



## केन्द्रीय मुहर विभाग - III

हमारा संदर्भ- केन्द्रीय मुहर विभाग-३/१६: भा.मा. १६५९

२२ मई २०२६

**विषय: भारतीय मानक आईएस १६५९: २००४ 'ब्लोकबोर्ड - विशिष्टि' के संशोधन संख्या ३ के कार्यान्वयन हेतु दिशानिर्देश - संगीन लैप धारक**

यह पत्र उपरोक्त विषय के संदर्भ में है।

सभी परिचालन इकाइयाँ (बीओएस) कृपया संलग्न दिशानिर्देशों का तत्काल प्रभाव से कार्यान्वयन सुनिश्चित करें।

(आशुतोष अग्रवाल)  
वैज्ञानिक 'सी' (सीएमडी तृतीय)

**प्रमुख (सीएमडी - तृतीय)**

परिसंदेशित: सभी आरओ/बीओएस

### CENTRAL MARKS DEPARTMENT-III

Our Ref: CMD-3/16: IS 1659

22 May 2026

**Subject: Guidelines for implementation of Amendment No. 3 to Indian Standard IS 1659: 2004 – Block Boards – Specifications.**

This has reference to the subject mentioned above.

BOs may kindly ensure implementation of the attached guidelines with immediate effect.

(Ashutosh Agrawal)  
Scientist 'C' (CMD III)

**Head (CMD - III)**

Circulated to: All ROs/BOs

## CENTRAL MARKS DEPARTMENT-III

Our Ref: CMD-3/16: IS 1659

22 May 2026

**Subject: Guidelines for Implementation of Amendment No. 3 to Indian Standard IS 1659 : 2004 – Block Boards – Specifications**

- 1) Amendment No. 3 to IS 1659 has been published. **The last date for implementation of the Amendment is 19 September 2026.**
- 2) All BOs shall inform the Applicants and Licensees under their jurisdiction about implementation of the Amendment **within a week of issuance of these guidelines.**
- 3) The significant changes brought out in the Standard through the amendment as listed in the Table is given for the purpose of general guidance. BOs shall ensure that the product conforms to all the requirements, as applicable, as per the amendment.

Sr No.	Major Changes in Amendment to Indian Standard
1.	<p>BWR (Boiling water resistant) Grade has been incorporated under Clause 4.1.</p> <p>BWR Grade, Decorative type (BWR-DEC) and BWR Grade, Commercial type (BWR-COM) Have been included under Clause 4.3.</p> <p>A new Clause 4.4 has been introduced specifying Bending Classes 25, 40 and 50.</p> <p>Clause 4.5 has been added defining Formaldehyde Classes E1 and E2.</p>
2.	<p>The requirements for raw materials have been relaxed, and additional options have been recommended under Clause 5.1.1 and Clause 5.1.2.</p> <p>For BWR Grade block boards, a provision has been added under Clause 5.2 specifying that the adhesives shall be of BWR type conforming to IS 848.</p>
3.	<p>Clause 6.3.1 has been deleted.</p> <p>Clause 6.3.3 has been modified to specify that the defects and thickness requirements for cross bands and face veneers shall conform to IS 303 for commercial veneers and IS 1328 for decorative veneers.</p>
4.	<p>The tolerances for length, width, and thickness variation of the boards have been made more relaxed (Clause 7.3)</p>
5.	<p>Clause 9.2.2.3 has been added to include specific testing requirements for BWR Grade block boards.</p>
6.	<p>Removal of the grade-specific reference “MR Grade” and replacement with a general term “Block board specimens”, making the requirement applicable to all relevant types (Clause 9.2.4)</p>
7.	<p>Clause 9.2.5 has been completely substituted to specify the minimum average values of MOE and MOR for all types of block boards, based on the applicable bending classes.</p>

	<p>An explanatory calculation method for determining the bending class has also been added.</p> <p>Clause 9.2.7 has been introduced to specify the formaldehyde content requirements applicable to block boards, based on the Formaldehyde Classes E1 or E2.</p> <p>Clause 9.2.8 has been added to include the requirements for the Steady-State Formaldehyde Emission Test, which is designated as an optional test.</p>
8.	<p>The marking requirements specified in Clause 11 have been modified to include the following –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) In words ‘BLOCK BOARD’</li> <li>b) Bending Class</li> <li>c) Formaldehyde Class</li> <li>d) Species of timber</li> <li>e) Month and year of Manufacturing.</li> </ol>

4) Consequent upon issuance of the Amendment, existing Product Manual has also been revised as Doc: PM/ IS 1659/22/May 2026.

5) The guidelines for implementation of the amendment is given below:

#### **A. LICENSEES:**

- i. All Licensees shall implement the amendment by 19 Sep 2026. Any difficulty in the implementation shall be brought to the notice of CMD III within 30 days of issuance of these guidelines. BOs shall ensure that no Licences are under operation as per IS 1659:2004 without the Amendment No. 3 after 19 Sep 2026. The status of implementation of the amendment shall be confirmed by Head (BO) to CMD-III within two weeks of the last date of concurrent running.
- ii. In order to implement the amendment, manufacturers shall submit the following:
  - a) Declaration regarding the varieties of the Block Board within their existing license scope as per revised Product Manual.
  - b) In-house/ independent test report as per grouping guidelines for all the varieties under the scope of the license as evidence of conformity to Clause 9.2.4 (for BWP grade, as applicable), 9.2.5, 9.2.7, 9.2.8 (as applicable)
  - c) Indicating the arrangement for testing of additional requirements as per Clause 9.2.7 & 9.2.8 (as applicable)
    - In-house/ outside.
- iii. BOs shall examine the declarations submitted by the licensees, modify the scope of the licence in line with the revised Product Manual, and issue the necessary endorsement accordingly.

- iv. Verification of implementation of the amendment to standard shall be done through a surveillance visit, which shall be completed within three months from the date of implementation.
- v. If the Licensee fails to complete all actions by **19 Sep 2026**, it shall be dealt with as per the prevailing guidelines.

**B. APPLICATIONS FOR GRANT OF LICENCE:**

- i. Existing Applications where Sample has been submitted in the Laboratory/Test Report has been issued by the Laboratory may be processed without consideration of the amendment. However, if the Applicant is desirous of considering the amendment, a declaration may be obtained from the Applicant to that effect and the Application may be processed accordingly. An undertaking shall also be obtained from such Applicants that if the sample fails while considering the provisions of the amendment, Licence will not be granted without considering the Amendment No. 3.
- ii. Applications which are recorded henceforth may be processed with or without consideration of the amendment. Processing of Applications without consideration of the amendment shall be permitted only upto **19 Sep 2026** and for such cases Applicant shall give a declaration that they will implement the amendment by **19 Sep 2026**.
- iii. Beyond **19 Sep 2026** no Licence shall be granted without consideration of the amendment.

**C. CHANGE IN SCOPE OF LICENCE:**

- i. For change in scope of licence, the relevant provisions as given above for Applicants shall apply.
  - ii. However, processing of such applications for change in scope of licence without consideration of the amendment shall be permitted only upto the date of implementation of the amendment by the licensee or upto **19 Sep 2026** whichever is earlier.
- 6) The above guidelines come into force with immediate effect.

(Ashutosh Agrawal)  
Scientist 'C'/ Deputy Director, CMD III

**Head (CMD III)**

**DDG (Certification)**