-monetized;
- 3) direct and or indirect;
- 4) intended and or unintended; and
- 5) positive and or negative.

The degree of change, wherever practicable, shall report the comparison of the performance of KPIs, vis-s-vis:

- 1) the previous performance within the company; and or
- 2) similar projects implemented elsewhere; and or
- 3) national average; and or
- 4) the market trend/practice.
- d) The universal/international or national or a brief detail of the indigenous technical framework, applied for deriving the targeted impact of the KPIs.
- e) Experiences gained through the CSR project(s) in implementation:
 - 1) the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats;
 - reasons for deviation if any, from the target set, vis-s-vis, the baseline;
 - significant changes or disproportionate outcomes, if any and reasons behind the same;
 - future strategic directions, based on past learning and cautions that have been/are to be exercised; and
 - 5) the means of mitigating the negative adverse impacts and or improving the performance; and
 - 6) factors that may alter the intended futuristic targets in view of changing business scenarios or evolving uncertainties.
- f) Period of reporting of the CSR performance;
- g) The star rating;
- h) Any other CSR specific mandatory disclosures, specified as per applicable CSR specific legal requirements, with a special mention to status of compliance and reasons for deviations, and notices received, if any and the corrective actions taken, thereafter for the same.

The CSR activities that are not recognized under the applicable laws of the land could be reported separately by the company.

The CSR information report shall be complete; fair; balanced; substantive; comprehensive; timely; precise; bear clarity and transparency; and well presented; written in clear and layman's language; as may be felt necessary by intended users; and unbiased and non-manipulative to be received or perceived either favourably or unfavourably. The CSR information shall be officially released by the authorized CSR representative of the reporting entity.

5.6.4 Evaluation of the CSR Framework and Project Activities

Periodic internal and external audits shall be planned and conducted as per requirements of this standard as well as the CSR project activities. The company shall establish appropriate processes and procedures for conducting internal and external audits.

The CSR framework and CSR projects implemented by the company shall be subjected to a third-party independent evaluation. Such third-party evaluation shall include an audit of:

- a) the appropriateness of the processes, procedures, controls and checks developed by the company for the CSR framework, inclusive of the applicable CSR specific legal requirements; and
- b) the impacts achieved post implementation of the CSR projects.

5.7 Review of CSR Activity

The CSR activity shall be periodically reviewed by the board of the company at regular intervals for fulfilment of objectives. The review process shall have inputs from the following:

- a) risk assessment;
- b) adequacy of process performance;
- c) achievement of objectives;
- d) continual improvement;
- e) internal and external assessments;
- f) non-conformities;
- g) corrective actions and effectiveness of these actions; and
- h) star rating given to the projects.

The outcome of the review shall be documented and reasons, if expected outcomes and impacts have departed from their desired course, shall be assessed. Such a review process shall be able to:

- a) Demonstrate conformity with applicable CSR specific legal and regulatory requirements;
- b) Assess whether the company's CSR projects have been able to meet its targeted objectives and benefit the targeted beneficiaries; and
- c) Evaluate periodically the adequacy and appropriateness of the CSR impact assessment tools and framework established for impact assessment, as per context and size of the CSR projects.

ANNEX A

(*Foreword* and Clause <u>3.7</u>)

STAR RATING CRITERIA

A-1 The CSR projects can be given star ratings, that is, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 star, based on the score achieved

in the criteria given in <u>Annex B</u>. The star rating and associated score is given in <u>Table 1</u>.

Table 1 Star Rating Assigned to Respective Range of Scores

(Clause $\underline{A-1}$)

SI No.	Star Rating Category	Range of Score (in percent)
(1)	(2)	(3)
i)	☆	50 to less than 60
ii)	**	60 to less than 70
iii)	$\diamond \diamond \diamond$	70 to less than 80
iv)	***	80 to less than 90
v)	***	90 to 100

ANNEX B

(*Foreword*, *Clause* <u>3.7</u> and <u>Annex A</u>)

CSR STAR RATING SCORING CRITERIA

Sl No.	Question for Evaluation	Criteria of Scoring (and Marks)	Max Scores
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
i)	Transparency in on-boarding of implementing agency — of the total CSR budget of the past 3 financial years, what is the percentage of CSR budget for which independent due diligence has been conducted for the implementing agency(ies), prior to on-boarding them for implementing the CSR projects? Thisapplies only to such projects where implementing agencies have been deployed.** An indicative template for the due diligence is given at <u>Annex C</u> . The template may include all matters that arefelt appropriate by the independent assessment agency. Any standard for duediligence that is duly approved by central or state governments or an organization authorized by government may also be used for this purpose.	 a) Criteria 1 – Greater than 0 percent and up to 25 percent of the total CSR fund of the past three years (1 mark) b) Criteria 2 – Greater than 25 percent and up to 50 percent of the total CSR fund of the past three years (2 marks) c) Criteria 3 – Greater than 50 percent and up to 75 percent of the total CSR fun of the past three years (3 marks) d) Criteria 4 – Greater than 75 percent and up to 100 percent of the total CSR fund of the past three years (4 marks) 	4

SI No.	Question for Evaluation	Criteria of Scoring (and Marks)	Max Scores
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
ii)	Assessment of baseline performance and establishing SMART* objectives and targets — Of the total CSR fund of the past 3 financial years, what is the percentage of CSR fund for such CSR projects, for which 'baseline performance assessment' have been conducted by the company, followed by establishment of SMART* objectives and targets?** *SMART means specific, measurable, achievable, recordable and time- bound.	 a) Criteria 1 – Greater than 0 percent and up to 25 percent of the total CSR fund of the past three years (1.5 mark) b) Criteria 2 – Greater than 25 percent and up to 50 percent of the total CSR fund of the past three years (3 marks) c) Criteria 3 – Greater than 50 percent and up to 75 percent of the total CSR fun of the past three years (4.5 marks) d) Criteria 4 – Greater than 75 percent and up to 100 percent of the total CSR fund of the past three years (6 marks) 	6
iii)	CSR expenditure beyond 2 percent of average net profit of past years as per section 198 of companies act — Whether the expenditure by the companyon CSR project activities on an annual basis, has been higher than 2 percent of the average net profits of the company during the three immediately preceding financial years (or where the company has not completed the period of three financial years, since its incorporation, during such immediately preceding financial years)?	 a) Criteria 1 – Higher than 2 percent and up to 2.25 percent of the total eligible CSR amount of the past three years (1.5 marks) b) Criteria 2 – Higher than 2.25 percent and up to 2.50 percent of the total eligible CSR amount of the past three years (3 marks) c) Criteria 3 – Higher than 2.50 percent and up to 3 percent of the total eligible CSR amount of the past three years (4.5 marks) d) Criteria 4 – Higher than 3 percent of the total eligible CSR amount of the past three years (6 marks) 	6
iv)	Implementing CSR projects in aspirational districts or difficult terrains, where development really matters — Of the CSR funds of the past three financial years, what is the percentage of such CSR funds that have been invested by the company in CSR projects that have been executed and or are in execution in the aspirational districts^ and or difficult terrains^^ in India?** ^ as prescribed by NITI Ayog in India (https://www.niti.gov.in) ^^ Difficult terrains may be remote hilly areas/ deserts/disturbed areas/challenging circumstances/severe weather conditions/ extreme remote areas/remotely located tribal areas, International borders, extreme infrastructural backward areas/dense forests/flood prone areas/disaster affected areas.	 a) Criteria 1 – Greater than 0 percent and up to 25 percent of the total CSR fund of the past three years (1.5 marks) b) Criteria 2 – Greater than 25 percent and up to 50 percent of the total CSR fund of the past three years (3 marks) c) Criteria 3 – Greater than 50 percent and up to 75 percent of the total CSR fund of the past three years (4.5 marks) d) Criteria 4 – Greater than 75 percent and up to 100 percent of the total CSR fund of the past three years (6 marks) 	6

Sl No.	Question for Evaluation	Criteria of Scoring (and Marks)	Max Scores
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
v)	Alignment of CSR project activities with kpis & principles of key national and global frameworks — Of the total CSR funds of the past three financial years, what is the percentage of CSR projects that has its key performance indicators (KPIs) in alignment with the (a) Indicators of UN-SDGs, (b) National goals and indicators (such as core sector specific indicators defined for aspirational districts by NITI Ayog/nationally determined indicators, etc) (c) State/UT specific goals and (d) Universal Principles of UNGC.	 a) Criteria 1 – Each of the CSR project hasan alignment with (a) At least one indicator defined in the UN-SDGs; (b) At least one indicator defined for the core sectors of aspirational districts/other national indicators; (c) At least oneof the state/UT specific goals; and (d) At least one principle defined in the UNGC. (1.5 mark) b) Criteria 2 – Each of the CSR project has an alignment with (a) At least two indicators defined for the core sectors of aspirational districts/other national indicators; (c) At least two indicators defined for the core sectors of aspirational districts/other national indicators; (c) At least two of the state/UT specific goals; and (d) At least two principles defined in the UNGC (3 marks). 	6
		 c) Criteria 3 – Each of the CSR project has an alignment with (a) At least three indicators defined in the UN-SDGs; (b) At least three indicators defined for the core sectors of aspirational districts/other national indicators; (c) At least three of the State/UT specific goals; and (d) At least three principles defined in the UNGC (4.5 marks). 	
		 d) Criteria 4 – Each of the CSR project has an alignment with (a) At least four indicators defined in the UN-SDGs; (b) At least four indicators defined for the core sectors of aspirational districts/other national indicators; (c) At least four of the state / UT specific goals; and (d) At least four principles defined in the UNGC (6 marks). 	
vi)	<i>Improvement from the baseline</i> — For all key performance indicators (KPIs) that were identified in all CSR projects of the past three financial years, what is the average percentage increase in	 a) Criteria 1 – Greater than 0 percent and an increase of up to 50 percent over the baseline level (1.5 mark) b) Criteria 2 – An increase beyond 50 percent up to 100 percent over the baseline level 	6
	improvement from the baseline that wasestablished at the start of the CSR project?***	 (3 marks) (3 marks) (3 c) Criteria 3 – An increase beyond 100 percent to 250 percent over the baseline level (4.5 marks) 	
		 d) Criteria 4 – An increase beyond 250 percent over the baseline level (6 marks) 	

Sl No.	Question for Evaluation	Criteria of Scoring (and Marks)	Max Scores
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
vii)	Development of management information system (MIS) for CSR projects — Of the total CSR expenditure of the past 3 financial years, what is the percentage of CSR funds, for such CSR projects, for which appropriate MIS^ was developed by the company?** ^MIS in the form of process and procedures that have been prepared for each of the stages of planning/design, development, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and reporting of CSR performance.	 a) Criteria 1 – Greater than 0 percent and up to 25 percent of the total CSR fund of the past three years (1.5 mark) b) Criteria 2 – Greater than 25 percent and up to 50 percent of the total CSR fund of the past three years (3 marks) c) Criteria 3 – Greater than 50 percent and up to 75 percent of the total CSR fun of the past three years (1.5 marks) d) Criteria 4 – Greater than 75 percent and up to 100 percent of the total CSR fund of the past three years (6 marks) 	6
viii)	Sustenance of CSR projects post closure of funding — Of the total CSR funds of the past three financial years, which have been spent on CSR projects that have been completed, what is the percentage of CSR fund that is sustaining on its own^?** ^subject to the condition that beyond the official date of closure of such CSR projects, at least for a minimum period of one year, the CSR projects were self-sustainable and continued to deliver thetargeted benefits to its beneficiaries, at no investment made by the company	 a) Criteria 1 – Greater than 0 percent and up to 25 percent of the total CSR fund of such closed projects of the past three years (1.5 marks) b) Criteria 2 – Greater than 25 percent and up to 50 percent of the total CSR fund of such closed projects of the past three years (3 marks) c) Criteria 3 – Greater than 50 percent and up to 75 percent of the total CSR fund of such closed projects of the past three years (4.5 marks) d) Criteria 4 – Greater than 75 percent and up to 100 percent of the total CSR fund of such closed projects of the past three years (6 marks) 	6
ix)	Social returns on investment (SROI) in monetary terms for CSR projects executed — For the money invested in all CSR projects, since the past 3 financial years, what is the SROI* of such projectsin monetary terms, for a period of one year of implementation? *SROI = [(Social value created – value derived from all the factors of dead weight, displacement, attribution and drop off – capital investment) x 100 percent]/capital investment	 a) Criteria 1 – SRoI is greater than 0 percent and up to 250 percent of the total investment in the CSR projects (2 marks), b) Criteria 2 – SRoI is above 250 percent and up to 500 percent of the total investment in the CSRprojects (4 marks), c) Criteria 3 – SRoI is above 500 percent and up to750 percent of the total investment in the CSR projects (6 marks), d) Criteria 4 – SRoI is above 1 000 percent of the total investment in the CSR projects (8 marks) 	8

Sl No.	Question for Evaluation	Criteria of Scoring (and Marks)	Max Scores
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
x)	Achievement of the target of the CSR projects — Work out the total CSR funds of the past three financial years that had been spent on CSR projects by the company and have been successfully completed. What is the percentage of CSR funds spent on such CSR projects that have achieved at least 80 percent of the targeted outcomes and impacts?**	 a) Criteria 1 – Greater than 0 percent and up to 25 percent of the total CSR fund (1 mark) b) Criteria 2 – Greater than 25 percent and up to 50 percent of the total CSR fund (2 marks) c) Criteria 3 – Greater than 50 percent and up to 75 percent of the total CSR fund (3 marks) d) Criteria 4 – Greater than 75 percent and up to 100 percent of the total CSR fund (4 marks) 	4
xi)	CSR projects that report itsdrawbacks and learnings for sharing the experience with other implementers — Of the total number of CSR projects completed over the past three financial years, what is the percentage of such CSR projects, which in their final report, mention drawbacks, challenges and other deterrent factors, to provide a learning experience for other companies/implementers.**	 a) Criteria 1 – Greater than 0 percent and up to 25 percent of the total CSR projects (1 marks) b) Criteria 2 – Greater than 25 percent and up to 50 percent of the total CSR projects (2 marks) c) Criteria 3 – Greater than 50 percent and up to 75 percent of the total CSR projects (3 marks) d) Criteria 4 – Greater than 75 percent and up to 100 percent of the total CSR projects (4 marks) 	4
xii)	Frequency of monitoring the CSR projects by CSR committee — What was the frequency at which the CSR Committee, as well as the board of the company reviewed the performance of the CSR projects in the last financial year?	 a) Criteria 1 – Reviewed on an annual basis, only by the CSR Committee (0.5 mark) b) Criteria 2 – Reviewed on an annual basis, both by the CSR Committee and the board of the company (1 mark) c) Criteria 3 – Reviewed on a half-yearly basis, only by the CSR Committee (1.5 mark) d) Criteria 4 – Reviewed on a half-yearly basis, both by the CSR Committee and the board of the company (2 marks) e) Criteria 5 – Reviewed thrice in a year, only by the CSR Committee (2.5 mark) f) Criteria 6 – Reviewed thrice in a year, both by the CSR Committee and the board of the company (3 marks) g) Criteria 7 – Reviewed every quarter in a year, only by the CSR Committee (3.5 marks) h) Criteria 8 – Reviewed every quarter in a year, both by the CSR Committee and the board of the company (4 marks) 	4

Sl No.	Question for Evaluation	Criteria of Scoring (and Marks)	Max Scores
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	(2) Third party external evaluation of completed CSR projects — Of the total number of CSR projects of the past three financial years which have been completed, what is the percentage of such CSR projects, for which a third-party external evaluation was conducted?	 (3) a) Criteria 1 – Greater than 0 percent and up to 25 percent of the total CSR projects were independently evaluated (1 mark) b) Criteria 2 – Greater than 20 percent and up to 50 percent of the total CSR projects were independently evaluated (2 marks) c) Criteria 3 – Greater than 50 percent and up to 75 percent of the total CSR projects were independently evaluated (3 marks) d) Criteria 4 – Greater than 75 percent and up to 100 percent of the total CSR projects were independently evaluated (4 marks) e) Criteria 5 – Greater than 0 percent and up to 25 percent of the total CSR projects were independently evaluated, on the basis of a relevant standard that has been approved by a Govt of India organization, such as IS 26002 (5 marks) f) Criteria 7 – Greater than 50 percent and up to 50 percent of the total CSR projects were independently evaluated, on the basis of a relevant standard that has been approved by a Govt of India organization, such as IS 26002 (6 marks) g) Criteria 7 – Greater than 50 percent and up to 75 percent of the total CSR projects were independently evaluated, on the basis of a relevant standard that has been approved by a Govt of India organization, such as IS 26002 (6 marks) g) Criteria 7 – Greater than 50 percent and up to 75 percent of the total CSR projects were independently evaluated, on the basis of a relevant standard that has been approved by a Govt of India organization, such as IS 26002 (7 marks) h) Criteria 8 – Greater than 75 percent and up to 100 percent of the total CSR projects were independently evaluated, on the basis of a relevant standard that has been approved by a Govt of India organization, such as IS 26002 (7 marks) 	(4) 8
xiv)	<i>Recipient of CSR based award</i> — In the past three financial years, what is the highest CSR based award received by the company?	 such as IS 26002 (8 marks) a) Criteria 1 – Recipient of an award, in any of the past 3 years from state government departments or industry associations/business chambers of commerce or UN based organization (2 mark) b) Criteria 2 – Recipient of national award, in any of the past 3 years from union level ministry, such as Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Govt of India (4 marks); 	4

Sl No.	Question for Evaluation	Criteria of Scoring (and Marks)	Max Scores
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
xv)	<i>Revised CSR policy</i> — Whether the CSR Committee has formulated and updated the CSR policy for the current financial year, followed by receipt of approval forthe same from the board of the company?	 a) Criteria 1 – If the company has formulated and updated the CSR policy and obtained approval from the board (2 mark) 	2
xvi)	Need assessment through stakeholder engagement and consultation — Of the total CSR funds of the past three financial years that had been spent on CSR projects by the company, what is the percentage of CSR funds of such CSR projects, for which the company has undertaken need assessment studies, by engaging and consulting with relevant stake holders before the conceptualization and implementation of the CSR initiatives?**	 a) Criteria 1 – Greater than 0 percent and up to 25 percent of the total CSR fund (1 mark) b) Criteria 2 – Greater than 25 percent and up to 50 percent of the total CSR fund (2 marks) c) Criteria 3 – Greater than 50 percent and up to 75 percent of the total CSR fund (3 marks) d) Criteria 4 – Greater than 75 percent and up to 100 percent of the total CSR fund (4 marks) 	4
xvii)	<i>CSR annual action plan</i> — Whether the CSR annual action plan of the company was prepared by the CSR Committee, followed by receipt of approval from the board by means of board resolution?	 a) Criteria 1 – The CSR annual action plan of the company was prepared by the CSR Committee (1 mark) b) Criteria 2 – The CSR annual action plan of the company was prepared by the CSR Committee, followed by receipt of approval from the board by means of board resolution (2 marks) 	2

Sl No.	Question for Evaluation	Criteria of Scoring (and Marks)	Max Scores
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
xviii)	Capacity building of CSR officials — Whether capacity building initiatives have been conducted for employees, who have been on full-time employment, as well as those engaged on retainer basis, in each of the past three years?	 a) Criteria 1 – The duration of training for each of the CSR employee hasbeen up to 2 percent of the total workingdays, on an annual basis only for full-time employees (0.5 mark) b) Criteria 2 – The duration of training for each of the CSR employee has been greater than 2 percent and up to 4 percent of the total working days, on an annual basis only for full-time employees (1 mark) 	4
		c) Criteria 3 – The duration of training for each of the CSR employee has been greater than 4 percent and up to 6 percent of the total working days, on an annual basis only for full-time employees (1.5 marks)	
		 d) Criteria 4 – The duration of training for each of the CSR employee has been greater than 6 percent of the total working days, on an annual basis only for full-time employees (2 marks) 	
		e) Criteria 5 – The duration of training for each of the CSR employee has been up to 2 percent of the total working days, on an annual basis only for full-time employees and part-time retainer employees (2.5 marks)	
		 f) Criteria 6 – The duration of training for each of the CSR employee has been greater than 2 percent and up to 4 percent of the total working days, on an annual basis only for full-time employees and part-time retainer employees (3 marks) 	
		g) Criteria 7 – The duration of training for each of the CSR employee has been greater than 4 percent and up to 6 percent of the total working days, on an annual basis only for full-time employees and part-time retainer employees (3.5 marks)	
		 h) Criteria 8 – The duration of training for each of the CSR employee has been greater than 6 percent of the total working days, on an annual basis only for full-time employees and part-time retainer employees (4 marks) 	

Sl No.	Question for Evaluation	Criteria of Scoring (and Marks)	Max Scores
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
xix)	<i>Material KPIs</i> — Of the total CSR funds of the past three financial years that had been spent on CSR projects by the company, what is the percentage of CSR funds of such CSR projects, for which the company has defined key performance indicators (KPI) that are material and core to the project's outcome and impact?**	 a) Criteria 1 – Greater than 0 percent and up to 25 percent of the total CSR fund for which the company has defined material KPIs (1.5 mark) b) Criteria 2 – Greater than 25 percent and up to 50 percent of the total CSR fund for which the company has defined material KPIs (3 marks) c) Criteria 3 – Greater than 50 percent and up to 75 percent of the total CSR fund for which the company has defined material KPIs (4.5 marks) d) Criteria 4 – Greater than 75 percent and up to 100 percent of the total CSR fund for which the company has defined material KPIs (6 marks) 	6
xx)	Annual CSR reporting — Whether the company has annually reported the performance and impacts of its	a) Criteria 1 – Reported only on one year, since the past 3 years (1 mark)	4
	implemented CSR projects for communication to its targeted	b) Criteria 2 – Reported only on two years, since the past 3 years (2 marks)	
	stakeholders, such as regulators, compliance authorities, investors, financial institutions, central	 c) Criteria 3 – Reported every year, sincethe past 3 years (3 marks) 	
	ministries/state departments, etc?		
Total			100

****** Please refer to the reference example 1 below this table for reference.

*** Please refer to reference example 2, below this table for reference.

Reference Example 1:

Supposing the total CSR budget of the past 3 years (accounting to 2 percent of the average net profits the company made during the three immediately preceding financial years or where the company has not completed the period of three financial years, since its incorporation, during such immediately preceding financial years) is Rs 200. Further, of this Rs 200, say, only for a few CSR projects accounting to Rs 50, the company has conducted the due diligence of the implementing agencies.

Hence, the percentage of CSR funds for such projects, for which an independent due diligence has been conducted for the IAs $= \frac{50 \times 100\%}{200} = 25\%$. Accordingly, the score for the same shall be assigned.

Reference Example 2:

Supposing, a total of 10 CSR projects have been identified in the past 3 years, for which, say atotal of 14 material key performance indicators (say KPI # 1, 2, ... 14) have been identified. Further, for each KPI the baseline and target for achievement has been identified prior to start of implementation of the project. Post implementation, each KPI is supposed to deliver beyond the baseline and achieve the target that was set at the start of the project activity. Post implementation, for each of the KPI, the percentage increase in improvement has to be calculated. Supposing at the start of the project activity, the baseline of KPI # 1 is 10 units, and the target for 25 achievement is units, post its implementation. Further, supposing the KPI has fallen short of the target that was set and achieved only 20 units post implementation, then thepercentage increase of the KPI from baseline is:

$$=\frac{(20-10)\times100\%}{25}=40\%$$

Depending on the percentage of performance, the score should be assigned. The same process has to be applied for assessment of percentage of improvement for each of the other KPIs. This shall be followed by taking an average of the percentage of improvement of all the KPIs.

ANNEX C

(<u>Annex B</u>)

INDICATIVE TEMPLATE FOR DUE DILIGENCE

B-1 Following suggestive generic aspects may be considered for the due diligence. Any other standardized due-diligence criteria, recommended by the government or its relevant bodies may also be followed:

- a) Partner profile and thematic expertise;
- b) Public domain check;
- c) Human resource skill set and deployment;
- d) Partnership and contracting modalities:
 - 1) Processes and controls.

- e) Governance structure and framework:
 - Registration related details (as legal entity, income tax, GST, NITI Aayog, Ministry of Corporate Affairs, etc as applicable);
 - 2) Compliances and filings done under applicable regulations; and
 - 3) Open matters/litigation in relation to tax/FCRA/functional law/labour law/other(s).

ANNEX D

(Foreword)

COMMITTEE COMPOSITION

Social Responsibility Sectional Committee, MSD 10

Organization(s)	Representative(s)
In Personal Capacity (3, Vasant Marg, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi – 110 057)	DR BHASKAR CHATTERJEE (Chairperson)
AROH Foundation, Noida	DR NEELAM GUPTA
Ashank Desai Centre for Policy Studies, Indian Institute of Technology, Mumbai	SHRI RAHUL SAPKAL
Bhairavi Consultancy, Bengaluru	Dr Sangeeta Mansur
Bharat Electronics Ltd, Sahibabad	SHRI RAJEEV KUMAR Shrimati Ekta Bhardwaj (<i>Alternate</i>)
Bureau of Indian Standards, New Delhi	Shri U. S. P. Yadav
Cement Manufacturers' Association, New Delhi	SHRI ASHWANI PAHUJA DR S. K. SAXENA (<i>Alternate</i> I) DR RACHANA SHARMA (<i>Alternate</i> II)
Centre for Responsible Business, New Delhi	DR BIMAL ARORA SHRI RIJIT SENGUPTA (<i>Alternate</i>)
Charities Aid Foundation India, New Delhi	SHRIMATI MEENAKSHI BATRA SHRI AVIJEET KUMAR (<i>Alternate</i>)
Coca Cola India, Gurugram	Shri Ishteyaque Ahmed Shrimati Shubha Sekhar (<i>Alternate</i>)
Confederation of Indian Industry, New Delhi	Shrimati Swati Pandey Shrimati Neha Kaul (<i>Alternate</i>)
Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu India LLP, Gurugram	SHRI SAURABH KHOSLA
Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, New Delhi	Shrimati Jyoti Yadav Shrimati Tanu Singh (<i>Alternate</i>)
Department of Consumer Affairs, Ministry of CA, F & PD, New Delhi	SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN SHRIMATI JAYALAKSHMI KANNAN (Alternate)
Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, New Delhi	SHRI ZAKARIA KHAN YUSUFZAI SHRI BINOD KUMAR (<i>Alternate</i>)
Department of Public Enterprises, Ministry of Finance, New Delhi	SHRI ANIMESH BHARTI SHRI NITIN AGGRAWAL (<i>Alternate</i>)
Development Commissioner, Ministry of MSME, New Delhi	SHRI K. SOCRATES SHRI G. NAGARAJA (<i>Alternate</i>)
Directorate General of Factory Advice Service & Labour Institute (FASLI), New Delhi	SHRI H. M. BHANDARI SHRI AMIT GOLA (<i>Alternate</i>)

Directorate

Organization(s)

of

Quality

Assurance,

General

New Delhi	SHRI V. RAVINDRANATH (Alternate)
FICCI, New Delhi	SHRIMATI RITA ROY CHOUDHURY SHRIMATI SHRUTI (<i>Alternate</i>)
Goa Institute of Management, Goa	DR DIVYA SINGHAL
Hitachi Energy India Ltd, Bengaluru	SHRI MUKESH ARORA
Hyderabad Business School GITAM, Hyderabad	SHRIMATI DIVYA KIRTI GUPTA
Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs, (Ministry of Corporate Affairs), Manesar	DR GARIMA DADHICH DR RAVI RAJ ATREY (<i>Alternate</i>)
Infosys BPO Ltd, Bengaluru	SHRI RAJEEV THYKATT
L & T, Mumbai	SHRI N. SATHYAN SHRI P. SATHISH (<i>Alternate</i>)
Ministry of Corporate Affairs, New Delhi	SHRI K. M. S. NARAYANAN
National CSR Network, New Delhi	SHRI MOHIT GANDHI SHRI NAVIN BHATIA (<i>Alternate</i>)
People Sys Consulting Private Limited, Mumbai	SHRI GURUNANDAN SAVNAL
QCI, New Delhi	Dr Hari Prakash Dr S. K. Mishra (<i>Alternate</i>)
SEBI, New Delhi	SHRI PRADEEP RAMAKRISHNAN
Steel Authority of India, Ranchi	SHRI MANOJ KUMAR
Tata Consultancy Services, Mumbai	SHRI JAY RAMBHIA
United Nations Global Compact Network India, New Delhi	SHRI ASEEM KUMAR
Yes Bank, Mumbai	SHRIMATI KRITI KUKSAL
In Personal Capacity (533, Mandakini Enclave Alaknanda, New Delhi – 110019)	SHRI DINESH AGARWAL
In Personal Capacity (C -339, DDA Flats, Golf View Apartments, Saket, Near Malviyanagar Metro Station, New Delhi – 110017)	Shri Rajib Debnath
In Personal Capacity (New Delhi)	DR LALIT KUMAR
In Personal Capacity (557/11, Panchkula – 134112)	SHRI SANDEEP SAXENA

Representative(s)

COL SANDEEP ACHARYYA

Organization(s)

BIS Directorate General

Representative(s)

SHRI ANUJ SWARUP BHATNAGAR, SCIENTIST 'F'/ SENIOR DIRECTOR AND HEAD (MANAGEMENT AND SYSTEMS) [REPRESENTING DIRECTOR GENERAL (*Ex-officio*)]

Member Secretary Shri Rajiv Ranjan Scientist 'C'/Deputy Director (Management and Systems), BIS this Page has been intertionally left blank

(*Continued from second cover*)

This CSR standard also provides an opportunity to companies that are interested to seek CSR star rating based on their CSR performance, which would greatly facilitate the enhancement of their brand value. This standard should be read in conjunction with the amended *Companies Act* and *CSR Rules* therein. However, it is not intended to replace, alter, or in any way change the obligations of the law.

CSR star rating certification can be obtained from certification body by company seeking certification to compliance to IS 26001. The certificate as per IS 26001 is a testimony of a company's good practices in CSR performance.

The star rating process has been outlined in <u>Annex A</u> and the criteria for star rating (one, two,three, four and five stars) is provided in <u>Annex B</u>.

The composition of Committee responsible for the formulation of this standard is given in <u>Annex D</u>.

For the purpose of deciding whether a particular requirement of this standard is compiled with, the final value, observed or calculated, expressing the result of a test or analysis, shall be rounded off in accordance with IS 2 : 2022 'Rules for rounding off numerical values (*second revision*)'. The number of significant places retained in the rounded off value shall be the same as that of the specified value in this standard.

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This Indian Standard has been developed from Doc No.:MSD 10 (22794).

Amendments Issued Since Publication

Amend No.	Date of Issue	Text Affected

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