August 5, 2026

BIS

BIS sets guidelines for voluntary machinery safety certification

BIS circular CMD-I/2:17:1 of August 5, 2026 sets out voluntary machinery safety certification under Scheme-X, after the 2024 omnibus order was rescinded.

THE BUREAU OF INDIAN Standards (BIS), Central Marks Department-I (CMD-I), issued guidelines under Ref. CMD-I/2:17:1 (Machinery Safety Certification), dated August 5, 2026. They cover the grant of certification under conformity assessment Scheme-X of Schedule-II of the BIS (Conformity Assessment) Regulations, 2018. They open by stating that, after the rescission of the Machinery and Electrical Equipment Safety (Omnibus Technical Regulation) Order, 2024, certification of machinery for safety is to be done on a voluntary basis under these guidelines. A covering note of the same date says they supersede the concerned earlier guidelines with immediate effect. It is signed by Shekhar, Scientist-D, CMD-I. The guidelines are to be read with the BIS Act 2016 and the Rules and Regulations under it, in particular Regulations 4 and 5 and Scheme-X.

KEY FACTS

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Guidelines for grant of certification as per the conformity assessment Scheme-X of Schedule-II of BIS (Conformity Assessment) Regulations, 2018; Ref. CMD-I/2:17:1 (Machinery Safety Certification)

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Annexure-I is an indicative list of the machinery eligible for voluntary certification. It has four groups: pneumatic compressors, textile machines, metal cutting machines, and machinery for working rubber and plastics. The textile machines are weaving machines (looms), machinery for making embroidery, and knotting machines. The metal cutting machines are presses, electrical discharge machines, turning machines, sawing machines for cold metal, and machining centers, milling machines and transfer machines. Annexure-I gives the Type C Indian Standards where available, and none for knotting machines. Its last column, the status of machine-category guidelines, reads "Guidelines Issued" for weaving machines, for machinery for working rubber and plastics and, in one cell that runs across a page break, for the metal cutting machines. Applications for machinery not in Annexure-I may also be accepted, subject to examination by Central Marks Department-III (CMD-III). Requests for that examination go to CMD-III by email at cmd3@bis.gov.in. CMD-III may review and update the list from time to time.

An application is made in Form-I as specified in Scheme-X, with the documents Form-I requires. Certification rests on assessment of the manufacturer's technical file. The file covers the product's description, its specified requirements, photographs, identification and traceability details, design drawings, the manufacturing process, in-house quality assurance and the instructions for use. It must include a Product Compliance Report from the manufacturer's own laboratory, sub-contracted arrangements included. The report covers risk assessment with hazard identification and risk reduction measures, safety function diagrams, and safety validation reports with the performance level of "safety related parts / control systems (SRP/CS)". Where the report refers to requirements for components such as safeguarding devices, a BIS certificate of the component or the original maker's test certificate or data sheet may be provided. So may a test report from a BIS recognized or empaneled laboratory, the applicant's own laboratory or an accredited laboratory. IS 16819 (type A) sets the basic principles for risk assessment and risk reduction, and machine-specific type C standards are also to be used where prescribed or available.

The Head of the Branch Office (BO) assigns a desk audit to check that the application, including the Product Compliance Report, is complete. It also checks that the applicant's chosen specified requirements are appropriate and cover all applicable safety requirements. Any shortfall goes to the applicant with proposed site audit dates within the next 15 days. Within those 15 days the applicant replies and confirms it is ready. A site audit normally takes four man-days, by a team of normally two auditors. Where there are several technical files, two extra man-days may be assigned for each additional machine. It may include demonstrations that trigger the safeguarding measures, and sites other than the factory. The Head (BO) decides on replies to any non-conformity, including the man-days for any further site audit, for which a single auditor may be deputed. Initially, all cases are processed for grant at BIS headquarters: Head BOs refer them through the Deputy Director General (Regional), or DDGR, to CMD-III. A rejection needs a notice of not less than 21 days and a chance to be heard. Annexure-IV, the rejection letter template, gives an appeal to the Director General of BIS within ninety days, with a fee of two thousand rupees.

Foreign manufacturers are to follow the guidelines issued by FMCD, as applicable. Annexure-II, the grant letter template, asks a foreign manufacturer for an agreement and an indemnity bond within 15 days of the letter, each on non-judicial stamp paper of ₹ 100.00. Within 45 days it must give a performance bank guarantee of US$ 10,000.00, or the equivalent in rupees, from any bank with an RBI approved branch in India. The guarantee is routed through the bank's Indian branch. If these are not furnished in time, the certification is liable to action such as suspension or cancellation without further notice. Fees are payable in advance. Annexure-V reproduces the Scheme-X fee notification, CMD-2/G-18 of May 24, 2023, with its amendments of June 6, 2024 and March 17, 2026. Its fees include ₹25,000 per year for grant or renewal of a licence and ₹20,000 per man-day of inspection. Manufacturers outside India bear all expenses, including the cost to BIS of the days its officers spend on inspection, audit or evaluation, from departure until return. The guidelines do not name the earlier guidelines they replace or give the number or date of the order that rescinded the 2024 Order. For the licence period, they refer to the Regulations.

Issued by	Bureau of Indian Standards, Central Marks Department-I
Document	Guidelines for grant of certification as per the conformity assessment Scheme-X of Schedule-II of BIS (Conformity Assessment) Regulations, 2018; Ref. CMD-I/2:17:1 (Machinery Safety Certification)
Dated	August 5, 2026
Applies to	Manufacturers seeking voluntary certification of machinery for safety, including foreign manufacturers
Takes effect	With immediate effect; supersedes the concerned earlier guidelines
Eligible machinery	The indicative list in Annexure-I; other categories subject to examination by CMD-III (cmd3@bis.gov.in)

Desk audit	Assigned by the Head of the Branch Office; shortfalls sent with site audit dates within the next 15 days
Site audit	Normally four man-days, normally by two auditors; with several technical files, two extra man-days may be assigned for each additional machine
Grant decided	Initially at BIS headquarters: Head BOs refer cases through the DDGR to CMD-III
Rejection notice	Not less than 21 days, with a chance to be heard; appeal to the Director General within ninety days, fee ₹2,000
Foreign manufacturers	FMCD guidelines, as applicable; agreement and indemnity bond within 15 days; performance bank guarantee of US$ 10,000.00 within 45 days, routed through the Indian branch of the bank
Fees	₹2,000 application; ₹25,000 per year for grant or renewal of a licence; ₹20,000 per technical file reviewed; ₹20,000 per man-day of inspection; sampling and testing on actuals (BIS notification CMD-2/G-18 of May 24, 2023, as amended)
Fee concessions	On all fees except application fees and charges on actuals: 20% for micro, small and medium enterprises; until May 31, 2029, 80% for micro and start-up enterprises and 50% for small enterprises on the fee for large enterprises, and an extra 10% for women entrepreneur enterprises; an extra 10% in the north-eastern areas
Related	Ministry of Heavy Industries Order S.O. 239(E) of January 14, 2026 (Gazette CG-DL-E-16012026-269394) rescinded notification S.O. 3649(E) of August 28, 2024, the Machinery and Electrical Equipment Safety (Omnibus Technical Regulation) Order, 2024, with immediate effect; the circular does not cite it
Signed by	Shekhar, Scientist-D, CMD-I

Annexure-I: indicative list of machinery for voluntary certification

Sr. No.	Description of Machinery	Type C Indian Standards, wherever available	Title of Indian Standard	Status of machine category specific guidelines
1	Pneumatic Compressors	IS 17093: 2026	Technical supply conditions for reciprocating air compressors for general purpose and industrial applications	-

1	Pneumatic Compressors	IS 11461 : 2024	Compressor Safety - Code of Practice	-
1	Pneumatic Compressors	IS 12258 : 2023	Technical supply condition for air screw compressors (oil-flooded) for general purpose and industrial applications	-
2(a)	Textile Machines: Weaving Machines (Looms)	IS 17361 (Part 6): 2020 / ISO 11111 (Part 6) : 2005	Textile Machinery – Safety Requirements Part 6 Fabric Manufacturing Machinery	Guidelines Issued
2(b)	Textile Machines: Machinery for making Embroidery	IS 17361 (Part 1): 2020 / ISO 11111 (Part 1) : 2016	Textile Machinery Safety Requirements Part 1 Common Requirements	-
2(c)	Textile Machines: Knotting Machines			
3(a)	Metal Cutting Machines: Presses	IS 17277 (Part 1): 2019 / ISO 16092-1 : 2017	Machine Tools Safety – Presses Part 1 General Safety Requirements	Guidelines Issued
3(b)	Metal Cutting Machines: Electrical Discharge Machines	IS 17259: 2025 / ISO 28881 : 2022	Machine Tools – Safety Electrical Discharge Machines	Guidelines Issued
3(c)	Metal Cutting Machines: Turning Machines	IS 17258: 2019 / ISO 23125 : 2015	Machine Tools – Safety – Turning Machines	Guidelines Issued
3(d)	Metal Cutting Machines: Sawing Machines for Cold Metal	IS 17254:2019 / ISO 16093 : 2017	Machine Tools – Safety – Sawing Machines for Cold Metal	Guidelines Issued
3(e)	Metal Cutting Machines: Machining Centres, Milling Machines, Transfer Machines	IS 17253 (Part 1): 2024 / ISO 16090-1 : 2022	Machine Tools Safety – Machining Centres, Milling Machines, Transfer Machines Part 1 Safety Requirements	Guidelines Issued
4	Machinery for Working Rubber and Plastics	IS/ISO 20430: 2020	Plastics and Rubber Machines- Injection Moulding Machines- Safety Requirements	Guidelines Issued

The circular (PDF, 2.7 MB)

Source: BIS's own copy.

Checked against the official copy on October 28, 2026.

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Read online: indusdesk.com/bis/insights/bis-sets-guidelines-for-voluntary-machinery-safety-certification/