

F. No. 1(8)/2017-TD  
Government of India  
Ministry of Steel  
Technical Division

Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi – 110107  
Dated : 24.05.2019

**CIRCULAR**

**SUBJECT: URGING MANUFACTURERS FOR ACQUIRING LICENSES UNDER THE BIS ACT, 2016  
WHETHER STANDARD IS COVERED UNDER QCO OR NOT**

The Ministry of Steel has issued a comprehensive steel Quality Control Order on 13<sup>th</sup> August, 2018 covering 53 categories of steel products. Government has implemented the Quality Control Order in the public interest or for the protection of human, animal or plant health, safety of the environment, or prevention of unfair trade practices, or national security. The Steel Quality Control Order enhances the quality benchmark of the steel products which is desirable for the domestic steel consumers, it also upgrades the quality benchmark of Indian steel products in the foreign market. It has been Government endeavour to bring as many steel standards as possible under the purview of Quality Control Order. Sooner than later many more Indian Standards shall be covered under the purview of Steel Quality Control Order.

Accordingly, as per law no person shall manufacture, import, distribute, sell, hire, lease, store or exhibit for sale any such notified steel products without a Standard Mark, except under a valid licence granted by BIS, unless such steel products conforms to the relevant Indian Standard.

There are around 140 steel products standards formulated by BIS having several grades. While license is mandatory for the notified items under the QCO, getting a license is only voluntary for the items that are not yet notified. Till date, many of the domestic as well as foreign suppliers have been granted the BIS licenses for steel grades covered in the notified Indian Standards.

Ministry of Steel appeals to the Indian Steel manufacturers to participate in the Government endeavour and strive for acquiring the BIS licenses for their grades of steel. This will help in creating a quality regime in the Indian steel industry. This will also help the manufacturers to be 'future ready' when their product is notified to be covered under the Quality Control Order in the near future.

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24/5/19

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