



## Indian Economy / Industrial Regulation

A recent NITI Aayog report has expressed serious concern over the Government of India's aggressive expansion of Quality Control Orders (QCOs) across multiple sectors. While QCOs are meant to improve product quality, enhance consumer safety, and strengthen manufacturing standards, their rapid rollout is creating unintended pressures on trade, industrial productivity, and especially MSMEs, which struggle with the high cost of compliance.

Issued under the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) Act, QCOs make BIS certification mandatory for producing, importing, or selling designated products. In the past four years, ministries have increasingly used QCOs as tools for reducing imports, raising product standards, and pushing India's broader manufacturing goals—though not without regulatory challenges.

### MCQ

Under which Act are Quality Control Orders (QCOs) issued?



NITI Aayog Flags Concerns Over Expanding Use of QCOs

1. Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) Act
2. Companies Act
3. Customs Act
4. Industries (Development and Regulation) Act