



# COMPLIANCE UPDATE

MARCH 2024 | Part 2 of 2

## Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)

### ▪ [Extension for filing Form 26QE \(Statement of TDS\) under the Income Tax Act, 1961](#)

CBDT on March 07, 2024 extended the deadline for filing Form 26QE for the FY 2022-23 under the Income Tax Act, 1961. The form relates to Statement of Tax Deducted at Source (TDS) under Section 194(S) of the Income Tax Act. The new date for filing is May 30, 2024. Penalties and interest for the specified period will be waived for eligible individuals.

(To view the Circular, please click [here](#))

### ▪ [Exemption from Tax Deducted at Source \(TDS\) for payments to IFSC units](#)

CBDT on March 07, 2024 published a Notification under Income Tax Act, 1961 exempting TDS for specific payments (detailed in the Circular) made to International Financial Service Centre (IFSC) units.

(To view the Circular, please click [here](#))

## Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)

### ▪ [Notification to introduce gender-specific infrastructure facilities](#)

CBIC on March 08, 2024 published a Circular which introduces gender-specific infrastructure facilities to be provided by Custodian Inland Container Depots (ICDs), Container Freight Stations (CFSs) and Air Freight Stations (AFSSs) under the Handling of Cargo in Customs Areas Regulations, 2009.

(To view the Circular, please click [here](#))

### ▪ [Amendments in Customs Act, 1962](#)

CBIC on March 11, 2024 notified amendments in the Customs Act, 1962, regarding the calculation of duty credit against specific exports under the Foreign Trade Policy. The amendment states that the value of goods for the calculation of duty credit shall be either the declared export Free on Board (FOB) value or up to 1.5 times the market price of the goods, whichever is less. This provision aims to provide exporters with greater flexibility in availing duty credits while ensuring alignment with market realities.

(To view the Notification, please click [here](#))

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# Industry-wise updates

## Agriculture & allied sectors

- **Addition of substances to the Schedule of the Insecticides Act, 1968**

The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare on March 6, 2024 notified the inclusion of various insecticides in the Schedule of the Insecticides Act, 1968, which include Tiafenacil, Dichlobentiazox, Fenhexamid, etc.

The Notification aims to regulate and manage the use of newly listed substances for agriculture purposes as per the Insecticides Act, 1968. The objective of Insecticides Act, 1968 is to regulate the import, manufacture, sale, transport, distribution, and use of insecticides in order to prevent risks to human beings and animals.

(To view the Notification, please click [here](#))

- **Maximum Sale Price for cotton seeds**

The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare on March 7, 2024 notified the Maximum Sale Price of cotton seed packets for the FY 2024-2025 as INR 635 for BG-I type of cotton seed and INR 864 for BG-II type of cotton seed.

This Notification, effective nationwide, sets the maximum prices for BG-I and BG-II cotton hybrids to ensure fair pricing and accessibility in the market.

(To view the Notification, please click [here](#))

## Mining

- **Amendments to the Second Schedule of the Mines and Mineral Act, 1957**

The Ministry of Mines on March 1, 2024 amended the Second Schedule of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 by incorporating additional metals such as Beryllium, Cadmium, Cobalt, Gallium, Indium, Rhenium, Selenium, Tantalum, Tellurium, Titanium, Tungsten, Vanadium, and Zircon.

This Schedule deals with royalty rates applicable to listed metals. According to the Notification, the royalty rate for Beryllium stands at 2% of the sale price, while Cadmium incurs a royalty rate of 4% of the sale price.

(To view the Notification, please click [here](#))

## Wholesale & retail

- **Amendment in Foreign Trade Policy, 2023**

The Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India on February 29, 2024 notified amendment in Para 2.39 of the Foreign Trade Policy, 2023.

As per the Notification, certain goods have been excluded from Trading in specific foreign countries, such as elephant ivory products, tiger skins, and certain species of tropical timber, as well as goods falling under Special Chemicals, Organisms, Material Equipment and Technologies (SCOMET), including dual-use chemicals, biological agents, advanced materials like carbon fiber composites, and encryption software.

(To view the Notification, please click [here](#))

## State-wise updates

### Arunachal Pradesh

#### ▪ **Amendment to Electricity (Right of the Consumer) Rules, 2020**

The Arunachal Pradesh State Electricity Regulatory Commission (**ASPERC**), vide Notification dated March 11, 2024 amended Electricity (Right of the Consumer) Rules, 2020 by adding a provision of Time of Day (**ToD**) Tarrif. As per ToD Tarrif, Electricity charge will not be same at all times of the day rather it will vary as per electricity used in time of the day.

This will apply to commercial and industrial consumers having maximum demand of more than 10kW and shall be made effective immediately after the installation of smart meters for consumers. This will be effective from April 01, 2024.

(To view the Notification, please click [here](#))

### Chandigarh

#### ▪ **Minimum Wages for Industrial Workers**

The Labour Department, Chandigarh, vide Notification dated March 06, 2024 published the minimum wages for industrial Workers for 6 months, from October 01, 2023 to March 31, 2024.

The following minimum rates of wages will be payable daily:

- Unskilled – INR 525
- Semi-skilled II – INR 531
- Semi-skilled I – INR 535
- Skilled II – INR 543
- Skilled I – INR 551
- Highly skilled – INR 567
- Class III (staff) – INR 536
- Class II (staff) – INR 542
- Class I (staff) – INR 556

(To view the Notification, please click [here](#))

#### ▪ **Punjab Liquor Permit & Pass (Chandigarh First Amendment) Rules, 2024**

The Excise and Taxation Department, Chandigarh, vide Notification dated March 07, 2024 notified the Punjab Liquor Permit & Pass (Chandigarh 1st Amendment) Rules, 2024 to amend the Punjab Liquor Permit & Pass Rules, 1932.

As per the amendment, in Rule 22(b), the 22(b)-license fee for L-42 (Permit for possession & consumption of liquor on special occasions) shall be charged as following:

- For Indian made foreign liquor INR 70000
- For Indian made beer INR 45000
- For all types of wine(l-1d), champagne INR 10000

(To view the Notification, please click [here](#))

### Goa

#### ▪ **Goa Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Act, 2024**

The Department of Law, Goa, vide Notification dated March 01, 2024 furnished the Goa Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Act, 2024 which further amended the Goa Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017.

The following amendments have been made:

- Under Section 2, the definition section, the following sections have been inserted:
  - o Section 80A – Online Gaming
  - o Section 80B – Online money gaming
  - o Section 102A – Specified actionable claim
- Under Section 24 of ‘compulsory registration in certain cases’, the following clauses have been inserted:
  - o Clause (xia) states, ‘every person supplying online money gaming from a place outside India to a person in India’.
  - o The amendments made by the Act shall be without prejudice to provisions of any other law for the time being in force, providing for prohibiting, restricting or regulating betting, casino, gambling, horse racing, lottery or online gaming.

(To view the Notification, please click [here](#))

### ▪ **Revised Solid Waste Management Policy (SWMP) 2022- 2037**

The Department of Urban Development, Goa vide Notification dated March 01, 2024 published the revised Solid Waste Management Policy (SWMP) 2022-2037. It is a guiding document promoting objectives and efforts in the domain of SWM. The basis of the formulation of the policy is National Solid Waste Management Policy, under Clause (c) of sub-Rule (1) of Rule 6 and National Urban Sanitation Policy, under Clause (a), (b) & (c) of sub-Rule (1) of Rule 11.

The following has been further stated:

- The scope of the policy is limited to management of waste such as wet, dry, domestic, etc.
- Other types of wastes such as biomedical, hazardous, electronic etc is not covered under the ambit of the policy.
- The policy applies to all waste generators and local bodies in the state of Goa.
- It encompasses generation, segregation, storage, collection, transportation, treatment, and solid waste within the state.
- This revised SWMP will be valid for a period of 15 years (2022-37).

(To view the Notification, please click [here](#))

## Gujarat

### ▪ **Declaration of employment in the electricity industry as an essential service for the public**

The Labour Department, Gujarat, vide Notification dated March 02, 2024 declared that all employment in the industries that generate, transmit or distribute electricity for and to the public, along with industries engaged in trading of electrical power and coordination activities, is an essential service for a period of 6 months starting from March 14, 2024.

(To view the Notification, please click [here](#))

## Jammu & Kashmir

### ▪ **Notification on details of the packaging machines**

The Finance Department, Jammu & Kashmir, vide Notification dated March 07, 2024, which shall come into effect on April 01, 2024, notified the requirement of details of the packaging machines and the special procedure that needs to be followed by a registered person who is engaged in the manufacturing of goods.

Key aspects:

- Every registered person engaged in the manufacturing of the goods mentioned in the Schedule will electronically furnish details of the packaging Form GST SRM-I within 30 days of this Notification coming into effect.
- Any person intending to manufacture goods mentioned in the schedule and who has been granted registration will furnish details of packaging machines being used in Form GST SRM-I on the common portal within 15 days of the grant of registration.

(To view the Notification, please click [here](#))

## Karnataka

### ▪ **Karnataka Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation and Development) (Amendment) Bill, 2023**

The Department of Parliamentary Affairs and Legislation Secretariat, Karnataka, vide Notification dated March 07, 2024 furnished the Karnataka Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation and Development) (Amendment) Bill, 2023, further amending the Karnataka Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation and Development) Act, 1966.

As per the amendment, penalty clause (Section 117) has been amended as the convict will now be punished with imprisonment for a term extending up to 3 months and a fine which may extend to INR 10,000 but shall not be less than INR 5000 and on a second contravention, a fine of INR 20,000, in case of third a fine of INR 30,000 will be levied.

(To view the Notification, please click [here](#))

### ▪ **Karnataka Motor Transport and Other Allied Workers' Social Security and Welfare Act, 2024**

The Department of Parliamentary Affairs and Legislation Secretariat, Karnataka, vide Notification dated March 07, 2024 notified Karnataka Motor Transport and Other Allied Workers' Social Security and Welfare Act, 2024. The objective of the act is to provide social security to every workman working in every motor transport undertaking, garage, workshop, etc. It shall come into force on March 07, 2024.

(To view the Notification, please click [here](#))

▪ **Issue of minimum wages for various categories of scheduled employees**

The Labour Department, Karnataka, vide Notification dated March 01, 2024 issued minimum wages for various categories of scheduled employees in various establishments (including hospitals, clinics, security agencies, guards, hotels, restaurants, food packaging industry and others) which will be applicable from April 01, 2024 to March 31, 2025, as per the following:

- Highly skilled worker – INR 728
- Skilled worker – INR 674
- Semi-skilled worker – INR 625
- Unskilled worker – INR 581

(To view the Notification, please click [here](#))

## Kerala

▪ **Kerela Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Act, 2024**

The Taxes Department, Kerela, vide Notification dated March 04, 2024 furnished the Kerala Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Act, 2024 amending the Kerela Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017 whereby Section 24 has been inserted, which states that every person supplying online money gaming from a place outside India to a person in India requires compulsory registration in India.

(To view the Notification, please click [here](#))

▪ **Kerela Motor Vehicles (2nd Amendment) Rules, 2024**

The Transport Department, Kerela, vide Notification dated March 05, 2024 published the Kerela Motor Vehicles (2nd Amendment) Rules, 2024 to amend the Kerela Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989.

Rule 260A of Kerela Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 has been amended, where operating permission of 'storage carriage' vehicle has been reduced from 25 years to 22 years.

(To view the Notification, please click [here](#))

## Madhya Pradesh

▪ **Reporting Regulatory Compliance Regulations 2024**

The Madhya Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission (**MPERC**), Madhya Pradesh, vide Notification dated March 01, 2024 published the guidelines for Reporting Regulatory Compliance (Revision-I) Regulations 2024, which came into force from March 1, 2024.

The guidelines establish the framework for the compliance system and reporting regulatory compliance by transmission trading and distribution licensees operating in the state.

(To view the Notification, please click [here](#))

▪ **Madhya Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission (Manner of payment of subsidy by the State Government) (Revision-I) Regulations, 2024**

The Madhya Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission (**MPERC**), Madhya Pradesh, vide Notification dated March 01, 2024 issued the Madhya Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission (Manner of payment of subsidy by the State Government) (Revision-I) Regulations, 2024 which extends to the whole state. The regulation supersedes the Madhya Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission (Manner of payment of subsidy by the State Government) Regulation, 2007.

The Regulations specify the procedure for subsidy accounting, and the way subsidy payments are to be made by the government.

As per the Regulations, any person who is affected by waiver exemption or reduction directed by the state government in tariffs determined by the Commission will be compensated by any direct financial grant by the Madhya Pradesh government.

(To view the Notification, please click [here](#))

▪ **Draft Madhya Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions for Intra-State Open Access in Madhya Pradesh) Regulations, (Revision-I) 2021 (Fourth Amendment)**

The Madhya Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission (**MPERC**), vide Notification dated March 13, 2024 published a Draft Madhya Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions for Intra-State Open Access in Madhya Pradesh) Regulations, (Revision-I) 2021 (Fourth Amendment), to further amend Madhya Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions for Intra-State Open Access in Madhya Pradesh) (Revision-I) Regulations, 2021.

As per the amendment, additional surcharge shall not be levied in case a person is availing power from open access within his contract demand with Distribution Licensee and fixed charges thereof are paid to the Distribution Licensee.

(To view the Notification, please click [here](#))

▪ **Madhya Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission (Framework for Resource Adequacy) Regulations, 2024**

The Madhya Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission (**MPERC**), vide Notification dated March 08, 2024 published the Madhya Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission (Framework for Resource Adequacy) Regulations, 2024. The objective of the Regulations is to enable the implementation of a resource adequacy framework. Further, these will apply to the generating companies, distribution licensees, state load dispatch Centre, etc.

(To view the Notification, please click [here](#))

▪ **Amendment to Madhya Pradesh Startup Policy and Implementation Scheme 2022**

The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (**MSME**), Madhya Pradesh, vide Notification dated March 08, 2024 notified about the amendment to the Madhya Pradesh Startup Policy and Implementation Scheme 2022. Key aspects:

- Assistance will be provided for participation in events and financial assistance to startups of MP.
- Maximum reimbursement up to INR 50,000, which is 75% of the expenditure incurred for participation in startup-centric domestic events will be provided.
- This financial assistance can be provided to any startup in the State for maximum one event in a FY by the Managing Director, MP approval.

(To view the Notification, please click [here](#))

## Maharashtra

▪ **Draft Maharashtra Factories (Safety Audit) (Amendment) Rules, 2024**

The Government of Maharashtra, vide Notification March 04, 2024 issued the Draft Maharashtra Factories (Safety Audit) (Amendment) Rules, 2024 to amend the Maharashtra Factories (Safety Audit) Rules, 2014. As per the Notification, Rule 4 has been amended which state that the safety audit shall be carried out by the Safety Auditor or team of plant personnel as per the standards laid down in the Indian Standard, code of Practice on occupational Safety and Health Audit.

(To view the Notification, please click [here](#))

## Meghalaya

▪ **List of holidays for the Calendar Year 2024**

The General Administration Department, Meghalaya vide Notification dated March 08, 2024 declared the list of holidays for the CY 2024.

(To view the Notification, please click [here](#))

## Puducherry

▪ **Details issued for packaging machines**

The Commercial Taxes Department, Puducherry, vide Notification dated March 13, 2024 published a Notification regarding details of the packaging machines. As per the recommendation given by the Council, every person registered and engaged in the manufacturing of the goods will follow this special procedure. Key aspects:

- All registered persons engaged in the manufacturing of the goods will furnish details of packaging being used for filling and packing of packages in Form GST SRM-1, electronically on the common portal within 30 days of the Notification coming into effect.
- Any person intending to manufacture goods and has been granted registration will furnish details of packaging being used for filling and packing of packages in Form GST SRM-1 on the common portal within 15 days.
- Upon furnishing, details at a unique registration number will be generated for each machine.

(To view the Notification, please click [here](#))

## Punjab

▪ **Punjab Distillery (Chandigarh 1st Amendment) Rules, 2024**

The Excise and Taxation Department, Punjab, vide Notification dated March 09, 2024 published the Punjab Distillery (Chandigarh 1st Amendment) Rules, 2024 to further amend the Punjab Distillery Rules, 1932. As per the amendment only those distilleries/bottling plants whose rates are approved by the Chandigarh Administration will be allowed to sell their products in Chandigarh.

(To view the Notification, please click [here](#))

## Rajasthan

- **Excise and Alcohol Restraint Policy for the Year 2024-25**

The Finance Department, Rajasthan vide Notification dated March 04, 2024 clarified the provisions of the annual license fee in point number 2.9.1 of the Excise and Alcohol Restrain Policy for 2024-25. It was clarified that liquor retail shops in FY 2024-25 will have to follow the policy where 50% of the annual license fee will be deposited before starting the shop, and the rest will be deposited in two equal instalments in the 2nd and 3rd quarter of the FY.

(To view the Notification, please click [here](#))

- **Draft Rajasthan Excise (Amendment) Rules, 2024**

The Finance (Excise) Department, Rajasthan, vide Notification dated March 13, 2024 notified the Draft Rajasthan Excise (Amendment) Rules, 2024 amending the Rajasthan Excise Rules, 1956. As per the amendment a new Clause (e) has been added in Rule 69B, which states 'fees for certain permits'.

(To view the Notification, please click [here](#))

- **Rajasthan Excise (Grant of Hotel Bar/Club Bar Licenses) (Draft Amendment) Rules, 2024**

The Finance (Excise) Department, Rajasthan, vide Notification dated March 13, 2024 notified the Rajasthan Excise (Grant of Hotel Bar/Club Bar Licenses) (Draft Amendment) Rules, 2024 to further amend the Rajasthan Excise (Grant of Hotel Bar/Club Bar Licenses) Rules, 1973. As per the amendment there will be different license fee for the hotels varying from location to number of room capacity. This will come into force on April 01, 2024.

(To view the Notification, please click [here](#))

## ABOUT US

UnComplycate is an end-to-end compliance and contract management solutions provider that integrates domain experience with IT-enabled implementation, monitoring and management protocols.

With more than thirty years' experience in helping clients discharge their compliance obligations, we have developed a repository of significant knowledge and practical experience in advising and assisting businesses on their regulatory compliance, litigation management, notice and contract management and other attendant requirements. We create bespoke products for clients that include, among other things, an audit of the functions of the company, offering technology-enabled platforms that provide solutions for effective control over the compliance and contract management functions. These services are not limited by geography and can be seamlessly extended to all operating sites of the client.

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