

Government of India
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
Department of Consumer Affairs

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 753
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.02.2024

QUALITY CONTROL ORDERS

753. SHRI MANNE SRINIVAS REDDY: SHRI Y.S. AVINASH REDDY:

Will the Minister of **CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION**
उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Centre has proposed to bring Quality Control Orders (QCO) for nearly 2,500 items but there had been only 14 QCOs for 106 products till 2014;
- (b) if so, whether this has increased to 156 QCOs for 672 products by 2024 and around 90% of the QCOs came in the past few years which reflects our commitment towards quality by providing high standards goods and services, which put forth the vision of 'zero defect, zero effect' to ensure making of high quality products that are sustainable, ecofriendly and have zero climate impact;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether this vision is being adopted and it has made consumers quality conscious which in turn helps the industry and consumers; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the present status of its implementation?

ANSWER

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण राज्य मंत्री
(श्री अश्विनी कुमार चौबे)

THE MINISTER OF STATE
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) to (c) : The Quality Control Orders (QCO's) are issued under section 16 of BIS Act, 2016 by the concerned Line Ministry / Regulator. Till May, 2014, there were 14 QCO's covering 106 products. As on 02/02/2024, 159 Quality Control Orders (QCO's) covering 686 products were notified by the various Ministries / Departments of Government of India. The Link to access the list of products under Compulsory Certification is at <https://www.bis.gov.in/product-certification/products-under-compulsory-certification/>

(d) & (e) : Department of Consumer Affairs (DoCA) through Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) in its initiatives on handholding of Industry has organized various Consumer awareness programmes, Standards promotion activities for consumers and capsule training programmes for capacity building to industry for wide publicity and to make consumers and industry understand the importance of compliance to the Indian Standard Specifications.

BIS carries out enforcement activities wherever violation of BIS Act has been noticed. BIS collects samples under market surveillance and factory surveillance. BIS labs tested 18622 number of samples in the year 2013-14 while 101413 number of samples have been tested in 2022-23. The % increase in samples in 2022-23 as compared to 2013-14 is 445%. In 2023-24 (till Jan 2024), BIS labs have tested 87322 samples. This signifies the increasing number of products covered under various QCOs. The effective implementation of the conformity assessment schemes provide assurance to the general consumer regarding the quality of the products manufactured and sold in the country.

The capsule training courses are aimed at training the personnel involved in Quality Control measures including testing the product in BIS recognised laboratories. The programmes are organized free of cost for participants from the industry. In addition, NITS, BIS organizes training programmes for Capacity Building in the area of standardisation and conformity assessment for various stakeholders.

As part of Standards Promotion Activities for the Consumer Stakeholders, BIS have conducted Quality Connect Campaign for common consumers with volunteers visiting households/youth/traders and give information about the important standards, certified products and QCOs. Moreover, for industry stakeholders, BIS conducted two-day capsule courses for industry quality personnel including visits to BIS and BIS approved Labs for various products including products which are under QCOs.

Manak Manthan programmes were conducted involving industry, industry associations, laboratories, educational institutions, other standards developing organization. BIS has organized regular awareness and sensitization programmes for government stakeholders. State Level Committee meetings on Standardisation were held for dissemination of information on relevant Indian Standards and QCOs under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary of the States.

Standards Clubs in the Educational Institutions were formed to provide learning opportunities to young talents in the field of quality and standardization. 5140 standard clubs were created throughout the country from 01 April 2023 to 31 January 2024 taking the total to more than 9400 standards club pan India. One of the new initiatives called "Learning Science via Standards," aims to help students understand the practical application of science concepts and laws for the design, functioning, manufacturing, and testing of different products and the requirements stated in the relevant Indian Standards. BIS has also initiated the concept of exposure visits for industry and academia to enhance their quality consciousness. Sensitization programmes of the President and Secretary of Gram Panchayat were carried out by launching special campaigns across the country.
