

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4844
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26th MARCH, 2018

POLICY FOR STANDARDISATION OF PRODUCTS

4844. SHRI OM BIRLA:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री) be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has initiated steps for formulating a national policy for standardisation of products;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with its aims and objectives and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any extensive research regarding the policy/ guidelines followed in the foreign countries in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government also plans to form a new authority for the supervision and proper implementation of these new standardised norms by the Commerce Sector; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof along with the expected impact of the said national policy on the Government flagship policy of 'Make in India'?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सी. आर. चौधरी)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

(a) & (b): The Department of Commerce has been engaged in organizing various standards conclaves to address the issues concerning regulatory ecosystem in the country in a structural manner. 4 National Standards Conclaves and 10 Regional Standards Conclaves (in states) have been organised since 2014. In these conclaves various stakeholders ranging from government regulators, inspection agencies, standards developing organizations, state governments and industry associations participate and strategise so as to address the issue of increasing non-tariff barriers in foreign markets as well as situation of sub-standard and counterfeit imports into the country. During the last National Standards Conclave held at New Delhi on 1-2 May 2017, a draft strategy paper titled 'Indian National Standards Strategy (INSS)' was discussed and now a draft final strategy document has been finalized and is available in public domain for public comments. INSS is a comprehensive document with following key objectives i.e. developing a comprehensive ecosystem in India for standards development, using standards as enhancer of competitiveness of Indian goods and services, adopting best practices in standardization, conformity assessment and technical regulations, providing level playing field to domestic industry and creating response mechanisms to

global developments on standards, technical regulations and conformity assessment practices that impact market access of Indian goods and services.

(c) & (d): INSS is the result of deliberations over a four-year period from 2014 to 2017 through national and regional standards conclaves that attracted wide participation of experts and stakeholders from Union and State governments, industry, regulatory bodies, national and overseas standards and conformity bodies, academics and international fora. The available standards strategy documents of other countries has also been factored into this consultation process so as to be in line with global best practices in this sector.

(e): Any standard document is a living and dynamic document with an implementation plan to ensure positive outcomes in identified areas like standard development, mandating them in appropriate area along with risk-compatible conformity assessment procedures and enforcement besides others.

(f): The approach is for creation of a robust quality infrastructures in India with a harmonized, dynamic and mature standards ecosystem. This is likely to supplement economic growth through initiatives like 'Make in India', 'Zero-Defect Zero-Effect' and ensure qualitative and standard exports from India and regulation of sub-standard and counterfeit imports.
