

## Quality Control Orders – An Overview

There are two Quality Control Orders, namely;

1. The Household Electrical Appliances (Quality Control) Order, 1981
2. The Electrical Wires, Cables, Appliances and Protection Devices and Accessories (Quality Control) Order, 2003. The Department of Electrical Inspectorate is the Appropriate Authority to implement the previous of both the orders in the State.

### History

- The Ministry of Industries, Government of India vide Notification No.S.O.797 (E) Dated 12/11/1981 issued the order, the Household Electrical Appliances (Quality Control) Order, 1981 under Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 repealing the Order, 1976. There were 40 household electrical appliances in the schedule of the Order, 1981. This order prevents the manufacture / storage / sale / distribution of the scheduled household electrical appliances which do not conform to the specified standards having Manufacturers Certificate or standard mark of BIS. Initially the Industries Department was the Appropriate Authority for implementing this order in our State.
- The Central Government issued vide Notification G.S.R. 356 (e) dated 18/03/1988 an Order under Essential Commodities Act, 1955 called the Electrical Appliances (Quality control) Order, 1988 insisting standard mark of Bureau of Indian Standards for 7 items of the Quality Control Order, 1981 – viz; SI. No.1, 8, 9, 16, 3, 34 and 36. So these 7 items were unlisted and included in the Schedule of Quality Control Order, 1988. This order was superseded by the Order called the Electrical Wires, Cables, Appliances and Accessories (Quality Control) Order, 1993 issued vide Notification No.GSR dated 24/02/1993. The important difference between these two orders is that the items 1 to 4 were categorized as standard mark for safety IS. The Chief Electrical Inspector was the Appropriate Authority in the State to implement this order.
- The Government of India issued vide Notification No.463 (E) dated 24/04/1989 another order namely General Service Electric Lamps (Quality Control) Order, 1989 which prevents manufacture / storage / sale / distribution of general electric lamps which do not bear Bureau of Indian Standards mark. The Industries Department was the Appropriate Authority in our State to implement this order.

- The Government of Kerala appointed the Chief Electrical Inspector as the Appropriate Authority vide G.O (Rt) No.81 / 2002 / PD dated 13/05/2012 to implement all the three Quality Control Orders in the State.
  1. The Household Electrical Appliances (Quality Control) Order, 1981 – 33 Items
  2. General Service Electric Lamps (Quality Control) Order, 1989 – 1 Items
  3. Electrical Wires, Cables, Appliances and Accessories (Quality Control) Order, 1983 – 7 Items
  
- The Central Government issued vide Notification No.S.O. 189 (E) dated 17/02/2003 issued an Order called the Electrical Wires, Cables, Appliances and Protection Devices and Accessories (Quality Control) Order, 2003. This was issued by rescinding both the General Service Electric Lamps (Quality Control) Order, 1989 and the Electrical Wires, Cables, Appliances and Accessories (Quality Control) Order, 1993. The Quality Control Order, 2003 was issued under Section 14 of the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986 (63 of 1986). This order insists IS certification mark of the Bureau of Indian Standards for 24 items in the Schedule.
- The Quality Control Order, 2003 notification was amended by the Notification S.O.165 (E) dated 5-02-2004. The serial numbers 8, 9 and 13 to19 of the Quality Control Order, 2003 was omitted by the notification. The items 8 and 9 were substituted by the Notification S.O. 1172 (E) dated 22-08-2005 called the Electrical Wires, Cables, Appliances and Protection Devices and Accessories (Quality Control) Amendment Order, 2005.
- The Chief Electrical Inspector, Additional Chief Electrical Inspector, Deputy Chief Electrical Inspector and Electrical Inspectors were appointed as the Appropriate Authority to implement the Quality Control Order, 2003 vide G.O. (Rt) No.236 / 2004 / PD dated 07/06/2004.

## Present Scenario

- There are two Quality Control Orders prevailing at present.
  1. The Household Electrical Appliances (Quality Control) Order, 1981 having 33 items in the schedule. The serial numbers 1, 8, 9, 16, 3, 34 and 36 were deleted from the original 40 items.

The Government have appointed the Chief Electrical Inspector as the Appropriate Authority to implement the provisions of this order. The Chief Electrical Inspector authorized under Clause 12 of the Quality Control Order, 1981 the Electrical Inspectors to exercise the functions under clause 7 (a), 7 (b) and 7 (c) vide order No.G3-4422 / 2005 / CEI dated 10/10/2005. The Quality Control Order, 1981 insists that the items in the schedule shall conform to the specified standards. The manufacturer shall obtain a Manufacturers Certificate under clause 5 or the item shall have certification mark of Bureau of Indian Standards. If the product is having certification mark of Bureau of Indian Standards, no Manufacturer's Certificate is required for the item. The manufacturer shall have the facilities to perform the routine tests for the item under the specified standards.

2. The Electrical Wires, Cables, Appliances and Protection Devices and Accessories (Quality Control) Order, 2003 having 17 items in the schedule. The serial numbers 13 to 19 were omitted from the original 24 items.

The Quality Control Order, 2003 stipulates that the products shall bear the certification mark of the Bureau of Indian Standards. The specified standards are given in the schedule to the Order. The items 1 to 4 shall be certified for safety IS. If the product is having product ISI mark, then it is well and good since it covers safety IS. The rest of the items in the schedule shall bear the certification mark as per the specified standard in the schedule.