

PRESS NOTE

Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has entered into a bilateral cooperation agreement with its counterpart in Sri Lanka, Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI). The agreement was signed by Mr. S.P.Sharma, Director General BIS and Mrs. S.G. Weragoda, Director General, SLSI on 17th August 2006 at Colombo, Sri Lanka.



This agreement envisages cooperation with regard to services in the field of standardization and conformity assessment with an aim to facilitate the market access to each other's territory. The agreement covers several mutually beneficial areas for both countries related to standardization, quality and certification of products.

With the implementation of this agreement the two organizations will carry out inspections and testing on each others behalf for the purpose of operation of the respective certification marks schemes. Wherever the standards are harmonized, both organizations will accept each others inspection and test reports and also the certification mark for grant of its own certification mark. The decisions with regard to the renewal, extension, suspension and cancellation of licences and other operational issues would also be taken based on these reports.

The agreement also covers the provision of investigation of consumer complaints, exchange of information and personnel in the areas of standardization, quality assurance and testing to facilitate trade of

goods and services. It has also been agreed to train each others personnel and organize training in the areas of mutual interest.

This agreement would facilitate the manufacturers located in the exporting countries to get their products inspected and tested in the country of origin which will be accepted in the imported country for the purpose of the operation of the certification mark schemes of the two organizations. This would help in avoiding repetitive testing in the country of import thereby facilitating the trade in the two countries.