

BUREAU OF INDIAN STANDARDS
(CENTRAL MARKS DEPARTMENT-SDOC)

ORDER

Sub: Labeling Requirements for Self-Declaration of Conformity under Compulsory Registration Scheme for Electronics & IT Goods

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 10(1)(p) of the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986 (63 of 1986) and in pursuance of clause (fa) of rule 13 of the Bureau of Indian Standards Rules, 1987, the Central Government, after consulting the Bureau of Indian Standards, had issued the Electronics and Information Technology Goods (Requirements for Compulsory Registration) Order, 2012.

2. Under the above Compulsory Registration Order, BIS has been granting Registration to the manufacturers. One of the requirements under the BIS Rules 1987, is that the manufacturer shall be required to display the words "Self declaration – Conforming to IS....." on the products for which the Registration is granted by BIS. Keeping in view the provisions of the Rules, suitable stipulation with respect to labeling of product was prescribed at Sl. No 6 of the letters issued since 6 September 2013 while granting Registration under the compulsory registration scheme as given below:

"Display the words "Self Declaration - conforming to IS....., R-xxxxxxx" (Font size letters shall be 3/4th of the size of the brand name or 12 points whichever is bigger;) on the product as well as on packaging below or above the brand name"

3. For those manufacturers who were issued the grant of registration letters prior to 6 Sept 2013 also the Labeling Requirements given in Para 2 above are applicable.

4. On the representations of the manufacturers & certain industry associations, it was agreed to modify the labeling requirements given at Sl. No.6 of grant of registration letters w.e.f. 02 December 2013 as under:

"Display the words ""Self Declaration - conforming to IS....., R-xxxxxxx" having font size of 12 or 1/4th of the size of the brand name, whichever is less both on the product as well as on packaging below or above the brand name"

5. Subsequently the manufacturers and industry associations again made some representations for modifications in existing labeling requirements. Keeping in view, it was agreed to modify the labeling requirements given at Sl. No.6 of grant of registration letters w.e.f. 04 April 2014 as under :

“Display the words “Self declaration - Conforming to IS....., R-xxxxxxx” both on product and packaging at a prominent location having font size of 12 or 1/4th of the size of the brand name whichever is lower. Where 1/4th font size of statement is less than 6 font size, in such cases it shall be minimum 6 font size.

The above statement shall be Screen Printed/Embossed/Engraved on the product and printed on the product and printed on the packaging material”

6. The manufacturers and industry associations have requested to give more options for labeling including affixing stickers on the product and packaging. A joint meeting of Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) and the representatives of industry associations (including MAIT, CEAMA, CII) was held recently wherein the industry associations agreed to provide specific suggestions in this regard to discuss the labeling requirements. As decided in the meeting, a draft order for labeling requirements was prepared based on suggestions of industry and uploaded on BIS website for comments of all stakeholders.

7. The second meeting of PAC was held on 16 July 2014 to discuss the comments of industry on draft order for labeling requirements. Considering the decisions taken in this meeting, the modified labeling requirements shall be as below :

i) The words “self declaration – conforming to IS_____, R_____” shall be visibly and legibly included preferably in the data plate or any other label typically containing markings like ratings, specification, sr. no , model no, brand name etc that is affixed to the product and also show any other certifications that the product may have obtained.

or

ii) Where the compliance statement is not a part of the data plate, it may be affixed visibly, legibly and indelibly on the product by any of the following means :

- a) Printing / screen printing,
- b) Embossing,
- c) Engraving,
- d) Separate Metallic labels (Aluminum deposition with plastic/metalized polyester) or Sticker made of PVC/PET/Polycarbonate/Polyester/Polypropylene/BPA or any other similar material

iii) Where the compliance statement is affixed by way of a separate metallic/sticker as in ii) (d) above, the same shall be permanently affixed inside a separate label slot in a manner so as to remain on this product till the end of the life of the product. The exemption for separate label slot is permitted till 31 December 2015 or for a period of six months from the date of release of BIS logo, whichever is earlier.

iv) The above statement shall also be printed on the packaging at a prominent location. The statement can be affixed by way of tamper proof and non-removable stickers of any material on the packaging.

v) The compliance statement on the product as well as the packaging shall be affixed/marked at a prominent location or at any other place so that it is clearly visible to the user. The display of words of statement shall be of a minimum font size of 12 or $\frac{1}{2}$ of the size of the brand name whichever is lower, subject to a minimum of 6 font size. However it shall be similar in size of other certification marks.

vi) In case of products which are too small in size and the statement cannot be marked on the product, the same shall be given on the packaging and accompanying document. The marking on the product shall neither be omitted nor be moved to the packaging or accompanying documents on purely aesthetic grounds.

vii) In general, all markings required to be on the equipment shall be durable and legible, and shall be easily discernable under normal lighting conditions.

Unless otherwise specified, Instructional safeguards do not have to be in colour. If an instructional safeguard is in colour, the colour shall be in accordance with the ISO 3864 series. Markings that are engraved or moulded need not be in contrasting colours provided that they are legible and readily discernable under normal lighting conditions. Printed or screened markings shall also be permanent.

viii) The durability of marking shall be as per the procedure given below:

- (a) Each required printed or screened marking shall be tested.
- (b) Testing Procedure : The test is conducted by rubbing the marking by hand without appreciable force for 15s with a piece of cloth soaked with water and at a different place or on a different sample for 15s with a piece of cloth soaked with the petroleum spirit (Petroleum spirit is a reagent grade hexane with a minimum of 85% n-hexane).
- (c) Compliance Criteria : After each test, the marking shall remain legible. If the marking is on a separable label, the label shall show no curling and shall not be removable by hand.

- (d) In case the durability of marking has already been tested as a part of the relevant product safety standard it need not be tested separately

8. All the manufacturers who have been granted registrations prior to the issue of this notification are required to follow the labeling requirements as mentioned at Sl. No.6 of the letters individually issued to them while granting of Registration. In addition they are by this notification, given an option to follow the labeling as stipulated in Para 7 above as per their convenience. This facility shall be applicable till the validity of the Registration granted by BIS.

Temporary relaxation of labeling requirements:

9. Keeping in view the requests again made by the manufacturers and industry associations, all manufacturers were, as a temporary relaxation to the condition at Sl.No.6 of grant of registration letters, in lieu of the displaying the declaration by way of screen printing, embossing or engraving on the product, had been allowed to affix Paper / PVC or any other type of Tamper-Proof & Non Removable stickers till 30 June 2014 as follows :

“A sticker may be affixed with the words “Self declaration - Conforming to IS....., R-xxxxxxx” both on product and packaging at a prominent location having font size of 12 or 1/4th of the size of the brand name whichever is lower. Where 1/4th font size of statement is less than 6 font size, in such cases it shall be minimum 6 font size.

10. As decided in the joint meeting of Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) and the representatives of industry associations, the temporary relaxation as above is now extended till 31 August 2014. The labeling requirements as stipulated in Para 8 shall be applicable after 31 August 2014.

11. This order shall supersede the previous order for labeling requirements issued on 11 April 2014.



(K. ANBARASU)
Sc-F & DDG(Certification)
Bureau of Indian Standards