June 9, 2026

MINISTRY OF TEXTILES

Cotton bales QCO rescinded before its August 27, 2026 start

Ministry of Textiles order S.O. 2956(E) of June 9, 2026 rescinds the Cotton Bales (Quality Control) Order, 2023 with immediate effect, before its start date.

THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES issued Order S.O. 2956(E), dated June 9, 2026, published the same day in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (ii), No. 2862. It is made under sub-sections (1) and (2) of section 16 read with section 17 and sub-section (3) of section 25 of the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 2016, after consulting the Bureau of Indian Standards. It rescinds the Ministry's notification S.O. 948(E) dated February 28, 2023, published in the Gazette on March 1, 2023, "relating to Cotton Bales", with immediate effect, except as respects things done or omitted to be done before the rescission. It is signed by Manisha Chatterjee, Joint Secretary, under F. No. 1/5/2018-Fibre I.

KEY FACTS

AUTHORITY
Ministry of Textiles

PUBLISHED
June 9, 2026

ISSUED BY
Ministry of Textiles

DOCUMENT
Order S.O. 2956(E)



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S.O. 948(E) is the Cotton Bales (Quality Control) Order, 2023. Its Schedule lists one item: cotton bales, which were to conform to IS 12171:2019, "Cotton Bales- Specification", and bear the Standard Mark under a licence from the Bureau of Indian Standards in accordance with Scheme-II of Schedule II to the Bureau of Indian Standards (Conformity Assessment) Regulations, 2018. The order did not apply to goods meant for export that conform to the specification required by the foreign buyer. The Bureau was the certifying and enforcing authority, and an officer not below the rank of General Manager, District Industries Center, in the State Government's Department of Industries was also an enforcing authority. The rescinding order itself does not restate any of these terms.

As issued, the 2023 order was to come into force 180 days after its publication. The note to S.O. 2956(E) lists the four amendments made since: S.O. 3557(E) of August 7, 2023, S.O. 3830(E) of August 28, 2023, S.O. 3469(E) of August 13, 2024 and S.O. 2996(E) of July 3, 2025. Each substituted a new date for the order to come into force: November 27, 2023, August 27, 2024, August 27, 2025 and, in the last, August 27, 2026. The rescission of June 9, 2026 came before that last date.

The order gives no reason beyond the Central Government's opinion that the rescission is necessary in the public interest. It does not name a replacement standard or order for cotton bales, and it says nothing about licences for cotton bales under IS 12171:2019.

Issued by	Ministry of Textiles
Document	Order S.O. 2956(E)
Dated	June 9, 2026
Published	Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (ii), No. 2862, June 9, 2026

Rescinds	The Cotton Bales (Quality Control) Order, 2023: S.O. 948(E) dated February 28, 2023, published March 1, 2023
Takes effect	Immediately ("with immediate effect")
Savings	Things done or omitted to be done before the rescission
Applies to	Cotton bales, which the 2023 order required to conform to IS 12171:2019, "Cotton Bales- Specification", and bear the Standard Mark under a BIS licence
Last date set for the 2023 order to come into force	August 27, 2026, by S.O. 2996(E) of July 3, 2025
Earlier amendments	S.O. 3557(E), August 7, 2023; S.O. 3830(E), August 28, 2023; S.O. 3469(E), August 13, 2024
Made under	Section 16(1) and (2) read with section 17 and section 25(3), Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 2016
File number	F. No. 1/5/2018-Fibre I
Signed by	Manisha Chatterjee, Joint Secretary

The order (PDF, 493 KB)

Source: Gazette of India, CG-DL-E-10062026-273283.

Checked against the official copy on October 20, 2026.

IndusDesk

hello@indusdesk.com · +91 11 4141 3939

9th Floor, Hemkunt House, Rajendra Place, New Delhi, Delhi 110008, India

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