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BIS

Lithium cell licences need rated capacity test reports from May 2027

From May 1, 2027, renewals, inclusions and new registrations for lithium cells and batteries under IS 16046 (Part 2) need a rated capacity test report.

THE BUREAU OF INDIAN Standards (BIS), Registration Department, issued guidelines under reference IS 16046 (Part 2), dated November 11, 2026, for verifying the rated capacity of portable sealed secondary lithium cells and batteries. Cells and batteries certified to IS 16046 (Part 2):2018/IEC 62133-2:2017 must also be tested for rated capacity under clause 7.3.1 of IS 16047 (Part 3):2018/IEC 61960-3:2017 ("Discharge performance at 20 deg C [rated capacity]"). The guidelines supersede the earlier implementation guidelines, REF: IS 16046 (Part 2), dated February 10, 2026, and come into force with immediate effect. They are signed by Ankita Dhule, Sc C.

KEY FACTS

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Guidelines for verification of rated capacity [Clause 7.3.1 of IS 16047 (Part 3):2018/IEC 61960-3:2017] for portable sealed secondary lithium cells and batteries; Ref: IS 16046 (Part 2)



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IS 16046 (Part 2) is notified by MeitY under the Electronics and IT Goods (Requirements for Compulsory Registration) Order, 2021. The guidelines put into effect MeitY's office memorandum W-47/14/2024-IPHW, dated February 3, 2026, which says that "rated capacity for sealed secondary Lithium cells and batteries shall be measured in accordance with the test method for rated capacity specified in clause 7.3.1 of IS 16047: part3, and shall be reported for compliance under IS 16046(Part 2)".

For existing licensees, licences stay valid until the end of their validity period, but samples picked up during surveillance must meet the rated capacity limits. The requirement applies to renewals, inclusions and new registrations from May 1, 2027, so a licence whose validity ends on or after that date needs the rated capacity test report at renewal. Licensees must file third-party laboratory test reports for all lead models in the existing scope: they raise a test request through LIMS for IS 16046 (Part 2) and apply online through the Standard Revision/Amendment/Essential Requirement Module. The laboratory gives the number of the safety test report the models were tested under, and reports the measured capacity under Clause 4 of the modified Unified Test Report Format. Licensees also give an undertaking that their remaining models comply.

A licensee that hasn't completed these steps by the applicable dates may face suspension or cancellation of the licence, or deletion of a model from the licence's scope. The guidelines don't state the rated capacity limits themselves.

For new applicants, an application whose sample is already at the laboratory, or whose test report is already issued, may be processed without the extra test. Other applications already in process go ahead if the applicant undertakes to submit the clause 7.3.1 report by the last date of the licence's validity. After April 30, 2027, BIS will grant no licence under IS 16046 (Part 2) unless the test report includes rated capacity. The same rules apply to a change in scope or inclusion, with the requirement starting May 1, 2027.

Issued by: Bureau of Indian Standards, Registration Department

Document	Guidelines for verification of rated capacity [Clause 7.3.1 of IS 16047 (Part 3):2018/IEC 61960-3:2017] for portable sealed secondary lithium cells and batteries; Ref: IS 16046 (Part 2)
Dated	November 11, 2026
Applies to	Portable sealed secondary lithium cells and batteries under IS 16046 (Part 2):2018/IEC 62133-2:2017
Test	Clause 7.3.1 of IS 16047 (Part 3):2018/IEC 61960-3:2017, discharge performance at 20 deg C (rated capacity)
Basis	MeitY OM W-47/14/2024-IPHW, February 3, 2026; Electronics and IT Goods (Requirements for Compulsory Registration) Order, 2021
Existing licences	Valid to the end of their validity; surveillance samples must meet rated capacity limits
Renewals, inclusions and new registrations	Rated capacity test report required from May 1, 2027
What licensees file	Third-party laboratory reports for all lead models in scope, and an undertaking for the remaining models
Last grant without the test	No licence under IS 16046 (Part 2) after April 30, 2027 without rated capacity in the test report
If not done	Suspension or cancellation of the licence, or deletion of a model from scope, may be initiated
Takes effect	With immediate effect
Replaces	Implementation guidelines REF: IS 16046 (Part 2), February 10, 2026
Signed by	Ankita Dhule, Sc C

The guidelines (PDF, 139 KB)

Source: BIS's own copy.

Checked against the official copy on November 12, 2026.

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