भारतीय कम्पनी सचिव संस्थान
THE INSTITUTE OF
Company Secretaries of India
IN PURSUIT OF PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE
Statutory body under an Act of Parliament
(Under the jurisdiction of Ministry of Corporate Affairs)

Vision "To be a global leader in promoting good corporate governance"

Motto सत्यं वद। धर्मं चर। speak the truth, pursue righteousness

Mission "To develop high calibre professionals facilitating good corporate governance"

Monday, August 24, 2026

Info Capsule

President
CS Pawan G Chandak

Vice President
CS Dwarakanath C

❖ DGFT

Introduction of Automated Facility for Grant of Export Obligation Extension through PRC/EPCG Committee - Ease of Doing Business (August 21, 2026)

DGFT has introduced an automated facility for grant of Export Obligation (EO) extension in respect of Advance Authorisation (AA) and EPCG Authorisation cases considered by the PRC/EPCG Committee. With the introduction of the new automated facility, the process has now been simplified.

Where an exporter applies for EO extension in respect of an Advance Authorisation/EPCG Authorisation through the PRC/EPCG Committee and the Committee decides to grant the EO extension, the approved EO extension will be processed through the system without requiring the exporter to file a separate EO extension application at concerned RA.

The process will operate as follows:

i. The exporter applies for consideration of EO extension request in PRC/EPCG Committee for concerned Advance Authorisation/EPCG Authorisation.
ii. Based on the Committee's decision, if extension is approved, the said EO Extension shall be processed directly through the system. A letter will be issued for payment of the prescribed EO Extension fee on the submitted PRC/EPCG Committee file.

For details: https://www.dgft.gov.in/CP/

❖ *Capital Market and Securities Laws*

- **Acceptance of digitally signed Power of Attorney from FPIs (August 20, 2026)**

Towards SEBI's continued digitalisation efforts, Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) are now permitted to execute a Power of Attorney (PoA) through digital signatures in accordance with the Information Technology Act, 2000. This eliminates the need for notarisation, apostillisation or consularisation of Power of Attorney, thereby reducing the overall time taken for FPI onboarding and improving ease of doing business for FPI applicants. The provisions of the circular came into effect on August 20, 2026.

For details: https://www.sebi.gov.in/legal/circulars/aug-2026/acceptance-of-digitally-signed-power-of-attorney-from-fpis_103824.html

- **Enabling sharing of information by KYC Registration Agencies (KRAs) with entities regulated by International Financial Services Centres Authority (August 20, 2026)**

SEBI, in terms of Regulation 16A(1) of the SEBI {KYC (Know Your Client) Registration Agency} Regulations, 2011, has specified that entities regulated by the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) may access the systems of SEBI-registered KYC Registration Agencies (KRAs) for undertaking client KYC, thereby facilitating interoperability and information sharing between SEBI registered KRAs and entities regulated by IFSCA.

All such entities accessing the system of KRA must follow the guidelines specified in SEBI's Master Circular dated October 12, 2023 titled "Master Circular on Know Your Client (KYC) norms for the securities market" as amended from time to time.

Additionally, in respect of clients registered as Foreign Portfolio Investor (FPI), all such entities accessing the system of KRA must follow the guidelines for 'Data Security' specified in SEBI's Master Circular dated May 30, 2024 for Foreign Portfolio Investors, Designated Depository Participants and Eligible Foreign Investors, as amended from time to time.

For details: https://www.sebi.gov.in/legal/circulars/aug-2026/enabling-sharing-of-information-by-kyc-registration-agencies-kras-with-entities-regulated-by-international-financial-services-centres-authority_103823.html

- **Caution to Investors regarding display of Live trading strategies on Social Media Platforms (August 17, 2026)**

  SEBI has issued this Press Release to caution investors about 'live trading strategies/ real-time strategies' being offered on Social Media Platforms and be vigilant while carrying out transactions in the securities market. It has come to the notice of SEBI that certain persons on social media platforms are offering 'live trading strategies/ real-time strategies' to provide real time tips on taking positions in the stock market. It has been observed that these live trading sessions are being viewed by a substantial number of viewers and live chats are also enabled beside the session where unregistered advisory services are being exchanged. These persons portray themselves as experts in the securities market, provide detailed analysis of when to invest, when to exit, strategies to be followed and the positions to be taken on market indices. Some of these persons claim that they trade real-time while showcasing the performance of their trades, patterns that the market is forming based on live data and the target expected to be reached. In view of the above, investors are advised to not trust claims of such persons and not to take their investment decisions on such live trading sessions and to deal with only SEBI registered intermediaries.

  For details: https://www.sebi.gov.in/media-and-notifications/press-releases/aug-2026/caution-to-investors-regarding-display-of-live-trading-strategies-on-social-media-platforms_103729.html

- **Revision of Application Form for Mutual Fund Registration (August 17, 2026)**

  In view of the recent overhaul of the SEBI (Mutual Funds) Regulations, 2026 and SEBI Intermediaries Regulations, SEBI has decided to revise and consolidate the existing forms into a single application form for registration of Mutual Funds. At present, applications for registration of a Mutual Fund are processed in two stages, i.e. in-principle approval to the sponsor / applicant for setting up a Mutual Fund and final registration of the Mutual Fund. Currently, the application for in-principle approval is required to be submitted in Form A and the application for final registration of a Mutual Fund is required to be accompanied by Forms C and D. SEBI has now streamlined this process by consolidating the existing forms into a single application form for registration of Mutual Funds.

  For details: https://www.sebi.gov.in/legal/circulars/aug-2026/revision-of-application-form-for-mutual-fund-registration_103721.html

❖ *Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship*

National Skill Development Corporation and Cultus Education Launched Nationwide Cloud and AI Skilling Initiative with Support from Amazon Web Services (AWS) (August 23, 2026)

National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), under the guidance of the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE), Government of India, and Cultus Education announced the launch of a nationwide cloud and AI skilling initiative in collaboration with Amazon Web Services (AWS). The initiative provides 150,000 learners with foundational AI and cloud literacy through AWS digital training content and delivers intensive, job-ready training to 10,000 participants through the AWS re/Start program — a free, cohort-based workforce development training program that helps individuals build cloud computing skills and connects participants with employment opportunities at local employers.

NSDC and Cultus, with AWS re/Start and AWS digital training content as the enablement programs, aim to address the challenges faced by youth in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities — including limited access to globally recognised technical training, few connections to technology employers, and an absence of credentials needed to compete for cloud and AI roles. Delivered 100% online through Cultus, the NSDC-selected delivery partner, the initiative will span all states and territories and prioritise youth in underserved communities. The program concludes with a National Hackathon.

For details: https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=2302495&reg=48&lang=1

❖ *Competition Commission of India*

- **CCI has approved acquisition of additional shareholding of Acko Technology & Services Private Limited by General Atlantic Singapore ACK Pte. Ltd. (August 18, 2026)**

The Proposed Combination envisages acquisition of additional shareholding of Acko Technology & Services Private Limited (Target) by General Atlantic Singapore ACK Pte. Ltd. (Acquirer) on a fully diluted basis, crossing the threshold of 25%, pursuant to the Target's Rights Issue.

The Acquirer is an investment holding company incorporated under the laws of Singapore. It is affiliated with a group of General Atlantic investment funds that provide capital and strategic support to growing businesses across several global sectors viz. technology, healthcare and life sciences, infrastructure and real estate, financial services, consumer, climate and sustainable infrastructure.

The Target is an Insure-tech private limited company incorporated in India. It has three (03) wholly owned subsidiaries in India, Assurelink, Acko General Insurance and Acko Life Insurance. Acko General Insurance and Acko Life Insurance are licensed general (non-life) and life insurance providers, respectively. Assurelink is awaiting Corporate Agency License from IRDAI to engage in the business of distribution of insurance policies in India. Acko Tech also has investments in other entities.

For details: https://www.cci.gov.in/media-gallery/press-release/details/684/0

- **CCI has approved acquisition of certain equity shareholding in Bharti Life Insurance Company Limited by Prudential Corporation Holdings Limited (August 18, 2026)**

The Proposed Combination envisages the acquisition of certain equity shareholding in Bharti Life Insurance Company Limited (Target) by Prudential Corporation Holdings Limited (Acquirer).
The Acquirer acts as the holding company of the Acquirer Group's insurance and asset management operations in Asia and provides management and support to its Asia and Africa business operations.

The Target is an IRDAI-licensed insurer incorporated in India and is engaged in the provision of life insurance in India.

For details: https://www.cci.gov.in/media-gallery/press-release/details/683/0

- **CCI has approved acquisition of 23% equity shareholding of TM International Logistics Ltd. by Tata Steel Ltd. (August 18, 2026)**

The proposed combination pertains to the acquisition by Tata Steel Ltd. (Tata Steel) of the entire shareholding comprising 23% equity shares held by one of the existing joint venture partners, i.e., IQ Martrade Holding Und Management GmbH (IQ Martrade) in TM International Logistics Limited (TMILL), and the consequent exit of IQ Martrade from TMILL. Post consummation of the proposed combination, IQ Martrade shall cease to be a shareholder of TMILL, and Tata Steel and NYK (Europe) B.V. (NYK Europe) shall hold 74% and 26% equity shareholding in TMILL, respectively.

TMILL is a public limited company, presently a 51:23:26 joint venture between Tata Steel, IQ Martrade and NYK Europe. TMILL was incorporated as a joint venture primarily to cater to the logistics and cargo transportation requirements of Tata Steel. It primarily services Tata Steel's operational and transportation requirements across various segments of the logistics value chain, including: railway cargo transportation services, port operation and cargo handling services, freight forwarding and other value-added logistics services.

For details: https://www.cci.gov.in/media-gallery/press-release/details/682/0

❖ *Views/ Comments sought by Regulators*

- **SEBI's Consultation paper on revision of Advertisement Code for Online Bond Platform Providers (OBPPs) (August 21, 2026)**

  SEBI has placed this consultation paper with an objective to seek comments or suggestions from the public on the proposal to revise the Advertisement Code applicable to Online Bond Platform Providers (OBPPs). It is proposed to substitute the extant Advertisement Code applicable to OBPPs, prescribed under the Non-Convertible Securities Master Circular dated October 15, 2025, with the revised Advertisement Code at Annexure XXIC of the Draft Circular enclosed with this consultation paper. The revised Advertisement Code shall supplement the Common Advertisement Code applicable to specified SEBI regulated entities by prescribing additional advertisement requirements specifically tailored to the products and services offered through OBPPs. The comments on the Consultation paper should be submitted by September 11, 2026.

  For details: https://www.sebi.gov.in/reports-and-statistics/reports/aug-2026/consultation-paper-on-revision-of-advertisement-code-for-online-bond-platform-providers-obpps-_103863.html

- **SEBI's Consultation Paper on Introduction of Fixed Income Channel Partners (FICPs) for Distribution of Fixed Income Securities through Online Bond Platform Providers (OBPPs) (August 21, 2026)**

  SEBI has placed this consultation paper with an objective to seek public comments on the proposed framework for enlistment of Fixed Income Channel Partners (FICPs) on stock exchanges and their appointment by Online Bond Platform Providers (OBPPs) to facilitate distribution of permitted fixed income securities through OBPPs. It is proposed to introduce a FICPs framework through amendments to the applicable circulars or master circular to facilitate distribution of fixed income securities in India through OBPPs. The comments or suggestions should be submitted latest by September 11, 2026.

  For details: https://www.sebi.gov.in/reports-and-statistics/reports/aug-2026/consultation-paper-on-introduction-of-fixed-income-channel-partners-ficps-for-distribution-of-fixed-income-securities-through-online-bond-platform-providers-obpps-_103859.html

- **IFSCA's Consultation Paper on Enabling Operating Lease, including any Hybrid of Operating and Financial Lease, of 'GPU and Connected Data Centre Equipment' as a Financial Product (August 18, 2026)**

  IFSCA has issued a consultation paper on enabling Operating Lease, including any hybrid of Operating and Financial Lease, of GPUs and connected Data Centre Equipment as a financial product in GIFT IFSC. The objective is to capitalise the growth potential, the benefits to the Indian economy and developing GIFT IFSC as a regional hub for leasing of GPU and connected data centre equipment. The proposal is aligned with the Government's policy direction to ensure affordable and reliable access to computing resources as an enabler of India's AI ecosystem. Draft Notification is annexed with the Consultation Paper. Comments and suggestions may be submitted to IFSCA in prescribed format on or before August 28, 2026.

  For details:
  https://ifsca.gov.in/CommonDirect/GetFileView?id=b64bc220b28b988fb41d0459990ed1db&fileName=Public_Consultation_paper_enabling_Operating_lease__including_hybrid_of_operating_and_financial_lease_of__GPU_and_connected_data_centre_equipment__as_a_financial_product__20260818_1245.pdf

Note: Info Capsule will henceforth be circulated on weekly basis i.e., every Monday.