

COMPLIANCE UPDATES NEWSLETTER

February, 2021



MONTHLY

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Finance & Taxation

CBIC amends the notification for imposition of ADD as on February 25, 2021

Feb 26, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation



The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) on February 25, 2021 has amended the notification no. 29/2017- Customs (ADD) dated June 14, 2017 which specifies the imposition of ADD on goods originating or imported from China PR. The following amendment has been made: • Paragraph 3, which specifies the timeline for imposition of ADD, has been inserted, namely: “Notwithstanding anything contained in paragraph 2, the anti-dumping duty imposed under this notification shall remain in force up to and inclusive of June 28, 2021, unless revoked, superseded or amended earlier.” [Notification No. 09/2021- Customs (ADD)]

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DGFT has issued a trade notice for electronic filing of COO for India's Exports under India-Mercosur PTA and India-Thailand EHS

Feb 24, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) on February 23, 2021 has issued a trade notice for the Electronic filing and Issuance of Preferential Certificate of Origin (CoO) for India's Exports under India-Mercosur PTA and India-Thailand EHS w.e.f. February 25, 2021. The Preferential Certificate of Origin for exports to countries under the following trade agreements under India-Mercosur Preferential Trade Agreement and India-Thailand Early Harvest Scheme shall be applied from February 25, 2021. The following process has been given for the exporters: • Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) would be required for the purpose of electronic submission. The digital signature would be the same as used in other DGFT applications. • The digital signature may be Class II or Class III and should have the IEC of the firm embedded in the DSC. • Any new applicant exporter would be required to initially register at the portal. The password would be sent on the email and mobile number of the IEC holder. In case the IEC holder desires to update their email on which communication is to be sent, the same may be done by using the 'IEC Profile Management' service on the DGFT website. • Once registration is completed, the IEC branch details would be auto-populated as per the DGFT-IEC database. Applicant is required to ensure that updated IEC details are available in the DGFT system. Necessary steps may be taken to modify the IEC details online, whenever required. [Trade Notice No. 43/2020-2021]

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CBIC has amended the notification which specifies the applicability of section 25 (6B) and (6C) of CGST Act

Feb 24, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) on February 23, 2021 has amended the notification no. 17/2020- Central Tax dated March 23, 2020 which notifies that the provisions of sub-section (6B) or subsection (6C) of section 25 of the said Act shall not apply to a person who is not a citizen of India or to a class of persons other than certain class of persons. The following amendments have been made: • Provisions of sub-section (6B) or sub-section (6C) of section 25 of the said Act shall not apply to a person who is: 1. not a citizen of India 2. a Department or establishment of the Central Government or State Government. 3. A local authority. 4. A statutory body 5. A public sector undertaking. 6. a person applying for registration under the provisions of sub-section (9) of section 25 of the said Act. [Notification No. G.S.R. 132 (E)]

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CBIC has issued clarifications in respect of applicability of Dynamic Quick Response (QR) Code on B2C invoices

Feb 24, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) on February 23, 2021 has issued a circular for the Clarification in respect of applicability of Dynamic Quick Response (QR) Code on B2C invoices and compliance of notification 14/2020- Central Tax dated March 21, 2020 which specifies that an invoice issued by a registered person, whose aggregate turnover in a financial year exceeds five hundred crore rupees, other than those referred to in sub-rules (2), (3), (4) and (4A) of rule 54 of said rules, and registered person referred to in section 14 of the Integrated Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017, to an unregistered person (hereinafter referred to as B2C invoice), shall have Dynamic Quick Response (QR) code. The following clarifications have been given: • This notification is applicable to a tax invoice issued to an unregistered person by a registered person (B2C invoice) whose annual aggregate turnover exceeds 500 Cr rupees in any of the financial years from 2017-18 onwards. • Dynamic QR Code is required, inter-alia, to contain the following information: 1. Supplier GSTIN number 2. Supplier UPI ID 3. Payee's Bank A/C number and IFSC 4. Invoice number & invoice date 5. Total Invoice Value and 6. GST amount along with breakup i.e. CGST, SGST, IGST, CESS, etc. • If the supplier has issued invoice having Dynamic QR Code for payment, the said invoice shall be deemed to have complied with Dynamic QR Code requirements. • In such cases, if the cross reference of the payment made using such electronic modes of payment is made on the invoice, the invoice shall be deemed to comply with the requirement of Dynamic QR Code. • The provisions of the notification shall apply to each supplier/registered person separately, if such person is liable to issue invoices with Dynamic QR Code for B2C supplies as per the said notification. [Circular No. 146/02/2021-GST]

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Ministry of Finance specifies that the new rate of interest under Senior Citizens Welfare Fund shall come into effect from April 01, 2020

Feb 24, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Ministry of Finance on February 19, 2021 has issued a notification specifying that the deposits made under the Senior Citizens Welfare Fund shall bear interest at 5.81%. This rate will be in force with effect from April 01, 2020. ie [Notification No. 13/20/2014-NS]

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CBIC amends the notification for imposition of ADD on Aniline exported from China PR

Feb 23, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) on February 19, 2021 has amended the notification no. 20/2020- Customs (ADD) dated July 29, 2020, which specifies the imposition of anti-dumping duty on Aniline or aniline oil originating in or exported from China PR or any other country. The following amendment has been made: • The Anti-dumping duty on aniline shall be levied for a period of 5 years from the date of provisional of anti-dumping duty and shall be payable in Indian currency. Provided that the said anti-dumping, duty shall not be levied for the period commencing from the date of the lapse of the provisional anti-dumping duty, that is, the January 29, 2021 up to the preceding day of the publication of this notification in the Official Gazette. [Notification No. 08/2021- Customs (ADD)]

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CBIC has issued the policy and guidelines for setting up of ICD's, CFS's and AFS's

Feb 23, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) on February 23, 2021 has issued a notification for the policy and guidelines for setting up of Inland container depots (ICD's), Container freight stations (CFS's) and Air freight stations (AFS's). The following guidelines have been given: • The IMC meeting shall be held on a quarterly basis as per the schedule given. [Circular No. 06/2021- customs]

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CBIC issues clarification regarding payment of Agriculture Infrastructure and Development Cess (AIDC) by EOU under various situations

Feb 23, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) on February 22, 2021 has issued a clarification regarding payment of Agriculture Infrastructure and Development Cess (AIDC) by EOU under various situations and amendment of circular no 35/2016- Customs dated July 29, 2016 which specifies removal of mandatory warehousing requirements for EOU's, STPI's, EHTP's etc. EOU/STP/EHTP are required to maintain and also submit digital copy of Form – A by 10th of month to proper office which captures the summary of receipt, removal, returns and balance of imported goods. Though QPR/APR contain details of various activities including revenue contribution by EOUs but these are reflected in consolidated manner and these reports may be a monitoring tool for departmental officers with limitations. [Circular No. 07/2021- Customs]

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DGFT issues a trade notice for the issuance of COO through CDP

Feb 22, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) on February 19, 2021 has issued a trade notice for the issuance of certificate of origin (COO) (Non-Preferential) through common digital platform (CDP). DGFT has proposed to issue online COO (NP) as per the provisions in the Handbook for Procedure. All the uploaded documents like invoices shall be up for scrutiny at a later date. Further, a fee of 100 Rs shall be charged after the issue of each certificate. DGFT has directed that the applications will be accepted online only after April 01, 2021. [Trade Notice No. 42/2020-2021]

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CBIC issues circular for the rate of exchange of foreign currency

Feb 19, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) on February 18, 2021 released the Exchange Rate of foreign currency for valuation of goods for purposes of assessment under the Act. In international trade, the value of goods is determined by converting the foreign currency into INR using the customs exchange rate. This is the deemed value of goods on which a duty of customs will be chargeable. Ø Australian Dollar Ø Bahraini Dinar Ø Canadian Dollar Ø Chinese Yuan Ø Danish Kroner Ø EURO Ø Hong Kong Dollar Ø Kuwaiti Dinar Ø New Zealand Dollar Ø Norwegian Kroner Ø Pound Sterling Ø Qatari Riyal Ø Saudi Arabian Riyal Ø Singapore Dollar Ø South African Rand Ø Swedish Kroner Ø Swiss Franc Ø Turkish Lira Ø UAE Dirham Ø US Dollar Ø Japanese Yen Ø Korean Won [Notification No. 18/2021 - Customs (N.T.)]

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CBIC amends notification related to exemption of goods from the applicability of Agriculture and Infrastructure development cess

Feb 18, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) on February 17, 2021 has amended the notification no. 11/2021- Customs dated February 01, 2021 which specifies the exemption of goods from the applicability of Agriculture and Infrastructure development cess. The following amendment has been made: • In Annexure, a new entry 10, has been inserted, namely: "Notification no. 56/2020- Customs dated May 05, 2020 has been inserted, which specifies the Export Against Supply by Foreign buyer." • In Annexure, new entry 11, has been inserted, namely: "Notification no. 57/2000- Customs dated May 08, 2000 has been inserted, which specifies the exemption of silver, gold and platinum from Customs Tariff Act, 1975." [Notification No. 18/2021- Customs]

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CBIC issues circular for the IGST refunds on exports and extension in SB005 alternate mechanisms

Feb 18, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) on February 17, 2021 has issued a circular for the IGST refunds on exports and extension in SB005 alternate mechanisms. the quantum of Shipping Bills pending on account of such errors being committed by the Trade have come down significantly, but still, it is occurring in some cases resulting in hold- up of IGST refunds. The exporter may avail the facility of correction of Invoice mis-match errors (error code SB-005) in respect of all past shipping bills, irrespective of its date of filling, by following the procedure as provided in the above Circulars, subject to payment of Rs. 1,000/- as fee towards such rendering of service by Customs Officers for correlation and verification of the claim. [Circular No. 05/2021- Customs]

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Faceless Assessment (First Amendment) Scheme, 2021

Feb 18, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) on February 17, 2021 has issued the Faceless Assessment (First Amendment) Scheme, 2021 to further amend the Faceless Assessment Scheme, 2019. The following amendments have been made: • Paragraph 5 (1), which specifies the procedure for the assessment, has been substituted, namely: "The assessment under this Scheme shall be made as per the following procedure, namely: 1. The National e-Assessment Centre shall serve a notice on the assessee under sub-section (2) of section 143 of the Act. 2. the assessee may, within fifteen days from the date of receipt of notice referred to in clause (i), file his response to the National e-Assessment Centre." [Notification No. S.O. 741 (E)]

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CBIC amends the notification which specifies the exemption of gold, silver and platinum from Customs Tariff Act, 1975

Feb 18, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) on February 17, 2021 has amended the notification no. 57/2000- Customs dated May 08, 2000 which exempts gold, silver and platinum from the Customs Tariff Act, 1975. The following amendment has been made: • The table which specifies the exemption percentage has been amended for the entry 11.85% to 6.9% and 11.00% to 6.1%." [Notification No. 17/2021- Customs]

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Levy of Fees (Customs Documents) Amendment Regulations, 2021

Feb 18, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) on February 17, 2021 has issued the Levy of Fees (Customs Documents) Amendment Regulations, 2021 to further amend the Levy of Fees (Customs Documents) Regulations, 1970. The following amendment has been made: • Regulation 3, which specifies the levy of fees, entry (x), has been inserted, namely: "Handling of mismatch between Shipping Bill and GST returns in Customs Automated System." [Notification No. 17/2021- Customs]

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Non-Banking Financial Company –Housing Finance Company (Reserve Bank) Directions, 2021

Feb 18, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on February 17, 2021 has issued the Non-Banking Financial Company –Housing Finance Company (Reserve Bank) Directions, 2021. Unless otherwise directed by the Bank, these directions except directions contained in Chapter XII shall be applicable to every Housing Finance Company (HFC) registered under Section 29 A of the NHB Act, 1987. The directions contained in Chapter XII shall be applicable to every auditor of an HFC. The following guidelines have been given: • HFCs lending against the collateral of listed shares shall maintain a Loan to Value (LTV) ratio of 50% for loans granted against the collateral of shares. Any shortfall in the maintenance of the 50% LTV occurring on account of movement in the share price shall be made good within seven working days. • HFCs shall maintain a Loan-to-Value (LTV) Ratio not exceeding 75 per cent for loans granted against the collateral of gold jewellery, and shall put in place a Board approved policy for lending against gold. • HFCs shall carry out securitization of standard assets and transfer of assets through direct assignment of cash flows and the underlying securities. In doing so, HFCs, among other things, shall conform to the minimum holding period (MHP) and minimum retention requirement (MRR) standards. • It is imperative for HFCs outsourcing their activities that they ensure sound and responsive risk management practices for effective -3- oversight, due diligence and management of risks arising from such outsourced activities. • HFCs shall maintain a prudential floor in respect of impairment allowances and follow instructions on regulatory capital. [Notification No. DOR.FIN.HFC.CC.No.120/03.10.136/2020-21]

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RBI has issued a circular for the Capital and provisioning requirements for exposures to entities with Unhedged Foreign Currency Exposure

Feb 18, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on February 17, 2021 has issued a circular for the Capital and provisioning requirements for exposures to entities with Unhedged Foreign Currency Exposure. Representation from banks expressing their inability in obtaining UFCE certificates from listed entities for the latest quarter due to restrictions on disclosure of such information prior to finalisation of accounts has been received. It has been decided that the banks may use data pertaining to the immediately preceding quarter for computing capital and provisioning requirements in case of Unhedged Foreign Currency Exposures. [Circular No. DOR.No.MRG.BC.41/21.06.200/2020-21]

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Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers have issued the list of suppliers for medical devices

Feb 17, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers on February 16, 2021 has issued a circular for the Guidelines for implementing the provisions of public procurement (Preference to make in India) Order, PPO, 2017 revision related to procurement of Goods and Services in medical Devices for the purpose of purchase. The list of class I and class II suppliers has been given in the annexure.

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Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers have issued the Guidelines for implementing the provisions of public procurement for goods and services in medical devices

Feb 17, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers on February 16, 2021 has issued a circular for the Guidelines for implementing the provisions of public procurement (Preference to make in India) Order, PPO, 2017 revision related to procurement of Goods and Services in medical Devices. The following guidelines have been given: • The class I local supplier/ Class II local supplier in the bidding shall be required to indicate the percentage of local content and shall provide the self-certification that the local requirements have been met. • If the value of the procurement exceeds 10 crores the local supplier needs to issue a certificate from the auditor of the company giving the percentage of the local content. • A committee is being formed for the purpose of verification.

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CBIC extends the timeline for the submission of evidence for the records that have not been transferred to ICEGATE due to GSTR-1 and GSTR-3B mismatch error

Feb 17, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) on February 16, 2021 has issued a circular for the extension of Board's circular no. 12/2018- Customs dated May 29, 2018 for sanction of the pending IGST refund claims where the records have not been transmitted to ICEGATE due to GSTR-1 and GSTR-3B mismatch error. The board has directed that now the comparison between the cumulative IGST payments in GSTR-1 and GSTR-3B would now be for the period of April 2019 to March 2021. The CA certificate evidencing that there has been no discrepancy between the IGST amount refunded on exports and the actual IGST amount paid on exports of goods for the period April 2019 to March 2020 and April 2020 to March 2021 shall be furnished by March 31, 2021 and October 31, 2021 respectively. [Circular No. 04/2021- Customs]

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Draft Reserve Bank of India (Credit Derivatives) Directions, 2021

Feb 17, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on February 16, 2021 has issued the Draft Reserve Bank of India (Credit Derivatives) Directions, 2021. The following guidelines have been given:

- The following persons shall be eligible to participate in credit derivatives market: 1. A person resident in India. 2. A non-resident, to the extent specified in these Directions.
- For the purpose of offering credit derivative contracts to a user, market-maker shall classify the user either as a retail user or as a non-retail user.
- Market-makers and users shall not enter into CDS transactions if the counterparty is a related party or where the reference entity is a related party to either of the contracting parties.
- Market-makers and users shall not buy/sell protection on reference entities if there are regulatory restrictions on assuming similar exposures in the cash market or in violation of any other regulatory restriction, as may be applicable.
- Fixed Income Money Market and Derivatives Association of India (FIMMDA), in consultation with market participants and based on international best practices, shall devise standard master agreement/s for the Indian CDS market which shall, inter alia, include credit event definitions and settlement procedures.
- Market participants shall use a standard master agreement for CDS contracts.
- Market-makers shall report all OTC CDS transactions within 30 minutes of the transaction, to the trade repository of Clearing Corporation of India Ltd. (CCIL). While reporting transactions between market-makers and users, it should be clearly indicated whether the transaction is for hedging or other purposes.

Comments on the Draft Directions are invited from banks, market participants and other interested parties by March 15, 2021. Feedback on the Draft Directions may be forwarded to: The Chief General Manager, Reserve Bank of India Financial Markets Regulation Department 9th Floor, Central Office Building Shahid Bhagat Singh Marg, Fort Mumbai – 400 001 Or by email with subject line "Feedback on Draft Reserve Bank of India (Credit Derivatives) Directions, 2021."

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DGFT issues provisions for verification of the exporter's declaration (self-certification basis) on the rules of origin under GSP scheme

Feb 16, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) on February 15, 2021 has issued a public notice for provisions for verification of the exporter's declaration (self-certification basis) on the rules of origin under GSP scheme and brought in amendments in the Handbook of Procedures, 2015-2020. The following amendments have been made: • Paragraph 2.104, which specifies introduction of self-certification scheme for certifying rules under the GSP scheme, has been revised. "Under the (Registered Exporter System) REX, exporters with the REX numbers are able to self-certify the Statement on origin of their goods being exported to the EU under the GSP Scheme. The registration on the REX is without any fees or charges. The local authorities shall take up the post verification procedure. The standard operating procedure for the self-certification procedure needs to be followed." [Public Notice No. 39/2015-2020]

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DGFT introduces online e-certificate management system for the imports

Feb 16, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) on February 15, 2021 has issued a trade notice for the introduction of the online e-certificate management system for the imports. New modules are proposed to be introduced for the processing of certain applications. From February 22, 2021 onwards, the following applications types are required to be submitted online through the importer/exporter's dashboard on the DGFT Website. The following application types are required to be submitted: • I Card (as under ANF-2B) • Free Sale and Commerce Certificate (as under ANF-2H & 2I). • End User Certificate (as under ANF-2J). • Status Holder Certificate (as under ANF-3C). • All such certificates would be issued electronically with QR code and a Unique Document Identification Number (UDIN) for electronic verification. [Trade Notice No. 41/2020-21]

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CBIC modifies the tariff values for areca nuts, crude palm oil etc as on February 15, 2021

Feb 16, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) on February 15, 2021 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. 16/2021-CUSTOMS (N.T.)]

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Commercial

Draft Central Motor Vehicle (Amendment) Rules, 2021

Feb 26, 2021 | Central | Commercial



The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MORTH) on February 25, 2021 has issued the Draft Central Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Rules, 2021 to further amend the Central Motor Vehicle Rules, 1989. The following amendments have been made: • Rule 139 B, which specifies the electronic monitoring and enforcement of road safety, has been inserted, namely: “The electronic enforcement device used for issuance of a challan shall have an approval certificate signed by an appropriate police officer or designated authority certifying that the device is accurate and operating properly. The approval certificate must be renewed on a yearly basis.” 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 (Transport), email: amit.varadan@gov.in Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Transport Bhawan, 1- 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. 136 (E)]

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Boiler Operation Rules, 2021

Feb 18, 2021 | Central | Commercial

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MCI) on February 16, 2021 has issued the Boiler Operation Rules, 2021. They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette. The following provisions have been made:

- The owner of a single boiler or two or more boilers connected in a battery or of many separate individual boilers situated within a radius of fifty meters having a total heating surface exceeding one thousand square meters in any of the cases shall not use the same or permit the same to be used unless the boiler or boilers are placed in direct charge of a competent person specified in rule 4 in addition to such number of boiler attendants as specified in these rules.
- Any person, who does not possess a certificate of proficiency as a Boiler Operation Engineer under these rules, shall not be deemed to be a fit and proper person to hold the charge of any boiler or boilers exceeding the limits as laid down in rule 3.
- A Boiler Operation Engineer holding a certificate of proficiency under these rules shall, at all reasonable times during the period any boiler is in his charge or attendance, be bound to produce such certificate when called upon to do so by any of the persons empowered under section 15 to call for the production of a certificate or provisional order granted under the Act.
- The owner of a boiler who engages any person to be incharge thereof, shall within seven days of such engagement furnish to the Chief Inspector or Director of Boilers, as the case may be, the full particulars of such person including the serial number, date and place of issue of his certificate.
- A person who is in-charge of a boiler shall be deemed to be in direct and immediate charge of the same when he is physically present within hundred meters of such boiler.
- A boiler shall be deemed to be in use for the purpose of these rules when there is fire in the furnace fire box or fire place for the purpose of heating the water in the boiler or under banked fire condition.
- Examination for the grant of certificates of proficiency as a Boiler Operation Engineer shall be conducted by the Committee or any agency authorised by it in this behalf at such places and on such dates as decided by the Committee from time to time.
- When a date fixed for the examination is declared as a gazetted holiday or when for any unforeseen reason the examination cannot be held on the date fixed, the Chairman may fix some other date for holding the examination and the same shall be duly intimated to the candidates and the members of the Committee of Examiners.
- The certificate of proficiency as a Boiler Operation Engineer shall qualify the holder thereof to be incharge of a boiler or boilers of any type and size provided that the boilers are so situated that none of them is at a distance of more than fifty meters radius from any one of them.
- A certificate of proficiency as a Boiler Operation Engineer granted to a candidate by any Committee shall be valid all over the India provided that a person holding a certificate of proficiency as a Boiler Operation Engineer shall give the intimation through on-line mode including by e-mail to the Chief Inspector or Director of Boilers of the concerned Government in which he or she applies for services or in case of change of services from one State to another. [Notification No. G.S.R. 115 (E)]

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BIS amends the Indian Standards of steel and automotive vehicles

Feb 17, 2021 | Central | Commercial

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) on February 11, 2021 has amended the Indian standards for certain items and has extended the date till which the standard shall apply without amendment as per the dates provided. The following items have been given: ■ IS 1341 : 2018 - Steel Butt Hinges ■ Specification (Sixth Revision) - November 07, 2021 ■ IS 9436 : 2018 - Performance Requirements and Methods of test for Wheels for Passenger Cars, Quadricycles and Mini Goods Carriers (First Revision) - August 07, 2021 ■ IS 11329 : 2018 - Finned Type Heat Exchanger for Room Air Conditioner (First Revision) - August 07, 2021 ■ IS 14203 : 2017 - Fire Resisting Record Protection Cabinets ■ Specification (Second Revision) - May 07, 2021 ■ IS 14756 : 2017 - Stainless Steel Cookware ■ Specification (First Revision) - May 07, 2021 ■ IS 15633 : 2005 - Automotive Vehicles ■ Pneumatic Tyres for Passenger Car Vehicles ■ Diagonal and Radial Ply ■ Specification - August 07, 2021 ■ IS 16192 (Part 1) : 2014 - Automotive Vehicles ■ Wheel Rims for Two and Three Wheeled Vehicles Part 1 Light Alloy Wheel Rims ■ Method of Tests and Requirements - August 07, 2021 [Notification No: HQ-PUB014/2/2020-PUB-BIS (138)]

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BIS amends the Indian Standards for Steam Tables in SI Units, Crude Coal Tar for General Use etc

Feb 17, 2021 | Central | Commercial

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) on February 15, 2021 has notified certain Indian standards under the Bureau of Indian Standards Rules, 2018. The particulars of which shall establish on February 12, 2021, whereas the previous standards shall remain in force concurrently till March 11, 2021. The following Standards are as follows:- ■ SP 26 : 2021 - Steam Tables in SI Units (Third Revision) ■ IS 212 : 2021 - Crude Coal Tar for General Use (Third Revision) ■ IS/ISO/IEC 2382 : 2015 - Information Technology ■ Vocabulary (First Revision) ■ IS 4873 (Part 2) : 2021 - Methods of Laboratory Testing of Wood Preservatives against Fungi and Borers (Powder Post Beetles) Part 2 Determination of Threshold Values of Wood Preservatives against Borers (Powder Post Beetles) in Wood and Bamboo (Third Revision) ■ IS 7152 : 2021 - Book Room Doors ■ Specification (Second Revision) ■ IS 7276 : 2021/ISO 6780 : 2003 - Flat Pallets for Intercontinental Materials Handling ■ Principal Dimensions and Tolerances (Third Revision) ■ IS 7622 : 2021/ISO 3874 : 2017 - Series 1 Freight Containers ■ Handling and Securing (Third Revision) ■ IS/ISO/IEC/IEEE 8802-11 : 2018 - Information Technology ■ Telecommunications and Information Exchange Between Systems ■ Local and Metropolitan Area Networks ■ Specific Requirements Part 11 Wireless Lan Medium Access Control (MAC) and Physical Layer (PHY) Specifications ■ IS 10999 : 2021 - Kum Kum Powder ■ Specification (Second Revision) ■ IS/ISO 11986 : 2017 - Ophthalmic Optics ■ Contact Lenses and Contact Lens Care Products ■ Determination of Preservative Uptake and Release ■ IS 12872 : 2021/ISO 9513 : 2012 - Metallic Materials ■ Calibration of Extensometer Systems Used in Uniaxial Testing (Second Revision) ■ IS 13288 (Part 1) : 2021/ISO 1496-1 : 2013 - Series 1 Freight Containers ■ Specification and Testing Part 1 General Cargo Containers for General Purposes (First Revision) ■ IS 13395 : 2021 - Performance of Handles and Handle Assemblies Attached to Cookware ■ Specification (First Revision) ■ IS 13614 (Part 1) : 2021/ISO 7241 : 2014 - Hydraulic Fluid Power ■ Dimensions and Requirements of Quick-Action Couplings Part 1 Dimensions and Requirements (First Revision) ■ IS 13673 (Part 2) : 2021/IEC 60746-2 : 2003 - Expression of Performance of Electrochemical Analyzers Part 2 pH Value (First Revision) ■ IS 13673 (Part 3) : 2021/IEC 60746-3 : 2002 - Expression of Performance of Electrochemical Analyzers Part 3 Electrolytic Conductivity (First Revision) ■ IS 13713 : 2021 - Plastic Chairs for General Purposes ■ Specification (First Revision) ■ IS 13867 : 2021/ISO 23529 : 2016 - Rubber ■ General Procedures for Preparing and Conditioning Test Pieces for Physical Test Methods (First Revision) ■ IS 14254 (Part 2) : 2021/IEC 61131-2 : 2017 - Industrial-Process Measurement and Control ■ Programmable Controllers Part 2 Equipment Requirements and Tests (Second Revision) ■ IS 14504 : 2021/ISO 6976 : 2016 - Natural Gas ■ Calculation of Calorific Values, Density, Relative Density and Wobbe Indices from Composition (First Revision) ■ IS 15130 (Part 2) : 2021/ISO 6974-2 : 2012 - Natural Gas ■ Determination of Composition and Associated Uncertainty by Gas Chromatography Part 2 Uncertainty Calculations (First Revision) ■ IS 15408 : 2021/ISO 15394 : 2017 - Packaging ■ Bar Code and Two-dimensional Symbols for Shipping, Transport and Receiving Labels (Second Revision) ■ IS 15935 : 2021 - Composite Cylinders for On-Board Storage of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) as a Fuel for Automotive Vehicle ■ Specification (First Revision) ■ IS 17055 (Part 6) : 2021 - Earth-Moving Machinery ■ Safety Part 6 Requirements for Dumpers (Second Revision) ■ IS 17381 : 2021/ISO 17712 : 2013 - Freight Containers ■ Mechanical Seals ■ IS 17400 : 2021 - Glass Fibre Reinforced Gypsum Panels ■ Specification ■ IS 17401 : 2021 - Design and Construction of Buildings Using Glass Fibre Reinforced Gypsum Panels ■ Code of Practice ■ IS 17512 : 2021 - Requirements for Electrical Installations in Medical Locations ■ IS 17526 : 2021 - Domestic Stainless Steel Vacuum Flask/Bottle ■ Specification ■ IS/ISO/IEC 18004 : 2015

- Information Technology ■ Automatic Identification and Data Capture Techniques ■ QR Code Bar Code Symbology Specification ■ IS/ISO/IEC 30130 : 2016 - Software Engineering ■ Capabilities of Software Testing Tools ■ IS/IEC TS 60079-40 : 2015 - Explosive Atmospheres Part 40 Requirements for Process Sealing Between Flammable Process Fluids and Electrical Systems ■ IS/IEC 60479-2 : 2019 - Effects of Current on Human Beings and Livestock Part 2 Special Aspects (First Revision) [Notification No : HQ-PUB 013/1/2020 PUB-BIS(136)]

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BIS notifies Indian Standards of Graphic Technology, Liquefied Petroleum Gases etc.

Feb 17, 2021 | Central | Commercial

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) on February 09, 2021 has notified certain Indian Standards. The particulars of the following standards shall remain in force concurrently till March 02, 2021. The following items have been given: ■ IS 397 (Part 0) : 2021 - Methods for Statistical Quality Control During Production Part 0 Guidelines for Selection of Control Charts (Second Revision) ■ IS 802.15.9 : 2021/IEEE Std 802.15.9-2016 - Recommended Practice for Transport of Key Management Protocol (KMP) Datagrams ■ IS 1250 : 2021/ISO 5776 : 2016 - Graphic Technology ■ Symbols for Text Proof Correction ■ IS 3400 (Part 1) : 2021/ISO 37 : 2017 - Methods of Test for Vulcanized Rubber Part 1 Tensile Stress-Strain Properties (Fourth Revision) ■ IS 3933 : 2021 - Colour Identification of Gas Cylinders and Related Equipment Intended for Medical Use (First Revision) ■ IS 4576 : 2021 - Liquefied Petroleum Gases ■ Specification (Fourth Revision) ■ IS 6044 (Part 2) : 2021 - Liquefied Petroleum Gas Storage Installations ■ Code of Practice Part 2 Commercial, Industrial and Domestic Bulk Storage Installations (Second Revision) ■ IS 6433 : 2021 - Guniting Equipments ■ Specification (First Revision) ■ IS 7694 : 2021/ISO 1161 : 2016 - Series 1 Freight Containers ■ Corner and Intermediate Fittings ■ Specifications (Third Revision) ■ IS/ISO 8596 : 2017 - Ophthalmic Optics ■ Visual Acuity Testing ■ Standard and Clinical Optotypes and their Presentation (First Revision) ■ IS/ISO/IEC/IEEE 8802-1X : 2013 - Information Technology ■ Telecommunications and Information Exchange Between Systems ■ Local and Metropolitan Area Networks Part 1X: Port-based Network Access Control ■ IS/ISO 8980-1 : 2017 - Ophthalmic Optics ■ Uncut Finished Spectacle Lenses Part 1 Specifications for Single-vision and Multifocal Lenses (First Revision) ■ IS/ISO/IEC 10373-1 : 2006 - Identification Cards ■ Test Methods Part 1 General Characteristics ■ IS/ISO/IEC 10373-2 : 2015 - Identification Cards ■ Test Methods Part 2 Cards with Magnetic Stripes ■ IS/ISO/IEC 10373-3 : 2010 - Identification Cards ■ Test Methods Part 3 Integrated Circuit Cards with Contacts and Related Interface Devices ■ IS/ISO/IEC 10373-8 : 2011 - Identification Cards ■ Test Methods Part 8 USB-ICC ■ IS/ISO/IEC 10373-9 : 2011 - Identification Cards ■ Test Methods Part 9 Optical Memory Cards ■ Holographic Recording Method ■ IS/ISO 10939 : 2017 - Ophthalmic Instruments ■ Slit-Lamp Microscopes (First Revision) ■ IS/ISO 11040-1 : 2015 - Prefilled Syringes Part 1 Glass Cylinders for Dental Local Anaesthetic Cartridges ■ IS/ISO 11040-4 : 2015 - Prefilled Syringes Part 4 Glass Barrels for Injectables and Sterilized Subassembled Syringes Ready for Filling ■ IS/ISO 11607-1 : 2019 - Packaging for Terminally Sterilized Medical Devices Part 1 Requirements for Materials, Sterile Barrier Systems and Packaging Systems (First Revision) ■ IS/ISO 11607-2 : 2019 - Packaging for Terminally Sterilized Medical Devices Part 2 Validation Requirements for Forming, Sealing and Assembly Processes (First Revision) ■ IS/ISO 11979-1 : 2018 - Ophthalmic Implants ■ Intraocular Lenses Part 1 Vocabulary (First Revision) ■ IS/ISO 11979-7 : 2018 - Ophthalmic Implants ■ Intraocular Lenses Part 7 Clinical Investigations of Intraocular Lenses for the Correction of Aphakia (First Revision) ■ IS/ISO 11979-10 : 2018 - Ophthalmic Implants ■ Intraocular Lenses Part 10 Clinical Investigations of Intraocular Lenses for Correction of Ametropia in Phakic Eyes (First Revision) ■ IS 15799 : 2021 - Methods for Testing Tar and Bituminous Materials ■ Ageing of Bitumen (RTFO and PAV Tests) (First Revision) ■ IS 16061 : 2021/ISO 14687 : 2019 - Hydrogen Fuel Quality ■ Product Specification (First Revision) ■ IS/ISO 18369-1 : 2017 - Ophthalmic Optics ■ Contact Lenses Part 1 Vocabulary, Classification System and Recommendations for labelling Specifications (First Revision) ■ IS/ISO 18369-2 : 2017 - Ophthalmic Optics ■ Contact Lenses Part 2 Tolerances (First Revision) ■ IS/ISO 18369-3 : 2017 - Ophthalmic Optics ■ Contact Lenses Part 3 Measurement Methods (First Revision) ■ IS/ISO 18369-4 : 2017 - Ophthalmic Optics ■ Contact Lenses Part 4 Physicochemical Properties of Contact Lens Materials (First Revision) [Notification No: HQ-PUB 013/1/2020 PUB-BIS(135)]

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ESIC issues an order for the adoption and implementation of the of BIS mandated under the BIS Act, 2016

Feb 17, 2021 | Central | Commercial

The Employee State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) on February 15, 2021 has issued an order for the adoption and implementation of Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), mandated under the BIS Act, 2016 to formulate Indian Standards, promote their use and an effective mechanism for ensuring compliance with the standards. The authorities have requested all the entities to adhere to the BIS standards since not following the standards is a disadvantage to the Indian manufacturers.

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Press Council (Procedure for Notification of Associations of Persons) Rules, 2021

Feb 17, 2021 | Central | Commercial

The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting on February 05, 2021 has issued the Press Council (Procedure for Notification of Associations of Persons) Rules, 2021. The following provisions have been made:

- The central government in the case of the first retiring Chairman of the council, in case of any subsequent council shall invite filing of claims from eligible associations of persons by giving wide publicity in at least two widely circulated national daily newspapers.
- To file the claims the associations of persons shall be registered under the relevant laws for the time being in force for at least 6 years prior to last date of filing the claims and must be conducting the business, shall submit the documents duly certified by the authorities.
- The claims filed shall be scrutinized by the scrutiny committee which shall consist of 3 people and shall submit the report to the council.

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BIS amends the Indian Standards for Steel Shelving Cabinets, Fire Retardant Plywood etc

Feb 17, 2021 | Central | Commercial

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) on February 01, 2021 has notified certain Indian Standards. The particulars of the following standards shall remain in force up till the dates provided. The following items have been given:

- IS 3312 : 2021 - Steel Shelving Cabinets (Adjustable Type) ■ Specification (Third Revision) - July 28, 2021
- IS 5509 : 2021 - Fire Retardant Plywood ■ Specification (Third Revision) - July 28, 2021
- IS 15658 : 2021 - Concrete Paving Blocks ■ Specification (First revision) - January 28, 2022

[Notification No: HQ-PUB 012/4/2020 Pub-BIS(134)]

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BIS amends the Indian Standards of textiles

Feb 17, 2021 | Central | Commercial

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) on February 09, 2021 has amended the Indian standards for certain items and has extended the date till which the standard shall apply without amendment till August 03, 2021. The following items have been given: ■ IS 14252 : 2015 - Textiles ■ High Density Polyethylene (HDPE)/Polypropylene (PP) Woven Sacks for Filling Sand ■ Specification (Second Revision) ■ IS 14887 : 2014 - Textiles ■ High Density Polyethylene (HDPE)/Polypropylene (PP) Woven Sacks for Packaging of 50 KG Food Grains ■ (Specification (First Revision) ■ IS 16208 : 2015 - Textiles ■ High Density Polyethylene (HDPE)/Polypropylene (PP) Woven Sacks for Packaging 10 KG, 15 KG, 20 KG, 25 KG and 30 KG Foodgrains ■ Specification ■ IS 16703 : 2017 - Textiles ■ High Density Polyethylene (HDPE)/Polypropylene (PP) Woven Sacks for Packaging 25 KG Polymer Materials ■ Specification [Notification No. HQ-PUB014/2/2020-PUB-BIS (137)]

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RBI has issued Circular for the Remittances to International Financial Services Centres (IFSCs) in India under the Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS)

Feb 17, 2021 | Central | Commercial

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on February 16, 2021 has issued the Remittances to International Financial Services Centres (IFSCs) in India under the Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS). Accordingly, AD Category - I banks may allow resident individuals to make remittances under LRS to IFSCs in India, subject to the certain conditions. The following conditions are applicable: • The remittance shall be made only for making investments in IFSCs in securities, other than those issued by entities/companies' resident (outside IFSC) in India. • Resident Individuals may also open a noninterest bearing Foreign Currency Account (FCA) in IFSCs, for making the above permissible investments under LRS. Any funds lying idle in the account for a period up to 15 days from the date of its receipt into the account shall be immediately repatriated to domestic INR account of the investor in India. • Resident Individuals shall not settle any domestic transactions with other residents through these FCAs held in IFSC. [Circular No. A.P. (DIR Series) Circular No. 11]

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Tribunals Reforms (Rationalisation and Conditions of Service) Bill, 2021

Feb 16, 2021 | Central | Commercial

The Government of India on February 13, 2021 has issued the Tribunals Reforms (Rationalisation and Conditions of Service) Bill, 2021. The following Acts have been amended: Cinematograph Act, 1952: •Section 2 (h), which specifies the definition of Tribunal, has been omitted. •Section 5D, which specifies the Constitution of appellate tribunal, has been omitted. Copyright Act, 1957: •Section 2 (fa), which specifies the definition of commercial court, has been inserted, namely: "Commercial Court", for the purposes of any State, means a Commercial Court constituted under section 3, or the Commercial Division of a High Court constituted under section 4, of the Commercial Courts Act, 2015." •Section 72, which specifies the appeals against the orders of the Registrars, has been substituted, namely: "Any person aggrieved by any final decision or order of the Registrar of Copyrights may, within three months from the date of the order or decision, appeal to the High Court." Customs Act, 1962: •Section 28 (EA) proviso, which specifies the customs authority for advance rulings, has been omitted. •Section 28 (F)(1), which specifies the authority for advance rulings, has been omitted. •Section 28 (M)(2), which specifies the Procedure for Authority and Appellate Authority has been omitted. Patents Act, 1970: •Section 116, which specifies the constitution of appellate board, has been omitted. •Section 117, which specifies the staff of appellate board, has been omitted. Airports Authority of India Act, 1994: •Section 28 I, which specifies the constitution of Airport Appellate Tribunal, has been omitted. •Section 28 J, which specifies the Chairperson Duties of the tribunal, has been omitted. •Section 28 K, which specifies the process of appeal in the tribunal, has been omitted. Trademarks Act, 1999: •Section 94, which specifies the Bar to appear before Appellate Board, has been substituted, namely: "On ceasing to hold the office, the erstwhile Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson or other Members, shall not appear before the Registrar." Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999: •Section 32, which specifies the Bar of jurisdiction of courts, etc, has been omitted. •Section 33, which specifies the Procedure of the Appellate Board, has been omitted. Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act, 2001: •Section 54, which specifies the Tribunal, has been omitted. •Section 55, which specifies the Composition of Tribunal, has been omitted. •Section 58, which specifies the Procedure of Tribunal, has been omitted. •Section 59, which specifies the Transitional provision, has been omitted. Control of National Highways (Land and Traffic) Act, 2002: •Section 14, which specifies the Jurisdiction, powers and authority of Tribunal, has been substituted, namely: "An appeal from any order passed, or any action taken, excluding issuance or serving of notice under sections 26, 27, 28, 36, 37 and 38 by the Highway Administration or an officer authorised on its behalf, as the case may be, shall lie to the Court." Finance Act, 2017: •Section 184, which specifies the Qualifications, appointment, term and conditions of service, salary and allowances, etc., of Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Members, etc., of the Tribunal, Appellate Tribunal and other Authorities, has been substituted, namely: "The Central Government may, by notification, make rules to provide for the qualifications, appointment, salaries and allowances, resignation, removal and the other conditions of service of the Chairperson and Members of the Tribunal as specified in the Eighth Schedule." [Bill No. 19 of 2020]

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Industry Specific

Fertilizer (Inorganic, Organic or Mixed) (Control) Amendment Order, 2021

Feb 26, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific



The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare on February 23, 2021 has issued Fertilizer (Inorganic, Organic or Mixed) (Control) Amendment Order, 2021 to further amend the Fertiliser (Inorganic, Organic or Mixed) (Control) Order, 1985. The following amendments have been made: • Clause 20C, which specifies the specifications in respect of bio-stimulants, has been inserted, namely: “Notwithstanding anything contained in this Order, the specifications of biostimulants, including its name, active ingredients or where it is not possible to indicate its active ingredients, then its chemical composition, name of the crop to which it may be applied, its benefits and the method of analysis for determination of its active ingredients or chemical composition shall be specified by the Central Government in Schedule VI.” • Clause 29 (1C), which specifies the analysis of the sample of bio stimulants, has been inserted, namely: “A biostimulant sample drawn by an inspector shall be analysed in accordance with the procedure contained in Part C of Schedule VI in the Central Fertiliser Quality Control and Training Institute, Faridabad or its regional laboratories or in any other laboratory notified for this purpose by the State Government with prior approval of Central Government.” • Clause 38A, which specifies the central bio stimulant committee, has been inserted, namely: “The Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, constitute a Committee to be called ‘Central Biostimulant Committee’ with the Agriculture Commissioner as its Chairperson and seven other members, subject to such terms and conditions, as may be specified therein.” • Schedule VI, which specifies the specifications of bio stimulants, has been inserted.

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All India Council for Technical Education (Grant of Approvals for Technical Institutions) (1st Amendment) Regulations, 2021

Feb 26, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) on February 24, 2021 has issued the All India Council for Technical Education (Grant of Approvals for Technical Institutions) (1st Amendment) Regulations, 2021 to further amend the All India Council for Technical Education (Grant of Approvals for the Technical Institutions) Regulations, 2020. The following amendments have been made: • Clause 4.3, which specifies the recognition of programmes, has been substituted, namely: “AICTE does not recognize the Programme(s)/ Course(s) in Technical Education offered through distance mode or online mode except in Management, Computer Applications and Travel and Tourism, AI and Data Science, and Logistics.” • Clause 4.6, which specifies the percent of seats for approval under the programmes, has been substituted, namely: “Fifteen percent (15%) supernumerary seats over and above the “Approved Intake” per Course shall be approved in AICTE approved Institutions and University Departments, for admitting students from Foreign Nationals/ Overseas Citizen of India (OCI)/ Children of Indian Workers in the Gulf Countries. One third (1/3rd) of these 15% seats shall be reserved for the Children of Indian Workers in the Gulf Countries.” • Clause 6.2, which specifies the guidelines for setting up a new technical institute, has been substituted, namely: “The State Government/ UT and the Affiliating University/ Board shall forward their views on the applications received under Clause 1.2.(a) of these Regulations to the concerned Regional Office, not later than one week from the last date of submission of application as notified.” • Clause 17, which specifies the conduct of any other academic courses, has been substituted, namely: “The Institutions may conduct Academic Courses (Technical/ Non-Technical of any other Regulatory Body) using the existing facilities in excess or by creating additional facilities as per the provisions laid down in the norms and standards of the respective Regulatory Body without affecting the quality of education prescribed by all the Regulatory Bodies after taking NOC from the Council following the procedure specified in the Approval Process Handbook. However, the Applicant has to make Material/ Non-Material amendment of the Building Plan, Site Plan, etc. approved by the concerned Competent Authority (if applicable) to suit the requirements of the new Programme/ Level.” [Notification No. AB/AICTE/REG/2020 (1 st Amendment, 2021)]

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Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021

Feb 26, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology on February 25, 2021 has issued the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021. They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette. The following provisions have been made:

- An intermediary, including social media intermediary and significant social media intermediary, shall observe the following due diligence while discharging its duties.
- In addition to the due diligence observed under rule 3, a significant social media intermediary shall, within three months from the date of notification of the threshold under clause (v) of sub-rule (1) of rule 2, observe the following additional due diligence while discharging its duties.
- In addition to adherence to rules 3 and 4, as may be applicable, an intermediary shall publish, on an appropriate place on its website, mobile based application or both, as the case may be, a clear and concise statement informing publishers of news and current affairs content that in addition to the common terms of service for all users, such publishers shall furnish the details of their user accounts on the services of such intermediary to the Ministry as may be required under rule 18.
- The Ministry may by order, for reasons to be recorded in writing, require any intermediary, which is not a significant social media intermediary, to comply with all or any of the obligations mentioned under rule 4, if the services of that intermediary permits the publication or transmission of information in a manner that may create a material risk of harm to the sovereignty and integrity of India, security of the State, friendly relations with foreign States or public order.
- Where an intermediary fails to observe these rules, the provisions of sub-section (1) of section 79 of the Act shall not be applicable to such intermediary and the intermediary shall be liable for punishment under any law for the time being in force including the provisions of the Act and the Indian Penal Code. [Notification No. G.S.R. 139 (E)]

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Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterway appoints the enforcement date of certain sections of the Recycling of Ships Act, 2019

Feb 26, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterway on February 25, 2021 has appointed a date on which the provisions of Section 6 related to controls on hazardous materials, Section 30 related to Act not to apply to certain ships and Section 42 related to power to make rules of the Recycling of Ships Act, 2019 shall come into force. [Notification No. S.O. 889(E)]

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MoCI issued the Safety Glass (Quality Control) Amendment Order, 2021

Feb 26, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Ministry of Commerce and industry (MoCI) on February 25, 2021 has issued “ The Safety Glass (Quality Control) Amendment Order, 2021” to further amend the “Safety Glass (Quality Control) Order, 2020”. Following are the key highlights: ■ Paragraph 1, for sub-paragraph (2), shall be substituted, namely:- (2) “It shall come into force with effect from 1st April, 2022. [Notification No : S.O. 902(E)]

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Fertilizer (Inorganic, Organic or Mixed) (Control) second Amendment Order, 2021

Feb 26, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare on February 24, 2021 has issued Fertilizer (Inorganic, Organic or Mixed) (Control) second Amendment Order, 2021 to further amend the Fertiliser (Inorganic, Organic or Mixed) (Control) Order, 1985. The following amendments have been made: • Clause 20D, which specifies the manufacturing of nano fertilisers, has been inserted, namely: “Notwithstanding anything contained in this Order, the Central Government may, by order published in the Official Gazette, notify specifications, valid for a period not exceeding three years, conforming to the general specifications as specified in Schedule VII, in respect of nano fertilisers to be manufactured by such manufacturing unit, as may be specified therein.” • Schedule VII, which specifies the general specifications of the nano fertilisers, has been inserted. [Notification No. S.O. 884 (E)]

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Production Linked Incentive Scheme (PLI) to promote telecom and networking products manufacturing in India

Feb 26, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Ministry of Communications on February 24, 2021 has issued the Production Linked Incentive Scheme (PLI) to promote telecom and networking products manufacturing in India. The Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme will promote Telecom and Networking Products manufacturing in India. Accordingly, a financial incentive is proposed to boost domestic manufacturing and attract investments in the target segments of telecom and networking products in order to encourage “Make in India”. The Scheme is also expected to boost export of telecom and networking products “Made in India”. The following eligibility has been given for the scheme:

- Eligibility will be subject to achievement of a minimum threshold of cumulative incremental investment over a period of four years and incremental sales of manufactured goods net of taxes (as distinct from traded goods) over the Base Year.
- The Company/entity may invest in single or multiple eligible products to meet minimum incremental investment and sales threshold.
- There will be a minimum investment threshold of ■ 10 Crores for MSME and ■ 100 Crores for others. Land and building cost will not be counted as investment.
- Any beneficiary under this PLI Scheme will not be eligible to take benefit for the same products under any other PLI Scheme of Central Government.
- However, eligibility under PLI Scheme will not affect eligibility under any other Scheme being implemented by State/UT Governments and vice-versa.
- Total number of beneficiaries will be limited owing to the fixed ceiling of the budgetary outlay.
- The beneficiaries will be decided through a transparent mechanism, to be finalized by the Competent Authority as per the Scheme Guidelines.

[Notification No. 13-01/2020-IC]

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Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways has issued a SOP for procurement of deep sea fishing vessels

Feb 25, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways on February 08, 2021 has issued a notification for the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for procurement of deep sea fishing vessels. The following guidelines under SOP has been given:

- To assist the state fisheries departments in expeditious implementation of PMMSY, this Ministry proposes to issue Approved Standardized DSFV Design & Specifications (ASDDS).
- The ASDDS shall be developed for a certain number of vessel variants (initially about 3 types), based on recommendations of a 'Nodal Authority' (NA), chaired by Director, Central Institute of Fisheries Technology (CIFT) and comprising of representative from The Indian Register of Shipping (IRS) representing Ministry of Shipping as Certification Agency, Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) representing Ministry of Shipping as Ship Building specialist, and representative from the Naval Architecture Department of the Indian Institute of Technology (Kharagpur) or IIT Madras for the DSFV's built under the PMMSY scheme.
- The ASDDS, which will cover the Basic design aspects such as Outline Specifications, General Arrangement, Basic Calculations, Basic Structural Drawings, etc. will be prepared by CSL, technically vetted by CIFT and approved 'In Principle' by IRS.
- The detailed design & engineering for vessel construction shall be carried out either by the shipyard building the vessel or through any capable design agency in India.
- State Fisheries Departments may identify beneficiaries and form tri-partite agreement between Beneficiary, State Government and Builder, for procurement of DSFV's complying with ASDDS.
- Quality Control checks as per the Quality Assurance Plan and issuance of Final Certificate (complying to Annexure -2) for the DSFV construction shall be undertaken through IRS, on chargeable basis.
- Maximization of localization is mandated for key components like engines, generators, shafting, propulsion and valves to support Indian MSME's under the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan.

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TRAI invites comments and suggestions on encouraging R&D in Telecom and Broadcasting Sectors

Feb 25, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on February 24, 2021 has issued a press release for encouraging R&D in Telecom and Broadcasting Sectors. The following suggestions have been received:

- To have a structured approach to make the environment conducive by keeping R&D at full length stretch.
- Incentivising R&D in India.
- Adoption of advanced technologies.
- To have a strong linkage in industry.
- To increase international participation of Indian industry for the purpose of development of new technologies.
- Having a shared database for R&D.

The stakeholders shall submit their suggestions on the press release by March 15, 2021 through email to trai-rnd@trai.gov.in. [Press Release No. 07/2021]

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IFSCA issues a circular for the Recognition as Custodian of assets/securities

Feb 25, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) on February 24, 2021 has issued a circular for the Recognition as Custodian of assets/securities. The following mechanism has been given for the same:

- Any entity registered as a custodian with the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) shall be permitted to provide custodial services in GIFT-IFSC, by establishing a branch at GIFTIFSC. The branch established shall be subject to prior approval by the Authority and shall comply with the following conditions: 1. The entity shall adequately ring fence the operational, technological and financial aspects of the branch in GIFT-IFSC from its domestic operations. 2. The entity shall ensure financial segregation by allocating funds to the tune of USD 700,000 towards its IFSC branch.
- Any entity regulated as a capital market intermediary in a foreign jurisdiction, shall be permitted to provide custodial services by establishing a branch at GIFT-IFSC. The branch established shall be subject to prior approval by the Authority and shall comply with the following conditions: 1. The entity is from a Financial Action Task Force (FATF) compliant jurisdiction. 2. The entity is registered as a capital market intermediary and regulated by a securities market regulator in its home jurisdiction. 3. The entity shall adequately ring fence the operational, technological and financial aspects of the branch in GIFT-IFSC from its overseas operations. 4. The entity shall ensure financial segregation by allocating funds to the tune of USD 3 million towards its IFSC branch. The entity shall submit a declaration to the Authority in this regard. 5. The entity should have a minimum net worth of USD 35 million.
- The entity shall obtain a certificate of recognition from the Authority prior to commencement of operations of its branch or subsidiary, whichever is applicable.
- All the other fees applicable to a custodian in IFSC shall be applicable to such a branch or subsidiary of the entity.
- The certificate of recognition granted by the Authority shall be valid for a period of three years from the date of grant of recognition or its renewal.

[Notification No. 224/IFSCA/CMD-DMIIT/CUST/2021/1]

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NPPA has issued an office memorandum for the monitoring of maximum retail prices of medical devices

Feb 25, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Department of Pharmaceuticals on February 16, 2021 has issued an office memorandum for the monitoring of maximum retail prices of medical devices regulated as drugs under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945. Further, NPPA has directed all the manufacturers and importers of all the non-scheduled medical devices to submit price related information in the prescribed format, duly certified by the practicing Chartered accountant or cost accountant within 21 days of the issues of the office memorandum. A soft copy of the same shall be sent mandatorily to medicaldevices-nppa@gov.in.

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Major Port Authorities Act, 2021

Feb 24, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Ministry of Shipping on February 17, 2021 has issued the Major Port Authorities Act, 2021. It shall apply to the Major Ports of Chennai, Cochin, Deendayal (Kandla), Jawaharlal Nehru (Nhava Sheva), Kolkata, Mormugao, Mumbai, New Mangalore, Paradip, V.O. Chidambaranar (Tuticorin) and Visakhapatnam. The following provisions have been made:

- The Board of each Major Port Authority constituted under this Act shall be a permanent body having perpetual succession and a common seal with power, subject to the provisions of this Act, to acquire, hold or dispose of property, both movable and immovable, and to contract, and shall, by the said name, sue or be sued.
- If the master of any vessel in respect of which any rates or penalties are payable under this Act, or under any regulations or orders made in pursuance thereof, refuses or neglects to pay the same or any part thereof on demand, the Board on its own or on request of the concessionaire appointed by the Board under the Public Private Partnership project, may distrain or arrest such vessel and the tackle, apparel and furniture belonging thereto, or any part thereof, and detain the same until the amount so due to the Board or such concessionaire, together with such further amount as may accrue for any period during which the vessel is under distraint or arrest, is paid.
- Any person aggrieved by any action of the Board while exercising its powers under sections 22 to 31 (except section 29), may approach the Adjudicatory Board constituted under section 54 by filing an application before it in such form, manner and on payment of such fee, as may be prescribed.
- The loans may be raised by Board in the open market within India and in any country outside India on port securities including but not limited to debentures, bonds and stock certificates issued by the Board or may be obtained from the Central Government or a State Government:
- The holder of any port security in any form may obtain in exchange thereof, upon such terms as the Board may from time to time determine, a port security in such form as may be specified by the regulations made by the Board.
- The person to whom a duplicate or new security has been issued under the regulations made by the Board shall be deemed for the purposes of sub-section (2) to have been recognised by the Board as the holder of the security; and a duplicate security or a new security so issued to any person shall be deemed to constitute a new contract between the Board and such person and all persons deriving title thereafter through him. [Notification No. 01 of 2021]

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Draft order for export of egg and egg products

Feb 23, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Ministry of commerce and industry on February 22, 2021 has issued a draft order for egg and egg products to be subjected to quality control or inspection or both prior to export. ■ The order recognizes the specifications: • National Standard of the importing countries in absence of which codex standards of Codex Alimentarius Commission; • In case of any egg and egg products for which no standard is available, the standard formulated for these products by the standing Committee shall be made applicable; ■ Any person desiring to make any objection or suggestion with respect to the said proposals may forward the same by March 23, 2021 to the Export Inspection Council, 2nd Floor, B-Plate, Block-I Commercial Complex, East Kidwai Nagar, New Delhi – 110023 or send it by e-mail of the Export Inspection Council at eic@eicindia.gov.in [Notification No: S.O. 831(E)]

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Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Rules, 2021

Feb 23, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Ministry of Communications on February 18, 2021 has issued the Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Rules, 2021 to further amend the Indian Telegraph Rules, 1951. The following amendments have been made: • Rule 525 (2)(n), which specifies the provisions of wi-fi connection, has been inserted, namely: “For undertaking the utilization in the Gram Panchayats of Phase-I of Bharat Net project, CSC e-Governance Services India Limited shall provide one Wi-Fi Access Point (AP) instead of two and 5 FTTH connections to government institutions such as police stations, public health & wellness centres, schools, aanganwadis, sub-centres, Panchayats and agriculture depot/ration shops by providing internet access through Bharat Net within two kilometres of the Gram Panchayat jurisdiction.” [Notification No. G.S.R 126 (E)]

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MoFPI extended the date for submission of proposals against EoI for setting up of integrated Cold Chain Projects

Feb 23, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) on February 19, 2021 has extended the date for submission of proposals against EoI for setting up of integrated Cold Chain Projects from February 19, 2021 to February 28, 2021 (5:00 PM) for interested potential entrepreneurs of general category, SC/ST and NER. Interested stakeholders or parties may submit their proposal online on or before 5:00 PM on February 28, 2021. All other conditions in the EoI remain the same.

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IFSCA has issued the framework for aircraft operating lease

Feb 22, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) on February 19, 2021 has issued the framework for aircraft operating lease. This framework shall apply to all the entities engaging in one or more of the permissible activities under this framework. The following guidelines have been given: • An applicant entity desirous of setting-up operations in IFSCs as a lessor and undertake permissible activities shall meet the following eligibility criteria: 1. The entity shall set-up operations in an IFSC in India by way of a Company or a Limited Liability Partnership or a Trust or in any other form as may be specified by the IFSCA. 2. The person(s) in control of the aforesaid entity shall be located in a Financial Action Task Force compliant jurisdiction. 3. The entity shall deploy resources in such IFSC commensurate with the business operations under this framework. 4. The entity shall comply with capital requirement as required under this framework. • A minimum capital of USD 2,00,000 or its equivalent in freely convertible foreign currency, is to be maintained at all times by the entity. • If required, as a risk management measure, IFSCA may prescribe maintenance of additional capital, based on the nature and scale of business of the entity. • No applicant shall act as a lessor in an IFSC in India unless it has obtained a certificate of registration from the IFSCA under this framework. • Lessors shall transact in freely convertible foreign currency only. However, the lessors may defray their administrative expenses in INR by maintaining a separate INR account. • Every lessor registered under this framework shall comply with all other applicable statutory obligations, regulatory requirements, standards, policies, directions and guidelines. • If a lessor fails to fulfil the conditions subject to which the registration is granted, the IFSCA may take any action as it may deem fit, after giving an opportunity of making submissions, if any. [Notification No. No. 28/IFSCA/ALF/2020-21]

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Draft Minerals (Other than Atomic and Hydro Carbons Energy Minerals) Concession Amendment Rules, 2021

Feb 22, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Ministry of Mines (MoM) have issued the “Draft Minerals (Other than Atomic and Hydro Carbons Energy Minerals) Concession Amendment Rules, 2021” to further amend the “Minerals (Other than Atomic and Hydro Carbons Energy Minerals) Concession Rules, 2016”. Following are the key highlights of the draft notification: ■ Insertion of proviso after sub-rule (i) of rule 44; “Provided that in respect of metals for which LME does not publish the daily settlement price, the monthly average price for that metal published by LME shall be multiplied by monthly average of reference rate for the currency in which the price is obtained”. ■ The comments/suggestions may be sent by e-mail in MS-Office Word to the following ID: jspolicy-mines@gov.in The subject of the e-mail should be “Comments or suggestions on the draft Minerals (Other than Atomic and Hydrocarbons Energy Minerals) Concession Amendment Rules, 2021. ■ Alternatively, comments/suggestions may also be sent by post to the following address: Mustaq Ahmad, Director Ministry of Mines Room No 313, D Wing Shastri Bhawan Dr Rajendra Prasad Road New Delhi -110 001 The envelope may kindly be superscribed on the top with: “Comments/suggestions on the draft Minerals (Other than Atomic and Hydro Carbons Energy Minerals) Concession Amendment Rules, 2021”. ■ The last date to provide the comments or suggestions is March 21, 2021.

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Ministry of Communications has declared a simple reversionary bonus on the rural postal life insurance policies

Feb 22, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Ministry of Communications on February 18, 2021 has issued a notification to declare a simple reversionary bonus on the rural postal life insurance policies on their becoming claims, due to death or maturity. The rates of bonus shall be applicable from April 01, 2021. The following rates have been revised: • Whole Life Assurance (WLA) shall have bonus of Rs. 60/- per thousand of sum assured. • Endowment Assurance (EA) (including children policy) shall have bonus of Rs. 48/- per thousand of sum assured. • Anticipated Endowment Assurance (AEA) (including GP policies) shall have bonus of Rs. 45/- per thousand of sum assured. • Convertible Whole Life Assurance shall have bonus of Whole Life Bonus rate would be applicable, but on conversion, Endowment Assurance bonus rate will be applicable. • Terminal Bonus shall have bonus of Rs. 20/- per sum assured of Rs. 10,000/-, subject to maximum of Rs.1000 for Whole Life Assurance and Endowment Assurance policies with term of 20 years or more. [Notification No. No. 04-02/2019-LI]

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CERC issues a public notice for the determination of levelized general tariff for FY 2021-22

Feb 19, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) on February 18, 2021 has issued a public notice for the determination of levelized generic tariff for FY 2021-22 under Regulation 8 of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions for Tariff determination from Renewable Energy Sources) Regulations, 2020. The following categories of Renewable Energy Generating Stations have been given:

- Small Hydro Projects
- Biomass Power Projects with Rankine Cycle technology
- Non-fossil fuel-based co-generation Project
- Biomass Gasifier based Power Projects
- Biogas based Power Projects

CERC invites comments, suggestions or objections, if any, from the stakeholders and interested persons on the proposal are invited till March 05, 2021. The Commission would issue Tariff Order after duly considering the comments or suggestions or objections received on the proposal. The comments or suggestions or objections may be sent by email to secy@cercind.gov.in and advisor-re@cercind.gov.in.

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RBI issues Master Direction on Digital Payment Security Controls

Feb 19, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on February 18, 2021 has issued the Master Direction on Digital Payment Security Controls which provides necessary guidelines for the Regulated Entities (Scheduled Commercial Banks, Small Finance Banks, Payment Banks and Credit Card issuing NBFCs) to set up a robust governance structure and implement common minimum standards of security controls for digital payment products and services. The Master Direction consolidates important control aspects like Governance and Management of Security Risks, Generic Security Controls, Application Security Life Cycle (ASLC), Authentication Framework, Fraud Risk Management, Reconciliation Mechanism, Customer Protection, Awareness and Grievance Redressal Mechanism, specific controls related to Internet Banking, Mobile Payments Application Security Controls and Card Payments Security. [Press Release No: 2020-2021/1127]

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Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Regulation of Power Supply) (First Amendment) Regulations, 2021

Feb 18, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) on February 18, 2021 has issued the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Regulation of Power Supply) (First Amendment) Regulations, 2021 to further amend the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Regulation of Power Supply) Regulations, 2010. The following amendments have been made:

- Regulation 3, which specifies the scope and applicability, has been substituted, namely: "These Regulations shall be applicable to generating station, inter-State transmission system and beneficiary, where there is a specific provision in the Agreement between generating company and beneficiary or between transmission licensee and beneficiary, as the case may be, or in any other Regulations of the Commission, for regulation of power supply in case of non-payment of outstanding dues or non-maintenance of Letter of Credit or any other agreed Payment Security Mechanism."
- Regulation 5, which specifies the copy of the notice for the implementation of the plan, has been substituted, namely: "A copy of the notice under Regulation 4 shall be forwarded by the Regulating Entity to the Regional Load Despatch Centre or State Load Despatch Centre in whose control area the Regulating Entity is situated with a request to prepare implementation plan. Copies of the said notice and request shall be served by the Regulating Entity on other concerned Regional Load Despatch Centres, State Load Despatch Centres, Regional Power Committees and the Defaulting Entity. The said notice and request shall also be posted on the website of the Regulating Entity at least three (3) days in advance of the proposed date of commencement of regulation of power supply."
- Regulation 11 (1), which specifies the drawal or injection to the revised schedule, has been substituted, namely: "During the period of regulation of power supply, the Regulated Entity shall restrict its drawal or injection to the revised schedule given by the Load Despatch Centre and the deviations, if any, from the drawal or injection schedule shall be settled in accordance with provisions of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Deviation Settlement Mechanism and related matters) Regulations, 2014 as amended from time to time."
- Regulation 11 (A), which specifies the denial of granting short term open access to the beneficiary, has been inserted, namely: "Denial of grant of short term open access to a beneficiary, for default in payment of outstanding dues shall be governed in accordance with the provisions of Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Open Access in Inter-State Transmission) Regulations, 2008, as amended from time to time or any re-enactment thereof."
- Regulation 14, which specifies the regulation of power supply, has been substituted, namely: "During regulation of power supply from a hydro generating station, the generating station may, in order to avoid spillage of water, sell the quantum of power rendered surplus, to any person in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 12 of these regulations. The loss of energy charge, in case of spillage of water, shall be made good from the revenue earned through sale of power rendered surplus due to regulation of power supply, on first charge, and the balance amount shall be adjusted in accordance with Regulation 13 of these regulations." [Notification No. L-1/42/2010-CERC]

The Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) on February 18, 2021 has issued the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Regulation of Power Supply) (First Amendment) Regulations, 2021 to further amend the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Regulation of Power Supply) Regulations, 2010. The following amendments have been made:

- Regulation 3, which specifies the scope and applicability, has been substituted, namely: "These Regulations shall be applicable to generating station, inter-State transmission system and beneficiary, where there is a specific provision in the Agreement between generating company and beneficiary or between transmission licensee and beneficiary, as the case may be, or in any other Regulations of the Commission, for regulation of power supply in case of non-payment of outstanding dues or non-maintenance of Letter of Credit or any other

agreed Payment Security Mechanism.” • Regulation 5, which specifies the copy of the notice for the implementation of the plan, has been substituted, namely: “A copy of the notice under Regulation 4 shall be forwarded by the Regulating Entity to the Regional Load Despatch Centre or State Load Despatch Centre in whose control area the Regulating Entity is situated with a request to prepare implementation plan. Copies of the said notice and request shall be served by the Regulating Entity on other concerned Regional Load Despatch Centres, State Load Despatch Centres, Regional Power Committees and the Defaulting Entity. The said notice and request shall also be posted on the website of the Regulating Entity at least three (3) days in advance of the proposed date of commencement of regulation of power supply.” • Regulation 11 (1), which specifies the drawal or injection to the revised schedule, has been substituted, namely: “During the period of regulation of power supply, the Regulated Entity shall restrict its drawal or injection to the revised schedule given by the Load Despatch Centre and the deviations, if any, from the drawal or injection schedule shall be settled in accordance with provisions of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Deviation Settlement Mechanism and related matters) Regulations, 2014 as amended from time to time.” • Regulation 11 (A), which specifies the denial of granting short term open access to the beneficiary, has been inserted, namely: “Denial of grant of short term open access to a beneficiary, for default in payment of outstanding dues shall be governed in accordance with the provisions of Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Open Access in Inter-State Transmission) Regulations, 2008, as amended from time to time or any re-enactment thereof.” • Regulation 14, which specifies the regulation of power supply, has been substituted, namely: “During regulation of power supply from a hydro generating station, the generating station may, in order to avoid spillage of water, sell the quantum of power rendered surplus, to any person in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 12 of these regulations. The loss of energy charge, in case of spillage of water, shall be made good from the revenue earned through sale of power rendered surplus due to regulation of power supply, on first charge, and the balance amount shall be adjusted in accordance with Regulation 13 of these regulations.” [Notification No. L-1/42/2010-CERC]

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FSSAI clarified the food safety and standards (Fortification of foods) first amendment regulations, 2020 related to the exclusion of Fat sugar salt (HFSS) foods from fortified processed food category

Feb 17, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has issued a circular for the clarification on the food safety and standards (Fortification of foods) first amendment regulations, 2020 related to the exclusion of Fat sugar salt (HFSS) foods from fortified processed food category. Since HFSS Foods have not been defined and notified in the Food Safety Standards (Labelling and Display) Regulations, 2020, thus the compliance related thereof shall come into effect once HFSS foods are defined and notified under the Food Safety and Standards (Labelling and Display) Regulations, 2020.

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Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Power Market) Regulations, 2021

Feb 16, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) on February 15, 2021 has issued the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Power Market) Regulations, 2021. The following provisions have been made:

- These regulations shall apply to: 1. Power Exchange 2. Market Participants other than Power Exchange 3. OTC Market
- These regulations shall apply to the following types of contracts: 1. Contracts transacted on the Power Exchange. 2. Contracts in the OTC Market: Delivery based contracts.
- The scheduling and delivery of transactions for Day Ahead Contracts and Real-time Contracts (including the timeline for gate closure, wherever applicable) shall be in coordination with the National Load Despatch Centre and in accordance with relevant provisions of the Open Access Regulations and the Grid Code.
- Price Discovery shall be done by Power Exchanges or by Market Coupling Operator as and when notified by the Commission.
- The bidding mechanism and price discovery mechanism shall be as approved by the Commission based on the proposal of the Power Exchange.
- Contracts covered under clauses (1) to (3) of Regulation 5 of these regulations cannot be annulled or curtailed except due to constraints in the transmission corridor or any other technical reasons in accordance with the Open Access Regulations and the Grid Code. [Notification No. L-1/257/2020/CERC]

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MoAFW implements the farmer's welfare scheme called Sub-Mission on Seeds & Planting Materials

Feb 16, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (MoAFW) on February 14, 2021 has implemented farmer's welfare scheme 'Sub-Mission on Seeds & Planting Materials' to produce and supply quality seeds to farmers to enhance production and productivity in the country through various components namely seed village program, establishment of seed processing- cum- seed storage godowns at gram panchayat level, national seed reserve, boosting seed production in private sector and strengthening of quality control infrastructure facilities. Following are the major achievements under the scheme from 2014-15 to 2020-21; ■ Encourage farmers to take up Seed production of Pulses, Oilseeds, Fodder and Green Manure crops locally and make available required certified seeds at village itself, 1.05 lakh qtls. of foundation or certified seeds have been distributed at 75% subsidized rates to 2.61 lakh farmers. ■ Under National Seed Reserve, 17.01 lakh qtls seeds of short and medium crop varieties kept to meet the requirement of farmers for re-sowing during natural calamities and unforeseen conditions i.e. drought, cyclone and flood etc. ■ Subsequent to flood damaging paddy crop in Kerala in August 2018, 3900 MT seeds kept under National Seed Reserve made available to the farmers for re-sowing, so that farmers of the State didn't face seed scarcity. ■ To alleviate malnutrition in the country, 71 bio-fortified varieties (nutritionally enriched with protein, Iron, Zinc, amino acids, Pro vitamin-A & vitamin-C etc..) of different crops (rice, wheat, maize, pearl millet, lentil, mustard, soybean, cauliflower, sweet potato and pomegranate etc.) developed. ■ The National Seed Research and Testing Centre received & analyzed 697 court referred seed samples. It also received & analyzed 1,36,532 samples under 5% re-testing samples. Besides, analyzed 78 seeds samples received under ISTA Proficiency Test Programme, Switzerland.

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UGC issues Circular on Learning Outcome based on curriculum framework

Feb 16, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The University Grants Commission (UGC) on February 15, 2021 has issued a circular on Curriculum Reforms on Learning Outcome based approach with an aim to equip the students with knowledge, skill, values, and attitude. UGC has constituted subject Expert Committees for drafting Learning Outcome based on curriculum framework (LOCF) in various disciplines and based on the comments received and wider consultations with the experts of the field, expert committees have prepared the final LOCF curriculum. The draft subject specific curriculum template for History is available on UGC website. It has been decided to solicit views or suggestions from stakeholders including teachers, students, researchers, and those involved in the field. The suggestions or comments can be sent on locfuec@gmail.com latest by February 28, 2021. [Public Notice No. 2-4/2018(LOCF/History)]

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TRAI issues directions for submission of performance monitoring report to the Authority under Telecom Commercial Communications Preference Regulations, 2018

Feb 16, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The telecom regulatory authority of India (TRAI) on February 15, 2021 has issued a direction for the submission of performance monitoring report to the Authority under the Telecom Commercial Communications Preference Regulations, 2018. The authorities have directed all the access providers to submit the quarterly reports separately for each month in every quarter as per the performance monitoring report formats within the period of 21 days.

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Secretarial

SEBI has issued a circular for Pre-Expiry Margin on commodities under Alternate Risk Management Framework

Feb 24, 2021 | Central | Secretarial



The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on February 23, 2021 has issued a circular for Pre-Expiry Margin on commodities under Alternate Risk Management Framework. The matter of negative crude oil price event was deliberated upon in the Risk Management Review Committee (RMRC) of SEBI. In line with the recommendations of the RMRC, it has been decided in consultation with Clearing Corporations that pre-expiry margins shall be imposed on cash settled contracts wherein the underlying commodity is deemed susceptible to possibility of near zero and/or negative prices as identified by exchange/CC under ARMF circular. The circular shall come into force from April 01, 2021. [Circular No. SEBI/HO/CDMRD/DRMP/CIR/P/2021/20]

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Companies (Specification of definitions details) Second Amendment Rules, 2021

Feb 23, 2021 | Central | Secretarial

The Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) on February 19, 2021 has issued the Companies (Specification of definitions details) Second Amendment Rules, 2021 to further amend the Companies (Specification of definitions details) Rules, 2014. The following amendments have been made: • Rule 2A, which specifies the companies not to be considered as listed companies, has been inserted, namely: “For the purposes of the proviso to clause (52) of section 2 of the Act, the following classes of companies shall not be considered as listed companies, namely: 1. Public companies which have not listed their equity shares on a recognized stock exchange but have listed their: I. non-convertible debt securities issued on private placement basis in terms of SEBI (Issue and Listing of Debt Securities) Regulations, 2008. II. non-convertible redeemable preference shares issued on private placement basis in terms of SEBI (Issue and Listing of Non-Convertible Redeemable Preference Shares) Regulations, 2013. III. both categories of (i) and (ii) above. 2. Private companies which have listed their non-convertible debt securities on private placement basis on a recognized stock exchange in terms of SEBI (Issue and Listing of Debt Securities) Regulations, 2008. 3. Public companies which have not listed their equity shares on a recognized stock exchange but whose equity shares are listed on a stock exchange in a jurisdiction as specified in sub-section (3) of section 23 of the Act.”

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MCA extends certain sections of Companies Act, 2013 to LLP Act, 2008

Feb 22, 2021 | Central | Secretarial

The Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) has issued an update for the stakeholders that the MCA under section 67 (1) of the Limited Liability Partnership Act, 2008 which specifies the applicability of provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 to the LLP Act, 2008, extends certain sections of Companies Act, 2013 to LLP Act, 2008 with certain modifications and adaptations soon. The following sections of Companies Act, 2013 have been extended: • Section 90 (sub-sections 1 to 11), which specifies the register of significant beneficial owners in a company. • Section 164 (sub-sections 1 and 2), which specifies the disqualification for appointment of Directors. • Section 165 (sub-sections 1 and 3 to 6), which specifies the number of directorships. • Section 167 ((sub-section 1 to 3), which specifies the vacation of office of director. • Section 206 (sub-section 5), which specifies the power to call for information, inspect books, and conduct inquiries. • Section 207 (sub-section 3), which specifies the conduct of an inspection and inquiry. • Section 252 (sub-sections 1 to 3), which specifies the appeal to tribunal. • Section 439 (sub-section 1 to 4), which specifies the offences to be non-cognizable. *Available on the website

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Labour

ESIC issues a notification for the approval for allowing ESI beneficiaries to seek medical services from nearby empanelled hospital within 10 km radius

Feb 19, 2021 | Central | Labour



The Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) on February 17, 2021 has issued a notification for the approval for allowing ESI beneficiaries to seek medical services from nearby empanelled hospital directly without referral in case of non-availability of ESI Health Care system within a radius of 10 km. The following operational guidelines have been given for the ESI empanelled Hospitals:

- All the hospitals and such medical services in the 10 km radius shall be eligible for this.
- A health passbook shall be printed by the hospitals for availing the required medical check-up.
- The identity of the beneficiary shall be looked upon for the purpose of consultation.
- The consultation shall be completed once the ID and the Aadhar of the beneficiary is upload on the panel along with the charges.
- Reimbursement of medicines shall be given to such beneficiaries.
- In case of hospital admissions, all the procedures shall be completed within 24 hours.

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ESIC issues notification for the procurement of all CPSU drugs through GEM portal only

Feb 19, 2021 | Central | Labour

The Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) on February 17, 2021 has issued a notification for the procurement of all CPSU drugs through GEM portal only. The following procedure has been given:

- The purchase order shall be placed towards the competent authorities through the GEM portal only.
- The purchase order shall contain the quantity of drugs respectively as well. [Circular No. U-25/12/149/2020-Med.V-100]

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Ministry of Finance has issued an office memorandum for the benefits of savings funds under the Employees Group Insurance Scheme, 1980

Feb 18, 2021 | Central | Labour

The Ministry of Finance on February 15, 2021 has issued an office memorandum for the central employees group insurance scheme, 1980 for the benefits of saving funds for the period January 01, 2021 to March 31, 2021. The tables for the benefits of savings fund of the scheme is based on the subscription of Rs 10 per month and Rs per month. The interest rate is applicable at 7.1% per month.

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Andaman and Nicobar Islands

Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for the State of Andaman & Nicobar Islands (Transmission and Distribution Licensing) Regulations, 2020

Feb 16, 2021 | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | Commercial

The Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission of Andaman & Nicobar Islands (JERC) on February 10, 2021 has issued the Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for the State of Goa and Union Territories (Transmission and Distribution Licensing) Regulations, 2020. These Regulations shall apply to licensees for transmission and distribution of electricity. These Regulations extend to the State of Goa and the Union Territories of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, Lakshadweep, and Puducherry. The following provisions have been made: •An application for any Transmission/Distribution Licence shall be made in accordance with the provision of the Act and these Regulations. •An applicant shall make an application to the Commission for grant of licence in the form specified in Appendix - 1 of these Regulations and in the manner directed by the Commission and accompanied by such fee as may be prescribed by the Government from time to time. •Until otherwise specified, the fees payable for grant of licence, shall be as per Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for the State of Goa and Union Territories (Conduct of Business Regulations), 2009 and as amended from time to time. •Any person intending to apply for licence shall duly comply with the conditions and requirements laid down by the Commission. •The Transmission Licensee applicant shall immediately on making application in manner specified above, forward a copy of the application along with all the enclosures to the State Transmission Utility for its recommendations. •The State Transmission Utility shall acknowledge receipt of the application and shall within thirty (30) days of the receipt of said application, send its recommendations, if any, to the Commission. •The General Conditions subject to which each of the categories of licence shall be laid down by the Commission. •The Commission may decide on the special conditions subject to which licence shall be issued to the applicant. •Any person intending to apply for licence shall duly comply with the conditions and requirements laid down by the Commission.

[Notification No. JERC:27/2021]

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Andhra Pradesh

Andhra Pradesh Government fixes fee structure for all B-Pharmacy, MBA, MCA Courses in private un-aided professional institutes in the state of Andhra Pradesh for the block period 2020-2021 to 2022-2023

Feb 23, 2021 | Andhra Pradesh | Industry Specific

The Higher Education Department of Andhra Pradesh on February 20, 2021 has issued a notification for the fixation of fee structure for all B-Pharmacy, MBA, MCA Courses in private un-aided professional institutes in the state of Andhra Pradesh for the block period 2020-2021 to 2022-2023. The following directions have been given: • The fee structure is an all inclusive annual fees which includes tuition fees, affiliation fee, cost, and identity. • The same fee shall be applicable for students for 2020-2021 to 2022-2023. • The institutions whose applications have not been submitted for the extension, are not entitled to collect any fee. • The institution shall not charge any other amount above and beyond the fee fixed by the Government. *the document is available at the mentioned link.

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Andhra Pradesh Government fixes fee structure for B.ed in the state of Andhra Pradesh for the block period 2020-2021 to 2022-2023

Feb 23, 2021 | Andhra Pradesh | Industry Specific

The Higher Education Department of Andhra Pradesh on February 20, 2021 has issued a notification for the fixation of fee structure for B.ed in the state of Andhra Pradesh for the block period 2020-2021 to 2022-2023. The following directions have been given: • The fee structure is an all inclusive annual fees which includes tuition fees, affiliation fee, cost, and identity. • The same fee shall be applicable for students for 2020-2021 to 2022-2023. • The institutions whose applications have not been submitted for the extension, are not entitled to collect any fee. • The institution shall not charge any other amount above and beyond the fee fixed by the Government. *the document is available at the mentioned link.

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Bihar

Draft of Code on Wages (Bihar) Rules, 2021

Feb 22, 2021 | Bihar | Labour

The State Government of Bihar on February 18, 2021 has issued the Draft Code on Wages (Bihar) Rules, 2021. The Objective of the rule is to regulate the provisions for minimum wages and to ensure a well-timed payment of minimum wages for all workers. The following provisions are made under the rule:

- • The minimum rate of wages will be fixed on daily basis with prescribed criteria. • The norms will be fixed for minimum rate of wages. • The time interval for revision of dearness allowance. • The number of hours of work which will be constitute a normal working day. • The weekly day of rest and Night shifts.

The Code will supersede the Bihar Minimum Wages Rules, 1951 with the amendments in the rule and The Bihar Payment of Wages Rules, 1953 with the amendments in the rule. All persons likely to be affected thereby and notice is, hereby given that the said draft rules shall be taken into considerations after the expiry of a twenty-one-day period from the date on which the copies of the published notification shall be made available in the Official Gazette. Objections and suggestions if any shall be addressed to the Joint Labour Commissioner, Bihar or by E-mail lbihar@bihar.gov.in. {Notification No. - S.O. 78}

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Chandigarh

Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for the State of Chandigarh (Transmission and Distribution Licensing) Regulations, 2020

Feb 16, 2021 | Chandigarh | Commercial

The Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission (JERC) of Chandigarh on February 10, 2021 has issued the Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for the State of Goa and Union Territories (Transmission and Distribution Licensing) Regulations, 2020. These Regulations shall apply to licensees for transmission and distribution of electricity. These Regulations extend to the State of Goa and the Union Territories of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, Lakshadweep, and Puducherry. The following provisions have been made: •An application for any Transmission/Distribution Licence shall be made in accordance with the provision of the Act and these Regulations. •An applicant shall make an application to the Commission for grant of licence in the form specified in Appendix - 1 of these Regulations and in the manner directed by the Commission and accompanied by such fee as may be prescribed by the Government from time to time. •Until otherwise specified, the fees payable for grant of licence, shall be as per Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for the State of Goa and Union Territories (Conduct of Business Regulations), 2009 and as amended from time to time. •Any person intending to apply for licence shall duly comply with the conditions and requirements laid down by the Commission. •The Transmission Licensee applicant shall immediately on making application in manner specified above, forward a copy of the application along with all the enclosures to the State Transmission Utility for its recommendations. •The State Transmission Utility shall acknowledge receipt of the application and shall within thirty (30) days of the receipt of said application, send its recommendations, if any, to the Commission. •The General Conditions subject to which each of the categories of licence shall be laid down by the Commission. •The Commission may decide on the special conditions subject to which licence shall be issued to the applicant. •Any person intending to apply for licence shall duly comply with the conditions and requirements laid down by the Commission. [Notification No. JERC:27/2021]

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Daman and Diu

Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for the State of Daman & Diu (Transmission and Distribution Licensing) Regulations, 2020

Feb 16, 2021 | Daman and Diu | Commercial

The Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission (JERC) of Daman & Diu on February 10, 2021 has issued the Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for the State of Goa and Union Territories (Transmission and Distribution Licensing) Regulations, 2020. These Regulations shall apply to licensees for transmission and distribution of electricity. These Regulations extend to the State of Goa and the Union Territories of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, Lakshadweep, and Puducherry. The following provisions have been made: •An application for any Transmission/Distribution Licence shall be made in accordance with the provision of the Act and these Regulations. •An applicant shall make an application to the Commission for grant of licence in the form specified in Appendix - 1 of these Regulations and in the manner directed by the Commission and accompanied by such fee as may be prescribed by the Government from time to time. •Until otherwise specified, the fees payable for grant of licence, shall be as per Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for the State of Goa and Union Territories (Conduct of Business Regulations), 2009 and as amended from time to time. •Any person intending to apply for licence shall duly comply with the conditions and requirements laid down by the Commission. •The Transmission Licensee applicant shall immediately on making application in manner specified above, forward a copy of the application along with all the enclosures to the State Transmission Utility for its recommendations. •The State Transmission Utility shall acknowledge receipt of the application and shall within thirty (30) days of the receipt of said application, send its recommendations, if any, to the Commission. •The General Conditions subject to which each of the categories of licence shall be laid down by the Commission. •The Commission may decide on the special conditions subject to which licence shall be issued to the applicant. •Any person intending to apply for licence shall duly comply with the conditions and requirements laid down by the Commission. [Notification No. JERC:27/2021]

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Delhi

Delhi Goods and Services Tax (Fifth Amendment) Rules, 2020

Feb 22, 2021 | Delhi | Finance & Taxation

The Finance Department of Delhi on February 16, 2021 have issued the “Delhi Goods and Services Tax (Fifth Amendment) Rules, 2020” to further amend the “Delhi Goods and Services Tax Rules, 2017”. Following are the key highlights of the notification: ■ Insertion of proviso under the proviso of Rule 26 (1), “Provided further that a registered person under the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 (18 of 2013) shall during the period from the 21st day of April, 2020 to the 30th day of June 2020, also be allowed to furnish the return under section 39 in FORM GSTR – 3B verified through electronic verification code (EVC)”. ■ Insertion of Rule 67A – Manner of furnishing of return by short messaging service facility “Notwithstanding anything contained in this chapter, for a registered person who is required to furnish a Nil return under section 39 in Form GSTR – 3B for a tax period, any reference to electronic furnishing shall include furnishing of the said return through a short messaging service using the registered mobile number and the said return shall be verified by a registered mobile number based on One Time Password facility. Explanation – For the purpose of this rule, a Nil return shall mean a return under section 39 for a tax period that has nil or no entry in all the Tables in Form GSTR - 3B. [Notification No – 38/2020]

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Goa

Goa Government extends the validity of one Time Settlement Scheme 2020

Feb 23, 2021 | Goa | Industry Specific

The Department of Power, Goa on February 20, 2021 issued a notification regarding extension of validity of the “one Time Settlement Scheme 2020” under Electricity Department for defaulting consumers of electricity charges having accumulated arrears upto October 10, 2020 for Temporarily Disconnected, Permanently Disconnected and Revenue Recovery cases consumers and upto October 13, 2020 for active consumers of this Department in order to enable prompt recovery of such outstanding till February 28, 2021. The following amendment has been made under Para 4 of original scheme: - • The consumer can avail only two installments for repayment of the principal amount of outstanding dues in respect to avail the benefit of waiver of the delay payment charges. The first instalment (principal amount) on the day of registration and final installment on or before one month from the date of registration under the scheme. {Notification No.- CEE/Accts./357/OTS/2020-21/69/3796}

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Goa Government has issued an Interest Subsidy on Loans for Agriculture and Allied Activities

Feb 22, 2021 | Goa | Industry Specific

The Agriculture Department of Goa on February 18, 2021 has issued the Interest Subsidy on Loans for Agriculture and Allied Activities. The following are the Guidelines under the Scheme: • The scheme will remain operative for a period of five years from April 01, 2020 to March 31, 2025 and will be reviewed for continuation on completion of five years. • Short term crop loan up to Rs. 3.0 lakh is eligible for Interest subvention under Government of India scheme. • The Government of Goa will provide interest subsidy of 4% to those farmers who repay their loans promptly. • The Government of Goa will provide interest subsidy to the extent of the difference between rate of interest of 4% and the normal rate of interest charged by the eligible banks as per their policy, subject to a maximum of 8%. • The interest subsidy will be available on both short term and long term agricultural loans. • The interest subsidy claims must be submitted to the Government of Goa by banks in respect interest applied and recovered, on half yearly basis. Banks should not claim interest subsidy on notionally accrued interest on agricultural loans outstanding, even if the interest has not become due to be paid. • Recovery of loan is the responsibility of the banks and there will not be any Government guarantee for the loans provided by the banks under this scheme. • Interest subsidy will be released on half yearly basis. [Notification No. 3/5/EXT/137/2020-21/D.Aagri/893]

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Goa Motor Vehicles Tax (Amendment) Act, 2021

Feb 19, 2021 | Goa | Commercial

The Government of Goa on February 15, 2021 has issued the Goa Motor Vehicles Tax (Amendment) Act, 2021 to further amend the Goa Motor Vehicles Tax Act, 1974. The following amendment has been made: • Section 3 (1), which specifies the applicability of tax, a new proviso has been inserted, namely: "Provided also that no tax shall be leviable under this section on any transport vehicle for the period April 01, 2020 to September 30, 2020, except the transport vehicle which has already paid one-time tax at the time of registration. Provided also that if tax is already paid under this section by any transport vehicle for the period April 01, 2020 to September 30, 2020, it shall be adjusted towards the tax payable in respect of same transport vehicle in future." • Section 12, which specifies the applicability of penalty, a new proviso has been inserted, namely: "Provided that no penalty under this section shall be leviable in respect of the tax due for the period April 01, 2020 to March 31, 2021, if such tax is paid on or before March 31, 2021. Provided further that if any penalty is already paid in respect of any motor vehicle, for period April 01, 2020 to March 31, 2021, then it shall be adjusted towards the tax payable in respect of same motor vehicle in future." [Notification No. 7/8/2021-LA]

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Goa Land Revenue Code (Amendment) Act, 2021

Feb 19, 2021 | Goa | Commercial

The Government of Goa on February 15, 2021 has issued the Goa Land Revenue Code (Amendment) Act, 2021 to further amend the Goa Land Revenue Code, 1968. The following amendments have been made: • Section 30, which specifies the applicability of the code to the land, a new proviso has been inserted, namely: "Provided that the provisions of this section shall not be applicable to the land in occupation of the Government, Corporation of the City of Panaji, a Municipal Council or a Village Panchayat and land to be used for installation of solar or wind power station." • Section 173 (1), which specifies the serving of notice, has been substituted, namely: "Subject to the provisions of this Code and the rules made thereunder every notice under this Code may be served either by tendering or delivering a copy thereof, or sending such copy by post or electronically or in any other manner as prescribed, to the person on whom it is to be served, or his authorized agent or, if service in the manner aforesaid cannot be made, by affixing or displaying a copy thereof at his last known place of residence or at some place of public resort in the village in which the land to which the notice relates is situated, or on such website as may be specified by the Government by a notification in the Official Gazette." [Notification No. 7/6/2021-LA]

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Goa Regularisation of Unauthorized Construction (Amendment) Act, 2021

Feb 19, 2021 | Goa | Commercial

The Government of Goa on February 15, 2021 has issued the Goa Regularisation of Unauthorized Construction (Amendment) Act, 2021 to further amend the Goa Regularisation of Unauthorized Construction Act, 2016. The following amendment has been made: • Section 3 (5), which specifies the eco sensitive zone, a new proviso has been inserted, namely: "Provided that the authorized officer may entertain any application under sub- -section (1), if the unauthorized construction falls within the limits of the area covered under Settlement Zone Institutional Zone or Industrial Zone, Cultivable Zone, ORCHARD." [Notification No. 7/7/2021-LA]

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Gujarat

Draft Gujarat Factories (Second Amendment) Rules, 2021

Feb 16, 2021 | Gujarat | Labour

The Labour and Employment Department of Gujarat on February 12, 2021 has issued the Draft Gujarat Factories (Second Amendment) Rules, 2021 to further amend the Gujarat Factories Rules, 1963. The following amendments have been made: • Rule 68 B, which specifies the quality of personal protective equipment, has been substituted, namely: “All personal equipment provided to workers as required under any of the provisions of the Acts or Rules shall be confirmed to the relevant Indian Standards, if any or in the absence of it, personal protective equipment shall be approved by the Chief Inspector of Factories. Provided that the PPE’s not having relevant Indian Standards or not having approval from Chief Inspector of Factories, shall be required to compliant with EN or ANSI or ISO, as the case may be, modified from time to time till the relevant Indian Standard is made available.” The stakeholders are requested to send suggestions or objections on the said draft Rules within a period of 45 days from the date of notification of Draft Rules. The suggestions or objections shall be sent to the Principal Secretary, Labour & Employment department, Sachivalaya, Gandhinagar. [Notification No. GHR/2021/15/FAC/142021/194/M3]

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Haryana

CBDT issued specified income arising to the Haryana State Pollution Control Board

Feb 23, 2021 | Haryana | Finance & Taxation

The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) on February 22, 2021 has issued a Notification regarding income arising to “Haryana State Pollution Control Board” (PAN AAJH0446F) under Income Tax Act, 1961. The following specified income arising to the Board are: -

- Grant from Central Government
- Grant from State Government
- Consent fee for permission for setting up industry in the state of Haryana.
- Analysis fees or air ambient quality survey fees
- Testing fees
- Authorization fees
- NOC fees
- Cess reimbursement and cess appeal fees
- Fees received under RTI Act, 2005
- Public hearing fees
- Recognition fees
- Interest on loan and advances given to staff.
- Interest on fixed deposit.

The Notification will apply to the assessment year’s 2020-21, 2021-2022, 2022-2023, 2023-2024 and 2024-2025. {Notification No- 8 /2021 F.No.300196/35/2019-ITA-I}

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Jammu Kashmir

Jammu and Kashmir Stone Crushers/ Hot and Wet Mixing Plants Regulation Rules, 2021

Feb 24, 2021 | Jammu Kashmir | Industry Specific

The Mining Department of Jammu and Kashmir on February 23, 2021 has issued the Jammu and Kashmir Stone Crushers/ Hot and Wet Mixing Plants Regulation Rules, 2021. They shall extend to whole of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. The following provisions have been made: • A stone crusher/Hot and Wet Mixing plant is not a mining unit but a processor of minerals obtained from a source with a valid mineral concession. Such units shall be regulated by laws, rules and other provisions applicable to industrial units. • No permission/license would be needed by a stone crusher/hot and wet mixing plant from the Mining Department except where it also engages in mining, which activity shall be regulated by laws/rules applicable to mining. • Every Stone Crusher/Hot and Wet Mixing Plant established/operating under these rules shall procure minor minerals, for storage and processing in the Unit/ plant/Crusher for conversion to finished goods and sale, from a valid mining concessionaire only under the relevant provisions of Jammu and Kashmir Minor Mineral Storage, Transportation of Minerals and prevention of Illegal Mining Rules 2016. • The provisions of the Jammu and Kashmir Minor Mineral Storage, Transportation of Minerals and prevention of Illegal Mining Rules, 2016 shall apply to seizure of Minor Minerals and tools and associated penalties for their illegal procurement, transportation and storage in any Stone Crusher/Hot and wet mixing plant. • Notwithstanding anything contained in these rules, the processor shall abide by the applicable Acts and rules or any modification/amendments made under such Acts and rules from time to time, any guidelines of Jammu and Kashmir Pollution Control Board and the Central Pollution Control Board. [Notification No. S.O. 60]

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New Central Sector Scheme for Industrial Development of Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir

Feb 23, 2021 | Jammu Kashmir | Commercial

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MCI) on February 19, 2021 has issued the New Central Sector Scheme for Industrial Development of Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir. It will come into effect from April 01, 2021 and will remain in force till March 31, 2037. The following guidelines have been given: • Registration shall commence from April 01, 2021 and will continue till September 20, 2024, subject to the guidelines issued in this regard. • Merely submitting application for registration will not entitle any applicant for registration under this scheme. Further details shall be provided in the guidelines of this scheme. • No unit will have the right to register under this scheme or claim the benefits unless it is specifically approved by the registering authority as laid out in the guidelines. • The registration will be granted by the registering authority as laid out in the guidelines, which will, inter-alia, consider the prima-facie eligibility of the unit, availability of Approved funds. • All applications for registration shall be disposed of by March 31, 2025 unless otherwise extended. • All eligible units can avail specified incentive under this scheme up to a period as specified in the respective incentives. [Notification No. 1(1)/2020-SSS]

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Karnataka

Draft Karnataka Renewable Energy Policy 2021-2026

Feb 25, 2021 | Karnataka | Industry Specific

The Karnataka Renewable Energy Development Limited on February 24, 2021 has issued Draft Karnataka Renewable Energy Policy 2021-2026. This policy will be applicable to projects and programs relating to the focus markets as covered under provision 4 of this policy. The following objectives have been given: • To facilitate development of 20 GW of RE projects with or without energy storage systems in the State, including 2 GW of Rooftop solar PV projects. • To attract investment in the RE sector and development of State economy. • To tap RE potential in the State and use of available resources for development of RE projects for the purpose of meeting the RE demand within the State and exporting energy outside Karnataka. • To achieve the RPO target(s) as specified by KERC from time to time. • To develop Renewable Energy Parks including hybrid parks in the State. • To encourage private sector participation in transmission network/Green Energy Corridor projects. Draft Karnataka Renewable Energy Policy 2021-2026 is hereby circulated for comments of all the concerned stakeholders.

Comments/suggestions may kindly be provided on or before March 02, 2021. Stakeholders may share their comments/suggestions (in both pdf and word document) to kredlrepolicy@gmail.com in the format suggested below. Further, online stakeholder consultation meeting will be organized, and details of the meeting will be intimated later.

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Karnataka State Dispute Resolution Policy 2021

Feb 22, 2021 | Karnataka | Industry Specific

The Government of Karnataka on February 20, 2021 has issued the “Karnataka State Dispute Resolution Policy 2021” The objectives of the Policy are: Prevention, Management, and Resolution of disputes. This Policy mandates the implementation of several measures by various Stakeholders to achieve the policy objectives. It is the duty and responsibility of each Stakeholder and individual actor specified in this Policy to incorporate its principles in its day-to-day functioning. Chapters in this Policy aims at taking implementable measures that address prevailing problems in managing government disputes. ■ Chapter 2 describes the various Stakeholders involved in government disputes and their role in conducting or administering government disputes. ■ Chapter 3 points that lack systematic performance evaluation by Stakeholders is one of the chief reasons why the government dispute system is unable to identify problems and devise long-lasting solutions. This chapter emphasizes the importance of establishing performance indicators and evaluating performance based on key operation metrics and budgeting considerations. Further, it provides for the establishment of an Empowered Committee to monitor the implementation of this Policy and undertake performance evaluation at a systemic level. ■ Chapter 4 highlights the importance of data management for the efficient running of a government dispute system. This chapter lays out the essential components of a data management system and strategy to be evolved by each Stakeholder Representative. ■ Chapter 5 mandates and encourages the use of technology for data and workflow management. This chapter provides for the establishment of Karnataka Government Dispute Management IT Cell” (“IT Cell”) to create technological infrastructure, in consultation with stakeholders, for managing government disputes. ■ Chapter 6 recommends reforms for improving the conduct of government disputes. It also directs the employment of risk management systems and strategies to prioritize cases and assist work allocation. ■ Chapter 7 recommends establishment of a Dispute Resolution Board in each Department ■ Chapter 8 mandates the use of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) by the government in a dispute prevention and dispute resolution. It directs the establishment of Dispute Resolution Boards in each department to authorize representation of Law Officers and approve settlement terms. The Chapter also provides for the formation of a Working Group led by the Advocate General, to assist each State Department in formulating an ADR strategy to identify suitable disputes for ADR and participate in it effectively. Finally, Chapter 9 collates the implementable measures laid down by this Policy and wide publication and extensive awareness generation of this Policy amongst Stakeholders. Notification NO. LAW-LAM/158/2020

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Kerala

KSEB implements the OTS 2021 for February 15, 2021 to March 31, 2021

Feb 17, 2021 | Kerala | Commercial

The Kerala State Electricity Board (KSEB) on February 15, 2021 has issued a notification for the implementation of the One-Time Settlement (OTS-2021) Scheme from February 15, 2021 to March 31, 2021. Further, the board has directed that the details of the arrears of the consumers shall be settled within one month after the closure of the OTS-2021. The following guidelines have been given: • The terms and conditions shall be settled for the cases under the litigation for the OTS-2021 as per the approval given and the guidelines. • All the particulars shall be settled within one month.

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Kerala Government fixes the CPI for Agricultural and Industrial Workers

Feb 16, 2021 | Kerala | Labour

The Department of Economics and Statistics of Kerala on February 13, 2021 has issued the Consumer Price Index Numbers for the Agricultural labourers and industrial workers for the month of December 2020. The following centres were covered: • Thiruvananthapuram • Kollam • Punalur • Alappuzha • Kottayam • Mundakayam • Idukki • Ernakulam • Chalakkuddy • Thrissur • Palakkad • Malappuram • Kozhikode • Wayanad • Kannur • Kasargod [Notification No. DES/953/2021-P3(1)]

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Lakshadweep

Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for the State of Lakshadweep (Transmission and Distribution Licensing) Regulations, 2020

Feb 16, 2021 | Lakshadweep | Commercial

The Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission (JERC) of Lakshadweep on February 10, 2021 has issued the Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for the State of Goa and Union Territories (Transmission and Distribution Licensing) Regulations, 2020. These Regulations shall apply to licensees for transmission and distribution of electricity. These Regulations extend to the State of Goa and the Union Territories of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, Lakshadweep, and Puducherry. The following provisions have been made: •An application for any Transmission/Distribution Licence shall be made in accordance with the provision of the Act and these Regulations. •An applicant shall make an application to the Commission for grant of licence in the form specified in Appendix - 1 of these Regulations and in the manner directed by the Commission and accompanied by such fee as may be prescribed by the Government from time to time. •Until otherwise specified, the fees payable for grant of licence, shall be as per Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for the State of Goa and Union Territories (Conduct of Business Regulations), 2009 and as amended from time to time. •Any person intending to apply for licence shall duly comply with the conditions and requirements laid down by the Commission. •The Transmission Licensee applicant shall immediately on making application in manner specified above, forward a copy of the application along with all the enclosures to the State Transmission Utility for its recommendations. •The State Transmission Utility shall acknowledge receipt of the application and shall within thirty (30) days of the receipt of said application, send its recommendations, if any, to the Commission. •The General Conditions subject to which each of the categories of licence shall be laid down by the Commission. •The Commission may decide on the special conditions subject to which licence shall be issued to the applicant. •Any person intending to apply for licence shall duly comply with the conditions and requirements laid down by the Commission. [Notification No. JERC:27/2021]

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Lakshadweep Government invites bids for the installation and commissioning of the goods (FRP waste bins) for implementing the Integrated Solid Waste Management project

Feb 16, 2021 | Lakshadweep | EHS

The Department of Environment and Forests- Implementing the Integrated Solid Waste Management project at the Islands of Lakshadweep. The department invites sealed quotations for installation and the commissioning of the goods (FRP waste bins) for implementing the integrated solid waste management project at all islands of Lakshadweep. The bids shall be provided according to the items quantity and the purchases reserves all the rights for the modification of the bids.

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Madhya Pradesh

Draft Madhya Pradesh Industrial Relations Code, 2020

Feb 22, 2021 | Madhya Pradesh | Labour

The Madhya Pradesh Government on February 09, 2021 has issued the Draft Madhya Pradesh Industrial relations Code, 2020. The following acts have been covered in the code: • The Madhya Pradesh Industrial Dispute Rules, 1957 • The Madhya Pradesh Trade Union Regulations, 1961 • The Madhya Pradesh Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Rules, 1963 The following provisions have been made: • There shall be a written between the employer and the worker shall be in the specified Form-I and shall be signed by the parties in the agreement and a copy made thereof. • The grievance redressal committee shall consist of equal number of members representing the employers and the workers which shall not exceed the ten. • Registered trade union shall collect the subscription from its members on a monthly, quarterly, half- yearly or a yearly basis. • The auditors appointed shall be given access to the books. • The dissolution notice shall be sent in Form-III for the dissolution or any amendment. All persons likely to be affected thereby and notice is, hereby given that the said draft rules shall be taken into considerations after the expiry of a thirty day period from the date on which the copies of the published notification shall be made available in the Official Gazette. Objections and suggestions if any shall be addressed to the Deputy Secretary to the Labour Department of Madhya Pradesh or by email dslabourmp@mp.gov.in.

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Meghalaya

SOP for the procedure to be followed by authorities and inmates of Hostels once hostels are opened for occupants

Feb 23, 2021 | Meghalaya | Industry Specific

The Education Department of Meghalaya on February 02, 2021 has issued a Standard of Procedure (SOP) describing the procedure to be followed by authorities and inmates of hostels once hostels are opened for occupants. Following is the procedure: 1. Before opening of the hostel's authorities of the hostels (Govt or private) shall conduct awareness programme maintaining physical distancing for would be inhabitants of the hostels on Covid-19 pandemic and protocols to be followed. 2. Inmates shall strictly adhere to the Covid-19 advisory, issued by Government of Meghalaya. 3. Rooms shall be allotted on single occupancy basis as far as practical. Strict perimeter control shall be ensured in case of occupancy in dormitories to always ensure at least six feet physical distance. 4. Inmates always shall maintain physical distancing of at least six feet within premises of the hotel. 5. No groups or social gathering inside the hotel campus. 6. Prohibition of sharing items among inmates. 7. Restriction of movement outside the hostel campus other than when it is necessary to attend classes. 8. Avoid taking food from outside. 9. The seating capacity of the students in the dining table should not exceed 1/3rd capacity of the dining area. The timing shall be scattered. And the opening and closing maybe extended. 10. Appropriate distance of minimum of 2 meters should be maintained. 11. Food waste to be disposed off immediately and effectively. 12. Students to maintain hygienic conditions in hostel premises and other utility areas all the time. 13. Display boards mentioning state helpline numbers and emergency services numbers shall be installed at conspicuous locations within the premises. 14. Display boards mentioning Dos, Don'ts, and preventive measures for Covid-19 shall be installed at conspicuous locations within the premises. 15. Any inmate who shows symptoms of covid-19 should be kept in isolation immediately and a care giver shall be immediately deployed. [Notification No: No. EDN/48/2020/PII16]

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Government of Meghalaya has revised the rate of taxes on Goods under Meghalaya (Sales of Petroleum products including Motor Spirit) Taxation Act, 1956

Feb 18, 2021 | Meghalaya | Finance & Taxation

The Government of Meghalaya on February 16, 2021 has revised the rate of tax on Goods specified in the schedule of the Act to further specify the rate of tax as indicated in the schedule and shall come into force from February 16, 2021. The following goods have been inserted: • Motor spirit (except diesel oil and other internal combustion oils other than petrol) has 20% of Rs 15 only per litre whichever is higher. • Diesel oil and other internal combustion oils has 12% or Rs 9 only per litre whichever is higher. [Notification No. ERTS (T) 81/2014/Pt./24]

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Pondicherry

Puducherry Government amends the notification for the Ease of Doing Business Reforms

Feb 17, 2021 | Pondicherry | Labour

The Labour Department of Puducherry on February 15, 2020 has amended the notification no. G.O. Ms. No. 05/AIL/LAB/G/2020 dated August 07, 2020 which specifies the Business reform action plan as a part of the ease of doing business. The following amendment has been made: • Paragraph 7 (i), which specifies the inspection or surprise inspection to be carried out by the labour commissioner, has been inserted, namely: “Based on complaints, inspections or surprise inspections shall be conducted with specific permissions from the Labour Commissioner.” [Order No. G.O. Ms. No. 02/AIL/Lab/G/2021]

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Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for the State of Puducherry (Transmission and Distribution Licensing) Regulations, 2020

Feb 16, 2021 | Pondicherry | Commercial

The Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission of Puducherry on February 10, 2021 has issued the Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for the State of Goa and Union Territories (Transmission and Distribution Licensing) Regulations, 2020. These Regulations shall apply to licensees for transmission and distribution of electricity. These Regulations extend to the State of Goa and the Union Territories of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, Lakshadweep, and Puducherry. The following provisions have been made: •An application for any Transmission/Distribution Licence shall be made in accordance with the provision of the Act and these Regulations. •An applicant shall make an application to the Commission for grant of licence in the form specified in Appendix - 1 of these Regulations and in the manner directed by the Commission and accompanied by such fee as may be prescribed by the Government from time to time. •Until otherwise specified, the fees payable for grant of licence, shall be as per Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for the State of Goa and Union Territories (Conduct of Business Regulations), 2009 and as amended from time to time. •Any person intending to apply for licence shall duly comply with the conditions and requirements laid down by the Commission. •The Transmission Licensee applicant shall immediately on making application in manner specified above, forward a copy of the application along with all the enclosures to the State Transmission Utility for its recommendations. •The State Transmission Utility shall acknowledge receipt of the application and shall within thirty (30) days of the receipt of said application, send its recommendations, if any, to the Commission. •The General Conditions subject to which each of the categories of licence shall be laid down by the Commission. •The Commission may decide on the special conditions subject to which licence shall be issued to the applicant. •Any person intending to apply for licence shall duly comply with the conditions and requirements laid down by the Commission. [Notification No. JERC:27/2021]

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Punjab

Punjab Water Regulation and Development Authority (Conduct of Business) Regulations, 2021

Feb 25, 2021 | Punjab | EHS

The Punjab Water Regulation and Development Authority on February 12, 2021 has issued the Punjab Water Regulation and Development Authority (Conduct of Business) Regulations, 2021. These Regulations shall extend to the whole of the State of Punjab. The following provisions have been made: • Unless otherwise directed, the headquarters and other offices of the Authority shall be open daily except on Saturdays, Sundays and other holidays, as may be notified by the Government from time to time. • The headquarters and other offices of the Authority shall be open at such timings as the Chairperson may direct. • The proceedings of the Authority shall be conducted in Punjabi or English. • No petition or document contained in any language other than English or Punjabi shall be accepted by the Authority unless the same is accompanied by a translation thereof in English. • There shall be a separate Seal of the Authority. • The Secretary shall report to the Chairperson and shall exercise such functions as are assigned to him by these Regulations or otherwise by the Chairperson. • A person may appear himself or may authorise any of his employees or any other person to appear before the Authority and to act and plead on his behalf. • The Authority may, from time to time, hold such proceedings as it may consider appropriate in discharge of its functions under the Act. [Notification No. 51188: PWRDA-PWRD0MISC/3/2020-PWRDA BRANCH-Part(1)/I/18922/2021-(7)]

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Punjab State Data Policy 2020

Feb 25, 2021 | Punjab | Commercial

The Punjab Government has issued the Punjab State Data Policy 2020. There is a need to ensure equitable, productive, and sustainable development planning as well as good and inclusive governance. This calls for the adoption of data policy in the state which conceptualizes provisions for appropriate data management methods encompassing the entire continuum of data generation, handling, warehousing and accessibility by defining data standards and processes as guiding principles for all Departments and institutions falling under their purview. The following benefits of the policy have been given:

- Access to government-owned data will enable the more extensive use of the information to deliver services and facilities in an efficient and transparent manner.
- By facilitating the sharing of required data across departments, the need for separate bodies to collect the same data will be minimized. This will result in significant time and cost-saving in data collection.
- Adoption of common standards and best practices across various datasets and MIS would facilitate the integration of individual datasets.
- Dedicated owners for each dataset and clear responsibilities for implementation and maintenance of datasets shall provide for data digitization, accuracy, maintenance and updation.
- Availability of data will enable data-driven decision making along with avenues and platforms for monitoring, reporting and planning.
- Real-time availability of data (for example those relating to weather, pollution, and traffic) will allow and open pathways for live tracking of policy implementation and impact, especially for welfare schemes.
- Data sharing and interoperability through this policy will be instrumental in reducing leakages and plugging loopholes in the delivery of welfare services.
- The focus on insights and thus targeted impact gained from analysis and interpretation of historical data shall incentivize departments and agencies to adopt data-driven decision making.
- Open data practices ensure better access to all bonafide users. The PSDP shall enable the use of open access data by research and civil society organizations.

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Tamil Nadu

MoEFCC extents area around the boundary of SathyaMangalam Tiger Reserve in Tamil Nadu

Feb 22, 2021 | Tamil Nadu | Industry Specific

The Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (MoEFCC) on February 19, 2021 has issued a Notification regarding extension of area varying from 0 (zero) to 1.0 kilometers around the boundaries of SathyaMangalam Tiger Reserve and the eco-sensitive zones of Erode District in Tamil Nadu. The mentioned details under notification are as follows: - • Extension and boundaries of the Eco-Sensitive zones is 209.4634 square kilometers in different directions of Tiger Reserve which are as follows:

Directions	Extents North	0 kilometre North-East	
1 kilometre East		1 kilometre South-East	1 kilometre South
	1 kilometre South-West	0 kilometre West	
0 kilometre North-West		1 kilometre Enclave villages	0.200 kilometre

• The State Government should prepare a Zone Master plan within a period of two years from the date of publication of this notification in the Official Gazette. • The State Government should follow the Measures. • All the activities should be governed by the provisions of the Environment Act. {Notification No. - S.O.788(E)}

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MSME Policy 2021 for Tamil Nadu

Feb 17, 2021 | Tamil Nadu | Labour

The Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Department (MSME) of Tamil Nadu has issued the MSME Policy 2021. The following are the objectives of the policy: • Design policies and regulations with “Think MSME First” principle. • Promote and facilitate National and International investments in the sector. • Provide thrust for scaling up and diversification of MSMEs. • Expand employment generation. • Foster culture of entrepreneurship and innovation. • Strengthen ease of doing business and good governance. • Improve access to finance and risk capital. • Augment infrastructure support. The following are the targets of the policy: • Make Tamil Nadu the most vibrant ecosystem for MSMEs/ Start-Ups to thrive and scale-up. • Attract new investments worth ₹ 2,00,000 crore in the sector by 2025. • Create additional employment opportunities for 20 lakh persons in the sector. • Increase the share of exports from the MSMEs in the State by 25%.

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Telangana

Telangana Government invites applications from start-ups under innovation policy

Feb 23, 2021 | Telangana | Commercial

The State government of Telangana on February 19, 2021 has issued a press release inviting applications from state-based startups in a sector-specific manner under innovation policy. The eligible startups can leverage incentives under performance grant, patent expenditure reimbursement, SGST reimbursement, and recruitment assistance. The eligible applicant for the second batch of incentives can apply at www.startup.telangana.gov.in. *the press release is available at the link.

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West Bengal

West Bengal Government exempts certain category of goods from additional sales tax payable by the dealer

Feb 24, 2021 | West Bengal | Finance & Taxation

The Finance Department of West Bengal on February 22, 2021 has issued a notification to exempt the amounts of category of goods in respect of payment of aggregate amount of tax, including additional sales tax, payable by the dealer under the West Bengal Sales Tax Act, 1994 from February 22, 2021 to June 30, 2021. The following goods have been exempted: • High speed diesel has been exempted for Rs 1 per litre. • Motor spirit (commonly known as petrol) has been exempted for Rs 1 per litre.

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