BUREAU OF INDIAN STANDARDS

Draft Indian Standard (WC Draft)
(For comments only)

सेवाओं के वर्गीकरण के लिए दिशानिर्देश

GUIDELINES FOR SERVICES CLASSIFICATION

ICS 03.080.01

Basic Standards on Services Sectional Committee, SSD 19

FOREWORD

(Formal Clauses will be added later)

Services are often compared with products and in many aspects, equivalences can be found. For example, for any transaction to take place, there needs to be a suppler and a recipient, and both must have a common understanding of what is being supplied or provided. Like products, services also need to be designed to meet the needs and expectations, both stated and latent, of the consumer. Additional features and characteristics can be added to enhance the value proposition common to both services and products.

It is by now, well understood that beyond these complementarities, services need different treatment to make them relevant, useful and acceptable. Their non-material form, intangibility, heterogeneity, simultaneity of production, supply and consumption (in most cases) are characteristics that require understanding and analysis, to pursue the objective of systematic service design, development, monitoring, measurement and improvement. Generic clause the other factors that applies to all services.

This Indian Standard is a part of a series of guideline standards that will be developed for standardizing the basic characteristics and associated activities of services with the objective that these will be used by developers of services as well as by developers of sectoral standards on services.

As a first step, it is essential to develop a comprehensive system of service classification. One of the key purposes the classification is to enable the service developer understands how each classification parameter impacts the end-to end-service cycle, and the actions needed to control their production and delivery in compliance with agreed or expected performance level on a consistent basis. The Composition of the Committee responsible for the formulation of this standard is given in **Annex A**.

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GUIDELINES FOR SERVICES CLASSIFICATION

1 SCOPE

- 1.1 This Indian Standard classifies services on three broad considerations:
 - a) Classification of services by attributes.
 - b) Classification by service recipients.
 - c) Classification by service context.
- **1.2** The additional classification based on type of service provider and the service modes described under GATS are also given for information purposes, however these would not have a direct impact for service design, development and control purposes.

2 REFERENCES

Assistance has been drawn from the following standards in preparation of this standard:

IS No. Title
IS/ISO 9000: 2015 Quality management systems — Fundamentals and vocabulary (fourth revision)
IS/ISO/IEC Guide 76: 2020 Development of service standards — Recommendations for addressing consumer issues (first revision)

IS 20000: 2024 Services — Glossary of Terms

3 TERMS AND REFERENCE

Technical terms used in this standard shall be defined in the Indian Standard on Terminology of Services – Glossary of terms related to Services. For the purpose of this standard, the definition given in IS 20000:2024 – Services – Glossary of Terms shall apply.

4 INTRODUCTION

The classification provided in this standard provides an approach to break down a service into its attributes, nature of customer and context by identifying the classes and sub-classes applicable to the service being provided. Each class and sub-class should be carefully considered for its applicability and listed down if found applicable. A justification on why the classification was found applicable should be recorded, which will enable the subsequent development of the response.

Several services may have more than one of the classification elements applicable to them, due to their inherent nature or because the overall service package may consist of more than one service constituent. It is recommended to include a classification, rather than omit, even if the applicability is not strong.

5 CLASSIFICATION BY SERVICE ATTRIBUTES

The tables provide useful insights on the impact of each class and sub-class and general recommendations on the nature of control to address the impact. However, the service provider may need to develop additional responses, based on the specific service, the context and the customer being served. The following are the key distinctions based on service attributes:

- a) Classification based on extent of service customization
- **b)** Classification based on human interactions
- c) Classification based on intensity of experience
- d) Classification based on consumption pattern
- e) Classification based on consumption demand
- f) Classification based on contractual agreements
- g) Classification based on product complementarity
- h) Classification based on equipment/infrastructure complementarity
- i) Classification based on automation
- j) Classification based on service risks
- k) Classification based on transaction time
- 1) Classification based on supply/consumption points

5.1 Classification Based on Extent of Service Customization

Table 1 Distinctions Based on Extent of Service Customization

(*Clause 5.1*)

			Crembe e.	1)	
S. No.	Sub-classes	Example of	Service Explanation	Potential Constraint	Recommended Control
		Service	and Positive effect		

(1) (2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1. Fully Custom	Consulting, nized Architecture, Interiors, Market research, Tailoring	services provide the	High chances of mismatch between customer needs and expectations, and the actual outcome. Customized services may demonstrate a high variation in charges and generally attract a higher charge or fee than partly customized or non-customized service.	The service provider should conduct a detailed assessment of needs and expectations prior to the execution of the service. To the extent feasible, the outcome should be documented or visually established, identifying limitations. A provision for flexibility is often required to accommodate changing needs during the service execution and at the end.
2. Partly Custom	education,	Partial customization of major service components leads to better efficiencies, with scope of customizing some specific or nonnegotiable needs of the customer.	A gap in the mode of delivery and the outcome from the promise made through marketing collateral and service descriptions with specifications.	The service design should be thoroughly reviewed for each service element taking into account potential constraints that may lead to gaps in service delivery. Constant monitoring and customer feedback should be made to determine the gaps and addressing them. The promises and claims made for promotional purposes should be reviewed against service design and any mis-claim should be removed. The language of the claims should be reviewed to prevent any misunderstanding by the customer. Where variation is likely during the execution, a provision should

			La	ist date for comment. 24 March 2023
				be built into the contract and a process should be established to inform the customer sufficiently in advance so as to avoid any misunderstanding.
3. Non-customized service - Generic	Broadcasting, utilities services such as water supply, pipe gas, municipal regulatory services	These services have the potential to be fully standardized and automated.	The principal concern with generic (non-customized) service lies in their intent to meet service needs and expectations of a wide and diverse set of service consumers. Such services may not be able to satisfy all customers.	a) The service design should be based on wide consultation and

5.2 Classification Based on Human Interactions

Table 2 Distinctions Based on Human Interactions

(*Clause 5.2*)

S. No.	Sub-classes	Example of Service	Service Explanation and Positive Effect	Potential Constraint	Recommended Control
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1.	Personal Service— Provider End (Delivery persons are located at the supplier designated premises that must be approached to avail the service)	Counter based services, call center services	services uses human skills and competence,	unpleasant / unacceptable behavior by the delivery person c) Fatigue and monotony leading to human errors d) Inconsistency availability of information, aids and	a) Having the requisite competence, understanding, behavioral traits, functional capability, empathy and the willingness to resolve customer queries and unique needs, or their absence is what differentiates the quality of service and customer perception. These are achieved though qualification, training and continuous professional development of the service delivery persons. b) While initial service design should determine the expected range of customer expectations and adequate monitoring mechanism establish to identify instances of service failure due to human error, lack of knowledge or competence or altercations with customers for systematical improvements in the service transactions through training, coaching and mentoring of the service delivery personnel. c) When services are delivered from the suppliers designated service points, the service

S. No.	Sub-classes	Example of Service	Service Explanation and Positive Effect	Potential Constraint	Recommended Control
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
					provider must be facilitated with the necessary aids for fulfilling the service. This includes information, materials, equipment, and facilities. Some of these may be availed through internal supply processes such as information through the IT system, or materials through an inventory management system. The system should be designed to ensure that there are no gaps in the supplies to the delivery personnel.
2.	Non-Contact Service — Provider End (Delivery mode is located at the suppliers' designated premises that must be approached to avail the service)	Self-service vending kiosks, ATMs, automated car wash, IVR services, home stays	these services are available round the	have the challenge of serving a wide range of customer needs that needs through the predesigned, guided and logic-based customer interactions and responses. Any situation not covered through the available choices leads to unfulfilled	b) Special attention needs to be paid to the mode of communication whether visual, audio or text based that are clear, concise and unambiguous. There should be at least one option available for escalating the

S. No.	Sub-classes	Example of Service	Service Explanation and Positive Effect	Potential Constraint	Recommended Control
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
				selection leads to loss of customer's time and extended engagement of equipment and facility. c) Equipment failure or	 c) Human assistance should be provided when new automated systems are introduced which may be complex to use. d) The failure of equipment or facility, or exhaustion of materials should be coupled with triggers and alarms, and the service design should include provision for recovery within the shortest possible time.
3.	Personal Service – Customer End	Home tuitions, home repairs, Salon Services delivered at home, plumbing, Maintenance Services	These services are delivered at the customer's location by a service provider at pre-agreed time and convenience. The services also have the potential to provide customized solutions (see 5.1) and are based on human interaction.	service delivery through human interactions as given in 5.2, S. No. 1 shall also apply to delivery at customer end. An essential characteristic of these services is that all the necessary resources required for service delivery must be available to the service delivery personnel at the customer location. Any absence of these	customer's locations, the requisites of competence, functional capability, understanding, knowledge, behavioral attributes and the features of service design are the same as mentioned in 5.2 S. No.

S. No.	Sub-classes	Example of Service	Service Explanation and Positive Effect	Potential Constraint	Recommended Control
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	equipment, backend	back into the service design or service process for continuous improvement.
4.	Non-contact Service — Customer End (Service can be availed from customer's location without interactions with a service delivery person)	in, railway ticket booking, hotel booking, internet banking, home delivery services,	provide the convenience to the customer receiving the services from anywhere, potentially at all times (unless	The challenges for such services are similar to impersonal services	 a) The services should be designed with simpler user interface, smooth and logical user interaction that requires proper sequencing of process steps aided with clear and understandable guidance. b) The interface should be accessible to customers across a wide range of device screens including desktop, notebook, tablets, mobile phones etc. c) Service provider should ensure that customers personal information remains confidential and the system is secured against cyber-attacks. d) Complex services should be supplemented by chat box, bots or in-person interaction.

5.3 Classification based on Intensity of Experience

Table 3 Distinction based on Intensity of Experience(Clause 5.3)

	(Clause 5.3)					
S. No.	Sub-classes	Example of service	Service explanation	Potential constraint	Recommended control	
			and Positive effect			
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	
1.	Experienced through direct perception by individual customers after consumption (always noticed)	Call centres, healthcare, transportation, Insurance, Hospitality, Education Services, Cab Services, Portfolio Management	provide the greatest opportunity for	sought and directly consumed by service	attention to perceived response of the customer. A method should be determined and established to	
2.	Experienced Individually by Default, Noticed When Minor Or Major Deficiencies Occur	Electricity supply, water supply, internet service, central air-conditioning	These services are generally provided at the community level but are consumed individually to facilitate ease of living. They are mostly delivered in	These services are experienced by customers for their presence, but are noticed during outages or gross deviation from service standards (such as low	possible. Additionally, the processes for responding to	

			<u>*</u>	dependence, their absence or deviation disrupts the normal routine of the service recipient and can cause	for remedial action including service recovery. The service provider should ensure that effective restoration plans are in place for potential disruption of services.
3.	Experienced Collectively by Default, Noticed Only When Major Deficiencies Occur	services, traffic	provided at the community level and are consumed collectively. They facilitate the presence of societal order,	the background and are deemed to be essential. Deficiencies are	
		Conferences, and Exhibitions) sector	•	failure during emergency calls. However, their absence	surveys to evaluate the effectiveness of the service provided.
					The service provider should ensure that effective restoration plans are in place for potential disruption of services.

5.4 Classification based on Consumption Pattern

Table 4 Distinction based on Consumption Pattern

(*Clause 5.4*)

<u>S.</u>	Sub-classes	Example of	Service explanation and	Potential constraint	Recommended control
No.		service	Positive effect		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1.	Discrete - Single Occasion Use	Realty services, Interior decoration, Insurance facilitation, Clinical surgeries, Event management, Passport issue or renewal	These services are provided to fulfil one time requirement of customers (repeat may happen as another discrete engagement). Typically, these services are strongly dependent on referrals. These services being single occasions services they may not target customer loyalty. Quite often they are customized; hence the classification of services mentioned in Item 5.1, S.no. 1 or Item 5.1 S.no. 2 may also apply.	single occasion basis (or with large intervals) may be critically important to the consumer and may have long lasting effects. Due to the perceived risks, consumers do a lot of fact finding before entering into a contractual agreement with a service provider. Service delivery may involve multiple and stage wise transactions and the service outcome may evolve or get modified mid-course. In these services bad experiences during the entire customer journey	Service provider of such services should proactively engage the customer throughout the entire journey including the service delivery process, any initially agreed or modified service outcome, and related service standards. When services are customized, the assessment of customer needs and engagement should be taken into account (See item 5.1, S.no. 1 or 5.1, S.no. 2) When such services are provided by service delivery personnel, the controls related to competence, training and professional development should be pursued (see also item 5.2, S.no. 1 and item 5.2, S.no. 3) Where service delivery time and/or costs may vary during the course of service delivery due to change in scope or

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					inputs, the service agreement should include initial time and cost estimates based on agreed outcomes, with the provision of their revision. However, the customer should be informed such cost revisions and their consent should be obtained along with together available options.
					In the event of poor experiences or complaints, the customer recovery process should be initiated to ensure conversion to customer advocacy.
2.	Discrete - Random, Intermittent Use	Airline travel, long distance trains, medical consultations, courier services, Legal counselling services, Hotel, Restaurant, Repair service	These services have the potential of retaining a loyal customer base for repeat use of services, if high satisfaction levels can be achieved.	with the service provider or competitors enables setting of expectation benchmarks that keep rising over time. At a minimum, customer expectation the same level of service consistency. Any observed shortcoming	When consumers use the same or similar services on an intermittent basis, they generally do fact finding about the service provider, service delivery processes and service standards on the first occasion, but rely on their previous experience on the second for subsequent transactions. Service provider must ensure consistency of service delivery and outcomes across multiple service outlets, delivery personnel, settings, and time zones through standardized

Unavailability or delays competencies, in service delivery are communication. major of causes and attrition.

infrequent, shortages of resources, absence of personnel, or lack of Intermittently leading to failure.

resources, processes, and

customer dissatisfaction The service provider also needs to continuously track competitive service offerings When a service is to determine and address any gaps.

consumed knowledge may occur, services may be availed by service customers either on a planned basis (such as air travel) or in emergent situations (such as product repair). In both cases the customer expects the service to be available when and required, delivered according to the agreed schedule. Time commitments should be met through demand planning (See 5.5, S. No.1), and appropriate training of personnel and monitoring of service delivery processes.

> In the event of poor experiences or complaints, the customer recovery process should be initiated to ensure conversion customer advocacy.

Discrete - Periodic or Regular Use	Annual Maintenance Contract services, Banking	These services are used by customers on a repetitive basis and over time, both the service provider and recipient develop a mutual	Consumers place high reliance on the availability and quality of services they avail on periodic or regular basis	Maintaining service continuity without major disruption is critical for such services. Service providers must set up alarms and triggers based on
	services, City public transport, third party inspection / certification	comfort level. Attrition in such services takes place only when disruptions or deterioration in service delivery are experienced. There is a greater tolerance for minor or occasional	and align their personal or business schedules on the assumption that the service will be available as per the agreed schedules or on demand. Major	indicators that predict potential failure, and ensure adequate redundancy and back-up systems for quick restoration when failure
		deficiencies.	disruptions, outages and delays may have a significant impact and result in losses to the customer.	informed of potential or actual service disruptions and estimated restoration time; hence communication systems should be designed for progressive intimation to the customers. Similar to intermittently used services (See 5.4.2), periodic services also demand consistency of processes and outcomes, hence the responses should also be designed accordingly.
Continuous Use	Internet Banking Service Provision, Electricity, water, gas supply, Civic Services, Media	These services become integral to personal and professional routines of customers. The level of mutual comfort between supplier and provider and dependence on the service reliability is even higher than	The critical indicator of continuous services is the frequency and extent of outages, or a drop in the optimum service characteristic (such as power voltage,	The service provider should plan the consumable resource and equipment capacity with sufficient margin (higher than known previous levels or estimated peak demand) to avoid sudden collapse.

- TI 1 · 1	Services, OTT Services,	5.4, S. No. 3). In many situations customer attrition may not be an option. Once established and the delivery processes are optimized, such services generally require low maintenance.	Speed). Outages or drops in service level may occur due to peaking of demand or due to breakdowns. Major disruptions may have a deep impact and result in losses to the customer.	Planned disruptions should be informed to the customers with sufficient advance notice.
5. Hybrid – Continuous with Discrete Elements	Banking, Chartered accountancy, Wealth/Treasury management, Municipal service, AMC service, Data centre managed service	These services have components that operate continuously and others that are utilized intermittently. In many cases, the intermittent use may be dependent on the continuous elements. The hybrid solutions enable seamless engagement and enhancing comfort level for the customer. Customers place high reliance on the continuous availability of the contracted service and expect all intermittent transactions to be seamlessly integrated and accessible on demand. Any instances of non-availability, non-conformance of service,	of the service for the purpose it is contracted, customers expect all intermittent transactions to be seamlessly integrated and available on demand. Any incidences of non-availability, non-conformance of service or service provider personnel may lead to	The service provided should segment the different elements of service pack, based on their type of use (continuous or discrete) and apply the controls as mentioned in the related service classifications (see 5.4) In the event of poor experiences or complaints, the customer recovery process should be initiated to ensure customer retention.

or issues with service provider personnel may result in dissatisfaction and negatively impact the overall engagement with the continuous service.

5.5 Classification based on Consumption Demand

Table 5 Distinction based on Consumption Demand

(*Clause 5.5*)

S. No.	Sub-classes	Example of	Service explanation and	Potential constraint	Recommended control
		service	Positive effect		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1.	Regular, Consistent Demand with Minor Variation	Education, insurance, home delivery services, Utility supplies, Banking, Senior living, assisting living	the day, day of the week, months and seasons enable the service provider to	nature of demand, such services often lack the ability to meet contingent situations, where external factors	1 1 1
				meet surge may lead to disruptions, delays or	Service providers should also assess the risk of laying off employees in periods of unforeseen slump, and have plans to ramp up or reinstate the

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			A prolonged slump may lead to loss of resources that may be difficult to retrieve when the demand picks up and lead to similar effect.	resource base as demand resumes to normal levels.
2. Fluctuating Demand, Predictable	Power supply, Travel & tourism, wedding planners	known cycles, service providers have the opportunity to maintain, develop or improve their assets and other resources during the lean phase. Service providers can also utilize the period by	consistent demand, the extent of fluctuation may be wider than expected and lead to resource crunch during peak demand. If the service provider is part of a sector that is witnessing similar surge, it may be difficult to arrange for additional assets, consumables or persons, leading to service denial and customer dissatisfaction. Prolonged period of slump or loss of demand in the surge period may lead to lack of motivation, wearing of assets, drying up of supply sources. This	conduct initial and periodic analysis based on time of the day, day of the week, specific months or seasons etc., together with known triggers or causes of the variation. This information can be used for development of statistical prediction models that can be used as part of such analysis. The deployment of assets and resources should be aligned and fine-tuned with the change in demand, that may include contractual arrangement with independent professionals for re-

			service standards, disruptions, delays and disputes when demand picks up. When resources are demobilized during the lean period it may be difficult to remobilize the resources of a appropriate capability on a timely basis.	capacity building and competence enhancement.
3. Fluctuating Demand, Unpredictab le on Timing, Predictable on Volume	Fire services, on- road assistance, breakdown maintenance, Emergency Medical services	Services with unpredictable demand are more difficult to manage and to provide consistent standards of service delivery. However, where the average volume of demand during the day or over weeks, months is consistent, service providers are able to develop an asset base and service delivery units that can be coordinated through central planning and dynamic control to provide services within committed timelines.	The key characteristic of these services is the unpredictability of time when a service call will be made, which may further coincide with simultaneous calls from other customers. In many of such services (e.g. fire services), the window of reacting and responding to the customer is very short. Any delay beyond the standard response time may lead to losses to the customer, dissatisfaction, and	The planning for designing these services should include prior studies and trends analysis that provides a fairly consistent band of overall service volume in a given period (day, week, month). This assists in building capacity and resources with some margin to be able to cater to the overall demand. The response to this type of service is to keep all resources in a state of readiness at all times, and to have well-defined standard procedures and timeline for the service support to be provided from the time of call. Service providers should conduct mock drills or simulations and also maintain a full log of services provided to determine

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				under contract or regulations.	encountered, and to use this information for augmenting the service design and for removing constraints. Collaborative arrangements with
					other services provider can be made to supplement the demand.
4.	Fluctuating Demand, Unpredictab le on Timing and Volume	Disaster and Crises management services, emergency services, stock exchange, ATC Management, Road Traffic Management	These services are developed with the known purpose of catering to unpredictable demands for both volume and time. In several situations, they play a critical role in mitigating distress situations for service clients and citizens.	The completely unpredictable nature of service demand creates additional constraint on the service provision, as the scale of demand combined with the urgency may present seemingly unserviceable situations.	In addition to the controls exercised for service classification (see 5.3), for such services, the service provider should develop and sustain resource availability in a highly flexible mode (such as cross unit mobilization, provision of borrowing resources from other organizations, having empaneled persons with verified competency.
					In such services, the speed of response is critical; hence the deployment of resources from other sources should ensure their availability at all times and a process for quickly requisitioning their availability and deployment. The readiness of the service units should be tested and ensured through regular mock drills,

simulations, inspections and checks of all service elements.

Where such services are provided through digital mode (e.g. stock exchange), the system including software and hardware, and the bandwidth capacity should be selected and deployed with an adequate margin to be able to service high and sudden surges in demand.

5.6 Classification based on Contractual Agreements

Table 6 Distinctions based on Contractual Agreements

(Clause 5.6)

S. No.	Sub-classes	Example of service	Service explanation and Positive effect	Potential constraint	Recommended control
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1.	Off The Shelf (no formal contract)	Restaurant services, tailoring services, catering services, salons	without any formal or informal contracts or agreements are usually risk free from the provider's perspective, and therefore	understanding, there could be occasions where the expectation of the customer is at large variance with delivered service that leads to disputes,	As formal contracting may not be feasible, the service provider should devise alternate modes for communicating to the customer/consumer, the precise service outcomes offered as well as the service standards, service mode, service delivery channel and service delivery processes. These can be done through written brochures, website content, text messages, display boards or even oral narration by the service

					.1 1 2
					provider before service
2.	Implied Terms of agreement	Legal, chartered accountancy, financial advisory services, medical	based on oral agreements, or through signing of	contract between	
		practitioners	engagement letters without stating explicit terms. However, due to existence of regulatory norms, or widely accepted market practice the obligations of	disputes, and due to deeper knowledge of the statutory or market norms, the service provider is better placed	services provided, the service outcomes, the service standards and any limitations or exclusions. Where statutory provisions exist,
			sometimes service recipients are well established and can be	places the customer in a disadvantaged position. Dissatisfied customers may take the dispute to	developed between service provider and the customer in relation to service risks such as
3.	Legally Binding Contract – One Sided	Internet services, Insurance, Airlines, Banking services	A majority of internet-based services as well as financial services can be accessed only after the customer agrees to a formally drafted contract document. The acceptance of the	terms and conditions are very elaborate, written in complex legal text and usually not fully read by the customer before signing. b) The contract is often written in text that favor's the service	conditions are balanced, provide adequate protection to customer in the event of service failure or deficiencies, and the critical conditions are communicated in plain language with the positive intent of making the customer

			legal action by the customer.	customer at a disadvantage and may not be held legally valid.	b) Importantly, the service contract should provide positive protection to the customer on privacy and security, including cyber security.
4.	Legally Binding Contract Two Sided	Outsourced services such as AMCs, Housekeeping, Consulting; Accreditation Certification services	The presence of two-sided contracts such as SLAs provide clear understanding of the services being provided, the service outcomes, service delivery mode, service standards and the remedial action in case the contractual conditions are not met. The terms may also include resource availability, volume capacities, competencies, contingency situations, back-up arrangements, privacy protection. The contractual terms may also include obligations to be discharged by the customer for service fulfilment because the contracts are negotiated, there are higher possibilities of agreed protection of interests of both parties.	negotiated legally binding contracts places obligation on the service provider to ensure compliance to the contractual conditions. Noncompliances may lead to customer seeking	The service design for such services is often negotiated and developed in consultation with the customer, including process descriptions, resource deployments, information exchange, communication channels, reporting formats and intervals. Service providers should negotiate and include in the contract, necessary tolerances
					should include provision for

arbitration on mutually agreed terms.

5.7 Classification based on Product Complementarity

Table 7 Distinctions based on Product Complementarity

	(Clause 5.7)					
S. No.	Sub-classes	Example of	Service explanation and	Potential constraint	Recommended control	
2 4 5	(0)	service	Positive effect	(-)	40	
1.	No Product Associated	Consulting, legal consulting, software as a service (SAAS), telecom services	associated product enables the service provider to	more intangible in attributes, there are greater chances of gaps between customer expectations and the	When dealing with pure services, the service provider should accord additional consideration that a) The service design takes into account the full complement of service characteristics applicable to the service, based on customer expectations. b) The service delivery personnel have the requisite qualifications, competence, and updated knowledge necessary for service delivery and for ensuring compliances, if any, on behalf of the client.	
					c) The service provider should set up internal processes for systematic handling of customers information, meeting the contractual/statutory	

					requirements, service monitoring, measurement and improvement. Where higher risk is perceived, clearly defined procedures and performance indicator(s) should be established.
					d) Channels of communications including feedback should be established with clearly defined responsibilities or automated transmission of information based on pre-defined triggers
2.	Services associated with Information Products	Education, Training, self- guided tour services (prerecorded audio information)	Information that is documented or prerecorded and used during service delivery such as training material, books, examination paper, audio guides during tour provides more consistent and better service outcomes as compared to one that is based on individual's personal knowledge.	Information products may contain inherent service design deficiencies, content errors, be outdated or may not be available at the point of use or service transaction. This may lead to service deficiency that may manifest during service delivery or post-delivery when the customer or service provider uses the information.	The purpose of the information should be determined in the context of service delivery and outcome, and the information product should be designed to fulfill the purpose. With a view to avoiding gaps in communication, the presentation of the information and the language should be simple, concise and contain explanations where chances of misinterpretation are high. Information should be reviewed for adequacy at periodic intervals and improved especially when service errors are identified with

				the information as possible root cause.
3. Services incorporating IT Products	through Apps: -	These services use software products that are essential for the service delivery to take place. The IT products typically include a user interface and user interaction that can be used offline or online, depending on the type of service. The service elements may range from updating, maintaining the software products, using the software as a medium to connect users, or providing remote services through the app. The incorporation of IT products, enable access to a wide and diverse set of services delivered to the customers, in a user-friendly environment. These services are often available round the clock, across devices and geographies.	The presence and availability of many competitive software integrated services presents the difficulty of selection to the potential customer. Software / Apps may have inherent issues such as: a) bugs, that may make them inappropriate to use in certain conditions b) interfere with other system operations c) data privacy risks especially where they require to access customer's data d) Vulnerability to malware, spyware. e) strain on computing resources of the user's device	The service provider should ensure that the design of the IT product facilitates the service delivery without compromising with the user's personal security and device integrity. The IT product design cycle should include robust validation and verification protocols before release. There should be a plan to monitor usage conditions and difficulties encountered, with a feedback mechanism to resolve errors and bugs. Updates and improvements to the IT products should be explained to the customer, and be optional. Where required, the IT product should be available across user's devices with appropriate backup information.

				f) Incompatibility with software and hardware versions.	
4.	Services integrating Non- Physical Products (other than IT products)	Electricity, Internet as a service, broadcasting services, audio- visual content- based services, facilities,	Non-physical products are products that lack material shape but have measurable characteristics similar to physical products. Examples: voltage, frequency of electricity transmission; speed of internet; classification rating Their presence is felt only in the context of their usage. They are usually available on an uninterrupted basis.	are consumed simultaneously as they are received, that implies they cannot be stored and have to be on uninterrupted basis. They are supplied over dedicated channels and are based on infrastructural arrangements and	arrangements and installations are designed to cater to their

					The controls applicable to services under continuous supply may also be referred S. No. 5.4.4 where applicable
5.	Services incorporated material products	Restaurant / catering services, healthcare, water supply, product rental services	Physical products constitute an integral and complementary part of such service provision. As they can be seen and felt, consumers feel more confident in procuring and consuming them as compared to pure services or non-physical products. Physical products may be consumed immediately such as food or water, or may be retained and consumed later.	<u> </u>	When services are differentiated on grades or consumer segments, it is essential that the products associated with the service cater to the same level of customer expectation (example 5-star hotel). In all cases, the products should meet customer needs and serve the functional and expected
			In some cases, physical products may constitute the predominant portion of the supply provision and the service may only be complementary, for example installation and commissioning of the product.		When products are sourced from other organizations, the service provider should establish the criteria for their acceptance. In situations where correct usage of the product is important, the service provider should ensure that the delivery personnel are competent for the relevant processes. Customer complaints with
					products should be dealt through

complaint handling procedures that may include repair, replacement and/or corrective actions.

5.8 Classification based on Equipment/Infrastructure Complementarity

Table 8 Distinctions based on Equipment/Infrastructure Complementarity

(Clause 5.8)		
S. No. Sub-classes Example of Service explanation and	Potential constraint	Recommended control
service Positive effect		
$(1) \qquad (2) \qquad (3) \qquad (4)$	(5)	(6)
no associated supply, Tourequipment or guides, auditing, infrastructure without the aid of any equipment, even though they may include associated products. The service provider can focus on the service elements without the encumbrance of managing equipment or infrastructure.	infrastructure such as equipment, office space, and buildings enable the customer to relate to a service supplier in a more tangible manner. Their	Where possible, a service provider should endeavor to associate the service with a physical address or a website to provide confidence to a potential customer. Where it is not feasible, a service provider may need to use other means to provide confidence such as authorized identity cards, referrals, reviews, certifications, or formal contracts.

			Services that are delivered without the aid of any equipment or infrastructure are primarily competence	
			based and may therefore lead to	
			higher incidence of service error.	
2. Services incorporating equipment / infrastructure, facility or space provided by supplier	Front end equipment: e - service kiosks, ATMs, Public Transport Services, Gyms, Fire services, car rental services, Hotels Back-end equipment: Cloud services, cargo services, ware houses	These services can be supplied only with the simultaneous use of the associated equipment, infrastructure, facility or space that is provided by the service supplier. As the equipment/infrastructure can be seen and used or related with, consumers gain more confidence in availing services associated with them. The service provider can differentiate from competitive services through deployment of superior equipment, facilities, or ambience to create better customer experiences	Service failures or disruptions often occur due to malfunctioning or outage of the related equipment or infrastructural arrangements (such as internet outage or loss in speed, out of service ATMs). These may occur due to poor quality of equipment or lack of maintenance. Customers associate the quality of service with the type/class/brand of equipment / infrastructure present and with their performance. The constraints applicable to	The type/class/brand and technical requirements of the associated equipment and infrastructure, including building spaces are often an integral part of the service design. The considerations in selection of equipment should be based on: a) Their ability to perform the essential functions under normal and abnormal conditions. b) Their availability during the expected times of use c) Safety and security especially where human interactions are involved d) Their capability to deliver the features (characteristics and attributes) of services that are promised

				(See 5.4 S. No. 4) or services in regular periodic use (See 5.4 S. No. 3) also apply to services dependent on equipment and infrastructure	e) Ease and cost of operation and maintenance The service provider should ensure that the equipment, infrastructure, facility, or space are suitably maintained through monitoring and maintenance arrangements.
3.	Services incorporating equipment / infrastructure (consumer owned)	Net banking, E-commerce (computer) App based services (mobile handset), on-site testing / calibration services (testing equipment, environment control)	These services can only be delivered when the customer has the necessary equipment, infrastructure, facility, or space. The customer has more confidence as he has direct control of the equipment. The service provider will not be held liable for a service delivery failure, if it is attributed to the resources at the customer's end.	aware of the requirements for the equipment, infrastructure, facility or space and any shortcoming may lead to denial of service. A service provision may display error or disruption, due to customer owned resource deficiency and the reasons may not be evident until a	A service provider should ensure through pre-delivery interactions that the requirement for necessary equipment, infrastructure, facility, or space has been fully understood by the customer. Where the chances of deviations are anticipated, the communication should be in writing or other visual modes. In cases, where the consequence of non-conforming service may be high, a prior verification of the resources should be carried out before commencement of service delivery.

5.9 Classification based on Automation

Table 9 Distinctions based on Automation

(*Clause 5.9*)

S. No.	Sub-classes	Example of	Service explanation and Positive effect	Potential constraint	Recommended control
(1)	(2)	service (3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1.	Non- Automated Service	All human skills-based services	<u> </u>	Due to the variability of delivery owing to individual perceptions, beliefs and paradigms at both the service providers and consumers ends, ensuring consistency poses a challenge and often results in customer's dissatisfaction. As non-automated services are delivered	As non-automated services are essentially provided by humans, the service provider should ensure qualification criteria and its fulfilment through experience, education, training and continuous professional development of the service delivery persons. (Also see recommended control 5.2 a) While initial service design must determine the expected range of customer expectations, there should be adequate monitoring mechanism to identify instances of service failure due to human error, lack of knowledge or competence or altercations with customers to systematically improve the service transactions through training, coaching and mentoring of the service delivery
2.	Partially Automated - IT Reliant	as home delivery	1	Because partially	Design of the delivery process should consider the potential customer expectation and

Sub-classes	Example of	Service explanation and	Potential constraint	Recommended control
	-	-		
(2)			(5)	(6)
(2)	delivery services, Banking, partly automated parking, warehousing,	intervention may be required for the physical delivery of the service or product. The presence of automation enables more reliable,	of automated and human processes, they may not always perform to full effectiveness due to gaps in design or in specific situations, leading to service errors. As part of the service contains human interaction, consumer expectations relate to emotional responses which may not be available in the automated component leading to dissatisfaction The presence of both automated and personal responses may lead to dissatisfaction as inperson presence of the service provider leads	
	Sub-classes (2)	service (2) (3) delivery services, Banking, partly automated parking,	delivery services, Banking, partly automated parking, warehousing, Warehousing, Bervice (3) (4) delivery services, intervention may be required for the physical delivery of the service or product. The presence of automation enables more reliable, consistent and often quicker services relative to those provided by human intervention. Human interaction provides an opportunity to create customer experience that is	delivery services, Banking, partly automated parking, warehousing, Human interaction provides an opportunity to create customer experience that is differentiated. Human interaction provides an opportunity to create customer experience that is differentiated. Human interaction provides an opportunity to dissatisfaction The presence of both automated and human processes, they may not always perform to full effectiveness due to gaps in design or in specific situations, leading to service errors. As part of the service contains human interaction, consumer expectations relate to emotional responses which may not be available in the automated component leading to dissatisfaction The presence of both automated and personal responses may lead to dissatisfaction as inperson presence of the

S. No.	Sub-classes	Example of	Service explanation and	Potential constraint	Recommended control
(1)	(2)	service (3)	Positive effect (4)	(5)	(6)
(1)	(2)	(0)	(4)	engagement by the customer.	(0)
3.	Fully Automated	IVR and BOT based information services, Online Insurance (self-service), Net banking, stock trading, ATM, Online travel bookings, auto car wash,	These services have the potential to be fully automated and are standardised, can cater to large number of concurrent users and are generally available 24/7. These services do not involve any human interaction on the supply side.	The standardised nature of automated services restricts the fulfilment of requirements that are non-routine or special. Service glitches, disruptions and outages create customer dissatisfaction, especially when alternate service channels are not available. Overloading of fully automated systems	performed to verify conformance

S. No.	Sub-classes	Example of service	Service explanation and Positive effect	Potential constraint	Recommended control
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
				Fully automated services may not be able to cater to users having accessibility challenges.	

5.10 Classifications based on Service Risks

Table 10 Distinctions based on Service Risks

(Clause 5.10)

S. No.	Sub-classes	Example of service	Service explanation and Positive effect	Potential constraint	Recommended control
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1.	Physical Security/ Safety Risks to Humans	Adventure tourism, ropeways, amusement parks, healthcare, transportation	humans that use them. Some	elements of the risks associated or inherent in the service may not be adequate to cover the overall risk which may include hardware	Laying down SOPs with process/monitoring control addressing operating parameters, equipment and human activities commensurate with the evaluated risks Ensuring compliance with regulatory requirements and

S.	Sub-classes	Example of	Service explanation and	Potential constraint	Recommended control
No.		service	Positive effect		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
				risk by the service	Ethical and accurate information to users relating to the risks involved.
				•	Adequate competence building with respect to related services and mitigating action.
				the receiver of the	Equipment is tested prior to use and during use including stress testing where applicable.
				adequately addressed thereby avoiding necessary precautions while availing the service leading to	devices such as safety harnesses,
				potential mishaps and reputational loss.	Laying down emergency response plan to address adverse event, natural disaster with
				The use of services	related operating procedures.
				that are designed to	In the event of any adverse event,
				increase adrenaline	
				develop a fear of an	~ ·
				accident or death. To achieve this the	services activated.
				activities involve	
				generating thrill due	
				to speed, falls, flying,	
				dropping and the	
				equipment and	
				methods may fail or	

S. No.	Sub-classes	Example of service	Service explanation and Positive effect	Potential constraint	Recommended control
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
				break causing harm to	
				humans.	
				Services that are	
				aimed to assist	
				humans through	
				treatments are	
				necessary to restore	
				the quality of life for	
				affected people can	
				worsen the conditions	
				or create other	
				adverse results.	
				Travel which is	
				needed as part of life	
				poses risks to humans	
				due to speeds or	
				heights. People trust	
				modes of travel and	
				generally accept that	
				to be safe, without any	
				deeper analysis of	
				risks.	
				People follow others,	
				especially similar	
				others and many	
				others.	
2.	Services	Freight,	Assets are a crucial part of	•	Physical security of assets
	associated	warehousing,	the provision of services.		
	with Physical	Cash handling	These assets vary between		against theft, sabotage, damage,
	Security	services, vault	, ,	financial impact.	breakdown through adequate
		services,	value. Irrespective of the		controls. Physical controls would

S. No.	Sub-classes	Example of service	Service explanation and Positive effect	Potential constraint	Recommended control
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
	Risks to Assets		cost of the asset the criticality is important to be understood. The assets associated with a service may be owned by the service provider or the service recipient. Physical assets are necessary to provide continuity of services e.g. telecom services. Asset security services cover the risk of the service recipient to third party	Theft, damage, breakdown of assets affects the service delivery and its quality. Facility/equipment assets that handle other material assets may not be adequately designed or operating in appropriate conditions leading to damage or loss. For eg: ATM machines, baggage handling	include isolation, lock down, preventive and breakdown maintenance. Provision of instruction manuals for appropriate use of equipment is essential to ensure continued
3.	Services subject to	Net banking, cloud services,	Services that have a large dependence on connectivity	machines, car washing service. Assets may be rendered in operable due to threats arising from network connectivity. Extended and widespread use of	1 11
	information risks	SaaS, data storage services, IoT services	to the internet or other networks are subject to cyber security risks. Connected services enable efficiency and continuity at	interconnected devices increase the threats due to deliberate hacking, transfer of malware;	vulnerability followed by designing, implementing the mitigating controls and evaluating their effectiveness,

S. No.	Sub-classes	Example of service	Service explanation and Positive effect	Potential constraint	Recommended control
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
	(2)	(3)	adequate service quality delivery at lower costs. Larger networks and faster data transfer allow innovation in service quality and delivery. Cyber security enables confidentiality, integrity and availability of information. Network connected applications software (App), create ease of availing services through the digital mode across devices and are also subject to cyber security measures.	to cookies or incompatible software. These may lead to compromised data, lost data, unusable data as well as misuse. Since the handling storage and use of information gets extended, the threats increase as well as chances of vulnerabilities are created. Personal data and confidential information provide value and business advantage to its service provider. At the same time adds to	entirety of the information technology architecture that includes hardware, end points, software, applications, networks, cloud and storage. Testing for adequacy, through vulnerability analysis and penetration testing, stress testing provides valuable inputs to create threat models. Identified weaknesses in any aspect of the IT systems should require prompt and adequate actions, such as software patches. Provision for incident response plans should be in place and tested at regular intervals. People responsible for cyber security should be adequately
				liability of personal data protection.	should be monitored to detect trends of potential risks.

5.11 Classification based on Transaction Time

Table 11 Distinctions based on Transaction Time

(Clause 5.11)

S. No.	Sub-classes	Example of service	Service explanation and Positive effect	Potential constraint	Recommended control
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1.	Real-time Transaction - Simultaneou s Consumptio n Active	Majority of services – such as airlines in flight services, counter based services, Healthcare (OPD, surgical, ambulance), banking—and—other financial services, training (online and in-person), online learning, online order placement (e-commerce) education.	These services are consumed simultaneously as they are being produced and are being experienced directly by the service recipients. By nature of the business, in all these services the customer interacts with the business on a real-time basis that may last for a single interaction or a series of interaction. making it challenging for the service provider to ensure continual careful execution, measurement, monitoring and improvement of the service delivery processes	identify, and correct errors before the customer experiences the service Because these services are delivered based on predetermined process parameters, they do	prior to putting the service into delivery mode (i.e. Service design phase), b) Ensure adequate fool proofing / mistake proofing steps to be able to identify and fix issues prior to customer interface,

S. No.	Sub-classes	Example of service	Service explanation and Positive effect	Potential constraint	Recommended control
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
					f) Robust complaints management system in place to fix chronic issues in the service delivery processes
2.	Real-time Transaction - Simultaneou s Consumptio	maintenance, credit card	1 2	identify, and correct errors before the customer experiences	-
	n Passive	as hospitals, hotels, cloud storage services, law and order maintenance	run in the background to enable the customer needs being met to his satisfaction and or contractual obligations.	directly experienced by the customer on a regular basis, they are often critical, and operate on trust with	similar to those given for Real- time Transaction - Simultaneous Consumption Active. However, the service provider must apply the internal monitoring control with greater emphasis on
			In these service processes there is some flexibility to make correction without the customer experiencing the deficiency.	arrangements. It is therefore essential that a service provider	resilience, potential and actual risks for deviation especially where it impacts customers agreed contractual terms or regulatory requirements. This
				deviations or breach may have adverse consequences both for	

S. No.	Sub-classes	Example of service	Service explanation and Positive effect	Potential constraint	Recommended control
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
				the customer and service provider.	
3.	Produced And Outcome Delivered with Time Lag	Aircraft preparation, cleaning of hotel room, construction, market surveys; Shipping and delivery (retail e- commerce, cargo and couriers), Marketing and advertisement services Loans (auto, mortgage, education) offer creation	Services which have a component of preparation / ground work, to be performed by the service provider prior to customers experiencing the service and the associated product. This provides the opportunity to the service provider to pre inspect/monitor the service component before they are provided.	Incomplete and inadequate understanding of customer requirements, negligence during the preparation, lack of effectively trained staff to execute the process,	The service provider should ensure: a) Establishment of well documented processes to ensure consistent and accurate execution which should be used for training and awareness of staff. b) Appropriate monitoring methods on periodic or continuous basis to enable resolution of customer concerns as well as to facilitate correction in the short term. c) Identify and implement metrics to ensure errors are captured, corrected and eliminated and to measure and analyze other process parameters d) Robust complaints management system in place to fix chronic issues in the service delivery processes e) Wherever the service is dependent on large complements

S. No.	Sub-classes	Example of service	Service explanation and Positive effect	Potential constraint	Recommended control
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
					of trained and competent staff, the service provider should maintain adequate bench strength basis track record of attrition percentage.

5.12 Classification based on Supply / Consumption Points

Table 12 Distinction based on Supply / Consumption Points(Clause 5.12)

S.	Sub-classes	Example of	Service explanation and	Potential constraint	Recommended control
No.		service	Positive effect		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1.	Consumed At	Hotels, hospitals,	Services wherein customers	High peaks and slump	The service provider should:
	Supplier's	Over the counter	typically visit the supplier's	in footfalls leading to	
	Outlets	services, airports,	facility in person to avail the	inconsistent service	a) Constantly monitor the
		restaurants, ATM,	service that may lead to	delivery. (see 5.5)	demand and proactively deploy
		public service	partial or complete service		adequate resources to manage
		providers	transaction.	Lack of clear	peaks and dips
			Service provider has larger	understanding on how	
			control on service provision	to use the service due	b) Provide clear instructions,
			including flexibility and	1	including audio-visual as
			-		required for availing the service.
			unplanned and unanticipated	1	
			expectations.	of use.	c) Provide assistance at the point
					of use for customers that are not
					in a position to understand
				approachability (Such	provided instructions.
				as distances, physical	
				access, availability) of	d) Conduct detailed analytics of
				the service outlet may	service demand including target

S. No.	Sub-classes	Example of service	Service explanation and Positive effect	Potential constraint	Recommended control
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
				lead to difficulty in availing the service.	customer, volume, frequency & nature of use. Based on the outcome of the analytics determine appropriate options such as improving the location of the outlets, provide the service through alternate delivery channels, provide services at customers locations.
2.	Consumed At Consumer's Location	on-line learning, home deliveries and home collections (Courier, Laundry, carpet cleaning, medical samples) water supply, facility management services, home services (such as beauticians, massages, maintenance, home tuitions) home care, repair services)	These services are provided to consumers at their location (home, office etc.) that provides the benefit of convenience, approachability and or customization (See S No5.1)	the customer's location may not be	Preventative actions to avoid customer dissatisfaction should
3.	Consumed At Third Party Outlet	Outsourced services: e-kiosks, visa, passport,	Services providers in turn outsource parts or all of their service processes to an	Inadequate understanding between service	Clear SLAs between the two parties that covers all hard and soft metrics such as TAT,

S. No.	Sub-classes	Example of service	Service explanation and Positive effect	Potential constraint	Recommended control
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
		examination Centre, incubation services, co- working spaces	organization that specializes in that business with the intention of consistency of service and cost reduction,	party (outsourced agency) leading to service errors and	Accuracy, Min training for staff and constant monitoring and customer feedback should be taken into account to determine the gaps and address them.
4.	Consumed in virtual mode	Contact centre / BPO/KPO Cloud services, data centre	These services are supplied from provider end and consumed at consumer location simultaneously in virtual mode. This dispenses the needs for physical presence, provides convenience, improves consistency of service and reduces cost.	turnaround time (TAT) and accuracy (Service conformance level) and outcome	should be determined and provided. A systematic performance review mechanism to continuously evaluate constraints, gaps, trends of conformance/non-conformance, feedbacks and complaints with to resolve the

S. No.	Sub-classes	Example of service	Service explanation and Positive effect	Potential constraint	Recommended control
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	c) limitations of process boundaries,	(6)
				authorization of service provider in the SLAs.	
				d) mismatch between latest policies and technology updates and the approved processes /SOP's	
				e) Inadequately trained staff.	
5.	Consumed In-Transit	Taxis, public transport, ambulance,	part of transportation		Service provider should have information systems rendered through various media to enable easy access to accurate and updated information relating to transport schedules, routes, operating times, need for reservations etc.
			other relevant section of the standard may be referred.	leading to confusion, delays, misses Non maintenance of schedules especially for public transports.	Service provider should plan and execute preventive maintenance and monitoring program for transport and associated equipment with planned replacement policy.

S. No.	Sub-classes	Example of service	Service explanation and Positive effect	Potential constraint	Recommended control
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
				be inadequate.	Service provider should continuously determine causes that lead to delays in schedules and have policy to mitigate the constraints.
				•	Immediate information should be provided to register and potential customers on the expected delays.

6 SERVICES CLASSIFICATION BY SERVICE RECIPIENT

- a) Classification based on entity
- b) Classification on the basis of age profile
- c) Classification on the basis Consumer Awareness level
- d) Classification on the basis Accessibility challenged

6.1 Classification based on Entity

Table 1 Distinction based on Entity

(Clause 6.1)

S. No.	Sub-classes	Example of service	Service explanation and Positive effect	Potential constraint	Recommended control
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1.	Individual consumer (Self consumptio n)	retail banking,	to cater to individual consumers because of which, the service experience is based on	expect personalized service delivery the service provider has to cater to multiple	<u>*</u>

			The service provider has the opportunity of customizing the services to individual consumer's needs. Where human interaction is involved, personal touch & empathy play an important role.	Because of this the probability of not meeting customer expectation is higher.	the service. The service delivery should be based on prior understanding and anticipation of the needs of specific consumer based on demography, past experience (known preferences). The service delivery should cater to modification based on customer's expressed needs to the extent practicable.
					The service provider should explore the use of technology where it can assist in catering to individual needs (such as AI/ML based technologies).
2.	Group consumers	Classroom education / training, Housekeeping, group/family travel, senior living/ old age home, creche, conference	These services are provided to a group of consumers assuming common needs. Such services enable economy of scale while providing minimum level of services that is acceptable to all group members.	As these services cater to common needs, it may be difficult to satisfy individual needs. Because the service experience is always perceived individually based on a person's individual expectations and past	The service design and mode of delivery for group consumers should ensure the setting of minimum and median level of service standard based on common expectations to achieve a minimum level of satisfaction/perception that should be measurable. To the extent practicable the
				experience, therefore there may be gaps in the ability of the service to fulfil all the needs and may lead to dissatisfaction.	service provider should make provisions to cater to individual needs as part of the service design.

3.	Mass	Broadcast	These services are designed	The major constraint	The services design for these
J.	consumers	services, news,	to cater to mass	in these services is	services should be based on wide
	Consumers	public transport,	consumption.	that the service	scale evaluation of consumers
		public transport,	The service provider has the		
		1	1 *	-	needs and expectation taking into
		services,	advantage of building		account variability among different classes of consumer.
		exhibitions,	economy of scale	consumer who will be	
			The service experience	<u> </u>	However, the service provider
			involves service provided on		must identify the class of
			B2C platform where many	inability to cater to	consumers who will be
			customers get serviced	•	consuming services so that the
			simultaneously.	be over and above the	services can be design to cater to
				common service	the broader needs of the class.
				elements provided.	The service provider should
				Some of these needs	identify and provide specific
				may be specific to	services to consumer segments
				consumer's classes.	based on their common needs
				Some features of the	(such as special arrangements for
				services on the other	disabled persons) that may be
				hand (such as content	over and above the minimum
				of broadcast media	service elements being provided
				may not be suitable or	The service provider should
				acceptable to all	ensure that the service design
				consumers).	takes into account the full
				As many of the mass	complement of service
				consumer's services	characteristics applicable to the
				are continuous (See	service, based on customer
				6.1 S. No. 3) or under	expectations.
				regular periodic use	
				the constraints	
				applicable to these	
				services may also be	
				referred.	

4.	Organizatio	Manpower	Services to organizations are	The prominent	The service provider should
	n/institution	supply, payroll	usually provided under	concern in service	negotiate with the organization
	al consumer	management,	formal contracting	supply to organization	the terms of the supply of services
		security,	arrangements (see 5.6, S.	is the identification	that should include channels for
		consultancy,	No. 4). This provides the	and establishment of	communications, delivery, times,
			opportunity to the service	transaction channels	resources as part of the Service
			provider to understand and	both for the service	Level Agreement. Arrangement
			determine the specific needs	delivery as well as	should be made for review and
			of the organization and plan	managing	dispute resolution.
			its service processes and	commercial	
			resources according to the	obligations. In	Where common services are
			contractual requirement.	absence of clear	provided across mass consumer
				arrangements service	
				failure may occur, for	11 • \
				e.g. due to gaps in	6.1 S. No. 3)
				communication,	
				diverse needs within	
				the organization.	
				It is possible that all	
				organizational needs	
				may not be fully	
				customized when the	
				service provider is	
				providing the	
				common services to	
				mass consumers	
				especially where the	
				recipient organization	
				is smaller in size.	

6.2 Classification on the basis of Age Profile

Table 2 Distinction based on Age profile

(*Clause 6.2*)

S. No.	Sub-classes	Example of	Service explanation and	Potential constraint	Recommended control
(1)	(2)	service (3)	Positive effect (4)	(5)	(6)
1	Children	School education,	As these services are	Because children do	The services have to be
1.	Ciliuren	creche, pediatric	dedicated to children from	not have the capability	designed with special
		healthcare,	infancy to adolescence, their	to discern and decide	considerations for children
		children's	design is done on the	the specific services	that will ensure their
		amusement,	considerations of the mental	-	consumption with intended
		,	faculty of the children and		outcome simultaneously
			their special needs and	additional risk as	ensuring their safety and
			interest distinct from adults.	compared to adults.	security (both physical and
			The service provider has the	Services that are	emotional). Where content is
			advantage of tailoring the	provided without	a part of the service delivery
			services to a select band of	restrictions for adults	it needs to be suitable for the
			customers who have really	have the potential of	
			large complement of fairly	•	perspective of assimilation as
			standardized needs.	children and	
			Service provider also	influencing them in a	
			develop new service types	manner detrimental to	guidance should be in place
			for children that aid their	` •	when children are likely to
			learning and development.	content).	access adult services.
				Service providers also face the challenge of	
				engaging children over	
				longer time spans.	
2.	Adults	All services other	The services that are	The constraints are	The recommended control is
	(Excluding	than those	consumed by people as	similar to the service	similar to the service
	senior	specifically for	individuals (See 6.1 S. No.	consumed by people as	consumed by people as
	citizens)	children and	1), group consumers (See 6.1	individuals ((See 6.1 S.	
		senior citizen	S. No. 2) and mass	No. 1), group	group consumers (See 6.1 S.
			consumers (See 6.1 S. No. 3)	consumers (See 6.1 S.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
			other than children's and	No. 2) and mass	(See 6.1 S. No. 3) other than
			senior citizens.	consumers (See 6.1 S.	children's and senior
				No. 3) other than	citizens.

				children's and senior citizens.	
3.	Senior citizens	Geriatric/elderly care, old age homes, pension disbursement services	citizens includes a loss of physical ability, endurance, and in some cases impairment of mental faculty, which may deprive them from experiencing the intended service outcome.	senior citizens are well informed have strong opinions, may be inflexible and may have physical constraints. The service provider therefore has this	considerations for senior citizen that will ensure their consumption with intended outcome simultaneously ensuring their safety, security and emotional well-being. To the extent practicable the
			These services therefore cater to assist senior citizen to mitigate these challenges.		services may be customized to their specific needs and desire.
			The service provider has the advantage of tailoring the services to a select band of customers who have really large complement of fairly standardized needs. In addition to dedicated		The service design and mode of delivery should consider, dedicated and suitably trained people and resources to support and assist them with special safety features.
			services, general services often have additional provisions to cater to the senior citizen segment.		

6.3 Classification on the basis of Consumer Awareness Level

Table 3 Distinction based on Consumer Awareness level

(Clause 6.3)

S. No.	Sub-classes	Example of service	Service explanation and Positive effect	Potential constraint	Recommended control
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)

1.	First time user	Any services avail at first time	Service provider constantly engages with new customers. An advantage with new customer is that they are unbiased.	new customer to engage/connect before entering to contract.	should anticipate the lack of understanding, awareness and the difficulties that a first-time user may encounter and provide suitable guidance through means such as user instruction FAQs, displays, websites, helpdesk,
					first-time user as a separate category of customers.
2.	Informed / knowledgeab le (customer with clear knowledge and understandin	B to B services, Banquet services, BPO/KPO services,	The service assumes the knowledge of service offerings to the customers. Greater and prior understanding of services terms and offering that leads to clearer contract terms.	An informed customer invariably has higher expectations from the service provider that is drawn from the past experiences and other benchmarks that leads to lesser tolerance to	The terms of the contract should be exhaustive, clear and precise covering all aspects of service delivery and anticipated disputes (see 5.6)

	g of service offered)				The service provider should ensure that the service design takes into account anticipated customer expectations, learnings from previous suggestions and complaints.
3.	Uninformed/ partially informed customer (such as uneducated/ underprivileg ed)	Public services (public health services, PDS services), other common services	These services are either dedicated to certain sections of the society who are deemed to be under privileged or from rural background, or services that are being provided to all consumers including the above categories. These customers generally represent a homogeneous group with common or similar service requirements.	unaware of how to navigate through the service processes, due to lack of	a) Ease of instructions & simplicity should be built into the service design.
					c) Service provider should provide assistance to such customers during the different stages of the service provision based on anticipated difficulties. d) User friendly technology may be adopted in service provision.

6.4 Classification on the basis of Accessibility Challenged

Table 4 Distinction based on Accessibility Challenged

(Clause 6.4)

S. No.	Sub-classes	Example of service	Service explanation and Positive effect	Potential constraint	Recommended control
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1.	Visually challenged	Any service Braille signages in railways, air lines, movie halls etc.	The service design should have special provision for visually challenged persons like talking ATMs/Magnifying glass availability	The service provider has to specifically make provision for Accessible tools like	Audio messaging in service areas for visually challenged persons.
2.	Physically challenged	Wheelchair services in a hospital/ Airport/Railway station	It has been felt that physically challenged persons need special arrangements in the environment for their mobility and independent functioning.	The Service Provider has to specifically	Special provisions like ramps in places like Hospitals, schools etc. to be made

S. No.	Sub-classes	Example of service	Service explanation and Positive effect	Potential constraint	Recommended control
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
3.	Hearing / speech impaired	News readers using sign languages for Hearing / speech impaired	The service design and mode of delivery should consider	All the service points should address hearing	Special provisions like visual/pictures should be made for Hearing/speech impaired. Enhanced use of assisted technologies like amplified telephones etc.

7 SERVICES CLASSIFICATION BY CONTEXT

- a) Classification based on Context of purposeb) Classification based on Context of service zone
- c) Classification based on Context of demography

7.1 Classification based on Context of purpose

Table 1 Distinction based on Context of Purpose

(Clause 7.1)

S. No.	Sub-classes	Example of	Service explanation and	Potential constraint	Recommended control
		service	Positive effect		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1.	Voluntary	Public shelters,	These services are provided	a) Because voluntary	The service provider should
	service,	charitable	by individuals, voluntary	services are dependent	set up systems to ensure:
	non-	healthcare, NGO's	organizations, commercial	on aid and/ or	
	commercial	services, voluntary	organizations (under social	volunteering, lack of	a) The scope of the project
		relief camp	responsibility activities) for	resources may lead to	or program for the concerned
		services, civil	various social,	inconsistent or	services is commensurate
		defense volunteers,	environmental, or	inadequate provision	with available and committed
		Voluntary services	community-related causes	of such services.	resources including finances.
		from for-profit	where the service recipients		

		organizations such	are not required to pay for	b) Low	b) All resources including
		as CSR	the services availed.	accountability may	people, equipment, facilities,
				lead to inconsistent	materials, software deployed
			These services often	service quality.	for the provision of the
			complement or supplement		services are managed
			public services and benefit	c) Performance	efficiently.
			the society at large.	below expected levels	
				may lead to trust deficit	c) Robust financial
			They support community	amongst stakeholders,	management including
			development and	such as donors,	auditing of income and
			engagement, and help	recipients and	expenses.
			underprivileged segments.	employees.	
			Voluntary services play a		d) Taking necessary
			major role during emergency	The services may need	measures for building and
			situations such as providing	to be delivered under	sustaining integrity and
			relief to affected population	time constraint,	reputation of the
			following natural disaster.	particularly during	organization, including
				emergency responses	transparent communications,
					audits and reviews, published
					performance reports.
					Adequate skill development
					that will facilitate performing
					under time constraints and
					emergency situations (see
	G : 1	A 11		- TT1 1	5.10).
2.	Commercial	All services other	Commercial services embed	There may be	The Service provider should:
		than voluntary and	contractual accountability	significant gaps in) F (11'1
		regulatory public	between service provider	service delivery related	a) Establish systems to
		services	and the customer whether	to:	monitor and review
			explicit or implicit.	1	contractual commitments at
			TI : :1 C	a) contractual	the service design,
			The service provider of	commitments (see 5.6,	operational and post-delivery
			commercial services mostly		stages.

			has the prerogative of	Sno 1) and what is	
				delivered	b) Conduct regular market
			selecting customer segments, quality levels and	denvered	research and consumer
				b) mains and quality of	
			price based on value	b) price and quality of	service to study market
			proposition and other	services	conditions, competitive
			differentiators.		offerings and evolving
				c) customers	customer expectations to
				perception vis-à-vis	calibrate price and quality
				expectations and	levels of the services offered.
				needs.	
					c) Maintain good
					relationships with service
					consumers to align with their
					perceptions and preferences.
					d) Focus on providing
					excellent customer service
					and memorable customer
					experiences.
					e) Continuously update
					knowledge and technology to
					stay an abreast with
					competitive offerings.
					Providing detailed
					information about the service,
					such as through written
					contract, website,
					communication etc.
3.	Public	Postal services,	Non regulatory public	Public services by	Public service standards
	Service	public transports,	services are similar to	nature involve public	should be detailed and
	(non-	public healthcare	commercial services except	_	displayed for public
	regulatory)		they are provided by the	part of the service	knowledge in local language.

4.	Public	Services sanitation services	state. These services may be charged on use basis, may be subsidized, or may be provided free, funded by public exchequer. They fulfill societal needs and predominantly work with nonprofit motive. Public services may operate in competitive environment.	provider. Due to lack of profit motive and resource crunch, public services often become deficient in meeting service standards leading to dissatisfaction. As public services are also consumed by uninformed, partly informed or underprivilege customers, the constraints applicable to them will apply see 6.3. Regulatory services	Adequate attention to motivate staff to ensure they are responsive and service centric. Performance measurement should be done with wider coverage to include all customer segments with a view to ensure consistent quality levels across all outlets and channels. The names and designations of person responsible for providing the services as well as those responsible for receiving and resolving grievances (including escalation where applicable) should be made available in public domain. See 6.3 for the recommended control for the services consumed by uninformed, partly informed or underprivilege customers. Design of regulatory services,
4.	Service (regulatory)	for regulatory purposes such as:	Regulatory services comprise of process essential to ensure compliances with the relevant regulatory	Regulatory services could overlook the importance of fairness, objectivity, non-discrimination that	and their delivery modes should be based on the fundamental principles of good regulatory practices

Police,	objectives that include	may lead to	such as equitable approach,
adjudication,	policy building,	disproportionate action	transparency,
taxation, central	consultations, notifications,	and/or misuse of	communication, efficiency
banking, telecom,	approval licensing,	authority, including	effectiveness, accessibility
	surveillance, enforcements,	rent seeking.	and accountability.
	prosecutions etc.		
		Regulated public	Regulatory services should
	While majority of these	services are often	be notified after conducting
	process are mandated by	constraint due to	prior impact assessment,
	relevant laws and	inadequate resources	which should be reviewed
	regulations, some of the	that lead to delays,	periodically.
	principles of service		
	orientations apply to these	facilities etc.	Suitable modes of timely
	such as protection of citizen		evaluations and approvals,
	rights, information,		checks and balances should
	behavioral expects, timeless,		be in-built to ensure they are
	facilities, equipment		delivered in the intended
	associated with service		manner. A system of raising
	delivery.		complaints and appeals
			should be integral in the
			service design.

7.2 Classification based on Context of Service Zone

Table 2 Distinction based on Context of Service Zone

(Clause 7.2)

S. No.	Sub-classes	Example of service	Service explanation and Positive effect	Potential constraint	Recommended control
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1.	Domestic -	Several	Both service provider and	a) There could be a	a) Where differentiated
	within country		recipients share similar	differential in service	standards are offered to
		All services -	cultural background that	standards to domestic	overseas customer as
		Healthcare	leads to common	recipients as compared	compared to domestic as a
		services, Utility	understanding and	to overseas customer	conscious choice it should be

S. No.	Sub-classes	Example of	Service explanation and	Potential constraint	Recommended control
(1)	(2)	service (3)	Positive effect (4)	(5)	(6)
(-)		Services (Electricity, Gas supply, Waste disposal services, Retail & Grocery Services)	expectations in terms of service standard and manner of service delivery. Services and services contract are subject to common laws which are understood by the parties involved. Being in the domestic territory, relatively easy to track service status, raise complaints and file dispute/court cases, if required.	b) Service expectations may differ from visiting citizens of other nation as well as those belonging to another	ensured that services to domestic customer are not compromised. b) Service delivery and language should be customized to the extent feasible, based on specific requirements/characteristics of a region. In case of foreign citizens, the terms of contract and/or service explanation should be more explicit to overcome differentiated understanding of cultural aspects and legal requirements.
2.	International - Cross borders services	Certification, BPO, consulting, contract research	 a) These services may be offered online or through physical presence of personnel deputed to the recipient's territory. b) The experience gains in dealing with international customers leads to learning and improving service standards and developing the capability of delivering services globally. 	relationship, large information asymmetry	Pre contract due diligence and negotiations should address the following: - Resolving differences in information structure, channels of communication, language, formats of reporting etc.

S. No.	Sub-classes	Example of service	Service explanation and Positive effect	Potential constraint	Recommended control
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
				resolve contractual and legal disputes.	sector and providing for addressing these during the execution of
				c) Differences in legal requirements for personal and	contracts including disputes.
				commercial data protection and data localization may lead to difficulties in addressing these aspects during and after execution of contract	- Highlighting differences in requirements pertaining to personal and commercial data protection and data localization and providing for addressing these in the service contract.

7.3 Classification based on Context of Demography

Table 3 Distinction based on Context of Demography

(Clause 7.3)

S. No.	Sub-classes	Example of	Service explanation and	Potential constraint	Recommended control
		service	Positive effect		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1.	Rural setting	Common	Services provided in the	Delivering services in	Substituting continuous
		consumer	rural setting are critical in	rural settings poses	service with intermittent
		services,	shaping the quality of life,	several challenges due	service (such as health care
		agriculture	economic opportunities, and	to the specific	camps), training of local
		related services,	overall well-being of the	demographic and	population to support service
		animal	rural population that may	geographic	delivery (such as
		husbandry	have restricted access to the	characteristics of these	maintenance services,
		services,	full range of services		midwife services),

S. No.	Sub-classes	Example of	Service explanation and	Potential constraint	Recommended control
(1)	(2)	service (3)	Positive effect (4)	(5)	(6)
		primary health and education services, rural banking services.	available in the urban setting. Understanding these services from a demographic perspective helps in identifying how they cater to	areas. These may include:	Providing services through cooperative setups and self-help groups (such as leasing and rental services of farm equipments) Using internet communication for specialized services (tele medicine, weather
			and the elderly.	limited understanding of service to be availed, literacy constraint.	information, agro marketing information, e-learning), Sensitization and orientation training of service professionals delivering services in rural settings.
2.	Urban setting	All services relevant to urban setting	Services explanation and positive effects as described for other classifications given in this standard as relevant to urban setting.	Potential constraints as described for other classifications given in this standard as relevant to urban setting. In Urban settings, service providers generally encounter more informed and demanding customers as compared to rural settings leading to	Service provider may apply recommended controls as described for other classifications given in this standard as applicable to relevant constraints. Service provider should factor higher awareness and expectation levels of consumers in the urban setting in service design, delivery mode and training of service professionals. They may also

S. No.	Sub-classes	Example of service	Service explanation and Positive effect	Potential constraint	Recommended control
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
				higher incidents of	setup robust grievance and disputes handling systems to enable service recovery.

8 SERVICES CLASSIFICATION BY TRADE MODES (GATS)

The General Agreement on Trade & Services (GATS) defines services in four 'modes' of supply, depending on the territorial presence of the supplier and the consumer at the time of the transaction.

Classification by	Description	Example of service
mode		
Mode 1 — Cross	From the territory of one Member into the	Consultancy or market research reports, tele-
border trade	territory of any other Member	medical advice, distance training, or architectural
		drawings
Mode 2 —	In the territory of one Member to the service	Tourists, students, or patients to consume the
Consumption abroad	consumer of any other Member	respective services.
Mode 3 —	By a service supplier of one Member, through	Subsidiary, or representative office of a foreign-
Commercial presence	commercial presence, in the territory of any	owned and — controlled company (bank, hotel
	other Member	group, construction company,
Mode 4 — Presence	By a service supplier of one Member, through	Independent supplier (e.g., consultant, health
of natural persons	the presence of natural persons of a member	worker) or employee of a service supplier (e.g.,
	in the territory of any other Member	Consultancy firm, hospital, construction company).