



# COMPLIANCE WATCH



## COMPLIANCE UPDATES NEWSLETTER



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## Commercial

### Central Motor Vehicles (Seventeenth Amendment) Rules, 2020

Oct 30, 2020 | Central | Commercial



The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways on October 29, 2020 has issued the Central Motor Vehicles (Seventeenth Amendment) Rules, 2020 to further amend the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989.

The amendments are made in Rule 76(8) of the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 related to registration of vehicles of diplomatic and consular officers, specifying that Consular posts headed by Honorary Consular Officers shall use standard size number plates bearing ordinary registration number provided by the concerned registration authorities.

[Notification no G.S.R. 682(E)]

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### FSSAI extends timeline for modification of licence by existing FSSAI licenced manufacturer without modification fee

Oct 30, 2020 | Central | Commercial

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) on October 29, 2020 has extended period for modification of licence by existing FSSAI licenced manufacturer without modification fee. The period for modification of licence by existing FSSAI licenced manufacturers without any modification fee extended till June 30, 2021.

[Order no- 15(31)2020/FoSCos/RCD/FSSAI]

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## The Footwear made from Leather and other materials (Quality Control) Order, 2020

**Oct 29, 2020 | Central | Commercial**

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry on October 27, 2020 has issued the Footwear made from Leather and other materials (Quality Control) Order, 2020. The order will not apply to goods or articles meant for export. The product shall bear a license under from the Bureau as per Scheme-I of Schedule-II of the Bureau of Indian Standards (Conformity Assessment) Regulations, 2018. This Order is applicable to the following Indian Standards:

1. Leather safety boots and shoes "IS 1989 (Part 1): 1986 Specification for leather safety boots and shoes Part 1 for miners"
2. Canvas Shoes Rubber Sole "IS 3735: 1996 Canvas Shoes, Rubber Sole- Specification"
3. Canvas Boots Rubber Sole "IS 3736: 1995 Canvas Boots, Rubber Sole- Specification"
4. Safety Rubber Canvas Boots for Miners "IS 3976: 2018 Safety Rubber Canvas Boots for Miners Specification"
5. Leather safety footwear having direct moulded rubber sole "IS 11226: 1993 Leather safety footwear having direct moulded rubber sole-Specification"
6. Leather safety footwear with direct moulded polyvinyl chloride (PVC) sole "IS 14544: 1998 Leather safety footwear with direct moulded polyvinyl chloride (PVC) sole – Specification"
7. Sports footwear "IS 15844: 2010 Sports Footwear- Specification"
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9. Antiriot shoes "IS 17037: 2018 Antiriot shoes – Specification"
10. Derby shoes "IS 17043: 2018 Derby shoes – Specification"

[Order no S.O. 3860(E)]

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## Personal Protective Equipment Footwear (Quality Control) Order, 2020

**Oct 29, 2020 | Central | Commercial**

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry on October 27, 2020 has issued the Personal Protective Equipment Footwear (Quality Control) Order, 2020. The order will not apply to goods or articles meant for export. This order is applicable to the following Indian Standards:

■ Personal Protective Equipment - Footwear "IS 15298 (Part 2): 2016 Personal protective equipment - Part 2 Safety Footwear"

■ Personal Protective Equipment - Footwear "IS 15298 (Part 3): 2019 Personal protective equipment - Part 3 Protective Footwear"

■ Personal Protective Equipment - Footwear "IS 15298 (Part 4): 2017 Personal protective equipment - Part 4 Occupational Footwear"

The product shall bear a license under from the Bureau as per Scheme-I of Schedule-II of the Bureau of Indian Standards (Conformity Assessment) Regulations, 2018.

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## Footwear made from all Rubber and all Polymeric material and its components (Quality Control) Order, 2020

**Oct 29, 2020 | Central | Commercial**

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry on October 27, 20 has published the Footwear made from all-Rubber and all Polymeric material and its components (Quality Control) Order, 2020. The order will not apply to goods or articles meant for export. The product shall bear a license under from the Bureau as per Scheme-I of Schedule-II of the Bureau of Indian Standards (Conformity Assessment) Regulations, 2018. This Order is applicable to the following Indian Standards:

■ Industrial and protective rubber knee and ankle boots "IS 5557: 2004 Industrial and protective rubber knee and ankle boots – Specification"

■ All rubber gum boots and ankle boots "IS 5557 (Part 2): 2018 All rubber gum boots and ankle boots: Part 2 occupational purposes"

■ Moulded solid rubber soles and heels "IS 5676: 1995 Moulded solid rubber soles and heels- Specification"

■ Rubber microcellular sheets for soles and heels "IS 6664: 1992 Rubber microcellular sheets for soles and heels- Specification"

■ Solid PVC soles and heels "IS 6719: 1972 Specification for solid PVC soles and heels"

■ PVC sandal "IS 6721: 1972 Specification for PVC sandal"

■ Rubber Hawai Chappal "IS 10702: 1992 Rubber Hawai Chappal- Specification"

■ Slipper, rubber "IS 11544: 1986 Specification for slipper, rubber"

■ Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) industrial boots "IS 12254: 1993 Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) industrial boots – Specification"

■ Polyurethane sole, semirigid "IS 13893: 1994 Polyurethane sole, semirigid Specification"



- Unlined moulded rubber boots “IS 13995: 1995 Unlined moulded rubber boots – Specification”
- Moulded plastics footwear- Lined or Unlined polyurethane boots for general industrial use “IS 16645: 2018 Moulded plastics footwear- Lined or Unlined polyurethane boots for general industrial use- Specification”
- Footwear for men and women for municipal scavenging work “IS 16994: 2018 Footwear for men and women for municipal scavenging work”

[Order no- S.O. 3858(E)]

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## MSDE requests on-line suggestions for minimizing the Regulatory Compliances

**Oct 29, 2020 | Central | Commercial**

The Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE) on October 20, 2020 has requested on-line suggestions for minimizing and easing the Regulatory Compliances as MSDE has planned multiple initiatives to ease the Regulatory Compliance for its stakeholders. In view of the same MSDE is conducting an online survey to understand the pinch points of the stakeholders and gather the suggestive remedies for the same. Here is the online [link](#) for participating the survey.

All stakeholders are requested to accomplish survey latest by November 06, 2020 (5.30 PM).

[F. No.: SD-17/190/2019-SNP]

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## Draft Central Motor Vehicles (Amendment ) Rules 2020

**Oct 28, 2020 | Central | Commercial**

The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MORTH) on October 27, 2020 has issued the Central Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Rules, 2020 to further amend the Central Motor Vehicle Rules, 1989.

The following amendments have been made:

- Rule 125 I, which specifies the Modular Hydraulic Trailer specifications, has been inserted, namely:

“Modular Hydraulic Trailers shall be in accordance with AIS-158:2020, as amended from time to time, till such time the corresponding BIS specifications are specified under the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 2016(11 of 2016).”

All persons likely to be affected thereby; and notice is hereby given that the said draft rules shall be taken into consideration after the expiry of thirty days from the date on which the copies of this notification as published

in the Official Gazette, are made available to the public. Objections and suggestions to these draft rules, if any, may be sent to the Joint Secretary (MVL), email: [jspb-morth@gov.in](mailto:jspb-morth@gov.in), Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Transport Bhawan, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110 001. The objections or suggestions which may be received from any person in respect of the said draft rules before the expiry of the aforesaid period will be considered by the Central Government.

[Notification No. G.S.R. 674 (E)]

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## Central Motor Vehicles (Sixteenth Amendment) Rules, 2020

Oct 28, 2020 | Central | Commercial

The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MORTH) on October 27, 2020 has issued the Central Motor Vehicles (Sixteenth Amendment) Rules, 2020 to further amend the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989.

The following amendments have been made:

■ Rule 96A (7), which specifies the braking system requirements to be there in the manufacturing of the vehicles, a new proviso has been inserted, namely:

“Provided further that construction equipment vehicle manufactured on and after April 01, 2021 shall be provided with the braking system having performance requirements stipulated in AIS:143-2017 as amended from time to time.”

■ Rule 98A (2), which specifies the specifications for the effective and efficient control of the vehicles, a new proviso has been inserted, namely:

“Provided that construction equipment vehicle manufactured on and after April 01, 2021, shall be adequately designed to ensure efficient and effective control of the vehicle under all driving conditions so that the vehicle is able to steer within a turning circle diameter of 24 meters, conforming to the test procedure specified in IS/ISO: 7457:1997 as amended from time to time, however in case of self-propelled tandem drum and single drum vibratory compactors, the turning circle radius and turning circle requirements shall be measured as per IS:5500 - Part 1 and Part 2, respectively.”

■ Rule 98A (3), which specifies the specifications for the steering requirements, a new proviso has been inserted, namely:

“In the case of construction equipment vehicles the emission sound pressure level at the Operator's ear position under static test conditions shall be in accordance with IS/ISO:6394:2008, Operator's ear position under Dynamic test conditions shall be in accordance with IS/ISO:6396:2008 and sound power level at stationary test condition shall be in accordance with IS/ISO:6393:2008, sound power level at Dynamic test condition shall be in accordance with IS/ISO:6395:2008 as amended from time to time, complying to the limits specified in Table -1 and Table -2 below and vehicle(s) manufactured on and after April 01, 2021, shall comply to limits specified under phase-I and vehicle(s) manufactured on and after April 01, 2024, shall

comply to limits specified under phase-II.”

■ Rule 124C, which specifies the safety standards and the components for construction equipment vehicles, has been inserted, namely:

“Construction equipment vehicles shall comply with the provisions of AIS-160: Provided that Part 1 of AIS-160, shall be applicable for construction equipment vehicles, as per scope of AIS-160, manufactured on and after April 01, 2021. Provided further that Part 2 of AIS-160, shall be applicable for construction equipment vehicles, as per scope of AIS-160, manufactured on and after April 01, 2024.”

[Notification No. G.S.R. 673 (E)]

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## The Special Economic Zones (Amendment) Rules, 2020

**Oct 28, 2020 | Central | Commercial**

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry on October 23, 2020 has issued the Special Economic Zones (Amendment) Rules, 2020 to further amend the Special Economic Zones Rules, 2006.

In Rule 24(3) related to “The procedure for grant of drawback claims and Duty Entitlement Pass Book credit to a Developer or Unit” of the Special Economic Zones Rules, 2006, the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:

“Provided further that in case of supplies from Domestic Tariff Area to foreign suppliers in Free Trade and Warehousing Zone, the drawback or any other similar benefit Scheme shall be admissible where the payments are made in foreign currency by the foreign supplier to Domestic Tariff Area.

[Notification No. G.S.R. 678(E)]

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## FSSAI recently launches a PAN India Surveillance of Khoa used in making sweets

**Oct 27, 2020 | Central | Commercial**

The Food Safety and Security Authority of India (FSSAI) on October 22, 2020 has issued a Press Release wherein it specified about the PAN India Surveillance of Khoa launched by FSSAI. Khoa is widely used in making most Indian sweets. It has been reported that adulterated Khoa is being manufactured and marketed across the country therefore it has been decided to conduct a PAN–India Khoa Quality survey.

The Commissioner Food Safety of all States and UTs have been requested to select Khoa mandis in their respective States and UTs especially in big cities; and place the Food Safety on Wheels (FSWs) for 5 days from October 12 to 16, 2020 and encourage Khoa buyers to get their Khoa sample tested.

The final survey results will help in identification of the key hot spots for adulteration of Khoa in different parts of the country and strengthen efforts at the States and UT level in devising targeted enforcement drives in the coming months. The whole exercise is aimed at ensuring availability of pure and safe Khoa for safe Indian sweets in the country.

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### **Removal of Licensing Requirements, Stock Limits and Movement Restrictions on Specified Foodstuffs (Second Amendment) Order, 2020**

**Oct 27, 2020 | Central | Commercial**

The Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution on October 23, 2020 has published the Removal of Licensing Requirements, Stock Limits and Movement Restrictions on Specified Foodstuffs (Second Amendment) Order, 2020 to further amend the Removal of Licensing Requirements, Stock Limits and Movement Restrictions on Specified Foodstuffs Order, 2016. In the amendment, it is specified that the provisions of removal of licensing requirements, stock limits and movement restrictions in respect of the purchase, movement, sale, supply, distribution or storage for sale will not apply to onion for a period up to December 31, 2020 with following stock limits on traders for all the States and Union Territories:

■ Wholesaler: 25 MT

■ Retailer: 2 MT

Provided that an importer, being a wholesaler or retailer or dealer shall be exempted for the imported stock of onions.

[Order no- S.O. 3776 (E)]

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### **Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers appoints date of enforcement of the Aniline (Quality Control) Order, 2019**

**Oct 26, 2020 | Central | Commercial**

The Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers on October 22, 2020 has amended the date of enforcement of the Aniline (Quality Control) Order, 2019. The Ministry has now appointed May 03, 2021 as the date of enforcement of the Aniline (Quality Control) Order, 2019.

[Order no- S.O. 3796(E)]

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## Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers appoints date of enforcement of the Methanol (Quality Control) Order, 2019

**Oct 26, 2020 | Central | Commercial**

The Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers on October 22, 2020 has amended the date of enforcement of the Methanol (Quality Control) Order, 2019. The Ministry has now appointed May 03, 2021 as the date of enforcement of the Methanol (Quality Control) Order, 2019.

[Order No. S.O. 3795(E)]

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## Central Motor Vehicles (Fifteenth Amendment) Rules, 2020

**Oct 23, 2020 | Central | Commercial**

The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways on October 22, 2020 has issued the Central Motor Vehicles (Fifteenth Amendment) Rules, 2020 to further amend the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989.

The following amendment has been made:

■ In Form 20, serial no. 4A, which specifies the ownership type, has been inserted to ensure capturing of ownership details of vehicles at the time of their registration.

[Notification No. G.S.R. 661 (E)]

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## Food Safety and Standards (Amendment) Bill, 2020

**Oct 23, 2020 | Central | Commercial**

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) on September 23, 2020 has issued the Food Safety and Standards (Amendment) Bill, 2020 to further amend the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

The following amendment has been made:

■ Section 3 (ii), which specifies the extraneous matter, has been inserted, namely:

“Feed” means any substance which is ground pelleted or crumbled, contains source of energy and tissue building constituents like carbohydrates, protein, fat, minerals etc. which will provide all of the nutritional requirements necessary for the maintenance of life or for promoting growth of animals.”

■ A new proviso in Section 5 (1)(e), which specifies the zonal divisions, has been inserted, namely:

“Provided that Central Government may by notification make changes in Zones under First Schedule.”

■ Section 8A, which specifies the functions of the Chairperson, has been inserted, namely:

“The Chairperson of the Food Authority shall exercise the following functions:

1. He shall have powers of general superintendence and direction in the conduct of the work of the Food Authority.
2. To preside over the meetings of the Food Authority.
3. To exercise all the powers and responsibilities assigned to him under the Rules and Regulations framed under this Act.
4. To ensure that the Food Authority functions as per the mandate entrusted to it under the Act.”

■ Section 35, which specifies the Handling of food safety incidents, shall be substituted, namely:

“The Food Authority may, by an order, prescribe mechanism for handling food safety incidents including reporting, investigation, corrective and preventive action related to the incident.”

■ Section 38 (1)(d), which specifies the seizing of the evidence, has been inserted, namely:

“Seize any vehicle, equipment, packaging, labelling or advertising material linked with food article which may be required as evidence in proceedings under the Act or rules & regulations, made thereunder and may keep in the safe custody of, the food business operator or placed in the custody of the Authority.”

■ Section 40 (2)(3), which specifies that the food testing shall be carried out in laboratories, has been inserted, namely:

“In the event food industry association, consumer association, or any individual needs to entrust a food testing for the purpose of data generation or to create information for general public on food safety it shall carryout the same in the laboratories that are recognized by Food Authority. The information so collected shall be shared with Food Authority before releasing the same to public.”

Accordingly, a draft Food Safety and Standards (Amendment) Bill has been prepared and attached herewith for comments/suggestions of the General Public/Stake Holders/General Public/Stake Holders may submit their comments/suggestions via email at [neeraz.s@nic.in](mailto:neeraz.s@nic.in) within 30 days from the date of uploading of the Public Notice.

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## FSSAI extends date for mandatory food safety audit of food business till December 31, 2020

**Oct 23, 2020 | Central | Commercial**

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) on October 19, 2020 has extended the date of mandatory food safety audit of food business under FSS (Food Safety Auditing) Regulations, 2018. Keeping in view, the current situation of Covid-19 the last date for mandatory audit has been extended up to December 31, 2020. Food businesses having Central Licenses and falling under high-risk categories should get their audit done before December 31, 2020.

[FSSAI Letter no- 19(2) 2018/FSA/RCD/FSSAI]

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## Finance & Taxation

### DGFT deletes SION-468 from Foreign Trade Policy 2015-20

Oct 30, 2020 | Central | Finance & Taxation



The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) on October 29, 2020 has issued a notification notifying that the SION-468 which specifies the Standard Input Output Norms (SION) for the export product - 4,4 Diamino Diphenyl Amine -2- Sulphonic Acid shall be deleted, since it is published at two places.

[Notification No. 28/2015-2020]

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### Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers has revised the production Linked Incentive (PLI) Schemes

Oct 30, 2020 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Union Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers has revised the production Linked Incentive (PLI) Schemes for promoting domestic manufacturing of bulk drugs and medical devices.

The main changes in both the schemes are as followed:

- The minimum threshold investment has been replaced with the committed investment. This way the productive capital shall be used efficiently to use the productive investment for the capital investment to reach the level of investment. This shall vary from technology to technology and product to product.
- To encourage market diversification, the sales of eligible products to only domestic industries has been deleted.
- Change in the minimum annual production capacity for 10 products viz Tetracycline, Neomycin, Para Amino Phenol (PAP), Meropenem, Artesunate, Losartan, Telmisartan, Acyclovir, Ciprofloxacin and Aspirin.

Minimum annual production capacity is a part of eligibility criteria under the scheme.

■ The application date has been extended by a week to November 30, 2020.

■ The tenure of the scheme has been extended by one year keeping in view the capital expenditure expected to be done by the selected applicants in FY 2021-22.

■ The sales for the purpose of availing incentives will be accounted for 5 years starting from FY 2022-2023 instead of FY 2021-2022.

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### DGFT prohibits the export of onion seeds

**Oct 30, 2020 | Central | Finance & Taxation**

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) on October 29, 2020 has issued a notification amending the export policy of Onion Seeds. DGFT has notified that the export of Onion Seeds shall be prohibited with immediate effect.

[Notification No. 43/2015-2020]

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### CBDT provides clarification for Section 139 (1) under Income Tax Act, 1961

**Oct 30, 2020 | Central | Finance & Taxation**

The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) on October 29, 2020 has issued a notification to provide the clarification for Section 139 (1) under Income Tax Act, 1961.

The following clarification has been provided:

■ Furnishing of return under section 139 thereof, the time-limit for furnishing of such return, shall:

1. In respect of the assessee referred to in clauses (a) and (aa) of Explanation 2 to sub-section (1) of the said section 139, stand extended to January 31, 2021.

2. In respect of other assessee, stand extended to December 31, 2020.

3. Furnishing of report of audit under any provision of that Act, the time-limit for furnishing of such report of audit shall stand extended to December 31, 2020.

[Notification No. S.O. 3906 (E)]

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## CBIC modifies the tariff value for areca nuts, crude palm oil etc as on October 29, 2020

**Oct 30, 2020 | Central | Finance & Taxation**

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) on October 29, 2020 has amended the [Notification No. 36/2001-Customs \(N.T.\)](#) dated August 03, 2001 which specifies the modification of fixation of tariff value of the following items:

- RBD Palm Oil
- Others- Palm Oil
- Crude Palmolein
- RBD Palmolein
- Others- Palmolein
- Crude Soya Bean Oil
- Brass Scrap (all grades)
- Poppy Seeds
- Gold, in any form, in respect of which the benefit of entries at serial number 356 of the Notification No. 50/2017-Customs dated 30.06.2017 is availed.
- Silver, in any form, in respect of which the benefit of entries at serial number 357 of the Notification No. 50/2017-Customs dated 30.06.2017 is availed.
- Silver, in any form, other than medallions and silver coins having silver content not below 99.9% or semi-manufactured forms of silver falling under sub-heading 7106 92.
- Medallions and silver coins having silver content not below 99.9% or semi-manufactured forms of silver falling under sub-heading 7106 92, other than imports of such goods through post, courier, or baggage.
- Gold bars, other than tola bars, bearing manufacturer's or refiner's engraved serial number and weight expressed in metric units.
- Gold coins having gold content not below 99.5% and gold findings, other than imports of such goods through post, courier, or baggage.
- Areca Nuts

Table 1, Table 2, Table 3 of the said notification stands amended.

[Notification No. 103/2020- Customs (N.T.)]

[View the Document](#)

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## International Financial Services Centres Authority (Global In-House Centres) Regulations, 2020

**Oct 29, 2020 | Central | Finance & Taxation**

The International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) on October 16, 2020 has declared the International Financial Services Centres Authority (Global In-House Centres) Regulations, 2020. In recent years GICs in India have been contributing to development of highly skilled talent pool in the country.

Salient aspects of the regulation include:

- Global inhouse centre can conduct its business in any mode as listed by the authority.
- Entities that are being serviced must be located in a financial action task force (FATF) complaint jurisdiction.
- Setting up of a global inhouse centre within the IFSC will be valid with concession applicable to IFSC units.
- The support services provided should be for the purpose of carrying out a financial service in respect of a financial product. A Global In-House Centres (GIC) set up within the IFSC shall be entitled to avail itself of all concessions.

\* Available at this [link](#).

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## CBIC extends the timeline for furnishing of GSTR-9C

**Oct 29, 2020 | Central | Finance & Taxation**

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) on October 28, 2020 has amended the notification no. [41/2020- Central Tax](#) dated May 05, 2020 which specifies the extension of the time limit for furnishing of the annual return under GSTR-9C. The time limit for the furnishing of the annual return has been extended to **December 31, 2020**.

[Notification No. 80/2020- Central Tax]

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## CBIC imposes concessional basic customs duty on the import of potatoes

## Oct 29, 2020 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) on October 28, 2020 has extended imposed the concessional basic customs duty on the import of potatoes. The import duty rate shall be 10% on the import quota of 10,00,000 MT of potatoes till January 31, 2021.

[Notification No. 40/2020- Customs]

[View the Document](#)

## CBIC issues clarifications on manufacturing and other operations undertaken in the bonded warehouses

## Oct 29, 2020 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) on October 27, 2020 has issued a notification for the manufacturing and other operations undertaken in the bonded warehouses under Section 65 of the Customs Act, 1962. The Board has clarified certain issues.

The job work shall be eligible for certain conditions:

- The goods that are imported shall be first deposited and then shall be sent for the work.
- Scrap, waste, and other remnants shall be disposed off or applicable duty shall be paid on the waste.
- The account that is being maintained shall be updated from time to time.

[Notification No. 48/2020- Customs]

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## Foreign Exchange Management (Margin for Derivative Contracts) Regulations, 2020

## Oct 29, 2020 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on October 23, 2020 has issued the Foreign Exchange Management (Margin for Derivative Contracts) Regulations, 2020.

The following provisions have been given:

- On the date of commencement of these regulations, no person shall post or collect margin for derivative contracts and pay or receive interest on such margin without the prior permission of the Reserve Bank.
- Post and collect margin, in India and outside India, on their own account or on behalf of their customers for a permitted derivative contract entered with a person resident outside India.



- Receive and pay interest on margin posted and collected on their own account or on behalf of their customers for a permitted derivative contract entered with a person resident outside India.

[Notification No. FEMA. 399/RB-2020]

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## DGFT issues the procedure for the export of Nitrile/ NBR Gloves

**Oct 29, 2020 | Central | Finance & Taxation**

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) on October 27, 2020 has issued a trade notice for the procedure and criteria for submission and approval of applications for export of Nitrile/ NBR Gloves. The export quota has been fixed at 1 crore for the month of October and November 2020.

The following procedure has been given:

- Exporters can apply through the DGFT ECOM system.
- Online applications filed between November 02, 2020 to November 06, 2020 shall be accepted.
- The export license shall be valid for a period of 3 months.
- Online one application per exporter shall be accepted. The exporter shall submit the invoice of the purchase and the copy of the IEC.
- All the documents shall be self-attested.

[Trade Notice No. 31/2020-21]

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## Equalisation levy (Amendment) Rules,2020

**Oct 29, 2020 | Central | Finance & Taxation**

The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) on October 28, 2020 has published the Equalisation levy (Amendment) Rules, 2020 to further amend the Equalisation levy Rules, 2016. These rules shall come into force on October 28, 2020.

**The amendments are as follows:**

- A new definition on “electronic verification code” is inserted, as a code generated for the purpose of electronic verification of the person furnishing the statement of specified services as per the data structure and standards laid down by the Principal Director- General of Income-tax (Systems) or Director General of

Income-tax (Systems), as the case may be.

■ Rule 4 relating to “payment of Equalisation levy” is substituted stating that the assessee or e-commerce operator, as the case may be, who are required to deduct and pay equalisation levy, shall pay the amount of such levy, by remitting it into the Reserve Bank of India or in any branch of the State Bank of India or of any authorised Bank accompanied by an equalisation levy challan.

■ In Rule 5 relating to “Statement of specified services or e-commerce supply or services” is substituted, it is stated that the statement required to be furnished under sub-section (1) or sub-section (2) of Section 167 of the Act shall be in Form No. 1, duly verified in the manner indicated therein, and may be furnished by the assessee or e-commerce operator, as the case may be, in the following manner, namely:- (i) electronically under digital signature; or (ii) electronically through electronic verification code.

The Principal Director-General of Income-tax (Systems) or Director General of Income-tax (Systems), as the case may be, for the purpose of ensuring secure capture and transmission of data, shall-

- lay down the procedure for electronic filing of Form No.1;
- lay down the data structure, standards and manner of generation of electronic verification code, referred to in sub rule (2), for the purpose of verification of the person furnishing the said form;
- be responsible for formulating and implementing appropriate security, archival and retrieval policies in relation to the said form so furnished; and
- specify the manner of furnishing the revised statement required to be furnished under sub-section (2) of section 167 of the Act.

■ The sub-rules under Rule 8(2), (3) and (4) are substituted:

- Rule 8(2) - the form of appeal referred to in sub-rule (1), shall be verified by the person who is authorised to verify the statement under rule 5, as applicable to the assessee or e-commerce operator, as the case may be.
- Rule 8(3) - Any document accompanying Form No. 3 relating to appeal to the Commissioner of Income-tax shall be furnished in the same manner in which the Form No. 3 is furnished.
- Rule 8(4) - The Principal Director General of Income-tax (Systems) or Director General of Income-tax (Systems) shall lay down the procedure for electronic filing of Form No.3; lay down the data structure, standards and manner of generation of electronic verification code for the purpose of verification of the person furnishing the said form; and be responsible for formulating and implementing appropriate security.

■ The Form-1 related to “Statement of Specified Services or E-Commerce Supply or Services” has been substituted.

■ Form-3 related to “Appeal to the Commissioner of Income-tax (Appeals) Designation of the Commissioner (Appeals)” has been substituted.

■ Form-4 related to “Form of Appeal to the Appellate Tribunal” is substituted.

[Notification no- S.O. 3865(E)]

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**Oct 29, 2020 | Central | Finance & Taxation**

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MCI) has issued the Consolidated Foreign Direct Policy, 2020.

The following are the objectives of the policy:

- The government has issued the policy to promote FDI and supplement domestic policy in India for the acceleration of economic growth in the country.
- The policy is transparent, easily comprehensible, and predictable.
- The policy shall be updated from time to time to keep up with the regulatory changes.

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**DGFT issues notification for the submission of the data to the RoDTEP Committee****Oct 29, 2020 | Central | Finance & Taxation**

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) on October 28, 2020 has issued a notification for the submission of data to the RoDTEP Committee. The RoDTEP committee has started the collection of the data. All the exporters are required to submit the data to the RoDTEP Committee so that the export rates of the items can be decided.

Data in the given format shall be submitted to the [atreyee.devroy@gov.in](mailto:atreyee.devroy@gov.in) and [shakti.singh1981@gov.in](mailto:shakti.singh1981@gov.in).

[Trade Notice No. 32/2020-21]

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**CBIC imposes concessional basic customs duty on the import of Lentils (Masur)****Oct 29, 2020 | Central | Finance & Taxation**

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) on October 28, 2020 has amended the notification no. [50/2017- Customs](#) dated June 30, 2017 which specifies the exemption of certain goods from the levy of excess of custom duty. The concessional Basic Duty on Lentils (Masur) has been extended till **December 31, 2020**.

[Notification No. 39/2020- Customs]

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## International Financial Services Centres Authority (Bullion Exchange) Regulations, 2020

Oct 29, 2020 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) on October 27, 2020 has approved the draft IFSCA (Bullion Exchange) Regulations, 2020. The Regulations envisage to provide an integrated platform for all the market intermediaries including trading members, clearing members, bullion depositories, vault managers, etc. so as to facilitate transparency and traceability in the bullion market and standardisation of bullion contracts.

### The salient aspects of the Bullion Exchange Regulations include:

- Functions and general obligations of a bullion exchange and clearing corporation.
- Ownership and governance structure of a bullion exchange and clearing corporation.
- Rights and Obligations of Bullion Depositories, Participants and Beneficial Owners.
- The grant of registration to a vault manager by the Authority.
- The role of bullion depositories.
- Other operational aspects of the bullion exchange.

\* Available at this [link](#).

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## Ministry of Finance issues guidelines under the Direct Tax Vivad se Vishwas Act, 2020

Oct 28, 2020 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Ministry of Finance on October 27, 2020 has issued a notification notifying certain guidelines under the Direct Tax Vivad se Vishwas Act, 2020.

- A declaration shall be filed to the designated authority by the declarant in accordance with Section 4 for tax arrears on or before December 31, 2020.
- Under section 3 table presented, according to table column 3, the amount shall be paid on or before March 31, 2021.
- Under section 3 table presented, according to table column 4, the amount shall be paid on or before March 31, 2021.

[Notification No. S.O. 3847 (E)]

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### **Ministry of Finance extends the imposition of ADD on Fluor elastomers (FKM)” originating in or exported from China PR**

**Oct 28, 2020 | Central | Finance & Taxation**

The Ministry of Finance on October 27, 2020 has amended the notification no. 06/2019-Customs (ADD) dated January 28, 2019 which specifies the continuation of anti-dumping duty on imports of ‘Fluor elastomers (FKM)” originating in or exported from China PR.

The following amendments have been made:

■ The date for the anti-dumping duty imposition has been extended to November 27, 2020.

[Notification No. 33/2020-Customs (ADD)]

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### **Ministry of Commerce and Industry issues a Notification on Anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of Choline Chloride**

**Oct 27, 2020 | Central | Finance & Taxation**

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry on October 26, 2020 has issued a Notification on Anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of "Choline Chloride in all forms" originating in or exported from China PR, Malaysia and Vietnam in reference to its earlier Notification no. [6/18/2019-DGTR](#) dated August 25, 2020 in respect of subject Anti-dumping investigation.

In the current Notification the Duty Table in para 95 is substituted in such a way that the product under consideration for the purpose of present investigation is for Choline Chloride in all its form, excluding Choline Chloride for food and pharma applications. Hence, no anti-dumping duty is payable on imports of Choline Chloride for food and pharma applications.

[Notification No. 6/18/2019-DGTR]

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### **DGFT extends the timeline for the import of tur during the fiscal year 2020-21**

## Oct 27, 2020 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) on October 26, 2020 has issued a notification extending the validity of license for the import of tur from November 15, 2020 to **December 31, 2020**. All the importers shall ensure that the imports of tur shall reach the Indian ports by December 31, 2020 and no further extension shall be done.

[Notification No. 27/2015-20]

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## CBDT has extended the due date for furnishing of Income Tax Returns and Audit reports

## Oct 26, 2020 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) on October 24, 2020 has issued a press release for the extension of due date for furnishing of Income Tax Returns and Audit Reports. Due to various difficulties, the Board has decided to further extend the due dates as under:

■ For the furnishing of Income Tax Returns by the taxpayers who needs to get the audit done by October 31, 2020, the date has been further extended to January 31, 2021.

■ For the taxpayers who were supposed to furnish the income tax returns for all the international/ specified domestic transactions and the date was November 30, 2020, the due date has been further extended to January 31, 2021.

■ The due date for furnishing returns by the taxpayers whose due date was July 31, 2020 has been extended to December 31, 2020.

■ Further, the due date for furnishing of audit reports in respect of international/ specified domestic transactions has further been extended to December 31, 2020.

■ For the self-assessment liability taxpayers of up to 1 Lakhs, the due date has been extended to November 30, 2020.

■ For the second time self-assessment tax liability taxpayers of up to 1 Lakhs, the due date has been extended to December 31, 2020.

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## CBIC extends the due date for filing of GSTR-9, GSTR-9A and GSTR-9C till December 31, 2020



**Oct 26, 2020 | Central | Finance & Taxation**

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) on October 24, 2020 has issued a press release for the extension of due dates for Annual Returns and Reconciliation Statement for 2018-19. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board has decided to further extend the due date for filing of Annual Returns in GSTR-9A and GSTR-9 and Reconciliation Statement in GSTR-9C for the financial year 2018-19 to December 31, 2020.

Further, the filing of annual returns is optional for taxpayers having an aggregate turnover of below 2 crores. In addition to this, the filing of reconciliation statement is optional for taxpayers having aggregate turnover up to 5 crores.

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## Industry Specific

### UGC extends last date of admission process for ODL and online programmes in Higher Educational Institutions

Oct 30, 2020 | Central | Industry Specific



The University Grants Commission (UGC) on October 29, 2020 has extended the last date of admission for September to October academic session for year 2020-2021 for open and distance learning programmes and online programmes to be offered by recognized Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs).

Based on representations received, the last date for completion of admission process has been extended till November 30, 2020. Accordingly, all HEIs should make note of this and upload the admission details on UGC DEB web portal by December 15, 2020.

[Notice no- F.No. 1-21/2020(DEB-I)]

[View the Document](#)

### Ministry of Shipping designates Director General of Shipping for monitoring of activities relating to ship recycling

Oct 30, 2020 | Central | Industry Specific

The Ministry of Shipping on October 27, 2020 has issued a notification designating the Director General of Shipping, Government of India, as the National Authority for the purpose of supervising and monitoring all activities relating to ship recycling under the Recycling of Ships Act, 2019.

[Notification no S.O.3882(E)]

[View the Document](#)

## UGC revises social work curriculum based on Learning Outcomes based Curriculum Framework

Oct 29, 2020 | Central | Industry Specific

The University Grants Commission (UGC) on October 2020 request revision of social work curriculum based on Learning Outcomes based Curriculum Framework (LOFC) in reference to the earlier resolution to 'Adopt and implement LOFC' in HEIs, by updating curriculum from academic year 2019-2020 and adopting learner centric teaching learning processes by suitable improvement in the pedagogy. To facilitate the task of revision of curriculum in various subjects, UGC has constituted subject specific Expert Committees. The committee has developed the LOCF reports in different subjects are available on UGC website. In continuation of this one more subject, Social Work is available on UGC website.

It is requested to kindly take necessary measures for appropriate revision of the curriculum and send action taken report in this regard to [locfugc@gmail.com](mailto:locfugc@gmail.com) and [neethuthulasi.ugc@gov.in](mailto:neethuthulasi.ugc@gov.in).

[Notice No. 2-4/2018(LOCF/Social Work)]

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## MNRE issues the draft Policy Framework for developing and promoting DRE Livelihood Applications in Rural Areas

Oct 29, 2020 | Central | Industry Specific

The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) on October 19, 2020 has issued an Office Memorandum seeking comments on the Draft Policy Framework for developing and promoting Decentralized Renewable Energy (DRE) Livelihood Applications in Rural Areas with an aim to provide conducive environment for development and large-scale adoption of these applications. The

DRE livelihood applications are applications powered by renewable energy, which are used for earning livelihoods directly such as solar dryer, solar powered cold storage/chillier, solar charkha, etc., or which help in earning livelihoods such as solar lighting systems.

**The objectives are as follows:-**

1. To promote DRE livelihood applications in rural areas
2. Enable a market-oriented framework to attract private sector for development and deployment of DRE livelihood applications
3. Easy access to end user finance for DRE livelihood applications

4. Introduction of standards, stringent monitoring and evaluation frameworks
5. Skill development for strengthening the service infrastructure at the local level
6. Encourage innovation and R&D to develop efficient and cost-effective DRE livelihood applications

The comments and suggestions, if any, may kindly be provided by November 02, 2020 positively.

[Office Memorandum No. 32/18/2020-SPV]

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### **Ministry of Shipping declares the date of enforcement of section 3 of the Recycling of Ships Act, 2019**

**Oct 28, 2020 | Central | Industry Specific**

The Ministry of Shipping on October 27, 2020 has issued a Notification whereby it declares that section 3 of the Recycling of Ships Act, 2019 on Designation of National Authority shall come into force with effect from October 27, 2020.

[Notification No. 3388]

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### **The Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restrictions on Sales) Third Amendment Regulations, 2020**

**Oct 27, 2020 | Central | Industry Specific**

The Food Safety and Security Authority of India (FSSAI) on October 26, 2020 has issued the Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restrictions on Sales) Third Amendment Regulations, 2020 to further amending the Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restrictions on Sales) Regulations, 2011 (Principle Regulation) namely:-

In the Principle Regulation, a new sub-regulation (8) has been inserted in Regulation 2.3.15 on Restriction on use of certain ingredients, following clause shall be inserted: -

“The Total Polar Compounds in unused or fresh vegetable oil or fat shall not be more than 15% and used vegetable oil or fat having developed Total Polar Compounds more than 25% shall not be used.”

The Food Business Operator (FBOs) shall comply with the provisions of these regulations on or before July 01, 2021.

[Notification No. Stds/O&F/Notification(12)/FSSAI-2019]

[View the Document](#)

## MNRE extends the date of exemption for BIS registration for SPV Modules till the validity of IEC certificates

**Oct 26, 2020 | Central | Industry Specific**

The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) on October 23, 2020 has issued a Notification to amend Clause 3 of its earlier Notification no. [S.O. 3449\(E\)](#) dated July 13, 2018 that exempts SPV module manufacturers whose annual module production capacity is less than 50MW for Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) certification till September 04, 2020 provided they had a valid International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) Certificate.

However, considering the COVID 19 disruption that has posed serious challenges for the survival of domestic solar industry, it is hereby notified that the Clause 3 of the notification dated 13.07.2018 stands revised allowing exemption for BIS registration to such modules manufacturers till the validity of IEC certificates provided the IEC certificates for SPV Modules had been obtained before 16.04.2018. These manufacturers will be required to go compulsorily for BIS registration after the validity of IEC Certificates is over.

[Notification No.: 3369]

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## Ministry of Steel extends the enforcement dates of certain Indian Standards

**Oct 23, 2020 | Central | Industry Specific**

The Ministry of Steel on October 22, 2020 has decided to extend the enforcement dates of certain Indian Standards. The details of Indian Standards are given below:

IS No	Products	Period of extension	Revised date of enforcement
IS 1110: 1990	Ferro Silicon	06 months	April 23, 2021
IS 4409: 1973	Ferro Nickel	06 months	April 23, 2021
IS 3748: 1990	Tool and Die steels	03 months	January 23, 2021
IS 7291: 1981	High speed tool steels	03 months	January 23, 2021
IS 12146: 1987	C Mn Steel Forgings for Pressure Vessels	03 months	January 23, 2021

[Order no- S-20011/1/2020-TECH]

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## Secretarial

### Securities and Exchange Board of India (Prohibition of Insider Trading) (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2020

Oct 30, 2020 | Central | Secretarial



The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on October 29, 2020 has issued the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Prohibition of Insider Trading) (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2020 to further amend the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulations, 2015.

The following amendments have been made:

■ Regulation 7A (1), which specifies the information to be given for insider trading, explanation has been inserted, namely:

“Information shall be considered timely, only if as on the date of receipt of the duly completed Voluntary Information Disclosure Form by the Board, a period of not more than three years has elapsed since the date on which the first alleged trade constituting violation of insider trading laws was executed.”

■ In Schedule D, Clause 9, which specifies the format for the submission of information considering the insider trading laws, has been substituted, namely:

“Please describe in detail how the information submitted by you constitutes a violation of insider trading laws. The details must include specific information with respect to:

1. Details of the securities in which insider trading is alleged.
2. The unpublished price sensitive information based on which insider trading is alleged.
3. Date on which the unpublished price sensitive information was made public.

[Notification No. SEBI/LAD-NRO/GN/2020/38]

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## Labour

### Draft Industrial Relation (Central) Rules, 2020

Oct 30, 2020 | Central | Labour



The Central Government on October 29, 2020 has issued the Draft Industrial Relation (Central) Rules, 2020 to further amend the Industrial Tribunal (Procedure) Rules, 1949, Industrial Tribunal (Central Procedure) Rules, 1954, Industrial Disputes (Central) Rules, 1957, Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Central Rules, 1946.

#### **The following provisions have been made:**

■ The definition of the worker has been made exhaustive which shall include working journalists in its ambit and sales promotion employees.

■ Under the draft rules, the definition of industry, excludes certain items, namely:

1. institutions owned or managed by organisations wholly or substantially engaged in any charitable, social, or philanthropic service.
2. any activity of the appropriate Government relating to the sovereign functions of the appropriate Government including all the activities carried on by the departments of the Central Government dealing with defence research, atomic energy, and space.
3. any domestic service.
4. any other activity as may be notified by the Central Government.

■ The definition of the strike has been expanded which shall include the casual leave of more than 50% workers from the industrial establishment.

■ The definition of the employer has been expanded, which shall include:

1. in relation to an establishment which is a factory, the occupier of the factory as defined in section 2(n) of the Factories Act, 1948 and, where a person has been named as a manager of the factory under section 7(1)(f) of such act, the person so named.

2. in relation to any other establishment, the person who, or the authority which has ultimate control over the affairs of the establishment and where the said affairs are entrusted to a manager or managing director, such manager or managing director.

3. Contractor.

4. legal representative of a deceased employer.

■ The new code provides simplified steps and mechanism for the dispute resolution. Further the government has introduced the committees for the amicable settlement of the disputes.

■ The increase in the threshold of the companies further deals with the easy retrenchment issues and closure of the establishments.

All persons likely to be affected thereby and notice is hereby given that the said draft notification will be taken into consideration after the expiry of a period of thirty days from the date on which the copies of the Official Gazette in which this notification is published are made available to the public; Objections and suggestions, if any, may be addressed to Shri Sanjeev Nanda, Under Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Labour and Employment, Room No. 17, Shram Shakti Bhawan, Rafi Marg, New Delhi-110001 or by email – [sanjeev.dom@nic.in](mailto:sanjeev.dom@nic.in). The objections and suggestions should be sent in a proforma containing columns (i) specifying the name and address of the person/organization and column (ii) specifying the rule or sub-rule which is proposed to be modified and column (iii) specifying the revised rule or sub-rule proposed to be substituted and reasons therefor; Objections and suggestions, which may be received from any person or organization with respect to the said draft notification before expiry of the period specified above, will be considered by the Central Government.

[Notification No. G.S.R. 684 (E)]

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## ESIC issues notification for the phased programme for the implementation of ESI Scheme

**Oct 29, 2020 | Central | Labour**

The Employee State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) on October 23, 2020 has issued a notification for the phased programme for the implementation of the ESI Scheme for the year 2020-21. ESIC bears the medical expenditure on the medical care for a period of 3 years for the implementation of scheme to new areas. The ceiling expenditure for the medical care for the insured persons has been enhance from 2150 Rs. To 3000 Rs. Per IP per annum.

Further, the rate of ESIC contribution has been reduced to 4% on wages as well. The government is required to take the steps to complete the payment of the medical expenditure on the scheme.

[View the Document](#)

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## Employees' State Insurance (Central) Amendment Rules 2020

Oct 28, 2020 | Central | Labour

The Ministry of Labour and Employment (MoLE) on October 27, 2020 has issued the Employees' State Insurance (Central) Amendment Rules, 2020 by further amending the Employees' State Insurance (Central) Rules, 1950 and shall come into force on October 27, 2020.

In the Employees' State Insurance (Central) Rules, 1950, in the Rule 56-A, for the words "rupees five thousand", the words "rupees seven thousand five hundred" shall be substituted and the amended Rule 56-A shall now be read as, namely;

"Rule 56-A. Confinement Expenses. — An insured woman and an insured person in respect of his wife shall be paid a sum of **Rupees seven thousand five hundred** per case as confinement expenses on account of confinement expenses:

Provided that the confinement occurs at a place where necessary medical facilities under the Employees' State Insurance Scheme are not available:

Provided further that confinement expenses shall be paid for two confinements only."

[Notification No.: G.S.R. 676(E)]

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## MoLE omits Rule 51B on Rate of Contribution under ESI (Central) Amendment Rules, 2020

Oct 28, 2020 | Central | Labour

The Ministry of Labour and Employment (MoLE) on October 27, 2020 has issued the Employees' State Insurance (Central) Amendment Rules, 2020 further amending the Employees' State Insurance (Central) Rules, 1950 and shall come into force on October 27, 2020.

In the Employees' State Insurance (Central) Rules, 1950, Rule 51B on Rate of Contribution shall be omitted.

[Notification No.: G.S.R. 675(E)]

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## PFRDA issues a Circular on transfer of Legacy Funds of Central Government Subscribers pursuant to opening of choice of investment schemes and Pension Funds

Oct 28, 2020 | Central | Labour

The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) issues a Circular on October 05, 2020 on Transfer of Legacy Funds of Central Government Subscribers pursuant to opening of choice of investment schemes and Pension Funds

In the Circular it has been decided by the Authority that upon exercise of choice of investment schemes and pension funds by the Central Government subscribers, the accumulated corpus under their PRAN account shall be transferred to the opted pension funds in one instance. The subscribers, who have already exercised this option, their legacy fund shall be transferred to the Pension Funds opted by the subscribers immediately. This arrangement shall be examined by PFRDA on an annual basis to analyse if it requires revision.

[Circular No.: PFRDA/2020/45/REG-PF/7]

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### Ministry of Finance imposes interest rate of 7.1% on Special Deposits Scheme

**Oct 28, 2020 | Central | Labour**

The Ministry of Finance on October 27, 2020 has issued a notification stating that all the deposits made under the Special Deposit Scheme for Non-Government Provident, Superannuation and Gratuity Funds from October 01, 2020 to December 31, 2020 shall bear interest rate of 7.1%.

[Notification No. 5(2)-B(PD)/2020]

[View the Document](#)

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### PFRDA issues Circular on Video based Customer Identification Process for NPS

**Oct 28, 2020 | Central | Labour**

The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) issues a Circular on October 06, 2020 on Video based Customer Identification Process (VCIP) for NPS. In the Circular, it has been decided to permit intermediaries registered with PFRDA to use VCIP for the purpose of on-boarding, exit or any other service request related to NPS.

#### **The benefits of VCIP are as follows:-**

- It eases the process of on-boarding, exit etc and overcome the challenges of remote presence, limited mobility, social distancing norms etc.
- It provides the opportunity to expand the reach of NPS as account opening process is paperless, convenient and cost effective.
- It also enable Point of Presence (PoPs) that are functioning online to source Subscribers under NPS with ease and carry out exit process with proper due diligence.

[Circular No.: PFRDA/2020/46/SUP-CRA/18]

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## EHS

### Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas Ordinance, 2020

Oct 29, 2020 | Central | EHS



The Central Government on October 28, 2020 has issued the Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas Ordinance, 2020. These provisions shall apply to the National Capital Region and the adjoining areas concerning the air pollution in the National Capital Region.

The following provisions have been made:

Commission of Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas:

- The commission shall consist of a chief-officer, a secretary and 5 ex-officio members. 2 full-time members who have been joint secretaries to the Government. There shall be 3 independent members, one technical member.
- The chairperson shall be appointed for the tenure of 3 years.

Powers and Functions of the Commission:

- Programme should be executed and planned by the committee.
- Parameters for the quality of air shall be laid down.
- Regional air quality shall be maintained.
- The premises shall be inspected properly.
- Manuals and codes shall be prepared by the commission.

Finance, Accounts and Audits:

- The commission shall be paid by way of grants after due consideration.

- Proper accounts shall be maintained, and the records shall be kept.
- The audit of the accounts shall be done by the auditor of the Government.

[Ordinance No. 13 of 2020]

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## CPCB invites inputs, suggestions, comments regarding draft guidelines for carcass disposal

**Oct 28, 2020 | Central | EHS**

The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has invited inputs, suggestions, comments regarding draft guidelines for carcass disposal. This guideline outlines available methods for carcass utilization, the related environmental issues and the required pollution control measures to be implemented and the way forward to address issues related to carcass disposal in the country. The draft guidelines require carcasses of livestock to be disposed of in incinerators and municipal authorities must ensure that such facilities are set up and made available.

### **Detailed guidelines are as follows:-**

- Carcass should be used by adopting rendering process or incineration and priority may be given to carcass utilization plant which are run by adopting rendering process at all the major towns to process the dead animal carcasses.
- Disposal through deep burial method may be adopted where rendering/incineration facility is yet to be developed.
- Concerned authority should ensure that necessary infrastructure for disposal of carcass is set under their jurisdiction.
- The implementing agencies shall include Municipalities, Department of Animal husbandry of states.

Whoever throws carcasses at any place shall be punished on the spot with a fine in the range of Rs. 100 to Rs. 5000 as may be prescribed by the State Government or by municipal authorities under the byelaws for various types of waste generators from time to time. The amount of fine if not paid on the spot shall be recoverable as arrears of property tax.

The inputs or suggestions regarding draft guidelines for carcass disposal can be sent to [divyasinha.cpcb@nic.in](mailto:divyasinha.cpcb@nic.in) before November 15, 2020.

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## CPCB issues guidelines for Gold Assaying and Hallmarking centres to prevent pollution

Oct 28, 2020 | Central | EHS

The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has issued guidelines for Gold Assaying and Hallmarking centres to bring these centres under regulatory framework of environment laws. Main sources of pollution in Fire Assay Testing and other environmental issues associated with hallmarking centres are air pollution, water pollution, hazardous waste during the process of cupellation, cupels become contaminated due to the absorption of lead and other heavy metals.

### Guidelines for Gold Assaying and Hallmarking centres are as follows:

- The emissions from cupellation and parting process should be channelized through a well-designed suction hood and duct arrangement system to control lead and nitric acid fumes.
- The extracted fumes from cupellation and parting should be scrubbed by installing well designed scrubbing system for removing the pollutants from the exhausted air & discharged through appropriate stack as per SPCBs consent conditions.
- The adequacy/efficiency of the Scrubber system installed need to be verified by the SPCBs or through Expert institutions.
- The spent acid generated from parting acid should be sent to TSDF or neutralized before its disposal. These Hallmarking centres should have facilities of pH testing like litmus paper, pH meter to check that the spent acid is neutralized.
- The Spent cupels/scrubbed water containing lead should be sent to TSDF or to the authorized registered lead recyclers dealers.
- Manifest/records should be maintained for storage and disposal of spent acid/cupels/scrubbed water residue generated during the process.
- Proper personal protection equipment's such as Face Shields, Helmets, Acid Gloves, First Aid Box, etc. must be used by the personals carrying out fire assay & parting test.
- All the gold assaying and hallmarking centres shall obtain necessary Consents under the provisions of Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 & Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 & Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management & Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016 from the concerned State Pollution Control Boards.
- The Gold Hallmarking Assaying facilities/Centres should be established as per the siting policies/guidelines of local administration.
- The Blood test of worker for lead, should be done once in a year who has worked for at least 6 months in such facility.

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## MHA extends the guidelines for re-opening of activities till November 30, 2020

**Oct 27, 2020 | Central | EHS**

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) on October 27, 2020 has issued an Order in reference to its Order no. [40-3/2020-DM-I\(A\)](#) dated October 27, 2020 whereby guidelines for re-opening dated September 09, 2020 have been extended upto November 30, 2020.

In the Order the States and UTS are directed to promote COVID-19 appropriate behaviour extensively at the grass root level and take measures to enforce the wearing of masks, hand hygiene and social distancing. These activities include schools and coaching institutes, state and private universities for research scholars allowing gatherings above the limit of 100 etc. Further, government should regulate various gatherings of people and strictly enforce the same as per their SOPs.

The States and UTS are further directed that they shall not impose any local lockdown, outside the containment zones, without prior consultation with the Central Government. Further, there shall be no restriction on inter-state and intra-state movement of persons and goods including those for cross land-border trade under Treaties with neighbouring counties.

[Order No.: D.O. No. 40-3/2020-DM-I(A)]

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## Andhra Pradesh

### Andhra Pradesh Government amends the Andhra Pradesh Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 1966

**Oct 26, 2020 | Andhra Pradesh | Industry Specific**

The Andhra Pradesh Industries and Commerce Department on October 23, 2020 has issued a Notification whereby it makes the amendments to the Andhra Pradesh Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 1966. The amendments are made in Rule 9(B)(16)(f) titled – ‘Notification of the Sand Bearing areas, constitution of the District Level Committee and its power’ the following items have been added namely:

(xiii) SHO (Special Enforcement Bureau), concerned.

(xiv) Enforcement Superintendent, Division (concerned).

(xv) Additional Superintendent of Police (Special Enforcement Bureau), Unit (concerned).

[Notification No. G.O. Ms. No. 69]

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### Andhra Pradesh Government launches Bhima scheme to provide financial assistance to the BPL families

**Oct 23, 2020 | Andhra Pradesh | Labour**

The State Government of Andhra Pradesh on October 21, 2020 has launched Bhima scheme to provide financial assistance to the BPL families in the State. The State government will be paying Rs 510 Crore every year as a premium, despite the central government has withdrawn from this scheme. All the families with white ration cards (issued for the poor) are eligible for this scheme and the village/ward volunteers shall visit the families and enroll the names of the primary householders. Under this scheme, the insurance amount for accidental death and total permanent disability for people aged between 18-50 years is Rs 5 lakh and for those between 51-70 years is Rs 3 lakh. Similarly, for natural death cases (18-50 years) is Rs 2 lakh and for partial permanent disability in an accident case (18-70 years) is Rs.1.5 lakh insurance amount would be extended.

[View the Document](#)

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## Bihar

### BSPCB issues directions regarding establishment and operation of brick-kilns situated in the state of Bihar

Oct 30, 2020 | Bihar | EHS

The Bihar State Pollution Control Board (BSPCB) on October 22, 2020 has issued a notification stating that brick-kilns situated in the state of Bihar will not need environmental clearance for Consent to Operate and Consent to Establish under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 if the mining is not more than 1.5 meter deep from the surface of the ground.

[Notification no- 115]

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### Bihar Agri Investment Promotion Policy, 2020

Oct 28, 2020 | Bihar | Industry Specific

The State Government of Bihar has approved the new Bihar Agricultural Investment Promotion Policy 2020. The vision of the policy is to encourage and promote agribusiness sector in Bihar through creating an enabling environment for the same and enhancing the level of processing, storage, waste reduction, value addition and export promotion thereby generating higher income returns to farmers and creating more employment opportunities. The policy will be applicable till March 31, 2025. Bihar Horticulture Development Society (BHDS), Agriculture Department, Government of Bihar shall be the nodal agency responsible for implementation of this policy in the State.

#### Objectives of the policy are as follows:

- To promote and facilitate investment in agribusiness sector in Bihar through financial assistance and an enabling environment.
- To increase the level of processing, reduction of wastage, value addition and promote exports thereby resulting in overall development of agro-processing sector.
- To enhance income of farmers through better returns gained through better processing of produce
- To create employment opportunities through promotion of agro based industries.

#### The Policy identifies the following seven agribusiness sectors for extending the financial assistance:-

- Makhana

- Fruits and Vegetables
- Honey
- Medicinal and Aromatic Plants
- Maize
- Tea
- Seeds

The capital subsidy support to the units falling under the seven identified agribusiness sectors (in clause 4) will be in addition to the wide range of benefits eligible under the Bihar Industrial Investment Promotion Policy, 2016. Investor applying for benefit under this policy shall provide a Detailed Project Report (DPR) accompanying the Bank Appraisal Report prepared by the scheduled nationalized bank or financial institution approved by RBI/SEBI, which is supposed to extend the term loan to the unit. The appraisal report prepared by the bank/ financial institution shall form the basis for ascertaining the project cost for calculation of incentives.

**Eligibility criteria for applicants under the policy are as follows:**

- The net worth of the applicant should not be less than the grant amount sought.
- Project Appraisal Report from the Bank / Financial Institution must contain all the project components for which the capital subsidy is sought.
- The date of the commercial production of the proposed project shall not be prior to the date of submission of application.
- The land for the project shall be arranged by the applicant either by purchase or on lease of at least 30 years and it should be registered in the name of the proposing unit.
- Any investor / applicant who has availed financial assistance for a project under this policy of Government of Bihar, shall not be eligible to apply for another project under same policy until one month after operationalization of earlier project.

[Notification no- 2 NHM/BHDS/199/2020/1471 /NHM]

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## Goa

### Goa Government issues instructions for use of manodarpan portal by educational institutions

Oct 28, 2020 | Goa | Industry Specific

The State Government of Goa on October 07, 2020 has instructed all Heads of institutions to take avail benefit of the 'Manodarpan' portal. With an aim to provide psycho- social support and counselling to students for their mental health and well- being, the HRD minister launched 'Manodarpan' initiative during the time of Covid-19 crisis. A working group, comprising of experts from the fields of education, mental health and psychosocial issues, has been set up to monitor and promote the mental health issues and concerns of students and to facilitate providing of support to address the mental health and psychosocial aspects during and after COVID-19 lockdown

**Manodarpan comprise of the following components:**

- Advisory guidelines for students, teachers along with families
- Web page on MHRD website.
- National level database and directory of counsellors at school and university level whose services can be offered for Tele-counselling service on the national helpline.
- National Toll-free helpline number
- Interactive online chat option

All detail about Manodarpan Portal is available on the Ministry Website at link <http://manodarpan.mhrd.gov.in/>.

[Notification no- Covid-19/833/2019-20/1524]

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## Haryana

### Labour Department of Haryana issues criteria for recognition under the Third-Party Certification Audit Scheme, 2016

Oct 28, 2020 | Haryana | Labour

The Labour Department of Haryana on October 22, 2020 has issued a notification for the recognition criteria for third party agencies/ individuals under the Third Party Certification/ Audit Scheme, 2016 which facilitates the entrepreneurs making the compliance of the provisions of the Labour Laws and to curtail the unnecessary visits of the Inspecting Officer.

The Criterial for recognition:

Recognition of Safety Auditor:

■ Person can be recognised as the safety auditor if they fit into the qualifications and experience given under the scheme.

■ Institutions qualifying as holding three persons can be recognised as the safety auditors.

■ The institution shall have experience of at least 5 years.

■ Director General Factory Advise services & Labour Institute IDGFASLI), all Regional Labour Institutes (RLIJ, National Safety Council (NSC) and Haryana Safety Council (HSC) shall be deemed institutions for carrying out Safety Audit.

Validity:

■ The Safety Audit shall be carried out as per the standards laid down under the Factories Act, 1948 and rules framed there-under and as IS 1448 9: L99B.

[Notification No. F.W./5545]

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### Haryana Labour Department introduces electronic maintenance of records under Labour Laws

Oct 28, 2020 | Haryana | Labour

The Labour Department of Haryana on October 23, 2020 has issued a notification improving the effectiveness of the ease of doing business by introducing the Information Technology Act, 2020 to keep the records in electronic form. The following rules and laws have been approved by the Department to maintain the records electronically:

- Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976
- Child Labour (Abolition & Regulation) Act, 1986
- Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970
- Equal Remuneration Act, 1976
- Factories Act, 1948
- Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946
- Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979
- Maternity Benefit Act, 1961
- Minimum Wages Act, 1948
- Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961
- Payment of Bonus Act, 1965
- Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972
- Payment of Wages Act, 1936
- Punjab Industrial Establishments (National and Festival Holidays and Casual and Sick Leave) Act, 1965
- Punjab Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1965
- Punjab Shops and Commercial Establishments Act, 1958
- Sales Promotion Employees (Conditions of Service) Act, 1976
- The Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Cess Act, 1996
- The Building and Other Construction Workers (RE & CS) Act, 1996
- The Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948
- Trade Unions Act, 1926
- Employee's Compensation Act, 1923
- Working Journalists and other Newspaper Employees and Miscellaneous Provisions (Condition of Service) Act, 1955
- Haryana Major Accident Hazard Control Rules, 2009
- Unorganized Workers Social Security Act, 2008

[Notification No. 2/24/2020-2Lab]

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## Labour Department of Haryana issues conditions for the auto-renewal of factory license

**Oct 28, 2020 | Haryana | Labour**

The Labour Department of Haryana on October 23, 2020 has issued a notification approving the auto-renewal licenses under the Punjab Factory Rules, 1962 subject to certain conditions.

■ There should be no change in the particulars of the license i.e. name of occupier, name and address of the factory, maximum horse-power and maximum no. of workers for the years specified for which the renewal is required.

■ The fee paid is five or ten times of the fee specified in the schedule in case the Renewal application is made for five years or ten years.

■ Fee shall be paid through E-GRAS via [www.haryanalabour.gov.in](http://www.haryanalabour.gov.in) through the login id of the factory.

[Notification No. 2/22/2020-2Lab]

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## Jammu Kashmir

### Jammu and Kashmir Audit Manual, 2020

**Oct 30, 2020 | Jammu Kashmir | Finance & Taxation**

The Finance Department of Jammu and Kashmir on October 29, 2020 has issued the Jammu and Kashmir Audit Manual, 2020 for the purpose of defining the audit functioning, role, responsibility, mode and method of audit and inspections organizations.

Objectives of the Manual:

- To strengthen the functioning of the departments and helps in the achievement of the objective of service delivery.
- To regulate the audit functioning in the Finance Department.
- To guide/ assist the audit organization to provide independent, objective, value-added and advisory services to improve the achievement level in the audit department.
- Tools and information for assessing risk in processes and activities, developing an appropriate internal auditing work programme.
- To identify roles & responsibilities of audit teams.
- To standardize reporting and monitoring mechanism.
- To set roadmap for capacity development of internal audit teams.

Applicability:

- These guidelines shall be applicable for audit of all Government Departments, State Public sector undertakings (PSUs), Statutory authorities, Government Corporations and other entities which are under administrative control of the government.
- The manual is intended for internal use by the Audit and Inspections organization of the Finance Department.

[Notification No. 286-FD of 2020]

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### Jammu and Kashmir Taxi Aggregator Rules, 2020

**Oct 27, 2020 | Jammu Kashmir | Industry Specific**

The Transport Department of Jammu and Kashmir on October 20, 2020 has issued the Jammu and Kashmir Taxi Aggregator Rules, 2020.

The following provisions have been made:

Licensing of Operator/ Aggregator:

■ Any person who acts as an aggregator shall have a valid license under these rules. The violation of the rules will lead to penalty of Rs 50,000 for the first time and Rs 1000 for each day of the subsequent violation.

Application for grant or renewal of a license:

■ Form A shall be filed by the person for the license.

■ The application fee shall be Rs 1,00,000.

Grant of letter of Intent:

■ The licensing authority shall issue a letter of intent on the acceptance of the application.

■ A security deposit of 5,00,000 shall be given by the applicant for a period of 5 years.

■ The GPS system shall be provided in vehicles under the M1 category.

■ A call centre shall be maintained by the licensee.

■ A control room with the manpower shall be maintained 24\*7

Grant of License:

■ The authorities shall grant the license in Form B.

Duration and Renewal of License:

■ The license shall be valid for a period of 5 years.

Fare:

■ The fare charged should not exceed the fare fixed the transport department.

■ Additional charges shall be applicable from 11 pm to 5 am as night charges or waiting charges.

Vehicle Profile:

■ The vehicles shall have registration certificate, fitness certificate, insurance and all taxes paid.

■ The vehicle shall not be more than 15 years old.

■ Proper emission controls shall be kept in mind by the vehicle owners and the PUC certificate shall be there.

■ There shall be a first aid box in the vehicle.

■ Colour coding of the cabs shall be done.

[Notification No. S.O. 322]

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## Jharkhand

### Jharkhand Minor Mineral Concession (Amendment) Rules 2020

**Oct 29, 2020 | Jharkhand | Industry Specific**

The State Government of Jharkhand has issued the Jharkhand Minor Mineral Concession (Amendment) Rules 2020 by further amending and introducing the following amendments in the Jharkhand Minor Mineral Concession Rules 2004 (Principle Rules), namely;

■ In the Principle Rules Rule 9 (1) (e) is added ascertaining the responsibility of the mining inspector. Under Rule 9 (1) (e) of the Jharkhand Minor Mineral Concession (Amendment) Rules 2019, the applicant was required to surrender the mining plant and environment clearance within 180 days however, if the same could not be made within the given time without any fault on the part of applicant, the mining inspector will take the decision after examining of application.

■ Rule 9 (1) (f) and 9 (1) (g) of the Principle Rules has been amended specifying that the period for approval/renewal/extension of mining lease shall be extended from March 31, 2020 to March 31, 2022.

■ Rule 9 (10) of the Principle Rules shall be amended wherein Mining leases of minerals mentioned in Schedule-2(a) and their lease period as on March 31, 2020 has been extended till March 31, 2022.

Provided, in all such cases the process of e-auction of the concerned mining lease under the extended period has to be completed, so that there is no waste of time and loss of revenue at the completion of the extended period on March 31, 2022.

■ In the Principle Rules after Rule 9 (1) (g) Rule 9 (1) (h) shall be added specifying that the termination of the period of mining lease of a government company or a corporation which is owned or controlled by it and the extension of duration of mining leases previously approved will be done under rules which will be notified separately.

[Notification No.: 467]

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### Jharkhand Government exempts certain vehicles from Road Tax

**Oct 26, 2020 | Jharkhand | Commercial**

The State Government of Jharkhand on October 20, 2020 has issued a Notification under Motor Vehicles Act, 2001 in respect of the following vehicles in use during lockdown due to COVID-19 pandemic, shall be exempted from Road Tax:-

- Auto Rickshaw/ E-Rickshaw/manual Rickshaws in the State of Jharkhand from March 24, 2020 to May 31, 2020.

- Taxi/Cab, buses in the State of Jharkhand from March 24, 2020 to May, 17, 2020.
- Vehicles of the Permit holders registered in the State of Jharkhand, who have paid their permit tax payable from March 24, 2020 or whose grace period is ending on or after March 24, 2020.

After identifying the vehicles covered by the road tax exemption, the vehicle software shall be amended accordingly by NIC.

[S. No.: (Tax waiver) -120/2020-2276]

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## Karnataka

### Karnataka Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation and Development) (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 2020

Oct 30, 2020 | Karnataka | Industry Specific

The State Government of Karnataka on October 23, 2020 published the Karnataka Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation and Development) (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 2020 to further amend the Karnataka Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation and Development) Act, 1966. The Ordinance shall be deemed to have come into force with effect from May 16, 2020.

#### Amendments are as follows:

■ Section 8(2) is substituted specifying that the market committee would regulate the marketing of notified agricultural produce in the market yards, market sub-yards and sub-market yards.

■ Section 117 relating to contravention of Control of marketing of agricultural produce is amended. Therefore, use of any non-designated place in the market area for the sale or purchase of notified agricultural produce will not be an offence under this ordinance.

The Karnataka Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation and Development) (Amendment) Ordinance is hereby repealed.

[Notification no DPAL 75 SHASANA 2020]

[View the Document](#)

### Karnataka Prohibition of Beggary (Amendment) Act, 2020

Oct 27, 2020 | Karnataka | Commercial

The State Government of Karnataka on October 19, 2020 has issued the Karnataka Prohibition of Beggary (Amendment) Act, 2020 to further amend the Karnataka Prohibition of Beggary Act, 1975.

The following amendments have been made:

■ Section 14, which specifies the medical examination and the detention of the beggars under certain circumstances, has been substituted, namely:

“Where it appears to the Government that any beggar detained in an institution under any order of a magistrate is suffering from mental illness or any contagious disease, the Government may, by an order setting forth the grounds for the belief that the beggar is suffering from mental illness or any contagious disease, order his removal to a mental health establishment or a government or private hospital or medical institution or other place of safe custody, there to be kept and treated as the Government direct during the term for which he has been ordered to be detained, or if on the expiration of that term, it is certified by a

Government Medical Officer that it is necessary for the safety of the beggar or of others that he should be further detained under medical care or treatment, then until he is discharged according to law.”

[Notification No. Act 43 of 2020]

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## Karnataka Town and Country Planning (Fourth Amendment) Act, 2020

**Oct 27, 2020 | Karnataka | Commercial**

The State Government of Karnataka on October 19, 2020 published the Karnataka Town and Country Planning (Fourth Amendment) Act, 2020 to further amend the Karnataka Town and Country Planning Act, 1961. It shall be deemed to have come into force with effect from July 31, 2020.

A new Section 18B has been added specifying levy of premium charges for grant of Premium Floor Area Ratio. The authority may to grant permission for premium floor area ratio (FAR) in areas identified for that in the master plans. For grant of permission, the Authority may levy premium charges, at such rate, not exceeding one third of the estimated increase in value of land and building as may be prescribed by the Government from time to time, for grant of premium floor area ratio, not exceeding the limits specified in the zonal regulations of the master plan.

The Karnataka Town and Country Planning (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 2020 is hereby repealed.

[Notification no: DPAL 74 SHASANA 2020]

[View the Document](#)

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## Karnataka Town and Country Planning (Amendment) Act, 2020

**Oct 27, 2020 | Karnataka | Commercial**

The State Government of Karnataka on October 20, 2020 has published the Karnataka Town and Country Planning (Amendment) Act, 2020 to further amend the Karnataka Town and Country Planning Act, 1961.

In the amendment, a new Section 14A(3) has been inserted, stating that whenever any land is procured by the Planning Authority, Local Authority, Karnataka Housing Board, Karnataka Slum Development Board, Karnataka Industrial Area Development Board, Karnataka Small Scale Industries Development Corporation or Rajiv Gandhi Rural Housing Corporation Ltd. for public purpose. However certain areas such as major and minor roads, national highways, state highways, traffic circulation pattern, areas reserved for parks, playgrounds, and other recreational uses will be excluded. The Planning Authority shall levy such fee as may be prescribed by the Government before allowing such change of land use from the Master Plan.

[Notification no: DPAL 11 SHASANA 2020]

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## Karnataka Town and Country Planning (Second Amendment) Act, 2020

Oct 27, 2020 | Karnataka | Commercial

The State Government of Karnataka on October 20, 2020 has published the Karnataka Town and Country Planning (Second Amendment) Act, 2020 to further amend the Karnataka Town and Country Planning Act, 1961.

### Amendments in the Karnataka Town and Country Planning Act, 1961 are as follows:

■ Section 6 relating to preparation of a map showing present land use is amended wherein every Planning Authority shall, prepare an accurate map within two years showing the present land use in the Planning Area under its jurisdiction along with a separate present land use map for the local authority jurisdictions in the local planning area and for the wards within the local authority jurisdictions. A copy of such map shall be sent to the Director and another copy shall be displayed for public information in the office of the Planning Authority as well as in the offices of the local authorities and the ward offices.

■ In Section 7 relating to application for correction of entries in map it is specified that the owner of any plot of land included in the map prepared under section 6, may within one month of its publication in the office of the Planning Authority and in the offices of the local authorities and the ward offices, apply to such authority for any entry of land use or other particulars to be corrected in the map.

■ In Section 12 relating to Contents of Master Plan in sub section (1) a new clause (aa) is added stating that the Master Plan should consist of a series of maps and documents indicating the manner in which the development and improvement of the entire planning area within the jurisdiction of the Planning Authority are to be carried out and regulated. Such plan shall include proposals for present land use maps and proposed land use map prepared for the local planning area, local authority jurisdiction and for every ward within the local authority boundaries.

■ In Section 13 relating to approval of the Master Plan it is specified that on receipt of the Master Plan with the reports from the Planning Authority, the State Government after making such modifications as it deems fit or as may be advised by the Director, shall return the plan and the reports to the Planning Authority, which shall be published, by notification, inviting public comments within sixty days of such publication. Simultaneously, the plan and reports shall be forwarded to the local authorities within the local planning area, which shall, within sixty days from the date of receipt thereof, forward to the Planning Authority, its approval or any observations to be considered by the Authority, failing which the approval of the local authority shall be deemed to have been given.

[Notification no: DPAL 36 SHASANA 2020]

[View the Document](#)

## Karnataka Private Medical Establishments (Amendment) Act, 2020



## Oct 27, 2020 | Karnataka | Industry Specific

The State Government of Karnataka on October 16, 2020 has issued the Karnataka Private Medical Establishments (Amendment) Act, 2020 to further amend the Karnataka Private Medical Establishments Act, 2007.

The following amendments have been made:

■ Section 4, which specifies the constitution of the registration and grievance redressal, a new proviso has been inserted, namely:

“Provided that, in respect of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike area, the Registration and Grievance Redressal Authority shall consist of the following.”

■ Section 16, which specifies the constitution of the Appellate Authority, a new proviso has been inserted, namely:

“Provided that, the Appellate Authority over the Registration and Grievance Redressal Authority of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike area, shall consist of the following.”

[Notification No. Act 33 of 2020]

[View the Document](#)

## Karnataka Municipal Corporations (Third Amendment) Act 2020

## Oct 27, 2020 | Karnataka | Commercial

The State Government of Karnataka on October 03, 2020 has issued the Karnataka Municipal Corporations (Third Amendment) Act, 2020 to further amend the Karnataka Municipal Corporations Act, 1976.

The following amendments have been made:

■ Section 7 (1)(a), which specifies the constituency of the councillors, a new proviso has been inserted, namely:

“Provided that, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike the Corporation shall consist of such number of councillors not less than two hundred and twenty five but not more than two hundred and fifty councillors as the Government may, by notification, determine.”

■ Section 21 (1)(a), which specifies the division of the city into wards, a new proviso has been inserted, namely:

“Provided that, in respect of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike the State Government shall, by notification, divide the city into wards in such manner that area of wards, as far as possible, shall be within the jurisdiction of an Assembly constituency of the State Legislature and no ward shall be divided between

Assembly Constituencies of the State Legislature.”

■ Section 21 (2a), which specifies the constitution of the delimitation commission, has been inserted, namely:

“the State Government shall, constitute a delimitation commission consisting of such number of members, as may be prescribed to recommend the State Government, the manner of delimitation of wards in each corporation.”

[Notification No. Act No. 17 of 2020]

[View the Document](#)

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## Karnataka Stamp (Amendment) Act, 2020

**Oct 27, 2020 | Karnataka | Commercial**

The State Government of Karnataka on October 19, 2020 has published the Karnataka Stamp (Amendment) Act, 2020 to further amend the Karnataka Stamp Act, 1957.

In the Karnataka Stamp Act, 1957, a new proviso is inserted in Section 9(1)(a) related to “relating to power of Government to reduce, remit or compound duties”, specifying that the State Government may, in public interest, remit, during the policy period of five years from the date of September 25, 2017 or till a new policy is announced, stamp duty payable on the instruments to be specified therein, executed by or in favor of the eligible enterprises, in connection with the Karnataka Electric Vehicle and Energy Storage Policy 2017, dated September 25, 2017 or specified by the State Government from time to time subject to production of a certificate to that effect from the Prescribed Authority.

It shall come into force at once.

[Notification no: DPAL 48 SHASANA 2020]

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## The Karnataka Town and Country Planning (Third Amendment) Act, 2020

**Oct 27, 2020 | Karnataka | Industry Specific**

The State Government of Karnataka on October 19, 2020 has published the Karnataka Town and Country Planning (Third Amendment) Act, 2020 to further amend the Karnataka Town and Country Planning Act, 1961. It shall be deemed to have come into force with effect from May 22, 2020.

The amendments are made in Section 17 specifying sanction for single plot or sub-division of plot or lay-out of private street of the Karnataka Town and Country Planning Act, new sub-sections 17(2C)(i), (ii) and (iii) are inserted:

■ Section 17(2C)(i) - The Planning Authority, if the developer of the layout so desires, may also permit development of layout in phases. In such a case, the developer shall submit a phasing plan along with the provisional plan showing the development of the layout area in three phases, indicating development of forty percent of the layout area in the first phase, thirty percent of the layout area in the second phase and the remaining thirty percent of the layout in the third phase.

■ Section 17(2C)(ii) - The Planning Authority shall release all building sites in the first phase of the layout, that is forty percent of the total layout area, after the relinquishment of roads, parks and playground and civic amenity areas of the entire layout area without claiming any compensation and after completion of all infrastructure development works in the first phase as and after obtaining certificate of completion for the above said works from the concerned Authority/ Agency/ Department/ Corporation.

■ Section 17(2C)(iii) - The Planning Authority shall release all building sites in the second phase of the layout, that is thirty percent of the total layout area, after completion of all infrastructure development works in the second phase as specified in Table- A below and after obtaining certificate of completion for the above said works from the concerned Authority/ Agency/ Department/ Corporation as specified in Table- B below. A copy of the second phase layout plan affixing the seal of the Planning Authority showing the building sites released for transfer title to the allottee by the developer by registration and a copy shall be sent to the local authority for issue of the Khata to the sites.

■ Section 17(2C)(iv) - The Authority shall approve the final layout plan releasing the remaining thirty percent of building sites on completion of all infrastructure development works in the third phase as specified in the Table-A below and after obtaining certificate of completion for the above said works from the concerned Authority as specified in the Table-B below. A copy of the final layout plan affixing the seal of the Planning Authority showing the building sites released for transfer of title to the allottee by the developer by registration and a copy shall be sent to the local authority for issue of the Khata to the sites.

■ Section 17(2C)(v) - The building sites mentioned in sub-clause (ii) of sub section (2-C) shall be released only after registration of the project under The Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016.

■ Section 17(2C)(vi) - The inspection for certification of all the development works in each of the three phases shall be conducted jointly by all the concerned Authorities/Agencies/ Departments/Corporations.

■ Section 17(2C)(vii) - Any building site which has not been released by the Planning Authority shall not be issued any Khata or given property index number (e-khata) under the Karnataka Municipalities Act, 1964, the Karnataka Municipal Corporations Act, 1976 and the Karnataka Gram Swaraj and Panchayat Raj Act, 1993.

[Notification No: DPAL 71 SHASANA 2020]

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## Karnataka Regulation of Stone Crushers (Amendment) Act, 2020

Oct 27, 2020 | Karnataka | Industry Specific

The State Government of Karnataka on October 19, 2020 has issued the Karnataka Regulation of Stone Crushers (Amendment) Act, 2020 to further amend the Karnataka Regulation of Stone Crushers Act, 2011.

The following amendments have been made:

■ Section 4(1), which specifies the acceptance of the application before the expiry of license, a new proviso has been inserted, namely:

“Provided that, where an applicant has not submitted application three months before the expiry of the licence but makes an application one month before expiry of the licence, it may be accepted for the valid reasons, subject to payment of an additional fee as may be prescribed for expediting the joint inspection and suitability of safer zone and other parameters.”

■ Section 4A, which specifies the transfer of crusher license, has been inserted, namely:

“In case of transfer of crusher license, the licensee shall apply to the Licensing Authority for transfer of license along with:

1. non-refundable application fee of rupees twenty-five thousand as a processing fee.
2. an affidavit by the transferee stating that he shall abide by all the terms, conditions and liabilities or obligations of the license.
3. an affidavit stating that intending transferee has filed an up-to-date income tax returns, paid the income tax assessed on him and paid the income tax on the basis of self-assessment as provided under the Income-tax Act, 1961.
4. The transferee shall furnish the proof of documents for having consent of the owner of land on which such crusher is located. Lease on such land extended by the owner in case of leased land.
5. an affidavit stating that intending Transferee and transferor have paid all the dues payable to the state Government up to the date of make application for transfer.”

■ Section 4B, which specifies the status of crusher license on the death of the licensee, has been inserted, namely:

“Where a licensee expires during the currency of crusher license, legal representative shall be eligible for transfer subject to such conditions as may be prescribed.”

■ Section 5 (2), which specifies the payment of annual registration fee for the license, has been inserted, namely:

“Subject to payment of such annual regulation fee as may be prescribed, all existing crusher licenses granted before the commencement of Karnataka Stone Crusher Regulation (Amendment) Act, 2020 shall be deemed to have been granted for a period of twenty years from the date of original grant and shall be extended accordingly.”

■ Section 16 (1), which specifies the penalty, has been substituted, namely:

“whoever contravenes the provisions of section 3 shall on conviction be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine which may extend up to of two lakh rupees or with both and in case continuing contravention, with and additional fine which may extend to five thousand rupees for every day during which such contravention continues after first such contravention.”

■ Section 17A, which specifies the compounding of offences, has been inserted, namely:

“Any offence punishable under sub-section (1A) of section 16 may, either before or after the institution of the prosecution, be compounded by the Deputy Director or Senior geologist of the concerned district belonging to Department of Mines and Geology or an officer designated by Government on payment of amount not exceeding the penalty specified in section 16, for credit to the Government.”

[Notification No. Act 28 of 2020]

[View the Document](#)

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## Karnataka Land Revenue (Second Amendment) Act, 2020

**Oct 26, 2020 | Karnataka | EHS**

The State Government of Karnataka on October 19, 2020 has issued the Karnataka Land Revenue (Second Amendment) Act, 2020 to further amend the Karnataka Land Revenue Act, 1964.

The following amendments have been made:

■ Section 69A (1), which specifies the disposal of lands or other property belonging to State Government under Section 67, a new proviso has been inserted, namely:

“Provided further that, Land locked Government Kharab land in city areas and up to 18 kilometre from the limits of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagarapalike, up to 5 kilometre from the limits of other city corporations after extinguishment of public right under section 68, may be disposed off by the Government, in such manner, at such rates as may be prescribed but not less than the market value guidelines prevailing.”

[Notification No. Act 44 of 2020]

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## Karnataka Fiscal Responsibility (Amendment) Act 2020

**Oct 26, 2020 | Karnataka | Finance & Taxation**

The State Government of Karnataka on October 15, 2020 has issued the Karnataka Fiscal Responsibility (Amendment) Act, 2020 to further amend the Karnataka Fiscal Responsibility Act, 2002.

The following amendment has been made:

■ Section 4 (3), which specifies the maximum limit of the fiscal deficit for the financial year, a new provision has been inserted, namely:

“Provided also that, the fiscal deficit during the financial year 2020-21 shall not exceed five percent of estimated Gross State Domestic Product. Provided also that, during the financial year 2020-21, the State revenue deficit may arise due to reduction of receipts, as a result of Covid Pandemic.”

[Notification No. 21 of 2020]

[View the Document](#)

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## Karnataka Land Grabbing Prohibition (Amendment) Act, 2020

Oct 26, 2020 | Karnataka | EHS

The State Government of Karnataka on October 16, 2020 has issued the Karnataka Land Grabbing Prohibition (Amendment) Act, 2020 to further amend the Karnataka Land Grabbing Prohibition Act, 2011.

The following amendments have been made:

■ Section 9 (3), which specifies the trying of land grabbing alleged acts in special court, shall be substituted, namely:

“All alleged acts of land grabbing shall be tried only by the Special Court constituted for the area in which the land is situated, or where there are more Special Courts than one for such area, by such one of them as may be specified in this behalf by the Government.”

■ Section 10A, which specifies the bar jurisdiction of the civil courts, has been inserted, namely:

“No suit or other legal proceeding shall lie in any civil court in respect of any dispute, question or other matter relating to any Government land or other matter which is required by or under this Act to be determined by a special Court.”

■ Section 10B, which specifies the special court to hold proceedings expeditiously and to furnish to the parties’ copies of its decision, has been inserted, namely:

“Whenever an application is made to the special Court or when proceedings are initiated suomoto for the determination of any dispute, question or other matter relating to grabbed land, the special Court shall conclude its proceedings within a period of six months from the date of initiation of such proceedings and give its decision in writing to each of the parties to the dispute.”

■ Section 17A, which specifies the appeals, has been inserted, namely:

“An appeal against any final order by the special Court determining the civil liability of the parties shall lie to the High Court, if the High Court is satisfied that the case involves a substantial question of law:

1. in an appeal under this sub section, the memorandum of appeal shall precisely state the substantial question of law involved in the appeal.

2. the appeal shall be heard on the question so formulated and the respondent shall, at the hearing of the appeal be allowed to argue that the case does not involve any such question.”

■ Section 22, which specifies the abetment, has been inserted, namely:

“All proceedings pending and contemplated with respect to land as excluded under the proviso to sub-clause (d) of section 2 of this Act, on the date of commencement of the Karnataka Land grabbing Prohibition (Amendment) Act, 2020 shall stand abated.”

[Notification No. Act No. 30 of 2020]

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## Karnataka Shops and Commercial Establishments (Amendment) Act, 2020

**Oct 26, 2020 | Karnataka | Labour**

The State Government of Karnataka on October 19, 2020 has issued the Karnataka Shops and Commercial Establishments (Amendment) Act, 2020 to further amend the Karnataka Shops and Commercial Establishments Act, 1961.

The amendment is made under Section 25 relating to prohibition of employment of women during night. Following are the conditions for regulation of employment of women during night:

- Willingness of women employees shall be obtained in writing.
- The establishment shall provide transport facilities from the residence of the woman employee to the workplace and back free of cost and with adequate security.
- Employment of women employee shall be on rotation basis.
- Adequate number of security guards shall be posted during night shift.
- The establishment shall bear the cost of crèche obtained by the women employees from voluntary or other organisations.
- The Schedule of route of pick-up and drop shall be decided by the supervisory office of the company only.
- The telephone number, particularly mobile phone numbers email ID and address of the women employees shall not be disclosed to unauthorised persons.
- The company should provide security guards at workplace and night shift vehicles when women employees are being picked up first or dropped last.
- The designated supervisors of the company or service provider shall randomly check the vehicles on various routes as far as possible.

- The establishment shall have a control room/travel desk for monitoring movement of vehicles.
- An App in mobile may be developed and adopted by the establishment through which the women employee can contact the concerned at the time of emergency by giving signal.

If any shops and commercial establishments do not comply with the above directions, it would lead to cancellation of certificate of registration.

[View the Document](#)

## Bangalore Development Authority (Amendment) Act, 2020

Oct 26, 2020 | Karnataka | Commercial

The State Government of Karnataka on October 17, 2020 has issued the Bangalore Development Authority (Amendment) Act, 2020 to further amend the Bangalore Development Authority Act, 1976. The Act shall be deemed to have come into force with effect from July 10, 2020. The amendment proposes to regularize existing unauthorized constructions built on land of Bangalore Development Authority (BDA). The Act empowers BDA to allot, by sale, any land vested in or acquired by it but that cannot be used by it. The Act also aims at evicting unauthorized occupants.

### BDA can allot the land to the following allottees:

- The original owner of land
- Purchaser from original owner
- Any other person in unauthorised occupation of the land or a person who has put up building on the land and is in settled possession of such land.

### Conditions for allotment:

- Age of the building on such land should be 12 years or more.
- the allottee will be required to pay a penalty at specified rates.
- Up to 4,000 sq. ft of land will be allotted to one person and no other family member will be entitled for allotment of any other land.

The allottee will pay penalty fees based on the extent of land with building and prevailing guidance value which is the estimated market value of land published under the Indian Stamps Act, 1957, prevailing on the date of allotment. Penalty rates are:

Extent of land (in feet)	Penalty to be paid
Up to 20'x 30'	10% of guidance value
Up to 30'x 40'	25% of guidance value



Up to 40'x 60'	40% of guidance value
Up to 50'x 80'	50% of guidance value

Under the Act, failure to prevent unauthorised occupation or construction will render the jurisdictional officer liable for punishment.

[Notification no: DPAL 41 SHASANA 2020]

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## Karnataka Industries (Facilitation) (Amendment) Act, 2020

Oct 26, 2020 | Karnataka | Labour

The State Government of Karnataka on October 19, 2020 has issued the Karnataka Industries (Facilitation) (Amendment) Act, 2020 to further amend the Karnataka Industries (Facilitation) Act, 2002.

The following amendments have been made:

■ Section 13 (h), which specifies the issue of acknowledgment certificate by the nodal agency, has been inserted, namely:

“on receipt of combined application form from the manufacturing industries or enterprises, the respective nodal agency shall issue an acknowledgment certificate, after obtaining the approval by the investment committees, namely State High Level Clearance Committee, State Level Single Window Clearance Committee or District Level Single Window Clearance

Committee, in the prescribed form, to the applicant:

1. Provided that, land shall be considered for the purpose for which it is being acquired or permission for which it is applied for.”

■ Section 13 (3), which specifies that the acknowledgement certificate shall be the clearance for setting up the establishment, has been inserted, namely:

“In respect of manufacturing industry or manufacturing enterprise, the acknowledgement certificate issued under clause (h) of sub-section (1) shall deemed to be the clearances for setting up or establishment of Industry as defined in sub-section (iii) of section 2, granted or issued by the respective departments for an initial period of three years or till the date of commencement of commercial operations, whichever is earlier, from the date of its acknowledgement.”

■ Section 14 (2), which specifies the furnishing of the combined application form, has been inserted, namely:

“the applicant may opt to furnish the combined application form along with relevant fee and self-certification under sub-section (1) of section 14 and sub-section (3) of section 15, respectively. In the event of the applicant not opting for furnishing the self-certification as under sub-section (3) of section 15, the applicant shall take all the necessary approvals prior to setting up or establishment of the industry.”

■ Section 15 (3), which specifies that the provision of the self-certification shall be in the form of affidavit, has been inserted, namely:

“The self-certification to be provided by the manufacturing industries or manufacturing enterprises shall be in form of an Affidavit which shall be the mandatory document for submission of the Common Application Form (as specified in section 14). The manufacturing industry or manufacturing enterprise shall furnish an undertaking that on clearance they shall be abide by all the applicable Acts, rules etc. as defined in clause (iii) of section 2 and any deviation found at a later stage shall be liable for penal action under this Act or any applicable Acts. The application thus made by the manufacturing Industry or manufacturing Enterprises shall be along with the requisite fee prescribed for the services that are implied of the unit.”

■ Section 16, which specifies the inspection, has been substituted, namely:

“During the period of validity of the acknowledgement certificate, in instances where inspections are warranted, the inspection shall be carried out by such officers of the respective departments in consultation with the nodal agency and approval of the Head of the department concerned, in such manner, subject to such guidelines as may be prescribed.”

■ Section 19 (2), which specifies the penalty for violation, has been inserted, namely:

“Any manufacturing industry or enterprise which fails to comply with the conditions specified in the undertaking or the self-certification given to the nodal agency while applying for acknowledgement certificate or for violating any clause in the applicable Act or rule, while implementing the industrial projects, shall on conviction be punishable with fine which may extend to one lakh rupees for the first offence and for the second and subsequent offence, with fine which may extend to two lakh rupees. In addition, the departments concerned shall initiate penal action under respective Acts.”

[Notification No. 29 of 2020]

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## Karnataka Land Revenue (Amendment) Act 2020

**Oct 26, 2020 | Karnataka | EHS**

The State Government of Karnataka on October 14, 2020 has issued the Karnataka Land Revenue (Amendment) Act, 2020 to further amend the Karnataka Land Revenue Act, 1964.

The following amendments have been made:

■ Section 68, which specifies the extinction of rights of public and individuals in or over any public road, street, lane, or path not required for public use, has been substituted, namely:

“Provided that the Deputy Commissioner may allow any person to make such statement after the period of one month after the issue of the notification under sub-section (1), if he is satisfied that such person had sufficient cause for not making it within the said period.”

[Notification No. Act No. 22 of 2020]

[View the Document](#)

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## The Karnataka Epidemic Diseases Act, 2020

Oct 26, 2020 | Karnataka | EHS

The State Government of Karnataka on October 16, 2020 has issued the Karnataka Epidemic Diseases Act, 2020 to consolidate the laws relating to the regulation and prevention of epidemic diseases in the State of Karnataka. Clause (a) of Section 2, sub-section (3), (4), and (5) of section 5, section 9 and section 10 shall come into force at once and the remaining provisions shall be deemed to have come into force with effect from April 22, 2020.

The Act provides the state, power to punish those attacking public servants and damaging public property. As per provisions of the Act, the State Government may impose suitable restrictions to prevent the outbreak of any disease. The Municipal Commissioners can exercise powers and duties as may be specified in the said Act. All officers, servants and other persons shall be deemed, when acting or purporting to act in pursuance of any of the provisions of this Act, to be public servants.

Penalty provisions under the Act:-

■ Anyone obstructing public servant shall on conviction be punished with imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than three months, but which may extend to five years and with fine, which shall not be less than fifty thousand rupees, but which may extend to two lakh rupees.

■ Whoever causes damage to public or private property shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than three months, but which may extend to five years and with a fine which shall not be less than fifty thousand rupees, but which may extend to two lakh rupees.

■ If the penalty is not paid by the offender, then the amount shall be recovered under provisions of the Karnataka Land Revenue Act, 1964. The Deputy Commissioner can even attach the property of such offender in due course.

■ Any attack on public servant and health workers shall be cognizable and non-bailable

■ Any abetment of offence would attract imprisonment of up to two years and a penalty of Rs 10,000 or both.

The Act has repealed the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897 and Karnataka Epidemic Diseases Ordinance, 2020.

[Notification no NO. DPAL 58 SHASHANA 2020]

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## Ladakh

### Union Territory of Ladakh Reorganisation (Adaptation of Central Laws) Second Order, 2020

Oct 27, 2020 | Ladakh | Commercial

The Department of Home Affairs of Ladakh on October 26, 2020 has issued the Union Territory of Ladakh Reorganisation (Adaptation of Central Laws) Second Order, 2020 to amend the Societies Registration Act, 1860.

The following amendments have been made:

■ Section 4A, which specifies the changes in the list mentioned in Section 4 and rules to be filed, has been inserted, namely:

“Without prejudice to the provisions of section 4 and change in personnel on the list filed under said section occurring during the year to which such list relates shall be intimated to the Registrar of Societies within two months of the making of such changes.”

■ Section 4B, which specifies the persons to whom the list is to be sent, has been inserted, namely:

“It shall be the duty:

1. of the Chairman or, as the case may be, the President, the Secretary or any other person authorised in that behalf by the rules and regulations of the society or by a resolution of the governing body of the society.
2. of the Chairman, or as the case may be, the President of the governing body of the society where there is no such authorisation.”

■ Section 4C, which specifies the offence, has been inserted, namely:

“If any person who is required so to do under the preceding section fails without reasonable cause to comply with the provisions thereof, he shall, on conviction, be punishable with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees.”

■ Section 12A, which specifies the registration of change of name, has been inserted, namely:

“Where a proposition for change in the name has been agreed to and confirmed in the manner prescribed by section 12, a copy of the proposition so agreed to and confirmed shall be forwarded to the Registrar for registering the change of name and if the proposed change in the name is in his opinion undesirable for any of the reasons mentioned in section 3A, the Registrar shall refuse to register the change of name.”

■ Section 12B, which specifies the effect of change of name, has been inserted, namely:

“The change in the name of society shall not affect any rights or obligations of the society or render defective any legal proceeding by or against the society and any legal proceeding which might have been continued or commenced by or against it by its former name may be continued or commenced by or against it by its new name.”

■ Section 12C, which specifies the maintenance of accounts and their balancing accounts, has been inserted, namely:

“Every governing body entrusted with the management of the affairs of a society registered under this Act shall keep regular accounts.”

■ Section 12D, which specifies the auditor’s duty to prepare the balance sheet and report irregularities, has been inserted, namely:

“It shall be the duty of every auditor auditing the accounts of a society under section 12C to prepare balance-sheet and income and expenditure account and to forward a copy of the same to the Registrar.”

[Notification No. S.O. 3805 (E)]

[View the Document](#)

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## Maharashtra

### Maharashtra Value Added Tax (Third Amendment) Rules, 2020

Oct 26, 2020 | Maharashtra | Finance & Taxation

The Finance Department of Maharashtra on October 23, 2020 has issued the Maharashtra Value Added Tax (Third Amendment) Rules, 2020 to further amend the Maharashtra Value Added Tax Rules, 2005.

The following amendment has been made:

■ Rule 17 (4B), which specifies the restriction on filing of return, a new proviso has been inserted, namely:

“Provided that from the period starting on or after April 01, 2020, the retail outlets, not owned by any Oil Company, registered under the Act and who have effected sales of High Speed Diesel Oil or Petrol purchased from the registered dealers, within the State of Maharashtra, shall not be liable to file return under this sub-rule.”

[Notification No. VAT/1520/CR-73/Tax-1]

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## Meghalaya

### Meghalaya Labour Department introduces Central Inspection System for inspection of Establishments and Industries

Oct 28, 2020 | Meghalaya | Labour

The Meghalaya Labour Department on October 14, 2020 has decided to introduce an online based inspection system called Central Inspection System that will cover the offices of the labour commissioner and Chief Inspector of Boilers and Factories of Labour Department, and offices of the Controller of Legal Metrology and Meghalaya State Pollution Control Board.

**The following Acts will be covered under Central Inspection System:**

- The Minimum Wages Act, 1948
- The Equal Remuneration Act, 1976
- The Payment of Bonus Act, 1965
- The Payment of Wages Act, 1936
- The Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972
- The Maternity Benefit Act, 1961
- The Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970
- The Meghalaya Shops and Establishments Act, 2003
- The Inter State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979

The data of establishments and industries registered, renewed through a ledger, register book and maintained manually at the District Labour Offices and which will be uploaded on the portal.

Unless provided for in any of the relevant labour laws, the routine inspection of Establishments and Industries shall be carried out as follows:

Category of the industry	Frequency of Inspection
Very low risk	Exempted
Low risk	Once in 3 year
Medium risk	Once in 2 year
High risk	Once in a year

The establishments and industries will be categorized into High risk, Medium risk, Low risk and very low risk based on the no of workers employed.

No of workers	Category of the establishment and Industry
0-5	Very low risk
6-50	Low risk
51-100	Medium risk
101 and above	High risk

The industries are also categorised on the basis of the nature of activities or establishments. Certain industries or establishments may get exempted as notified by the Government. Start-ups Establishments and Industries will be exempted for a period of 5 years from the date of commencement of business as per the Self Certification Scheme. Mandatory inspection can also be carried out by Labour Commissioner at any time. The online Central Inspection System will randomly allocate establishments and industries to the inspecting officers and the inspecting officers to the establishments and industries. The system will ensure that the same Establishment is not allotted to the same inspector twice within a period of one year.

The General Inspection procedure along with the Inspection Checklist-cum Format laid under the concerned labour laws for inspection of any establishment and industry shall have to be followed in respect of general points, records and returns. All such inspection shall be submitted to the appropriate authority through the Online Central Inspection System Portal within 72 hours of completion of inspection.

[Notification no- LBG 39/2014/Pt/228]

[View the Document](#)

## Meghalaya Government issues SOP for Enlisting Vehicle Manufacturer approved VLT manufacturers

Oct 26, 2020 | Meghalaya | Commercial

The Meghalaya Transport Department has issued the SOP for enlisting Vehicle Manufacturer approved Vehicle Location Tracking (VLT) manufacturers in the State of Meghalaya with an intend to enlist Vehicle Location Tracking Device (VLTD) manufacturers approved by Vehicle manufacturers to enable entry of this data in VAHAN database and also the state VLTD backend provided by BSNL.

As per the SOP the State of Meghalaya shall enforce fitment or functional status of device at the time of registration, permit issuance, renewal, fitness check of the vehicle in VAHAN or permit system (for PSV and National permit vehicle) and the State and UT Monitoring System from October 26, 2020.

### The SOP contains the following:-

- Evaluation Criteria and the list of documents to be submitted with the application for registration of VLTD approved by Vehicle manufacturer.
- Compliance against the operational specifications needs to be submitted by the Applicant. The same should be subjected to demonstration by the Applicant and/or testing by Transport Department, Govt. of Meghalaya or any agency as per Govt. of Meghalaya for validation.
- The Registration fees and the additional Rupees 10,000/- fees for the VLT models.



- Procedure for submission of the Application for registration.
- Address for submission of the Application is Meghalaya Transport Commissioner Office Shillong, Meghalaya 793014.

[View the Document](#)

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## Mizoram

### MPSC Launches New Online Portal for paperless registration

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**Oct 26, 2020 | Mizoram | Commercial**

The Mizoram Public Service Commission on October 26, 2020 has launches a new online portal system, [mpsconline.mizoram.gov.in](https://mpsconline.mizoram.gov.in) through which paperless registration can be done online by creating an account. All the information relating to vacant jobs, fees, exam dates and centres of exams including Admit Card can be viewed and downloaded in due time by registering online.

[Press Release No.313/2020-2021]

\* Available at this [link](#).

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## Orissa

### OSPCB declares implementation of certain services to be made online

**Oct 30, 2020 | Orissa | EHS**

The Odisha State Pollution Control Board (OSPCB) on October 28, 2020 has issued an order stating that the implementation of certain services will be made online by OSPCB. Implementation process for following services have been made online:

- Consent to Establish under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.
- Consent to Operate under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.
- Authorization under the Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Trans boundary Movement) Rules, 2016
- Authorization under Bio-Medical Waste Management Rules, 2016.
- Authorization under E-Medical Waste Management Rules, 2016.
- Registration/ Renewal under Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016.

Further to the implementation of the online system, it is notified that:

- No physical/ manual application should be required to be submitted for the above services.
- The application shall be disposed off within the stipulated timeline as defined under ORTPS Act-2012.
- Authorities shall accept downloaded digitally, manually signed certificates as valid and shall not require physically signed/ stamped certificate. However, the applicant shall produce authentic copy of the respective documents on demand during inspection.
- The applicant shall not be required to get in touch with the authorities in person except in cases where inspection is mandated by law.

[Order no- 10626/IND-II-CTE-6391]

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## Punjab

### Punjab Government declares holiday for voters of Haryana working in shops establishments

**Oct 26, 2020 | Punjab | Labour**

The Punjab Department of Labour on October 14, 2020 has issued a notification declaring November 03, 2020 as a paid holiday to enable the employees working in the shops and commercial establishments situated in the State of Punjab for casting of votes in Haryana. The holiday has been declared within the revenue jurisdiction of the districts adjoining the areas of Haryana State. However, November 03, 2020 shall not be a 'closed day' in lieu of weekly off falling between November 01, 2020 and November 07, 2020 on account of Bye-election to 33- Baroda Assembly Constituency, 2020 in the State of Haryana.

[Notification No. 21/07/2015-5L/530]

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## Rajasthan

### Rajasthan Government issues a Circular on contractor new renewal process under Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970

Oct 27, 2020 | Rajasthan | Labour

The Labour Department of Rajasthan on October 22, 2020 has issued a Circular on Contractor New Renewal Process. In order to simplify the renewal of licenses issued to Contractors under Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970, an Auto Renewal system has been implemented on the website wherein renewal will be possible online based on the data collected earlier without any additional documents. The license will be renewed automatically upon submission of the prescribed renewal fees.

[Circular No.: F.14 (13) BRAP/Labour/Law/2020/22-336]

\* Available at this [site](#).

[View the Document](#)

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### Rajasthan Government issues directions regarding renewal of licensing procedure for factories

Oct 26, 2020 | Rajasthan | Labour

The Rajasthan Factories and Boilers Inspection Department on September 29, 2020 has issued an order specifying that for simplifying the procedure of renewal of licenses of factories, an Auto Renewal software would be use whereby applications will be accepted only in online mode. The online procedure will enable a transparent, non- discretionary mode for licence renewal improving ease of doing business. License will be renewed once the stipulated fees is paid on the portal.

[Order No. F-1 (EODB) 2019/PS/00580/536]

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## Tamil Nadu

### Tamil Nadu Labour and Employment Department applies Payment of Bonus Act to establishments under BOCW Act, 1996

Oct 30, 2020 | Tamil Nadu | Labour

The Tamil Nadu Labour and Employment Department on September 28, 2020 has issued a notification applying the provisions of the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965 to establishments under Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996 in which less than twenty workers and not less than ten workers are employed or were employed on any day during the accounting year 2019. The provisions would apply from the accounting year commencing on any day in the year 2019.

It is to be noted that for the purpose of this Act, establishment means any establishment belonging to, or under the control of, Government, corporate or firm, an individual or association or other body of individuals which or who employs building workers in any building or other construction work; and includes an establishment belonging to a contractor.

[Notification no G.O.Ms. No. 157, Labour and Employment (H1)]

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## Uttar Pradesh

### Uttar Pradesh Fisheries Department invites applications for availing benefits of projects in fisheries department

Oct 30, 2020 | Uttar Pradesh | Industry Specific

The Uttar Pradesh Fisheries Department on October 23, 2020 has invited applications for availing benefits of projects for fisheries department for the year 2020-2021. The interested applicants can send their application at <http://fymis.upsdc.gov.in> before November 21, 2020 latest by 5 pm in the evening. Detailed guidelines for the project can be accessed at <http://fisheries.upsdc.gov.in>.

Detailed description of the projects for the year 2020-2021 is given below:

Name of the project	Unit cost	Jurisdiction of the project
Promotion of aquaculture by increasing coverage area through establishment of private ponds	Rs 8.50 lakh per hectare	All Janpads across the state
New pond construction with shrimp culture in Agra and Aligarh division	Rs 10 lakh per hectare	Janpad Mathura and Aligarh only

[Notification no- 4759/2020]

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### Factories (Uttar Pradesh Amendment) Act, 2020

Oct 30, 2020 | Uttar Pradesh | Labour

The State Government of Uttar Pradesh on October 20, 2020 has issued the Factories (Uttar Pradesh Amendment) Act, 2020 further amending the Factories Act, 1948 in its application to the State of Uttar Pradesh.

A new Section 5A is inserted granting the State Government with the power to exempt a factory from the provisions of the Act in the public interest. As per the amendment, the State Government by notification may temporarily exempt new factory or class of new factories whose commercial production starts within a period of one thousand days after the commencement of Factories (Uttar Pradesh Amendment) Act, 2020 from all or any provisions of the Act for a period of 1000 days from the date on which such production starts.

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