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NON-MAINTENANCE OF REGISTERED OFFICE

Increasing Regulatory Scrutiny Under the Companies Act, 2013

If a company's registered office exists only on paper, now is the time to revisit compliance. Over the past few months, Registrars of Companies (ROC) across India have been actively examining whether companies genuinely operate from their registered office, whether official communications are received and acknowledged, and whether address changes have been duly reported, with a clear focus on identifying shell companies.

Recent Orders Signal a Stricter Enforcement Climate

ROC / Date	Company	Default	Outcome
ROC Ernakulam, March 2026	AAB Consultants Private Limited	Statutory notices returned undelivered; changed registered office without informing ROC	**Maximum penalty of ₹1,00,000 on company and officers in default**
ROC Mumbai, December 2025	Panache Furniture and Interiors Private Limited	Vacated registered office without notice; failed to file e-Form INC-22	**₹1,00,000 penalty each on company and directors, plus directions to rectify**

What the Law Requires

Section 12 of the Companies Act, 2013 is unambiguous: every company must maintain a **genuinely operational** registered office, i.e., notices received, correspondence acknowledged, and the Registrar promptly informed of any address change via e-Form INC-22.

What "Functional" Really Means

1	**Registered office open and accessible during business hours.**
2	**All communications/notices to the company are received and acknowledged.**
3	**An effective system exists for receiving, recording, and responding to correspondence.**
4	**Any change in registered office is intimated to the Registrar via e-Form INC-22.**

What's at Stake

₹1,000 **PER DAY PENALTY**	**₹1,00,000** **MAXIMUM PENALTY**	**SECTION 12** **GOVERNING SECTION**

Non-compliance under Section 12(8) attracts a penalty of ₹1,000/day, up to ₹1,00,000, applicable to both the company and every officer in default. Section 12(9) further empowers the Registrar to physically verify the office and initiate strike-off proceedings.

A Quick Internal Check We Recommend

Non-compliance is far easier to correct proactively than to defend before the ROC. We suggest running through the following before the Registrar does it for you:

☐ **Are the registered office and corporate office (if any) addresses correctly reflected in ROC records and prominently displayed on the premises?**

☐ **Is the registered office staffed and regularly monitored, with statutory notices promptly received and responded to by an authorised person?**

☐ **Are all books of accounts and statutory registers properly maintained at the registered/corporate office, as applicable?**

BOTTOM LINE

If anything is non-compliant, correct it proactively — it is far easier than defending your company before the ROC.

COMPLIANCE UPDATE

August 2026 | Part 1 of 2

Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)

- **Amendment of BIS Standards for RFID**

  The Bureau of Indian Standards on July 21, 2026, amended IS 16722: 2018 Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) System for Automotive Applications — Specification.

  The amendment will come in effect from January 19, 2027.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)

- **Income-tax (Second Amendment) Rules, 2026**

  The Central Board of Direct Taxes on July 21, 2026, revise the definition of "specified fund", bringing certain funds regulated by SEBI and the International Financial Services Centres Authority. As per the amendment, a "specified fund" now includes a fund set up in India as a trust, company, LLP or body corporate, if it is registered as a Category I or Category II Alternative Investment Fund (AIF).

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Income-tax (Third Amendment) Rules, 2026**

  The Central Board of Direct Taxes on July 24, 2026, notified From ITR BN for filing of Income Tax Return for Block Assessment (Search and Seizure Cases). These amendments will apply to any search initiated on or after April 01, 2026.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)

- **Quarterly Review of Duty Drawback for Gold Jewellery and Silver Jewellery**

  The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs on July 16, 2026, revised the All-Industry Rates (AIR) of duty drawback for specified exports of gold and silver jewellery. The revision is as follows:
  - Gold jewellery and parts thereof: From INR 773.17 per gram of net gold content
  - Silver jewellery and parts thereof: From INR 14,990.66 per kg of net silver content to 29,501.09 per kg of net silver content
  - Articles made of silver: From INR 14,990.66 per kg of net silver content to 29,501.09 per kg of net silver content

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **CBIC Adds Udangudi for Imported Coal Unloading**

  The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs on July 20, 2026, has added "Udangudi" under the list of customs locations in Tamil Nadu for unloading of Imported Coal.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Anti-Dumping Duty on Met Coke**

  The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs on July 27, 2026, imposed definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of Low Ash Metallurgical Coke (ash content below 18%) originating in or exported from Australia, China PR, Colombia, Indonesia, Japan and Russia.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

Ministry of Finance (MoF)

- **Protocol Amending the Agreement Between India and Sri Lanka for Avoidance of Double Taxation**

  The Ministry of Finance on July 16, 2026, amended the agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka for the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Draft Insurance Rules, 2026**

  The Ministry of Finance on July 23, 2026, notified DRAFT Insurance Rules, 2026 to supersede the Insurance Rules, 1939. The rules mandate specific disclosures regarding risks, rebates, and Section 41 in prospectuses, premium tables, and proposal forms. They define conditions for bona fide insurance agents across life, health, property, or liability risks (requiring securing policies on six different lives or risks) and prescribe Forms I and II for declarations on share ownership and beneficial interest.

  The Draft will be open for suggestions and objections for 30 days.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Draft Indian Insurance Companies (Inquiry, Adjudication and Appeal) Rules, 2026**

  The Ministry of Finance (Department of Financial Services) on July 30, 2026, published the Draft Indian Insurance Companies (Inquiry, Adjudication and Appeal) Rules, 2026 under the General Insurance Business (Nationalisation) Act, 1972. The draft Rules prescribe the procedure for inquiry, adjudication of penalties and appeals for contraventions under the Act. Objections and suggestions from stakeholders may be submitted within 30 days from the date the draft Rules are made available to the public.

  The draft Rules include:

  - Permit Indian Insurance Companies to file complaints regarding contraventions under the Act before the adjudicating officer through electronic means or physical mode.
  - Prescribe the procedure for conducting inquiries, including issuance of show cause notices, hearings, production of evidence, and passing penalty orders.
  - Confer powers on adjudicating officers equivalent to those of a civil court for summoning persons, examining witnesses, receiving evidence, and calling for records during inquiry proceedings.
  - Provide that adjudicating officers shall determine the quantum of penalty after considering factors such as disproportionate gain, loss caused to the insurance company, nature, gravity and duration of the contravention, repetitive conduct, and mitigation measures taken.
  - Require adjudicating officers to complete inquiry proceedings within six months from the date of issuance of notice.
  - Prescribe the procedure for filing appeals against adjudication orders, with appeals to be filed within 30 days before the designated appellate authority.
  - Require appellate authorities to dispose of appeals within 60 days from the date of admission of the appeal.
  - Provide for extension of prescribed timelines by the adjudicating officer or appellate authority where reasonable cause for delay exists.
  - Require all penalties realised under the Rules to be credited to the Consolidated Fund of India.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

- **RBI Directs Banks to Strengthen Measures for Detection and Reporting of Fake Indian Currency Notes**

  The Reserve Bank of India on July 31, 2026, directed banks to strengthen compliance with the Master Direction on Counterfeit Notes - Detection, Reporting and Monitoring, 2026. The circular prescribes the following measures:

  - Ensure training of all cash-handling staff on security features of genuine banknotes and detection of counterfeit notes by October 31, 2026.
  - Complete training of cash-handling staff in branches located in international border districts by September 15, 2026.
  - Submit Action Taken Reports (ATRs) to the concerned RBI Issue Office by September 22, 2026 (border branches) and November 7, 2026 (all branches).
  - Equip branches located in international border districts with Note Authentication/Sorting Machines.
  - Ensure the Forged Note Vigilance (FNV) Cell analyses counterfeit note trends, identifies hotspots, and strengthens monitoring and outreach.

  Submit the bank's action plan for compliance with the Master Direction, along with progress, to the RBI by September 15, 2026.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **RBI Issues Consolidated Master Directions on Supervisory Instructions**

  The Reserve Bank of India, on July 31, 2026, issued 64 consolidated Master Directions by combining 628 existing supervisory circulars, Master Circulars and Master Directions applicable to banks, NBFCs and other regulated financial entities. The earlier circulars have been withdrawn, and the consolidated Master Directions will now serve as the principal reference for supervisory instructions administered by the Department of Supervision.

  (To view the Circular, please click here)

Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)

- **Extending facility of creating standing instructions for Systematic Withdrawal Plan (SWP)/ Systematic Transfer Plan (STP) for Mutual Fund units held in demat form**

  The Securities and Exchange Board of India on July 17, 2026, extended the facility of creating standing instructions for Systematic Withdrawal Plan (SWP) and Systematic Transfer Plan (STP) to mutual fund units held in demat form.

  (To view the Circular, please click here)

- **Operationalisation of freezing of holdings of promoter and promoter group at the ISIN level under SEBI (Buy-back of Securities) Regulations, 2018**

  The Securities and Exchange Board of India on July 21, 2026, directed the Depositories to establish the required operational framework and system enhancements covering the format for freezing instructions, implementation of ISIN-level freeze, procedures for tendering securities in buyback offers, handling invocation or release of pre-existing encumbrances, and other operational requirements necessary for effective implementation of the amended Buy-back Regulations.

  (To view the Circular, please click here)

- **Certification Requirements for Distribution of Specialized Investment Funds (SIFs)**

  The Securities and Exchange Board of India on July 21, 2026, the certification requirements for the distribution of Specialized Investment Funds (SIFs). Persons engaged in the sale and/or distribution of SIF products must hold a valid NISM Series-V-D – Mutual Fund – Specialized Investment Fund Distributors Certification, which will also make them eligible to distribute Mutual Fund products without separately holding the NISM Series V-A certification.

  (To view the Circular, please click here)

- **Simplification and standardisation of the framework for transmission of securities**

  The Securities and Exchange Board of India on July 23, 2026, revised and standardised the framework for transmission of securities under SEBI (LODR) Regulations, 2015. The circular standardises documentation and procedures, removes the mandatory requirement of probate of a will, introduces a combined affidavit-cum-No Objection Certificate, permits QR code-based death certificates, and provides additional verification modes for foreign death certificates.

  (To view the Circular, please click here)

Industry-wise updates

Agriculture & other rural sectors

- **Eighth Amendment Order, 2026**

  The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare on July 16, 2025, redefined the parameters of Potassium Schoenite fortified with Iron and Molybdenum.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

Consumer Affairs

- **Sugar Control Order**

  The Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution on July 28, 2026, prohibited all Dealers of Sugar to hold any stock for a period exceeding thirty days from the date of receipt of such stock and shall not keep sugar in stock at any time and in any place throughout the country in excess of 4000 quintals.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

Commerce and Industries

- **Syncing ITC (HS) Import Policy with Finance Act, 2026**

  The Director General of Foreign Trade on July 22, 2026, amended ITC (HS) 2022, Schedule-I (Import Policy) in sync with the Finance Act, 2026. The notification inserts, deletes, amends, splits and merges various ITC (HS) codes and related import policy conditions.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Amendment in Import Policy of Suspension grade PVC Resin SPVC**

  The Director General of Foreign Trade on July 24, 2026, amended the import Policy of ITC (HS) Code 39041020 covered under Chapter 39 of ITC (HS) 2022, Schedule-I (Import Policy). The amendment includes:

  - Import of Suspension grade PVC Resin (SPVC) having CIF Value more than USD 0.766 per Kilogram is Free for a period of six months.
  - The Minimum Import Price will not be applicable for import by 100% Export Oriented Units (EOUs), units in the SEZ and under the Advance Authorisation Scheme.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Ammonium Nitrate (Amendment) Rules, 2026**

  The Ministry of Commerce and Industry on July 24, 2026, amended Ammonium Nitrate Rules, 2012 mandating a valid license for transport of Ammonium Nitrate or Ammonium Nitrate melt.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Removal of per-consignment value limit for courier exports**

  Director General of Foreign Trade on July 29, 2026, removed the earlier per-consignment value limit of ₹10,00,000 for exports through courier services. While exports via registered courier services or Foreign Post Offices continue to be governed by notifications under the Customs Act, 1962 and regulated as per FTP/Export Policy in ITC(HS), the restriction on consignment value has been withdrawn.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

Forest and Environment

- **Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Transboundary Movement) Amendment Rules, 2026**

  The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change on July 16, 2026, removed Brine Sludge from Hazardous Category.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Draft Amendment to EIA Notification, 2006 for Non-Coal Mining Projects**

  The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change on July 27, 2026, published a draft notification to amend the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006. The draft amendment proposes to increase the threshold for appraisal of non-coal mining projects by the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) from 250 hectares to 500 hectares. Objections and suggestions may be submitted within 60 days from the date the notification is made available to the public.

The draft amendment includes:
- Increasing the threshold for Category A non-coal mining projects from more than 250 hectares to more than 500 hectares.
- Increasing the threshold for Category B non-coal mining projects from 250 hectares or less to 500 hectares or less, enabling appraisal and grant of Environmental Clearance (EC) by the SEIAA/SEAC.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

Health and Family Welfare

- **Drugs (Eleventh Amendment) Rules, 2026**

The Ministry of Aaysh on July 24, 2026, extended the validity of licences and loan licences issued to manufacture Ayurvedic, Siddha, or Unani drugs perpetually. Furthermore, the amendment to the Schedule T of the Drugs Rules, on the GMP for Ayurveda Siddha and Unani medicines, mandates that the manufacturing plant should have the receiving and storing space for packaging material along with the existing norms on the raw material. It also revises the general requirement for the manufacturing plant, including the location and surroundings, buildings, water supply, disposal of waste and effluent, cleaning of containers, storage area including the requirement for raw material, packaging, and finished goods storage.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

Labour & Employment

- **Constitution of Central Advisory Board under the Code on Wages, 2019**

The Ministry of Labour and Employment on July 21, 2026, notified the constitution of the Central Advisory Board under Code on Wages, 2019. The newly constituted Board comprises representatives from the Central Government, State Governments, employers, employees, and independent members, and has been established to advise the Central Government on matters relating to wages and the effective implementation of the Code on Wages, 2019.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

- **DRAFT Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Amendment) Rules, 2026**

The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment on July 16, 2026, notified Draft Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Amendment) Rules, 2026 to introduce mandatory accessibility standards for Information and Communication Technology (ICT) products, services, documentation and digital content.

The Draft will be open to suggestions for 30 days.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

Mining

- **Fourth Amendment to Minerals Concession Rules, 2016**

The Ministry of Mines on July 30, 2026, amended the Minerals (Other than Atomic and Hydrocarbons Energy Minerals) Concession Rules, 2016 by issuing the Minerals (Other than Atomic and Hydrocarbons Energy Minerals) Concession (Fourth Amendment) Rules, 2026. The amendment will come into force from August 1, 2026, and revises provisions relating to penalties and omits certain rules and schedules.

The amendment includes:
- Rule 34 of the Minerals (Other than Atomic and Hydrocarbons Energy Minerals) Concession Rules, 2016 has been omitted.
- Rule 54 has been substituted to provide that any contravention of the Rules shall attract penalties in accordance with sections 25A and 25B of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and the Mines and Minerals Adjudication of Penalties Rules, 2026.
- Schedule XII of the Rules has been omitted.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Amendment to Atomic Minerals Concession Rules, 2016**

The Ministry of Mines on July 30, 2026, amended the Atomic Minerals Concession Rules, 2016 by issuing the Atomic Minerals Concession (Amendment) Rules, 2026. The amendment will come into force from August 1, 2026, and revises the provisions relating to penalties for contravention of the Rules.

The amendment includes:

- Rule 37 has been substituted to provide that any contravention of the Atomic Minerals Concession Rules, 2016 shall attract penalties in accordance with sections 25A and 25B of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and the Mines and Minerals Adjudication of Penalties Rules, 2026.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Amendment to Offshore Areas Operating Right Rules, 2024**

  The Ministry of Mines on July 30, 2026, amended the Offshore Areas Operating Right Rules, 2024 by issuing the Offshore Areas Operating Right (Amendment) Rules, 2026. The amendment will come into force from August 1, 2026, and revises the provisions relating to penalties for contravention of the Rules.

  The Notification amends the following:

  - Rule 32 has been substituted to provide that any contravention of the Offshore Areas Operating Right Rules, 2024 shall attract penalties in accordance with section 28 of the Offshore Areas Mineral (Development and Regulation) Act, 2002 and the Offshore Areas Mineral Adjudication of Penalties Rules, 2026.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Amendment to Offshore Areas Atomic Minerals Operating Right Rules, 2025**

  The Ministry of Mines on July 30, 2026, amended the Offshore Areas Atomic Minerals Operating Right Rules, 2025 by issuing the Offshore Areas Atomic Minerals Operating Right (Amendment) Rules, 2026. The amendment will come into force from August 1, 2026, and revises the provisions relating to penalties for contravention of the Rules.

  The Notification provide that:

  - Rule 38 has been substituted to provide that any contravention of the Offshore Areas Atomic Minerals Operating Right Rules, 2025 shall attract penalties in accordance with section 28 of the Offshore Areas Mineral (Development and Regulation) Act, 2002 and the Offshore Areas Mineral Adjudication of Penalties Rules, 2026.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Amendment to Offshore Areas Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 2024**

  The Ministry of Mines on July 30, 2026, amended the Offshore Areas Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 2024 by issuing the Offshore Areas Mineral Conservation and Development (Amendment) Rules, 2026. The amendment will come into force from August 1, 2026, and aligns the Rules with the Offshore Areas Mineral Adjudication of Penalties Rules, 2026 by revising the provisions relating to adjudication of penalties and omitting specified schedules.

  The amendment includes:

  - Rule 48 has been amended to provide that action for contraventions shall be initiated in accordance with the Offshore Areas Mineral Adjudication of Penalties Rules, 2026.
  - Rule 48(5) has been amended to replace references to penalty amounts specified in the Second Schedule with penalties determined in accordance with the Offshore Areas Mineral Adjudication of Penalties Rules, 2026.
  - Rule 60 has been substituted to provide that any contravention of the Rules shall attract penalties in accordance with section 28 of the Offshore Areas Mineral (Development and Regulation) Act, 2002 and the Offshore Areas Mineral Adjudication of Penalties Rules, 2026.
  - The Second Schedule and Third Schedule of the Rules have been omitted.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Notification of Offshore Areas Mineral Adjudication of Penalties Rules, 2026**

  The Ministry of Mines on July 30, 2026, notified the Offshore Areas Mineral Adjudication of Penalties Rules, 2026 under the Offshore Areas Mineral (Development and Regulation) Act, 2002. The Rules will come into force from August 1, 2026, and establish the framework for adjudication of penalties, inquiry proceedings, appeals, and electronic administration for contraventions under the Act.

  The Rules include:

  - Authorise a gazetted officer to file complaints regarding contraventions before the adjudicating officer within three years from the date of such contravention or failure.
  - Prescribe the procedure for conducting inquiries, including issuance of notices, hearings (including through video conference), submission of evidence, and passing of penalty orders.
  - Provide that adjudicating officers shall determine the quantum of penalty after considering factors such as the nature, duration and frequency of contravention, undue gain,

environmental and safety risks, past compliance record, and rectification of the contravention.
- Permit summary disposal of cases where the person rectifies the contravention and pays the minimum prescribed penalty, subject to specified conditions.
- Provide for transfer of complaints where the adjudicating officer lacks jurisdiction.
- Prescribe the procedure for filing appeals, including a requirement to deposit 10% of the penalty amount before an appeal is entertained.
- Require adjudicating officers to complete inquiry proceedings within six months, and appellate authorities to dispose of appeals within sixty days.
- Permit extension of specified timelines by up to ninety days in cases of reasonable cause or technical failure of Government portals.
- Require all penalties realised under the Rules to be credited to the Consolidated Fund of India.
- Enable electronic administration of the adjudication process, including online filing of complaints and appeals, issuance of notices, virtual hearings, uploading of orders, case status tracking, and payment of penalties.

(To view the notification, please click here)

- **Second Amendment to Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 2017**

The Ministry of Mines on July 30, 2026, amended the Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 2017 by issuing the Mineral Conservation and Development (Second Amendment) Rules, 2026. The amendment will come into force from August 1, 2026, and revises provisions relating to financial assurance, adjudication of penalties, and omits specified rules and schedules.

The amendment includes:
- Insurance surety bonds have been recognised as an alternative to bank guarantees under Rule 27 for financial assurance.
- Rule 35(4B) has been omitted, and the corresponding reference in Rule 35(5) has been removed.
- Rule 45 has been amended to provide that action for contraventions shall be initiated in accordance with the Mines and Minerals Adjudication of Penalties Rules, 2026.
- Rule 45(7A) has been amended to replace references to penalty amounts specified in Schedule II with penalties determined in accordance with the Mines and Minerals Adjudication of Penalties Rules, 2026.
- Rule 62 has been substituted to provide that any contravention of the Rules shall attract penalties in accordance with sections 25A and 25B of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and the Mines and Minerals Adjudication of Penalties Rules, 2026.
- Schedule II and Schedule III of the Rules have been omitted.

(To view the notification, please click here)

- **Notification of Mines and Minerals Adjudication of Penalties Rules, 2026**

The Ministry of Mines on July 30, 2026, notified the Mines and Minerals Adjudication of Penalties Rules, 2026 under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957. The Rules will come into force from August 1, 2026, and establish the framework for adjudication of penalties, inquiry proceedings, appeals, and electronic administration for contraventions under the Act.

The Rules include:
- Authorise gazetted officers of the Central Government or State Government to file complaints regarding contraventions before the adjudicating officer within three years from the date of such contravention.
- Prescribe the procedure for conducting inquiries, including issuance of notices, hearings (including through video conference), submission of evidence, and passing of penalty orders.
- Provide that adjudicating officers shall determine the quantum of penalty after considering factors such as the nature, duration and frequency of contravention, undue gain, environmental and safety risks, past compliance record, and rectification of the contravention.
- Permit summary disposal of cases where the person rectifies the contravention and pays the minimum prescribed penalty, subject to specified conditions.
- Provide for transfer of complaints where the adjudicating officer lacks jurisdiction.
- Prescribe the procedure for filing appeals, including a requirement to deposit 10% of the penalty amount before an appeal is entertained.
- Require adjudicating officers to complete inquiry proceedings within six months, and appellate authorities to dispose of appeals within sixty days.
- Permit extension of specified timelines by up to ninety days in cases of reasonable cause or technical failure of Government portals.

- Require all penalties realised under the Rules to be credited to the Consolidated Fund of India or the Consolidated Fund of the State, as applicable.
- Enable electronic administration of the adjudication process, including online filing of complaints and appeals, issuance of notices, virtual hearings, uploading of orders, case status tracking, and payment of penalties.

(To view the notification, please click here)

Telecommunication

- **Telecommunications (Authorisation for Telecommunication Network) Rules, 2026**

  The Ministry of Communications on July 20, 2026, notified Telecommunications (Authorisation for Telecommunication Network) Rules, 2026 to establish the framework for grant, renewal, transfer, surrender and revocation of authorizations for establishing, operating, maintaining and expanding telecommunication networks.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Revised Standards Notified for Telecommunication Equipment**

  The Department of Telecommunications, through the Telecommunication Engineering Centre (TEC), on July 28, 2026, notified revised standards for specified telecommunication equipment under the Telecommunications Act, 2023 and the Telecommunications (Framework to Notify Standards, Conformity Assessment and Certification) Rules, 2025. The revised standards are effective from the date of publication of the notification.

  The notification includes:
  - Revised Essential Requirements for Session Border Controller (TEC 67222606).
  - Revised Essential Requirements for VHF/UHF Radio System Equipment (TEC 58432606).
  - The existing and revised standards shall remain concurrently applicable for 90 days from the date of publication, after which only the revised standards shall apply.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

Shipping, ports, fisheries

- **Indian Ports Rules, 2026**

  The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways on July 21, 2026, notified Indian Ports Rules, 2026. The notification lays down provisions regarding appointment, service conditions, and powers of port officials, along with operational and environmental responsibilities of ports. The Central Government may depute officers to the Maritime State Development Council, and their service conditions will be governed by applicable rules. Ports are also empowered to appoint additional officers for functions such as marine operations, safety, and pollution control, with defined pay, service conditions, and delegation of powers.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Merchant Shipping (Life-Saving Appliances and Arrangements) Rules, 2026**

  The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways on July 27, 2026, notified the Merchant Shipping (Life-Saving Appliances and Arrangements) Rules, 2026. The Rules supersede the Merchant Shipping (Life-Saving Appliances) Rules, 1991, and prescribe a comprehensive framework governing life-saving appliances and arrangements on ships.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Merchant Shipping (Port State Control and Flag State Implementation) Rules, 2026**

  The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways on July 27, 2026, notified the Merchant Shipping (Port State Control and Flag State Implementation) Rules, 2026. The Rules establish a comprehensive framework for Port State Control inspections of foreign vessels and Flag State implementation for Indian-registered vessels, including the appointment and responsibilities of Port State Control Officers and Flag State Inspectors, inspection procedures, detention of substandard or unsafe vessels, oversight by field and national authorities, and implementation of India's obligations under international maritime conventions. The Rules also provide risk-based inspections, certification verification, enforcement measures, exemptions, and electronic reporting through a centralised database to strengthen maritime safety, security, and environmental compliance.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

State-wise updates

Assam

- **Assam Prescribes Working Hours, Rest Intervals and Overtime under the OSHWC Code, 2020**

  The Labour Welfare Department, Government of Assam, vide notification dated July 22, 2026, prescribed the period of work, daily working hours, rest intervals, spread over and overtime for workers employed in factories, motor transport undertakings, plantations, newspaper establishments, Beedi and Cigar establishments and other establishments covered under the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020.

  The following has been notified, namely:
  - The ordinary period of work shall not exceed 8 hours in a day and 48 hours in a week.
  - The spread over of work, inclusive of rest intervals, shall not exceed 12 hours in a day, subject to the weekly limit of 48 hours.
  - Rest intervals have been prescribed based on the duration of work to ensure adequate breaks during the working day.
  - The total overtime shall not exceed 144 hours in a quarter, and employers shall obtain the worker's written consent before requiring overtime work.
  - Employers shall display the prescribed period of work at a prominent place in the establishment and furnish a copy thereof to the Chief Inspector-cum-Facilitator.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

Bihar

- **Revision of Pension and Disability Pension for Registered Construction Workers**

  The Labour Resources Department, Government of Bihar, vide notification dated July 13, 2026, revised the monthly pension and disability pension payable to registered construction workers under the Code on Social Security, 2020. The following has been stated, namely: - The monthly pension payable to registered construction workers has been enhanced from INR 1,000 to INR 1,100. - The monthly disability pension payable to registered construction workers has also been enhanced from INR 1,000 to INR 1,100. - All other provisions of the existing scheme shall remain unchanged. - The revised pension and disability pension shall be effective from the date of the notification. The revised rates shall come into force with effect from the date of the notification.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Appointment of Authorities for Adjudication of Bonus Disputes**

  The Labour Resources Department, Government of Bihar, vide notification dated July 22, 2026, appointed the Deputy Labour Commissioners as the authorities for adjudicating disputes relating to the quantum of bonus under Section 31(3) of the Code on Wages, 2019, in respect of establishments for which the State Government is the appropriate Government. The notification also specifies the territorial jurisdiction of each authority and shall come into force from the date of its publication in the Bihar Gazette.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Appointment of Authority to Decide Disputes Relating to Same or Similar Work**

  The Labour Resources Department, Government of Bihar, vide notification dated July 22, 2026, appointed the Labour Commissioner, Bihar, Additional Labour Commissioner, Bihar and all Joint Labour Commissioners as the authorities to decide disputes relating to the determination of same or similar nature of work under Section 3 of the Code on Wages, 2019, in respect of 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 Conciliation Officers under the Industrial Relations Code, 2020**

  The Labour Resources and Migrant Workers Welfare Department, Government of Bihar, vide notification dated July 22, 2026, appointed all Labour Superintendents (Act), Labour Superintendents, Assistant Labour Commissioners, Deputy Labour Commissioners, Joint Labour Commissioners, the Additional Labour Commissioner and the Labour Commissioner, Bihar as Conciliation Officers under Section 43(1) of the Industrial Relations Code, 2020. 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 Industrial Relations Code, 2020**

  The Labour Resources and Migrant Workers Welfare Department, Government of Bihar, vide notification dated July 22, 2026, appointed all Deputy Labour Commissioners as the Compounding Officers under Section 89(1) of the Industrial Relations Code, 2020. 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 Certifying Officers and Appellate Authority under the Industrial Relations Code, 2020**

  The Labour Resources and Migrant Workers Welfare Department, Government of Bihar, vide notification dated July 22, 2026, appointed all Joint Labour Commissioners as the Certifying Officers and the Labour Commissioner, Bihar as the Appellate Authority for the purposes of Chapter IV of the Industrial Relations Code, 2020, in exercise of the powers conferred under Sections 2(g) and 32 of the Code. 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 Officers for Conducting Inquiries and Imposing Penalties under the Code on Wages, 2019**

  The Labour Resources Department, Government of Bihar, vide notification dated July 22, 2026, appointed the Labour Commissioner, Bihar, Additional Labour Commissioner and all Joint Labour Commissioners as the officers for conducting inquiries and imposing penalties under Section 53(1) of the Code on Wages, 2019, in respect of 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 Inspector-cum-Facilitators under the Code on Wages, 2019**

  The Labour Resources Department, Government of Bihar, vide notification dated July 22, 2026, appointed the Labour Commissioner, Bihar, all District Magistrates, Additional Labour Commissioner, all Joint Labour Commissioners, Chief Inspector of Factories, Deputy Labour Commissioners and Assistant Labour Commissioners as Inspector-cum-Facilitators under Section 51 of the Code on Wages, 2019, for exercising the powers conferred under the Code in respect of establishments for which the State Government is the appropriate Government. The notification also specifies their respective territorial jurisdiction and shall come into force from the date of its publication in the Bihar Gazette.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Appointment of Registrar of Trade Unions under the Industrial Relations Code, 2020**

  The Labour Resources and Migrant Workers Welfare Department, Government of Bihar, vide notification dated July 22, 2026, appointed the Labour Commissioner, Bihar as the Registrar of Trade Unions under Section 5(1) of the Industrial Relations Code, 2020. The notification shall come into force from the date of its publication in the Bihar Gazette.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Recognition of Negotiating Union and Constitution of Negotiating Council under the Bihar Industrial Relations Rules, 2026**

  The Labour Resources and Migrant Workers Welfare Department, Government of Bihar, vide notification dated July 22, 2026, prescribed the procedure for verification of workers' membership for recognition of a Negotiating Union or constitution of a Negotiating Council in an industrial establishment under Rule 17(3) of the Industrial Relations (Bihar) Rules, 2026 read with Section 14(3), (4) and (7) of the Industrial Relations Code, 2020.

  The following has been prescribed, namely:

  - The State Government shall appoint a Verification Officer, not below the rank of Joint Labour Commissioner, to verify the membership of trade unions seeking recognition or constitution of a Negotiating Council.
  - The notification prescribes the procedure for submission of applications, preparation and publication of the electoral roll, filing and disposal of objections, verification of membership, and declaration of results.
  - Employers and participating trade unions are required to facilitate the verification process by furnishing the prescribed records and information.

  The notification also specifies timelines and the procedure to be followed for completion of the verification process.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Procedure for Filing Applications in Trade Union Disputes under the Bihar Industrial Relations Rules, 2026**

  The Labour Resources and Migrant Workers Welfare Department, Government of Bihar, vide notification dated July 22, 2026, prescribed the procedure for filing applications before the Industrial Tribunal for adjudication of disputes relating to trade unions under Rule 18 of the Industrial Relations (Bihar) Rules, 2026 read with Section 22(1) of the Industrial Relations Code, 2020.

  The following has been prescribed, namely:

  - Applications relating to trade union disputes may be filed by the eligible applicants specified under the Rules before the Industrial Tribunal in Form VIII.
  - Applications may be submitted electronically through the designated web portal, by registered post/speed post, in person before the Industrial Tribunal, or through any electronic platform notified by the State Government.
  - The notification prescribes the documents to accompany an application, including registration certificates, authorization documents, particulars of the dispute, supporting documents and details of the parties.

  The procedure for scrutiny of applications, rectification of defects, acknowledgement of applications and registration of cases has also been specified.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Appointment of Authorities for Hearing and Deciding Claims under the Code on Wages, 2019**

  The Labour Resources Department, Government of Bihar, vide notification dated July 22, 2026, appointed the Assistant Labour Commissioners as the authorities for hearing and deciding claims under Section 45(1) of the Code on Wages, 2019, in respect of establishments for which the State Government is the appropriate Government. The notification also specifies the territorial jurisdiction of each authority and shall come into force from the date of its publication in the Bihar Gazette.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Appointment of Appellate Authorities under the Code on Wages, 2019**

  The Labour Resources Department, Government of Bihar, vide notification dated July 22, 2026, appointed the Assistant Labour Commissioners as the authorities for hearing and deciding claims under Section 45(1) of the Code on Wages, 2019, in respect of establishments for which the State Government is the appropriate Government. The notification also specifies the territorial jurisdiction of each authority and 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 Code on Wages, 2019**

  The Labour Resources Department, Government of Bihar, vide notification dated July 22, 2026, appointed the Deputy Labour Commissioners as the Compounding Officers under Section 56 of the Code on Wages, 2019, in respect of establishments for which the State Government is the appropriate Government. The notification also specifies the territorial jurisdiction of each Compounding Officer and shall come into force from the date of its publication in the Bihar Gazette.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Appointment of State Government Officers under the Code on Wages, 2019**

  The Labour Resources Department, Government of Bihar, vide notification dated July 22, 2026, appointed the Labour Commissioner, Bihar, Additional Labour Commissioner, all Joint Labour Commissioners, Deputy Labour Commissioners, Assistant Labour Commissioners and Labour Superintendents as the officers of the State Government for the purposes of the Code on Wages, 2019, in respect of 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)

- **Bihar Minerals (Concession, Prevention of Illegal Mining, Transportation and Storage) (Second Amendment) Rules, 2026**

  The Mines and Geology Department, Government of Bihar, vide Gazette notification dated July 20, 2026, notified the Bihar Minerals (Concession, Prevention of Illegal Mining, Transportation and Storage) (Second Amendment) Rules, 2026, further amending the Bihar Minerals (Concession, Prevention of Illegal Mining, Transportation and Storage) Rules, 2019.

The following has been amended namely:

- The expression "shall not exceed 200 hectares" shall mean the aggregate area of all mineral concessions held by the same person for sand, stone and/or any other minor mineral within the State. Stone blocks may be divided into compact or contiguous blocks for the purpose of settlement, wherever feasible.
- The highest bidder shall deposit 25% of the auction amount as security within five working days from the date of auction. An in-principle sanction order shall thereafter be issued and the security deposit and earnest money shall be refunded in the prescribed cases.
- The Department may allow installation of crushers, including mobile crushers, within the prescribed distance from the lease boundary and construction site, subject to the conditions specified under the Rules.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

Bihar Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2026

The Finance Department, Government of Bihar, vide Gazette notification dated July 22, 2026, published the Bihar Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2026, proposing amendments to the Bihar Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017. The proposed amendments seek to align the State Act with the corresponding amendments made under the Finance Act, 2026.

The following has been proposed:

- Post-supply discounts shall 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 in accordance with Section 34 of the Act.
- Section 34(1) shall also apply where a discount is allowed under Section 15(3)(b) of the Act.
- The benefit of provisional refund shall be extended to cases involving unutilised input tax credit under clause (ii) of the first proviso to Section 54(3).
- Refund claims relating to export of goods on payment of tax shall be excluded from the scope of Section 54(14).

(To view the Notification, please click here)

Bihar Shops and Establishments (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) (Repeal) Bill, 2026

The Bihar Legislative Assembly Secretariat, Government of Bihar, vide Gazette notification dated July 23, 2026, published the Bihar Shops and Establishments (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) (Repeal) Bill, 2026.

The following has been proposed:

- The Bihar Shops and Establishments (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 2025 shall stand repealed.
- Notwithstanding such repeal, anything done or any action taken under the repealed Act shall be deemed to have been done or taken under the proposed Act, and the validity of such actions shall not be affected.
- The Bihar Shops and Establishments (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) (Repeal) Ordinance, 2026 shall also stand repealed, and any action taken or power exercised thereunder shall be deemed to have been taken or exercised under the proposed Act.

The proposed Act shall come into force on the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

Bihar Declares Paid Holiday for Bankipur Assembly By-election

The General Administration Department, Government of Bihar, vide Gazette notification dated July 28, 2026, declared July 30, 2026 (Thursday) as a paid public holiday for employees and workers in the 182-Bankipur Assembly Constituency in view of the Legislative Assembly by-election.

The following has been notified:

- All establishments situated within the 182-Bankipur Assembly Constituency shall remain closed on July 30, 2026, to enable eligible electors to cast their vote.
- The paid holiday has been declared under Section 135B of the Representation of the People Act, 1951.
- The notification shall apply only to establishments falling within the 182-Bankipur Assembly Constituency.

(To view the Notification, please click here)

Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu

- **Draft Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu Industrial Relations Rules, 2026**

  The Forest and Climate Change Department, Government of Chhattisgarh, on June 12, 2026, issued a notification revising the fees payable for issuance of transit permits for transportation of specified forest produce under the Chhattisgarh Transit (Forest Produce) Rules, 2001.

  The following has been amended:
  - The transit permit fee for transportation of specified minerals including limestone, dolomite, fireclay, manganese, copper, rock phosphate, bauxite, coal, quartz, silica sand, iron ore, gold and tin ore has been fixed at INR 57 per tonne.
  - The transit permit fee for flagstone, granite, marble, stone aggregates, stone, sand and murum has been fixed at INR 40 per cubic metre.
  - Separate transit permit fees have also been prescribed for transportation of timber, fuelwood and bamboo, based on the category of vehicle used for transportation.
  - It has been further stated that the notification shall not apply to transportation of forest produce through the Railways.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu Fire and Emergency Service Regulation, 2026**

  The Department of Labour and Employment vide notification dated July 20, 2026, published the Draft Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu Industrial Relations Rules, 2026. Formulated under Section 99 of the central Industrial Relations Code, 2020, this update establishes a unified regulatory framework to manage dispute resolutions, trade union operations, and employee-employer relations across the Union Territory.

  The draft rules propose the following:
  - Works Committee Structure: Rules govern the constitution of Works Committees in industrial establishments, capping total membership at not more than 20 members. The representation of worker nominees must be equal to that of the employer.
  - Grievance Redressal Mechanisms: Establishments are required to set up Grievance Redressal Committees containing up to 10 members with equal worker-employer representation and a mandatory, proportional reservation for women workers.
  - Trade Union Recognition: To streamline collective bargaining, the draft outlines recognition thresholds for single or multiple unions.
  - Lay-off, Retrenchment, and Closure: Strict notice windows are established for operational cessations. A minimum of 90-day prior notice is required for closures. In cases of retrenchment, employers must disburse mandatory compensation equivalent to 15 days' wages per year of service within 10 days of the action.

  (To view the Draft Rules, please click here)

- **Code on Wages (Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu) Rules, 2026**

  The Department of Labour and Employment vide notification dated July 20, 2026, published the Draft Code on Wages (Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu) Rules, 2026. Formulated under the parent central Code on Wages, 2019, this comprehensive regulatory framework modernizes the rules governing minimum wage calculations, working hours, and payment methodologies within the Union Territory.

  The draft proposes the following:
  - Comprehensive Wage Framework: The draft rules define the criteria for fixing and revising minimum wages, calculating daily and monthly wage rates, managing weekly rest days, and standardizing working hours. They also lay down protocols for overtime payments, bonus disbursements, and permitted salary deductions.
  - Location-Independent Wage Enforcement: All employers are legally mandated to pay at least the notified regional minimum wage to their workers, regardless of where the company's head office or primary branch is registered.
  - Digital Records & Unified Filing: Employers must systematically maintain physical or electronic wage registers, employee databases, and wage slips. The draft also introduces unified annual returns and formal procedures for depositing unclaimed or undisbursed wages with the Assistant Labour Commissioner to benefit legal heirs.

  (To view the Draft Rules, please click here)

Goa

- **Public Notice on Amended JERC Electricity Supply Code**

  The Department of Power, Government of Goa, vide notification dated July 23, 2026, implemented the JERC (Electricity Supply Code) (Third Amendment) Regulations, 2024. Originally notified by the Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission (JERC) on August 2, 2024, the revised framework updates the Electricity Supply Code, 2018 to modernize metering infrastructure, streamline connection procedures, and enhance consumer rights across the state.

  The public notice outlines the following key updates:
  - Application procedures are simplified through mandatory online submission options, minimal documentation, and real-time digital application status tracking.
  - Strict statutory timelines have been established for issuing new connections and replacing or restoring burnt/damaged meters, backed by financial compensation penalties for distribution licensees failing to meet these standards.
  - Additionally, Smart pre-payment or pre-payment meters are now mandated for all new electricity connections.
  - To encourage prompt and digital settlements, the updated code introduces specific billing rebates-including a 0.5% discount for Low Tension (LT) consumers and a 0.25% discount for High Tension (HT) consumers for online payments-alongside rebates for delayed billing cycles

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Goa Minor Mineral Concession (Amendment) Rules, 2026**

  The Department of Mines, Government of Goa, vide notification dated July 16, 2026, issued the Goa Minor Mineral Concession (Amendment) Rules, 2026, further amending the Goa Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 1985. The revised rules establish new fee structures for waterway transit, inter-state dispatches, and the re-export of imported minor minerals.

  The amended rules state the following:
  - A standardized transportation fee of INR 65 per metric tons has been introduced for transporting minor minerals via waterways, including sea routes.
  - Dispatching minor minerals from the State of Goa to any other State or Union Territory will require the payment of an additional state-notified processing fee.
  - A new rule (Rule 47A) has been inserted to regulate minor minerals brought into Goa from external regions specifically for export purposes. The regulatory framework mandates:
    - Obtaining prior official permission from the Competent Officer.
    - Payment of a processing fee of INR 65 per metric tonne.
    - Strict compliance with a designated Standard Operating Procedure (SOP).
    - Mandatory fulfilment of prescribed procedural clearances prior to issuing transit permits.

  The amended rules will officially come into force on July 16, 2026.

  (To view the Amendment, please click here)

Govt of NCT of Delhi

- **Leprosy (Hansen’s disease) declared as a Notifiable Disease**

  The Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), Government of NCT of Delhi, vide official notification dated July 14, 2026, declared Leprosy (Hansen's disease) a Notifiable Disease across the Union Territory under Section 2 of the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897. This mandate is designed to enhance early case detection, strengthen surveillance, and prevent irreversible disabilities or deformities.

  The notification clarifies that:
  - All confirmed cases of newly diagnosed leprosy must be reported within two weeks of diagnosis.
  - The notification applies universally to all doctors, pathologists, microbiologists, and healthcare workers operating across public, private, corporate, and NGO-run medical institutions and clinics.
  - The measure directly aligns with India's National Strategic Plan (2023-2027) and Sustainable Development Goal 3.3 (SDG 3.3), supporting the vision of achieving a "Leprosy-Free India" by 2030
  - This notification will come into force from July 14, 2026

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Scheme to Replace Old Commercial Vehicles**

  The Delhi Transport Department vide notification dated on July 15, 2026, officially notified and adopted the Central fleet renewal initiative (formulated by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways through the NCR Planning Board) aimed at replacing aging, high-emission commercial trucks and buses with cleaner BS-VI or electric vehicles (EVs).

  Operating under a broader framework to reduce vehicular pollution across the National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi, the scheme will remain active for a duration of two years.

  The notification states that the following:

  - Buyers of eligible new BS-VI or electric commercial vehicles who scrap older BS-IV or earlier models will receive a 100% motor vehicle tax concession valid for 10 years from the date of registration.
  - Beneficiaries opting to purchase eligible used electric commercial vehicles under the scheme will receive a 50% concession on motor vehicle tax for a period of 10 years.
  - Complete exemption from vehicle registration fees is granted for all eligible new commercial vehicles registered under the replacement initiative.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

Himachal Pradesh

- **Municipal Corporation Mandi Notifies Revised Door-to-Door Garbage Collection Bye-Laws, 2026**

  The Municipal Corporation Mandi (MCM), Himachal Pradesh, on July 6, 2026, officially notified the Municipal Corporation Mandi (Door to Door Garbage Collection & Disposal) Amendment Bye-laws, 2026. This notification amends Annexure A of the foundational Door to Door Garbage Collection & Disposal Byelaws, 2022, revising the monthly user charge structure for waste management services across the municipal area.

  The notification clarifies that:-

  - The revised user charges come into force immediately upon their official publication date in the Himachal Pradesh Rajpatra (Official e-Gazette). All other baseline provisions of the 2022 Bye-laws remain unchanged and fully in force.
  - Monthly garbage collection rates have been systematically restructured across various generator categories, including Commercial establishments, shops, markets, and workshops, Factories and industrial units, Households and residential units, etc.
  - The updated fee schedule prescribes specific rates tailored to the type and scale of waste generated, including separate fee structures for Bulk waste generators, On-demand special waste collection services and Cow dung collection and management from dairy/livestock premises.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Draft Rooftop Solar PV Grid Interactive System (Fourth Amendment) Regulations, 2026**

  The Himachal Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission (HPERC), vide notification dated July 14, 2026, published the draft HPERC (Rooftop Solar PV Grid Interactive System) (Fourth Amendment) Regulations, 2026. This draft further amends the baseline 2015 regulations to align regional application workflows with central and state digital solar portals (such as PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana), simplifying grid-tie approvals for consumers.

  The draft regulation provides the following:

  - Eligible consumers can now submit solar grid-tie applications via online web portals, email, or other electronic modes. Application forms matching formats prescribed under Central or State Government rooftop solar schemes must be made downloadable on DISCOM websites.
  - Distribution Licensees (DISCOMs) are required to process all applications through a web-based online system. Any physical applications received over the counter must be scanned and uploaded directly onto the central portal by the licensee.
  - DISCOMs are explicitly permitted to accept digitally executed Solar Metering Connection Agreements submitted directly through Central or State government rooftop solar portals, replacing physical paperwork to accelerate approval timelines.
  - HPERC has opened draft amendment to collect public and institutional feedback: Objections, comments, or suggestions from consumers, solar developers, and stakeholders must be submitted to the Commission on or before August 13, 2026

  (To view the Draft Regulations, please click here)

Jharkhand

- **Jharkhand Revises GST Rates under the Jharkhand Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017**

  The Commercial Taxes Department, Government of Jharkhand, vide Gazette notification dated July 17, 2026, notified amendments to Notification No. 01/2017-State Tax (Rate) dated June 29, 2017, prescribing revised rates of State tax on specified goods under the Jharkhand Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017.

  The following has been notified:
  - The Schedule to Notification No. 01/2017-State Tax (Rate) has been amended in respect of specified goods.
  - Entries relating to specified goods, including beverages and other notified products, have been substituted and inserted in the relevant Schedules.
  - The applicable State tax rates on the notified goods shall be as specified in the amended Schedules.
  - The amendments shall come into force from the date specified in the notification.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Jharkhand Extends Due Date for Furnishing Form GSTR-3B**

  The Commercial Taxes Department, Government of Jharkhand, vide Gazette notification dated July 17, 2026, extended the due date for furnishing Form GSTR-3B for the tax period of March 2026 under the Jharkhand Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017.

  The due date for furnishing Form GSTR-3B for the tax period of March 2026 has been extended to April 21, 2026. The notification shall be deemed to have come into force with effect from April 20, 2026.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

Kerala

- **Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers for June 2026**

  The Department of Economics and Statistics, Kerala, on July 18, 2026, notified the Consumer Price Index (Cost of Living Index) Numbers for Industrial Workers for the month of June 2026.

  The following has been stated:
  - The notified indices will be applicable to employees covered under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, wherever minimum wages are linked to the Cost-of-Living Index.
  - The revised index numbers will be taken into consideration for calculating the Variable Dearness Allowance (VDA) and other wage components linked to the notified CPI, in accordance with the applicable minimum wage notifications.

  The notification shall be effective for the month of June 2026.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Amendment in Goods Classification under Tax Rate Schedules**

  The Government of Kerala, on July 24, 2026, issued a notification amending the classification of certain goods under the tax rate schedules notified under the Kerala State Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017, based on the recommendations of the GST Council.

  The notification states the following:
  - Revision in the Harmonised System of Nomenclature (HSN) codes applicable to specified goods under Schedule I (2.5%) and Schedule III (20%) of the earlier notification issued on September 17, 2025.
  - HSN codes relating to the specified goods under Serial Nos. 150 and 151 of Schedule I (2.5%) have been substituted to align the applicable GST classification.
  - Corresponding amendments have also been made to the HSN codes under Serial Nos. 2 and 3 of Schedule III (20%) to ensure consistency in the classification of the affected goods.

  The amendments have retrospectively with effect from May 01, 2026.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

Lakshadweep

- **Lakshadweep Town and Country Planning and Development Regulation, 2026**

  Ministry of Law and Justice, vide notification dated July 28, 2026, published the Lakshadweep Town and Country Planning and Development Regulation, 2026. The Regulation establishes a comprehensive planning framework to ensure planned, sustainable, and environmentally responsible development of Lakshadweep by regulating land use, development activities, and urban growth while protecting its island ecosystem.

  The primary purpose of the Regulation is to:

- Provide a statutory framework for planned and orderly development of towns, villages, and rural areas in Lakshadweep.
- Regulate land use and development activities through preparation and implementation of development plans.
- Ensure that construction and development take place only with the necessary planning permissions and approvals.
- Protect ecologically sensitive coastal and island environments by regulating incompatible or unplanned development.
- Prevent haphazard, unauthorized, and environmentally harmful construction.
- Facilitate sustainable economic growth while safeguarding the public health, safety, convenience, and general welfare of residents.

(To view the Regulations, please click here)

Madhya Pradesh

- **Madhya Pradesh Repealing Bill, 2026**

The Government of Madhya Pradesh vide notification dated July 20, 2026, introduced the Madhya Pradesh Repealing Bill, 2026, proposing to repeal certain State enactments. The Bill aims to remove obsolete and redundant enactments from the State statute book and simplify the legislative framework.

The following has been stated:

- Seven State enactments have been proposed to be repealed:
  - Debt Conciliation Act, 1933
  - Protection of Debtors Act, 1937
  - Relief of Indebtedness Act, 1938
  - Famine Relief Fund Act, 1939
  - Vidya Mandir Act, 1940
  - Madhya Pradesh Regulation of Hakims Act, 1944
  - Land Survey Act, 1947
- The repeal should not affect any right, liability, obligation, penalty, legal proceeding or remedy arising under the repealed enactments prior to their repeal.
- Any reference to the repealed enactments in any other law should continue to have effect to the extent the relevant provisions have been incorporated or applied therein.

(To view the Bill, please click here)

- **Madhya Pradesh Repealing Bill, 2026**

The Government of Madhya Pradesh, on July 20, 2026, introduced the Madhya Pradesh Uniform Civil Code Bill, 2026, seeking to establish a uniform legal framework governing matters relating to marriage, divorce, maintenance, succession, inheritance, adoption, guardianship, wills and live-in relationships, subject to the exceptions provided under the Bill.

The following has been stated:

- Detailed provisions have been incorporated governing intestate and testamentary succession, execution and revocation of wills, probate, letters of administration, succession certificates, and administration of the estate of a deceased person.
- The Bill lays down the rights and obligations of spouses, grounds and procedure for dissolution of marriage, maintenance, guardianship, custody of children, and adoption.
- The Bill also provides for the appointment of Registrars and other competent authorities, maintenance of registers and records, adjudication of matters arising under the Code, and implementation of its provisions.

(To view the Bill, please click here)

- **Madhya Pradesh Code on Empowering Workspaces (Shram Shakti Sanhita) Bill, 2026**

The Government of Madhya Pradesh, on July 20, 2026, introduced the Madhya Pradesh Code on Empowering Workspaces (Shram Shakti Sanhita) Bill, 2026, to consolidate the State's labour laws into a single code and align them with the Central Labour Codes.

The following has been stated:

- The Bill proposes to repeal and consolidate the following State labour enactments:
  - Madhya Pradesh Adjustment and Liquidation of Industrial Workers Debt Act, 1936;
  - Madhya Pradesh Shops and Establishments Act, 1958;
  - Madhya Pradesh Industrial Relations Act, 1960; and
  - Madhya Pradesh Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1961.

- A one-time, intimation-based lifetime registration framework has been proposed for establishments through a designated online portal. Registration certificates will be generated automatically upon submission of the required information, while registrations

or licences obtained under specified Government laws can also be treated as intimation for automatic registration under the Code.
- Aims to align provisions relating to wages and industrial relations with the Central Labour Codes and introduce a framework governing working hours, employment of women during night shifts, occupational safety and health for smaller establishments, and protection against coercive workplace practices.
- A voluntary self-disclosure and employer rating framework has also been proposed to encourage compliance with employee welfare, workplace safety and labour laws, with incentives such as reduced inspection frequency and priority in Government procurement for better-rated establishments.

(To view the Bill, please click here)

- **Madhya Pradesh Fire and Emergency Services Bill, 2026**

The Government of Madhya Pradesh, on July 20, 2026, introduced the Madhya Pradesh Fire and Emergency Services Bill, 2026, to regulate fire prevention, fire safety and emergency response services across the State. The Bill provides a comprehensive framework for the organisation, administration and operational management of Fire and Emergency Services, including the establishment of fire stations and deployment of fire service personnel.

The bill proposes the following:
- Strengthening of fire safety measures by requiring buildings and premises to obtain fire safety approvals and fire safety certificates, appointing Fire Safety Supervisors, and comply with prescribed fire prevention and safety requirements.
- Empowering Designated authorities to conduct inspections, issue directions, order corrective measures, seal hazardous or non-compliant premises, and requisition water sources or other resources during firefighting and emergency operations.
- Penalties for non-compliance with fire safety requirements, obstruction of fire service personnel, furnishing false emergency information and other violations of the provisions of the Bill.

(To view the Bill, please click here)

- **Madhya Pradesh Ease of Doing Business Bill, 2026**

The Government of Madhya Pradesh, on July 20, 2026, introduced the Madhya Pradesh Ease of Doing Business Bill, 2026, to facilitate the establishment, expansion and operation of industries through a simplified and time-bound regulatory framework.

The following has been stated:
- A Single Window System has been proposed for processing applications and granting regulatory approvals required for establishing, expanding and operating industries.
- Eligible low-risk industries may establish and commence operations based on self-declaration, subject to compliance with the applicable laws and conditions specified under the Bill.
- Time-bound disposal of applications has been introduced, along with a deemed approval mechanism where the competent authority fails to dispose of an application within the stipulated timeline.
- A State Nodal Agency and an investment grievance redressal mechanism have been proposed to facilitate investments, coordinate with Government departments and address issues faced by investors.
- Provisions relating to the management of industrial land and buildings, recovery of dues and penalties for furnishing false information or contravention of the provisions of the Bill have also been incorporated.

(To view the Bill, please click here)

Maharashtra

- **Maharashtra Revises Rates for Disposal of Sand and Minor Minerals**

The Revenue and Forest Department, Government of Maharashtra, on June 01, 2026, issued a Government Resolution revising the rates applicable for disposal of sand and minor minerals generated from overburden under the Sand Extraction Policy, 2025. The revised rates amend the Government Resolution dated April 08, 2025 issued under the Sand Extraction Policy, 2025.

The base rate for disposal of Wash Sand generated from overburden in major mines operated by WCL and MOIL has been fixed at INR 2,000 per brass, while royalty has been fixed at INR 400 per brass. For minor minerals other than Wash Sand generated from overburden, the applicable rate has been fixed at INR 200 per brass and royalty at INR 50 per brass. Further, a new category for Sandy Overburden has been introduced, with the disposal rate fixed at INR 600 per brass and royalty at INR 200 per brass.

(To view the Resolution, please click here)

Meghalaya

- **Maharashtra Renames Labour Department Authorities under the OSHWC Code, 2020**

  The Industries, Energy and Labour Department, Government of Maharashtra, vide Gazette notification dated July 15, 2026, notified the renaming of the Directorate and specified authorities to align with the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020.

  The following has been notified:
  - The existing Directorate and specified offices shall be redesignated in accordance with the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020.
  - References to the existing designations in departmental records and communications shall be construed as references to the corresponding redesignated authorities.

  The notification shall take effect from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Maharashtra Motor Vehicle Aggregator Rules, 2026**

  The Transport Department, Government of Maharashtra, vide Gazette notification dated July 15, 2026, notified the Maharashtra Motor Vehicle Aggregator Rules, 2026, prescribing the regulatory framework for motor vehicle aggregators operating in the State.

  The following has been notified:
  - Every motor vehicle aggregator shall obtain a licence from the prescribed authority before commencing operations.
  - The Rules prescribe the eligibility conditions, validity, renewal, suspension and cancellation of aggregator licences.
  - Aggregators shall comply with the prescribed obligations relating to driver onboarding, passenger safety, fare regulation, grievance redressal, data management and vehicle compliance.

  The Rules prescribe penalties and enforcement measures for non-compliance with the provisions of the Rules.
  (To view the Notification, please click here)

Mizoram

- **Mizoram Private Placement Agencies (Regulation) Act, 2025**

  The Labour, Employment, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Department, Government of Mizoram, vide Gazette notification dated July 31, 2026, notified the Mizoram Private Placement Agencies (Regulation) Act, 2025, to regulate private placement agencies and matters connected therewith, for general information. The Act extends to the whole of Mizoram and comes into force on the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

  The following has been notified:
  - No private placement agency shall carry on or commence the business of providing placement services unless it is registered under the provisions of the Act.
  - Every private placement agency shall obtain registration, maintain the prescribed records and registers, furnish periodic returns and comply with the conditions of registration prescribed under the Act.
  - Every private placement agency shall ensure that no job seeker is subjected to fraudulent recruitment practices and shall comply with the duties and responsibilities specified under the Act, including in respect of overseas placements.
  - The State Government may appoint the Controlling Authority and other authorities for registration, inspection, enforcement, suspension and cancellation of registration under the Act

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

Nagaland

- **Adoption Guidelines for the DTU Framework**

  The Department of Information Technology and Communication, Government of Nagaland, vide Gazette notification dated July 21, 2026, notified the Adoption Guidelines for the Digital Transformation Unit (DTU) Framework to facilitate the implementation of digital governance initiatives across Government departments.

  It has been notified that Government Departments shall adopt the Digital Transformation Unit (DTU) Framework for planning and implementation of digital transformation initiatives. The Guidelines prescribe the constitution, roles and responsibilities of the Digital Transformation Unit within Departments. Further, the Framework provides for governance mechanisms, project implementation, monitoring and capacity building for digital transformation initiatives.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

Uttar Pradesh

- **12th Amendment to Uttar Pradesh Real Estate Regulatory Authority (General) Regulations, 2019**

  The Uttar Pradesh Real Estate Regulatory Authority (UP RERA), on July 13, 2026, issued the Uttar Pradesh Real Estate Regulatory Authority (General) Regulations, 2019 (12th Amendment), inserting provisions relating to the collection, management, transfer and utilisation of Interest Free Maintenance Security (IFMS) deposits.

  The following has been stated:
  - Promoters should collect the Interest Free Maintenance Security (IFMS) amount from allottees in a separate designated bank account at the time of registration of the sale, lease or sub-lease deed. The notification also specifies the IFMS rates applicable to different categories of residential, plotted and commercial projects.
  - The entire IFMS corpus should be transferred to the Association of Allottees or the Resident Welfare Association (RWA), along with a transfer statement containing unit-wise details of the amount collected, deductions or adjustments made, supporting documents for expenditure incurred from the IFMS, and the balance amount transferred.
  - The promoter or the RWA should utilise the IFMS corpus exclusively for the operation, maintenance, repair and replacement of common areas, equipment and services meant for the collective benefit of residents
  - The Audit Report should be placed before the AGM/EGM within three months from the date of its finalisation.

  The amendment has come into force from the date of its publication on the website of the Authority.

  (To view the Amendment, please click here)

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

  The Government of Uttar Pradesh, on July 15, 2026, published the draft Uttar Pradesh Legal Metrology (Enforcement) (Second Amendment) Rules, 2026 proposing to replace the existing licensing framework with a lifetime registration certificate regime for manufacturers, repairers and dealers of weights and measures.

  The draft states the following:
  - Existing licences should be converted into registration certificates in accordance with the transition framework.
  - Manufacturers, repairers and dealers should be required to file an annual return by April 30 every year containing details of their activities during the preceding financial year.
  - The draft rules incorporate provisions relating to improvement notices, suspension or revocation of registration certificates, compounding of offences and revised penalties in line with the Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Act, 2026.
  - Consequential amendments have also been proposed to the applicable forms, registration certificates, registers and fee structure under the Rules.
  - Objections or suggestions can be submitted within 7 days from the date of publication of the notification in the Official Gazette.

  (To view the Draft Amendment, please click here)

West Bengal

- **Draft West Bengal Code on Wages Rules, 2026**

  The Labour Department, Government of West Bengal, vide notification dated July 13, 2026, published the Draft West Bengal Code on Wages Rules, 2026 under Section 67 of the Code on Wages, 2019, inviting objections and suggestions from stakeholders within 45 days from the date of publication in the Official Gazette.
  The following has been proposed, namely:
  - Prescribes the procedure for fixation, revision and payment of minimum wages, including working hours, rest day, and overtime wages.
  - Specifies the manner of payment of wages, permissible deductions, wage slips, and maintenance of wage registers and records.
  - Lays down the framework for payment of bonus, including the procedure for computation, set-on and set-off, and maintenance of related registers.
  - Prescribes the authorities, forms, procedures and timelines relating to claims, appeals, inspections, compounding of offences, and maintenance of records under the Code on Wages, 2019.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Draft West Bengal Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Rules, 2026**

  The Labour Department, Government of West Bengal, vide notification dated July 13, 2026, published the Draft West Bengal Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Rules, 2026 under Sections 133 and 135 of the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020.

  The following has been proposed, namely:

  - Establishments covered under the Code will be required to obtain registration through a common online portal and comply with prescribed digital filing and record-keeping requirements.
  - Employers will be required to issue written appointment letters to workers containing particulars of employment and prescribed terms and conditions.
  - The draft prescribes requirements relating to occupational safety, health, welfare facilities, working hours, leave, overtime, and reporting of accidents and dangerous occurrences.
  - It lays down procedures relating to licensing of contractors, engagement of contract labour, inter-State migrant workers, and employment in factories and other establishments covered under the Code.
  - The draft also prescribes statutory forms, registers, returns and other compliance procedures under the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020.

  Objections and suggestions are invited from stakeholders within 45 days from the date of publication in the Official Gazette. The draft rules will come into force upon their final publication in the Official Gazette.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Draft West Bengal Industrial Relations Rules, 2026**

  The Labour Department, Government of West Bengal, vide notification dated July 13, 2026, published the Draft West Bengal Industrial Relations Rules, 2026 under Section 99 of the Industrial Relations Code, 2020.

  The rules state the following, namely:

  - Prescribes the constitution and functioning of the Works Committee and the Grievance Redressal Committee.
  - Lays down the procedure for registration of trade unions, maintenance of records, and recognition of the sole negotiating union or negotiating council for collective bargaining.
  - Prescribes the procedures relating to standing orders, conciliation proceedings, Industrial Tribunals, and voluntary arbitration.
  - Specifies the procedural requirements for strikes, lock-outs, lay-offs, retrenchment, closure of establishments, and the re-skilling fund under the Industrial Relations Code, 2020.

  Objections and suggestions are invited within 45 days from the date of publication of the draft rules in the Official Gazette.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Draft West Bengal Social Security Rules, 2026**

  The Labour Department, Government of West Bengal, vide notification dated July 13, 2026, published the Draft West Bengal Social Security Rules, 2026 under Section 164 of the Code on Social Security, 2020.

  The following has been proposed, namely:

  - Prescribes the procedures relating to registration of employers, employees, unorganised workers, gig workers and platform workers under the Code on Social Security, 2020.
  - Lays down the framework for administration of provident fund, employee state insurance, gratuity, maternity benefit, employee compensation and social security schemes under the Code.
  - Specifies the procedures for contribution, maintenance of records, filing of returns, inspections, appeals and recovery of dues.
  - Prescribes the statutory forms, registers and other compliance requirements to be maintained by employers under the Code on Social Security, 2020.

  Objections and suggestions are invited from stakeholders within 45 days from the date of publication of the draft rules in the Official Gazette.

  (To view the Notification, please click here)

- **Advisory Issued Regarding Payment of Bonus for 2026**

  The Labour Department, Government of West Bengal, vide order dated July 20, 2026, issued an advisory regarding the payment of bonus for the year 2026 with a view to ensuring industrial peace and harmonious employer-employee relations during the forthcoming Durga Puja festival.

The following has been advised, namely:

- Employers shall ensure payment of statutory bonus in accordance with the provisions of the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965.
- Employers are encouraged to maintain the bonus rate at least at the level paid in the previous year, resolve bonus-related disputes amicably, and consider payment of ex gratia to employees who are not covered under the Payment of Bonus Act.
- Eligible workers, including casual, re-employed, contract and unorganised sector workers who satisfy the prescribed eligibility conditions, should receive bonus in accordance with the applicable law.
- Employers having any pending bonus liabilities have been advised to clear such dues along with the current year's bonus payment.

Employers have been advised to complete payment of bonus between September 28, 2026, and October 1, 2026, before the commencement of the Durga Puja festival.

(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.

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

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Simplifying Compliance

www.uncomplycate.com

connect@uncomplycate.com

Uncomplycate

HSA ADVOCATES
HEMANT SAHAI ASSOCIATES

STAY CONNECTED

www.hsalegal.com

mail@hsalegal.com

HSA Advocates

New Delhi	Mumbai	Bengaluru	Kolkata
newdelhi@uncomplycate.com	mumbai@uncomplycate.com	bengaluru@uncomplycate.com	kolkata@uncomplycate.com