BIS

BIS drops the in-house laboratory rule for licensees

BIS circular CMD-I/2:4:1 of December 16, 2025 says manufacturers need no in-house laboratory to run BIS certification and may test at shared or outside labs.

THE BUREAU OF INDIAN Standards (BIS), Central Marks Department-I, issued a circular, Our Ref: CMD-I/2:4:1, dated December 16, 2025. Its subject is the in-house laboratory requirement for manufacturers operating BIS product certification. It says manufacturers no longer have to maintain an in-house laboratory to operate BIS certification: "There is no obligation to maintain in-house laboratory". The circular came into force with immediate effect. It supersedes the earlier circular of the same number, dated July 16, 2024.

KEY FACTS

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In place of an in-house laboratory, the circular permits three ways to operate BIS certification. The first is shared testing resources, such as a common facility. The second is a cluster-based testing facility. The third is sub-contracting to outside laboratories, which may be either laboratories BIS has recognized or empaneled, or any laboratory accredited to ISO/IEC 17025.

The circular also says the scheme of inspection and testing in BIS's product manuals is "recommendatory in nature". Manufacturers may declare their own Quality Assurance Plan (QAP), which they will follow to make sure their products comply with the relevant standards.

The circular applies to all products except three groups. The first is DPIIT- or PESO-regulated products under pre-dispatch or lot inspection, and cement products regulated by the "DPIIT/Cement Desk". The second is food products and protective helmets for two-wheeler riders. The third is products whose BIS certification is operated on a factory testing basis under product-specific guidelines. The circular does not list the products it covers, does not say what the July 16, 2024 circular required, and carries no signature.

Issued by	Bureau of Indian Standards, Central Marks Department-I
Document	Circular, Our Ref: CMD-I/2:4:1
Dated	December 16, 2025
Subject	In-house laboratory requirement for manufacturers operating BIS product certification
Takes effect	With immediate effect
Replaces	The earlier circular of the same number, dated July 16, 2024
In-house laboratory	No longer required: "There is no obligation to maintain in-house laboratory"
Testing allowed	Shared testing resources such as a common facility; a cluster-based testing facility; outside laboratories recognized or empaneled by BIS, or accredited to ISO/IEC 17025

Product manuals	Their scheme of inspection and testing is "recommendatory in nature"; manufacturers may declare their own Quality Assurance Plan (QAP)
Not covered	DPIIT- or PESO-regulated products under pre-dispatch or lot inspection; cement products regulated by the DPIIT/Cement Desk; food products; protective helmets for two-wheeler riders; products certified on a factory testing basis under product-specific guidelines

The circular (PDF, 75 KB)

Source: BIS's own copy.

Checked against the official copy on October 28, 2026.

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