

NECTAR BUSINESS ADVISORS

Your Handholding Partner in Certification

GUIDANCE HANDBOOK

BIS Certification of Paver Blocks

as per IS 15658:2021

Technical Compliance | Testing | Certification Assistance

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About Nectar Business Advisors (NBA)

Nectar Business Advisors (NBA) provides professional consultancy services for BIS certification covering regulatory compliance, testing coordination, technical documentation, and inspection support for manufacturers and importers.

NBA offers complete end-to-end consultancy support to simplify the certification process while ensuring compliance with BIS requirements and applicable Indian Standards.

Introduction to BIS Certification

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) is the National Standards Body of India responsible for Standardization, Product Certification, and Quality Assurance. Many Ministries and regulators in India use the BIS Act to notify mandatory compliance to Indian Standards for products under their respective domains.

Typical examples include:

- Electronics Goods under Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY)
- Cement and related products
- Solar Products under Ministry of New and Renewable Energy Sources (MNRE)
- Chemicals by Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals
- Cotton Bales by Ministry of Textiles
- Electrical Appliances and Various Tools by Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade

Scope of Indian Standard IS 15658: 2021

Title: CONCRETE PAVING BLOCKS — SPECIFICATION

Products Covered

Products covered under IS 15658: 2021 are solid un-reinforced precast cement concrete blocks and complementary blocks used for paving applications. The standard does not cover concrete masonry units, cellular (hollow) concrete blocks, fly ash masonry blocks, permeable concrete blocks, grid blocks, grass stones and cement concrete flooring tiles.

Paver blocks, however, may be classified based on Grade designation, Thickness and Traffic category. The following variants are covered:

Classification Basis	Variants
Grade Designation	M30 / M35 / M40 / M50 / M55
Minimum Thickness	50 / 60 / 80 / 100 / 100 (in mm)
Traffic Category	Non-traffic / Light-traffic / Medium-traffic / Heavy-traffic / Very heavy-traffic

Important Tests as per IS 15658

S.No.	Test Name	Purpose
1	Compressive Strength	Verify strength of tiles
2	Abrasion resistance	Predict lifespan and durability
3	Tensile splitting strength	Evaluate resistance to shearing
4	Flexural strength	Verify resistance to uneven subgrade settling
5	Dimensions	Verify dimensional requirements

Process of BIS Certification

Certification (ISI Mark Licensing)

Certification is a process through which BIS verifies that a product complies with the applicable Indian Standard. Depending upon the Certification Scheme, it may involve product testing and factory assessment. Post-certification, surveillance may be required for both factory manufacturing processes and product testing.

Registration (CRS Mark Registration)

Registration is a process through which BIS grants approval based on successful product testing and the manufacturer's declaration of conformity. It is generally simpler than certification and is applicable to products covered under the Compulsory Registration Scheme (CRS).

BIS Certification Schemes

Scheme	Certification Type	Applicable Mark	Options	Key Features
Scheme-I (Licensing) ISI Mark – Domestic	Third-Party Certification (Type 5): Product testing, factory assessment & surveillance	ISI Mark	Option 1	New products; centralised at BIS HQ. Application → Factory Inspection → Sample sealing → Testing at designated labs → ISI Mark
			Option 2	Regular products; decentralised at BIS Branch level. Apply with test report from recognised lab → Licence granted → Factory Inspection
FMCS ISI Mark – Foreign Manufacturers	Third-Party Certification for Foreign Manufacturers (Type 5)	ISI Mark	Option 1 only	Certification of foreign units; only Option 1 of Scheme-I is available

Scheme	Certification Type	Applicable Mark	Options	Key Features
Scheme-II (CRS) Foreign & Domestic	Registration based on Self-Declaration	CRS Mark	No Options	Testing at BIS recognised labs + self-declaration of conformity → Registration

Testing and Certification

Applicable Certification Scheme

Paver blocks under IS 15658 fall under the BIS Licensing Scheme of BIS. Scheme 1 Option 2 is available to Indian manufacturers, whereas overseas manufacturers must avail Option 1 only of Scheme 1.

Sample Selection – Number of Samples and Series Guidelines

The number of samples required depends on the Grade Designation, dimensions and layers. Manufacturers are required to declare:

- Grade Designation
- Thickness, Length and Width
- No. of layers

35 blocks of highest Grade Designation and any thickness (preferably highest) needs to be submitted for testing. To optimise testing requirements, BIS has issued grouping guidelines under which testing of a representative variety may allow coverage of additional related varieties. The link to access the product manual from the BIS Website is as follows:

https://www.services.bis.gov.in/php/BIS_2.0/bisconnect/ManageProductManuals/ManageManuals

BIS Recognised Test Laboratories

Manufacturers applying for BIS certification under IS 15658 are required to get testing done at BIS recognised labs for product i.e. Paver block and raw materials required for building such blocks (i.e. coarse aggregates of sizes 10 mm and 20 mm, fine aggregates (IS 383), water (IS 456), mineral admixtures, chemicals (IS 9103). The link to access BIS recognised labs is as follows:

https://lms.bis.gov.in/home/search_is_number/

Factory Assessment

Quality System Requirements

Manufacturers are required to maintain proper quality control systems in their premises and carryout routine monitoring to ensure consistent product quality. Manufacturers should maintain:

- Incoming, In-Process, and Finished Goods Quality Control

- In-house testing facilities with calibrated equipment
- Quality Control Records
- Records of Routine Testing
- A Designated Quality Control Incharge/Manager

Testing Equipment Required at Manufacturing Facility

Major test equipment required to ensure quality of product is detailed below:

S.No.	Tests (Clause Reference)	Test Equipment / Chemical
1	Aggregates (clause 4.2)	Test sieves for aggregate testing
2	Dimensions, tolerance and thickness of wearing layer (clause 6.2.2, 6.2.3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Steel calipers - Steel rules/Vernier caliper - Weighing balance - Sheets of thin cardboard of uniform thickness - Sharp pencil - Sharp scissors - Odd leg marking gauge - Engineers square or profiled template - Feeler gauge
3	Water absorption (clause 6.2.4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Weighing balance - Drying air oven
4	Compressive strength (clause 6.2.5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Compression testing machine with bearing blocks and plates (rate of loading 15 ± 3 N/mm² min) - Water bath capable to maintain temperature $27 \pm 2^\circ$ C - Capping of specimen arrangement/ plywood
5	Abrasion resistance (clause 6.2.6)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Abrasion testing machine - Hot air oven - Weighing balance - Standard abrasive powder - Grinding disk with defined load - Stop watch
6	Tensile splitting strength (clause 6.2.7)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Testing machine with rigid bearers of radius 75 ± 5 mm - Packing piece thickness 4 ± 1 mm & width 15 ± 1 mm - Water bath capable to maintain temperature $27 \pm 2^\circ$ C
7	Flexural strength /breaking load (clause 6.2.8)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Testing apparatus with rollers of diameter 25 - 40 mm - Loading machine with rate 6 kN/min
8	Freeze–thaw durability (clause 6.3.3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Freezing cabinet/cold room : $-15 \pm 2^\circ$ C - Thawing chamber : $23 \pm 3^\circ$ C - Moist chamber : temperature $23 \pm 2^\circ$ C & humidity 90 % - Weighing balance - Container

Application Process

BIS has automated its process for manufacturers to apply for BIS Certification Marks licence. The certification process generally includes the following steps:

- BIS Application filing (through Manakonline for Domestic Manufacturers / Foreign Manufacturers)

- Appointment of Authorised Indian Representative (only for overseas manufacturers)
- Submission of Charges (including travel, stay, and BIS fee)
- Factory Inspection
- Sample transportation to test labs
- Product testing at designated labs (For domestic, compliance of product against a standard is to be established first before applying for licence)
- Grant of Licence based on payment of Licence Fee, signing of Agreement, and deposit of Bank Guarantee
- Marking fees and Annual Report filing with BIS on production data
- Follow-up activities including Surveillance and Market Surveillance

Major list of documents Required for BIS Certification

S.No.	Document Name
1	Factory Registration / Business Licence
2	Manufacturing Flow Chart
3	List of Manufacturing Machinery
4	List of Testing Equipment
5	Calibration Certification of Testing Equipment
6	Raw Material Details
7	Product Specification Details
8	Quality Control Documents
9	In-house Test Reports
10	Layout Plan of Manufacturing Unit
11	Details of Technical and Quality Control Personnel
12	Product Marking Details
13	Packaging Details
14	BIS Application Form
15	Test Reports from BIS Recognised Laboratory

Estimated Certification Timeline

Applicant Type	Estimated Timeline
Domestic Applicants	Approximately 30 – 90 working days (subject to successful completion of testing, inspection, and compliance requirements)
Overseas Applicants	Approximately 90 – 180 working days (subject to successful completion of testing, inspection, and compliance requirements)

Marking and Labelling Requirements

BIS Certification Marking (ISI Mark Scheme)

Certified products shall carry the following markings on each block:

- ISI Mark (Standard Mark)
- Applicable Indian Standard Number
- BIS Licence Number (CM/L Number)

Product Labelling

Manufacturers shall supply test certificate/invoice with each batch mentioning the batch number and date of manufacture, to enable to trace back the same to factory records. However, the manufacturer shall ensure during dispatch in every consignment, that at least 0.5% of the consignment or 5 blocks, whichever is higher, shall be marked with batch number and date of manufacture

Post Licensing

Ongoing Compliance

After the grant of a BIS licence, the license is required to continuously comply with the requirements of IS 15658, the Scheme of Inspection and Testing (SIT), and the conditions of licence. The manufacturer shall maintain production and quality control systems to ensure that all products bearing the Standard Mark continue to conform to the applicable Indian Standard.

Surveillance

Post-certification surveillance includes periodic factory visits and market surveillance by BIS to verify continued compliance with IS 15658 and applicable marking requirements.

Renewal of Licence

BIS licences are granted for a specified validity period and must be renewed before expiry. For renewal, the manufacturer is required to:

- Submit the renewal application within the prescribed timeline
- Demonstrate continued compliance with IS 15658 requirements
- Maintain satisfactory surveillance records and test results
- Pay the applicable renewal fees

Upon successful review of the renewal application and compliance status, BIS renew the licence for the applicable period as per the prevailing certification guidelines.

How NBA Can Assist You

Nectar Business Advisors (NBA) provides end-to-end support throughout the BIS certification journey by helping manufacturers achieve compliance efficiently and minimise certification timelines.

Pre-Application Process

- Identifying applicable Indian Standard
- Identifying the optimum BIS Certification Scheme
- Organising the list of documents required for certification application

- Arranging for Authorised Indian Representative (AIR) for overseas manufacturers

Certification Planning

- Defining the certification scope and product coverage
- Helping with grouping guidelines for preparation of samples
- Organising applicable standards, guidelines, and regulatory requirements

Documentation Support

- Review of application documents
- Verification of technical documentation
- Assistance in listing mandatory records and declarations

Sample Planning and Testing

- Sample handling in India
- Coordination with BIS-recognised laboratories
- Submission for testing and coordination of documentation requirements
- Support in interpretation of test requirements and reports

Factory Assessment Preparation

- Gap assessment of manufacturing and testing facilities
- Review of quality control processes and records
- Readiness support for BIS factory inspections

Application Management

- Assistance in application filing
- Follow-up with BIS during the certification process
- Response support for technical queries and observations

Post-Licensing Support

- Guidance on marking and labelling requirements
- Support for surveillance compliance
- Assistance with licence maintenance and renewal activities
- Updates on regulatory changes and BIS requirements

Contact Us

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