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Finance & Taxation

DGFT issues a trade notice for the issuance of import authorisation for restricted items from DGFT headquarters from March 22, 2021

Mar 31, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation



The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) on March 23, 2021 has issued a trade notice for the issuance of import authorisation for restricted items from DGFT headquarters with effect from March 22, 2021. As part of the IT revamp, the authorities have introduced a new online module for the filing of electronic, paperless applications for import authorisations with effect from March 22, 2021. All the pending applications have been migrated to the new system. [Trade Notice No. 47/2020-2021]

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CBIC imposes ADD on Polyethylene Terephthalate resin having an intrinsic viscosity of 0.72 decilitres per gram or higher

Mar 31, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) on March 27, 2021 has issued a notification imposing Anti-dumping duty on Polyethylene Terephthalate resin having an intrinsic viscosity of 0.72 decilitres per gram or higher originating in or exported from China PR. The anti-dumping duty imposed under this notification shall be levied for a period of five years (unless revoked, superseded or amended earlier) from the date of publication of this notification in the Official Gazette and shall be payable in Indian currency. [Notification No. 18/2021- Customs (ADD)]

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MCI amends the Para 2.54 of Handbook of Procedure 2015-2020 to install and operationalise radiation portal monitors and container scanners

Mar 31, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MCI) on March 25, 2021 has issued a public notice amending the Para No. 2.54 (d)(v)(ii) of the Handbook of Procedures (2015-2020) and extends the deadline to install and operationalise radiation portal monitors and container scanners in the designated sea ports up to September 30, 2021. [Public Notice No. 45/2015-2020]

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CBIC notifies Common Custom Portal for registration, filling bills and other documents**Mar 31, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation**

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) on March 29, 2021 has notify the Common Custom Portal for facilitating registration, filing of bills of entry, shipping bills, other documents & forms prescribed under the Customs Act 1962 and other laws, rules, regulations made thereunder, payment of duty, functions under section 156 of the act, regulation made under section 157 of the act and for data exchange with other system within or outside India, which is accessible through uniform resource locator by <https://www.icegate.gov.in>. This shall come into force on March 29, 2021. [Notification No- G.S.R. 217(E)]

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DGFT issues a trade notice for the electronic filing of the Non Preferential COO through common digital platform from April 15, 2021**Mar 31, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation**

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) on March 25, 2021 has issued a trade notice for the electronic filing of the Non-Preferential Certificate of Origin (COO) through the common digital platform for India's exports with effect from April 15, 2021. there shall be a transition period for COO (NP) issuing agencies to on-board this common digital platform. Submitting COO (NP) applications on this online platform shall not be mandatory for the exporters in the immediate. The existing procedure of submitting paper COO applications directly to the designated issuing agency shall also be in operation in parallel. Submission and issuance of COO (NP) by the issuing agencies through their paper-based system may continue up to July 31, 2021 or until further orders. The electronic copy shall bear the image signature of the officer and stamp of the issuing agency. The other copies shall not bear the image sign and seal of the issuing agency. Wherever required, the exporter may choose to get the prints of these remaining copies duly signed in wet-ink by the issuing officer along with the stamp of the issuing office. Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) would be required for the purpose of electronic submission of applications. The digital signature would be the same as used in other DGFT applications. The DSC should be Class III. The given DSC may be of either categories, individual based DSC or organization based DSC or a DSC with the IEC of the firm embedded into it. [Trade Notice No. 48/2020-2021]

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The Bill of Entry (Forms) Amendment Regulations, 2021

Mar 31, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Custom (CBIC) on March 29, 2021 has issued the Bill of Entry (Forms) Amendment Regulations, 2021 to further amend the Bill of Entry (Forms) Regulations, 1976. The following amendment has been made under the Bill of Entry (Forms) Regulations, 1976: - ■In Regulation 4(1) which specifies the importer or person who has a valid license under the Custom Broker Licensing Regulation 2013 should present the bill of entry on which the aircraft or vessel vehicle carrying the goods arrives at a custom station, the following has been substituted: - “4(1)(a) In case of a customs port (other than inland container depot and air freight station) at which goods are to be cleared for home consumption or warehousing, the authorized person shall file the bill of entry before the end of the day (including holidays) preceding the day on which the vessel carrying the goods arrives at the customs port: Provided that the authorized person shall file the bill of entry before the end of the day (including holidays) of said arrival of the vessel where the goods are consigned from any of the countries mentioned below: - (vi)Bangladesh (vii)Maldives (viii)Myanmar (ix)Pakistan (x)Sri Lanka. (b) In case of a customs airport at which goods are to be cleared for home consumption or warehousing, the authorized person shall file the bill of entry before the end of the day (including holidays) of the arrival of the aircraft carrying the goods at the customs airport. (c) In case of an inland container depot or air freight station at which goods are to be cleared for home consumption or warehousing, the authorized person shall file the bill of entry before the end of the day (including holidays) preceding the day on which the vehicle (which includes train) carrying the goods arrives at the inland container depot or air freight station. (d) In case of a land customs station at which goods are to be cleared for home consumption or warehousing, the authorized person shall file the bill of entry before the end of the day (including holidays) of the arrival of the vehicle (which includes train) carrying the goods at the land customs station.”. The Regulation shall come into force on March 29, 2021. [Notification No: - G.S.R. 219(E)]

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Income-tax (6th Amendment) Rules, 2021

Mar 31, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) on March 26, 2021 has issued the Income-tax (6th Amendment) Rules, 2021 to further amend the Income-tax Rules, 1962. They shall come into effect from April 01, 2021. The following amendments have been made: • Rule 2C, which specifies the application for the purpose of grant of approval of a fund or trust, has been substituted, namely: “Application for the purpose of grant of approval of a fund or trust or institution or university or any hospital or other medical institution under clause (i) or clause (ii) or clause (iii) or clause (iv) of first proviso to clause (23C) of Section 10. (1)An application under clause (i) or clause (ii) or clause (iii) or clause (iv) of first proviso to clause (23C) of section 10 for the grant of approval of a fund or trust or institution, or university or other educational institution or any hospital or other medical institution (hereinafter referred to as 'the applicant') shall be made in the following Form, namely: i) Form No. 10A in case of application under clause (i) or clause (iv) of first proviso to clause (23C) of section 10 to the Principal Commissioner or Commissioner authorised by the Board. ii) Form No. 10AB in case of application under clause (ii) or clause (iii) of first proviso to clause (23C) of section 10 to the Principal Commissioner or Commissioner under the said proviso. • Rule 5CA, which specifies the intimation under the

fifth proviso to sub-section (1) of section 35, has been inserted, namely: "An intimation under fifth proviso to sub-section (1) of section 35 by a research association, university, college or other institution referred to in clause (ii) or clause (iii) or the company referred to in clause (iia) of said sub-section (hereinafter referred to as 'the applicant') shall be made in Form No.10A to the Principal Commissioner of Commissioner authorised by the Board. The application under sub-rule (1) shall be accompanied by the following documents, as required by Form No.10A, namely: i) where the applicant is created or established under an instrument, self-certified copy of the instrument. ii) where the applicant created or established otherwise than under an instrument, self-certified copy of the document evidencing the creation or establishment of the applicant. iii) self-certified copy of registration with Registrar of Companies or Registrar of Firms and Societies or Registrar of Public Trusts or other registration document, as the case may be. iv) self-certified copy of registration under Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010 (42 of 2010), if the applicant is registered under such Act. v) self-certified copy of existing Notification granting approval under section 35. • Rule 11 AA, which specifies the requirement for approval of institution of fund under clause (vi) of sub-section (5) of section 80G, has been inserted, namely: "An application for approval under clause (vi) of sub-section (5) of section 80G, the institution or fund (hereinafter referred to as 'the applicant') shall be made in the following Form, namely: i) Form No. 10A in case of application under clause (i) or clause (iv) of first proviso to subsection (5) of section 80G to the Principal Commissioner or Commissioner authorised by the Board. ii) Form No. 10AB in case of application under clause (ii) or clause (ii) of first proviso to subsection (5) of section 80G to the Principal Commissioner or Commissioner authorised under the said proviso. • Rule 17A, which specifies application for registration of charitable or religious trusts etc, has been substituted, namely: "An application under subclause (i) or sub-clause(ii) or sub-clause(iii) or sub-clause(iv) or sub-clause(v) or sub-clause(vi) of clause (ac)of sub-section (1) of section 12A for registration of a charitable or religious trust or institution (hereinafter referred to as 'the applicant') shall be made in the following Form, namely: i) Form No. 10A in case of application under sub-clause (i) or (vi) of clause (ac)of sub-section (1) of section 12A to the Principal Commissioner or Commissioner authorised by the Board. ii) Form No. 10AB in case of application under sub-clause (ii) or (iii) or (iv) or (v) of clause (ac)of sub-section (1) of section 12A to the Principal Commissioner or Commissioner under the said clause. • Rule 18AB, which specifies the furnishing of statement of particulars, has been inserted, namely: "For the purpose of clause (viii) of sub-section (5) of section 80G and clause (i) to sub-section (1A) of section 35, the prescribed authority shall be the Principal Director General of Income-tax (Systems) or the Director General of Income-tax (Systems) as the case may be. Statement of particulars required to be furnished by any research association, university, college or other institution or company or fund (hereinafter referred to as reporting person) under clause (viii) of sub-section (5) of section 80G or under clause (i) to sub-section (1A) of section 35 shall be furnished in respect of each financial year, beginning with the financial year 2021-2022, in Form No. 10BD and shall be verified in the manner indicated therein." [Notification No. G.S.R. 212 (E)]

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MCI partially modifies the import policy of Urad for the fiscal year 2021-2022

Mar 31, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MCI) on March 26, 2021 has issued a notification partially modifying the import policy of Urad beans which was restricted for the fiscal year 2021-2022 shall now be allowed for Millers, refiners, and traders. The quota allocated shall be allocated equally to pre-determined number of applicants through an algorithm based lottery system as per the procedure to be notified. [Notification No.

S.O. 1372 (E)]

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CBDT issues an order under section 119 of the Income Tax Act, 1961

Mar 31, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Central Board of Direct taxes (CBDT) on March 25, 2021 has issued an order under section 119 of the Income Tax Act, 1961. Due to the prevailing situation of COVID-19 pandemic across the country, it has been decided by the Board that the reporting under clause 30C and Clause 44 of the Tax Audit Report shall be kept in abeyance till March 31, 2022. [Circular No. 05/2021]

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CBIC determine the rate of exchange of conversion of foreign currency into Indian currency

Mar 31, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Custom (CBIC) on March 18, 2021 releases 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 with effect from March 19, 2021. • Australian Dollar • Bahraini Dinar • Canadian Dollar • Chinese Yuan • Danish Kroner • EURO • Hong Kong Dollar • Kuwaiti Dinar • New Zealand Dollar • Norwegian Kroner • Pound Sterling • Qatari Riyal • Saudi Arabian Riyal • Singapore Dollar • South African Rand • Swedish Kroner • Swiss Franc • Turkish Lira • UAE Dirham • US Dollar • Japanese Yen • Korean Won [Notification No. 31/2021 - Customs (N.T.)]

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CBIC imposes ADD on 2-Ethyl Hexanol originating in or exported from European Union, Indonesia, Korea RP, Malaysia, Taiwan and United States of America

Mar 31, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) on March 26, 2021 has issued a notification for the imposition of '2-Ethyl Hexanol originating in or exported from European Union, Indonesia, Korea RP, Malaysia, Taiwan and United States of America. The anti-dumping duty imposed under this notification shall be effective for a period of five years (unless revoked, superseded or amended earlier) from the date of publication of this notification in the Official Gazette and shall be paid in Indian currency. [Notification No. 17/2021- Customs (ADD)]

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The Bill of Entry (Electronic Integrated Declaration and Paperless Processing) Amendment Regulations, 2021

Mar 31, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Custom (CBIC) on March 29, 2021 has issued the Bill of Entry (Electronic Integrated Declaration and Paperless Processing) Amendment Regulations, 2021 to further amend the e Bill of Entry (Electronic Integrated Declaration and Paperless Processing) Regulations, 2018. The following amendment has been made under the Bill of Entry (Electronic Integrated Declaration and Paperless Processing) Regulations, 2018: - ■In Regulation 2 which specifies the definition under the regulation, "Regulation 2(ca) Customs Automated System" means the Indian Customs Electronic Data Interchange System" has been inserted. ■In Regulation 3 which specifies the authorized person shall enter the electronic integrated declaration and the supporting documents himself by affixing his digital signature and enter them on the "common portal" and he may also get the electronic integrated declaration made on the "common portal" along with the supporting documents by availing the services at the service center. ■In Regulation 4(1) which specifies the bill of entry on which the aircraft or vessel vehicle carrying the goods arrives at a custom station, the following has been substituted: - "4(1)(a) In case of a customs port (other than inland container depot and air freight station) at which goods are to be cleared for home consumption or warehousing, the authorized person shall file the bill of entry before the end of the day (including holidays) preceding the day on which the vessel carrying the goods arrives at the customs port: Provided that the authorized person shall file the bill of entry before the end of the day (including holidays) of said arrival of the vessel where the goods are consigned from any of the countries mentioned below: - (i)Bangladesh (ii)Maldives (iii)Myanmar (iv)Pakistan (v)Sri Lanka. (b) In case of a customs airport at which goods are to be cleared for home consumption or warehousing, the authorized person shall file the bill of entry before the end of the day (including holidays) of the arrival of the aircraft carrying the goods at the customs airport. (c) In case of an inland container depot or air freight station at which goods are to be cleared for home consumption or warehousing, the authorized person shall file the bill of entry before the end of the day (including holidays) preceding the day on which the vehicle (which includes train) carrying the goods arrives at the inland container depot or air freight station. (d) In case of a land customs station at which goods are to be cleared for home consumption or warehousing, the authorized person shall file the bill of entry before the end of the day (including holidays) of the arrival of the vehicle (which includes train) carrying the goods at the land customs station." [Notification No- G.S.R. 218(E)]

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CBDT amends certain provisions mentioned under the Taxation and Other Laws (Relaxation and Amendment of Certain Provisions) Act, 2020

Mar 30, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has amended the notification no. 93/2020 dated December 31, 2020 which specifies the timeline for the completion of compliance. The following amendments have been made: • where the specified Act is the Income-tax Act, 1961 (43 of 1961) and the completion of any action, as referred to in clause (a) of sub-section (1) of section 3 of the said Act, relates to passing of any order: 1. for imposition of penalty under Chapter XXI of the Income-tax Act: (a) June 29, 2021 shall be the end date of

the period during which the time limit specified in or prescribed or notified under the Income-tax Act falls, for the completion of such action. (b) June 30, 2021 shall be the end date to which the time limit for completion of such action shall stand extended. (2) for assessment or reassessment under the Income-tax Act, and the time limit for completion of such action under section 153 or section 153B thereof: (a) expires on March 31, 2021 due to its extension by the said notification, such time limit shall stand extended to April 30, 2021. (b) Is not covered under (i) and expires on March 31, 2021, such time limit shall stand extended to September 30, 2021. (3) where the specified Act is the Prohibition of Benami Property Transaction Act, 1988, (45 of 1988) and the completion of any action, as referred to in clause (a) of sub-section (1) of section 3 of the said Act, relates to issue of notice under sub-section (1) or passing of any order under sub-section (3) of section 26 of the Benami Act: (a) June 30, 2021 shall be the end date of the period during which the time limit specified in or prescribed or notified under the Benami Act falls, for the completion of such action. (b) September 30, 2021 shall be the end date to which the time limit for completion of such action shall stand extended.

[Notification No. S.O. 966 (E)]

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RBI has issued clarifications on Large Exposure Frameworks

Mar 25, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on March 24, 2021 has given certain clarifications on the Large Exposure Frameworks. Banks have sought clarity on whether the above-mentioned guidelines will apply to exposures to a person resident outside India also. In this connection, it is clarified that the above clause will also apply to non-fund-based credit facilities provided to a person resident outside India that is the exposure can be reckoned on the person resident outside India instead of treating it as an exposure on Head Office/ other overseas branch, provided the transaction is otherwise compliant with Foreign Exchange Management (Guarantees) Regulations, 2000 (FEMA 8). The exposures thus shifted to a person resident outside India, will attract a minimum risk weight of 150%. It has been decided that non-centrally cleared derivatives exposures will be outside the purview of exposure limits till April 01, 2021. [Circular No. DOR.No.BP.BC.43 /21.01.003/2019-20]

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RBI amends master direction KYC- Procedure for implementation of section 51A of the unlawful activities (Prevention) Act, 1967

Mar 25, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued amendment to the master direction on KYC- Procedure for implementation of section 51A of the unlawful activities (Prevention) Act, 1967. The following amendments have been made: • Further, Section 54 has been amended to include the following: "The list of Nodal Officers for UAPA is available on the website of Ministry of Home Affairs." [Circular No. DOR.AML.REC.48/14.01.001/2020-21]

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RBI has issued a master direction for the amalgamation of urban cooperatives bank directions, 2020

Mar 25, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on March 23, 2021 has issued a master direction for the amalgamation of urban cooperatives bank directions, 2020. The provisions of these Directions shall apply to all Primary (Urban) Co-operative Banks. The following provisions have been given: • These guidelines shall cover amalgamation of two or more UCBs. Reserve Bank of India may consider proposals for merger and amalgamation in the following circumstances: 1. When the net worth of the amalgamated bank is positive and the amalgamating bank assures to protect entire deposits of all the depositors of the amalgamated bank. 2. When the net worth of amalgamated bank is negative and the amalgamating bank on its own assures to protect deposits of all the depositors of the amalgamated bank. 3. When the net worth of the amalgamated bank is negative and the amalgamating bank assures to protect the deposits of all the depositors of the amalgamated bank with the financial support from the State Government extended upfront as part of the process of merger. • The Reserve Bank has discretionary powers to approve the voluntary amalgamation of UCBs under the provisions of Section 44A read with Section 56 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 as amended vide Banking Regulation (Amendment) Act 2020 (39 of 2020). • Boards of the banks concerned shall play a crucial role in the process, while dealing with the amalgamation proposals of UCBs. The decision of amalgamation shall be approved by two-third majority of the total number of Board members of both amalgamating and amalgamated UCBs and not just of those present and voting. • In terms of Section 44A read with Section 56 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, as amended from time to time, the draft scheme of amalgamation shall be approved by the shareholders of each UCB by a resolution passed by a majority representing two-thirds of the shareholders both in number and value, present in person at a meeting called for the purpose. • Both the amalgamated and amalgamating UCBs shall submit the details in respect of the proposed treatment of shares held by shareholders of the amalgamated bank and the rationale/detailed computations for determination of the swap ratio. • In terms of Section 44A read with Section 56 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, as amended from time to time, the draft scheme of amalgamation shall be approved by the shareholders of each UCB by a resolution passed by a majority representing two-thirds of the shareholders both in number and value, present in person at a meeting called for the purpose. [Circular No. Master Direction DOR.MAM.No.49/09.16.901/2020-21]

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RBI has issued a notification specifying the contracts as qualified contracts

Mar 22, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on March 09, 2021 has issued a notification specifying the following contracts as the qualified contracts under the Bilateral Netting of Qualified Financial Contracts Act, 2020. • “derivative” as defined under clause (a) of Section 45U of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934. • “repo” and “reverse repo” as defined under clause (c) and (d) respectively of Section 45U of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934. RBI hereby specifies the following entities as qualified financial market participants to deal in qualified financial contracts, namely: • Entities licensed by RBI to do banking business, but not included in the second schedule to the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934. • “Export-Import Bank of India” established under

the Export-Import Bank of India Act, 1981. • “National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development” established under the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development Act, 1981. • “Small Industries Development Bank of India” established the Small Industries Development Bank of India Act, 1989. • “National Housing Bank” established under the National Housing Bank Act, 1987. • “Factor” as defined in Section 2 (i) of the Factoring Regulation Act, 2011. • “Asset Reconstruction Company” as defined under section 2 (1) (ba) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002. [Notification No. FMRD.DIRD. 2/14.03.043/2020-21]

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CBIC issues a circular for the imposition of ADD on Faced glass wool in rolls originating in or exported from China PR

Mar 22, 2021 | Central | Finance & Taxation

The Central Board of Indirect taxes and Customs (CBIC) on March 18, 2021 has issued a notification for the imposition of anti-dumping duty on faced glass wool in rolls originating in or exported from China PR. The anti-dumping duty imposed under this notification shall be effective for a period of five years (unless revoked, superseded, or amended earlier) from the date of issuance of this notification and shall be paid in Indian currency. [Notification No. 14/2021- Customs (ADD)]

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Industry Specific

The Sugar Development Fund (Amendment) Rules, 2021

Mar 31, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific



The Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution on March 24, 2021 has issued the Sugar Development Fund (Amendment) Rules, 2021 further amend the Sugar Development Fund Rules, 1983. The amendments have been made under the Sugar Development Fund Rules, 1983 are as follows: - ■ In Rule 2(ff) which specifies "Committee for rehabilitation" means the Committee constituted by the Central Government to consider and recommend rehabilitation of a sugar undertaking in the "private or public or co-operative sector" that has eroded its net worth. ■ In Rule 2(JJ) which specifies "potentially viable sick sugar undertaking means a sugar undertaking being in the private or public or cooperative sector in respect of which a scheme of rehabilitation has been recommended by the Committee for rehabilitation" ■ has been substituted. ■ In Rule 21 (1) Loan for Potentially viable sick sugar undertaking, the following has been substituted, namely: - "A potentially viable sick sugar undertaking shall be eligible for a loan for the modernization or rehabilitation of plant and machinery or for production of anhydrous alcohol or ethanol from alcohol or molasses or sugarcane juice or for bagasse-based co-generation power project: Provided that the loan from the Fund has been recommended in the rehabilitation scheme for the potentially viable sick sugar undertaking by the Committee for rehabilitation: Provided further that the scheme or project for such modernization or rehabilitation of its plant and machinery or for production of anhydrous alcohol or ethanol from alcohol or molasses or sugarcane juice or for bagasse-based co-generation power project is approved for financial assistance by a financial institution or a scheduled bank under its relevant scheme: Provided also that a sugar undertaking shall not be eligible for a loan under this rule if more than one loan under rule 16 or rule 22 or rule 23 remains to be fully repaid." ■ In Rule 21 (2) which specifies eligibility for a loan for the sugarcane development, the following has been substituted, namely: - "Provided that a loan from the Fund has been recommended in the rehabilitation scheme for the potentially viable sick sugar undertaking by the Committee for rehabilitation". ■ In Rule 22 (1A) (iv), Rule 22A (1A) (iv) and Rule 23 (1A) (iv) which specifies Loan for production of Anhydrous Alcohol or Ethanol from Alcohol, the following has been substituted, namely: - "State Government guarantee or such other security, as may be decided by the Committee, is furnished by the sugar factory or sugar undertaking for the Sugar Development Fund loan". ■ In Rule 25 (7) which specifies "In case of two consecutive defaults in repayment of the Sugar Development Fund loan or installment thereof, the Central Government may initiate proceedings under the provisions of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016" has been inserted. ■ In Rule 26 (1) which specifies Restructuring of loans of potentially viable sick sugar undertaking, the following has been substituted, namely: - "Notwithstanding anything contained in rules 16, 17, 21, 22, 22A, 23, 24 and 25, the Central Government may, after taking into consideration the scheme of rehabilitation recommended by the Committee for rehabilitation and any other relevant factor, restructure the loan, interest or additional interest on account of default thereof of a potentially

viable sick sugar undertaking:- Provided that while so restructuring, no portion of the outstanding principal or simple interest at applicable rates at the relevant time shall be waived off: Provided further that the Central Government may, at its discretion, waive additional interest in full or in part, for reasons to be recorded in writing.” ■ In Rule 26 (2) which specifies Restructuring of loans of potentially viable sick sugar undertaking, the following has been substituted, namely: Provided that the restructuring has been recommended by the Committee for rehabilitation in the scheme for rehabilitation for sugar undertakings in accordance with the guidelines as may be decided by the Government: Provided further that the sugar undertaking shall, during such period till such restructured loans are fully repaid, be eligible for loans only if it is a part of the rehabilitation scheme under rule 21. ■ In Rule 26(3) which define Any eligible sugar undertaking referred to in sub-rule (2) shall make an application for restructuring to the Committee in [Form XI], the stated Form XI has been substituted. [Notification No- G.S.R. 210(E)]

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MNRE extends the validity of the promotion of biomass based cogeneration in sugar mills and other industries

Mar 30, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) on March 25, 2021 has issued an office memorandum for the scheme to support promotion of biomass based cogeneration in sugar mills and other industries in the country and programme on energy from urban, industrial, and agriculture wastes/ residues and municipal solid waste. The validity of the scheme has been further extended till March 31, 2021. All the industries willing to get a sanction shall submit application on or before March 31, 2021. In case of failure, the sanction shall not be given, and the applications will not be accepted.

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Insurance (Amendment) Act, 2021

Mar 26, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Ministry of Law and Justice on March 25, 2021 has issued the Insurance (Amendment) Act, 2021 to further amend the Insurance Act, 1938 and shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may appoint. The following amendments are made under the Insurance Act, 1938:- ■ Section 2(7A)(b) which defines “Indian insurance company” has been substituted which means any insurer being a company- a) which is formed and registered under the Companies Act, 1956 (1 of 1956); b) in which the aggregate holdings of equity shares by foreign investors including portfolio investors, do not exceed seventy-four per cent. of the paid-up equity capital of such Indian insurance company, and the foreign investment in which shall be subject to such conditions and manner, as may be prescribed; c) whose sole purpose is to carry on life insurance business or general insurance business or re-insurance business. ■ Section 114(2)(aaa) related to “Power of Central Government to make rules” the following clause (aaa) shall be substituted, namely:— "the conditions and manner of foreign investment under sub-clause (b) of clause (7A) of section 2;"

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

Mar 26, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Ministry of Mines on March 24, 2021 has issued the 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. The following amendments have been made: • Rule 23A, which specifies the transfer of letter of intent for grant of mining lease or composite license in certain cases, has been inserted, namely: “The letter of intent issued upon auction for grant of mining lease or composite licence in accordance with the provisions of the Mineral (Auction) Rules, 2015 may be transferred in the manner specified in this rule in cases where the State Government is satisfied that such transfer of letter of intent to the transferee (the “transferee”) is necessary consequent to conclusion of insolvency, liquidation, or bankruptcy proceedings, as the case may be, in respect of the original holder of the letter of intent (the “transferor”) by the competent tribunal or the court under the provisions of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 (31 of 2016). The transferee shall make an application, namely the “transfer application”, to the State Government along-with the following particulars, namely: 1. details of the transferee including its address. 2. details and certified copy of the approval of the competent authority or the court under the provisions of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 regarding such transfer. 3. details regarding eligibility of the transferee to hold such letter of intent and consequent mining lease or composite licence in accordance with the Act and the rules made thereunder. 4. copy of the letter of intent granted to the transferor. On and from the date of transfer, the transferee shall be liable to the State Government and Central Government with respect to any and all liabilities with respect to the transferred letter of intent and shall continue to comply with all the obligations required for obtaining the mining lease or the composite licence, as the case may be. The State Government shall intimate the Indian Bureau of Mines in writing about any transfer of a letter of intent. The State Government may, by an order in writing terminate any letter of intent or consequent mining lease or composite licence, as the case may be, at any time if the transferee has, in the opinion of the State Government, committed a breach of any of the provisions of this rule or has transferred such letter of intent or any right, title, or interest therein otherwise than in accordance with this rule. [Notification No. G.S.R. 209 (E)]

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The Drugs and Cosmetics (Amendment) Rules, 2021

Mar 25, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy on March 22, 2021 has issued the Drugs and Cosmetics (Amendment) Rules, 2021 to further amend the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945. The following amendments are made of the Drugs and Cosmetic Rules, 1945: - In Rule 3A (7) which define functions of the Laboratory in respect of Homoeopathic medicines shall be carried out at the “Pharmacopoeia Commission of Indian Medicine and Homoeopathy at Ghaziabad (Uttar Pradesh)” and the functions of the Director in respect of the Homoeopathic medicines shall be exercised by the Director of the

laboratory. In Rule 163- A which specifies the functions of the Pharmacopoeia Commission of Indian Medicine and Homoeopathy at Ghaziabad (Uttar Pradesh) has been substituted with the heading: -

“Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine and Homoeopathy and Central Drugs Laboratory of Indian Medicine and Homoeopathy to function as Central Drugs Laboratory for the purpose of testing or analysis of Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy Drugs “Functions: Pharmacopoeia Commission of Indian Medicine and Homoeopathy at Ghaziabad (Uttar Pradesh) under the Central Government shall function to develop and amend standards of Ayurvedic, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy drugs and publish pharmacopoeia monographs, formularies and standardize procedures with the approval of the Central Government laboratory of the Pharmacopoeia Commission shall be the Central Drugs Laboratory for Indian Medicine and Homoeopathy for the purpose of testing or analysis of Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy Drugs.” In Rule 163B which specifies the functions of the Central Drug Laboratory has been substituted, namely: “The functions of the Central Drug Laboratory in respect of Ayurvedic, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy drugs shall be carried out at the Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine and Homoeopathy, Ghaziabad, (Uttar Pradesh) and the functions of the Director in respect of the said drugs shall be exercised by the Director of the said laboratory.” In Rule 163C (1) which specifies Samples for testing or analysis of Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani drugs under sub-section (2) of section 11 or sub-section (1) of section 25 and section 33H of the Act shall be sent by registered post in a sealed packet, enclosed with a memorandum in “Form 18 or Form 18-A”, specified in Schedule A, in an outer cover addressed to the Director, “Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine and Homoeopathy, Ghaziabad (Uttar Pradesh)” for Indian Medicine. In Rule 163(3), Rule 163D & Rule 163G which specifies the Form 1A seal, recording of condition of seals and Signature on Certificate respectively, the “Pharmacopoeial Laboratory for Indian Medicine” has been substituted: “Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine and Homoeopathy, Ghaziabad (Uttar Pradesh)”. In Rule 163E which specifies the Report of result of test or analysis, the result of the test or analysis, together with full protocols of the tests applied, shall be supplied forthwith to the sender in “Form 13” of as specified in the said Schedule. In Rule 164 which specifies Method of test or analysis to be employed in relation to Ayurvedic (including Siddha) or Unani drugs has been substituted: - “Method of test or analysis to be employed in relation to Ayurvedic, Siddha, Unani or Homoeopathy drugs.- The method of test or analysis to be employed in relation to an Ayurvedic, Siddha, Unani or Homoeopathy drugs shall be such as may be specified in the Ayurvedic, Siddha, Unani or Homoeopathy Pharmacopoeia, or if no such pharmacopoeias are available or if no test is specified in such pharmacopoeias, such test as the Government Analyst may employ, such tests being scientifically established to determine whether the drug contains the ingredients as stated on the label.” In Rule 166 which specifies duties of Government analyst who shall analyse or test or cause to be analysed or tested such samples of “Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani or Homoeopathy” drugs as may be sent to him by Inspectors or any other person or authority authorised by the Central Government or a State Government shall furnish reports of the results of test or analysis in accordance with these rules. In Schedule A, Form 1A and Form 2A which will specify Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine and Homoeopathy, Ghaziabad (Uttar Pradesh) and Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine and Homoeopathy, respectively. In Schedule B (1) which specifies Fees for test or analysis by the Central Drugs Laboratories or State Drugs Laboratories requiring use of animals, has been substituted. [Notification No- G.S.R 202(E)]

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IRDAI extends the timeline on electronic policies and dispensing with physical documents on the proposal in respect of health insurance policies

Mar 25, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) on March 24, 2021 has issued a circular regarding extension of timeline on issuance of electronic policies, dispensing with physical documents and wet signature on the proposal form in respect of health insurance policies as specified in the guidelines under the vide circular IRDAI/HLT/REG/CIR/235/09/20, dated September 10, 2020 which permit insurers to issue electronic health insurance policies and dispensing of wet signature on proposal. In Clause No. 5 of the guidelines specified in the said circular in which the insurers are allowed to issue electronic policies, dispense with physical documents and wet signature on the proposal forms till September 30, 2021. [Circular No- IRDAI/HLT/REG/CIR/062/03/2021]

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IRDAI extends short term covid specific health insurance policies

Mar 25, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) on March 24, 2021 has extended the short term covid specific health insurance policies in which all general and health insurance policies under circular IRDAI/HLT/REG/CIR/156/06/2020, dated June 23, 2020 with the two standard covid specific health insurance products "corona kavach policy" and "corona Rakshak Policy" under the vide circular IRDAI/HLT/REG/CIR/163/06/2020 dated September 26, 2020 and IRDAI/HLT/REG/CIR/164/06/2020 dated June 26, 2020 respectively regarding the objective to address the basic health insurance needs of insuring public related to covid-19. Further, it has been decided to allow all insurers to offer and renew short-term covid specific health policies including "corona kavach policy" and "corona Rakshak Policy" till September 30, 2021.

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Ministry of Finance amended the Quantity related to narcotic drug or psychotropic substance

Mar 24, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Ministry of Finance on March 23, 2021 has further amended the vide notification S.O. 1055 (E), dated October 19, 2001 which specify the quantity (small & commercial) in relation to narcotic drug or psychotropic substance under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985. In the specified table, the following chemical name with the small & commercial quantity has been substituted, are as follows: - • 238ZI- Methyl 1-(2-phenylethyl)- 4- [phenyl(propionyl)amino]piperidine-4-carboxylate 0.00005 gm- 0.001 gm • 238 ZJ- N-(2-Fluorophenyl)-2- methoxy-N-[1-(2- phenylethyl)piperidin-4- l]acetamide 0.00217 gm- 0.0434 gm • 238 ZK- N-Phenyl-N-[1-(2- phenylethyl)piperidin-4- yl]furan-2-carboxamide 0.02 gm- 1 gm • 238 ZL- N-Phenyl-N-[1-(2- phenylethyl)piperidin-4- yl]prop-2-enamide 0.0025 gm- 0.125 gm • 238 ZM- N-(4-Fluorophenyl)-2- methyl-N-[1-(2- phenylethyl)piperidin-4- yl]propenamide; 0.03 gm- 1.5 gm • 238 ZN- N-Phenyl-N-[1-(2- phenylethyl)piperidin-4- yl]oxolane-2-carboxamide 0.005 gm- 0.1 gm • 238 ZO- N-[(2S)-1-Amino-3-methyl-1-oxobutan-2-yl]-1- (cyclohexylmethyl)-1Hindazole-3-carboxamide 0.05 gm- 2.5 gm

• 238 ZP Methyl(2S)-2-((1-(5- fluorophenyl)-1H-indazole-3-carboxylamino)-3,3- dimethylbutanoate 0.005 gm -0.25 gm • 238ZQ- N-[(2S)-1-Amino-3-methyl-1-oxobutan-2-yl]-1-(4-fluorophenyl) methyl indazole-3- carboxamide 0.0178 gm - 0.892 gm • 238ZR- (1-Pentyl-1 H-indol-3- yl) (2,2,3,3- tetramethylcyclopropyl)methanone 0.05 gm - 2.5 gm • 238ZS- Quinolin-8-yl 1-(5- fluorophenyl)-1H-indole-3- carboxylate 0.1 gm- 5.0 gm • 238 ZT- 1-(4-Fluorophenyl) propan-2-amine 2 gm -50 gm • 238ZU- N-[(2S)-1-amino-3-methyl-1-oxobutan-2-yl]-1-[(4-fluorophenyl) methyl] indazole-3- carboxamide - 0.025 gm -1.25 gm • 238ZV- Methyl 2-((1-(5-fluorophenyl)-1H-indazol-3-yl) carbonyl) amino)-3-methylbutanoate - 0.0027 gm- 0.135 gm • 238ZW- Methyl(S)-2-((1-(5- fluorophenyl)-1H-indole-3- carboxamido)-3,3- dimethylbutanoate - 0.0050 gm -0.25 gm • 238ZX- Methyl(S)-2-((1-(4- fluorobutyl)-1H-indazole-3- carboxamido)-3,3- dimethylbutanoate -0.0050 gm- 0.25 gm • 238ZY- 1-(4-chlorophenyl)-2- (methylamino)-1- propanone - 5.0 gm- 250 gm • 238ZZ- 2-(Ethylamino)-1-phenyl-1- hexanone - 1.0 gm- 50 gm • 238ZZA- (RS)-1-Phenyl-2- (pyrrolidine-1-yl)hexan-1-one - 0.1 gm- 5.0 gm • 238ZZB- 8-Chloro-6-(2-fluorophenyl)-1-methyl-4-hydroxy-1,2,4-triazolo[4,3-a][1,4]diazepine - 0.0125 gm- 0.625 gm • 238ZZC- 4-(2-Chlorophenyl)-2-ethyl-9-methyl-6H-thieno[3,2-f][1,2,4]triazolo[4,3-a][1,4]diazepine - 0.05 gm- 2.5 gm • 238ZZD- 4-Chloro-2,5- dimethoxyamfetamine 0.15 gm- 7.5 gm • 238ZZE- N-[(2S)-1-amino-3,3- dimethyl-1-oxobutan-2- yl]- 1-[(4-fluorophenyl)methyl]-1H-indazole-3-carboxamide 0.01 gm- 0.5 gm • 238ZZF- Methyl(2S)-2-((1-(4-fluorophenyl)methyl)-1H-indazole-3-carboxyl) amino)-3- methylbutanoate - 0.01 gm- 0.5 gm • 238ZZG- 1-(4-cyanobutyl)-N-(2- phenylpropan-2-yl)- 1H-indazole-3-carboxamide - 0.01 gm- 0.5 gm • 238ZZH- N-[(2S)-1-amino-3,3- dimethyl-1-oxobutan-2- yl]- 1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1H-indazole-3- carboxamide- 0.005 gm - 0.25 gm • 238ZZI- 1-(2H-1,3-benzodioxol-5- yl)-2- (ethylamino)pentan-1-one - 0.1 gm - 5 gm • 238 ZZJ- (2E)-N-phenyl-N-[1-(2- phenylethyl)piperidin-4- yl]but-2-enamide -0.014 gm - 0.28 gm • 238 ZZK- N-phenyl-N-[1-(2- phenylethyl)piperidin-4- yl]pentanamide - 0.40 gm - 8.0 gm • 238 ZZL- N-(4-fluorophenyl)-N-[1-(2- phenylethyl) piperidin-4-yl] butanamide- 0.005 gm- 0.1 gm • 238 ZZM- N-(2-fluorophenyl)-N-[1-(2- phenylethyl) piperidin-4-yl] propanamide. 0.005 gm- 0.1 gm • 238 ZZN- 2-methoxy-N-phenyl-N-[1- (2-phenylethyl) piperidin-4- yl] acetamide- 0.005 gm- 0.1 gm • 238 ZZO- N-Phenyl-N-[1-(2- phenylethyl) piperidin-4-yl] cyclopropane carboxamide - 0.005 gm -0.1 gm [Notification No-S.O. 1276(E)]

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Ministry of Finance amends the list of psychotropic substances under NDPS Act, 1985

Mar 24, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Ministry of Finance on March 23, 2021 has further amended the list of psychotropic substances specified in the schedule of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic substances Act, 1985. In schedule, the following serial numbers with chemical name has been inserted, namely – 110ZF - N-[(2S)-1-amino-3-methyl-1-oxobutan-2-yl]-1-[(4-fluorophenyl) methyl] indazole-3- carboxamide 110ZG – Methyl 2-((1-(5-fluorophenyl)-1H-indazol-3-yl) carbonyl) amino)-3- methylbutanoate 110ZH - Methyl(S)-2-((1-(5-fluorophenyl)- 1H-indole-3- carboxamido)-3,3- dimethylbutanoate 110ZI - Methyl(S)-2-((1-(5-fluorophenyl)- 1H-indole-3- carboxamido)-3,3- dimethylbutanoate 110ZJ - Methyl(S)-2-((1-(4-fluorobutyl)-1H-indazole-3- carboxamido)-3,3- dimethylbutanoate 110ZK - 1-(4-chlorophenyl)-2- (methylamino)-1- propanone 110ZL - 2-(Ethylamino)-1-phenyl-1- hexanone 110ZM - (RS)-1-Phenyl-2-(pyrrolidine-1- yl)hexan-1-one 110ZN - 8-Chloro-6-(2-fluoro-phenyl)-1-methyl-4-hydroxy-1,2,4-triazolo[4,3- a][1,4]diazepine 110ZO - 4-(2-Chlorophenyl)-2-ethyl-9-methyl-6H-thieno[3,2- f][1,2,4]triazolo[4,3a][1,4]diazepine 110ZP - 4-Chloro-2,5- dimethoxyamfetamine

110ZQ - N-[(2S)-1-amino-3,3-dimethyl-1-oxobutan-2-yl]-1-[(4-fluorophenyl)methyl]-1H-indazole-3-carboxamide 110ZR - 1-(4-cyanobutyl)-N-(2-phenylpropan-2-yl)-1H-indazole-3-carboxamide 110ZS - N-[(2S)-1-amino-3,3-dimethyl-1-oxobutan-2-yl]-1-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1H-indazole-3-carboxamide 110ZT - 1-(2H-1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl)-2-(ethylamino)pentan-1-one [Notification No- S.O. 1275(E)]

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Ministry of Finance declares various substances, salts and preparations to be manufactured drugs

Mar 24, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Ministry of Finance on March 23, 2021 has issued a notification declaring the substances, salts and preparations to be considered as manufactured drugs under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 which are as follows: - Crotonylfentanyl:

(2E)-N-phenyl-N-[1-(2-phenylethyl)piperidin-4-yl]but-2-enamide Valeryl fentanyl:

N-phenyl-N-[1-(2-phenylethyl)piperidin-4-yl]pentanamide

Parafluorobutyrylfentanyl:N-(4-fluorophenyl)-N-[1-(2-phenylethyl) piperidin-4-yl] butanamide

Ortho-Fluorofentanyl:N-(2-fluorophenyl)-N-[1-(2-phenylethyl) piperidin-4-yl] propanamide Methoxyacetyl fentanyl:2-methoxy-N-phenyl-N-[1-(2-phenylethyl) piperidin-4-yl] acetamide

Cyclopropylfentanyl:N-Phenyl-N-[1-(2-phenylethyl) piperidin-4-yl] cyclopropane carboxamide [Notification No- S.O. 1274(E)]

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The Motor Spirit and High-Speed Diesel (Regulation of Supply, Distribution and Prevention of Malpractices) (Amendment) Order, 2021

Mar 24, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG) on March 22, 2021 has issued the Motor Spirit and High-Speed Diesel (Regulation of Supply, Distribution and Prevention of Malpractices) (Amendment) Order, 2021 to further amend the Motor Spirit and High-Speed Diesel (Regulation of Supply, Distribution and Prevention of Malpractices) Order, 2005. The amendment is made in Para 6 of the Motor Spirit and High-Speed Diesel (Regulation of Supply, Distribution and Prevention of Malpractices) Order, 2005 which specifies Supply of motor spirit and high-speed diesel blended with ethanol and biodiesel, the Clause 6B in Para 6 has been inserted, namely: - "Limited purpose of direct sale of bioethanol (E100) for use as standalone fuel or blending with motor spirit, for compatible automobiles- The Central Government permits the direct sale of bioethanol (E100) by an oil company for use as standalone fuel or blending with motor spirit, for compatible automobiles to all consumers, in accordance with the standards specified by the Bureau of Indian Standards". [Order No- G.S.R. 203(E)]

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The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Amendment) Rules, 2021

Mar 24, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Ministry of Finance on March 23, 2021 has issued the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Amendment) Rules, 2021 to further amend the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Rules, 1985. The amendments are made in Schedule I(II) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Rules, 1985 which specifies psychotropic Substances, the Serial number 34 which states "Salts and preparation of above" has been substituted. This shall come into force on the date of publication that is March 23, 2021. [Notification No- G.S.R. 204(E)]

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DoT amends procurement of telecommunication equipment in ISP licenses

Mar 23, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Department of Telecommunication (DoT) on March 12, 2021 issued an amendment relating to procurement of telecommunication equipment in Internet Service Provider (ISP) licenses granted as per 2002 guidelines. Following are the highlights which amends sub-clause 1.10.12 in security consideration (Condition 1, Part II, Schedule "C") in the ISP License Agreement: ■ Government will have a right to impose conditions for procurement of telecommunications equipment on the grounds of defense of India for national security. ■ The designated authority shall be the National Cyber Security Co-Ordinator. ■ Designated Authority to notify the categories of equipment for which security requirement related to trusted sources are applicable and a list of designated sources from whom no procurement can be done. ■ The licensee from June 15, 2021 to connect only the trusted products in its network and seek permission from the designated authority for upgradation of existing network. ■ The licensee to comply with the guidance for enhanced supervision and effective control of telecommunication network. [Notification No. 820-01/2006-LR(Vol-II)(Pt-3)]

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DoT amends procurement of telecommunication equipment in ISP licenses granted

Mar 23, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Department of Telecommunication (DoT) on March 12, 2021 has amended a particular clause relating to procurement of telecommunication equipment in internet service provider (ISP) licenses granted as per the guidelines dated August 24, 2007. Following are the highlights which amends sub-clause 34.29 in security conditions (condition 34, Part VI) in the SP license agreement; ■ Government will have a right to impose conditions for procurement of telecommunications equipment on the grounds of defense of India for national security. ■ The designated authority shall be the National Cyber Security Co-Ordinator. ■ Designated Authority to notify the categories of equipment for which security requirement related to trusted sources are applicable and a list of designated sources from whom no procurement can be done. ■ The licensee from June 15, 2021 to connect only the trusted products in its network and seek permission from the designated

authority for upgradation of existing network. ■ The licensee to comply with the guidance for enhanced supervision and effective control of telecommunication network. [Notification No. 820-01/2006-LR(Vol-II)(Pt-3)]

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Meghalaya Government issues SOP for grant of prospecting license or mining lease coal

Mar 23, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Government of Meghalaya on March 05, 2021 has issued the standard operating procedure (SOP) for the grant of prospecting license or mining lease coal in the State. That landowner shall submit an application to Central Government in quadruplicate, in Form-A of this SOP through the State Government, for obtaining the previous approval of Central Government for grant of Prospecting License/Mining Lease. The following guidelines have been given in the SOP:

- The application shall be made in Form A enclosed to this SOP.
- The cover letter shall contain the following:
 1. A declaration to the effect that the application is being made on behalf of a Tribal who owns land in the Sixth Schedule Areas of the State of Meghalaya.
 2. A declaration to the effect specifying status of the Applicant as to whether the applicant is exempt from payment of income tax as per Section 10(26) of the Income Tax Act, 1966.
 3. A declaration to the effect that the application is being made under the provisions of Chapter IIIA and/or Chapter V of the Mineral Concession Rules, 1960.
 4. A declaration to the effect that the application in 'Form A' along with the respective enclosures have been duly authenticated by the respective Departments of the Government of Meghalaya or a Nodal Officer which may be appointed by the State Government for that purpose.
 5. A declaration to the effect that that the English translated version of documents submitted in support of the application (if any) are true and correct translations of the respective originals.
- An application for prospecting license shall be for an area not less than 100 Hectares.
- The application, along with all enclosures shall be forwarded by the Mining and Geology Department, Government of Meghalaya to the Ministry of Coal Government of India, New Delhi for obtaining previous approval of the Central Government for granting prospecting license.
- The Mining and Geology Department, Government of Meghalaya shall reserve the right to reject any application made for grant of prospecting license in the event the same is found to be incomplete or unsuitable for recommendation to the Central Government.
- After grant of previous approval from the Ministry of Coal, the State Government shall convey approval to the land owner for granting prospecting license in favour of applicant/lessee.
- The prospecting data of any prospecting operations carried out by the Directorate of Mineral Resources, Government of Meghalaya may be provided to such applicants who are interested in making applications for prior-approval of mining lease, on the basis of such prospecting data subject to payment of fee as may be prescribed from time to time. [Notification No. MG 60/2014/Pt./398]

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SEBI issues a circular for Guidelines for BCP and DR of MII's

Mar 23, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on March 22, 2021 has issued a circular on the Guidelines for business continuity plan (BCP) and Disaster Recover (DR) of market infrastructure institutions (MII). With advancement in technology and improved automation of processes, it was felt that the extant framework needs to be re-examined with a view to reducing the time period specified for moving from Primary Data Centre (PDC) to DRS. Upon examination and based on consultation with MIIs and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of SEBI, the modified framework for BCP and DR shall be as under: • Stock Exchanges, Clearing Corporations and Depositories (collectively referred as Market Infrastructure Institutions – MIIs) shall have in place BCP and DRS so as to maintain data and transaction integrity. • Apart from DRS, all MIIs including Depositories shall also have a Near Site (NS) to ensure zero data loss. • The DRS should preferably be set up in different seismic zones and in case due to certain reasons such as operational constraints, change of seismic zones, etc., minimum distance of 500 kilometer shall be ensured between PDC and DRS so that both DRS and PDC are not affected by the same disaster. • The manpower deployed at DRS/NS shall have the same expertise as available at PDC in terms of knowledge/ awareness of various technological and procedural systems and processes relating to all operations such that DRS/NS can function at short notice, independently. MIIs shall have sufficient number of trained staff at their DRS so as to have the capability of running live operations from DRS without involving staff of the PDC. • Hardware, system software, application environment, network and security devices and associated application environments of DRS / NS and PDC shall have one to one correspondence between them. • MIIs to also ensure that the Recovery Point Objective (RPO) - the maximum tolerable period for which data might be lost due to a major incident- shall be 15 minutes. • Solution architecture of PDC and DRS / NS should ensure high availability, fault tolerance, no single point of failure, zero data loss, and data and transaction integrity. [Circular No. SEBI/HO/MRD1/DTCS/CIR/P/2021/33]

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IRDAI has issued circular for dispensing physical signatures on proposal forms

Mar 23, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) on March 23, 2021 has issued a circular for the dispensing with the physical signatures on proposal forms. Life Insurers are allowed to obtain the customer's consent through electronic means, i.e., without requiring wet signature on the proposal form, for the business solicited by Individual Agents and Insurance Intermediaries, under all products, till September 30 2021. [Circular No. IRDAI/Life/Cir/Misc/055/03/2021]

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IRDAI issues circular for the issuance of the electronic policies

Mar 23, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) on March 22, 2021 has issued a circular for the issuance of electronic policies. Taking into account the feedback received from the Life Insurers expressing difficulties in printing, handling and dispatch of policy documents and further looking at the desirability of adopting total digital means of doing business in the interests of policyholders and other

stakeholders exemption is allowed for 6 more months by the competent authority. Life Insurer confirming the date of receipt of electronic policy document by the policyholder through PIVC or other means and preserving the proof so that Free Look period may be calculated from that date. Thirty (30) days Free Look period may be allowed for all such electronic policy documents. Return of electronic policy document by mail by policyholder with clear intention of cancellation of policy shall be valid for Free Look Cancellation.) Express consent of the policyholder to receive electronic policy bond is required. If a policyholder insists on hard copy, the same has to be issued without any charges. Policy document shall be sent to the email id submitted by the proposer. The exemption shall be valid for all policies issued up to 30th September 2021. [Circular No. IRDAI/Life/Cir/Misc/056/03/2021]

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The Electronics and Information Technology Goods (Requirement of Compulsory Registration) Order, 2021

Mar 23, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MEITY) on March 18, 2021 has published the Electronics and Information Technology Goods (Requirement of Compulsory Registration) Order, 2021 under the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 2016. The goods and article specified in the schedule are not meant for export which conform to the specification required by the foreign buyer. The registration under Electronics and Information Technology Goods (Requirement of Compulsory Registration) Order, 2012 will be renewed under the provision of Electronics and Information Technology Goods (Requirement of Compulsory Registration) Order, 2021. The following goods or article specified in the schedule are as follows: -

1. Electronic Games (Video)- IS 616:2017
2. Laptops/Notebooks/Tablets- IS 13252: Part 1: 2010
3. Plasma/LCD/LED Televisions of screen size 32 inches & above- IS 616:2017.
4. Optical Disc Players with built in amplifiers of input power 200W and above- IS 616:2017.
5. Microwave Ovens - IS 302: Part 2: Sec 25: 2014
6. Visual Display Units, Video Monitors of screen size 32 inch & above- IS 13252: Part 1: 2010
7. Printers/ Multi-Function Devices (MFD)/ Plotters - IS 13252: Part 1: 2010
8. Scanners- IS 13252: Part 1: 2010
9. Wireless Keyboards - IS 13252: Part 1: 2010
10. Telephone Answering Machines - IS 13252: Part 1: 2010
11. Amplifiers with input power 2000W and above- IS 616:2017
12. Electronic Musical Systems 200 Watt & above IS 616:2017
13. Electronic Clocks with Mains Power IS 302 : Part 2 : Sec 26 : 2014
14. Set Top Boxes IS 13252 : Part 1 : 2010
15. Automatic Data Processing Machines IS 13252 : Part 1 : 2010
16. Power Adaptors for IT Equipment IS 13252 : Part 1 : 2010
17. Power Adaptors for Audio, Video & Similar Electronic Apparatus IS 616:2017
18. UPS/Inverters of rating $\leq 5\text{kVA}$ IS 16242 : Part 1 : 2014
19. DC or AC Supplied Electronic Control gears for LED Modules IS 15885 : Part 2 : Sec 13 : 2012
20. Sealed Secondary Cells/Batteries containing Alkaline or other nonacid Electrolytes for use in portable applications
21. Self-Ballasted LED Lamps for General Lighting Services IS 16102 : Part 1 : 2012
22. Fixed General Purpose LED Luminaries IS 10322 : Part 5 : Sec 1 : 2012
23. Mobile Phones IS 13252 : Part 1 : 2010
24. Cash Registers IS 13252 : Part 1 : 2010
25. Point of Sale Terminals IS 13252 : Part 1 : 2010
26. Copying Machines/Duplicators IS 13252 : Part 1 : 201
27. Smart Card Readers IS 13252 : Part 1 : 2010
28. Mail Processing Machines/Postage Machines/ Franking Machines IS 13252 : Part 1 : 2010
29. Passport Readers IS 13252 : Part 1 : 2010
30. Power Bank for use in portable applications IS 13252 : Part 1 : 2010
31. Indian Language Support for Mobile Phones IS 16333 : Part 3 : 2017
32. Recessed LED Luminaries IS 10322 : Part 5 : Sec 2 : 2012
33. LED Luminaries for Road and Street Lightings IS 10322 : Part 5 : Sec 3 : 2012
34. LED Flood Lights IS 10322 : Part 5 : Sec 5 : 2013
35. LED Lighting Chains IS 10322 : Part 5 : Sec 7 : 2017
- 36.

UPS/Inverters of rating $\leq 10\text{kVA}$ IS 16242 : Part 1 : 2014 37. Plasma/LCD/LED Televisions of screen size upto 32 inches IS 616 : 2017 38. Visual Display Units, Video Monitors of screen size upto 32 inch IS 13252 : Part 1 : 2010 39. CCTV Cameras/CCTV Recorders IS 13252 : Part 1 : 2010 40. Adapters for household and similar electrical appliances IS 302 : Part 1 : 2008 41. USB driven Barcode readers, barcode scanners, Iris scanners, Optical fingerprint scanner IS 13252 : Part 1 : 2010 42. Smart Watches IS 13252 : Part 1 : 2010 43. Standalone LED Modules for General Lighting IS 16103 : Part 1 : 2012 44. Lighting Chains (Rope Lights) IS 10322 : Part 5 : Sec 9 : 2017 45. Keyboards IS 13252 : Part 1 : 2010 46. Induction Stoves IS 302 : Part 2 : Sec 6 : 2009 47. Automatic Teller Cash dispensing machines IS 13252 : Part 1 : 2010 48. USB Type External Hard Disk Drives IS 13252 : Part 1 : 2010 49. Wireless Headphones and Earphones IS 616 : 2017 50. USB Type External Solid-State Storage Devices (above 256 GB capacity) IS 13252 : Part 1 : 2010 51. Electronic Musical Systems with input power below 200 Watts IS 616 : 2017 52. Standalone Switch Mode Power Supplies (SMPS) with output voltage 48 V (max) IS 13252 : Part 1 : 2010 53. Televisions other than Plasma/LCD/LED TVs IS 616 : 2017 54. Rice Cookers IS 302 : Part 2 : Sec 15 : 2009 55. Wireless microphones IS 616 : 2017 56. Digital Cameras IS 13252 : Part 1 : 2010 57. Video cameras IS 616 : 2017 58. Webcams (Finished Product) IS 616 : 2017 59. Smart Speakers (with and without Display) IS 13252 : Part 1 : 2010 60. Dimmers for LED products IS 60669 : Part 2 : Sec 1 : 2008 61. Bluetooth speakers IS 616 : 2017 The Order shall be applicable after expiry of six months from March 18, 2021. [Order No- S.O. 1248(E)]

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DoT amends the NLD License for procurement of telecommunication equipment

Mar 23, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) on March 15, 2021 amends the NLD License for procurement of telecommunications equipment. Further, following are the key highlights of the amendment made by the Licensor in sub clause number 23.7A(x) in the security conditions; ■ Government will have a right to impose conditions for procurement of telecommunications equipment on the grounds of defense of India for national security. ■ The designated authority shall be the National Cyber Security Co-Ordinator. ■ Designated Authority to notify the categories of equipment for which security requirement related to trusted sources are applicable and a list of designated sources from whom no procurement can be done. ■ The licensee from June 15, 2021 to connect only the trusted products in its network and seek permission from the designated authority for upgradation of existing network. ■ The licensee to comply with the guidance for enhanced supervision and effective control of telecommunication network. [Notification No. 10-54/2010-CS-III(Vol-II)71]

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Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Second Amendment Regulations, 2021

Mar 22, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Food safety and standards authority of India (FSSAI) on March 18, 2021 has issued the Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Second Amendment Regulations, 2021 to further amend the Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011.

The following amendments have been made: • Regulation 2.2.4 (12), which specifies the standards of the shea butter, has been inserted, namely: “Shea butter means the product obtained by pressing and extraction from shea kernels derived from Shea tree (*Butyrospermum parkii*). It shall be refined to make it fit for human consumption. The refined shea butter may be used as such or fractionated using dry fractionation or solvent fractionation technique to obtain stearin/olein fractions to be suitably used for different food applications. Shea butter shall be free from admixture with other oils and fats and free from adulterants, any foreign matter or added colouring substance. It shall be clear on melting.” • Regulation 2.2.4 (13), which specifies the standards for borneo tallow/ illipe butter, has been inserted, namely: “Borneo tallow/ Illipe butter means the fat obtained by pressing and extraction from Illipe seeds (*Shorea stenoptera*). Illipe butter shall be free from admixture with other oils and fats and free from adulterants, rancidity, suspended or any foreign matter, separated water, added colouring or flavouring substance, or mineral oil. It shall be clear on melting.” [Notification No. Stds/O&F/Notification (5)/FSSAI-2017]

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Drafts Drugs and Cosmetics (Amendment) Rules, 2021

Mar 22, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga, and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, and Homeopathy has issued the Drafts Drugs and Cosmetics (Amendment) Rules, 2021 to further amend the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945. The following amendments have been made: • Rule 153, which specifies the application for license to manufacture ayurvedic, siddha or unani drugs, has been substituted, namely: “An application for the grant of a licence to manufacture for sale of Ayurvedic, Siddha or Unani drugs falling under clause (a) of section 3 of the Act shall be made in Form 24D to the licensing authority along with a fee of rupees five thousand. An application for the grant of a licence to manufacture for sale of Ayurvedic, Siddha or Unani drugs falling under clause (h) of section 3 of the Act shall be made in Form 24D to the licensing authority along with a fee of rupees five thousand per product. The application shall be made through portal e-AUSHADHI (as per the format provided in the said portal, pertaining to the license for manufacture for sale of Ayurvedic, Siddha or Unani drugs. Provided that this rule shall not be applicable to licence obtained under Form 25D prior to the date of commencement of this Amendment Rules, 2021. Such licence holders having a valid Good Manufacturing Practices Certificate have to deposit a license retention fee of rupees five thousand for perpetuity of existing licence.” • Rule 153A, which specifies the application for loan of license to manufacture ayurvedic, siddha or unani drugs, has been substituted, namely: “An application for the grant of a loan licence to manufacture for sale of Ayurvedic, Siddha or Unani drugs falling under clause (a) of section 3 of the Act shall be made in Form 24E to the licensing authority along with a fee of rupees five thousand. An application for the grant of a loan licence to manufacture for sale of Ayurvedic, Siddha or Unani drugs falling under clause (h) of section 3 of the Act shall be made in Form 24E to the licensing authority along with a fee of rupees five thousand per product. The application shall be made through portal e-AUSHADHI (as per the format provided in the said portal, pertaining to the license for manufacture for sale of Ayurvedic, Siddha or Unani drugs. Provided that this rule shall not be applicable to licence obtained under Form 25E prior to the date of commencement of this Amendment Rules, 2021. Such licence holders having a valid Good Manufacturing Practices Certificate of the manufacturing facilities he intends to avail have to deposit a license retention fee of rupees five thousand for perpetuity of existing licence.” • Rule 153B, which specifies the application for certificate of goods for manufacturing practices for ayurvedic, siddha or unani drugs manufacturing units, has been inserted, namely: “An application for the grant of a Certificate of Good

Manufacturing Practices for Ayurvedic, Siddha or Unani drugs manufacturing unit shall be made in Form 24E-1 to the licensing authority along with a fee of rupees five thousand and inspection fee of rupees one thousand. Every application in Form 24E-1 shall be made for a unit having premises and other requirements as prescribed under Schedule T. The application shall be made through portal e-AUSHADHI (www.e-aushadhi.gov.in) as per the format provided in the said portal, pertaining to the Good Manufacturing Practices for Ayurvedic, Siddha or Unani drugs manufacturing units.” • Rule 154, which specifies the form of license to the manufacture ayurvedic, siddha or unani drugs, has been substituted, namely: “Subject to the conditions of rule 157 being fulfilled, a licence to manufacture for sale of any Ayurvedic, Siddha or Unani drugs shall be issued in Form 25-D. The licence shall be issued within a period of two months from the date of receipt of the application or from the date of fulfilment by the applicant of any shortcomings highlighted by the licensing authority as the case maybe. A licence under this rule shall be granted by the licensing authority after consulting such expert in Ayurvedic, Siddha or Unani Systems of medicine as the case may be, which the State Government may approve in this behalf. The application shall be processed through portal e-AUSHADHI (www.e-aushadhi.gov.in) and license in Form 25D issued online as per the format provided in the said portal.” • Rule 156A, which specifies the duration of license, has been substituted, namely: “A loan licence issued in Form 25E shall remain valid perpetually. Provided that the licensee, submits a self-declaration of adherence to the conditions of license and the provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act and the Rules, every three years from the date of issue of license in form 25 E or from the date of submission of last self-declaration as the case may be. Further, provided that such self-declaration should be made within one month of completion of three years from the date of issue of license in form 25 E or from the date of submission of last self-declaration as the case may, and in the event of non-submission of such self-declaration license shall be deemed to have been cancelled.” • Rule 156A, which specifies the duration of certificate of good manufacturing practices for ayurvedic, siddha or unani drugs manufacturing units, has been inserted, namely: “A certificate issued in form 26E-1 shall remain valid if the licensee deposits a certificate retention fee referred to in sub-rule (2) before the expiry of a period of every succeeding five years from the date of its issue, unless, it is cancelled by the licensing authority. The certificate retention fee referred to in sub-rule(1) shall be rupees two thousand. If the licensee fail to pay certificate retention fee on or before the due date as referred to in sub-rule (1), he shall be liable to pay certificate retention fee along with a late fee calculated at the rate of two per cent of the certificate retention fee for every month or part thereof up to six months, and in the event of non-payment of such fee, the certificate shall be deemed to have been cancelled. • Rule 156AB, which specifies the inspection for grant of license and verification of compliance, has been inserted, namely: “Before a certificate in Form 26E-1 is granted, the licensing authority shall cause the establishment in which the manufacture of drugs is proposed to be conducted or being conducted to be inspected by one or more inspectors appointed by the State Government under this Act, with or without an expert in the field concerned. The inspector or inspectors shall examine the establishment intended to be used or being used for the manufacture of drugs. The establishment licensed under sub-rule (1) shall be inspected by the drug inspectors appointed by the State Government under this Act to verify the self declaration of adherence to the conditions of license and the provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act and the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules not less than once in three years or as needed as per risk based approach. Provided the drug inspectors are allotted the inspection duty in a randomized manner ensuring same drug inspector is not assigned inspection of a particular establishment consecutively for two terms of not less than three years duration.” • Rule 156AC, which specifies the report by inspector, has been inserted, namely: “The Inspector or Inspectors shall examine all areas of the premises, plant and appliances and also inspect the process of manufacture intended to be employed or being employed along with the means to be employed or being employed for standardizing and testing the drugs to be manufactured or being manufactured and enquire into the professional qualifications of the technical staff to be employed. He shall also examine and verify the statements made in the application in regard to their correctness, and the

capability of the applicant to comply with the requirements of competent technical staff, manufacturing plants, testing equipments and the Requirements of Good Manufacturing Practices and the Requirements of Plant and Equipments as laid down in Schedule T. The Inspector shall forward a detailed descriptive report giving his findings on each aspect of inspection along with his recommendations after completion of his inspection in accordance with the sub- rule (1), to the Licensing Authority. • Rule 156AD, which specifies the procedure of licensing authority, has been inserted, namely: “If the Licensing Authority is not satisfied, he shall issue a memorandum of shortcoming, and the conditions which must be satisfied before a licence can be granted and shall supply the applicant with a copy of the inspection report. Such memorandum of shortcomings as under sub-rule (2) is to be replied back by the applicant within two months of issue of such memorandum. On non submission of requirements in sub-rule (2), the Licensing Authority shall reject the application and shall inform the applicant, the reasons for such rejection. • Rule 156AE, which specifies the further application after rejection, has been inserted, namely: “If within a period of six months from the rejection of an application for a licence or Certificate of Good Manufacturing Practices as the case may be, the applicant informs the Licensing Authority that the conditions laid down have been satisfied and deposits an inspection fee of rupees one thousand the Licensing Authority may after causing a further inspection to be made, he is satisfied that the conditions for the grant of a licence or certificate have been complied with, issue a licence or certificate under this Part.” • Rule 160K, which specifies the information to be uploaded by the license on online portal, has been inserted, namely: “The applicant or licensee under this part shall register with portal, e-AUSHADHI (www.e-aushadhi.gov.in) and upload information, as per the format provided in the said portal, pertaining to license application, renewal, tests carried out and other such information as required and shall be updated from time to time. The information uploaded by the licensee in the portal under sub-rule (1) shall be verified by the concerned licensing authority.” All persons likely to be affected thereby; and notice is hereby given that the objections or suggestions of the stakeholders on the said draft rules will be taken into consideration after the expiry of a period of thirty days from the date on which copies of the Official Gazette in which this notification is published, are made available to the public; Any objection or suggestion, which may be received from any person with respect to the said draft rules within the period specified above, will be taken into consideration by the Central Government; Objections or suggestions, if any, may be addressed to the Secretary, Ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH), AYUSH Bhawan, ‘B’ Block, GPO Complex, INA, New Delhi – 110023 or emailed at dcc-ayush@nic.in. [Notification No. G.S.R. 197 (E)]

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IRDAI issues a circular for the health insurance claims settlement

Mar 22, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Insurance and Regulatory Development Authority of India (IRDAI) on March 19, 2021 has issued a circular for the health insurance claims settlement. Where claims are processed through TPAs, the insurers are permitted to let their respective Third-Party Administrators operationalize the claim tracking mechanism. The policyholders shall be invariably notified in all the communications, the location to track the claim status. The insurer shall also furnish the grievance redressal procedures available with the Insurance Company and with the Insurance Ombudsman along with the detailed addresses of the respective offices. Claims shall be processed in a transparent, seamless and efficient manner within the prescribed timelines. Insurer shall also ensure that the policyholder is provided with granular details of the payments made, amounts disallowed and the reasons for the amount disallowed as specified in the within referred provisions of IRDAI (Third Party

Administrators - Health Services) Regulations, 2016. [Circular No. IRDAI/HLT/CIR/P/MISC/053/03/2021]

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FSSAI requests for EOI for printing and supply of certificate of food safety supervisor under FORSTAC programme

Mar 22, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has issued a notification for the request for expression of interest (EOI) for printing and supply of certificate of food safety supervisor under FORSTAC programme. The following are the pointers in the proposal: • Total number of certificates will be approximately 2 lakhs. The certificates shall be generated from the FOSTAC portal. • Certificates shall be downloaded from then FOSTAC portal. • The following is the eligibility criteria: 1. Must have done similar work in government agencies. 2. Have a registered office. 3. Mandatory registration number. 4. Having LOI/MOU agreement. The EOI document shall be filed with the supporting documents by April 19, 2021 by 1300 hours addressed to the Director of FSSAI, 4th Floor, Katla road, new delhi. The period for selection will be up to March 31, 2022.

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IRDAI modifies the guideline on Standard Individual Health Insurance Product

Mar 19, 2021 | Central | Industry Specific

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) on March 18, 2021 has modified the guidelines on Standard Individual Health Insurance Product under Ref No. IRDAI/HLT/REG/CIR/172/07/2020, dated July 7, 2020 which specify norms on minimum and maximum sum insured limits. The insurers should mandatorily offer the sum insured between Rs. 50, 000/- to Rs. 10, 00, 000/- under the standard product "Arogya Sanjeevani Policy" from May 1, 2021. The premium rates for revised sum assured slab should be field in terms of Clause C (10) of "Guidelines on Filing of Minor Modifications in the approved Individual Insurance Products offered by General and Stand-Alone Health Insurers on Certification Basis." After filing the certificate, the insurer can launch the modified version of "Arogya Sanjeevani Policy". [Circular No. IRDAI/HLT/REG/CIR/051/03/2021]

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Secretarial

SEBI has issued a circular for the prior approval of change in control

Mar 30, 2021 | Central | Secretarial



The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on March 25, 2021 has issued a circular for the prior approval of change in control. Transfer of shareholdings among immediate relatives and transmission of shareholding and their effect on change in control.

- Transfer /transmission of shareholding in case of unlisted body corporate intermediary:
 1. Transfer of shareholding among immediate relatives shall not result into change in control. Immediate relative shall be construed as defined under Regulation 2(l) of SEBI SAST Regulations which inter-alia includes any spouse of that person, or any parent, brother, sister or child of the person or of the spouse.
 2. Transfer of shareholding by way of transmission to immediate relative or not, shall not result into change in control.
- Transfer /transmission of shareholding in case of a proprietary firm type intermediary:
 1. In case of an intermediary being a proprietary concern, the transfer or bequeathing of the business/capital by way of transmission to another person is a change in the legal formation or ownership and hence by the definition of change in control, such transmission or transfer shall be considered as change in control.
 2. The legal heir / transferee in such cases is required to obtain prior approval and thereafter fresh registration shall be obtained in the name legal heir/transferee.
- Transfer /transmission of ownership interest in case of partnership firm type intermediary:
 1. In case a SEBI registered entity is registered as a partnership firm with more than two partners, then inter-se transfer amongst the partners shall not be construed to be change in control. Where the partnership firm consists of two partners only, the same would stand as dissolved upon the death of one of the partners.
 2. However, if a new partner is inducted in the firm, then the same would be considered as a change in control, requiring fresh registration and prior approval of SEBI.
- Transmission of ownership interest in case of partnership firm:
 1. Where the partnership deed contains a clause that in case of death of a partner, the legal heir(s) of deceased partner be admitted, then the legal heir(s) may become the partner (s) of the partnership firm. In such scenario the partnership firm is reconstituted.
 2. Bequeathing of partnership right to legal heir(s) by way of transmission shall not be considered as change in control. [Circular No. SEBI/HO/MIRSD/DOR/CIR/P/2021/42]

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SEBI has issued a circular for the transfer of business by SEBI registered intermediaries to other legal entity

Mar 30, 2021 | Central | Secretarial

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on March 26, 2021 has issued a circular for the transfer of business by SEBI registered intermediaries to other legal entity. The following clarifications have been given in this regard: • The transferee shall obtain fresh registration from SEBI in the same capacity before the transfer of business if it is not registered with SEBI in the same capacity. • SEBI shall issue new registration number to transferee different from transferor's registration number in the following scenario: 1. Business is transferred through regulatory process (pursuant to merger / amalgamation / corporate restructuring by way of order of primary regulator /govt / NCLT, etc) or non-regulatory process (as per private agreement /MOU pursuant to commercial dealing / private arrangement) irrespective of transferor continues to exist or ceases to exist after the said transfer. • In case of change in control pursuant to both regulatory process and nonregulatory process, prior approval and fresh registration shall be obtained. While granting fresh registration to same legal entity pursuant to change in control, same registration number shall be retained. • If the transferor ceases to exist, its certificate of registration shall be surrendered. • In case of complete transfer of business by transferor, it shall surrender its certificate of registration. • In case of partial transfer of business by transferor, it can continue to hold certificate of registration. [Circular No. SEBI/HO/MIRSD/DOR/CIR/P/2021/46]

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MCA specifies that certain provisions of Companies (Amendment) Act, 2020 shall come into force from March 24, 2020

Mar 26, 2021 | Central | Secretarial

The Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) on March 24, 2021 has issued a notification specifying that the following provisions of the Companies (Amendment) Act, 2020 shall come into force from March 24, 2021. The following provisions have been considered: • Section 23, which specifies the public offer and private placement. • Section 45, which specifies the numbering of the shares. [Notification No. S.O. 1403 (E)]

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Companies (Accounts) Amendment Rules, 2021

Mar 25, 2021 | Central | Secretarial

The Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) on March 24, 2021 issued the Companies (Accounts) Amendment Rules, 2021 to further amend the Companies (Accounts) Rules, 2014. Following are amendments: ■ Under Rule 3(1) related to "Manner of books of account to be kept in electronic mode", following proviso shall be inserted, "Provided that for the financial year commencing on or after the 1st day of April, 2021, every company which uses accounting software for maintaining its books of account, shall use only such accounting software which has a feature of recording audit trail of each and every transaction, creating an edit log of each change made in books of account along with the date when such changes were made and ensuring that the audit trail cannot be disabled." ■ In Rule 8(5) which states "Matters to be included in Board's report", new clauses Rule 8(5)(xi) and Rule 8(5)(xii) has been inserted, namely: "(xi) the details of

application made or any proceeding pending under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 (31 of 2016) during the year alongwith their status as at the end of the financial year. (xii) the details of difference between amount of the valuation done at the time of one time settlement and the valuation done while taking loan from the Banks or Financial Institutions along with the reasons thereof.” [Notification No. G.S.R. 205(E)]

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MCA issued Companies (Audit and Auditors) Amendment Rules, 2021

Mar 25, 2021 | Central | Secretarial

The Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) on March 24, 2021 issued the Companies (Audit and Auditors) Amendment Rules, 2021 to further amend the Companies (Audit and Auditors) Rules, 2014. Following are the amendments made in Rule 11 which specifies the other matters to be included in auditors report: ■ Rule 11 (d) which specifies “whether the company had provided requisite disclosures in its financial statements as to holdings as well as dealings in Specified Bank Notes during the period from 8th November, 2016 to 30th December, 2016 and if so, whether these are in accordance with the books of accounts maintained by the company” shall be omitted. ■ Rule 11 (e) (i), (ii) and (iii) which specifies the following shall be inserted, ” (i) Whether the management has represented that, to the best of it’s knowledge and belief, other than as disclosed in the notes to the accounts, no funds have been advanced or loaned or invested (either from borrowed funds or share premium or any other sources or kind of funds) by the company to or in any other person(s) or entity(ies), including foreign entities (“Intermediaries”), with the understanding, whether recorded in writing or otherwise, that the Intermediary shall, whether, directly or indirectly lend or invest in other persons or entities identified in any manner whatsoever by or on behalf of the company (“Ultimate Beneficiaries”) or provide any guarantee, security or the like on behalf of the Ultimate Beneficiaries; (ii) Whether the management has represented, that, to the best of it’s knowledge and belief, other than as disclosed in the notes to the accounts, no funds have been received by the company from any person(s) or entity(ies), including foreign entities (“Funding Parties”), with the understanding, whether recorded in writing or otherwise, that the company shall, whether, directly or indirectly, lend or invest in other persons or entities identified in any manner whatsoever by or on behalf of the Funding Party (“Ultimate Beneficiaries”) or provide any guarantee, security or the like on behalf of the Ultimate Beneficiaries; (iii) Based on such audit procedures that the auditor has considered reasonable and appropriate in the circumstances, nothing has come to their notice that has caused them to believe that the representations under sub-clause (i) and (ii) contain any material mis-statement. ■ Rule 11 (f) which specifies the following shall be inserted, “Whether the dividend declared or paid during the year by the company is in compliance with section 123 of the Companies Act, 2013.” ■ Rule 11 (g) which specifies the following shall be inserted, “Whether the company has used such accounting software for maintaining its books of account which has a feature of recording audit trail (edit log) facility and the same has been operated throughout the year for all transactions recorded in the software and the audit trail feature has not been tampered with and the audit trail has been preserved by the company as per the statutory requirements for record retention.”. [Notification No. G.S.R. 206(E)]

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Securities Contracts (Regulation) (Stock Exchanges and Clearing Corporations) (Amendment) Regulations, 2021

Mar 25, 2021 | Central | Secretarial

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on March 23, 2021 has issued the Securities Contracts (Regulation) (Stock Exchanges and Clearing Corporations) (Amendment) Regulations, 2021 to further amend the Securities Contracts (Regulation) (Stock Exchanges and Clearing Corporations) Regulations, 2018. The following amendments have been made: • Regulation 11 (1), which specifies the payment of fee by the recognised stock exchanges, has been substituted, namely: "Every recognised stock exchange shall be charged, a regulatory fee payable to the Board, at such rates and within such time as is mentioned in sub-regulation (2) and sub-regulation (3)." • Regulation 11 (2), which specifies the payment to the board by the recognised stock exchange, has been inserted, namely: "A recognised stock exchange shall pay to the Board, based on its annual turnover, an amount specified under Part –A of Schedule -III of these regulations within thirty days of the conclusion of the relevant financial year. Provided that the recognized stock exchanges shall pay a flat regulatory fee of one lakh rupees on aggregate value of the transactions on agricultural commodity derivatives." • Regulation 52 (4), which specifies the commencement of regulations, has been inserted, namely: "On and from the commencement of the Securities Contracts (Regulation) (Stock Exchanges and Clearing Corporations) (Amendment) Regulations, 2021, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Regulatory Fee on Stock Exchanges) Regulations, 2006, shall stand repealed. On and from the date of repeal of Securities and Exchange Board of India (Regulatory Fee on Stock Exchanges) Regulations, 2006, anything done or any action taken or purported to have been taken or contemplated under the said regulations and circulars before the commencement of Securities Contracts (Regulation) (Stock Exchanges and Clearing Corporations) (Amendment) Regulations, 2021 shall be deemed to have been done or taken or commenced or contemplated under the corresponding provisions of these regulations." • Schedule III, which specifies the regulatory fee, has been inserted. [Notification No. SEBI/LAD-NRO/GN/2021/12]

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SEBI issues a circular for the review of delivery default norms

Mar 25, 2021 | Central | Secretarial

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on March 23, 2021 has issued a circular for the review of delivery default norms. In view of the above, the extant delivery default norms were examined in consultation with Clearing Corporations and the following has been decided: • In agricultural commodities, the penalty for delivery default by seller shall now be 4% of the settlement price plus replacement cost. • In non-agricultural commodities, the penalty for delivery default by seller shall remain at 3 % of settlement price plus replacement cost. • In agricultural as well as non-agricultural commodities, the provisions for levy of penalty on delivery default by buyer, as mentioned under para 4.2 of the circular, shall be put in place by the Clearing Corporations. The circular shall be effective from the first trading day of the month of May 2021. [Circular No. SEBI/HO/CDMRD/DRMP/CIR/P/2021/135]

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SEBI issues clarification on the valuation of bonds issued under Base III framework

Mar 23, 2021 | Central | Secretarial

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on March 22, 2021 has issued a circular for the clarification on the valuation of bonds issued under Base III framework. Further, if the issuer does not exercise call option for any ISIN then the valuation and calculation of Macaulay Duration shall be done considering maturity of 100 years from the date of issuance for AT-1 Bonds and Contractual Maturity for Tier 2 bonds, for all ISINs of the issuer. In addition to the above, if the non-exercise of call option is due to the financial stress of the issuer or if there is any adverse news, the same shall be reflected in the valuation. Further, AMFI is advised to issue detailed guidelines with respect to valuation of bonds issued under Basel III framework, which shall be implemented by April 01, 2021. [Circular No. SEBI/HO/IMD/DF4/CIR/P/2021/034]

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MCA establishes Central Scrutiny Centre for carrying out scrutiny of Straight Through Processes

Mar 22, 2021 | Central | Secretarial

The Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) on March 18, 2021 issued a notification to establish a Central Scrutiny Centre (CSC) to carry out scrutiny of Straight Through Processes (STP) e-forms filed by the companies. Following are the key functions: ■ The CSC shall function under the administrative control of the e-governance Cell of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs. ■ The CSC shall carry out scrutiny of the forms and forward findings to the concerned jurisdictional Registrar of Companies. ■ Location of the CSC is to be Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA), Plot No. 6, 7, 8, Sector 5, IMT Manesar, District Gurgaon (Haryana), Pin Code- 122050. Further the notification shall come into force from March 23, 2021. [Notification No. S.O. 1257(E)]

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MCA appoints a date of enforcement of section 32 and section 40 of the Companies (Amendment) Act, 2020

Mar 19, 2021 | Central | Secretarial

The Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MoCA) on March 19, 2021 issued a notification to appoint March 18, 2021 as the date on which the provisions of section 32 – Red herring prospectus and section 40 – Securities to be dealt with in stock exchanges, of the Companies (Amendment) Act, 2020 shall come into force.

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MCA issues notification to amend provisions of Companies Act, 2013

Mar 19, 2021 | Central | Secretarial

The Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) on March 18, 2021 issued a notification to amend Schedule V of the Companies Act, 2013. Following are the amendments in Schedule V, in Part II under the heading

remuneration: ■ Addition in Section I - Subject to the provisions of section 197, a company having profits in a financial year may pay remuneration to a managerial person or persons, or other director or directors not exceeding the limits specified in such section. ■ Addition in Section II - Where in any financial year during the currency of tenure of a managerial person, or other director a company has no profits or its profits are inadequate, it may, without Central Government approval, pay remuneration to the managerial person, or other director not exceeding the higher of the limits. ■ Table A has been substituted as namely, 1 2 3 Sl. No. Where the effective capital (in rupees) is Limit of yearly remuneration payable shall not exceed (in Rupees) in case of a managerial person Limit of yearly remuneration payable shall not exceed (in Rupees) in case of other director (i) Negative or less than 5 crores 60 lakhs 12 lakhs (ii) 5 crores and above but less than 100 crores 84 lakhs 17 Lakhs (iii) 100 crores and above but less than 250 crores 120 lakhs 24 Lakhs (iv) 250 crores and above 120 lakhs plus 0.01% of the effective capital in excess of Rs. 250 crores 24 Lakhs plus 0.01% of the effective capital in excess of Rs. 250 crores ■ Addition in Section III – After the words “managerial persons” the words “or other directors” shall be inserted except in clause (i) of the proviso. Further, following explanation shall be inserted at the end, “Explanation – For the purpose of section I, Section II and section III, the term “or other director” shall mean a non – executive director or an independent director”.

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Commercial

FSSAI issues a notification to re-operationalise certain provisions of the FSSAI (Licensing and registration of food business) Amendment Regulations, 2018

Mar 26, 2021 | Central | Commercial



The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) on March 19, 2021 has issued a notification for the direction under Section 16 (5) of FSSAI Act, 2006 regarding operationalisation of FSSAI amendment regulations, 2020. The competent authorities have decided to re-operationalise certain provisions of the FSSAI (Licensing and registration of food business) Amendment Regulations, 2018 from February 28, 2021. The following provisions have been taken into considerations: • Section 1- licensing and registration of E-commerce food business operator. • Section 2- documents to be enclosed for new application for license to state/ central licensing authority for restaurant. • Section 3- conditions of license for restaurant. • Section 4- Part II of schedule 4 relating to general requirements on hygienic and sanitary practices to be followed by all food business operators applying for license. • Section 5- Part 4 of schedule 4 relating to establishing a small slaughterhouse. • Section 6- Part V of schedule 4 relating to hygienic and manufacturing practices to be followed by licensed food business operators engaged in catering or food service operations.

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Ministry of Power issues guideline for enabling the discoms to either continue or exit from PPA after completion of the term of the PPA

Mar 25, 2021 | Central | Commercial

The Ministry of Power on March 22, 2021 issued guidelines for enabling the discoms to either continue or exit from the Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) after completion of the term of the Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) which is beyond 25 years or a period specified in the Power Purchase Agreement (PPA). Further it allows flexibility to the generators to sell power in any mode after state/discom exit from Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) which have been framed for the compliance for all the stakeholders. Following are the key highlights: ■ The first right to avail power from the central generating stations even beyond the term of PPA will continue to be with the states/Discoms with whom the PPA was signed. ■ The state/Discoms may relinquish their share from eligible CGSs after the expiry of the term of PPA only after submitting the approval of the state commission who would ensure the adequacy of power tied up with the Discoms to meet the demand of electricity for all the consumers under the Discoms. ■ The States/Discoms having long term PPAs with the Central Generating stations, which are due to expire soon can opt to relinquish the entire allocated

power post completion of the PPA tenure by giving six months advance notice for their intention to relinquish the power. ■ The relinquishment of the power will be considered only after the state/discoms have cleared all the past dues. ■ States may relinquish the entire unallocated power from the CGSs, however part relinquishment of share from unallocated pool of power is not feasible and shall not be allowed. ■ Any share for Central Generating stations (CGSs) once relinquished by the state will not be allowed to be taken back by the state under the same PPA conditions. ■ The Central Generating stations (CGSs) whose power gets relinquished by states would be free to sell such relinquished power. [Notification No. 23/23/2020-R&R[254623]]

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BIS notifies various Indian Standards of Textiles and many other under BIS Rules, 2018

Mar 25, 2021 | Central | Commercial

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) on March 19, 2021 has issued the date of establishment and date of withdrawal/cancellation of various Indian Standards under Bureau of Indian Standards Rules, 2018. The following Indian Standards have been established on March 19, 2021 and few will remain force till April 18, 2021: - • IS/ISO 105-E04 : 2013 Textiles ■ Tests for Colour Fastness Part E04 Colour Fastness to Perspiration (First Revision) • IS 516 (Part 1/Sec 1) : 2021 Hardened Concrete ■ Methods of Test Part 1 Testing of Strength of Hardened Concrete Section 1 Compressive, Flexural and Split Tensile Strength (First Revision) • IS 1151 : 2021 Refined Sugar ■ Specification (Third Revision) • IS 1162 : 2021 Cane Molasses ■ Specification (First Revision) • IS 1885 (Part 35) : 2021/IEC 60050-411 : 1996 Electrotechnical Vocabulary Part 35 Rotating Machinery (Second Revision) • IS 1885 (Part 54) : 2021/IEC 60050-471 : 2007 Electrotechnical Vocabulary Part 54 Insulators (Second Revision) • IS 1885 (Part 62) : 2021/IEC 60050-212 : 2010 Electrotechnical Vocabulary Part 62 Electrical Insulating Solids Liquids and Gases (Second Revision) • IS 1885 (Part 712) : 2021/IEC 60050-712 : 1992 Electrotechnical Vocabulary Part 712 Antennas • IS 4163 : 2021/ISO 4967 : 2013 Steel ■ Determination of Content of Nonmetallic Inclusions ■ Micrographic Method Using Standard Diagrams (Fourth Revision) • IS 4225 : 2021/ISO 17577 : 2016 Steel ■ Ultrasonic Testing of Steel Flat Products of Thickness Equal to or Greater than 6 mm (Third Revision) • IS 4651 (Part 3) : 2020 Planning and Design of Ports and Harbours ■ Code of Practice Part 3 Loading (Second Revision) • IS 5402 (Part 1) 2021/ISO 4833-1 : 2013 Microbiology of the Food Chain Horizontal Method for the Enumeration of Microorganisms Part 1 Colony Count at 30° C by the Pour Plate Technique (Third Revision) • IS 5402 (Part 2) 2021/ISO 4833-2 : 2013 Microbiology of the Food Chain ■ Horizontal Method for the Enumeration of Microorganisms Part 2 Colony Count at 30° C by the Surface Plating Technique • IS 7008 (Part 1) : 2021/ISO 2901 : 2016 ISO Metric Trapezoidal Screw Threads Part 1 Basic and Design Profile (Third Revision) • IS 7008 (Part 2) : 2021/ISO 2902 : 2016 ISO Metric Trapezoidal Screw Threads Part 2 General Plan (Second Revision) • IS 7008 (Part 4) : 2021/ISO 2903 : 2016 ISO Metric Trapezoidal Screw Threads Part 4 Tolerances (Third Revision) • IS 8536 : 2021/ISO 225 : 2010 Fasteners ■ Bolts, Screws, Studs and Nuts ■ Symbols and Descriptions of Dimensions (Second Revision) • IS/ISO 10781 : 2015 Health Informatics ■ HL 7 Electronic Health Records-System Functional Model, Release 2 (EHR FM) • IS 13072 : 2021/IEC 60376 : 2018 Specification of Technical Grade Sulphur Hexafluoride (SF6) and Complementary Gases to be Used in its Mixtures for Use in Electrical Equipment (Second Revision) • IS/ISO 14064-2 : 2019 Greenhouse Gases Part 2 Specification with Guidance at the Project Level for Quantification, Monitoring and Reporting of Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions or Removal Enhancements (First Revision) • IS/ISO 14090 : 2019 Adaptation to Climate Change ■ Principles, Requirements and Guidelines • IS/ISO 14971 : 2019 Medical

Devices ■ Application of Risk Management to Medical Devices (First Revision) • IS/ISO 15392 : 2019
 Sustainability in Building and Civil Engineering Works ■ General Principles (First Revision) • IS 15493 : 2021
 Gaseous Fire Extinguishing Systems ■ General Requirements (First Revision) • IS 15883 (Part 7) : 2021
 Construction Project Management ■ Guidelines Part 7 Procurement Management • IS 15883 (Part 10) :
 2021 Construction Project Management ■ Guidelines Part 10 Human Resources Management • IS 15941 :
 2021/ISO 11495 : 2019 Jewellery and Precious Metals ■ Determination of Palladium in Palladium Alloys ■
 ICP-OES Method Using and Internal Standard Element (First Revision) • IS 16048 (Part 1) : 2021/IEC
 61951-1 : 2017 Secondary Cells and Batteries Containing Alkaline or Other Non-acid Electrolytes ■
 Secondary Sealed Cells and Batteries for Portable Applications Part 1 Nickel-Cadmium (First Revision) • IS
 16048 (Part 2) : 2021/IEC 61951-2 : 2017 Secondary Cells and Batteries Containing Alkaline or Other
 Non-acid Electrolytes ■ Secondary Sealed Cells and Batteries for Portable Applications Part 2 Nickel-metal
 Hydride (First Revision) • IS 16143 (Part 1) : 2021/ISO 13909-1 : 2016 Hard Coal and Coke ■ Mechanical
 Sampling Part 1 General Introduction (First Revision) • IS 16143 (Part 2) : 2021/ISO 13909-2 : 2016 Hard
 Coal and Coke ■ Mechanical Sampling Part 2 Coal ■ Sampling from Moving Streams (First Revision) • IS
 16143 (Part 3) : 2021/ISO 13909-3 : 2016 Hard Coal and Coke ■ Mechanical Sampling Part 3 Coal ■
 Sampling from Stationary Lots (First Revision) • IS 16143 (Part 4) : 2021/ISO 13909-4 : 2016 Hard Coal and
 Coke ■ Mechanical Sampling Part 4 Coal ■ Preparation of Test Samples (First Revision) • IS 16143 (Part 5)
 : 2021/ISO 13909-5 : 2016 Hard Coal and Coke ■ Mechanical Sampling Part 5 Coke ■ Sampling from
 Moving Streams (First Revision) • IS 16506 (Part 2) : 2021/ISO 9211-2 : 2010 Optics and Photonics ■
 Optical Coatings Part 2 Optical Properties • IS/ISO/IEC TS 17021-8 : 2019 Conformity Assessment ■
 Requirements for Bodies Providing Audit and Certification of Management Systems Part 8 Competence
 Requirements for Auditing and Certification of Management Systems for Sustainable Development in
 Communities • IS/ISO/IEC TS 17021-11 : 2018 Conformity Assessment ■ Requirements for Bodies Providing
 Audit and Certification of Management Systems Part 11 Competence Requirements for Auditing and
 Certification of Facility Management (FM) Management Systems • IS/ISO/IEC TS 17021-12 : 2020
 Conformity Assessment ■ Requirements for Bodies Providing Audit and Certification of Management
 Systems Part 12 Competence Requirements for Auditing and Certification of Collaborative Business
 Relationship Management Systems • IS/ISO/IEC TR 17032 : 2019 Conformity Assessment ■ Guidelines and
 Examples of a Scheme for the Certification of Processes • IS 17128 (Part 3) : 2021 Automotive Vehicles ■
 Vehicle Dynamics Measurements Test Procedures Part 3 Transient Response Test Procedure ■ Open Loop
 and Closed Loop Test • IS 17340 : 2021/IEC 62542 : 2013 Environmental Standardization of Electrical and
 Electronic Products ■ Glossary of Terms • IS 17517 (Part 2) : 2021/ISO 3008-2 : 2017 Fire-resistance Tests
 Part 2 Lift Landing Door Assemblies • IS 17519 : 2021/IEC 62745 : 2017 Safety of Machinery ■
 Requirements for Cableless Control Systems of Machinery • IS 17520 : 2021/IEC TS 62998-1 : 2019 Safety
 of Machinery ■ Safety-related Sensors used for the Protection of Persons • IS 17521 : 2021/IEC TR 63074 :
 2019 Safety of Machinery ■ Security Aspects Related to Functional Safety of Safety Related Control
 Systems • IS 17531 : 2021 Portable Electric Indoor Air Purifier ■ Specification • IS 17536 (Part 5) : 2021/ISO
 18079-5 : 2018 Ships and Marine Technology ■ Servicing of Inflatable Life-saving Appliances Part 5 Inflated
 Rescue Boats • IS 17537 (Part 1) : 2021/ISO 15708-1: 2017 Non-Destructive Testing ■ Radiation Methods
 for Computed Tomography Part 1 Terminology • IS 17537 (Part 2) : 2021/ISO 15708-2: 2017
 Non-Destructive Testing ■ Radiation Methods for Computed Tomography Part 2 Principles, equipment and
 Samples • IS 17538 : 2021/ISO 1833-20 : 2018 Textiles ■ Quantitative Chemical Analysis Mixtures of
 Elastane with Certain Other Fibres (Method Using Dimethylacetamide) • IS 17539 : 2021 Silver Catalyst ■
 Specification • IS/ISO/TS 22002-3 : 2011 Prerequisite Programmes on Food safety Part 3 Farming • IS/IEC
 62341-1-2 : 2014 Organic Light Emitting Diode (OLED) Displays Part 1-2 Terminology and Letter Symbols •
 IS/IEC 62341-2-1 : 2015 Organic Light Emitting Diode (OLED) Displays Part 2-1 Essential Ratings and
 Characteristics of OLED Display Modules • IS/IEC 62341-5 : 2009 Organic Light Emitting Diode (OLED)

Displays Part 5 Environmental Testing Methods • IS/IEC 62341-6-2 : 2015 Organic Light Emitting Diode (OLED) Displays Part 6-2 Measuring Methods of Visual Quality and Ambient Performance [Notification No-HQ-PUB013/1/2020-PUB-BIS (146)]

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BIS issues guidelines for certification of Refrigerating Appliances

Mar 24, 2021 | Central | Commercial

The Bureau of Indian Standard (BIS) on March 18, 2021 has issued the guidelines for certification of Refrigerating Appliances under Refrigerating Appliances (Quality Control) Order, 2020 which are as follows: -

- The manufacturer will apply for the BIS Licence.
- BIS will prepare a scheme of inspection and Testing (SIT) that the manufacturer will follow to ensure regular quality control of the ISI marked product.
- The manufacturer can also submit his own levels of control which proposes to implement in a day-to-day production to ensure the final product conforms to the relevant Indian Standards. The following Goods or Articles are under compulsory BIS certification with the effect from January 1, 2021: -
- Household refrigerating appliance - Refrigerators with or without low temperature – IS 1476 (Part1): 2000
- Freezers – IS 7872: 2018 (Revised as IS 7872:2020)
- Household frost free refrigerating appliances – Refrigerators cooled by internal forced air circulation - IS 15750: 2006.

Therefore, to facilitate the industry for obtaining BIS certificate, step-by-step guide is available here. [Notification No: CMD III/ Refrigerating Appliances]

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TRAI requested Telecom Service Providers to temporarily suspend the scrubbing of SMS

Mar 24, 2021 | Central | Commercial

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has requested Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) to temporarily suspend the scrubbing of SMS to protect the interest of the consumers, as some of the principal entities have not fulfilled the requirements of Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference Regulations (TCCCPR), 2018. The scrubbing of SMS has been suspended for seven days to enable the principal entities to register the template of SMS to ensure no inconvenience is faced by the customers. The major reasons for not meeting the regulatory compliance are content template not registered, content Id missing, mismatch in template registered and message sent. Further, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) requests all entities who are using the telecom resources to send bulk messages to the consumers, to fulfill the regulatory requirements to avoid disruption in the communication to the customers. Further, in case any clarification is required Shri Asit Kadayana, Advisor (Quality of services) maybe contacted on 011-23230404 or email on advqos@tra.gov.in. [Notification No. 17/2021]

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BIS notifies various Indian Standards of Aluminium Conductors and many other under the BIS Rules, 2018

Mar 23, 2021 | Central | Commercial

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) on March 17, 2021 has issued the date of establishment and date of withdrawal or cancellation of certain Indian Standards under Bureau of Indian Standards Rules, 2018. The following Indian Standards have been established on March 17, 2021 and few will remain force till April 16, 2021: -

1. IS 398 (Part 6): 2021 Aluminum Conductors for Overhead Transmission Purposes Part 6 High Conductivity Aluminum Alloy Stranded Conductors ■ Specification.
2. IS 516 (Part 2/Sec 4): 2021 Hardened Concrete ■ Methods of Test Part 2 Properties of Hardened Concrete other than Strength Section 4 Determination of the Carbonation Resistance by Accelerated Carbonation Method (First Revision)
3. IS 516 (Part 5/Sec 2): 2021 Hardened Concrete ■ Methods of Test Part 5 Non-Destructive Testing Section 2 Half-Cell Potentials of Uncoated Reinforcing Steel in Concrete (First Revision)
4. IS 534: 2021 Benzene ■ Specification (Fifth Revision).
5. IS 548 (Part 3/Sec 3): 2021/ISO/TS 17383: 2014 Methods of Sampling and Test for Oils and Fats Part 3 Advanced Instrumental Methods Section 3 Determination of the Triacylglycerol Composition of Fats and Oils by Capillary gas Chromatography.
6. IS 548 (Part 3/Sec 4): 2021/ISO 8420: 2002 Methods of Sampling and Test for Oils and Fats Part 3 Advanced Instrumental Methods Section 4 Determination of Content of Polar Compounds.
7. IS 548 (Part 3/Sec 5): 2021/ISO/TS 23647: 2010 Methods of Sampling and Test for Oils and Fats Part 3 Advanced Instrumental Methods Section 5 Determination of wax Content by gas Chromatography.
8. IS 548 (Part 3/Sec 6): 2021/ISO 10540-1: 2003 Methods of Sampling and Test for Oils and Fats Part 3 Advanced Instrumental Methods Section 6 Determination of Phosphorus Content by Colorimetric Method.
9. IS 548 (Part 3/Sec 7): 2021/ISO 10540-2: 2003 Methods of Sampling and Test for Oils and Fats Part 3 Advanced Instrumental Methods Section 7 Determination of Phosphorus Content by Graphite furnace atomic absorption Spectrometric Method.
10. IS 548 (Part 3/Sec 8): 2021/ISO 10540-3: 2002 Methods of Sampling and Test for Oils and Fats Part 3 Advanced Instrumental Methods Section 8 Determination of Phosphorus content by method using inductively coupled plasma (ICP) optical emission spectroscopy.
11. IS 548 (Part 3/Sec 9): 2021/ISO 18363-1: 2015 Methods of Sampling and Test for Oils and Fats Part 3 Advanced Instrumental Methods Section 9 Determination of Fatty-acid-bound chloropropanediols (MCPDs) and glycidol by GC/MS ■ Method using fast alkaline transesterification and measurement for 3- MCPD and Differential Measurement for Glycidol.
12. IS 548 (Part 3/Sec 11): 2021/ISO 18363-3: 2017 Methods of Sampling and Test for Oils and Fats Part 3 Advanced Instrumental Methods Section 11 Determination of Fatty-acidbound chloropropanediols (MCPDs) and glycidol by GC/MS ■ Method using acid transesterification.
13. IS 550 (Part 3): 2021 Safes Part 3 Tests for Fire Resistance (Fifth Revision).
14. IS 824: 2021/IEC 60063: 2015 Preferred Number Series for Resistors and Capacitors (First Revision).
15. IS 1180 (Part 3): 2021 Outdoor/Indoor Type Liquid Immersed Distribution Transformers Up to and Including 2 500 kVA, 33 kV ■ Specification Part 3 Natural/Synthetic Organic Ester Liquid Immersed.
16. IS 3370 (Part 1) till (Part 4/Sec 3) : 2021 Concrete Structures for Retaining Aqueous Liquids ■ Code of Practice Part 1 General Requirements (Second Revision).
17. IS 3370 (Part 2): 2021 Concrete Structures for Retaining Aqueous Liquids ■ Code of Practice Part 2 Plain and Reinforced Concrete (Second Revision)
18. IS 3370 (Part 3) : 2021 Concrete Structures for Retaining Aqueous Liquids ■ Code of Practice Part 3 Prestressed Concrete (First Revision)
19. IS 3370 (Part 4/Sec 1) : 2021 Concrete Structures for Retaining Aqueous Liquids ■ Code of Practice Part 4 Design Tables Section 1 Plates (First Revision)
20. IS 3370 (Part 4/Sec 2) : 2021 Concrete Structures for Retaining Aqueous Liquids ■ Code of Practice Part 4 Design Tables Section 2 Rectangular Tanks (First Revision)
21. IS 3370 (Part 4/Sec 3) : 2021 Concrete Structures for Retaining Aqueous Liquids ■ Code of Practice Part 4 Design Tables Section 3 Circular Tanks (First Revision)

22. IS 4379 : 2021 Identification of the Contents of Industrial Gas Cylinders (Second Revision) 23. IS/ISO 6016 : 2008 Earth-Moving Machinery ■ Methods of Measuring the Masses of Whole Machines, their Equipment and Components 24. IS 9131 : 2021 Rim Locks and Latches (Mechanically Operated) ■ Specification (First Revision) 25. IS 11163 : 2021 Medical Textiles ■ First Aid Dressings ■ Specification (First Revision) 26. IS 11464 : 2021 Quartz for Ceramic Industry ■ Specification (Second Revision) 27. IS 11188 (Part 2) : 2021 Vault (Strong Room) Doors Part 2 Test for Burglary Resistance 28. IS/ISO 12482 : 2014 Cranes ■ Monitoring for Crane Design Working Period 29. IS 12970 (Part 2) : 2021/IEC 60748-2 : 1997 Semiconductor Devices ■ Integrated Circuits Part 2 Digital Integrated Circuits 30. IS 13247 (Part 1) : 2021/IEC 60939-1 : 2010 Passive Filter Units for Electromagnetic Interference Suppression Part 1 Generic Specification (First Revision) 31. IS/ISO 13293 : 2012 Recreational Diving Services ■ Requirements for Gas Blender Training Programmes 32. IS 14194 (Part 3) : 2021 Radionuclides in Environmental Samples ■ Method of Estimation Part 3 Uranium (First Revision) 33. IS 14344 : 2021 Design and Construction of Diaphragms for Under-Seepage Control ■ Code of Practice (First Revision) 34. IS 14387 : 2021 Vaults ■ Air Ventilators ■ Specification (Second Revision) 35. IS 14563 (Part 1) : 2021/ISO 14184-1 : 2011 Textiles ■ Determination of Formaldehyde Part 1 Free and Hydrolysed Formaldehyde (Water Extraction Method) (First Revision) 36. IS 14681 : 2021 Automotive Vehicles ■ Fuel Tanks for Two Wheelers, Three Wheelers and Quadricycles (First Revision) 37. IS 15908 : 2021 Selection, Installation and Maintenance of Control and Indicating Equipment for Fire Detection and Alarm System ■ Code of Practice (First Revision) 38. IS/ISO 16625 : 2013 Cranes and Hoists ■ Selection of Wire Ropes, Drums and Sheaves 39. IS 17459 : 2021/ISO 17932 : 2011 Palm Oil ■ Determination of the Deterioration of Bleach ability Index (DOBI) and Carotene Content 40. IS 17460 : 2021/ISO 18395 : 2005 Animal and Vegetable Fats and Oils ■ Determination of Monoacylglycerols and Glycerol by High-Performance SizeExclusion Chromatography (HPSEC) 41. IS 17461 : 2021/ISO 29822 : 2009 Vegetable Fats and Oils ■ Isomeric Diacylglycerols ■ Determination of Relative Amounts of 1, 2 and 1,3-Diacylglycerols 42. IS 17485 (Part 2) : 2021/ISO 2975-2 : 1975 Measurement of Water Flow in Closed Conduits ■ Tracer Methods Part 2 Constant Rate Injection Method Using Non-Radioactive Tracers 43. IS 17505 (Part 1) : 2021 Specification for Thermosetting Insulated Fire Survival Cables for Fixed Installation having low Emission of Smoke and Corrosive Gases when Affected by Fire for Working Voltage upto and Including 1100 V A.c and 1500 V D.C Part 1 Requirements for Armoured Cables 44. IS 17517 : 2021 Pyriproxyfen + Fenpropathrin Emulsifiable Concentrate (EC) ■ Specification 45. IS 17528 : 2021 Medical Textiles ■ Chlorhexidine Gauze Dressings ■ Specification 46. IS 17530 (Part 1) : 2021/ISO 18254-1 : 2016 Textiles ■ Method for the Detection and Determination of Alkylphenol Ethoxylates (APEO) Part 1 Method Using HPLC-MS 47. IS 17532 : 2021 ATM Safes ■ Specification 48. IS 17541 : 2021 Modular Panel for Security of Premises ■ Specification 49. IS/ISO 20611 : 2018 Adventure Tourism ■ Good Practices for Sustainability ■ Requirements and Recommendations 50. IS/IEC 60794-2 : 2017 Optical Fibre Cables Part 2 Indoor Cables ■ Sectional Specification (First Revision) 51. IS/IEC 62817 : 2017 Photovoltaic System ■ Design Qualification of Solar Trackers [Notification No- HQ-PUB013/1/2020-PUB-BIS (144)]

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BIS notifies Indian Standards of Phosphate Solubilizing Bacterial Inoculant under BIS Rules, 2018

Mar 23, 2021 | Central | Commercial

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) on March 3, 2021 has notified the Indian Standards of "IS 14807: 2021 Phosphate Solubilizing Bacterial Inoculant (PSBI) ■ Specification (First Revision)" which was

established on February 26, 2021 and will remain in force till August 25, 2021 under Bureau of Indian Standards Rules, 2018. [Notification No- HQ-PUB012/1/2020-PUB-BIS (143)]

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BIS notifies Indian Standards of Power Transformer and Gaseous Hydrogen under BIS Rules, 2018

Mar 23, 2021 | Central | Commercial

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) on March 17, 2021 has notified various Indian Standards and issued the date of establishment and date of withdrawal/cancellation of certain Indian Standards under Bureau of Indian Standards Rules, 2018. The following Indian Standards have been established on March 17, 2021 and few will remain force till April 16, 2021: - 1. IS 265: 2021 Hydrochloric Acid ■ Specification (Fifth Revision) 2. IS 2026 (Part 11): 2021/IEC 60076-11: 2018 Power Transformer Part 11 Dry-Type Transformer 3. IS 3025 (Part 4): 2021 Methods of Sampling and Test (Physical and Chemical) for Water and Wastewater Part 4 Color (Second Revision) 4. IS 3025 (Part 26): 2021 Methods of Sampling and Test (Physical and Chemical) for Water and Wastewater Part 26 Chlorine, Residual (Second Revision) 5. IS 3025 (Part 27/Sec 1): 2021 Methods of Sampling and Test (Physical and Chemical) for Water and Wastewater Part 27 Cyanide Section 1 Titrimetric, colorimetric and ion selective methods (Second Revision). 6. IS 3025 (Part 39): 2021 Methods of Sampling and Test (Physical and Chemical) for Water and Wastewater Part 39 Oil and Grease (Second Revision). 7. IS 3760: 2021 Probe, Aural, Jobson Horne's Pattern ■ Specification (First Revision). 8. IS 4493 (Part 1): 2021/IEC 60153-1: 2016 Hollow Metallic Waveguides Part 1 General Requirements and Measuring Methods (Second Revision). 9. IS/ISO 12619-1: 2014 Road Vehicles ■ Compressed Gaseous Hydrogen (CGH2) and Hydrogen/Natural Gas Blends Fuel System Components Part 1 General Requirements and Definitions. 10. IS/ISO 12619-2: 2014 Road Vehicles ■ Compressed Gaseous Hydrogen (CGH2) and Hydrogen/Natural Gas Blends Fuel System Components Part 2 Performance and General Test Methods. 11. IS/ISO 12619-3: 2014 Road Vehicles ■ Compressed Gaseous Hydrogen (CGH2) and Hydrogen/Natural Gas Blends Fuel System Components Part 3 Pressure Regulator 12. IS/ISO 12619-4 : 2016 Road Vehicles ■ Compressed Gaseous Hydrogen (CGH2) and Hydrogen/Natural Gas Blends Fuel System Components Part 4 Check Valve 13. IS/ISO 12619-5 : 2016 Road Vehicles ■ Compressed Gaseous Hydrogen (CGH2) and Hydrogen/Natural Gas Blends Fuel System Components Part 5 Manual Cylinder Valve 14. IS/ISO 12619-6 : 2017 Road Vehicles ■ Compressed Gaseous Hydrogen (CGH2) and Hydrogen/Natural Gas Blends Fuel System Components Part 6 Automatic Valve 15. IS/ISO 12619-7 : 2017 Road Vehicles ■ Compressed Gaseous Hydrogen (CGH2) and Hydrogen/Natural Gas Blends Fuel System Components Part 7 Gas Injector 16. IS/ISO 12619-8 : 2017 Road Vehicles ■ Compressed Gaseous Hydrogen (CGH2) and Hydrogen/Natural Gas Blends Fuel System Components Part 8 Pressure Indicator 17. IS/ISO 12619-9 : 2017 Road Vehicles ■ Compressed Gaseous Hydrogen (CGH2) and Hydrogen/Natural Gas Blends Fuel System Components Part 9 Pressure Relief Valve (PRV) 18. IS/ISO 12619-10 : 2017 Road Vehicles ■ Compressed Gaseous Hydrogen (CGH2) and Hydrogen/Natural Gas Blends Fuel System Components Part 10 Pressure Relief Device (PRD) 19. IS/ISO 12619-11 : 2017 Road Vehicles ■ Compressed Gaseous Hydrogen (CGH2) and Hydrogen/Natural Gas Blends Fuel System Components Part 11 Excess Flow valve 20. IS/ISO 12619-12 : 2017 Road Vehicles ■ Compressed Gaseous Hydrogen (CGH2) and Hydrogen/Natural Gas Blends Fuel System Components Part 12 Gas-Tight Housing and Ventilation Hoses 21. IS/ISO 12619-13 : 2017 Road Vehicles ■ Compressed Gaseous Hydrogen (CGH2) and Hydrogen/ Natural Gas Blends Fuel System Components Part 13 Rigid Fuel Line in Stainless Steel 22.

IS/ISO 12619-14 : 2017 Road Vehicles ■ Compressed Gaseous Hydrogen (CGH₂) and Hydrogen/Natural Gas Blends Fuel System Components Part 14 Flexible Fuel Line 23. IS/ISO 12619-15 : 2017 Road Vehicles ■ Compressed Gaseous Hydrogen (CGH₂) and Hydrogen/Natural Gas Blends Fuel System Components Part 15 Filter 24. IS/ISO 12619-16 : 2017 Road Vehicles ■ Compressed Gaseous Hydrogen (CGH₂) and Hydrogen/Natural Gas Blends Fuel System Components Part 16 Fittings 25. IS/ISO 12619-16 : 2017 Road Vehicles ■ Compressed Gaseous Hydrogen (CGH₂) and Hydrogen/Natural Gas Blends Fuel System Components Part 16 Fittings 26. IS 14194 (Part 4) : 2021 Radionuclides in Environmental Samples ■ Method of Estimation Part 4 Radium (First Revision) 27. IS 15480 (Part 1) : 2021/IEC 60869-1 : 2018 Fibre Optic Interconnecting Devices and Passive Components ■ Fibre Optic Passive Power Control Devices Part 1 Generic Specification (Second Revision) 28. IS 16438 (Part 1) : 2021/IEC 61753-1 : 2020 Fibre Optic Interconnecting Devices and passive Components ■ Performance Standard Part 1 General and Guidance (First Revision) 29. IS 16693 : 2021/ISO 8769 : 2016 Reference Sources ■ Calibration of Surface Contamination Monitors ■ Alpha-, Beta- and Photon Emitters (First Revision) 30. IS 17328 (Part 1) : 2021/ISO 7097-1 : 2004 Nuclear Fuel Technology ■ Determination of Uranium Part 1 Determination of Uranium in Solutions, Uranium Hexafluoride and Solids ■ Iron(II) Reduction/Potassium Dichromate Oxidation Titrimetric Method 31. IS 17328 (Part 2) : 2021/ISO 7097-2 : 2004 Nuclear Fuel Technology ■ Determination of Uranium Part 2 Determination of Uranium in Solutions, Uranium Hexafluoride and Solids ■ Iron (II) Reduction/Cerium (IV) Oxidation Titrimetric Method. 32. IS 17328 (Part 3) : 2021/ISO 7476 : 2003 Nuclear Fuel Technology ■ Determination of Uranium Part 3 Determination of Uranium in Uranyl Nitrate Solutions of Nuclear Grade Quality ■ Gravimetric Method. 33. IS 17328 (Part 4) : 2021/ISO 8299 : 2019 Nuclear Fuel Technology ■ Determination of Uranium Part 4 Determination of the Isotopic and Elemental Uranium and Plutonium Concentrations of Nuclear Materials in Nitric Acid Solutions by Thermal-Ionization Mass Spectrometry. 34. IS 17329 : 2021/ISO 12183 : 2016 Nuclear Fuel Technology ■ Controlled Potential Coulometric Assay of Plutonium. 35. IS 17330 : 2021/ISO 18557 : 2017 Characterisation Principles for Soils, Buildings and Infrastructures Contaminated by Radionuclides for Remediation Purposes 36. IS 17515 (Part 1) : 2021/ISO 25745-1 : 2012 Energy Performance of Lifts, Escalators and Moving Walks Part 1 Energy Measurement and Verification 37. IS 17515 (Part 2) 2021/ISO 25745-2 : 2015 Energy Performance of Lifts, Escalators and Moving Walks Part 2 Energy Calculation and Classification for Lifts (Elevators) 38. IS 17515 (Part 3) : 2021/ISO 25745-3 : 2015 Energy Performance of Lifts, Escalators and Moving Walks Part 3 Energy Calculation and Classification of Escalators and Moving Walks 39. IS/ISO 23828 : 2013 Fuel Cell Road Vehicles ■ Energy Consumption Measurement ■ Vehicles Fuelled with Compressed Hydrogen 40. IS/IEC 60154-1 : 2016 Flanges for Waveguides Part 1 General Requirements 41. IS/IEC 60335-2-40 : 2018 Household and similar Electrical Appliances ■ Safety Part 2-40 Particular Requirements for Electrical Heat Pumps, Air-Conditioners and Dehumidifiers 42. IS/IEC 60479-1 : 2018 Effects of Current on Human Beings and Livestock Part 1 General Aspects (First Revision) 43. IS/IEC 60794-1-2 : 2017 Optical Fibre Cables Part 1 Generic Specification Section 2 Basic optical Cable test Procedures ■ General Guidance (First Revision) 44. IS/IEC 60794-2-11 : 2020 Optical Fibre Cables Part 2 Indoor Cables Section 11 Detailed Specification for simplex and duplex cables for use in Premises cabling (First Revision) 45. IS/IEC 62222 : 2012 Fire Performance of Communication Cables Installed in Buildings [Notification No- HQ-PUB013/1/2020-PUB-BIS (139)]

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BIS withdraws the Indian Standards of Road Vehicles and Commercial Vehicles under BIS Rules, 2018

Mar 23, 2021 | Central | Commercial

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) on March 3, 2021 has withdrawn the Indian Standard of "IS 12971: 1990/ISO 7706: 1985 Road Vehicles, Commercial Vehicles ■ Clearance envelope for Power Take-offs (PTO)" from February 17, 2020 under the Bureau of Indian Standards Rules, 2018. [Notification No. HQ-PUB017/1/2020-PUB-BIS (145)]

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Motor Vehicles (Registration and Functions of Vehicle Scrapping Facility) Rules, 2021**Mar 22, 2021 | Central | Commercial**

The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MORTH) on March 15, 2021 has issued the Motor Vehicles (Registration and Functions of Vehicle Scrapping Facility) Rules, 2021. These provisions shall lay down the procedure for establishment of Registered Vehicle Scrapping Facility (RVSF). These will apply to all vehicles and their last registered owners, Automobile collection centres, Automotive Dismantling, Scrapping and Recycling Facilities and recyclers of all types of automotive waste products. The following are the provisions under the rules:

- The RVSF shall be provided connectivity and access to the VAHAN database of vehicle registration with password protected user ID and shall be authorized to make suitable entries regarding scrapping of the vehicle and issuance of Certificate of Deposit and Certificate of Scrapping, either directly or through their collection centre.
- The State Government/ Union Territory Governments shall take into account the eligibility criteria specified below when granting authorization to any RVSF making an application under clause 6: 1. The RVSF may be owned and operated by any legal entity, be it a person, firm, society or trust established in accordance with the applicable laws. 2. The entity must possess the following documents: - Certificate of Incorporation Valid GST registration Valid PAN
- An applicant may make an application in the prescribed Form-1, or any other form as may be prescribed by the designated Registration Authority of the State or Union Territory Government, addressed to the „Registration Authority■ of the concerned State or Union Territory Government where the RVSF is intended to be located along with.
- A Processing Fee of Rs. 1,00,000/- (Rupees One Lakh only) for each RVSF proposed to be established, or such fee as may be prescribed by the State or Union Territory Government for this purpose.
- An Earnest Money Deposit by way of a bank guarantee of Rs. 10,00,000/- (Rupees Ten Lakhs) each RVSF proposed to be established, in favour of the designated Registration Authority or designated officer as notified by the State or Union Territory Government as a non-interest-bearing Security deposit for a period, co-terminus with the validity of the initial authorization period, plus 90 days.
- All applications for grant of registration are to be disposed of by the Registration Authority within a period of 60 days from the date of application.
- The Registration issued under Clause 6 shall be valid for an initial period of 10 years, which shall be renewable for another 10 years at a time, subject to the condition that the Registered Scrapper has not been in default of these provisions or applicable Laws and Acts as specified in Clause 14. 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: comments-morth@gov.in, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Transport Bhawan, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110 001. The objections or suggestions which may be received from any person in respect of the said draft rules before the expiry of the aforesaid period will be considered by the Central Government. [Notification No. G.S.R. 190 (E)]

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FSSAI revises the list of KoB documents required to be submitted along with the application for FSSAI license

Mar 22, 2021 | Central | Commercial

The Food Safety and Standards Authority (FSSAI) of India on March 19, 2021 revises list documents required to be submitted along with the application for FSSAI license for the manufacturing and non-manufacturing kind of business (KoB). Further the approved KoB wise list has been provided at Annexure 1 (Page 2). However, the documents shall be self-attested by authorised signatory or proprietor before being uploaded on FoSCoS. Furthermore, changes have been made in the online licensing and registration system FoSCoS (<https://foscoss.fssai.gov.in>). [Notification No. 15(31)2020/FoSCoS/RCD/FSSAI]

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Ministry of Rural Development revised state-wise wage rate for unskilled manual workers

Mar 19, 2021 | Central | Commercial

The Ministry of Rural Development on March 15, 2021 has issued a notification to further amend the notification no. S.O. 463(E), dated February 26, 2013 which specifies the wage rate payable to the unskilled manual workers in respect of state or the union territory. The state-wise wage rate for unskilled manual workers is specified in the Schedule of the mentioned notification has been substituted with, namely: - 1) Andhra Pradesh - Rs. 245.00 2) Arunachal Pradesh - Rs. 212.00 3) Assam - Rs. 224.00 4) Bihar - Rs. 198.00 5) Chhattisgarh - Rs. 193.00 6) Goa- Rs. 294.00 7) Gujarat - Rs. 229.00 8) Haryana - Rs. 315.00 9) Himanchal Pradesh - Non-scheduled areas - Rs. 203.00 Scheduled areas - Rs.254.00 10) Jammu and Kashmir - Rs. 214.00 11) Ladakh - Rs. 214.00 12) Jharkhand - Rs. 198.00 13) Karnataka - Rs. 289.00 14) Kerala - Rs. 291.00 15) Madhya Pradesh - Rs. 193.00 16) Maharashtra - Rs. 248.00 17) Manipur - Rs. 251.00 18) Meghalaya - Rs. 226.00 19) Mizoram - Rs. 233.00 20) Nagaland - Rs. 212.00 21) Odisha - Rs. 215.00 22) Punjab - Rs. 269.00 23) Rajasthan - Rs. 221.00 24) Sikkim -Rs. 212.00 Sikkim -(3 Gram Panchayats named Gnathang, Lachung and Lachen) Rs. 318.00 25) Tamil Nadu - Rs. 273.00 26) Telangana - Rs. 245.00 27) Tripura - Rs. 212.00 28) Uttar Pradesh - Rs. 204.00 29) Uttarakhand - Rs. 204.00 30) West Bengal - Rs. 213.00 31) Andaman and Nicobar Andaman District – Rs.279.00 Nicobar District - Rs. 294.00 32) Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu Andaman District – Rs. 269.00 33) Lakshadweep - Rs. 266.00 34) Puducherry - Rs. 273.00” [Notification No.- S.O. 1206(E)]

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Labour

MoLE extends the period of services engaged in the industrial establishments manufacturing Nuclear Fuel and Components

Mar 22, 2021 | Central | Labour



The Ministry of Labour and Employment (MoLE) on March 19, 2021 has issued a Notification declaring the extension of services engaged in the industrial establishments manufacturing or producing Nuclear Fuel and Components, Heavy Water and Allied Chemicals and Atomic Energy for the purpose of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 for a further period of six months with effect from April 24, 2021. MoLE lastly declared the said industry to be a public utility service vide S.O. 3547(E) dated October 12, 2020. [Notification No. S.O. 1264(E)]

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MoLE extends the period of services engaged in the processing or production or distribution of fuel gases like coal gas, natural gas, and the like

Mar 22, 2021 | Central | Labour

The Ministry of Labour and Employment (MoLE) on March 19, 2021 has issued a Notification declaring the extension of services engaged in the processing or production or distribution of fuel gases (coal gas, natural gas and the like) for the purpose of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 for a further period of six months with effect from March 19, 2021. MoLE lastly declared the said industry to be a public utility service vide S.O. 1661(E) dated October 12, 2020. [Notification No. S.O. 1263(E)]

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Bihar

Bihar Government issues the Ethanol Production Policy, 2021

Mar 23, 2021 | Bihar | Industry Specific

The Bihar Department of Industries on March 17, 2021 has issued the Ethanol Production Policy, 2021. This policy has been introduced with an aim to leverage the opportunities in Ethanol manufacturing which offers a sustainable source of income for farmers, entrepreneurs and workers who will be employed in the Ethanol units. The following objectives have been given:

- This policy aims to achieve the following objectives for the overall growth and development of green-field new 100% Ethanol manufacturing industries in the State with a goal of providing remunerative returns to investors, farmers and all other stakeholders.
- To allow production of Ethanol from all feedstocks permitted under National Policy on Biofuels, 2018 and by the National Biofuel Coordination Committee.
- To promote, facilitate and financially incentivize investment in fuel-grade standalone new/green-field Ethanol manufacturing units in Bihar through instituting an enabling environment and offering fiscal incentive.
- To increase incomes of farmers producing feed-stock/ raw material which may be used for Ethanol manufacturing.
- To create local employment opportunities through promotion of new Ethanol industries.

[Notification No. 4/Tech/Ethanol Policy/09/2021-757]

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Chandigarh

Punjab Liquor Licence (Chandigarh 4th Amendment) Rules, 2021

Mar 26, 2021 | Chandigarh | Industry Specific

The Excise and Taxation Department of Chandigarh on March 19, 2021 has issued the Punjab Liquor Licence (Chandigarh 4th Amendment) Rules, 2021 to further amend the Punjab Liquor Licence Rules, 1956 as in force in the Union Territory of Chandigarh. The following amendments have been made: • Rule 25 (i), (i)(a), (i)(b), (ii), (iii), (iv), (v), (v)(a), (x), (xiii) which specifies the license fee, has been substituted, namely: (i) The licence fee for the licence issued in Form L-10B shall be Rs.20 lacs for the Excise Policy period 2021-22 (April 01, 2021 to March 31, 2022). Sale of Imported Foreign Liquor, Imported Beer, Imported Wine, Indian Wine, and Ready to Drink Alcoholic Beverages up to 20-degree proof strength (except Indian Made Beer) will be allowed at Departmental Store having license in form L-10B. The L-10B licence may be granted to a Departmental Store having minimum annual turnover of taxable products other than liquor, amounting to Rs 1 Crore in the preceding year. For the grant of new license, it would be necessary for the departmental store to be in existence for the last two years. Tasting Sessions will also be allowed in a Departmental Store, provided that the licensee erects a separate screened enclosure in the store for this purpose. The minimum annual quota of IFL to be lifted by a L-10 B licensee is fixed at 3000 PL. The licensee has to lift at least 25% of minimum basic quota of IFL by the end of each quarter and in the last quarter by February 28, 2022.” (i)(a) Licences for retail vend of Beer, Wine and Ready to Drink Beverages in a Hotel (L-3A) or in Restaurant for cotrialtion on the premises (L-4A) or in a Bar (L-5A) will be granted having licence fee of Rs 2,50,000 for the Excise Policy Year 2021-22. The licence fee for licences issued in Form L-10A (Retail Vend of Draught Beer in a Restaurant) and L-10AA (Retail Vend of Wine for consumption on the premises) shall be Rs. 70,000/- and Rs. 40,000/- respectively for the Excise Policy Year 2021-22.” (i)(b) The licence fee for licences issued in Form L1-C1 (Wholesale Licence of Ready to Drink Beverages) and L-1DF (Wholesale Licence of Imported Wine) shall be Rs. 1,00,000/- and Rs. 75,000/- respectively for the Excise Policy Year 2021-22. Licence for wholesale of Imported Wine (L-1DF) will be granted to only those companies/ firms/persons who are holding a custom approved Bonded Warehouse licence in U.T., Chandigarh. (ii) The licence fee for a licence issued in form L-1B (Wholesale licence of Indian Made Foreign Liquor) shall be Rs. 8,00,000/- for the Excise Policy Year 2021-22 as fixed fee plus Rs. 3/- per proof litre as extra licence fee (which is to be paid at the time of grant of import permit). (iii) The licence fee for a licence issued in form L-1C (Wholesale licence of Indian Beer) shall be Rs.2,00,000/- for the Excise Policy Year 2021-22 as fixed fee plus Rs. 2/- per Bulk Litre as extra licence fee (which is to be paid at the time of grant of import permit). (iv) The licence fee for a licence issued in form L-1D (Wholesale licence of Indian Wine) shall be Rs. 20,000/- as fixed fee for the Excise Policy Year 2021-22. (v) The licence fee for a licence issued in form L-13 (wholesale of Country Liquor) shall be Rs. 7,00,000/- as fixed fee for the Excise Policy Year 2021-22. (v)(a) The licence fee for a licence issued in form L-1F (Wholesale licence of Imported Foreign Liquor & Imported Beer) shall be Rs. 30,00,000/- as fixed fee for the Excise Policy Year 2021-22 plus Rs. 2/- per bulk litre on Imported Beer as Extra Licence Fee (which is to be paid at the time of grant of import permit). Licence for wholesale of Imported Foreign Liquor and Beer (L-1F) will be granted to only those companies/ firms/persons who are holding a custom approved Bonded Warehouse licence in U.T., Chandigarh. (x) The licence fee for licences issued in form L-11 (Bottling of Foreign Liquor) and L-15 (Bottling of Country Spirit) shall be Rs. 4.50 lacs & Rs. 1.00 Lacs respectively as fixed fee for the Excise Policy Year 2021-22. (xiii) The licence fee for licence issued in form L-12A (Temporary licence for retail vend of foreign liquor at a place of entertainment) shall be Rs.15,000/- per day.

• Rule 25 (xvi), which specifies the license fee, has been substituted, namely: "The licence fee for the licences issued in form L-5D (licence for serving of liquor in functions organized in Banquet Halls/ Marriage Palaces/ except Chandigarh Municipal Corporation Community Centres etc.) shall be Rs 50,000/- for the Excise Policy Year." • Rule 25 (xvi)(a), which specifies the license fee, has been substituted, namely: "In the Excise Policy Year 2021-22 a licence in Form L-2D (Retail vend of Imported Wine, Indian Wine & Imported Beer for consumption off the premises) will continue with addition of RTD. The Collector (Excise) may grant the L-2D licence on payment of licence fee of Rs. 2.00 lac for the excise policy year (01.04.2021 to 31.03.2022), to the following: (i) Shop/establishment registered under the "Goods and Service Tax Act, 2017"/ "Punjab VAT Act, 2005" and "The Punjab Shops and Commercial Establishments Act, 1958" in U.T. Chandigarh in an approved commercial market, Petrol Pumps or shop or in a mall having minimum covered area of 300 sq. ft. (ii) Commercial establishments running with the following business and having minimum turnover of Rs. 50 lacs (Under the Goods & Service Tax Act, 2017 or under the Punjab VAT Act, 2005 (as applicable to U.T. Chandigarh) during the year 2020-21. • Rule 27 (4), which specifies the procedure for grant of retail sale license of country liquor (L-14A) and Indian made foreign liquor (L-2), has been substituted, namely: "The following procedure will be adopted for grant of retail sale country liquor (L-14A) & retail sale foreign liquor (L-2) licences: (i) Retail sale vends shall be allotted in the form of licensing units. Each licensing unit will comprise of Country Liquor and Indian Made Foreign Liquor including Imported Foreign Liquor under one roof. (ii) The complete details of all the licensing units along with vend codes, number of licensing units, respective localities/sectors, Reserve Price, Quota, etc. will be specified in the Excise Policy for the particular period. The e-tenders of the aforesaid units will be got advertised/ published after getting it approved from Excise & Taxation Commissioner-cum-Financial Commissioner, U.T., Chandigarh. (iii) Participation Fee of Rs.3,50,000/- (non-refundable/non-adjustable) Inclusive of GST (if any) and Earnest Money deposit (EMD) for the Excise Policy period shall be submitted by the tenderer online. (iv) While submitting e-bid, the bidder will be required to submit online documents such as Photograph, age proof, residence proof, proof of identity, copy of PAN of self or of all partners, copy of Aadhaar Card of self or of all partners, partnership deed of a partnership firm and eligibility affidavit under order 7 of Punjab Intoxicants Licence and Sales Orders, 1956 (as applicable to U.T. Chandigarh) of self or of all partners. [Notification No. E&T/ETO(X)-2021/2106]

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Delhi

Delhi Government has issued a circular for the renewal of license in Form L-15/ L-15F and L-16/ L-16F for the year 2021-22

Mar 26, 2021 | Delhi | Industry Specific

The Commercial Taxes Department of Delhi on March 19, 2021 has issued a circular for the renewal of license in form L-15/ L-15F and L-16/ L-16F for the year 2021-22. Whereas the Excise Retail licenses for consumption "on" the premises have been granted by the Government for operating in jurisdiction of NCT of Delhi in the form of L15/L-15F and L-16/L-16F. All the existing licenses shall be renewed for a period of 3 months from April 01, 2021 to June 30, 2021 on payment of the proportionate fees on or before March 28, 2021 subject to the following conditions:

- All the licensees of L-15/L-15F and L-16/L-16F, are hereby directed to submit their application for renewal of license online by accessing their account in ESCIMS portal through their I.D. and password along with the applicable license renewal fee for the period of 3 months by providing the requisite information and payment of renewal license fee on or before March 28, 2021.
- After due submission of application, the Licensee should accept the declaration as per enclosed Performa.
- The Licensee should ensure that the licenced premises remain in his legal possession during the currency of licence as required under section 13 (1) (f) of the Delhi Excise Act, 2009.
- The license fee has been increased by 10% from the last year license fee and the revised license fee for the period April 01, 2020 to June 30, 2021 will be adjusted and levied on proportionate basis for the period of 3 months on the fee structure with an increase of 10% per annum which will be calculated as per the fee structure. [Circular No. F.2 (111)/Ex/HCR/RENEWAL/2021-22/1077]

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Delhi Government has issued a circular for the renewal of license in Form L-17/ L-17F and L-18/ L-18F and L-19/ L-19F for the year 2021-22

Mar 26, 2021 | Delhi | Industry Specific

The Commercial Taxes Department of Delhi on March 19, 2021 has issued a circular for the renewal of license in form L-17/ L-17F and L-18/ L-18F and L-19/ L-19F for the year 2021-22. Whereas the Excise Retail licenses for consumption "on" the premises have been granted by the Government for operating in jurisdiction of NCT of Delhi in the form of L-17/ L-17F and L-18/ L-18F and L-19/ L-19F. All the existing licenses shall be renewed for a period of 3 months from April 01, 2021 to June 30, 2021 on payment of the proportionate fees on or before March 28, 2021 subject to the following conditions:

- All the licensees of L-17/ L-17F and L-18/ L-18F and L-19/ L-19F, are hereby directed to submit their application for renewal of license online by accessing their account in ESCIMS portal through their I.D. and password along with the applicable license renewal fee for the period of 3 months by providing the requisite information and payment of renewal license fee on or before March 28, 2021.
- After due submission of application, the Licensee should accept the declaration as per enclosed Performa.
- The Licensee should ensure that the licenced premises remain in his legal possession during the currency of licence as required under section 13 (1) (f) of the Delhi Excise Act, 2009.
- The license fee has been increased by 10% from the last year license fee and

the revised license fee for the period April 01, 2020 to June 30, 2021 will be adjusted and levied on proportionate basis for the period of 3 months on the fee structure with an increase of 10% per annum which will be calculated as per the fee structure. [Circular No. F.2 (111)/Ex/HCR/RENEWAL/2021-22/1077]

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Delhi Government has issued a circular for the renewal of license in Form L-28/ L-28F and L-29/ L-29F for the year 2021-22

Mar 26, 2021 | Delhi | Industry Specific

The Commercial Taxes Department of Delhi on March 19, 2021 has issued a circular for the renewal of license in form L-28/ L-28F and L-29/ L-29F for the year 2021-22. Whereas the Excise Retail licenses for consumption "on" the premises have been granted by the Government for operating in jurisdiction of NCT of Delhi in the form of L28/L-28F and L-29/L-29F. All the existing licenses shall be renewed for a period of 3 months from April 01, 2021 to June 30, 2021 on payment of the proportionate fees on or before March 28, 2021 subject to the following conditions: • All the licensees of L-28/L-28F and L-29/L-29F, are hereby directed to submit their application for renewal of license online by accessing their account in ESCIMS portal through their I.D. and password along with the applicable license renewal fee for the period of 3 months by providing the requisite information and payment of renewal license fee on or before March 28, 2021. • After due submission of application, the Licensee should accept the declaration as per enclosed Performa. • The Licensee should ensure that the licenced premises remain in his legal possession during the currency of licence as required under section 13 (1) (f) of the Delhi Excise Act, 2009. • The license fee has been increased by 10% from the last year license fee and the revised license fee for the period April 01, 2020 to June 30, 2021 will be adjusted and levied on proportionate basis for the period of 3 months on the fee structure with an increase of 10% per annum which will be calculated as per the fee structure. [Circular No. F.2 (111)/Ex/HCR/RENEWAL/2021-22/079]

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Delhi Government issues the list of dry days

Mar 23, 2021 | Delhi | Industry Specific

The Finance Department on March 19, 2021 has issued a notification for the dry day to be observed on the following days for all the licensees including the opium vends located in Delhi. The following days have been marked as dry day: • Good Friday- April 02, 2021 • Ram Navami- April 21, 2021 • Mahavir Jayanti- April 25, 2021 • Id-UI-Fitr- May 14, 2021 • Buddha Purnima- May 26, 2021 [Notification No. (56)/96-97/IMFL/EX/PF/228-245]

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Delhi Government issues the conditions for the renewal of the liquor license

Mar 22, 2021 | Delhi | Industry Specific

The Delhi Department of Excise March 16, 2021 has issued a notification stating that the pending finalization of the new excise policy, and renewing of all existing licenses L-6, L-6FG, L-7, L-7FG, L-8, L-9, L-10, L-22, L-23, L-23F, M&TP licenses shall be authorised for a period of 3 months starting from April 04, 2021 on payment of the proportionate license fee on or before March 28, 2021. The following conditions shall be followed:

- The requests for renewal shall be sent by the applicants on or before March 28, 2021.
- Applicants shall apply in the ESCIMS system by clicking on renew and entering the login details. The payment of fee shall be made, and the application shall then be processed.
- There shall be cooling facility.
- Cold storage for the storage of beer shall be there.
- Installation of CCTV cameras shall be done within 50 metres and 30 days of archival period shall be given for the same.
- The excise policy shall be followed by the licensee. [Notification No. (9)/Policy/Extn./Extn/2020-21/215]

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Delhi Government makes it mandatory to file declaration file filing for renewal of liquor license for 3 months

Mar 22, 2021 | Delhi | Industry Specific

The Excise Department of Delhi on March 17, 2021 has amended the notification no. (9)/Policy/Extn/Excise/2020-21/215 dated March 16, 2021 which specifies the conditions for the renewal of license. The following amendments have been made:

- The government has stated that it is necessary for the applicants to submit a declaration while applying for the license for a period of 3 months. [Notification No. (9)/Policy/Extn./Excise/2020-21/218]

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Delhi Government extends the license period for the sale of liquor (draught beer) up to June 30, 2021

Mar 22, 2021 | Delhi | Industry Specific

The Excise Department of Delhi on March 17, 2021 has issued a notification for the extension of the license period for sale of liquor under L-1/ L-1F and L-2 (draught beer) license up to June 30, 2021. All the licensees who are willing to avail the extension period shall submit fee for license, label registration, BWH fee and all other applicable fee on pro-rata basis for renewal for 3 months. [Notification No. (9)/ Policy/ Extn/Excise/2020-21/217]

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Goa

Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for the State of Goa and Union Territories (Generation, Transmission and Distribution Multi Year Tariff) Regulations, 2021

Mar 30, 2021 | Goa | Industry Specific

The Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission (JERC) of Goa on March 22, 2021 has issued the Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for the State of Goa and Union Territories (Generation, Transmission and Distribution Multi Year Tariff) Regulations, 2021. These Regulations shall be applicable for determination of tariff in all matters covered under these Regulations from FY 2022-23 onwards and up to FY 2024-25, that is from April 01, 2022 to March 31, 2025, unless otherwise reviewed/modified/extended. The following provisions have been made:

- The Commission shall determine tariff within the Multi Year Tariff framework, for all matters for which the Commission has jurisdiction under the Act, including in the following cases: 1. Supply of electricity by a Generating Company to a Distribution Licensee. 2. Intra-State transmission of electricity. 3. Intra-State wheeling of electricity. 4. Retail supply of electricity.
- The Distribution Licensee shall file an application containing separate details for determination of Aggregate Revenue Requirement for Distribution Wires Business and Retail Supply Business, in accordance with Regulation 49 specified in these Regulations.
- The wheeling charges shall be based on the Aggregate Revenue Requirement determined for the Distribution Wires Business.
- The Retail Supply tariff for retail sale of electricity shall be based on the Aggregate Revenue Requirement determined for the Retail Supply Business.
- The Commission shall also determine Cross-Subsidy Surcharge in addition to the charges for wheeling under the first proviso to sub-section (2) of Section 42 of the Act, in accordance with the Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for the State of Goa and Union Territories (Connectivity and Open Access in Intra-State Transmission and Distribution) Regulations, 2017, as amended from time to time.) [Notification No. JERC: 28/2021]

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Gujarat

Gujarat Government has issued a circular on clarifications on the refund related issues

Mar 25, 2021 | Gujarat | Finance & Taxation

The Gujarat Commercial Taxes Department on March 18, 2021 has issued a circular on clarifications on refund related issues. Accordingly, it is clarified that for the purpose of Rule 89(4), the value of export/zero-rated supply of goods to be included while calculating "adjusted total turnover" will be same as being determined as per the amended definition of "Turnover of zero-rated supply of goods" in the said sub-rule. The same can explained by the following illustration where actual value per unit of goods exported is more than 1.5 times the value of same/ similar goods in domestic market. as declared by the supplier. [Circular No. GSL/GST/S.168/B88]

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Jammu Kashmir

Jammu and Kashmir Government has issued a circular for the procurement of goods and services from local manufacturers through GEM portal

Mar 22, 2021 | Jammu Kashmir | Finance & Taxation

The Finance Department of Jammu and Kashmir has issued a circular for the procurement of goods and services from local manufacturers through GEM (Government e-market place). To boost the local manufacturers, the local filters on the GEM portal have been made available since February 25, 2021. Local filters and MSME filters shall be applied for the procurement of goods up to 5 lakhs. For the procurement of goods above 5 lakhs additional terms and conditions shall be invoked by the department for restricting procurement within a geographical limit through the process of bidding on GEM.

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Jammu and Kashmir government issues a circular for the liabilities of 2019-20/2020-21

Mar 22, 2021 | Jammu Kashmir | Finance & Taxation

The Finance Department of Jammu and Kashmir has issued a circular for the liabilities of 2019-20/ 2020-21. There have been cases where the procurement of the goods and services for 2019-20 have not been cleared. Further, all the cases of goods and services procured as per norms laid down in transparent manner and duly verified can be verified for payment as per the GFR. No liability should be carried forward to 2020-21, if the liabilities have been incurred after the due process.

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Jammu and Kashmir Government revises the rate of interest on the General provident fund

Mar 22, 2021 | Jammu Kashmir | Labour

The Finance Department of Jammu and Kashmir on March 17, 2021 has issued a notification revising the rate of interest on the general provident fund. The following revisions have been made: • For the 3rd quarter of the year 2020-2021 (October 01, 2020 to December 31, 2020) the interest rate shall be 7.1%. • For the 4th quarter of the year 2020-2021 (January 01, 2021 to March 31, 2021) the interest rate shall be 7.1%.

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Karnataka

Karnataka Government amends the turnover amount for supply of goods or services to a registered person

Mar 23, 2021 | Karnataka | Finance & Taxation

The State Government of Karnataka on March 20, 2021 has amended the notification no. n (07/2020) No. FD 03 CSL 2020 (e), dated March 27, 2020 which specify that the registered person should prepare invoice and other prescribed documents for supply of goods or services to a registered person under Karnataka Goods and Services Tax Rules, 2017 in which the turnover amount has been substituted, namely: - "Registered person, other than those referred to in Rules 54(2), (3), (4) and (4A) of the said rules, whose aggregate turnover in a financial year exceeds "fifty crore rupees", as a class of registered person who shall prepare invoice and other prescribed documents, in terms of Rule 48 (4) of the said rules in respect of supply of goods or services or both to a registered person." [Notification No- FD 16 CSL 2021]

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Kerala

KSPCB extended the validity of consents of quarries

Mar 24, 2021 | Kerala | EHS

The Kerala State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) on March 18, 2021 extended the validity period of quarrying permit and lease for a period of one year as the period from April 01, 2020 to March 2021 was nullified for the purpose of calculation of the period of validity of prior environmental clearances as per the notification in view of the outbreak of COVID-19 and subsequent lockdown. Further the consent applications shall be processed, and the necessary modifications are to be incorporated in consent renewal order of quarries. [Notification No. PCB/HO/Circular/2015]

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Kerala SGST Department releases a Circular with regard to errors in GST Return

Mar 24, 2021 | Kerala | Finance & Taxation

The Kerala State Goods and Service Tax (SGST) Department has released a circular containing guidelines to avoid common errors committed by the businesses while recording input tax during return filing. The circular has been released after noticing widespread error in recording the Input tax which critically affects the IGST income. Random and ineligible input tax credit has been recorded in Table 4D(1), 4D(2) of month's GSTR-3B. As per GST Act 17(5) random input tax credit from passenger motor vehicle, building construction can be declared by self in DRC-03 for repayment. Upon failure to declare the same, legal action may be taken. More details are available in Circular 1/2021 of State Goods and Service Tax Department.

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KSPCB categorizes industries into Red, Orange, Green and White

Mar 24, 2021 | Kerala | EHS

The Kerala State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) on March 17, 2021 has categorized industries into Red, Orange, Green and White categories based on the pollution potential which are not included in the categorization list. Following is the categorization which is considered while issuing consent to the units: Sr. No Item Categorized Category 205 Common Septage/Sewage Treatment Plant (FSTP/CSTP) Red 206 Surgical face mask White 207 Biodiesel production (with vegetable oil & methanol but without used engine oil) Green 208 Coir mat manufacturing (using PVC resin) Green [Notification No. PCB/IT4/17/21]

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KSPCB states the revocation and refusal of consent

Mar 24, 2021 | Kerala | EHS

The Kerala State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) on March 08, 2021 issued a circular which states the revocation and refusal of a consent. Following are the matters which are followed with respect to revocation and refusal of the consent: ■ The reason for revocation is to be clearly specified with respect to the conditions of the consent violated while issuing the revocation order. ■ If the date of issue of withdrawal of revocation order is within the validity period of the revoked consent, fine need not be collected. ■ If any further violations are noticed and revocation order is needed to be issued at later stages while issue of withdrawal of revocation order for the second and third time two times the annual consent fee and five times the annual consent fee is collected even if the date of issue of order is within the validity period of the revoked consent. ■ If request is received from the unit before the expiry of the consent validity and on verification if found that the reasons for revocation have been rectified, then fine is not collected. ■ In case request is received from the unit after the expiry of the consent validity, it is considered as fresh application and 5 year consent fee is collected as fine for issue of withdrawal of revocation order. ■ Consent renewal applications are processed only after issue of withdrawal of revocation order and the consent renewal fee is collected as usual. ■ Consent refusal orders shall clearly specify the reasons for refusal. ■ The details of revocation and refusal orders issued are to be entered in the consent. ■ Due diligence shall be observed in issuing revocation or refusal order. [Notification No. PCB/HO/SEE-3/TECH-01/2019]

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Kerala GST Department mandates e-invoicing from April 01, 2021 if turnover more than 50 Crore

Mar 23, 2021 | Kerala | Finance & Taxation

The Kerala State Goods and Service Tax Department has issued a Press Release on March 12, 2021 stating that e-invoicing has been made compulsory for all business-to-business transactions of companies with a turnover of more than 50 crores from April 01, 2021. On October 01, 2020 it was already made compulsory for companies with more than 500 crore annual turnover and on January 01, 2021 for companies with more than 100 crore turnover. E-invoicing is also applicable on the credit or debit notes issued by the companies. E-invoicing must be done before the movement of goods where e-invoicing is applicable. Businesses must use either GST common portal or obtain registration from the e-invoice registration portal – <https://einvoice1.gst.gov.in>. If any business for which e-invoicing is applicable does not give the e-invoice, then the recipient won't be eligible for input tax credit. For goods where GST is not applicable, e-invoicing is not required. Sectors like SEZ units, banking sector including NBFCs, goods transporting agencies, passenger transport service, multiplex cinema admission are exempt from e-invoicing requirements.

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Madhya Pradesh

Madhya Pradesh government amends the Madhya Pradesh Factories Rules, 1962

Mar 22, 2021 | Madhya Pradesh | Labour

The Labour Department of Madhya Pradesh on March 16, 2021 has amended the Madhya Pradesh Factories Rules, 1962. The following amendment has been made: • Rule 6 (2), which specifies the registration and grant of license, has been substituted, namely: “The Chief Inspector of factories may, on application being made to him under sub-rule (1) and on payment of the fees prescribed in the said sub-rule and on being satisfied that there is no objection to the grant of licence applied for, register the factory and grant a license online in Form 3 for a period up to 10 years or more as may be prescribed by the State Government.” [Notification No. 01-02-2020-A-XVI]

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Maharashtra

Maharashtra Government has issued a circular clarifying the issue of IPS to eligibility units for sanction and disbursement

Mar 25, 2021 | Maharashtra | Finance & Taxation

The Finance Department of Maharashtra on March 19, 2021 has issued a trade circular issuing clarifications on government resolution issued to provide Industrial Promotional Subsidy (IPS) to all eligibility units for the sanction and disbursement. Therefore, it has been decided that there is no need to issue the identification certificate to any eligible PSI units for periods under the GST. The record of the PSI units shall be maintained on the basis of eligibility certificate only. [Trade Circular No. 07 of 2021]

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Maharashtra Government amends the Schedule B of MVAT Act, 2002

Mar 25, 2021 | Maharashtra | Finance & Taxation

The Finance Department of Maharashtra on March 24, 2021 has issued a notification amending Schedule B, which specifies the rate of tax of purchase has been amended. The amendments in the notification shall come into force from April 01, 2021. [Notification No. VAT.1521/C.R. 30/Taxation-1]

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Pune District Disaster Management Authority extends the period of lockdown till March 31, 2021

Mar 23, 2021 | Maharashtra | EHS

The Pune District Disaster Management Authority has issued a Notification to extend the period of lockdown till March 31, 2021 to avoid spread of Covid- 19 in the Pune District. Following orders are given by District collector which shall be followed until next orders:- 1. Hotspot "Incident Commander" shall be declared where 10 or more Covid patients are there. 2. All malls, theaters (excluding shops and establishments of Essential Commodities) shall be opened till 10:00 pm. There shall be curfew from 11 pm till 6 am. 3. All government, non-government/ private Schools, Colleges shall be kept closed till 31.03.2021 but online coaching is allowed. All coaching classes except for MPSC or UPSC shall be kept closed. 4. All Exams except for 10th and 12th standards shall be taken online. Schools to follows all orders for off line examination if any. 5. All restaurants, lodges, bars are allowed to keep open till 10 pm with 50% capacity. Parcel service are allowed till 11 pm. Owner of Hotel shall display at hotel at conspicuous place "total sitting capacity in hotel and costumers in hotel". 6. All club houses in residential society shall be kept closed till 31.03.2021. 7. Only 50 people are allowed for marriage ceremony and funerals. 8. People in Hotspot area shall do health checkup. 9. Establishments which are allowed to be kept open with 50% capacity shall follow all guidelines. If more

than 50% citizens are found then Establishments shall be fined 10. Attendance Roaster shall be published in Establishments and companies and that shall be displayed at conspicuous place. All establishments shall follow orders of social distancing, use of mask, sanitizer etc. 11. All citizens using public transport shall use Arogya Setu application.

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Manipur

Manipur Government has issued the Guidelines for the formulation, approval, appraisal of projects to be undertaken through PPP

Mar 30, 2021 | Manipur | Commercial

The Government of Manipur on March 12, 2021 has issued a notification for the guidelines for formulation, appraisal, approval, of projects to be undertaken through Public Private Partnership (PPP). The following guidelines have been given: • These guidelines will be applicable to all the PPP projects sponsored by the State Government department or PSU's, statutory authorities or other entities under their administrative control. • The sponsoring shall be given to projects identified for the purpose through legal, financial and technical teams. • The proposal shall be submitted by the administrative department to PPP cell in format given in annexure II. • The prepared documents for the approval of the sponsoring shall be then submitted to the PPP cell. • Financial bids may be invited by the final say shall be considered of the administrative department. [Notification No. 432]

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Pondicherry

Puducherry Labour Department grants paid holiday on April 06, 2021 due to general election

Mar 22, 2021 | Pondicherry | Labour

The Labour Department of Puducherry on March 16, 2021 has declared a paid holiday on April 06, 2021 due to the elections falling under the purview of the Representation of People Act, 1951. All the occupiers and employers of all factories, industries, shops and other establishments located in the entire Union territory are instructed to grant paid holiday to all their respective employees on Tuesday that is April 06, 2021. Further, Section 135B of the Representation of People Act, 1951 states the following: ■ A holiday to be granted to every person employed in any business, trade, industrial undertaking or any other establishment and entitled to vote at an election to the House of the people or the Legislative Assembly of a State ■ Prohibition to deduct wages; ■ Grant a paid holiday on the day of poll to all workers working on shift basis in establishments and shops. [Notification No. 1691/AIL/Lab/G/2021]

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Punjab

Industrial Relations (Punjab) Rules, 2021

Mar 25, 2021 | Punjab | Labour

The Labour Department of Punjab on March 05, 2021 has issued the Industrial Relations (Punjab) Rules, 2021. The following are the objectives of the rules: • The Rules are designated to safeguard the rights of employers and employees by providing easy labour reforms and to facilitate ease of Doing Business. • The object of the Rule is to realize industrial peace and harmony as the ultimate pursuit in resolving industrial disputes and to advance the progress of industry by bringing about the existence of harmony and cordial relationship between the employers and workers. • To develop and progress of Industry through democratic fashion. • To safeguard the interests of both workers and management. • To help in establishing and maintaining industrial democracy. • Industrial relation aims at maintaining healthy, harmonious, and cordial relationship between the employees and management and amongst the employees. • To safeguard the interest of employees and management by securing the highest level of mutual understanding and cooperation. • To avoid industrial conflict and develop harmonious and cordial relations between the employees and management and amongst the employees within the industry, which are an essential to improve productivity of workers and the industrial progress. [Notification No. G.S,R 23/C.A.35/2020/S.99/2021]

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Rajasthan

Rajasthan Government issues clarification related to amnesty scheme 2021

Mar 30, 2021 | Rajasthan | Finance & Taxation

The Commercial taxes department of Rajasthan on March 19, 2021 has issued a notification for the clarifications on the amnesty scheme- 2021. The following clarifications have been given:

- Outstanding demands or disputed amounts which pertain to regular assessment and its escaped assessment, if any are not related to evasion cases.
- Such outstanding demands cover those created for non-submission of declaration forms or certificates prescribed for concessional rate or nil rate tax under the RST Act and also include those pertaining to Form VAT-15, VAT-72 but excluding those pertaining to Form VAT-41.
- Outstanding demands or disputed amount pertaining to cases of evasion of tax made out of either ground of dispute regarding the rate of tax or classification of goods or interpretation of accounts and do not fall under clause 10 irrespective of penalty imposed or not.
- Outstanding demand or disputed amount pertaining to evasion or avoidance of tax which has arisen due to concealment of transaction, fraud or misrepresentation, failure to register, ITC was not available, unaccounted goods, bogus declaration, cases related to goods or vehicle.
- Only such outstanding demands which pertain to cases having penalty of more than 25 crore.

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Rajasthan Government fixes CPI index for April to September 2020

Mar 26, 2021 | Rajasthan | Labour

The Labour Department, Rajasthan on February 3, 2021 has issued a notification regarding consumer price Index (CPI) for industrial workers with effect from April 2020 to September 2020 is 9271. There is an increase of 176 points in the average for the current period. Month/Year Consumer Price Index (CPI) April 329 May 330 June 332 July 336 August 338 September 118.1 [Notification No- St/CPI/Eng. Wage Board/75/Pt/I/3047]

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Rajasthan Government decides to provide online registration, renewal and license under various Labor Laws

Mar 25, 2021 | Rajasthan | Labour

The Labour Department, Rajasthan on March 24, 2021 has issued an order to reduce the burden of Regulatory compliances on the state industries, therefore it has been decided to provide online registration, renewal and license under various Labor Laws are as follows:

1. Beedi and Cigar workers (Terms of Employment) Act 1966
2. Contract Labour (Registration and Abolition) Act, 1970
3. Motor Traffic Workers Act, 1961
4. Centre Inter-State Migration Workmen (Condition of planning, Regulation and Service) Act, 1979

5. Rajasthan Shop and Commercial Establishment Act, 1958 6. Building and other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act 1996 Further, all the return and statutory reporting will also be provided online under all Labour laws. [Order No- F.8(1) EODB/I.R/Labor/2020/part-2/7854]

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Rajasthan Government grants third-party certificate to the institute management

Mar 25, 2021 | Rajasthan | Labour

The Labour Department, Rajasthan on March 4, 2021 has issued an order to grant of third-party certificate, to reduce the burden of regulatory compliance on the industries of the state along with to encourage the industries and to achieve the goals of ease of doing business (EODB) under the various Labour laws, which are as follows: 1. Beedi and Cigar workers (condition of employment) Act, 1966 2. Contract Labour Act 1970 3. Central Interstate Migrant Workers Act, 1979 4. Maternity Benefit Act, 1961 5. Minimum Wages Act, 1948 6. Employees Compensation Act, 1923 7. Motor Traffic Workers Act, 1961 8. Wages Payment Act, 1936 9. Child and kumar Labour Act 1986 10. Rajasthan Shop and Commercial estate Act, 1958 11. Building and other Construction Workers (Regulation of Condition of Employment and Service) Act, 1996 12. Gratuity Payment Act, 1972 13. Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 14. Bonus Payment Act, 1965 15. Industrial Employment (Standing Order) Act, 1946 16. Sale Increase Act, 1976 17. Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 18. Working Journalists and other newspaper workers (condition of service) and Miscellaneous Provision Act, 1955 [Order No- F.8(1) E.O.D.B./Labor/20120 Part-2/6206]

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Tamil Nadu

Tamil Nadu Government declares public holiday on April 06, 2021 due to general elections

Mar 22, 2021 | Tamil Nadu | Industry Specific

The Tamil Nadu Government has issued a notification on March 16, 2021 to declare paid holiday on April 06, 2021 as the poll day for general election to Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly 2021 and bye-election to the Lok Sabha from 39 Kanyakumari Parliamentary Constituency due to the elections falling under the purview of Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881. [Notification No. G.O. Ms. No. 160]

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