

# From 2024, BIS approval must for another 115 items

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**New Delhi:** From next year, products, including many used in our daily life such as electric ceiling fans, stainless steel cookware, wrought aluminium utensils, block boards and aluminium cans for beverages will come under the mandatory quality norms notified by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS). This will ensure products manufactured, imported and sold here are not sub-standard.

Once the Quality Control Order (QCO) comes into effect, manufacturing, importing, storing and sale of non-BIS compliant products becomes an offence. Violation of this can attract jail of up to two years or a fine of at least Rs 2 lakh for the first offence. For second and subsequent offences, the fine will be a minimum of Rs 5 lakh and extend up to 10 times the value of goods.

The government has notified timelines for implementation of the mandatory quality norm, officially called Quality Control Order, for 115

categories of products in the next six months of this financial year. In the past six months, till Friday, products under 55 categories, including water treatment system (RO) and food for special medical purposes intended for infants have been brought under the QCO.

As per the details available with the BIS, four products related to room air conditioners have been brought under the QCO from October 1. Similarly, BIS norms for items like protective clothes and gloves for firefighters have been made mandatory since October 8.

Officials said the QCOs for electric ceiling fans, stainless steel cookware, wrought aluminium utensils and aluminium cans for beverages will be in force from February 9.

To support MSMEs, implementation is from August 2024.

Top BIS officials said along with bringing more products on QCO, the agency has been putting in effort to create more awareness among people about the standards.