

# WATER QUALITY INDIA ASSOCIATION

(A not-for-profit Company under the Companies Act, 2013)

CIN: U41000KA2014NPL205981

## WQIA Journey & Achievements Brochure

2014 - 2025

**Empowering India's Water Quality**



**WATER QUALITY INDIA ASSOCIATION**

**CIN: U41000KA2014NPL205981**

(A not-for-profit Company under the Companies Act, 2013)

**Registered Office: #38/1&2, Ahmed Plaza, First Floor, Beratena Agrahara, Hosur Main Road, Bengaluru - 560100**

**E-mail: [wqia2015@gmail.com](mailto:wqia2015@gmail.com)**

**Website: <https://wqia.in>**



**Industry:** Non-Profit Organization**Headquarters:** Bengaluru, Karnataka**Founded:** 2014**Specialties:** Membership, Legal Support, Education Programme, Awareness Programme

The Water Quality India Association (WQIA) is a premier, nationally recognized organization dedicated to advancing the water quality sector in India. As a leading trade body, WQIA brings together stakeholders from across the water treatment industry, including manufacturers, suppliers, regulatory authorities, and research institutions, to promote best practices, innovation, and sustainable solutions for water purification.

Founded with the mission to improve the quality of drinking water and contribute to public health in India, WQIA plays a crucial role in shaping the water treatment industry by setting high standards for both products and practices. The association is committed to promoting safe, reliable, and sustainable water solutions that protect consumers from waterborne diseases and ensure access to clean water for all.



At the core of WQIA's operations is its emphasis on collaboration, advocacy, and education. Through active participation in policy discussions, legal matters, and the development of industry standards, WQIA ensures that its members are equipped with the knowledge and tools needed to navigate the evolving landscape of water treatment. WQIA also works tirelessly to raise public awareness and provide technical expertise to ensure that water treatment systems are not only effective but also environmentally responsible.



With a strong track record of collaboration with government agencies, industry leaders, and environmental organizations, WQIA continues to be a key driver of innovation in the water quality sector. Its initiatives, such as the launch of product certifications like the "Seal of Purity", the development of national standards for water purification, and ongoing advocacy for policy changes, highlight its commitment to creating a future where clean and safe drinking water is accessible to all.

### The purpose envisioned for WQIA to focus on:

- To promote and protect interests of drinking water treatment industry
- Increase WQIA membership and participation in Trade Shows
- Introduce WQIA Education through Qualified Water Professional Certified Service Technician Training Programmes.
- Help with local government relations and develop or adopt India Standards and Regulations
- Protecting WQIA membership logo
- Develop consumer education and awareness program
- Set up two meetings in a year to discuss industry issues

WQIA's membership spans the length and breadth of the water industry, and by joining the association, companies and professionals gain access to valuable resources, networking opportunities, and a platform to contribute to shaping the future of the water quality industry in India.

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## Letter From The WQIA

Dear Team,

As we mark another year of progress, we are filled with pride and gratitude for the dedication, innovation, and passion that each of you brings to the Water Quality India Association. It has been an incredible journey over the past decade, and together we've witnessed remarkable improvements in the water quality sector across India. While we have made great strides, we recognize that there are still significant challenges ahead, and our collective work remains crucial in ensuring that clean and safe water is accessible to all.

Over the past ten years, the water quality landscape in India has evolved substantially. We've seen advancements in water purification technologies, increased awareness about water conservation, and greater emphasis on sustainable practices. As an association, we have been at the forefront of driving change through initiatives such as **WQIA meetings, associated with WAPTAG, WAPTEMA, SRW** and Government Institutions. These platforms have enabled collaboration among industry experts, technology developers, and stakeholders to improve water treatment solutions and tackle aquatic pollution.

In addition to our ongoing projects, the India NGT case has highlighted the pressing need for rigorous enforcement of water quality standards. We continue to work closely with the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) to align on water treatment guidelines and contribute to the development of standards that reflect our commitment to quality. Furthermore, our efforts in policy advocacy and collaboration with the government have resulted in initiatives aimed at improving the efficiency of water purification systems across the nation.

Our various WQIA events, seminars, and workshops have further empowered our community, showcasing the progress we've made and reinforcing our commitment to clean water. These occasions have allowed us to learn from each other and inspire new solutions for the future.

We are proud of what we have accomplished, but the journey does not end here. We have many more milestones to achieve, and with your support and dedication, we will continue to push the boundaries of innovation, sustainability, and excellence in water quality. We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to each of you for your contributions, and I look forward to our continued collaboration in creating a secure future.

Thank you for being an essential part of this association, and together, let's continue to make a lasting difference.



**Team WQIA**

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## The Board



**Mr. Sunil Trivedi**  
President - WQIA  
Sarjan Watertech India



**Mr. Umesh Agrawal**  
Vice President - WQIA  
Pure N Safe Pvt. Ltd.



**Dr. Sunil Dhole**  
Secretary - WQIA  
Technorbital Advanced  
Materials Pvt. Ltd.



**Mr. Himanshu Budhia**  
Joint Secretary - WQIA  
GSE Filter Pvt. Ltd.



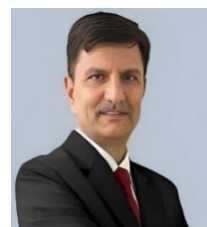
**Mr. Ajay Shroff**  
Treasurer - WQIA  
Pratham Filter Industries



**Mr. Ajay Popat**  
Director - WQIA  
Ion Exchange (India) Ltd.



**Dr. Neeraj Gupta**  
Director - WQIA  
AO Smith India Water Products Pvt. Ltd.



**Mr. Suresh Redhu**  
Director - WQIA  
Eureka Forbes Limited



**Dr. Mahesh Gupta**  
Director - WQIA  
Kent RO Systems Ltd.



**Mr. Navneet Kapoor**  
Director - WQIA  
Livpure Pvt. Ltd.



**Ms. Rajul Parikh**  
Director - WQIA  
Alfa UV  
Ace Hygiene Products Pvt. Ltd.

## Secretariat



**Dr. K. Chandrasekhar**  
COO - WQIA



**Mr. Vivek Kumar Burnwal**  
Executive Operations - WQIA

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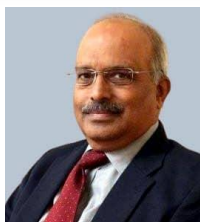
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## Honorary Members



**Mr. B.S.A. Narayan**

Managing Director, MAPLE Engg-Design  
Services (India) Pvt. Ltd.

National Vice President, Indian Plumbing  
Association



**Dr. S. Rajamani**

Secretary, American Scholars Association,  
EWCA Chennai Chapter

Chairman, Asian International Union of  
Environment Commission (AIUE)



**Prof. T. Pradeep**

Indian Institute of Technology, Madras



**Mr. Anil Jauhri**

Ex CEO, National Accreditation Board for  
Certification Bodies (NABCB)

## Expert Pannel



**Prof. Brajesh Kr. Dubey**

Professor in the Division of  
Environmental Engineering

**Prof. Jaideep Chatterjee**

Professor at BITS Pilani Hyderabad Campus



**Prof. Mihir Kumar Purkait**

Dean of Alumni and External Relations  
Professor, Department of Chemical  
Engineering



**Dr. Pawan Labhasetwar**

Chief Scientist and Head Water Technology  
and Management Division at National  
Environmental Engineering Research  
Institute (NEERI)



**Prof. Sirshendu De**

Professor Indian Institute of Technology  
Kharagpur

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## The Committees

### Standards Committee

|                              |                  |                                                       |
|------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Dr. Neeraj Gupta             | Chairperson      | AO Smith India Water Products Pvt. Ltd.               |
| Mr. Utkarsh Gautam           | Committee Member | Atomberg Technologies Pvt. Ltd.                       |
| Dr. Sathish Kumar            | Committee Member | Havells India Limited                                 |
| Mr. Mukthesh Pathi           | Committee Member | IAPMO Group                                           |
| Mr. Umesh Agrawal            | Committee Member | Pure N Safe                                           |
| Mr. Suryakant Nivrutti Gidde | Committee Member | V-Guard Industries Limited                            |
| Mr. V.A. Raju                | Committee Member | V.A.RAJU – Management & Business Consultancy Services |
| Ms. Simly Das                | Committee Member | Brita India Water Solutions Pvt. Ltd.                 |
| Mr. Senthil Arul             | Committee Member | Livpure Pvt. Ltd.                                     |

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|                       |                  |                                |
|-----------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|
| Dr. Indu Ramakrishnan | Committee Member | Filtrex Technologies Pvt. Ltd. |
| Mr. Suresh Redhu      | Committee Member | Eureka Forbes                  |
| Dr. Vivek K. N. Singh | Committee Member | Waterscience                   |
| Mr. Ankur Parikh      | Committee Member | Ace Hygiene Products Pvt. Ltd. |

(The Standards Committee is responsible for brainstorming practical water quality standards in coordination with the members, the expert panel and the government authorities.)

### Regulatory Affairs Committee

|                   |                  |                                 |
|-------------------|------------------|---------------------------------|
| Mr. Vivek Sharma  | Chairperson      | Eureka Forbes                   |
| Mr. Yogesh Panday | Committee Member | Livpure Pvt. Ltd.               |
| Mr. Syamkumar S   | Committee Member | V-Guard Industries Limited      |
| Mr. Deepak Jain   | Committee Member | Atomberg Technologies Pvt. Ltd. |

(The Regulatory Affairs Committee ensures compliance with water quality regulations to protect public health and the environment.)

### Liaison Committee

|                              |                  |                                           |
|------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Mr. Umesh Agrawal            | Chairperson      | Pure N Safe                               |
| Mr. Sunil Dhole              | Committee Member | Technorbital Advanced Materials Pvt. Ltd. |
| Mr. Vikram V. K. Karunakaram | Committee Member | Deltapure Water India Ltd.                |

(The Liaison Committee is responsible for fostering collaboration and communication between the Water Quality India Association and government bodies, industry stakeholders, and international organizations.)

### Membership Committee

| Name                | Designation      | Company                                |
|---------------------|------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Mr. Himanshu Budhia | Chairperson      | GSE Filter Pvt. Ltd.                   |
| Mr. Shreyansh Shah  | Committee Member | Lexcru Water Tech Pvt. Ltd.            |
| Mr. Chinnusamy.K    | Committee Member | Global Water Solutions India Pvt. Ltd. |
| Mr. George Scaria   | Committee Member | H2O Care                               |

(The Membership Committee is responsible for building the membership base of the association. The committee members interact with interested companies and professionals and explain to them about WQIA, the membership types and the benefits of becoming a member.)

### Education Committee

|                          |                  |                                        |
|--------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Dr. K. Chandrasekhar     | Chairperson      | Water Quality India Association.       |
| Mr. Chinnusamy.K         | Committee Member | Global Water Solutions India Pvt. Ltd. |
| Dr. Vivek K. N. Singh    | Committee Member | Waterscience                           |
| Mr. Dinakaran Chakrapani | Committee Member | V-Guard Industries Limited             |

|                     |                  |                                                  |
|---------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Mr. Madhur Mehrotra | Committee Member | Murugappa Water Technology & Solutions Pvt. Ltd. |
| Mr. George Scaria   | Committee Member | H2O Care                                         |

(The Education Committee is responsible for developing relevant and updated content and offering water treatment courses and different levels for the benefit of the water professionals.)

### Public Relations Committee

|                       |                  |                                       |
|-----------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Ms. Rajul Parikh      | Chairperson      | Ace Hygiene Products Pvt. Ltd.        |
| Mr. Umesh Agrawal     | Committee Member | Pure N Safe                           |
| Mr. Gopinath Beesetti | Committee Member | Pure N Safe                           |
| Ms. Rameetha Rajan    | Committee Member | Brita India Water Solutions Pvt. Ltd. |

(The Public Relations Committee is responsible for media coverage and publicity of WQIA across the country and to various stake holders.)

### NGT Committee

|                        |                  |                                         |
|------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Mr. Sunil Trivedi      | Chairperson      | Sarjan Watertech (I) Pvt. Ltd.          |
| Dr. Mahesh Gupta       | Committee Member | Kent RO Systems Ltd.                    |
| Mr. Ajay Popat         | Committee Member | Ion Exchange (I) Ltd.                   |
| Dr. Neeraj Gupta       | Committee Member | AO Smith India Water Products Pvt. Ltd. |
| Mr. V. Moorthy         | Committee Member | Aqua Tech Systems                       |
| Mr. Vikram Karunakaram | Committee Member | DELTAPURE WATER INDIA LTD               |

(The NGT Committee has been constituted to represent WQIA in the Hon. National Green Tribunal in the matter of the case filed by an NGO against the Reverse Osmosis Technology.)



## The Genesis of WQIA

The Water Quality India Association (WQIA) was established in September 2014 as a not-for-profit company under Section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013. This transition from a task force of the Water Quality Association USA to an independent legal entity marked a significant milestone in India's water quality sector. By obtaining legal recognition, WQIA enhanced its credibility and operational capacity, enabling it to more effectively address the nation's water quality challenges.

Incorporated on September 16, 2014, WQIA is registered as a public unlisted company with an authorized share capital of ₹50,00,000 and a paid-up capital of ₹26,27,010. Its registered office is located at 3, Silver Cascade, 110AA Senapati Bapat Marg, Dadar West, Mumbai, Maharashtra, 400028. This formal establishment has allowed WQIA to operate independently, focusing on creating awareness about drinking water quality standards in India.

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As a not-for-profit organization, WQIA is dedicated to promoting safe drinking water practices and improving water quality standards across India. Its mission includes educating water treatment professionals, certifying water treatment products, and providing a platform for industry experts to collaborate on water quality initiatives. Through these efforts, WQIA aims to contribute significantly to public health and environmental sustainability in the country. Since its inception, WQIA has played a pivotal role in uniting the water treatment industry in India. The association has facilitated the development of standards tailored to Indian water conditions, conducted educational programs based on local needs, and engaged with government bodies to address water quality issues. These initiatives have positioned WQIA as a leading authority in the Indian water quality sector, committed to transforming the nation's drinking water quality and making India a healthier nation.

WQIA's commitment to excellence is evident in its high-performance standards, which instill consumer trust in water treatment solutions. By adhering to stringent quality benchmarks, the association ensures that water treatment products and services meet the highest safety and efficacy standards. This dedication to quality has earned WQIA recognition as a reliable source for safe drinking water solutions in India.

## Our Unified Platform

WQIA is on a mission to Transform India's Drinking Water Quality. Our Vision is to make INDIA a Healthier Nation

### Core Values:

The Water Quality India Association (WQIA) upholds a set of core values that guide its mission and operations. Central to these values is a commitment to ethics and integrity, ensuring that all actions and decisions are made with honesty and transparency. This ethical foundation fosters trust among stakeholders and reinforces the association's dedication to improving water quality across India.

WQIA also emphasizes a shared passion for enhancing water quality and raising awareness about its importance. Through influential leadership, the association advocates for science-based decision-making and actively engages with all stakeholders to incorporate diverse perspectives. By utilizing performance-based standards and certification, WQIA ensures that its initiatives are effective and aligned with the highest quality benchmarks.

## WQIA – History and Background

The Water Quality India Association (WQIA) began as a task force of the Water Quality Association (WQA) USA in 2007, comprising five charter members. Govind Bommi of Filtrex Technologies was appointed as the first Chairperson, leading the initial efforts to address water quality issues in India. In 2009, Dr. **Chandrasekhar** joined to oversee operations in India, bringing valuable expertise to the organization. The task force established subcommittees focusing on Standards, Public Relations, and Education, with Membership being added later to expand its reach and influence. In 2011, the organization formalized its structure by adopting bylaws, setting the foundation for its future growth.



10<sup>th</sup> WQA India Task Force Meeting held on January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013, in Hyderabad

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Recognizing the need for a more structured and independent entity, WQIA transitioned from a task force to a not-for-profit organization registered under the Companies Act of 2013. This transition aimed to enhance its role in promoting awareness about drinking water quality in India. WQIA serves as an educator for water treatment professionals, certifier of water treatment products, and a platform for industry experts dedicated to improving water quality across India.

In 2014-2015, WQIA introduced a Microbiological Standard for drinking water treatment devices, denoted by the "Seal of Purity." This standard signifies that a water purification device has been tested to rigorous standards and is capable of removing microbiological impurities that cause dangerous waterborne diseases. This initiative was a significant step toward ensuring the safety and efficacy of water treatment devices in India.

Throughout its evolution, WQIA has been committed to creating awareness about the quality of drinking water in India. The association focuses on educating water treatment professionals, certifying water treatment products, and providing a platform for industry experts to collaborate on improving water quality. By adopting performance-based standards and certification, WQIA aims to instill consumer trust in water treatment solutions.

Today, WQIA continues to play a pivotal role in enhancing water quality standards in India, collaborating with various stakeholders to address the challenges of waterborne diseases and contamination. Its ongoing efforts contribute significantly to the health and well-being of communities across the country.

## Founding Promoters



A.O Smith India Water Products Pvt. Ltd

ALFA UV

Dow Chemical International Ltd.

Eureka Forbes Limited

Filtex holding Pte Ltd, Singapore

GSE Filters Pvt. Ltd,

Ion Exchange India Pvt. Ltd.

Pentair India

Sarjan Watertech India Pvt. Ltd.



## Mission, Vision and Objectives of WQIA

### Mission and Vision

The Water Quality India Association (WQIA) is dedicated to transforming India's drinking water quality through a clear mission and vision. Established as a not-for-profit organization, WQIA aims to be recognized as a reliable resource for information on water quality issues, advocating for the improvement of water quality at the national level. This mission underscores WQIA's commitment to educating the public and stakeholders about the importance of safe drinking water and the technologies available to achieve it.

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Aligned with its mission, WQIA envisions enhancing the quality of life for all individuals by improving water quality. The association strives to achieve this vision by promoting the adoption of appropriate water treatment technologies and services tailored to India's diverse needs. This forward-looking approach reflects WQIA's dedication to public health and environmental sustainability, aiming to make India a healthier nation through better water quality.

**To realize its mission and vision, WQIA has set several objectives:**

- A. Education and Awareness:** Conducting programs to educate water treatment professionals and the public about water quality issues and solutions.
- B. Standard Development:** Developing and promoting standards suited to Indian water conditions to ensure safe and effective water treatment practices.
- C. Certification:** Offering certification for water treatment products and specialists to uphold quality and safety in the industry.
- D. Advocacy:** Engaging with government bodies and stakeholders to influence policies and regulations that support water quality improvement.
- E. Collaboration:** Collaboratively seeking out all stakeholders' viewpoints and perspectives to ensure comprehensive and effective solutions.

Through these objectives, WQIA aims to address the challenges of water quality in India and contribute to the nation's health and well-being.

## WQAIF

The Water Quality India Task Force (WQAIF) has achieved significant milestones in uniting the drinking water industry in India. In 2009, the task force began with 14 members, and by 2014, this number had grown to 85, encompassing large, medium, and small enterprises. This expansion reflects a collective commitment to improving water quality standards across the nation.

A Notable accomplishment of WQAIF is the development of the world's first microbiological standard for drinking water treatment devices. Under the leadership of Dr. Nimish Shah of Unilever, and in close cooperation with Dr. Regunathan of the Water Quality Association (WQA), this standard was established to ensure the safety and efficacy of water purification products. This initiative has set a benchmark for water treatment devices globally.

In addition to technical standards, WQAIF has prioritized professional development within the industry. The Certified Water Specialist (CWS) training program was introduced to enhance the expertise of water treatment professionals. As a result, 37 individuals have successfully completed the CWS course, equipping them with the knowledge and skills necessary to address complex water quality challenges.

These achievements underscore WQAIF's dedication to fostering collaboration, setting high standards, and investing in professional development to advance water quality in India. Through these efforts, the task force has played a pivotal role in elevating the industry's capabilities and ensuring safer drinking water for communities across the country.

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## Journey Till Now

### A. WQIA Defending RO Manufacturers in NGT Case:

A significant achievement for WQIA has been its active role in defending Reverse Osmosis (RO) manufacturers in the ongoing case with the National Green Tribunal (NGT). The NGT case has brought attention to the environmental concerns associated with the use of reverse osmosis technology, particularly regarding the disposal of wastewater. WQIA has stepped forward to represent the interests of RO manufacturers, advocating for fair regulations and highlighting the technological advances that address environmental concerns. This effort demonstrates WQIA's commitment to not only defending the industry but also ensuring that the regulatory framework is both balanced and effective in addressing water conservation and quality.

### B. Continued Advocacy and Support for the Industry:

Beyond these milestones, WQIA continues to provide advocacy and support for the water quality industry through its involvement in policy discussions, industry collaborations, and public awareness campaigns. By engaging with government agencies, industry stakeholders, and the public, WQIA plays an essential role in shaping the future of water quality in India. From promoting best practices to introducing innovative solutions, the association's journey has been marked by an unwavering commitment to improving water quality standards across the country. As we look to the future, WQIA remains steadfast in its mission to drive positive change and foster a cleaner, safer water environment for all.

### C. Development of a Distinct Brand Identity:

WQIA has successfully created a unique brand identity, including the development of its distinct logo and the SEAL OF PURITY certification. These branding efforts have helped establish the association as a trusted leader in the water quality industry, symbolizing excellence and safety in water treatment solutions. The creation of the SEAL OF PURITY logo represents a major step forward in the association's efforts to certify and recognize top-quality water treatment products. This logo is awarded to products that meet stringent water quality standards, ensuring that consumers can confidently choose products that will provide them with safe and clean water. The SEAL OF PURITY logo serves as a symbol of trust and reliability, offering an assurance to the public that the product has passed rigorous testing and is suitable for maintaining high water quality. This initiative not only promotes the industry's commitment to excellence but also educates consumers about the importance of certified water treatment solutions.

### D. Distinct WQIA Logo Developed:



One of the significant milestones in the journey of the Water Quality India Association has been the creation of its distinct logo. This logo serves as a symbol of the association's commitment to water quality and its role as a leading industry body.

The development of a unique and recognizable logo was a vital step in establishing a strong brand identity for the association. It reflects the values of purity, sustainability, and innovation, which are core to the WQIA's mission. The logo plays an essential role in distinguishing WQIA from other organizations and helps in strengthening its presence in the water industry.

### E. WQIA Launches First-Ever Microbiological Standard for water treatment devices:

The Water Quality India Association (WQIA) has taken a monumental step in ensuring safe drinking water for Indian consumers by launching the first-ever microbiological standard for household water treatment devices. This groundbreaking initiative is a significant milestone in the water purification industry, as it aims to set clear

and reliable standards that will not only protect consumers from waterborne diseases but also promote the adoption of high-quality water treatment solutions across the country.

#### **F. Developed for Indian Conditions, Matching Global Norms:**

Understanding the unique challenges posed by India's water quality issues, the standards have been specifically developed to cater to the country's environmental and infrastructural conditions. These standards align with international best practices while also addressing local water quality challenges. India faces a high prevalence of waterborne diseases due to contamination, inadequate sanitation, and inconsistent water treatment practices. This initiative seeks to raise the bar for water treatment devices, ensuring they effectively eliminate harmful microorganisms and pollutants, thus providing safe drinking water to households across India.

The microbiological standard provides guidelines for the performance of household water treatment devices, such as water purifiers, ensuring they meet rigorous criteria for removing bacteria, viruses, and other pathogens. These standards aim to guarantee that consumers have access to safe, potable water, protecting public health from the ongoing risk of waterborne diseases like diarrhea, cholera, and typhoid, which remain significant health hazards in many parts of the country.

#### **G. The “Seal of Purity” Mark: Empowering Consumers to Make Informed Choices:**

In addition to the new microbiological standards, WQIA has also introduced a recognizable certification mark, known as the “Seal of Purity.” This seal will serve as a trustworthy indicator for consumers, enabling them to easily identify household water treatment devices that meet the newly established standards.



**Seal of Purity**

The “Seal of Purity” is designed to inspire confidence among consumers, assuring them that the products they purchase are reliable and capable of delivering the promised water quality benefits.

With the proliferation of water purifiers in the Indian market, it has become increasingly difficult for consumers to discern which products genuinely meet safety and quality standards. The introduction of the "Seal of Purity" will help address this issue, ensuring that consumers are equipped with the knowledge to make informed purchasing decisions. It also creates a level playing field for manufacturers who are committed to delivering high-quality, standard-compliant products.

#### **H. Industry Support and Adoption:**

The launch of these standards has received significant backing from leading water purifier manufacturers across India. Over 10 major Indian water purifier manufacturers have pledged to adopt these new microbiological standards, marking a substantial shift toward higher-quality, standard-compliant water treatment devices. Some of the prominent brands that have committed to aligning with the new guidelines.

These leading manufacturers are not only pledging to meet the microbiological standards but are also committing to uphold the “Seal of Purity” certification, further validating the trustworthiness of their products. This widespread adoption by industry leaders reflects the importance and relevance of these standards in ensuring consumer safety and public health. It also signals a strong commitment to maintaining transparency and quality in the water purification sector.

#### **I. A Step Toward Combating Waterborne Diseases in India:**

The launch of this microbiological standard is a crucial development in the fight against waterborne diseases, which continue to be a leading cause of illness and death in India. Water quality is a pressing concern, especially

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in rural areas and urban slums, where access to clean and safe drinking water remains a challenge. The standards aim to address these issues by ensuring that water treatment devices effectively remove contaminants and provide safe drinking water at the household level.

By setting these new benchmarks, WQIA is helping to improve the safety and quality of water treatment devices and, in turn, protect public health. This initiative also aligns with broader efforts to create a more sustainable and health-conscious water treatment industry in India.

#### **J. Looking Forward:**

With the introduction of these microbiological standards and the “Seal of Purity”, WQIA is leading the way toward a healthier and more informed consumer environment in India. As more manufacturers adopt these standards, the hope is that consumers across the country will gain access to higher-quality water treatment devices that contribute to improved public health outcomes.

This initiative is a critical step in raising awareness about the importance of water quality and the role of reliable, standardized water treatment solutions in ensuring the well-being of millions of people in India. As WQIA continues to collaborate with industry leaders and regulatory bodies, the vision of providing safe, clean drinking water for all Indian households becomes increasingly achievable.

#### **K. Product Certification Program:**

The association has launched its Product Certification Program, which recognizes and certifies water treatment products that meet high industry standards. This initiative supports manufacturers in enhancing product credibility while providing consumers with the confidence that they are purchasing safe and effective water treatment solutions.

#### **L. Collaboration with Government Bodies and Industry Stakeholders:**

WQIA has successfully represented the water quality industry in various government forums, contributing to the development of policies that support sustainable water management practices. Additionally, the association has built strong partnerships with regional trade bodies and industry stakeholders to promote water quality standards and best practices.

#### **M. Promoting Awareness of Water Quality Issues:**

Through various initiatives, including awareness campaigns, seminars, and training programs, WQIA has actively promoted consumer education regarding water quality. These efforts have empowered individuals to make informed decisions about their water treatment needs, raising the overall standard of water safety in India.

#### **N. Industry Recognition and Awards:**

The association’s efforts in driving industry standards and best practices have earned WQIA recognition, including special commendations for quality excellence. These accolades reflect the association’s ongoing commitment to advancing the water quality sector and advocating for public health and environmental protection.

## Major Achievements

### A. Evaluation of Point of Use Drinking Water Purification Systems – Specifications

#### IAPMO-I WPS-01:2019

**Developed By:** IAPMO INDIA PVT LTD & WQIA

WQIA Supported in revision of BIS standards IS 16240: 2015 Reverse Osmosis Purification System-Specification

The involvement of the Water Quality India Association (WQIA) in the revision of IS 16240:2015 (the Indian Standard for Reverse Osmosis (RO) Water Purification Systems) is part of a broader effort to enhance water purification practices in India. WQIA also played a role in other standards, including IAPMO-I WPS-01:2019, which is related to the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO). Let's explore both of these topics in more detail, focusing on their relevance to the Indian water treatment sector and the specific involvement of WQIA.

#### A-1. IS 16240:2015 – Reverse Osmosis (RO) Purification System Specification

IS 16240:2015 is a Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) specification document that governs the design, performance, testing, and safety of RO-based Point-of-Use (PoU) water treatment systems. These systems are commonly used in households and industries for purifying drinking water through the reverse osmosis process.

#### A-2. WQIA's Role in the Revision of IS 16240:2015

The Water Quality India Association (WQIA), as a leading body in the Indian water purification industry, played a significant role in the revision of **IS 16240:2015**. Some of the major contributions by WQIA in this revision include:

**A-2.1. Technology Updates:** WQIA's members, who are professionals and manufacturers in the water treatment industry, provided expertise on the latest technological advancements in RO systems, such as improved membrane technologies, energy-efficient systems, and enhanced filtration mechanisms. The revisions incorporated these advancements, making the updated standards (**IS 16240:2023**) more relevant and efficient for modern water purification systems.

**A-2.2. Consumer Safety and Health:** One of WQIA's key goals was to ensure that the revised standard addressed consumer safety and health more rigorously. The revision introduced more comprehensive guidelines on material safety (such as plastics used in the systems), and testing protocols to ensure that RO systems do not inadvertently release harmful substances into the purified water.

**A-2.3. Testing and Performance Criteria:** WQIA contributed to defining more stringent performance testing criteria for RO systems. The revised standard ensured that systems meet high-performance benchmarks for water recovery rate, filtration effectiveness, and energy consumption. This would ensure that consumers get systems that provide safe drinking water efficiently and sustainably.

**A-2.4. Energy Efficiency and Environmental Concerns:** In response to global concerns over energy consumption and environmental impact, WQIA's input ensured that the revised standard put a stronger emphasis on the energy efficiency of RO systems. The new guidelines encourage manufacturers to innovate and design systems that use less energy and produce less wastewater, thus promoting more sustainable practices in the water treatment industry.

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### A-3. IAPMO-I WPS-01:2019

**IAPMO-I WPS-01:2019** is a standard developed by the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO), a global authority on plumbing and water treatment systems. This standard applies to water treatment devices and systems used in Point-of-Use (PoU) water treatment applications. **IAPMO-I WPS-01:2019** sets out guidelines for water purification systems, including reverse osmosis devices, in terms of design, performance, and testing procedures. It is an international standard that ensures systems meet both safety and quality requirements for water treatment, applicable in diverse markets, including India.

### A-4. IAPMO-I WPS-01:2019 and WQIA's Role

Though the **IAPMO-I WPS-01:2019** standard is international, WQIA played a key role in ensuring that Indian manufacturers align with global standards. As part of its mission to promote safe and efficient water treatment, WQIA has advocated for the incorporation of international standards like IAPMO's in Indian regulatory frameworks. This ensures that the systems being developed and sold in India are of global quality and standardized for consumers.

### A-5. WQIA's efforts have included:

Educating the Indian industry on international standards like **IAPMO-I WPS-01:2019**.

Encouraging compliance with these standards to meet not only Indian regulations but also global market expectations. Working with manufacturers to ensure certification for products that adhere to both BIS standards (such as IS 16240) and international standards (like **IAPMO-I WPS-01:2019**).

### A-6. How IS 16240:2015 and IAPMO-I WPS-01:2019 Are Related

While **IS 16240:2015** is focused on India's specific needs for reverse osmosis systems, the **IAPMO-I WPS-01:2019** standard is more globally applicable, ensuring systems can be sold and used in multiple markets. By aligning Indian manufacturers with both sets of standards, WQIA is ensuring that products are safe, effective, and export-ready, supporting the global recognition of Indian-made water treatment systems.

### A-7. Impact of WQIA's Support in the Revision of Standards

The revision of **IS 16240:2015** and adoption of standards like **IAPMO-I WPS-01:2019** has several important impacts:

**A-7.1. Enhanced Water Safety:** The updated standards provide clearer guidelines for the safe production of water treatment systems, ensuring that the end product meets public health requirements.

**A-7.2. Improved Industry Practices:** Manufacturers now have access to updated guidelines that align with global best practices, raising the overall quality of Indian water treatment systems.

**A-7.3. Better Consumer Trust:** With clearer standards, consumers can have more confidence in the quality and safety of the RO systems they use in their homes, knowing that they meet both national and international standards.

**Boosting Exports:** By aligning Indian water treatment systems with global standards, WQIA has helped position Indian manufacturers as competitive players in international markets.

### A-8. Importance of the WPS – 01:2019 Standard

**The WPS – 01:2019 standard** is an important step toward ensuring that POU water purification systems in India meet globally recognized benchmarks for quality, safety, and efficiency. With water contamination being a

significant concern in many parts of the country, the standard provides a much-needed framework to ensure that these systems effectively address the challenges posed by poor water quality.

By implementing these standards, consumers can have greater confidence in the water purification devices they purchase, knowing that the products are rigorously tested for performance, safety, and sustainability. It also promotes greater transparency in the industry, helping manufacturers and suppliers meet consistent and reliable standards while providing clarity to consumers regarding the products they choose for their homes.

The WPS – 01:2019 standard is expected to play a crucial role in improving water quality in India and ensuring the widespread adoption of reliable, effective, and efficient POU water purification systems. It reinforces the commitment of both IAPMO-I and WQIA to promote the highest standards of water safety and to create a healthier, safer water environment for all Indian consumers.

**B. Advocacy in NGT Case:** WQIA played a key role in defending Reverse Osmosis (RO) manufacturers in the ongoing National Green Tribunal (NGT) case, advocating fair regulatory standards. The association's involvement has been crucial in ensuring that industry concerns are represented and that water quality technologies continue to evolve with environmental responsibility.

### C. Representation of WQIA in BIS FAD 30 committee

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) operates the FAD 30-Water Purification Systems Sectional Committee, which is responsible for developing and revising standards related to water purification systems in India. This committee comprises members from various sectors, including industry associations, regulatory bodies, state governments, research and development organizations, academic institutions, and experts.

The Water Quality India Association (WQIA) is a prominent industry association dedicated to water quality improvement in India. WQIA actively contributes to the development of water purification standards by participating in BIS committees and working groups. For instance, WQIA has been involved in reviewing and providing feedback on standards such as IS 14724:1999 for UV water disinfection systems and IS 16240:2023 for reverse osmosis-based point-of-use water treatment systems.

In the BIS FAD 30 committee, WQIA's representation includes members who serve as convenors and alternate members in various working groups. For example, Dr. Neeraj Gupta from WQIA is listed as an alternate member in the working group reviewing IS 14724:1999 for UV water disinfection systems. Through its active participation, WQIA ensures that the perspectives and expertise of the water purification industry are considered in the formulation and revision of national standards, thereby contributing to the advancement of water quality practices in India.

## Working together with Regional Associations

- WQIA represents residential, commercial, industrial and small community water treatment industry.
- WQIA maintains a close dialogue with other organizations representing different aspects of the water industry to best serve consumers, government officials and industry members.
- WQIA is a resource and information source, a voice for the industry, an educator for professionals, A laboratory for product testing jointly provided with IAPMO, developing standards and a communicator to the public.
- WQIA desires to “build” bridges for promoting the interest and because of its stakeholders with Regional Industry/Trade Associations like WAPTEMA through a common charter of activities.

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## Sub-committees and membership roles

### Roles and responsibilities of Sub-committees

- Sub-committees play a very powerful role in the progress of WQIA.
- Sub-committee members under the leadership of the convener shall work on step-by-step assignments to achieve goals and objectives of Sub-committee.
- Regular teleconferences shall be held among sub-committee members to discuss the progress of assignments given to sub-committee and meeting minutes shall be circulated to all Office Bearers & Directors.

## Testimonials

"Being a part of WQIA has been a game-changer for us. The networking opportunities and knowledge-sharing platforms provided by the association have helped us connect with industry experts and will expand our client base. WQIA's emphasis on research and innovation has been particularly appealing, keeping us at the forefront of the evolving water industry." - Mr. Chinnusamy CK

The association's focus on water quality standards and its commitment to promoting sustainable practices align perfectly with our company's mission. We look forward to collaborating with like-minded professionals and staying updated on the latest advancements in the industry." - Mr. George Scaria

"WQIA's dedication to raising awareness about water conservation caught our attention. As a nonprofit organization working on environmental initiatives, partnering with WQIA has allowed us to amplify our efforts and collaborate with other like-minded organizations. The association's advocacy for sustainable water management practices has inspired us to create a positive impact in the water sector." – Mr. Nilesh Triathi

"What sets WQIA apart is its comprehensive approach to addressing water quality challenges. As a supplier of water purifier equipment, we recognized the association's commitment to fostering technological advancements. Joining WQIA has provided us with a platform to showcase our solutions and engage in meaningful discussions that drive the industry forward." – Mr. Aman Malhotra

"WQIA's focus on education and training was a key factor in our decision to become members. As a water treatment services provider, we value continuous learning and professional development. The association's seminars have helped us enhance our skills, stay updated on regulatory changes, and deliver the highest quality services to our clients." Mr. Ravichandran

"Joining WQIA has been instrumental in expanding our reach in the water equipment manufacturing sector. The association's industry events and trade shows have provided us with a platform to showcase our products to a wide audience. The knowledge-sharing and collaboration opportunities within WQIA have helped us strengthen our position as a leading manufacturer in the water industry." – Mahi Dasgupta

"WQIA's strong advocacy for quality standards and regulations within the water industry caught our attention as a water equipment manufacturer. The association's commitment to ensuring safe and efficient water systems resonated with our company values. By joining WQIA, we have gained credibility and recognition in the market, allowing us to better serve our customers with reliable and compliant water solutions." – Amit Lodhi