



# COMPLIANCE UPDATE

February 2025 | Part 2 of 2

## Table of content

- **Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)**
- **Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)**
- **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**
- **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)**
- **Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)**
  
- **Industry-wise updates**
  - Employee Provident Fund Organisation
  
- **State-wise updates**
  - Andhra Pradesh
  - Govt of NCT of Delhi
  - Karnataka
  - Kerala
  - Maharashtra
  - Rajasthan
  - Tamil Nadu
  - Telangana

## Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)

### ▪ **Income-tax (Third Amendment) Rules, 2025**

The Central Board of Direct Taxes on February 07, 2025, amended Rule 2F (Infrastructure Debt Fund) of Income-tax Rules, 1962. As per the amendment, in case of external commercial borrowings by the Infrastructure Debt Fund, the tenor shall not be less than a period of five years and such borrowings shall not be sourced from foreign branches of Indian banks. Furthermore, no investment shall be made by the Infrastructure Debt Fund in any project where it's specified shareholder or the associated enterprise or the group of such specified shareholders has a substantial interest.

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

### ▪ **Income-tax (Fourth Amendment) Rules, 2025**

The Central Board of Direct Taxes on February 07, 2025, has amended Form 49C (Annual Statement by a non-resident having Liaison Office in India).

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

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

### ▪ **Imposition of Custom Duty on certain Drugs & Medicines and Battery Waste**

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs on February 01, 2025, revised the following Custom rates:

- Drugs, medicines, diagnostic kits or equipment – 5%
- Lifesaving drugs/medicines including their salts and esters and diagnostic test kits – NIL
- Waste and scrap of Lithium-Ion battery – NIL

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

## Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

### ▪ [Foreign Exchange Management \(Manner of Receipt and Payment\) \(Amendment\) Regulations, 2025](#)

The Reserve Bank of India on February 10, 2025, amended Regulation 3 of Foreign Exchange Management (Manner of Receipt and Payment) Regulations, 2023. The new provision allows payments between residents of participant countries through the ACU mechanism or as directed by the RBI.

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

## Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)

### ▪ [Service platform for investors to trace inactive and unclaimed Mutual Fund folios- MITRA \(Mutual Fund Investment Tracing and Retrieval Assistant\)](#)

The Securities and Exchange Board of India on February 12, 2025, has introduced the Mutual Fund Investment Tracing and Retrieval Assistant (MITRA) platform to help investors trace inactive and unclaimed Mutual Fund (MF) folios.

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

### ▪ [Securities and Exchange Board of India \(Investor Charter\) \(Amendment\) Regulations, 2025](#)

The Securities and Exchange Board of India on February 10, 2025, notified the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Investor Charter) (Amendment) Regulations, 2025, aimed at enhancing investor protection and regulatory compliance across multiple financial market participants. The amendment, enacted under various sections of securities-related legislation, applies to stockbrokers, merchant bankers, debenture trustees, registrars, share transfer agents, mutual funds, and custodians, among others. The primary objective is to ensure that these entities comply with the Investor Charter, which SEBI will specify and update periodically.

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

### ▪ [Securities and Exchange Board of India \(Intermediaries\) \(Amendment\) Regulations, 2025](#)

The Securities and Exchange Board of India on February 06, 2025, added Chapter IIIB in Securities and Exchange Board of India (Intermediaries) Regulations, 2008. The amendment defines AI and ML tools broadly to include applications used for investment strategies, trading, compliance, and business management.

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

## Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)

### ▪ [BIS Standards for Traditional Medicines](#)

The Bureau of Indian Standards on February 10, 2025, notified the following BIS Standards among others:

- IS 19122: 2025 Mūsī Siyāh (Curculigo orchioides Gaertn.) Rhizome for use in Traditional Medicine — Specification
- IS 19123: 2025 Habb-i-Balsān (Commiphora opobalsamum L.) Dried Fruit for Use in Traditional Medicine — Specification
- IS 19124: 2025 Tabāshīr (Bambusa bambos L. Voss.) Dried Exudate for Use in Traditional Medicine — Specification
- IS 19125: 2025 Habb al-Ās (Myrtus communis L.) Dried Fruit for Use in Traditional Medicine — Specification

**The Standards will come into force retrospectively from January 22, 2025.**

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

### ▪ [Revision of BIS Standards for Water and Wastewater Test](#)

The Bureau of Indian Standards on February 10, 2025, revised the following BIS Standards among others:

- IS 3025 (Part 64): 2025 ISO 17294-1: 2024 Methods of Sampling and Test (Physical and Chemical) for Water and Wastewater Part 64 Application of Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry (ICP-MS) General Requirements (First Revision)
- IS 5610: 2025 Refrigerants - Specification (Third Revision)
- IS 17614 (Part 1): 2025 ISO 5667-1: 2023 Water Quality - Sampling Part 1 Guidance on the Design of Sampling Programmes and Sampling Techniques (First Revision)

**The revised Standards will come into force retrospectively from January 24, 2025.**

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

#### ▪ **Revision of BIS Standards for Textiles**

The Bureau of Indian Standards on February 11, 2025, revised the following BIS Standards among others:

- IS/ISO 105-B04: 2024 Textiles - Tests for Colour Fastness Part B04 Colour Fastness to Artificial Weathering - Xenon Arc Fading Lamp Test (First Revision)
- IS/ISO 105-C12: 2024 Textiles - Tests for Colour Fastness Part C12 Colour Fastness to Industrial Laundering
- IS 1315: 2025 Textiles - Linear Density of Yarns Spun on Cotton System - Methods of Test (Second Revision)

**The revised Standards will come into force retrospectively from January 31, 2025.**

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

#### ▪ **BIS Standards for Industrial and Treated Water**

The Bureau of Indian Standards on February 11, 2025, notified the following BIS Standards among others:

- IS 17675 (Part 5): 2025 ISO 16075-5: 2021 Guidelines for Treated Wastewater Use for Irrigation Projects Part 5 Treated Wastewater Disinfection and Equivalent Treatments
- IS 18832: 2025 ISO 22447: 2019 Industrial Wastewater Classification

**The Standards will come into force retrospectively from January 30, 2025.**

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

#### ▪ **BIS Standards for Electric Hot Plates**

The Bureau of Indian Standards on February 13, 2025, notified withdrawal of IS 302-2-207: 1994 Safety of Household and Similar Electrical Appliances Part 2 Particular Requirements Section 207 Electric Hot Plates.

**The Standard will be withdrawn retrospectively from January 29, 2025.**

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

## Industry-wise updates

### Employee Provident Fund Organisation

#### ▪ **Extension of due date for UAN Activation and seeding Bank Account with AADHAAR**

The Employees Provident Fund Organisation on February 06, 2025, extended the timeline for UAN Activation and Aadhar seeding in Bank Account for availing benefits under ELI Scheme from January 15, 2025, to February 15, 2025.

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

# State-wise updates

## Andhra Pradesh

### ▪ **Revision of Additional Retail Excise Tax Rates on Liquor and Beer**

The Revenue Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh vide notification dated February 10, 2025, announced revised Additional Retail Excise Tax (ARET) rates on Indian-made foreign liquor (IMFL), foreign liquor, and beer, effective immediately. The notification details the updated ARET rates for IMFL, foreign liquor, and beer supplied by wholesale IMFL depots to retail licensees, including shops, bars, and in-house establishments. A key change impacts IMFL, foreign liquor, beer, wine, and ready-to-drink beverages supplied to bars and in-house establishments with an additional 15% ARET being levied on the issue price of these products.

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

## Govt of NCT of Delhi

### ▪ **Holiday on account of Guru Ravidas Jayanti**

The Government of NCT Delhi vide notification dated February 11, 2025, through its Lieutenant announced that Wednesday, February 12, 2025, will be a public holiday in observance of Guru Ravidas Jayanti. The holiday will apply to all government offices, autonomous bodies, and public undertakings under the Delhi Government.

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

### ▪ **Delhi Banning of Unregulated Deposit Schemes Rules, 2024**

The Department of Finance, Government of NCT Delhi vide notification dated February 04, 2025, issued the Delhi Banning of Unregulated Deposit Schemes Rules, 2024 effective February 7, 2025. These rules aim to protect citizens from fraudulent financial schemes.

– Key provisions of the new rules include:

- Self-Help Group Ceiling (Rule 3): Individual members of Self-Help Groups (SHGs) may make periodical payments up to INR 50,000 per month, with a maximum annual limit of INR 5,00,000 per financial year. This provision sets a clear ceiling for contributions within SHGs.
- Competent Authority (Rule 4): This rule outlines the powers and duties of the designated Competent Authority responsible for enforcing the ban on unregulated deposit schemes.
- Valuation Reports (Rule 10): When attached properties are to be released, Rule 10 mandates the procurement of valuation reports to ensure transparency and fairness in the process.

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

## Karnataka

### ▪ **Karnataka Industrial Policy 2025-30**

The Government of Karnataka on February 11, 2025, issued the Karnataka Industrial Policy 2025-2030, designed to create an investor-friendly ecosystem and foster a thriving manufacturing environment. The policy, effective from February 08, 2025, will be in place for five years or until a new policy is introduced. The Key Objectives include:

- Battery recycling centers, vehicle and battery testing facilities.
- Generation of 20 lakh (2 million) jobs by 2030.
- Promotion of sustainability through green incentives and the development of eco-friendly industrial zones.
- Achieving balanced regional development through differential incentives and employment boosters, with additional support for women's workforce participation.
- Boosting innovation in sunrise sectors, including Electronics System Design and Manufacturing (ESDM), Advanced Manufacturing, Aerospace & Defence, Future Mobility, and Augmented/Virtual Reality (AR/VR).

The Karnataka Industrial Policy 2025-30 represents the state's commitment to attracting investment, fostering innovation, and creating employment opportunities for its citizens.

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

### ▪ **Online Portal for Professional Tax Applications**

The Department of Commercial Taxes, Government of Karnataka vide notification dated February 04, 2025, announced that all Professional Tax applications will now be exclusively processed online through the e-Prerna portal, eliminating the need for physical applications. This mandate covers all aspects of Professional Tax processing, including registration, enrollment, amendments, return filing, and payments. The move is in line with Ease of Doing Business (EODB) reforms and aims to streamline the process for taxpayers by incorporating all

the amendments and payments online only and maintaining a real-time dashboard as per the DPII guidelines.

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

▪ **Draft Karnataka Inland Vessel (Amendment) Rules, 2025**

The Government of Karnataka vide notification dated February 10, 2025, issued the Draft Karnataka Inland Vessels (Amendment) Rules, 2025, proposing revisions to the existing Karnataka Inland Vessels Rules, 2006. The proposed amendment includes the substitution of the following schedules:

- Part A which states ‘Table of Survey Fees’
- Part B which states ‘Table of Registration Fees’.
- Part C which states ‘Appeal Fee’

The Karnataka government is inviting feedback on these draft amendments. Interested parties are encouraged to submit any objections or suggestions to the Secretary to Government, Infrastructure Development, Ports and Inland Water Transport Department within thirty days of the notification date.

(To view the Draft Amendment, click [here](#))

▪ **Karnataka Municipal Corporations Model Building (Amendment) Bye-Laws, 2024**

The Government of Karnataka, vide notification dated February 05, 2025, issued the Karnataka Municipal Corporations Model Building (Amendment) Bye-Laws, 2024, to further amend the Karnataka Municipal Corporations Model Building Bye-Laws, 2017.

- Some of the amendments include:
  - Inclusion of a new Chapter 17, dedicated to “Digital Communications,” placed after existing Chapter 16. This new chapter addresses the growing importance of digital infrastructure in modern buildings.
  - Within Chapter 17, a new sub-rule (17.1) has been introduced, focusing on “Emerging Technologies in Tele-Communication Services”.
  - Furthermore, Byelaw 17 outlines the provisions for in-building solutions for digital communication infrastructure. This includes considerations for emerging telecommunication technologies, policy efforts, and the procedures for establishing In-Building Solutions (IBS) or fiber networks.

(To view the Amendment, click [here](#))

## Kerala

▪ **Reorganization of working hours due to the summer heat**

The Government of Kerala vide notification dated February 11, 2025, notified regarding the Reorganization of working hours due to rising daytime temperatures. Effective immediately, and lasting until May 10, 2025, working hours for those working outdoors in the sun have been adjusted. The new regulations stipulate:

- A maximum of eight working hours per day, between 7:00 am and 7:00 pm.
- A mandatory rest period from 12:00 noon to 3:00 pm for all daytime workers.
- For shift workers, shifts must be rearranged to conclude by 12:00 noon and resume no earlier than 3:00 pm.
- Exemptions to this order include areas located at an altitude of more than 3000 feet above sea level and those not typically affected by sunstroke.

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

▪ **Aadhar authentication on voluntary basis for identification and authentication during registration on the AIIIS portal**

The Labour and Skills Department of Government of Kerala vide Notification dated February 10, 2025, has announced the implementation of voluntary Aadhaar authentication for the identification and authentication of member beneficiaries of welfare boards registering on the AIIIS portal.

- This initiative allows individuals to choose whether or not to use their Aadhaar for registration purposes. The department has been authorized to utilize Aadhaar authentication (Yes/No or/and e-KYC) for disbursing benefits under various welfare fund schemes, as detailed in the attached Annexure.
- For claimants who choose not to use Aadhaar authentication, the Secretary of the Labour and Skills Department will separately notify alternative methods of identification.

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

▪ **Waiver of Stamp Duty and Registration Fees for Manufacturing Units**

The Government of Kerala vide notification dated February 06, 2025, notified regarding the waiving of the Stamp duty and registration fees for manufacturing units, as part of the Kerala Industrial Policy 2023. This exemption applies to entrepreneurs establishing manufacturing units within government industrial parks and notified private industrial parks. The waiver covers

stamp duty and registration fees associated with registration, lease agreements, and the purchase of land or buildings.

This incentive is contingent upon the Industries Department ensuring that the manufacturing units contribute to the creation of improved employment opportunities.

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

▪ **Aadhaar Authentication for Unorganized Daily Waged Employees Distress Relief Scheme**

The Government of Kerala vide notification dated February 01, 2025, announced that Aadhaar authentication will be mandatory for beneficiaries of the Unorganised Daily Waged Employees Distress Relief Fund Scheme. This mandate is in accordance with Section 7 of the Aadhaar Act, 2016.

– Under the new guidelines, beneficiaries must possess an Aadhaar number or have applied for Aadhaar enrolment. In cases where Aadhaar authentication fails, alternative methods such as iris scan, One-Time Password (OTP), or physical Aadhaar verification will be utilized. The Kerala government has emphasized that no eligible child will be denied benefits under the scheme due to issues related to Aadhaar. This measure aims to ensure that all eligible individuals receive the support they need.

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

## Maharashtra

▪ **Implementation of Telecommunications Act, 2023 and Right of Way (RoW) Rules, 2024**

The Government of Maharashtra on February 05, 2025, issued implementation of Telecommunications Act, 2023 and Right of Way (RoW) Rules, 2024 in Maharashtra. These were implemented across the country from January 01, 2025. The implementation aims to facilitate rapid deployment of telecom infrastructure, enhancing connectivity and economic growth. The Maharashtra State Government has taken immediate steps to implement these regulations, and these have been enforced in all Municipal Corporations, Municipalities and Nagar Panchayats across the State.

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

▪ **Notice regarding the Mandatory Update of Login Credentials on MPCB IMIS Web Portal**

The Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB) issued a notice regarding the Mandatory Update of Login Credentials on the MPCB IMIS window. It is mandated for the company's registered on MPCB IMIS web portal to update their Login Credentials including Name, Mobile Number, E-mail ID when an authorized employee/officer leaves the organization. Failure to update these credentials may result in missing official communication from MPCB. Login Credential Updating Guidelines are also available on the Portal and the same should be followed while updating the credentials.

(To view Notice, please click [here](#))

▪ **Circular regarding SOP for issuance of certificate/NOC for shipbreaking activity**

The Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB) issued a circular on February 07, 2025, regarding SOP for issuance of certificate/NOC for shipbreaking activity. The SOP outlines the process for issuing certificates and NoCs for shipbreaking activities. It states that no application or NoC is required for anchoring. However, for beaching the ship owner must apply for permission followed by an inspection of hazardous waste. The SOP also states that the ship owner must submit a disposal report to receive a complete certification. It also ensures compliance with environmental and regulatory standards throughout the process.

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

▪ **Corrigendum regarding Maharashtra Green Hydrogen Policy-2023 Internal Procedure Part-1 (Project Registration)**

The Maharashtra Government of February 06, 2025, has issued a Corrigendum regarding Maharashtra Green Hydrogen Policy-2023 Internal Procedure. The Maharashtra Government has excluded the 'Financial Eligibility Criteria/Net Worth' provisions from Annexure- A, 2.3 and other section in Government Decisions regarding the registration of green hydrogen and similar production projects under the Maharashtra Green Hydrogen Policy, 2023. This change is applied to the Working Procedure Part-1 (Project Registration).

(To view Corrigendum, please click [here](#))

## Rajasthan

### ▪ **Declaration of Holiday Due to Bye Election in Panchayat Raj Area of Rajasthan on February 14, 2025 under NI Act**

The Government of Rajasthan on February 06, 2025, has released Declaration of Holiday Due to Bye Election in Panchayat Raj Area of Rajasthan on February 14, 2025, under the Explanation to Section 25 of Negotiable Instrument Act.

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

### ▪ **Rajasthan Government issued the Excise and Liquor Control Policy Year 2025-29**

The Government of Rajasthan issued the Excise and Liquor Control Policy Year 2025-29 on February 05, 2025. This policy has been issued with the objective of increasing the financial resources of the state by regulating and controlling the activities related to the manufacture, transportation, import, export, sale and possession of intoxicants, especially liquor. The policy aims to prevent handmade and illegal liquor, discourage alcohol consumption by raising awareness of its ill effects, and promote responsible drinking. Additionally, it seeks to provide quality liquor at reasonable prices and prevent excise revenue loss through regulatory measures.

- Policy states the following:
  - o Promoting competition in the liquor business while ensuring fair returns for licenses and competitive pricing for consumers.
  - o Increasing the ENA purchase limit for small bottlers from 3 lakh to 6 lakh bulk liters annually to enhance competitiveness.
  - o Shifting excise duty on country liquor and RML to an ad-valorem system to align it with EDP and regulate quantity.
  - o Simplifying the duty structure and retailer margins for IMFL and beer through rationalization.

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

### ▪ **Rajasthan Excise and Temperance Policy 2025-29**

The Government of Rajasthan on February 02, 2025 issued the Rajasthan Excise and Temperance Policy 2025-29. The policy will be valid for the next four years, i.e., from April 01, 2025, to March 31, 2029.

The policy state as follows-

- District-wise clusters to be formed while keeping liquor shops unchanged at 7,665.
- Opportunity for renewal of the existing licensees for the year 2025-26 (on renewal of 70 per cent shops in the district and all shops included in the cluster).
- Online auction/e-bid for remaining shops.
- The Simplified Excise Duty for IMFL:
  - o ₹310/LPL + 75% of EDP (for EDP ≤ ₹1,000)
  - o ₹370/LPL + 75% of EDP (for EDP > ₹1,000)
- Excise duty for beer:
  - o 185% of EBP (mild beer)
  - o 200% of EBP (strong beer)

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

## Tamil Nadu

### ▪ **Handbook on Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Guidelines for E-Waste issued by TNPCCB**

The Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCCB) on February 11, 2025, issued a handbook on Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Guidelines for E-Waste. The E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2022, enforced from April 1, 2023, establish an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) framework, mandating manufacturers, producers, refurbishers, and recyclers to register on the CPCB portal for proper recycling and disposal. To aid compliance, the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCCB) has released a Handbook on EPR Guidelines for E-Waste Management, offering simplified guidance to help industries transition to formal recycling and promote a circular economy.

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

### ▪ **Handbook on Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Guidelines for Battery Waste**

The Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCCB) on February 11, 2025, issued a handbook on Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Guidelines for Battery Waste. The Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board offers a handbook to help stakeholders including producers, refurbishers, and recyclers to understand EPR guidelines. Furthermore, Compliance with the rules is essential for sustainable battery waste management.

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

- **Amendment to Tamil Nadu Business Facilitation Rules, 2017**

The Government of Tamil Nadu on February 10, 2025, issued an amendment to Tamil Nadu Business Facilitation Rules, 2017. A new entry was made in Annexure 2 under the head 'Other Clearances and Renewals' regarding 'Renewal of License to work a Lift or an Escalator under rule 5 of the Tamil Nadu Lifts and Escalators Rules, 1997'.

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

## Telangana

- **Telangana declared the Motor Transport Industry in the Telangana as a Public Utility Service**

The Government of Telangana on February 04, 2025, issued a notification declaring the Motor Transport Industry in Telangana as a Public Utility Service for the purpose of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. This should start on February 23, 2025, for a period of six months.

(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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