

MINUTES OF THE PRELIMINARY STAKEHOLDERS' CONSULTATION MEETING ON STANDARDS FOR APPAREL SIZE LABELLING BASED ON INDIAN MALE AND FEMALE BODY MEASUREMENTS

The Textiles Committee (TC) held a Preliminary Stakeholders Consultation Meeting on the proposed standard for apparel size labelling, through video conference on 12th August 2026, chaired by *Mr. Kartikay Dhanda*, Secretary, Textiles Committee. Representatives from industry associations, consumer organisations, government bodies and academic institutions attended.

Welcome Note:

Mr. Kartikay Dhanda, Secretary of TC, welcomed participants and explained that this was the first in a series of consultations to develop a standard for Apparel Size labelling. He noted that different countries follow their own sizing systems, and India currently has no unified, body-fit-based standard.

And he noted that the proposed measure would become a regulation once finalized.

2. Technical Presentation,

Mr. S. Gowrisankar - Deputy Director, Regional office of TC Tirupur, presented the following:

- **Basis of the standard:** The India Size Survey, conducted by National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) during a year of 2020–22, it's covered over 25,000 individuals aged 15 and above across six cities representing India's geographic regions (including New Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Hyderabad, and Shillong). Measurements were taken by 3D body scanning and validated manually, in line with ISO 8559.
- **Labelling format:** Apparels will carry the prefix "IND" followed by the primary dimension in centimeters (for example, IND 96). Centimeters are mandatory; an equivalent inch measurement may be added. Any secondary dimension follows after a "/". The primary dimension must also appear on swing tags, packaging, leaflets, posters, catalogues, or websites, along with any pictorial representation.

3. Discussion and Queries,

- *Mr. R. Dhamodharan, General Secretary, South India Hosiery Manufacturers Association, Tirupur (SIHMA)*: Asked whether this proposed standard of TC would overlap with Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) proposed standard on innerwear sizing.

Prof. Dr. Manoj Tiwari, NIFT, New Delhi. and *Mr. Gaurav Mishra, Scientist -B, BIS* clarified that BIS standards for innerwear cover performance and quality, not size designation, and that the INDIAsize body dimensions are broad enough to also support innerwear sizing.

On units of measurement: A query was raised on whether labels should show sizes in centimeters or inches, since mentioning of both units on the same label could create confusion at the retail level. In response, *Textiles Committee officials* indicated a preference for using centimeters as the primary unit of measurement, while noting that this remains open to further stakeholder input before being finalized. They requested that stakeholders send in their written comments by email.

- *Mr. Prakash Bhatt, Scientist-D, Central Silk Board, Bangalore*: A query was raised regarding apparel-level tolerances. In response, Mr. J.D. Barman, Director, TC, clarified that the measurement charts prepared by NIFT under the IndiaSize survey provide standard body dimensions for males and females only. Apparel-level tolerances such as slim, regular, or comfort fit are left to manufacturers to decide, based on consumer preference and apparel design.
- *Mr. Manoj Kumar S, Director, Essdee Knitting Mills Private Limited, Tirupur*: A query was raised about how regional variation in body shape is accounted for. *Prof. Dr. Manoj Tiwari, NIFT, New Delhi* confirmed that this was addressed by dividing India into six survey regions, and that the provided size charts reflect the most representative national findings. He added that, if required, NIFT could separately provide a customized regional chart for specific stakeholders, outside the scope of the national standard.
- *Mr. T. Sadagopan – President of Tamil Nadu Progressive Consumer Centre, Chennai*: Raised concerns about inconsistent sizing across brands and requested that minutes of the meeting be shared with participants, further he suggested that subsequent stakeholder consultations be conducted region-wise, so as to ensure wider participation and outreach across the country.
- *Ms. S. Saroja, Executive Director, Citizen Consumer and Civic Action Group*: Welcomed the initiative and asked about the status of the related draft labelling (composition/care) regulation.

Mr. R. Chandran, Joint Director, TC, clarified that the draft labelling regulation has already been notified to the WTO and is pending the mandatory 60-day objection period before finalization, and is available in draft form on the Textiles Committee website.

4. Way Forward

- Stakeholders were requested to send written comments, queries, and suggestions to the Textiles Committee email address “depqa.tc@nic.in” shown on screen and shared via chat.
- Further stakeholder consultations will be held before the standard/regulation is finalized, taking into account all feedback, including on the choice of measurement unit (cm vs. inches).

5. Vote of Thanks

Mr. J.D. Barman, Director, TC, thanked NIFT — particularly *Prof. Dr. Noopur Anand, Dean, NIFT* and *Prof. Dr. Monika Gupta, Director, NIFT*— for their contribution to the India Size study, and thanked all participating stakeholders for their engagement, inviting them for a further consultation.

List of Participants			
Meeting Chaired by;			
Mr. Kartikay Dhanda, Secretary, Textiles Committee.			
S.No	Participant Name	Designation	Organization
1	Mr. Iqbal Ahmad	Joint Textile Commissioner	O/o Textile Commissioner, Mumbai
2	Mr. J.D. Barman	Director	Textiles Committee,
3	Mr. Vijay Dhar Choubey	Director	O/o Textile Commissioner, Mumbai
4	Mr. Prakash Bhat	Scientist D	Central Silk Board, Bangalore.
5	Mr. Gourav Mishra	Scientist B - Textile division	Bureau of Indian Standards
6	Dr. Manoj Tiwari	Professor, Head (Industry & Alumni Affairs)	National Institute of Fashion Technology, New Delhi.
7	Mr. R. Chandran	Joint Director	Textiles Committee,
8	Mr. Ganesh Bangar	Joint Director	Textiles Committee,
9	Mr. J. Parameshwaran	Deputy Director	Textiles Committee,
10	Mr. S. Gowrisankar	Deputy Director	Textiles Committee, Tirupur
11	Mr. Govind Prasad	Deputy Director	Textiles Committee, Jaipur
12	Mr. S.N. Althaf Basha	Assistant Director	O/o Textile Commissioner, Mumbai
13	Mr. Brijesh Shukla,	Assistant Director	Textiles Committee, Mumbai
14	Mr. Ashish Kumar	Assistant Director	Department of Industries, Government of Bihar.
15	Ms. Monika Sharan	Assistant Director	Department of Industries, Government of Bihar.
16	Mr. R. Dhamodharan	General Secretary	South India Hosiery Manufacturers Association.
17	Mr. Manoj Kumar Naik	Deputy Director	Legal Metrology, Department of Consumer Affairs.
18	Ms. Saroja	Executive Director	Citizen Consumer and Civic Action Group (CAG)
19	Dr. Saurabh Kumar	General Manager	Apparel Export Promotion Council
20	Mr. Sadagopan T	President	Tamil Nadu Progressive Consumer Centre, Chennai
21	Mr. Tanmay Nigam	Senior Trade Advisor	Madhya Pradesh Industrial Development Corporation.
22	Mr. Manojkumar Shanmugasundaram	Marketing Director	Essdee Knitting Mills Private Limited, Tirupur.

List of Participants from Regional Offices of Textiles Committee			
S.No	Participant Name	Designation	Regional Office
23	Mr. Ramanujan Sivakumar	Assistant Director	Textiles Committee, Kannur
24	Mr. A Ravi	Assistant Director	Textiles Committee, Bangalore
25	Mr. Pankaj Kumar	Assistant Director	Textiles Committee, Ludhiana
26	Mr. Ambrish Singh	Assistant Director	Textiles Committee, Varanasi
27	Mr. A Nithyakumar	Assistant Director	Textiles Committee, Tirupur
28	Mr. Avishek Kumar Sharma	Assistant Director	Textiles Committee, Kolkata
29	Mr. Shyamlal Saini	Quality Assurance officer	Textiles Committee, Ahmedabad
30	Mr. Yash Vijaybhai Prajapati.	Quality Assurance officer	Textiles Committee, Chennai
31	Mr. Mayank Walia	Quality Assurance officer	Textiles Committee, Karur

S.No	List of Additional Participants
32	Dept. of Handlooms & Textiles, Andhra Pradesh
33	Industries Commissionerate
34	Ms. Shwetha, M/s Prithvi Innerwear's, Tirupur
35	M/s Harman Group
36	M/s. JDC Retail
37	M/s. NASAS Fiber to Fashion Pvt Ltd
38	Mr. Ajay Sharma
39	Mr. Amit
40	Mr. Anil Lachhwani
41	Mr. Anurag Jain
42	Mr. Arunkumar Nair
43	Mr. Avishek Kr Sharma
44	Mr. Devanshi Mahajan
45	Mr. Dinesh Kashyap
46	Mr. Dwarpal Pahade
47	Mr. Er. Raghvendra Rai
48	Mr. Hariharan
49	Mr. Kavin
50	Mr. Miheer Malik
51	Mr. Neeraj Jain
52	Mr. Prakash Ramakrishnan

S.No	List of Additional Participants
53	Mr. Prashant Kumar
54	Mr. Ramesh
55	Mr. Ranjeet Kumar
56	Mr. Ravi Poddar
57	Mr. Roopesh
58	Mr. Sachin Parmar
59	Mr. Sandeep Vasudeva
60	Mr. Senthil
61	Mr. Sunil Patidar
62	Mr. Suresh Kumar
63	Mr. Thirumoorthy B
64	Mr. Veeramanikandan
65	Mr. Zahid Ahmed
66	Ms. Kalpana Darad
67	Ms. Ratika Kotwale
68	Ms. Rita Devi
69	Ms. Shailja