

Welcome



To
the presentation session
on

**“National Experience on International
Standardization, Recent years
Experience and Current Status Issues”
-the Bangladesh Experience**

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Introduction

❖ Importance of Standardization

- obligations of Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT).
- establishment of a number of Standardizing Bodies both in Local government and Non-government forum within their territories.
- Bangladesh Standard and Testing Institution (BSTI) as the national Standardizing body in Bangladesh.
- establishment of an "Accreditation Board" so that Non-governmental Standardizing Bodies can be established

National Experience on International Standardization:

❖ Status of Bangladesh in relation with International Standardization bodies:

- Bangladesh is an affiliated member of the-
 - International Organization for Standardization (ISO)
 - the International Electro-technical Commission (IEC)
 - the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and
 - Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC).

❖ Performamnce of Bangladesh:

- cannot participate in the international standardization process as desired,
- Yet Bangladesh is in mind and working to adopt all the International Standards of all products which are available with the above international Standardization Organizations as a basis of its national Standard.
- Technical Assistance is required to help its participation in the international standardization activities

BSTI as the focal point for the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

- ❖ BSTI is in the focal point for the Codex Alimentarius Commission.
 - Delegates from Bangladesh should attend the codex meetings to enable express its concerns on the emerging standards and find the ways and means to attain the quality of new standards and technical regulations.
- ❖ following organizations should sent their delegates to the codex meetings:
 - Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC);
 - Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute (BARI);
 - Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU);
 - Bangladesh Sugar and Food Industries Corporation (BSFIC);
 - Bangladesh Standard and Testing Institute (BSTI);
 - Bangladesh Council for Science and Industrial Research (BCSIR);
 - Directorate of Health Services (DHS) etc.

Steps to be taken to adopt International Standardization

- To ensure and use of International Standard
 - National SPS Committee,
 - National TBT Committee and
 - National Codex Committee may be established in Bangladesh.
- National Enquiry points should be strengthened. So that exporters can comply with the SPS and TBT requirements for exportable items.
- Capacity building required in the organizations like laboratories, certification bodies, inspection bodies, training institutions and persons engaged for conformity assessment working under the different Ministries.
- Bangladesh should make Mutual Recognition Agreements on conformity assessment with foreign countries especially with developed countries to enable free flow of goods from one country to another country.

Commitment of GOB to develop ICT

- ❖ Bangladesh is very much aware to face the Challenges of the new millennium. Promised to-
 - transform the country from an agro-based to knowledge-based economy;
 - Rapid development of Science & communication Technology for moving the country forward is now the top agenda;
 - Government is keen to promote R&D in Science and Information Communication Technology (ICT).
 - The of National Policy on "ICT", 2002 is approved;
 - The policy instrument definitely speaks about the International standard supportive strong ICT sector and fosters joint ventures with local and foreign investor in this area.
- ❖ Institutions like -
 - Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission (BAEC);
 - Bangladesh Computer Council (BCC);
 - National Institute of Biotechnology (NIB);
 - Bangladesh Council for Scientific & Industrial Research (BCSIR)
 - BSTI etc. are working on the development of Standard ICT sector.

The Ministries and Organizations involved with Standardization

➤ The Ministries are-

- Ministry of Industries,
- Ministry of Commerce,
- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare,
- Ministry of Agriculture,
- Ministry of Fisheries & Livestock, and
- Ministry of Finance.

➤ The Departments are-

- Export Promotion Bureau of Bangladesh (EPB),
- Directorate of Patent, Design and Trade Marks Registry,
- National Board of Revenue,
- Bangladesh Tariff Commission,
- Directorate of Fisheries,
- Plant Protection Wing of the Directorate of Agriculture Extension,
- Directorate of Livestock,
- Controller of Imports and
- Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institution (BSTI).

➤ Formation of National Steering Committee.

- Under leadership of M/O Commerce
- Five Working group

The issues (domestically and internationally)

❖ Adoption of International Standards-

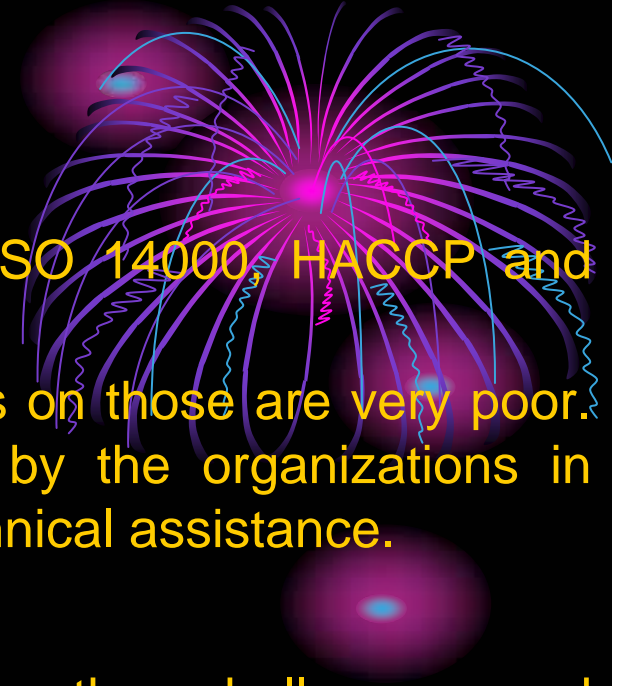
- Bangladesh has already adopted ISO 9000, ISO 14000, HACCP and many other international standards,
- The number of organizations having certificates on those are very poor. Compliance with the International Standards by the organizations in Bangladesh requires strengthening through technical assistance.

❖ Liberalized economy Bangladesh to -

- attract Foreign Direct Investments to face the challenges and opportunities of free trade under the various agreements of WTO.
- Increase the level of standards and quality of products and services in trade transactions.

❖ The industrial policy of Bangladesh gives-

- emphasis on the improvement of quality of products and services both for local and foreign trade.
- Many Bangladeshi organizations have begun implementing the provisions of the WTO Technical Barriers to Trade Agreement (TBT).



The difficulties (domestically and internationally)

- ❖ No accreditation system in Bangladesh.
- ❖ No local testing, measurement and calibration laboratories are accredited by the competent authority
- ❖ Measurements & standards are traceable to BSTI and some corporate laboratories as in house calibration facilities.
- ❖ Bangladeshi companies are aware of BSTI as a national SMTQ Institution. But Testing and Calibration laboratories of BSTI are yet to be calibrated by Internationally recognized body.
- ❖ They want the following supports from the GOB:
 - Increase of quality management education;
 - Financial support for investment on testing equipment;
 - Advisory and consulting services in the field of quality;
 - Training of their personals;
 - Product testing;
 - Calibration of equipment;
 - Assessment of many testing laboratories has not yet been done by any competent authority.



Measures taken to overcome the difficulties

- ❖ BSTI playing key role as National Standardization body. It
 - Certifies the quality of commodities, materials and products;
 - The GOB has till date brought 142 manufactured/processed items under compulsory certification marks scheme;
 - BSTI has so far issued over 5000 licenses on compulsory certification;
 - BSTI is going to establish ISO 9001 series and ISO 14000 Certification in cooperation with UNIDO;
- ❖ Directorate of Fisheries Certification of frozen fish and shrimps;
- ❖ foreign certification bodies operating in Bangladesh issue Certificate on ISO 9000 and ISO 14000;

Establishment of National Accreditation Board

- ❖ A draft Act has already been submitted to the government for the establishment of a National Accreditation Board. The name of the law is the "Bangladesh Accreditation Act, 2004". It is expected that the Act will be placed before the Parliament for enactment within this Calendar year.
- ❖ Ministry of Industries has prepared it for the accreditation of testing laboratories, certification bodies, assessors and training institutions working for conformity assessment. A 16 member board headed by a chairman appointed by the Board will exercise all powers for the functioning of the activities of the board.
- ❖ This Board will be an autonomous body and will be established through Government notification. After the establishment of the Bangladesh Accreditation Board; Mutual Recognition Agreements will be done with the trading partner countries. Then Bangladesh will also become a member of the International Accreditation Forum.

Role of Ministry of Commerce.

- ❖ Bangladesh has already made trade agreements between the governments in accordance with party's development and trade needs and objectives on mutually benefit basis.
- ❖ These agreements are being done by the Ministry of Commerce. The contracting parties grant each other Most Favored Nation treatment in accordance with the provisions of WTO. There may be lists of goods in the agreement,
- ❖ Bangladesh is a beneficiary of the GSP scheme. There is no Mutual Recognition Agreement on the quality certificates with any country. However Bangladesh recognizes the PSI certificates of some government approved PSI agencies.



Role of Ministry of Commerce(Continued)

- ❖ For transparency provisions of the TBT, the Government of Bangladesh has nominated BSTI as the WTO -TBT Agreements National Enquiry Point since 2002. Bangladesh does not restrict trade, than necessary. Nevertheless Bangladesh has brought 142 compulsory standards for conformity assessment.
- ❖ Bangladesh gives "National Treatment" to imports. There are committees in the Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Industry, Ministry of Agriculture and BSTI on WTO matters The awareness about TBT among manufacturing organizations is not up to expectation.
- ❖ Bangladesh did not circulate any WTO Notification through Central Registry of Notification on TBT due to lack of awareness and expertise.

Role of other Ministries:

- ❖ In Bangladesh Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare look after the Sanitary and Phyto-sanitary Measures. The Plant Protection Wing of the Ministry of Agriculture is responsible for execution and implementation of the national and international Plant Quarantine Legislation and Agreement.
- ❖ Aquatic animal health and health of livestock are looked after by the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries. Human health is looked after by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Ministry of Industry and BSTI. Department of Fisheries and Department of Livestock arranges inspection of imported animal, poultry bird, fish fries and looks for signs and symptoms of pests and diseases.

Current status of National Standard Development

- Bangladesh Standards Institution was working for setting up Bangladesh standards (National Standards) of quality and dimensions and prepare and promote the general adoption of standards on national and international basis relating to materials, commodities, structures, practices and operations.
- Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institution was established in 1985 by merging Bangladesh Standards Institution with Central Testing Laboratory. Later, in 1995 Department of Agricultural Marketing and Grading was also merged with the BSTI.
- Since inception BSTI has formulated 1850 standards on various items. BSTI is the member of ISO since 1974. It gets all the publications from ISO /IEC or Codex Alimentarius Commission.

Current status of National Standard Development

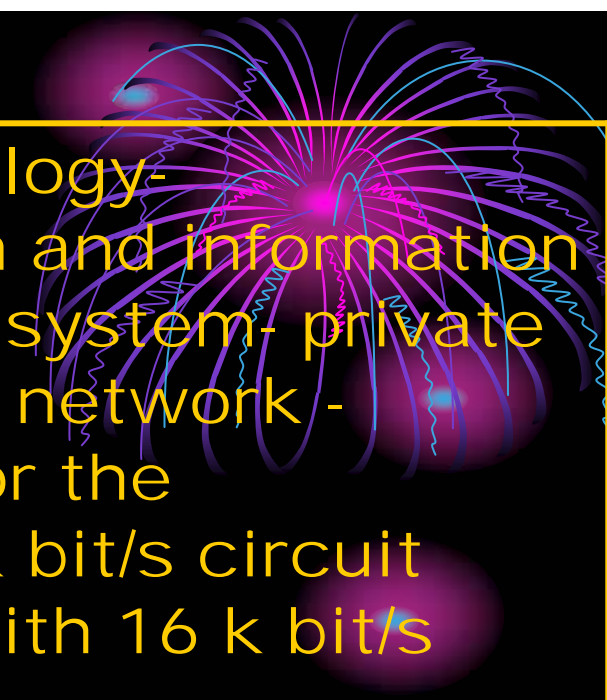
- BSTI often use BS (UK), IS (India), AS (Australia), SLS (Sri Lanka) and EN (European Norms) as preparing its National Standards. BSTI is the member of the IEC Affiliate Country Program since 2001 and found 172 IEC standards free of cost as CD form.
- BSTI adopted about 100 International Standards as Bangladesh Standards.
- Among these International Standards BSTI adopted the following Standards on Information Technology:







04.	BDS ISO/IEC 11573: 2002	Information Technology- Telecommunication and information Exchange between system-private integrated services network Synchronization Methods and technical requirements
05.	BDS ISO/IEC 15507: 2002	Information Technology- Telecommunication and information Exchange between system-private integrated services network. Inter exchange signaling protocol- PISN clock Synchronization.
06.	BDS ISO/IEC 17309	Information Technology- Telecommunication and information Exchange between system-private integrated services network - Mapping function for the employment of a circuit mode basic service and the supplementary service user to user signaling as a pair of on demand inter -PINX connection



07.	BDS ISO/IE C1731 0	Information Technology- Telecommunication and information Exchange between system- private integrated services network - Mapping function for the employment of 64 k bit/s circuit mode connection with 16 k bit/s sub-multiplexing.
08.	BDS ISO/IE C1731 1	Information Technology- Telecommunication and information Exchange between system- private integrated services network - Mapping function for the employment of 64 k bit/s circuit mode connection with 8 k bit/s sub- multiplexing.

The following IT standards are awaiting for adoption as Bangladesh Standards:

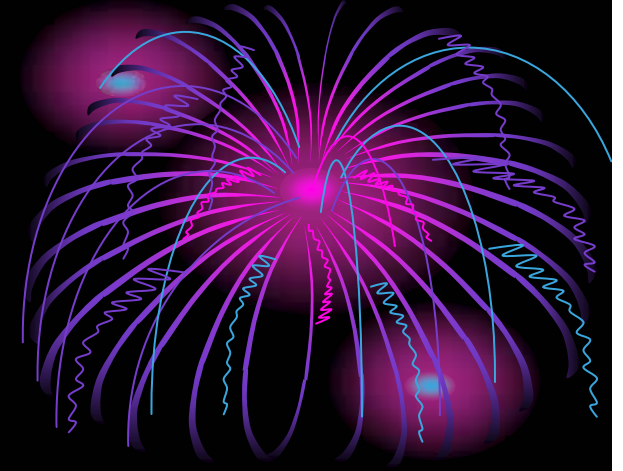


01.	ISO/IEC 9126	Information Technology- Software product evaluation- Quality characteristics and guidelines for their use
02.	ISO/IEC/ TR 9294	Information Technology- Guidelines for the management of software document.
03.	ISO/IEC/ 12119	Information Technology- Software packages- Quality requirements and testing.




04.	ISO/IEC/1 2207	Information Technology- Software life cycle process.
05.	ISO/IEC/1 4764	Information Technology- Software maintenance.
06.	ISO/IEC/1 5910	Information Technology- Software user documentation process.
07.	ISO/IEC/1 7799	Information Technology- Code of practice for information security management.

Standardization of Bangla Alphabets:



- BSTI also adopted BDS 1521:2000 Bangla Coded Character set for Information Interchange and BDS 1738:2004 Computer Bengali Keyboard.
- It will be sent to Unicode Consortium for inclusion and also sent to Microsoft for necessary action.

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- Conclusion: World Trade Organization always encourages the use of the International Standards in all respect.
 - Standard of any goods- food or ICT or any other goods it self and also its packaging, marking and labeling requirements should conform the prescribed international Standard.
 - But in case of developing countries like Bangladesh, it is not so easy to maintain or to ensure all the standards prescribed by the ISO/IEC/ITU or CAC because of some unavoidable obligations.
 - Adoption of ISO / CAC standard is frequent, but adoption of IEC is not up to the mark.
 - Yet Bangladesh is going faster to adopt conformity assessment system based on internationally accepted guidelines or recommendations.



Thank You very much