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ONE PORTAL, MULTIPLE BENEFITS:

THE EXPANDING REACH OF e-SHRAM PORTAL

The Government of India has increasingly leveraged digital platforms to strengthen social security coverage for the country's vast unorganised workforce. Recognising the fragmented nature of welfare delivery and the absence of a unified database of workers engaged in the unorganised sector, the **Ministry of Labour & Employment launched the e-Shram Portal on 26 August 2021** for the creation of a National Database of Unorganised Workers (NDUW). The portal enables registration of unorganised workers, including gig workers, platform workers and migrant workers, on a self-declaration basis and provides every registered worker with a Universal Account Number (UAN).

Over the years, the scope of the portal has evolved beyond serving as a registration database. In line with the Union Budget 2024–25, the Ministry launched the **e-Shram "One-Stop Solution" on 21 October 2024**, transforming the platform into an integrated digital ecosystem that enables registered workers to access multiple social security and welfare schemes through a single portal. This initiative aims to simplify access to welfare benefits, improve convergence across Government schemes and facilitate better delivery of social security benefits to the unorganised workforce.

1. EVOLUTION OF THE e-SHRAM ECOSYSTEM

The e-Shram Portal was conceptualised to address one of the long-standing challenges in India's labour ecosystem i.e. the absence of a comprehensive and verified database of workers employed in the unorganised sector. Prior to the launch of the portal, welfare schemes administered by different Ministries operated largely in silos, often resulting in fragmented implementation and limited visibility of benefits available to eligible workers.

The introduction of the One-Stop Solution represents the next phase of this initiative by integrating welfare schemes and related services through a common digital interface. Instead of functioning solely as a worker registration platform, e-Shram now seeks to serve as a central access point through which registered workers can identify and avail benefits under multiple Government programmes.

2. KEY FEATURES OF THE PORTAL

The e-Shram ecosystem presently incorporates several features intended to improve accessibility and delivery of welfare services, including:

- Registration of unorganised workers, including gig workers, platform workers and migrant workers, and issuance of a unique Universal Account Number (UAN);
- Integration of 15 Central Government welfare and social security schemes, enabling registered workers to access multiple benefits through a single platform;
- Linkages with the National Career Service (NCS) for employment opportunities, Skill India Digital Hub (SIDH) for skill development and Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan (PM-SYM) for pension benefits;
- A unified digital interface enabling registered workers to view welfare schemes and benefits available to them.

> *The integrated schemes presently span diverse sectors, including health insurance, life and accident insurance, housing, livelihood support, fisheries, maternity benefits, food security and pension schemes, thereby enabling a broader social security framework for the unorganised workforce.*

3. MEASURES TO ENSURE DATA AUTHENTICITY

Given that the e-Shram Portal serves as a national database for welfare delivery, maintaining the integrity and authenticity of worker information remains a critical objective. Accordingly, registrations are completed only after successful **Aadhaar-based e-KYC authentication**, with core demographic details including name, gender, date of birth, permanent address and photograph being directly fetched from the UIDAI database.

According to the Ministry, this process significantly reduces the possibility of duplicate or fraudulent registrations while improving the reliability of data maintained on the portal.

4. IMPLEMENTATION STATUS AND OUTREACH INITIATIVES

The Ministry has stated that **over 31.82 crore unorganised workers** have already been registered on the e-Shram Portal. To further enhance registration and improve coverage across all States and Union Territories, including backward districts, the Government has adopted a multi-channel registration strategy.

In addition to self-registration through the web portal and mobile application, **assisted registration facilities** have been made available through Common Service Centres (CSCs), State Sewa Kendras (SSKs) and the UMANG platform. The Ministry is also undertaking awareness campaigns, registration drives and community outreach programmes, while leveraging digital communication and social media to encourage greater participation among eligible workers.

5. WAY FORWARD

The continued expansion of the e-Shram Portal reflects the Government's broader objective of building a unified digital ecosystem for the delivery of social security benefits to India's unorganised workforce. By integrating multiple welfare schemes, strengthening digital authentication mechanisms and expanding outreach efforts, the initiative seeks to improve accessibility, transparency and efficiency in welfare administration. As the platform continues to evolve, it is expected to play an increasingly significant role in facilitating convergence across social security programmes and enhancing the overall delivery of welfare benefits to eligible workers.

COMPLIANCE UPDATE

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Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)

- **Foreign Assets of Small Taxpayers – Disclosure Scheme Rules, 2026**

  The Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue, Central Board of Direct Taxes) on August 14, 2026, notified the Foreign Assets of Small Taxpayers – Disclosure Scheme Rules, 2026, prescribing the procedure for valuation, declaration, payment and certification of amounts payable in respect of undisclosed foreign assets and income under the Finance Act, 2026.

  The Rules provide that:

  - Fair market value of specified foreign assets shall be determined as on March 31, 2026, in accordance with prescribed valuation methods.
  - Eligible declarations shall be filed electronically in Form 1, subject to the prescribed INR 1 crore and INR 5 crore aggregate value limits.
  - Variations of up to 20% between declared and subsequently assessed value, except for bank accounts, shall not by themselves invalidate the declaration.
  - The amount payable shall be determined in Form 2 and paid electronically, with 1% monthly interest for eligible delayed payment, subject to the prescribed limits.
  - Upon full payment, Form 4 shall be issued within one month, validating the declaration and granting immunity from further tax, penalty and prosecution under the Black Money Act, 2015.

  The Rules shall come into force on August 16, 2026, and declarations under the Scheme may be filed up to December 31, 2026.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)

- **Revision of Customs Tariff Values for Specified Imported Goods**

  The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs on August 10, 2026, amended the customs tariff values for specified goods, including edible oils, brass scrap, gold, silver and areca nuts, under the Customs Act, 1962.

  The revised tariff values shall come into effect from August 11, 2026.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Compliance Timeline for Television Sets under Compulsory Registration Requirements**

  The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) on August 7, 2026, issued instructions regarding the extension of the implementation timeline for compliance with IS 18112:2022 applicable to television sets under the Electronics and Information Technology Goods (Requirements for Compulsory Registration) Order, 2021.

  The implementation date, originally scheduled for July 26, 2026, has been extended to January 26, 2027, pursuant to the notification issued by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY). CBIC has directed its officers to take necessary action and sensitise stakeholders regarding the revised compliance timeline.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **SOP for Customs Clearance of Personal Postal Imports through FPOs**

  The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) on August 6, 2026, issued a uniform Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for clearance of personal postal imports through Foreign Post Offices (FPOs) under the Postal Import Regulations, 2025.

  The SOP provides that:

  - Personal postal articles shall be processed through the FPO Import Application, integrated with the Risk Management System (RMS).
  - Assessment and examination shall be conducted on a risk-based basis, with physical examination generally limited to articles selected by RMS or identified for regulatory/intelligence reasons.
  - D-Call Letters for additional documents or information shall be issued electronically, with a 30-day response period.
  - Clearance orders shall be issued through the FPO Import Application, and postal articles shall not be delivered until Customs clearance and applicable duty payment are completed.
  - Clearance of non-personal/commercial postal imports shall continue under the existing procedure.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Draft SOP for Reporting Inward Remittance Messages by NBFC Factors**

  The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) on August 12, 2026, invited comments and suggestions on the Draft Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for reporting Inward Remittance Messages (IRMs) relating to NBFC Factors and facilitating self-generation of eBRCs.

  The Draft SOP proposes that NBFC Factors use prescribed SWIFT messaging identifiers for factoring proceeds, while AD-I Banks shall follow specified procedures for creation of IRMs against foreign currency and INR factoring proceeds. Exporters will be able to view the relevant IRMs on the DGFT portal and use them for self-certification of eBRCs.

  Comments and suggestions may be submitted to DGFT at ebrc-dgft@gov.in within 30 days from the date of publication of the Trade Notice.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA)

- **Amendment to Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Rules, 2015**

  The Ministry of Corporate Affairs on August 12, 2026, notified the Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Amendment Rules, 2026, further amending the Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Rules, 2015, to introduce amendments relating to financial instruments, nature-dependent electricity contracts, hedge accounting, financial disclosures and other accounting requirements in line with the revised Ind AS framework.

  The Amendment Rules provide that:

  - Ind AS 101 has been amended to incorporate changes relating to hedge accounting and transition requirements, including amendments applicable to annual reporting periods beginning on or after April 1, 2026.
  - Ind AS 107 has been amended to introduce disclosure requirements relating to contracts referencing nature-dependent electricity, including their impact on future cash flows, financial performance and contractual commitments.
  - Ind AS 109 has been amended to introduce specific accounting and hedge accounting requirements for contracts referencing nature-dependent electricity, including provisions relating to their classification, recognition, derecognition and transition.
  - The amendments to Ind AS 109 also revise requirements relating to the classification and measurement of financial assets, electronic payment-based settlement of financial liabilities, contractual cash flows, non-recourse financial assets and contingent features linked to matters such as carbon emissions.
  - Ind AS 110 has been amended in relation to the assessment of de facto agents and the determination of control over an investee.
  - Ind AS 7 has been amended in relation to the reporting of cash flows between an investor and its associate, joint venture or subsidiary where the investment is accounted for at cost.
  - Several of the amendments, including the Annual Improvements to Ind AS (2024) and amendments relating to nature-dependent electricity and classification and measurement of financial instruments, are applicable for annual reporting periods beginning on or after April 1, 2026, subject to the specific transition provisions prescribed under the respective Ind AS.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

Ministry of Finance (MoF)

- **Revision of Excise Duty on Petrol and High-Speed Diesel Oil**

  The Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue, on August 3, 2026, amended the existing Central Excise notification governing motor spirit (petrol) and high-speed diesel oil.

  The following has been provided:

  - The excise duty rate applicable to motor spirit (petrol) has been revised to INR 3.5 per litre.
  - The excise duty rate applicable to high-speed diesel oil has been revised to INR 24 per litre.

  The revised rates came into effect from 3 August 2026, upon publication in the Official Gazette.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Revision of Special Additional Excise Duty on Export of Aviation Turbine Fuel**

  The Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue, on August 3, 2026, amended the existing framework governing Special Additional Excise Duty (SAED) on exports of Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF). The amendment revises the rate applicable to ATF cleared for export outside India.

  The following has been provided:

  - The SAED rate applicable to Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) has been revised to INR 22 per litre.

  The revised rate came into force on 3 August 2026, upon publication in the Official Gazette.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Revision of Road and Infrastructure Cess on Export of High-Speed Diesel Oil**

  The Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue, on August 3, 2026, amended the existing framework governing Road and Infrastructure Cess (RIC) on exports of high-speed diesel oil. The amendment revises the rate applicable to high-speed diesel oil cleared for export.

  The following has been provided:
  - The RIC rate applicable to high-speed diesel oil has been revised to INR 1.5 per litre.
  - The revised rate came into force on 3 August 2026, upon publication in the Official Gazette.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

- **RBI Invites Public Comments on Draft Directions on Credit Valuation Adjustment (CVA) Framework**

  The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on August 7, 2026, released the draft Reserve Bank of India (Commercial Banks – Credit Valuation Adjustment Framework) Directions, 2026, proposing revised instructions on the Credit Valuation Adjustment (CVA) framework in line with the revised Basel III standards.

  The draft directions provide that:
  - Eligible banks may adopt the Basic Approach (BA-CVA) for calculating CVA capital charge and may choose between the full or reduced version of the BA-CVA.
  - Banks with an insignificant volume of non-centrally cleared derivatives may, alternatively, calculate their CVA capital charge as 100% of their Counterparty Credit Risk (CCR) capital charge.
  - The revised framework provides greater clarity on the eligibility and recognition of CVA hedges and increases the sensitivity of supervisory risk weights based on the sector and credit quality of counterparties.
  - The full BA-CVA calculation separately addresses systematic and idiosyncratic CVA risk components, including risks arising from imperfect alignment of indirect CVA hedges.
  - The revised framework is intended to enhance risk sensitivity and consistency in the calculation of CVA capital requirements.

  Comments on the draft Directions are invited from regulated entities, market participants and other interested parties until August 28, 2026.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Draft Directions on Interest Rates on Loans and Advances**

  The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on August 12, 2026, issued the draft Reserve Bank of India (Interest Rates on Loans and Advances) Directions, 2026 for public comments, proposing a harmonised, principles-based framework for determination of interest rates on loans and advances extended by all regulated entities (REs).

  The draft directions provide that:
  - A broad framework is proposed for determination of interest rates on both fixed rate and floating rate loans, taking into account the nature, complexity and scale of operations of the concerned RE.
  - The proposed framework seeks to harmonise the regulatory approach applicable to Commercial Banks, Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs), All India Financial Institutions, Regional Rural Banks, Urban Cooperative Banks and Rural Cooperative Banks.
  - The framework is intended to ensure effective monetary policy transmission, appropriate pricing of credit risk and fair and non-discriminatory treatment of borrowers.
  - The proposed Directions seek to address divergent practices among Commercial Banks in areas such as Marginal Cost of Funds based Lending Rate (MCLR) and its components, while also providing a more comprehensive regulatory framework for fixed rate loans.
  - A common draft Direction applicable to all REs has been issued for consultation, following which final Directions will be issued separately for each category of RE.

  Comments and feedback from regulated entities, stakeholders and members of the public may be submitted on or before September 11, 2026.

  (To view the Directions, please click here)

- **Draft Directions on Credit Facilities by Non-Banking Financial Companies**

  The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on August 6, 2026, released the draft Reserve Bank of India (Non-Banking Financial Companies – Credit Facilities) Amendment Directions, 2026 for public comments.

  The draft Amendment Directions provide that:

- Comments and feedback on the draft Amendment Directions are invited from regulated entities and other interested stakeholders.
- Feedback may be submitted through the 'Connect 2 Regulate' section on the RBI website or by email with the subject line "Feedback on draft Reserve Bank of India (Non-Banking Financial Companies – Credit Facilities) Amendment Directions, 2026".

Comments and feedback may be submitted on or before August 28, 2026.

(To view the Directions, please click here)

- **Amendment to Priority Sector Lending – Targets and Classification Directions, 2025**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on August 07, 2026, amended the Reserve Bank of India (Priority Sector Lending - Targets and Classification) Directions, 2025, in relation to the treatment of advances against specified Foreign Currency Non-Resident (Bank) [FCNR(B)] and Non-Resident (External) Rupee (NRE) term deposits for calculation of Adjusted Net Bank Credit (ANBC).

The Amendment Directions provide that:

- Advances extended in India against fresh FCNR(B) deposits of three to five years mobilised between June 08, 2026 and September 30, 2026, including deposits renewed upon maturity, shall be excluded from the calculation of ANBC, subject to the applicable conditions.
- Advances against NRE term deposits of three years or more mobilised between June 19, 2026 and September 30, 2026, including deposits renewed upon maturity, shall also be excluded from ANBC.
- The amount excluded from ANBC for determining priority sector lending targets shall not exceed the amount of fresh FCNR(B)/NRE deposits eligible for exemption from maintenance of Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) and Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR).
- The existing footnote prescribing the calculation of incremental advances based on specified historical dates and limiting the deduction to incremental FCNR(B)/NRE deposits has been deleted.

The amendment shall come into force with immediate effect.

(To view the Amendment, please click here)

- **Revised Directions on Loan Recovery Practices and Recovery Agents**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on August 6, 2026, issued Amendment Directions on the conduct of regulated entities in recovery of loans and engagement of recovery agents, applicable to banks, financial institutions, NBFCs and housing finance companies.

The Directions prescribe requirements relating to fair treatment of borrowers, conduct of employees and recovery agents, due diligence, training and code of conduct for recovery agents, including safeguards for technology-based recovery mechanisms involving financed mobile devices.

The Amended Directions will come into effect from January 1, 2027.

(To view the Amendment, please click here)

Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)

- **Amendment to SEBI (Issue and Listing of Municipal Debt Securities) Regulations, 2015**

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on August 11, 2026, specified operational requirements for municipal debt securities in relation to face value, escrow mechanisms and submission of financial results.

The circular provides that:

- The face value of each municipal debt security issued on a private placement basis shall be INR 1 lakh or INR 10,000, as deemed fit. Securities having a face value of INR 10,000 shall have a fixed maturity and no structured obligations, and the trading lot shall be equal to the face value of the security. These requirements shall not apply to public issues.
- In case of a pooled finance vehicle/Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) established under the Pooled Finance Development Fund Scheme, the constituent municipalities shall maintain the prescribed accounts, while the SPV/pooled finance vehicle shall maintain an Interest Payment Account and a Sinking Fund Account and maintain an amount equivalent to one year's interest obligation in the Interest Payment Account throughout the tenure of the municipal debt securities.
- Pooled finance vehicles/SPVs may adopt specified credit enhancement mechanisms, including additional cash collateral, State Government programme equity, access to State Finance Commission devolutions to Urban Local Bodies (ULBs), full or partial credit guarantees from high-rated development finance institutions or multilateral institutions, and other appropriate credit enhancement structures.

- The timeline for submission of half-yearly unaudited financial results to the stock exchange has been extended from 45 days to 60 days from the end of the first half year, while the timeline for submission of annual audited financial results has been extended from 60 days to 90 days from the end of the financial year.

The provisions of the circular shall be applicable with immediate effect.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Extension of Timeline for Enrolment with Past Risk and Return Verification Agency (PaRRVA)**

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on August 03, 2026, extended the timeline for Investment Advisers (IAs) and Research Analysts (RAs) to enroll with the Past Risk and Return Verification Agency (PaRRVA) for communicating certified past performance data to clients, including prospective clients.

The circular mentions that:

- The deadline for IAs and RAs wishing to communicate certified past performance data to clients to enroll with PaRRVA has been extended from August 03, 2026 to September 03, 2026.
- The extension has been provided to facilitate the smooth and seamless implementation of the PaRRVA framework, which was operationalised on May 04, 2026.
- IAs and RAs intending to communicate certified past performance data to clients, including prospective clients, shall enroll with PaRRVA within the revised timeline.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Revision of Z-Score Threshold for Stress Testing in Commodity Derivatives Segment**

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on August 12, 2026, revised the Z-score threshold applicable to historical scenarios for stress testing in the Commodity Derivatives Segment.

The circular provides that:

- The Z-score threshold for determining extreme price movements under the Peak Historical Return scenario has been reduced from 10 to 5.
- Accordingly, price movements corresponding to a Z-score of 5 shall replace extreme price movements beyond that threshold in the peak historical returns of all commodities.
- The mean and sigma of returns over the applicable Margin Period of Risk (MPOR) across the preceding 15 years shall continue to be used for calculation of the Z-score.

The revised provisions shall come into force with immediate effect.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

- **SEBI Releases Annual Report for FY 2025-26**

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on August 6,2026 has released its Annual Report for the financial year 2025-26, prepared in accordance with the SEBI (Annual Report) Rules, 2021. The statutory report has been submitted to the Government of India and tabled in Parliament in accordance with the SEBI Act, 1992.

The Report provides an overview of SEBI's policies, programmes, market activities and trends during April 2025 to March 2026 and includes:

- A Chairman's Statement outlining SEBI's vision, market development initiatives and priorities for FY 2026-27.
- An overview of market trends, policy initiatives and India's economic and investment environment, including comparisons with advanced and emerging economies.
- Details of regulatory initiatives and activities across various market segments, including primary and secondary markets, fund management, foreign portfolio investors and credit rating agencies.
- Updates on investor awareness, investor-centric measures and technology-led initiatives.
- Details of SEBI's regulatory, supervisory, surveillance and enforcement activities, including litigation and new regulations and amendments.
- An overview of SEBI's international engagements, NISM activities and internal initiatives, along with key initiatives relating to ease of doing business, market development and investor protection highlighted through Box Items.

(To view the Circular, please click here)

- **SEBI Streamlines Inspection of Market Intermediaries**

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on August 07, 2026 has adopted an enhanced risk-based approach for inspection of market intermediaries, including Stock Brokers, Depository Participants (DPs), Investment Advisers (IAs) and Research Analysts (RAs), commencing from Financial Year 2026-27.

The revised framework provides that:

- The number of inspections of Stock Brokers, DPs, IAs and RAs to be undertaken by SEBI in FY 2026-27 has been rationalised to approximately one-third of the inspections conducted in the preceding financial year, considering the regular inspections undertaken by Stock Exchanges and Depositories.
- Repetitive annual comprehensive inspections of compliant entities, particularly Qualified Stock Brokers (QSBs), shall be discontinued. Entities with repeated occurrences across shortlisting parameters, high risk scores or multiple alerts from Stock Exchanges shall be prioritised for inspection.
- Entities holding multiple intermediary registrations may be inspected jointly by different SEBI departments, wherever feasible, to reduce the number of inspection visits during the financial year.
- Greater weightage shall be given to recent alerts, complaints and social media inputs, with entities being shortlisted for inspection on a quarterly basis.
- Inspections may also be undertaken based on market intelligence and references, including inputs from Regional Offices/Local Offices, covering areas such as technical glitches, cyber incidents and Authorised Persons of Stock Brokers.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Regulatory Framework for Online Bond Platform Providers**

  The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on August 14, 2026, modified the regulatory framework for Online Bond Platform Providers (OBPPs) to promote ease of doing business.

  The circular provides that:

  - OBPPs may offer IFSCA-regulated products/services and bonds issued under Section 54EC of the Income-tax Act, 1961 or Section 85 of the Income-tax Act, 2025, subject to specified conditions.
  - IFSCA-regulated products must be clearly labelled as international/overseas instruments and comply with applicable FEMA, Overseas Investment Rules and LRS requirements.
  - For tax-specific bonds, OBPPs must disclose relevant features, tax benefits, eligibility conditions and the applicable issuer-based grievance mechanism.
  - OBPPs must appoint a Compliance Officer in accordance with the SEBI (Stock Brokers) Regulations, 2026, with the prescribed NISM certification requirement.

  The revised provisions shall come into force with immediate effect.

  (To view the Circular, please click here)

- **Framework for Calculation of Net Distributable Cash Flows for InvITs**

  SEBI on August 14, 2026, revised the framework for calculation of Net Distributable Cash Flows (NDCF) for Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InvITs), permitting add-back of major maintenance expenses for road projects funded through external debt, subject to specified conditions.

  The revised framework provides that:

  - Major maintenance expenses for eligible road projects funded through external debt may be added back while calculating NDCF at the HoldCo/SPV and Trust levels.
  - Prior unitholder approval, with at least 60% of votes cast in favour, is required for each project, along with specified disclosures.
  - A statutory auditor shall certify that the expenses comply with concession agreements and are funded through external borrowings.
  - InvITs shall disclose borrowing and outstanding debt relating to major maintenance expenses in financial and periodic reports, including separate debt maturity disclosures.

  The circular shall come into force with immediate effect.

  (To view the Circular, please click here)

Airports Authority of India (AAI)

- **AAI Revises Maternity Leave Provisions under Leave Regulations**

  The Airports Authority of India (AAI) on August 12, 2026, notified the Airports Authority of India (Leave) Amendment Regulations, 2026, revising maternity leave provisions for its female employees.

  The amended Regulations provide that:

  - Female employees with less than two surviving children may be granted 180 days of maternity leave from the date of commencement, subject to a medical certificate.
  - Up to 45 days of leave may be granted during the entire service in case of miscarriage or medical termination of pregnancy, subject to a medical certificate.
  - Leave shall not be granted for threatened abortion.
  - Regulation 16 of the 2003 Regulations has been omitted.

  The Regulations shall come into force from the date of publication in the Official Gazette.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)

- **Establishment of BIS Standards for Medical Electrical Equipment and Endoscopes**

  The Bureau of Indian Standards on August 5, 2026, notified the establishment of revised Indian Standards covering microwave therapy equipment, photodynamic therapy and diagnosis equipment, home light therapy equipment, and medical endoscopes. The existing standards for microwave therapy equipment and endoscopes will remain in force concurrently until their withdrawal.

  The new standards were established on August 3, 2026, and the corresponding existing standards will be withdrawn from February 3, 2027.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Amendment of BIS Standards for Plywood, Hearing Protectors and Stainless Steel Sinks**

  The Bureau of Indian Standards on August 5, 2026, established amendments to IS 4990:2024 for plywood for concrete shuttering works, IS 9167:2025 for hearing protectors, and IS 13983:1994 for stainless steel sinks for domestic purposes.

  The amendments were established on August 3, 2026, and the standards without the amendments will remain in force until February 2, 2027.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Establishment of New Indian Standards for Chemicals, Animal Feed and Homoeopathic Products**

  The Bureau of Indian Standards on August 5, 2026, notified the establishment of several new and revised Indian Standards, including standards for p-Toluidine, o-Toluidine, Chlorosulphonic Acid, Hexane, Monocalcium Phosphate (Animal Feed Grade), and Homoeopathic Mother Tinctures and more.

  The new standards were established with effect from August 3, 2026. The superseded standards for p-Toluidine, o-Toluidine, Chlorosulphonic Acid and Hexane will remain in force concurrently until February 3, 2027, after which they will be withdrawn.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Establishment of Indian Standards for Industries and Environment**

  The Bureau of Indian Standards on August 5, 2026, notified the establishment of several new and revised Indian Standards covering areas including metallic materials, textiles, fibre ropes, pollution control, lifting chains, sewing machines, solid waste management, machinery safety, mining equipment, air quality and soil quality.

  The standards were established with effect from August 4, 2026. The superseded standards listed in the notification will remain in force concurrently until February 4, 2027, after which they will be withdrawn.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Amendments to Standards for Electromagnetic Compatibility and Insulated Cables**

  The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) on August 3, 2026, notified amendments to Indian Standards relating to Electrotechnical Vocabulary – Electromagnetic Compatibility and Elastomer Insulated Cables for working voltages up to and including 1,100 volts.

  The amendments were established on July 31, 2026, and the respective standards without the amendments will remain in force until January 30, 2027.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO)

- **EPFO Revises Jurisdiction of Officers for Proceedings under the Code on Social Security, 2020**

  The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), vide Circular dated July 31, 2026, partially modified its earlier Circular dated July 13, 2026 regarding the jurisdiction of Authorised Officers and officers competent to levy and recover damages under Sections 125 and 128 of the Code on Social Security, 2020. The Circular prescribes jurisdictional allocation based on the subscriber strength of establishments and the offices in which the officers are posted.

  The following has been provided:

  - Proceedings under Sections 125 and 128 shall be conducted by officers posted in the respective Regional, Special State or District Offices in accordance with the prescribed jurisdictional allocation based on the subscriber strength (contributory UANs) of the establishment.

- The Circular specifies the competent officers for initiating and conducting proceedings under Sections 125 and 128, including RPFC-II (OIC), APFC and Enforcement Officer, depending upon the subscriber strength and the office structure.
- The Circular clarifies that it shall not apply to proceedings under Sections 125 and 128 relating to establishments undergoing proceedings under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016.
- Existing cases are required to be reassigned in accordance with the revised jurisdictional allocation by August 7, 2026.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC)

- **ESIC Circulates Draft Employees' State Insurance (General) Regulations, 2026**

The Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC), vide Circular dated August 3, 2026, informed that the Draft Employees' State Insurance (General) Regulations, 2026 have been published in the Gazette of India (Extraordinary), Part III, Section 4. The draft regulations have been proposed under the Code on Social Security, 2020 to supersede the Employees' State Insurance (General) Regulations, 1950. The detailed Gazette notification may be accessed here.

The following has been proposed:

- The Employees' State Insurance (General) Regulations, 2026 have been proposed to supersede the Employees' State Insurance (General) Regulations, 1950, consequent upon the enforcement of the Code on Social Security, 2020.
- The draft regulations prescribe a revised framework governing registration of employers and employees, allotment of employer code numbers and insurance numbers, updation of employee and family particulars, and maintenance of registration records under the ESI Scheme.
- The draft regulations provide for the contribution and corresponding benefit periods, prescribe the manner and timelines for payment of contributions, designate the appellate authorities under the Code, and provide for interest in cases of delayed payment of contributions.
- The draft regulations also prescribe provisions relating to reporting of employment injuries and occupational diseases, certification of sickness and disablement, constitution and functioning of Regional Boards and Local Committees, administration of medical and cash benefits, and the forms and procedures to be followed under the ESI Scheme.
- Stakeholders have been invited to submit objections and suggestions within 45 days from the date on which copies of the Gazette notification are made available to the public, to the Insurance Commissioner, Employees' State Insurance Corporation, Panchdeep Bhawan, C.I.G. Marg, New Delhi - 110002, or through e-mail at dir-pnd@esic.gov.in.

(To view the Circular, please click here)

- **ESIC Introduces New Insured Person (IP) Registration Functionality in ERP**

The Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC), vide Circular dated August 4, 2026, informed that a new Insured Person (IP) Registration functionality has been developed in the ERP system for registration of employees under the Employees' State Insurance Scheme. The module has been introduced to facilitate seamless registration, capture requisite details and generate Insurance Numbers, while enabling Insured Persons to complete Aadhaar authentication through the ESIC Health Connect App. The detailed User Manual may be accessed here.

The following has been provided:

- New Insured Person (IP) registration shall be carried out through Aadhaar-based registration, and Aadhaar validation may be completed either at the time of registration or subsequently.
- Where Aadhaar validation is not completed at the time of registration, the same may subsequently be completed by the Employer through a biometric device, by the Branch Manager through biometric authentication, or by the Insured Person through face authentication using the ESIC Health Connect App.
- Aadhaar validation of the Insured Person shall be completed within 30 days of registration to ensure uninterrupted access to eligible ESIC benefits.
- All Regional Offices and Sub-Regional Offices have been directed to disseminate the User Manual, organise orientation/training sessions for field functionaries, and facilitate employers and Insured Persons in implementing the new registration process.

(To view the Circular, please click here)

Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)

- **Monthly Data Submission by Insurers for Index of Service Production**

  The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) on August 7, 2026, directed insurers to submit monthly information to support the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) in compiling the Index of Service Production (ISP).

  The circular requires:

  - Life insurers to report gross premium, gross benefits paid and investment income of policyholders and shareholders.
  - General and health insurers (excluding reinsurers) to report gross direct premium, direct claims paid and investment income of policyholders and shareholders.
  - Data shall be submitted through NIC online templates by the 15th of the succeeding month, with insurers required to ensure completeness and accuracy.

  The requirement applies from July 2026 onwards and does not alter existing financial statement or disclosure requirements.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

Industry-wise updates

Agriculture & other rural sectors

- **Aadhaar Authentication Requirements for Beneficiaries under VB–G RAM G Scheme**

  The Ministry of Rural Development on August 7, 2026, notified Aadhaar authentication requirements for individuals registered or seeking registration under the Viksit Bharat–Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) (VB–G RAM G) Scheme for availing the statutory wage employment benefit.

  The Notification provides that:
  - Beneficiaries shall be required to undergo Aadhaar authentication or furnish proof of possession of an Aadhaar number. Individuals who have not been assigned an Aadhaar number shall be required to apply for enrolment.
  - The Department of Rural Development or the designated State Government/Union Territory authority shall facilitate Aadhaar enrolment and updation, including through coordination with Registrars and establishment of enrolment centres at convenient locations.
  - Until an Aadhaar number is assigned, beneficiaries aged 18 years or above may establish their identity by furnishing the Aadhaar enrolment acknowledgement containing the Enrolment Identification Number (EID) along with an eligible identity document, including Voter ID, ration card, Indian passport, driving licence or other specified documents.
  - Designated officers shall verify the validity and status of the EID and supporting documents before allowing the beneficiary to avail the benefit.
  - Where biometric Aadhaar authentication fails, beneficiaries shall, wherever feasible and admissible, be offered another biometric mode or OTP-based authentication. Where biometric or OTP authentication is not possible, offline verification through an Aadhaar Secure QR Code or Aadhaar Paperless Offline e-KYC document may be used.
  - The Department of Rural Development shall implement the prescribed exception handling mechanism to ensure that genuine beneficiaries are not deprived of benefits due to authentication-related issues.

  The Notification shall come into force from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Draft VB–G RAM G Audit of Schemes Rules, 2026**

  The Ministry of Rural Development, on 7 August 2026, published the draft VB–G RAM G Audit of Schemes Rules, 2026, proposing a framework for audit and social audit of schemes under the VB–G RAM G Act, 2025, and invited public comments within 30 days.

  Key provisions include:
  - Social audits to be conducted in every Gram Panchayat at least once every six months.
  - Independent Social Audit Units to be established/identified by State Governments for conducting audits, training auditors and monitoring compliance.
  - At least 25% of village social auditors to be from SC/ST households.
  - Social Audit Units to verify muster rolls, wage payments, works, financial records, procurement documents, bills and vouchers.
  - Implementing agencies to provide records 15 days before the Social Audit Gram Sabha and make them available digitally.
  - Social audit findings to be uploaded within 7 days, with ATRs to be submitted within 30 days; delays trigger escalation to the District Programme Coordinator.
  - The complete process, including corrective action and recovery, to generally be completed within seven months.
  - Misappropriated amounts to be recovered within five months.
  - A public digital dashboard to disclose audit findings, ATRs, recoveries, grievances and corrective actions.
  - Social audit expenditure capped at 1% of total expenditure, within the overall 9% administrative expenditure ceiling.

  Objections and suggestions on the draft Rules may be submitted within 30 days from the date of publication of the notification.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

Chemical industries

- **BHAVYA Rasayan Scheme for Establishment of Three Greenfield Chemical Parks**

  The Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, vide Notification dated 10 August 2026, has announced the Scheme for Chemicals Parks – Bharat

Audyogik Vikas Yojana – Rasayan (BHAVYA Rasayan) Scheme for establishing three dedicated greenfield Chemical Parks through a challenge-based selection process.

Key provisions include:

- Financial assistance of up to ₹1,000 crore per Chemical Park, subject to the State Government contributing at least ₹500 crore.
- Development of common infrastructure and utilities, including effluent treatment, water supply, logistics, laboratories and emergency facilities.
- State Government shall provide at least 8 sq. km. of contiguous, encumbrance-free land and bear land acquisition costs.
- Selection based on project viability, strategic relevance, financial soundness, implementation plan and sustainability.
- Implementation through designated State Implementing Agencies, with oversight by the Scheme Steering Committee and Empowered Committee.

The Scheme will operate for five years from FY 2026-27 to FY 2030-31, with a total financial outlay of INR 3,030 crore. Each selected Chemical Park must have a minimum 8 sq. km. of contiguous and encumbrance-free land.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution

- **Expansion of Mandatory Gold Hallmarking Coverage Across Districts**

  The Government has amended the Hallmarking of Gold Jewellery and Gold Artefacts Order, 2020, replacing its district-wise Annexure with an updated list covering specified districts across 26 States/UTs. The amendment takes effect from 3 August 2026, expanding the geographical coverage of mandatory hallmarking requirements.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

Commerce and Industries

- **Introduction of Inventory-Based Cross-Border E-Commerce Export Framework**

  The Directorate General of Foreign Trade on August 5, 2026, introduced an Inventory-based Cross-border E-Commerce Facilitation Framework under the Foreign Trade Policy 2023, enabling e-commerce exports through registered Exporters-on-Record (EORs).

  The Framework provides that:

  - EORs must hold a valid IEC and GSTIN and may hold export inventory procured from registered Sellers-on-Record (SORs) against confirmed export orders.
  - Only Indian-origin goods are eligible, and speculative transfer of title or inventory build-up without a confirmed export order is prohibited.
  - EORs must separately identify, segregate and digitally track export inventory and maintain records linking inventory with procurement and export documentation.
  - EORs must pay SORs within 7 days of acceptance or deemed acceptance of goods, irrespective of receipt of payment from the overseas buyer.
  - Export Rebates and Refunds, including Duty Drawback, RoDTEP and RoSCTL, may be claimed by the EOR and must be apportioned among SORs based on their respective FOB value, subject to permitted administrative charges.
  - EORs will be responsible for reverse logistics and returned consignments, which cannot be sold or supplied in the domestic market.
  - EORs are required to utilise notified E-Commerce Export Hub infrastructure, where practicable.

  The Framework has been introduced with immediate effect.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Operationalisation of Inventory-Based Cross-Border E-Commerce Framework**

  The Directorate General of Foreign Trade on August 5, 2026, operationalised the Inventory-Based Cross-Border E-Commerce Facilitation Framework, introducing ANF-9A for registration of Exporters-on-Record (EORs).

  The framework prescribes requirements for registration, export inventory management, seller visibility, reverse logistics, compliance certification and dispute resolution, including a 30-day timeline for reporting changes and five-year record retention.

  The procedures came into effect immediately from August 5, 2026.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **“Source from India” Platform to DPIIT-Recognised Start-ups**

  The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) on August 6, 2026, expanded the eligibility for the “Source from India” feature on the Trade Connect Platform to include DPIIT-recognised start-ups.

  The Trade Notice provides that:
  - DPIIT-recognised start-ups with an active IEC and not included in the DEL list may register on the platform, even if they do not meet the existing export realisation criteria.
  - Eligible start-ups will receive a unique start-up badge and may create microsites showcasing their products, services and credentials.
  - Export activity of start-ups will be verified through the DGFT IEC database.
  - Registered users linked to eligible IECs will be able to create their “Source from India” microsites through the Trade Connect dashboard.

  The initiative aims to facilitate international buyer discovery and promote exports by Indian start-ups.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **New Standard Input Output Norms for Chemical and Allied Products**

  The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) on August 3, 2026, notified seven new Standard Input Output Norms (SIONs) under the Chemical and Allied Products category, covering specified pharmaceutical and chemical export products.

  The new SIONs, numbered A-3708 to A-3714, prescribe the permissible quantities of specified imported inputs against the corresponding export products for the purpose of availing applicable export benefits under the Foreign Trade Policy.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development (Amendment) Act, 2026**

  The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises on August 13, 2026, notified the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development (Amendment) Act, 2026, introducing changes to MSME registration, payment settlement and dispute resolution mechanisms.

  The key amendments provide that:
  - A national digital platform will be notified for free and voluntary MSME registration, with States permitted to establish their own platforms.
  - Central Public Sector Enterprises will be required to route MSME invoice settlements through RBI-authorised TReDS platforms.
  - Mediation will be required to be completed within 90 days, with arbitral awards to be made within 90 days of completion of pleadings.
  - Mediated settlements and arbitral awards may be recovered as arrears of land revenue.
  - A buyer challenging an award or settlement must deposit 75% of the amount with the court.
  - States will be required to establish adequate MSME Facilitation Councils, with prescribed representation.

  The Development Commissioner will act as the adjudicating officer for specified penalties.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

Construction

- **Amendment to Domestic Sourcing Requirements for Iron & Steel Products**

  The Ministry of Steel on August 7, 2026, amended Appendix-A of the Domestically Manufactured Iron & Steel Products (DMI&SP) Policy, 2025, replacing the 50% Domestic Value Addition requirement with “Melt & Pour” for specified iron and steel products under HS Codes 7301, 7302, 7303 and 7308 to 7326.

  The amendment requires such products to be entirely made in India using steel complying with the “Melt & Pour” requirement. All other provisions of the DMI&SP Policy, 2025 remain unchanged.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

Coal

- **Colliery Control (Amendment) Rules, 2026**

  The Ministry of Coal on August 6, 2026, notified the Colliery Control (Amendment) Rules, 2026, amending the Colliery Control Rules, 2004, to revise the requirements for opening a coal mine, seam or section of a seam.

The amended Rules provide that:
- A company or statutory corporation must obtain prior approval of its Board or Governing Authority, respectively, before opening a coal mine, seam or section of a seam, ensuring that all requisite permissions and compliances have been completed.
- An intimation must be sent to the Coal Controller Organisation within 15 days of opening the mine, seam or section.
- Owners other than companies or statutory corporations must obtain prior approval from the Coal Controller Organisation.
- These requirements also apply where mining operations have been discontinued for 180 days or more.
- The Coal Controller Organisation shall maintain an indicative list of requisite permissions from Central and State Governments and statutory bodies.

The Rules shall come into force from the date of publication in the Official Gazette.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

Home Affairs

- **Jan Vishwas Amendments to Slum Areas (Improvement and Clearance) Act, 1956**

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs on August 1, 2026, notified August 1, 2026 as the date for commencement of the provisions relating to the Slum Areas (Improvement and Clearance) Act, 1956, as amended under the Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Act, 2026.

The provisions specified under Serial No. 22 of the Schedule to the Jan Vishwas Act shall accordingly come into force from August 1, 2026.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Census 2027: Government Notifies Household Schedule for Data Collection**

The Ministry of Home Affairs on August 14, 2026, notified the items on which census officers may seek information from persons residing within their respective areas for the Census of India 2027.

The Household Schedule will cover information relating to:
- Demographic details, including name, sex, age, marital status, nationality, religion and SC/ST/caste.
- Education and employment, including literacy, educational attainment, occupation, economic activity and workplace.
- Migration and residence, including birthplace, previous residence, reason for migration and permanent address.
- Family and health-related details, including children, disability and COVID-19 vaccination.
- Identity and financial details, including bank accounts and, where available, mobile number, Aadhaar, Voter ID, passport and driving licence.

The notification has been issued under the Census Act, 1948 in connection with the Census of India 2027.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

Food & drink

- **Advisory on Declaration of Non-Food Grade Items in Bills of Entry**

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) on August 10, 2026, issued a Public Notice regarding the declaration of Non-Food Grade (NFG) items in Bills of Entry, to facilitate appropriate routing of import consignments and avoid unnecessary referral to FSSAI.

The Notice provides that:
- Importers and Customs Brokers may use the "NFG" qualifier in ICEGATE while filing Bills of Entry to indicate non-food end use.
- The qualifier will facilitate appropriate Participating Government Agency (PGA) routing through the SWIFT system, preventing non-food consignments from being unnecessarily referred to FSSAI.
- Importers and Customs Brokers have been advised to use the "NFG" qualifier, wherever applicable, while filing Bills of Entry under the Single Window system.

The advisory is aligned with the CBIC Circular dated April 22, 2026, concerning the declaration of Non-Food Grade items in Bills of Entry.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

Health

- **Amendment of Drugs Rules, 1945 – Twelfth Amendment**

  The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare on August 6, 2026, notified the Drugs (Twelfth Amendment) Rules, 2026, expanding the forms prescribed for drug licensing and related regulatory requirements under the Drugs Rules, 1945.

  The amendment broadens the range of prescribed licensing forms to cover additional categories of drug licences and related approvals, replacing the earlier limited reference to form 25 and form 28. The amendment comes into force from the date of publication in the Official Gazette.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Amendment of Drugs Rules, 1945 – Eleventh Amendment**

  The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare on August 05, 2026, published the Drugs (Eleventh Amendment) Rules, 2026, introducing provisions for debarment of applicants who submit misleading, fake or fabricated documents or information in drug licensing applications.

  The amendment provides for:

  - Debarment of applicants for a specified period or permanently by the relevant Licensing Authority or Central Licensing Approving Authority.
  - Opportunity to show cause before a debarment order is passed.
  - Right to appeal within 30 days against the debarment order, where applicable.
  - Introduction of corresponding debarment provisions across various categories of applications under the Drugs Rules, 1945.

  The amendment comes into force from the date of publication in the Official Gazette.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

Labour & Employment

- **Corrigenda to the Employees' Provident Funds Scheme, 2026**

  The Ministry of Labour and Employment on August 4, 2026, issued corrigenda to the Employees' Provident Funds Scheme, 2026, published vide notification dated June 29, 2026, to rectify various typographical, textual and reference-related errors in the Scheme.

  The corrigenda provide for, inter alia:

  - Corrections to references to "trustee", "employee", "Employees' Provident Fund" and "Employees' Provident Funds" at various places in the Scheme.
  - Clarification that certain provisions referring to members or employees apply specifically to employees other than International Workers, wherever applicable.
  - Correction of references to the Provident Fund Act, 1925, including insertion of the relevant Act number.
  - Corrections to provisions relating to exempted provident funds, contributions, charges and fees, Aadhar-seeded accounts, interest accounts and family members or nominees.
  - Rectification of various paragraph, sub-paragraph and clause numbering references throughout the Scheme.
  - Correction of the date relating to the applicability of a provision from 1 July 2009 to 1 April 2009.
  - Correction of references to the Code on Wages, 2019, Vishwas 2026 and the Employees' Enrolment Campaign, 2026.
  - Various textual and typographical corrections in Form-II, including corrections relating to "Basel III", "CMBS" and "Unit".

  The corrigenda are intended to rectify errors and clarify references in the Employees' Provident Funds Scheme, 2026, without otherwise altering the substantive framework of the Scheme.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Corrigenda to the Employees' Pension Scheme, 2026**

  The Ministry of Labour and Employment on August 4, 2026, issued corrigenda to the Employees' Pension Scheme, 2026, published vide notification dated June 29, 2026, to rectify various typographical, textual and cross-reference errors in the Scheme.

  The corrigenda provide for, inter alia:

  - Correction of "security agreement" to "social security agreement" and "pay" to "wages" at the relevant provisions.
  - Correction of the reference relating to penalty and damages payable by the employer.
  - Clarification of the reference to "wage ceiling period".
  - Correction of the provision concerning the aggregate of sub-clauses (i) and (ii).

- Rectification of references to the first day, relevant sub-paragraphs and paragraph numbers.
- Correction of "dues" to "dies" and "Fund" to "Funds".
- Rectification of numerical and typographical errors, including "2,42I" to "2,421" and "1065b" to "10650".

The corrigenda are intended to correct errors and clarify references in the Employees' Pension Scheme, 2026.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Corrigenda to the Employees' Deposit-Linked Insurance Scheme, 2026**

The Ministry of Labour and Employment on August 4, 2026, issued corrigenda to the Employees' Deposit-Linked Insurance Scheme, 2026, published vide notification dated June 29, 2026. The corrigenda are intended to correct errors and clarify the provisions of the Employees' Deposit-Linked Insurance Scheme, 2026.

The corrigenda provide for, inter alia:

- Correction of numerical and textual references, including "46" to "44", "Applications" to "Application", and "Deposit Linked" to "Deposit-Linked".
- Correction of the provision relating to damages payable by the employer and revision of the heading from "Duty of employer" to "Duties of employers".
- Clarification of references to the Provident Fund exempted under section 143 of the Code, as applicable, particularly in relation to the preceding twelve months and calculation of benefits.
- Correction of references from "persons" to "person/(s)" and clarification of the wording concerning the average wages.
- Expansion of the reference to beneficiaries to include "other eligible members of the family or nominee, as the case may be".
- Standardisation of references to the Employees' Deposit-Linked Insurance Scheme.
- Rectification of various grammatical and textual errors, including "the this" to "this", "condition" to "conditions", and "and same" to "and the same".
- Correction of the formula "(A+B-C)" to "(1+2-3)" and the spelling of "GREIVANCES" to "GRIEVANCES".

(To view the Notification, please click here)

Oil & gas production

- **Amendment of Guidelines for Market Authorisation of Transportation Fuels**

The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas on August 10, 2026, amended the guidelines for market authorisation of Motor Spirit (MS) and High Speed Diesel (HSD), with a focus on simplifying compliance, expanding remote-area coverage and promoting alternate fuels.

The amendment provides for:

- Mandatory availability of MS and HSD at all retail outlets and installation of at least one new-generation alternate fuel facility at every third retail outlet.
- Revised authorisation requirements, including a INR 25 lakh application fee, minimum 100 retail outlets and at least 5% in notified remote areas within five years.
- Revised remote-area obligations, including INR 3 crore per shortfall retail outlet through penalties or bank-guarantee mechanisms.
- Introduction of penalties of INR 10 lakh per retail outlet for alternate-fuel shortfalls and unauthorised/excess retail outlets.
- Revised requirements for bulk marketing, including a INR 25 lakh application fee and INR 15 crore authorisation fee.

Revised provisions governing PSU OMCs and surrender of authorisation.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Petroleum Products (Maintenance of Production, Storage and Supply) Order**

The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas on August 13, 2026, notified the Petroleum Products (Maintenance of Production, Storage and Supply) Amendment Order, 2026, introducing operational directions for maintaining and augmenting LPG production, storage and supply.

The Amendment provides that:

- Oil refining and upstream oil companies shall maintain adequate infrastructure for LPG storage, evacuation and transportation to meet specified production quantities.
- Companies shall implement technically and economically feasible measures and technologies to maximise LPG production beyond the specified minimum levels and intimate the Centre for High Technology or authorised agency regarding such upgrades.

- The Central Government may direct companies to ramp up LPG production for specified quantities and periods where necessary to ensure adequate availability, equitable distribution and fair prices of domestic LPG.
- The Schedule specifying LPG production capacity shall be updated on January 1 and July 1 each year, including changes arising from new facilities, infrastructure and technology.
- The Centre for High Technology or authorised agency shall monitor compliance, and contravention of directions shall attract penalties under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

The Order shall come into force from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

Telecommunication

- **Revised Standard for VRLA Batteries for Telecommunication Equipment**

The Department of Telecommunications on August 6, 2026, notified the revised standard TEC 67010:2026 – Generic Requirements for Valve Regulated Lead Acid (VRLA) Batteries for telecommunication equipment.

The revised standard came into effect from August 6, 2026, upon publication in the Official Gazette.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

- **New Standards for IoT, Wireless Access and Underground Telecom Cables**

The Department of Telecommunications on August 3, 2026, notified new standards for telecommunication equipment covering IoT Gateways, Fixed Wireless Access Customer Premises Equipment, and Solid Polythene Insulated Underground Telecom Cables.

The standards came into effect from August 3, 2026, upon publication in the Official Gazette.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

- **TRAI Launches Revamped 'TRAI MyCall' App for Consumer-Based Voice Quality Assessment**

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on August 3, 2026, launched the revamped 'TRAI MyCall' mobile application to enable consumers to provide real-time feedback on voice-calling quality and support telecom service providers in identifying network issues.

The application enables users to:
- Rate call quality through a 1–5 star system and report issues such as call drops, echo, audio delay and voice breaking.
- Receive automatic post-call feedback prompts and access feedback history.
- Conduct network coverage and signal strength tests.

Consumer feedback, along with relevant network parameters, will be available to telecom service providers and TRAI in anonymised form to support quality-of-service monitoring and corrective action.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

Shipping, ports, fisheries

- **Dock Workers (Regulation of Employment) Adjudication of Penalties and Appeal Rules, 2026**

The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways on August 4, 2026, notified the Dock Workers (Regulation of Employment) Adjudication of Penalties and Appeal Rules, 2026, prescribing the procedure for inquiry, imposition of penalties and appeals for contraventions of schemes under the Dock Workers (Regulation of Employment) Act, 1948.

The Rules provide that:
- Inspectors may file complaints regarding contraventions through electronic means, in person or by speed post in Form I.
- The adjudicating authority shall issue a show-cause notice within 30 days of receiving the complaint, allowing at least 7 days to respond.
- The person proceeded against shall be given an opportunity to appear and submit documents or evidence, with the inquiry to be completed within 6 months of issuance of the show-cause notice.
- The adjudicating authority may impose penalties by a reasoned written order, specifying the contravention, penalty and payment period.

- An appeal may be filed in Form IV within 30 days of receipt of the order, and the appellate authority shall dispose of the appeal within 60 days of admission.
- Unpaid penalties may be recovered as arrears of land revenue, with the amounts realised credited to the appropriate fund of the Calcutta Dock Labour Board.

The Rules shall come into force from the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Merchant Shipping (Control and Management of Vessels' Ballast Water and Sediments) Rules, 2026**

The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways on August 5, 2026, notified the Merchant Shipping (Control and Management of Vessels' Ballast Water and Sediments) Rules, 2026 to regulate ballast water and sediment management by vessels in accordance with the 2004 International Convention. The Rules provide for:

- Mandatory ballast water management plans, record books and prescribed discharge standards for applicable vessels.
- Surveys, inspections and certification of vessels, including International or Indian Ballast Water Management Certificates.
- Approval and proper operation of ballast water management systems in accordance with applicable IMO standards.
- Ports and terminals undertaking ballast tank cleaning or repairs to provide sediment reception and safe disposal facilities.
- Reporting of accidents, defects and exceptional discharges, and compliance with additional measures prescribed for environmentally sensitive areas.

Non-compliance may attract penalties under the Merchant Shipping Act, 2025, including up to ₹50,000 and ₹5,000 per day for continuing breaches.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Merchant Shipping (Safety of Navigation) Rules, 2026 – Enhanced Navigational Safety Framework**

The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways notified the Merchant Shipping (Safety of Navigation) Rules, 2026 on 5 August 2026, superseding the 1997 Rules and introducing updated standards for navigational safety, equipment and enforcement.

Key provisions include:

- Applicability to Indian-registered ships on all voyages and other ships operating in Indian coastal waters, subject to specified exemptions.
- Mandatory compliance with designated routeing systems, ship reporting requirements and Vessel Traffic Services.
- Updated carriage requirements for navigational equipment, including ECDIS, AIS and ARPA, based on vessel size and gross tonnage.
- Mandatory LRIT and Voyage Data Recorders (VDRs) for specified vessels and voyages.
- Enhanced standards for bridge visibility, pilot transfer arrangements, steering gear testing and emergency drills.
- Compliance with Minimum Safe Manning requirements and prescribed use of English as the working language on Indian ships.

Strengthened penalty and enforcement mechanisms, including detention of non-compliant ships and penalties of up to INR 50,000, with an additional INR 5,000 per day for continuing contraventions.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Electronic Service of Documents under Coastal Shipping Act, 2025**

The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways on August 7, 2026, notified that e-mail shall be the prescribed electronic means for serving documents on a person under the Coastal Shipping Act, 2025.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour) Rules, 2026: Revised Labour Standards for Seafarers**

The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways on July 30, 2026, notified the Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour) Rules, 2026, superseding the 2016 Rules and aligning maritime labour standards with the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006.

The Rules provide that:

- Employment of persons below 16 years is prohibited, with additional restrictions for persons below 18 years.
- Seafarers shall have written employment agreements, monthly wages, 8-hour normal working days, prescribed rest periods and 2.5 days' paid annual leave per month.
- Shipowners shall provide medical care, social security benefits, financial security for death/disability and cost-free repatriation, subject to an 11-month maximum onboard service period.
- Ships shall carry a Maritime Labour Certificate and Declaration of Maritime Labour Compliance, and maintain onboard complaint procedures.
- The Director-General may conduct inspections and detain ships posing serious risks to seafarers.
- A INR 50 per-engagement repatriation/replacement fee shall be levied and credited for the Seafarers Welfare Fund.

The Rules shall come into force from their publication in the Official Gazette.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Digital Verification of Voluntary Duty Payments for EODC Processing**

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) on August 5, 2026, introduced a digital mechanism for making license-wise voluntary duty payment details received from Customs/ICEGATE available on the DGFT portal for processing Export Obligation Discharge Certificate (EODC) applications under the Advance Authorisation and EPCG Schemes.

The Trade Notice provides that:

- Only voluntary duty payment details reflected on the DGFT portal shall be recognised for EODC processing.
- Authorisation holders shall ensure correct Licence No. and IEC details while making payments and verify payments made on or after August 1, 2026 before filing EODC applications.
- Regional Authorities shall rely on the DGFT portal records for processing EODC applications.

Discrepancies may be reported to the DGFT Helpdesk, including supporting payment proof where required.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

Transport including aviation, railways, road, inland waterways

- **Amendment to Central Motor Vehicles Rules,1989**

The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways on August 7, 2026, published the amendment to the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989, which introduces the requirements for covering the load body of tippers and dumpers and to clarify the treatment of such systems while determining the overall height of motor vehicles.

The Amendment Rules provide that:
With effect from April 1, 2027, all tippers and dumpers shall be fitted with an electrically, electro-mechanically, hydraulically or mechanically operated system to cover the load body from the top and fully enclose it while the vehicle is plying on the road.
The load body covering system may use any suitable material for covering the roof of the load body.

An audio-visual alert system shall be provided in the driver's cabin to warn the driver if the load body cover is open or unsecured while the vehicle is in motion.
The load body covering system fitted to tippers and dumpers shall not be considered while measuring the overall height of the motor vehicle.
The Amendment Rules shall come into force from the date of their publication in the Official Gazette, except for the load body covering requirement, which shall apply from April 1, 2027.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Amendment to Indian Railways (Permission for Operators to Move Container Trains on Indian Railways) Rules, 2026**

The Ministry of Railways on August 12, 2026, notified the Indian Railways (Permission for Operators to Move Container Trains on Indian Railways) Amendment Rules, 2026, revising the licensing and operational framework for container train operators.

The key amendments provide that:

- A single unified All-India Container Train Operator (CTO) licence will be introduced for operations across the Indian Railways network.
- Applicants will be required to pay a non-refundable registration fee of INR 25 crore.

- Companies declared insolvent or bankrupt under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 will be ineligible to operate container trains.
- Existing Category-I to IV operators may continue operations during their existing concession periods, with specified INR 15 crore non-refundable payment requirements for migration or renewal for Categories II–IV.
- The licence will be valid for 20 years, with further extensions of 20 years permitted based on satisfactory performance without extension or renewal fees.

The amendments came into force on August 12, 2026.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Amendment of PM E-DRIVE Scheme**

The Ministry of Heavy Industries on August 10, 2026, amended the PM Electric Drive Revolution in Innovative Vehicle Enhancement (PM E-DRIVE) Scheme to revise its implementation and incentive framework. The amendment provides for, inter alia:

- Continuation of the Scheme with an outlay of INR 11,900 crore up to 31 March 2028, covering electric vehicle adoption, charging infrastructure and the EV manufacturing ecosystem.
- Revision of incentives for registered electric two-wheelers, with support of INR 5,000/kWh for FY 2024-25 and INR 2,500/kWh from April 2025 to March 2028, subject to prescribed caps and vehicle price limits.
- Increase/confirmation of the total allocation for e-2Ws at INR 2,767 crore, along with INR 55 crore for administrative expenses.
- Clarification that the Scheme is fund-limited, and the Scheme or its components may close if the allocated funds are exhausted before 31 March 2028.
- Closure of the registered e-3W (L5) segment, which had already achieved its target sales.

The last date for submission of claims under any Scheme component is 31 December 2027.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

State-wise updates

Andhra Pradesh

- **Andhra Pradesh Building Rules, 2017**

  The Government of Andhra Pradesh vide notification dated July 29, 2026, issued official amendments to the Andhra Pradesh Building Rules, 2017. The amendment introduces revised structural definitions, expanded documentation mandates, fee exemptions for specific categories, and flexible payment mechanisms.

  The amendment states that:
  - The definition of high-rise buildings has been revised to include structures measuring 24 metres or more in height. Additionally, legal definitions have been introduced for creches and public worship buildings.
  - Building permission applications now require broader documentation and safety compliance measures, including Mandatory No Objection Certificates (NOCs),
  - structural certifications and insurance policies, Fire safety clearances, and Compliance with in-building communication infrastructure standards.
  - Financial and fee structures have been updated to streamline development and lower upfront burdens.
  - Lastly, revised provisions have been established governing occupancy certification procedures and specific requirements for residential building developments.

  (To view the Amendment, please click here)

- **Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions (Andhra Pradesh) Rules, 2026**

  The Government of Andhra Pradesh, vide notification dated August 07, 2026, issued the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions (Andhra Pradesh) Rules, 2026 under the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020. The final rules were formally notified after considering public objections and suggestions received on the draft rules published on April 06, 2026.

  The Rules provides the following:
  - The newly issued rules consolidate and replace the state's regulatory framework governing occupational safety, health, and working conditions by superseding rules under eight erstwhile labour laws, including Factories Act, 1948, Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970, Building and Other Construction Workers Act, 1996, Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961, etc.
  - Covered establishments must register online via Form I within 60 days of the rules becoming applicable. Key administrative terms include:
    - Registration fees scaled from INR 1,000 for small units up to INR 30,000 for establishments employing over 5,000 workers
    - Automatic deemed registration if the registering officer fails to act within 7 days of receiving a complete application
  - Clear operational limits and safety requirements have been established for workforce management:
    - Weekly working hours are capped at 48 hours, with daily limits set at 12 hours including a mandatory rest break after every 6 hours.
    - Women employees are permitted to work night shifts, subject to obtaining their written consent and providing secure facilities equipped with transport and CCTV coverage.

  The rules come into force immediately from the date of their publication in the Official Gazette, establishing the official state framework for implementing the central 2020 Code.

  (To view the Rules, please click here)

- **Amendments to GST Schedules for Intra-State Supply of Goods**

  The Government of Andhra Pradesh, vide notification dated August 06, 2026, amended the notification no. G.O.Ms.No.345, Revenue (CT) Department, dated September 20, 2025, which governs the schedules for the intra-state supply of goods.

  The notification clarifies the following:
  - Amendments to Schedule-I (2.5% Tax Rate):
    - Column Substitution for S.No. 150: Against S.No. 150, for the entry under column (7), the tariff entries "2202 99 21, 2202 99 29" shall be substituted.
    - Column Substitution for S.No. 151: Against S.No. 151, for the entry under column (2), the tariff entries "2202 99 31, 2202 99 39" shall be substituted.
  - Amendments to Schedule-III (20% Tax Rate):
    - Column Substitution for S.No. 2: Against S.No. 2, for the entry under column (2), the tariff entries "2202 91 00, 2202 99 91, 2202 99 99" shall be substituted.

- Column Substitution for S.No. 3: Against S.No. 3, for the entry under column (2), the tariff entries "2202 99 91, 2202 99 99" shall be substituted.

The revised entry substitutions specified under this amendment shall come into force retrospectively from May 01, 2026.

(To view the Amendment, please click here)

Assam

- **Appointment of Inspector-cum-Facilitators under the Code on Wages, 2019**

The Labour Welfare Department, Government of Assam, on August 12, 2026, issued a notification appointing Assistant Labour Commissioners, Labour Officers and Labour Inspectors as Inspector-cum-Facilitators under the Code on Wages, 2019.

The following has been stated:

- All Assistant Labour Commissioners, Labour Officers and Labour Inspectors have been appointed as Inspector-cum-Facilitators to perform the functions provided under Section 51 of the Code on Wages, 2019.
- The local jurisdiction of an Inspector-cum-Facilitator will comprise the area or areas for which the officer is posted or appointed and may cover part of a district, an entire district or more than one district, within the officer's respective administrative jurisdiction.

The notification shall come into force with immediate effect.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

Bihar

- **Repeal of the Bihar Shops and Establishments (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 2025**

The Law Department, Government of Bihar, on August 3, 2026, notified the Bihar Shops and Establishments (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) (Repeal) Act, 2026, repealing the Bihar Shops and Establishments (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 2025. The repeal follows the commencement of the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020, which resulted in an overlap between the State legislation and the Code. The repeal takes effect from the date of publication in the Official Gazette and also repeals the Bihar Shops and Establishments (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) (Repeal) Ordinance, 2026. However, actions already taken or proceedings initiated under the 2025 Act or the Ordinance will continue to remain valid notwithstanding the repeal.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Establishment of Bihar Digital Repository for State Regulatory Instruments**

The Government of Bihar, on August 11, 2026, introduced the Bihar Digital Repository as a centralised digital platform for providing public access to the State's regulatory framework, including Acts, Rules, Regulations, Bye-laws, Circulars and Government Orders. The initiative forms part of “Bihar Deregulation 2.0”, which seeks to reduce the compliance burden and improve ease of doing business by making the State's regulatory requirements more accessible and transparent.

The following has been stated:

- The Repository will consolidate regulatory instruments currently issued by different departments and authorities on a single digital platform.
- It will include not only existing regulatory instruments but also amendments, repeal orders and updated versions, enabling users to access the applicable version of a State regulation.
- The Repository is intended to function as an official and updated digital source of Bihar's regulatory framework for businesses, citizens and government authorities.
- The platform, created by the General Administration Department, was made publicly accessible on June 19, 2026, and departments are required to upload their relevant regulatory instruments and maintain them in the prescribed manner.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Appointment of Registering Officers under the OSH Code, 2020**

The Labour Resources and Migrant Workers Welfare Department, Government of Bihar, on August 11, 2026, issued a notification appointing Labour Superintendents as Registering Officers under the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020. The officers will exercise jurisdiction within their respective areas for establishments for which the State Government is the appropriate Government.

For establishments covered under Part VII of Chapter XI of the Code, the Chief Inspector of Factories has been appointed as the Registering Officer. The notification takes effect from the date of its publication in the Bihar Gazette.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Appointment of Appellate Authority under the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020**

  The Labour Resources and Migrant Workers Welfare Department, Government of Bihar, on August 11, 2026, issued a notification appointing the Labour Commissioner, Bihar as the Appellate Officer to hear appeals against orders passed by the Registering Officers under Section 3 of the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020.

  The appointment applies to establishments for which the State Government is the appropriate Government. The notification comes into force from its publication in the Bihar Gazette.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Appointment of Inspector-cum-Facilitators under the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020**

  The Labour Resources and Migrant Workers Welfare Department, Government of Bihar, on August 11, 2026, appointed various labour and factory officials as Inspector-cum-Facilitators under the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020.

  The following has been stated:
  - The Labour Commissioner, District Magistrates, Additional Labour Commissioners and Joint Labour Commissioners have been appointed as Inspector-cum-Facilitators for the areas specified in the notification, with certain officers having jurisdiction across the whole of Bihar.
  - The Chief Inspector of Factories has been appointed for establishments covered under Part VII of Chapter XI of the Code, while Deputy Chief Inspectors of Factories and Inspectors of Factories will exercise their functions within their respective jurisdictions for such establishments.
  - Deputy Labour Commissioners, Assistant Labour Commissioners, Labour Superintendents and Labour Enforcement Officers have been assigned specific territorial jurisdictions covering the districts specified in the notification.
  - All Inspector-cum-Facilitators are required to exercise their powers within their respective local jurisdictions.

  The notification shall come into force from the date of its publication.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Appointment of Chief Inspector-cum-Facilitators under the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020**

  The Labour Resources and Migrant Workers Welfare Department, Government of Bihar, on August 11, 2026, issued a Notification appointing the Additional Labour Commissioner, Bihar as the Chief Inspector-cum-Facilitator for establishments other than those covered under Part VII of Chapter XI of the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020, and the Chief Inspector of Factories, Bihar for establishments covered under Part VII of Chapter XI. The notification also specifies the qualifications applicable to the Chief Inspector-cum-Facilitator and provides for the exercise of the powers and functions assigned under the Code.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Appointment of Licensing Officers under the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020**

  The Labour Resources and Migrant Workers Welfare Department, Government of Bihar, on August 11, 2026, issued a Notification appointing Labour Superintendents as Licensing Officers under the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020, within their respective jurisdictions. The notification establishes the officers responsible for licensing functions under the Code and provides that they will exercise jurisdiction within the areas assigned to them.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Appointment of Appellate Authority under the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020**

  The Labour Resources and Migrant Workers Welfare Department, Government of Bihar, via a Notification on August 11, 2026, appointed the Labour Commissioner, Bihar as the Appellate Authority to hear appeals against orders passed by the authorities under Sections 47, 48 and 51 of the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020. The appointment applies to establishments for which the State Government is the appropriate Government.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Appointment of Officers for Holding Enquiry and Imposing Penalties under the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020**

  The Labour Resources and Migrant Workers Welfare Department, Government of Bihar, on August 11, 2026, appointed officers to conduct enquiries and impose penalties under Section 111 of the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020.

  The following has been stated:
  - The Labour Commissioner, Bihar has been appointed for holding enquiries and imposing penalties in respect of the entire Code.
  - The Additional Labour Commissioner, Bihar and all Joint Labour Commissioners have been appointed for establishments other than those covered under Part VII of Chapter XI of the Code.
  - The Chief Inspector of Factories, Bihar has been appointed for establishments covered under Part VII of Chapter XI of the Code.
  - The appointments apply to establishments for which the State Government is the appropriate Government.

  The notification shall come into force from the date of its publication in the Bihar Gazette.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Appointment of Compounding Officers under the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020**

  The Labour Resources and Migrant Workers Welfare Department, Government of Bihar, on August 11, 2026, vide a notification appointed Deputy Labour Commissioners-cum-Inspector-cum-Facilitators and Deputy Chief Inspectors of Factories-cum-Inspector-cum-Facilitators as Compounding Officers under Section 114 of the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020. The former will exercise compounding functions for establishments other than those covered under Part VII of Chapter XI, while the latter will exercise such functions for establishments covered under Part VII, within their respective jurisdictions.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Appointment of Single Licensing Officers under the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020**

  The Labour Resources and Migrant Workers Welfare Department, Government of Bihar, on August 11, 2026, issued a notification appointing all Inspectors of Factories as Single Licensing Officers under Section 119 of the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020 for issuing single licences within their respective jurisdictions.

  Where an employer applies for a single licence covering a factory and bidi establishments, contract labour, or any combination thereof, the Single Licensing Officer will issue the licence after obtaining the consent of the concerned Labour Superintendent. Further, the notification shall come into force from its publication in the Bihar Gazette.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Appointment of Appellate Authority for Single Licensing Orders under the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020**

  The Labour Resources and Migrant Workers Welfare Department, Government of Bihar, on August 11, 2026, appointed the Labour Commissioner, Bihar as the Appellate Authority to hear appeals against orders passed by the Single Licensing Officer appointed under Section 119 of the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020. The notification applies to establishments for which the State Government is the appropriate Government and shall come into force from the date of its publication in the Bihar Gazette.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

Goa

- **Paid Holiday Declared for Panchayat Bye-Election**

  The General Administration Department, Government of Goa, on August 11, 2026, declared August 16, 2026, as a paid holiday on account of the polling day for the bye-election to Ward No. I of Village Panchayat Chinchinim Deussua, Salcete, South Goa District.

  The paid holiday applies to:
  - Workers of all establishments, including commercial and industrial undertakings in the State of Goa.
  - Daily wage and casual workers employed in any business, trade, industrial undertaking, Government department, State Government Industrial Department or any other establishment, provided they are voters for the bye-election.

  (To view the Press Release, please click here)

Govt of NCT of Delhi

- **Delhi Credit Guarantee Scheme (DCGS), 2026**

  The Government of Delhi, on July 31, 2026, officially notified the Delhi Credit Guarantee Scheme (DCGS), 2026. The scheme introduces a government-backed credit guarantee framework for lending institutions to facilitate smoother access to institutional finance for Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) across the National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi.

  The scheme is designed to strengthen Delhi's MSME ecosystem, foster financial inclusion, promote industrial growth, and drive job creation by encouraging financial institutions to extend collateral-free or reduced-collateral loans to local enterprises. Accordingly, under the Scheme, the Delhi Government provides a formal guarantee cover against a specified portion of the sanctioned loan amount, effectively mitigating lending risks for participating banks and financial institutions.

  Eligible MSEs can access government-backed financial assistance across a wide spectrum of operational and developmental needs, including setting up new micro and small enterprises, business expansion and modernizing operational units, technology upgradation initiatives and meeting ongoing working capital requirements.

  (To view the Scheme, please click here)

- **CAQM Issues Amendment to Direction No. 86 Expanding C&D Dust Pollution Enforcement Across NCR**

  The Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas, on August 03, 2026, issued an amendment to Statutory Direction No. 86 under Section 14(2) of the CAQM Act, 2021. The amendment expands the geographic reach and enforcement jurisdiction for penalizing non-compliance with dust and air pollution control norms during Construction and Demolition (C&D) activities, targeting PM10 and PM2.5 pollution loads.

  The amendment provides the following:

  - Paragraph 18 of Statutory Direction No. 86 (originally issued on January 2, 2025, and amended on June 24, 2025) has been amended to empower additional municipal and development authority officials across expanding NCR urban centers.
  - Enforcement powers are now extended to commissioners, chief executives, and deputy commissioners of municipal corporations and development authorities in:
    - Manesar, Karnal, Panipat, and Rohtak (Haryana)
    - Meerut, Alwar, and Bharatpur (Uttar Pradesh & Rajasthan)
    - Commissioner of Bhiwadi Municipal Council and Executive Officer of Neemrana Municipal Board
  - Newly designated officials are authorized to execute strict enforcement measures against gross violators of dust and C&D pollution norms (including GRAP schedule violations), including:
    - Filing complaints or initiating prosecution before jurisdictional magistrates
    - Issuing formal site closure orders
    - Imposing and collecting environmental compensation charges
  - The Commission has directed rigorous ground-level implementation, mandating that the status of complaints filed under these expanded provisions be submitted to the CAQM on a monthly basis alongside existing progress reports.

  (To view the Amendment, please click here)

- **Delhi Legal Metrology (Enforcement) Amendment Rules, 2026**

  The Department of Legal Metrology, Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi, on August 05, 2026, issued the Delhi Legal Metrology (Enforcement) Amendment Rules, 2026. The amendment introduced structural modifications to the governance, registration, licensing terms, and administrative schedules for manufacturers, repairers, and dealers of weights and measures in Delhi.

  The amendment focuses on the following:

  - Rule 11 (Registration Certificate): Completely substituted to revise requirements for the issuance and maintenance of Registration Certificates for manufacturers, repairers, and dealers of weights and measures.
  - Rule 12 (Suspension & Cancellation): Completely substituted to establish revised procedures, grounds, and protocols for the suspension and cancellation of Registration Certificates.
  - Rule 13 (Terminology Alignment): Textually amended by substituting the phrase “licensed under the Act and these rules” with the phrase “registered under the Act and these rules” to align statutory nomenclature.
  - The official Schedules appended to the enforcement rules have been comprehensively restructured, i.e., Schedule II-A, Schedule III, Schedule IV, Schedule V, Schedule VI, and Schedule VII have been entirely replaced with updated Schedules as appended to the 2026 amendment. Whereas, Schedule II-B has been explicitly omitted from the rules.

  (To view the Amendment, please click here)

Gujarat

- **Fast-Track Disposal of Consent Applications for Compostable Plastic Units**

The Gujarat Pollution Control Board (GPCB), on July 30, 2026, issued an official circular establishing a fast-track approval mechanism for compostable plastic manufacturing units. Launched under the State's "Ease of Doing Business" initiative and aimed at bolstering the implementation of the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, the directive seeks to accelerate the adoption of sustainable, alternative packaging materials across Gujarat.

As per the circular, all consent applications including Consent to Establish (CTE) and Consolidated Consent and Authorization (CCA/CTO) submitted by compostable plastic manufacturing units will now be processed and disposed of within a maximum of 3 working days from the date of receipt.

(To view the Circular, please click here)

- **Standardized Procedure for EC Comments and CTE Exemption via PARIVESH 2.0 Portal**

The Gujarat Pollution Control Board (GPCB), on August 03, 2026, issued a circular notifying the standardized procedure for Project Proponents (PPs) to obtain GPCB comments during the processing of Environment Clearance (EC) proposals. Aligned with MoEF&CC Office Memorandums, the new framework integrates operations via the PARIVESH 2.0 Portal to streamline environmental approvals.

The circular clarifies that:

- Project proponents are now exempt from obtaining a standalone Consent to Establish (CTE) prior to the grant of EC. Instead, applicable CTE conditions will be directly evaluated and incorporated into the EC itself.
- Application and Fee Protocol:
    - PPs must submit an 'EC to CTE' application through the GPCB XGN Portal
    - The prescribed processing fee must be paid online via the portal
    - The payment receipt must be uploaded onto the PARIVESH 2.0 Portal for verification by GPCB, after which official comments will be forwarded to the concerned EAC/SEAC
- Regional Offices are tasked with evaluating and furnishing necessary location-specific environmental safeguards during the comment submission process.

(To view the Circular, please click here)

- **Gujarat Motor Vehicles (2nd Amendment) Rules, 2026**

The Ports and Transport Department, Government of Gujarat, vide notification dated August 05, 2026, issued the Gujarat Motor Vehicles (2nd Amendment) Rules, 2026, further amending the Gujarat Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989. The amended rules come into force immediately from their date of issuance on August 05, 2026.

The amendment revises the official designation of designated transport authorities in Rules 3, 24, and 40, replacing the term "Assistant Regional Transport Officer" with "Regional Transport Officer" across specified regional offices.

The structural re-designation applies to thirteen administrative locations, namely Ahmedabad (East), Bardoli, Amreli, Bharuch, Gandhinagar, Surendranagar, Dahod, Navsari, Anand, Patan, Morbi, Bavala, and Anjar. For the Anjar office, the existing reference "Assistant Regional Transport Officer, Anjar (Kutch-East)" is explicitly substituted with "Regional Transport Officer, Anjar.

(To view the Amendment, please click here)

Haryana

- **Revision in Motor Vehicle Tax Rebates for Electric and CNG Vehicles**

The Department of Transport, Government of Haryana, vide notification dated July 30, 2026, issued an official amendment to its earlier notification No. 13/15/2010-6T(I), dated September 29, 2017. The amendment revises the motor vehicle tax rebate structure for new vehicle registrations to promote the adoption of cleaner and environmentally friendly transportation across the State.

The notification provides:

- Tax Exemptions for Electric Vehicles (EVs): New registrations for electric vehicles are eligible for tiered tax relief based on ex-showroom pricing
    - 100% Tax Exemption: Granted to new registrations of electric two-wheelers, three-wheelers, and four-wheelers with an ex-showroom price of up to INR 30 lakh.
    - 50% Tax Exemption: Granted to electric four-wheelers with an ex-showroom price exceeding INR 30 lakh
- Tax Rebates for CNG Vehicles: New CNG vehicles purchased within Haryana are eligible for a 20% rebate on the total motor vehicle tax payable at the time of initial registration.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Haryana State Commission for Women (Amendment) Ordinance, 2026**

  The Governor of Haryana vide notification dated August 04, 2026, promulgated the Haryana State Commission for Women (Amendment) Ordinance, 2026. The Ordinance introduces a specific structural amendment to the Haryana State Commission for Women Act, 2012.

  The Ordinance amends Section 3(2)(b) of the Haryana State Commission for Women Act, 2012. Under the revised provision, the prescribed number mentioned in Section 3(2)(b) is expanded, substituting the word "Five" with the word "Seven".

  (To view the Ordinance, please click here)

- **Issuance of NOC for Petrol Pumps Under Right to Service Act, 2014**

  The Haryana General Administration Department, vide Notification No. 7/31/2014-3AR dated August 05, 2026, issued an official amendment under sub-sections (1) and (2) of Section 3 of the Haryana Right to Service Act, 2014.

  The amendment modifies the earlier notification dated July 13, 2022, by inserting a new notified service under Serial Number 52, i.e., Issuance of No Objection Certificate (NOC) for Petrol Pumps under the Revenue & Disaster Management Department, in the official Schedule to enforce time-bound administrative disposal.

  As per the notification, the prescribed timelines and Authority Hierarchy is as follows
  - Stipulated Disposal Period: 45 Days
  - Designated Officer: City Magistrate
  - First Appellate Authority: Deputy Commissioner of the District concerned
  - Second Appellate Authority: Divisional Commissioner of the Division concerned

  (To view the Amendment, please click here)

Himachal Pradesh

- **Draft Amendment to Consumer Grievances Redressal Forum and Ombudsman Regulations**

  The Himachal Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission, on August 7, 2026, published the draft Himachal Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission (Consumer Grievances Redressal Forum and Ombudsman) (Fifth Amendment) Regulations, 2026.

  The draft proposes the following amendments:
  - Additional Forums are proposed to be established at the Operation Zone level instead of the Circle level.
  - For consumers covered under single-part retail tariff, the Additional Forums will deal with all types of complaints, whether monetary or non-monetary.
  - For consumers covered under two-part retail tariff, the Additional Forums will deal with complaints where the dispute or claim does not exceed INR 4 lakh, and the standard supply voltage does not exceed 33 kV.
  - Existing Circle-level Additional Forums will continue until completion of the term of their Independent Member, after which pending grievances will be transferred to the nearest Circle-level Additional Forum within the Zone.
  - The minimum experience requirement under Regulation 7 for the relevant position has been proposed to increase from 10 years to 20 years.

  Objections or suggestions on the draft may be submitted to the Secretary, Himachal Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission, within 30 days from publication of the notification in the Rajpatra, Himachal Pradesh.

  (To view the Amendment, please click here)

Jharkhand

- **Amendment to the Jharkhand Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017**

  The Law (Legislative) Department, Government of Jharkhand, on August 3, 2026, published the Jharkhand Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 2026, introducing amendments to the Jharkhand Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017.

  The following has been provided:
  - The meaning of "plant and machinery" for the purposes of input tax credit has been clarified retrospectively from July 1, 2017. References to "plant or machinery" are to be construed as references to "plant and machinery", notwithstanding any contrary judicial or other order.

- The provisions relating to credit notes have been revised. A supplier will not be permitted to reduce its output tax liability where the corresponding input tax credit has been availed by a registered recipient but has not been reversed, or where the tax burden has been passed on to another person.
- Where an order imposes a penalty without any tax demand, an appeal will require payment of 10% of the penalty under the amended provisions.
- A new track-and-trace framework has been introduced for specified goods and persons dealing with such goods. Once particular goods or persons are notified, the framework requires unique identification markings on the goods or their packages, electronic storage of information, maintenance of records and submission of details relating to machinery used for manufacturing such goods.
- Failure to comply with the track-and-trace requirements may attract a penalty of ?1 lakh or 10% of the tax payable on the goods, whichever is higher, in addition to other applicable penalties.

(To view the Ordinance, please click here)

Karnataka

- **Draft Karnataka Protection of Interest of Depositors in Financial Establishments Rules, 2026**

The Government of Karnataka, on July 22, 2026, issued the Draft Karnataka Protection of Interest of Depositors in Financial Establishments Rules, 2026.

The following has been stated:

- The Rules provide procedures for receiving, investigating and acting upon complaints against financial establishments that default in repayment of deposits or operate fraudulent investment schemes. A Nodal Officer has been designated to receive complaints, collect market intelligence, coordinate with District Magistrates and police authorities, investigate fraudulent transactions and submit reports to the Government.
- The Nodal Officer is empowered to summon persons, require production of documents, inspect records, examine witnesses on oath, investigate accounts, conduct local inspections, obtain expert opinions and arrange for auction of perishable seized property.
- Authorities are required to verify the activities of financial establishments, regulatory approvals, ownership of movable and immovable properties, sources of income, financial statements, audited accounts and tax records before recommending action.
- The Rules provide for action against misleading advertisements and fraudulent deposit schemes, along with standardised forms for investigations and proceedings.
- A mechanism has been provided for attachment, management, realisation and distribution of assets to safeguard the interests of depositors and facilitate enforcement of the Act.

Objections or suggestions from stakeholders have been invited by August 8, 2026.

(To view the Rules, please click here)

Ladakh

- **Code on Social Security (Ladakh) Rules, 2026**

The Department of Labour, Government of Ladakh, on August 10, 2026, notified the Code on Social Security (Ladakh) Rules, 2026.

The key highlights of the notification include:

- Establishment of the Ladakh Unorganised Workers' Social Security Board and the Ladakh Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board, along with provisions relating to their constitution, membership and functioning, and registration and social-security benefits for eligible workers.
- Prescription of procedures relating to gratuity claims and recovery, establishment registration, maternity benefits, maintenance of employment records and registers, and filing of unified annual returns.
- Establishment of the Ladakh Social Security Fund to finance schemes for unorganised workers. The Fund may receive contributions from the UT Administration, Government of India, beneficiaries, employers, CSR funds, grants and other approved sources, with its accounts subject to audit.
- Provisions relating to inspection, offences and compounding of offences, including a mechanism for an employer committing a first-time offence to compound the offence by paying the prescribed amount within 15 days of receiving the notice.

(To view the Rules, please click here)

- **Industrial Relations (Ladakh) Rules, 2026**

  The Labour and Employment Department, Union Territory of Ladakh, on August 04, 2026, published the Industrial Relations (Ladakh) Rules, 2026 under the Industrial Relations Code, 2020. The Rules supersede the erstwhile Jammu and Kashmir labour rules relating to trade unions, standing orders and industrial disputes, insofar as they apply to the Union Territory of Ladakh.

  The key provisions include:
  - The procedural framework for implementing the Industrial Relations Code, 2020 in Ladakh, including provisions relating to definitions, execution of written settlement agreements before Conciliation Officers and constitution and functioning of Works Committees.
  - Employers directed under Section 3 of the Code are required to constitute Works Committees comprising not more than 20 members, with workers' representatives being at least equal in number to the representatives of the employer.
  - The procedures for nomination and election of employer and worker representatives, consultation with registered trade unions and appointment of office-bearers of Works Committees.
  - Further, it provides procedures governing the functioning of Works Committees to promote cooperation between employers and workers and facilitate industrial harmony.

  (To view the Rules, please click here)

- **Code on Wages (Ladakh) Rules, 2026**

  The Department of Labour, Ladakh, on August 03, 2026, notified the Code on Wages (Ladakh) Rules, 2026. The Rules shall come into force from August 10, 2026.

  The key provisions include:
  - The Rules extend across the entire Union Territory of Ladakh and replace the erstwhile Jammu and Kashmir wage rules applicable to the region.
  - The Rules prescribe a standard eight-hour working day and provide for determination of daily minimum wages based on a 2,700-calorie daily intake for a standard family comprising three consumption units.
  - Normal daily working hours are prescribed as eight hours, with a maximum spread-over of 12 hours, along with one paid day of rest every week.

  (To view the Rules, please click here)

Lakshadweep

- **Draft Lakshadweep Registration of Societies Rules, 2026**

  The Union Territory of Lakshadweep, vide notification dated August 11, 2026, issued the Draft Lakshadweep Registration of Societies Rules, 2026. The proposed rules establish a standardized regulatory framework to streamline society registration, enforce continuous statutory compliance, maintain official records, and enhance administrative oversight across the Union Territory.

  The draft rule proposes the following:
  - Clear procedural steps for founding and registering a new society:
    - A proposed society must submit three preferred names in order of priority to the Registrar; approved names remain valid for 180 days to complete registration
    - The Memorandum of Association must be signed by a minimum of seven persons
    - Formal applications must be submitted with the prescribed Memorandum, Bye-laws, supporting documents, and applicable fees.
  - Rules governing post-registration operations, structural amendments, and property transactions.
  - Standardized fees and late-filing penalties have been proposed across major administrative filings

  (To view the Draft Rules, please click here)

Madhya Pradesh

- **Madhya Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission (Establishment of Forum and Electricity Ombudsman for redressal of grievances of the consumers) (Revision-II) (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2021**

  The Government of Madhya Pradesh, on July 31, 2026, notified the Madhya Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission (Establishment of Forum and Electricity Ombudsman for redressal of grievances of the consumers) (Revision-II) (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2021 [ARG-3 (II) (ii) of 2026], amending the Madhya Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission (Establishment of Forum and Electricity Ombudsman for redressal of grievances of the consumers) Regulations, 2021.

Regulation 4.5 of the Principal Regulations has been substituted to provide that the Electricity Ombudsman appointed shall be paid a fixed fee or honorarium, including other benefits, as may be approved by the Commission. The amended Regulations shall come into force from July 31, 2026.

(To view the Regulation, please click here)

- **Draft Amendments to the Madhya Pradesh Legal Metrology Rules, 2011**

  The Government of Madhya Pradesh, on July 31, 2026, issued draft amendments to the Madhya Pradesh Legal Metrology Rules, 2011, proposing changes to the regulatory framework governing manufacturers, repairers and dealers of weights and measures.

  The key proposals include:
  - Replacement of the existing licensing regime with a registration-based system, along with simplified registration procedures and revised application forms and registration certificates.
  - Registration certificates to remain valid unless suspended or cancelled by the competent authority.
  - Prescription of security deposit requirements for repairers and maintenance of prescribed registers and records.
  - Revision of provisions relating to inspection, verification, suspension, cancellation and compounding of offences.
  - Revision of schedules prescribing registration forms, certificates, verification fees and compounding amounts.
  - Stakeholders may submit objections or suggestions to the Secretary, Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh, within 30 days from the date of publication of the draft notification in the Madhya Pradesh Gazette.

  The representations received from stakeholders will be considered before the proposed amendments are finalised

  (To view the Draft Amendment, please click here)

Maharashtra

- **Maharashtra Land Revenue Code (Amendment) Ordinance, 2026**

  The Revenue and Forests Department, Government of Maharashtra, on August 7, 2026, promulgated the Maharashtra Land Revenue Code (Amendment) Ordinance, 2026, amending Section 48(7) of the Maharashtra Land Revenue Code, 1966. The amendment replaces the penalty for extracting, removing, collecting, replacing, picking up or disposing of minerals without lawful authority from up to five times the market value of such minerals to ten times the royalty payable for such minerals.

  (To view the Amendment, please click here)

- **Bombay Foreign Liquor (Amendment) Rules, 2026**

  The Home Department, Government of Maharashtra, on August 5, 2026, notified the Bombay Foreign Liquor (Amendment) Rules, 2026, amending Rule 25(4)(d) of the Bombay Foreign Liquor Rules, 1953. The amendment relates to the shifting of FL-2 licences.

  The following has been provided, namely:
  - An FL-2 licence holder should obtain a no-objection certificate from the registered society for shifting the licence to a residential or residential-and-commercial complex.
  - A no-objection certificate will also be required where the complex has a partial occupancy certificate.
  - An FL-2 licence holder who has shifted to a registered society with its no-objection certificate shall not be required to obtain a fresh no-objection certificate from the society every year.

  (To view the Amendment, please click here)

- **Maharashtra Country Liquor (Amendment) Rules, 2026**

  The Home Department, Government of Maharashtra, on August 5, 2026, notified the Maharashtra Country Liquor (Amendment) Rules, 2026, further amending the Maharashtra Country Liquor Rules, 1973.

  The following has been provided, namely:
  - For shifting of a CL-3 licence to a residential or residential-and-commercial complex registered as a society under Section 9 of the Maharashtra Co-operative Societies Act, 1960, the licence holder shall obtain a no-objection certificate from the society.

- A no-objection certificate from the society will also be mandatory for shifting a CL-3 licence to a residential or residential-and-commercial complex with a partial occupancy certificate.
- A CL-3 licence holder who has shifted to a registered society with a no-objection certificate from the society shall not be required to obtain a no-objection certificate from the society every year.

(To view the Amendment, please click here)

- **Amendment to Mathadi, Hamal and other Manual Workers (Regulation of Employment and Welfare) Act, 1969**

  The Industries, Energy, Labour and Mining Department, Government of Maharashtra, vide notification dated August 7, 2026, amended the Schedule to the Maharashtra Mathadi, Hamal and other Manual Workers (Regulation of Employment and Welfare) Act, 1969.

  The following amendments have been made:
  - Building and other construction work has been excluded from the operations covered under Item No. 1 of the Schedule.
  - Building and other construction work and work related to shifting of a house or office have been excluded from the entries covered under Item No. 5 of the Schedule.
  - Item No. 15 has been substituted to cover employment in metal (excluding iron and steel) and paper markets or shops in connection with loading, unloading, stacking, carrying, weighing, measuring or other related work, while excluding building and other construction work.

  (To view the Amendment, please click here)

- **Guidelines for Capital Subsidy Scheme for Textile Projects**

  The Co-operation, Marketing and Textiles Department, Government of Maharashtra, on August 7, 2026, issued guidelines for the Capital Subsidy Scheme for textile projects under the Integrated and Sustainable Textile Policy, 2023-28.

  The following amendments have been made:
  - The total capital subsidy, excluding electricity subsidy available under the Textile Policy, has been capped at 100% of the fixed capital investment (FCI) determined by the Industries Department. Incentives provided by the Central Government or other State Government departments continue to be included while computing this limit.
  - A representative of the Industries Department, namely the Development Commissioner, Directorate of Industries, has been included in the committee constituted for sanctioning capital subsidy.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Revision of Minimum Wages for July to December 2026**

  The Office of the Labour Commissioner, Maharashtra, on August 5, 2026, notified revised minimum wages applicable from July 1, 2026, to December 31, 2026, under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. The revised wages comprise Basic Minimum Wage and Special Allowance/Variable Dearness Allowance and apply to workers employed in various scheduled employments across Circle I, Circle II and Circle III.

  The following has been notified:
  - Revised monthly minimum wage rates have been specified for skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled workers across various scheduled employments.
  - Employers covered under the notified scheduled employments are required to ensure payment of wages at not less than the revised minimum wage rates from July 1, 2026.

  The revised rates remain applicable until December 31, 2026, unless modified earlier by the competent authority.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Motor Vehicles (Third Amendment) Rules, 2026**

  The Home (Transport) Department, Government of Maharashtra, on August 12, 2026, issued the Maharashtra Motor Vehicles (Third Amendment) Rules, 2026, further amending the Maharashtra Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989.

  The following amendments have been made:
  - Authorised drivers of motor cabs fitted with electronic meters are required to have working knowledge of Marathi language.
  - Where an authorised driver does not possess the required knowledge of Marathi, the Licensing Authority will provide one month to acquire such knowledge. Failure to comply may result in suspension of the authorisation on the driving licence for up to three months

and, in case of continued non-compliance, revocation of the authorisation, after providing an opportunity of being heard.
- Permit holders are required to have working knowledge of Marathi language.
- For renewal of permits of motor cabs fitted with electronic meters, the permit holder is required to have working knowledge of Marathi language to the satisfaction of the Authority.

(To view the Amendment, please click here)

Manipur

- **Draft Manipur Legal Metrology (Government Approved Test Centre) Rules, 2026**

The Department of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Government of Manipur, on August 4, 2026, proposed a framework for Government Approved Test Centres to undertake verification of specified weights and measures under the Legal Metrology Act, 2009. The draft Rules are intended to facilitate verification through approved private or other eligible testing facilities, while introducing prescribed standards for their recognition, operation and oversight.

The following has been proposed:
- The weights and measures specified in the First Schedule may be verified through Government Approved Test Centres, with any person permitted to apply for verification.
- Persons seeking recognition as a Government Approved Test Centre will be required to apply to the Controller of Legal Metrology and satisfy requirements relating to infrastructure, testing equipment, technically qualified personnel and capacity to provide timely services.
- Approved centres will be required to maintain prescribed standards and equipment, issue certificates of verification, maintain records and submit periodic reports to the State Government.
- Approval will initially be granted for one year, with subsequent renewal for periods of up to five years. Accredited laboratories meeting the prescribed conditions may also be notified as Government Approved Test Centres.

(To view the Draft Rules, please click here)

- **Draft Manipur Legal Metrology (Enforcement) (Second Amendment) Rules, 2026**

The Department of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Government of Manipur, on August 4, 2026, proposed amendments to the Manipur Legal Metrology (Enforcement) Rules, 2011 to simplify the registration and verification framework for manufacturers, repairers and dealers of weights and measures. The proposed changes are part of the State's Compliance Reduction and Deregulation Phase-II and seek to replace certain licensing requirements with a registration-based, self-declaration framework.

The following has been proposed:
- Registration of manufacturers, repairers and dealers of weights and measures will be undertaken online, with the registration certificate issued on the basis of self-declaration, without prior inspection.
- Registration certificates will be issued for perpetuity, without requiring renewal, and are proposed to be granted within 14 working days of submission of the required documents and fee; failing this, the registration will be deemed to have been granted.
- Verification and stamping of low-risk weights and measures used for commercial purposes will be permitted on the basis of self-certification, while other categories will require third-party certification.
- The proposed amendments also introduce corresponding changes to registration terminology, application forms and prescribed fees, and provide for an online registration mechanism through the single-window EODB Manipur portal.

(To view the Draft Amendment, please click here)

Meghalaya

- **Retrofitting of Operational DG Sets for Emission Control in Meghalaya**

The Meghalaya State Pollution Control Board, on August 7, 2026, issued a circular specifying directions for controlling emissions from operational diesel generator (DG) sets in the State.

The following has been provided:
- Operators of existing DG sets are required to adopt prescribed emission-control measures to address particulate matter emissions.
- Existing DG sets may comply by:
  - retrofitting Retrofit Emission Control Devices (RECDs) capable of capturing at least 70% of particulate matter;
  - shifting to gas-based generators; or

  - adopting other prescribed air pollution control measures.
- DG sets of 1000 KVA and above are required to comply with the applicable Consent regime under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.
- Non-compliance may attract action under applicable environmental laws, including environmental compensation.

(To view the Circular, please click here)

Punjab

Common Infrastructure (Regulation and Maintenance) Amendment Bill, 2026

The Punjab Vidhan Sabha Secretariat, on August 3, 2026, published the Punjab Common Infrastructure (Regulation and Maintenance) Amendment Bill, 2026, proposing amendments to the Punjab Common Infrastructure (Regulation and Maintenance) Act, 2012.

The following key changes have been proposed:

- The Act will extend to industrial clusters located outside notified Industrial Areas, Parks or Estates, subject to the industrial units having obtained the requisite approvals.
- The definition of "common infrastructure" has been expanded to include roads, parks, streetlights, security, sewerage cleaning, garbage collection, common research and development centres, streams, drainage and other common facilities, while excluding water supply facilities, sewage treatment plants and sewage infrastructure from the maintenance responsibilities of the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV).
- Special Purpose Vehicles will be registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 and will be responsible for the maintenance of common infrastructure on payment of service charges.
- A District Monitoring Authority, headed by the District Magistrate of the concerned district, has been introduced to oversee SPVs, including resolution of disputes relating to service charges and maintenance.
- Service charges will be collected monthly through electricity bills, with Punjab State Power Corporation Limited (PSPCL) acting as the authorised collection agency. Three per cent of the total service charges collected will be charged as an administrative fee.
- Ninety per cent of the net service charges collected will be transferred to the concerned SPV for the Common Infrastructure Maintenance Fund, while the remaining ten per cent will be transferred to the Competent Authority for upgradation and maintenance of industrial areas.

The Bill provides for a maximum utilisation of 90% of the SPV funds for regular upkeep, with at least 10% retained as a fixed deposit or corpus for future development or upgradation works.

(To view the Bill, please click here)

Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2026

The Punjab Vidhan Sabha Secretariat, on August 7, 2026, published the Punjab Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2026, proposing amendments to the Punjab Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017.

The following amendments have been proposed:

- Post-sale discounts may be excluded from the value of supply where the supplier issues a credit note and the recipient reverses the input tax credit attributable to such discount, without requiring any prior agreement.
- Credit notes may be issued for post-sale discounts under Section 34, including where such discounts are given for reasons other than deficiencies in the goods or services.
- Provisional refund of 90% of input tax credit in cases of inverted duty structure and refund of IGST paid on exports may be granted even where the refund amount is less than ₹1,000.

(To view the Bill, please click here)

Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2026

The Department of Labour, Government of Punjab, on August 13, 2026, issued a fresh notification constituting the Punjab Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Board under the Code on Social Security, 2020.

The following has been stated:

- The fresh notification consolidates the earlier notification and corrigendum dated March 17, 2026, and supersedes all earlier notifications issued by the Department of Labour in this regard.
- The Board has been constituted to exercise the powers and perform the functions assigned under the Code on Social Security, 2020 and the Rules made thereunder.
- Any decision or action taken by the Board between the issuance of the original notification and the fresh notification remains valid.

- Earlier decisions, schemes adopted and actions taken by the Board under the Punjab Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Board Act, 1996 remain effective in accordance with Section 164(2) of the Code on Social Security, 2020.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

Rajasthan

- **Rajasthan RERA issues circular regarding Agent Registration and Lapsed Notice issued when E-sign arrangement not functioning**

  The Rajasthan Real Estate Regulatory and Development Authority (RERA) issued a circular on July 23, 2026 regarding the issuance of Registration Certificates of Real Estate Agents and notices relating to lapsed projects in cases where the e-sign facility is not functioning. In view of the delay in the availability of bulk e-sign and Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) facilities, the following has been provided:
  - As a temporary measure, Registration Certificates of Real Estate Agents and notices relating to lapsed projects may be issued without e-sign, after due verification against the original approved note sheet, by marking "sd" in place of the signature.
  - Information regarding the temporary arrangement is displayed on the RERA portal for transparency.

  (To view the Circular, please click here)

- **Rajasthan Legal Metrology (Enforcement) (Amendment) Rules, 2026**

  The Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA), Government of Rajasthan, on July 29, 2026, notified the Rajasthan Legal Metrology (Enforcement) (Amendment) Rules, 2026, amending the Rajasthan Legal Metrology (Enforcement) Rules, 2011 under Section 53 of the Legal Metrology Act, 2009.

  The key amendments include:
  - Introduction of the definitions of "Government Approved Test Centre" and "Self-Declaration".
  - Replacement of the existing licensing framework for manufacturers, repairers and dealers of weights and measures with a registration-based system.
  - Mandatory online submission of applications, with registration certificates to be issued on the basis of self-declaration without prior inspection.
  - Existing licences issued under the Rules shall be deemed to be registration certificates. Registration certificates shall remain valid unless suspended, cancelled or surrendered.
  - Alteration of a registration certificate shall attract a fee equivalent to 50% of the prescribed registration fee.
  - Registered repairers are required to furnish the prescribed security deposit.
  - Registration certificates are required to be displayed at the registered business premises.
  - References to "licence" have been replaced with "registration certificate" in the relevant provisions.

  The amendments aim to simplify regulatory compliance, promote ease of doing business and streamline the registration process for stakeholders under the legal metrology framework in Rajasthan.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Rajasthan Value Added Tax Rules, 2026**

  The Finance Department, Government of Rajasthan, on August 03, 2026, notified the Rajasthan Value Added Tax Rules, 2026.

  The key provisions include:
  - The Rules prescribe procedures relating to registration of dealers, amendment and cancellation of registration, payment of tax, filing of returns, assessment, refunds, input tax credit, recovery of tax, appeals, revisions, penalties and maintenance of records and forms, including online procedures for various compliances.
  - Provisions have been made for registration and suo motu registration of dealers, including temporary registration and maintenance of dealer particulars. Dealers may also opt for payment of tax under Section 6(2), subject to prescribed conditions relating to turnover, tax liability, closing stock and reversal of input tax credit.
  - The Rules prescribe procedures for applying for, sanctioning and paying refunds, including adjustment of refund amounts against outstanding demands and withholding of refunds in specified circumstances.
  - For dispute resolution, the Rules prescribe formats and procedures for filing appeals, cross-objections and revisions before the appropriate authorities, including revision before the Rajasthan High Court.

- The Rules also provide a procedure for declaring irrecoverable demands and writing them off in departmental records. Such write-off shall not waive the Government's right to recover the amount subsequently if the dealer acquires the means to pay.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

Tamil Nadu

- **Tamil Nadu Advance Medical Directive Guidelines, 2026**

  The Government of Tamil Nadu, on July 31, 2026, issued the Tamil Nadu Advance Medical Directive Guidelines, 2026, governing the execution and implementation of Advance Medical Directives (AMDs), commonly known as living wills. The Guidelines enable adults to specify their wishes regarding the withdrawal or refusal of medical treatment in end-of-life situations.

  The key provisions include:

  - Every adult may execute an AMD in Form-A, which shall take effect only when the executor becomes incapable of making or communicating informed medical decisions. The AMD must be voluntary, unambiguous and executed with full understanding of its consequences, without coercion or undue influence.
  - An AMD must be signed by the executor in the presence of two attesting witnesses and attested before a Notary or Gazetted Officer. Copies must be provided to the nominated person(s) and family physician and deposited with the Joint Director of Health Services or notified officer as custodian. The AMD may also be incorporated into digital health records.
  - The implementation mechanism provides for a two-tier medical board system. Where a terminally ill person with no reasonable hope of recovery loses decision-making capacity, the treating physician shall verify the AMD and the treating institution shall constitute a Primary Medical Board comprising the treating physician and at least two specialists with a minimum of five years' experience. The Board shall form a preliminary opinion, preferably within 48 hours, on withdrawal or refusal of treatment and record it in Form-B.
  - Where the Primary Medical Board certifies withdrawal or refusal of treatment, a Secondary Medical Board shall be constituted comprising a practitioner from a panel maintained by the Joint Director of Health Services and two additional specialists who were not part of the Primary Board. The Secondary Board shall independently assess the patient and issue its opinion within 48 hours.
  - Where the Secondary Medical Board refuses permission for withdrawal of treatment, the nominated person(s), treating physician or institution staff may approach the High Court.
  - Where no AMD exists, similar Primary and Secondary Medical Board safeguards shall apply, with consultation with the family physician and next of kin. Written consent of the next of kin shall be required before certification, and disputed cases may be referred to the High Court.

  The Guidelines are interim in nature and shall remain in force until Parliament enacts formal legislation governing Advance Medical Directives

  (To view the Guidelines, click here)

- **Tamil Nadu Spinning Mills Association (TASMA) issued circular on ESI/EPF**

  The Tamil Nadu Spinning Mills Association (TASMA), on August 06, 2026, issued a circular regarding ESI and EPF administration in view of the coming into force of the Code on Wages, 2019 and the Code on Social Security, 2020. The circular highlights the changes in the computation of "wages" for EPF and ESI contribution purposes under Section 2(88) of the Code on Social Security, 2020.

  The key highlights of the circular include:

  - The definition of "wages" under the Code on Social Security, 2020 provides a uniform basis for determining EPF and ESI contributions. Generally, all remuneration is included in wages unless specifically excluded, with Basic Pay, Dearness Allowance and Retaining Allowance forming the core wage components.
  - Specified exclusions include certain bonuses, the value of house accommodation or amenities such as light, water and medical facilities, employer contributions towards PF or pension, conveyance allowance, House Rent Allowance (HRA), overtime allowance and commission.
  - The "50% Rule" provides that where the excluded components exceed 50% of the total remuneration, the excess amount shall be added back to wages for the purposes of statutory contributions. This is intended to prevent artificial structuring of remuneration through allowances to reduce the contribution base.
  - The circular highlights that an increase in Basic Pay and Dearness Allowance to comply with the 50% Rule may also increase statutory liabilities linked to Basic Pay and Dearness Allowance, including bonus and gratuity, where applicable.

- Employers are advised to review and plan salary structures on a case-to-case basis, taking into account the potential impact on EPF, ESI, bonus and gratuity liabilities.

(To view the Circular, click here)

West Bengal

- **Extension of Financial Assistance to the Workers in Locked Out Industrial Units (FAWLOI) Scheme**

  The Labour Department, Government of West Bengal, vide notification dated July 31, 2026, extended the Financial Assistance to the Workers in Locked Out Industrial Units (FAWLOI) scheme for a further period of one year, with effect from April 1, 2026 to March 31, 2027. The extension has been issued in continuation of the Department's earlier Notification No. Labr./490/(LC-Estt.) dated May 6, 2025, thereby continuing financial assistance to eligible workers employed in locked out industrial units during the extended period.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

ABOUT US

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

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connect@uncomplycate.com

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HSA ADVOCATES
HEMANT SAHAI ASSOCIATES

STAY CONNECTED

www.hsalegal.com

mail@hsalegal.com

HSA Advocates

New Delhi
newdelhi@uncomplycate.com

Mumbai
mumbai@uncomplycate.com

Bengaluru
bengaluru@uncomplycate.com

Kolkata
kolkata@uncomplycate.com