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# Covid 19 - Regulatory Updates

Vol. 5

# *Initiatives*
# *by*
# *Ministry of Corporate Affairs*

**1) The Companies (Meetings of Board and its Powers) Third Amendment Rules, 2020 (Notification No: G.S.R. 590(E), Dated September 28, 2020)**

In exercise of the powers conferred by sections 173, 177, 178 and Section 186 read with Section 469 of the Companies Act, 2013, the Central Government hereby makes the Companies (Meetings of Board and its Powers) Third Amendment Rules, 2020 to further amend the Companies (Meetings of Board and its Powers) Rules, 2014.

In the Companies (Meetings of Board and its Powers) Rules, 2014, in rule 4, in sub-rule (2), for the word

**"30th September, 2020"**

***The following shall be substituted***

**"31st December, 2020"**

***Impact***

*MCA vide notification dated September 28, 2020 issued the Companies (Meetings of Board and its Powers) Third Amendment Rules, 2020 to provide further relaxation till December 31, 2020 in the requirement of holding Board meetings with physical presence of directors for approval of the restricted matters under Section 173(2) r/w Rule 4 of the Companies (Meetings of Board and its Powers) Rules, 2014 on account of current scenario due to COVID-19 pandemic.*

*Accordingly, up to **December 31, 2020**, following restricted matters can be dealt in board meetings held through video conferencing or other audio-visual means by duly ensuring compliance of Rule 3 of the Companies (Meetings of Board and its Powers) Rules, 2014. -*

*(i) The approval of the annual financial statements;*

*(ii) The approval of the Board's report;*

*(iii) The approval of the prospectus;*

*(iv) The Audit Committee Meetings for consideration of financial statement including consolidated financial statement if any, to be approved by the board under Section 134(1) of the Companies Act, 2013; and*

*(v) The approval of the matter relating to amalgamation, merger, demerger, acquisition and takeover.*

***For more details :***
***http://www.mca.gov.in/Ministry/pdf/ThirdAmendmentRules_29092020.pdf***

**2) Extension of Companies Fresh Start Scheme, 2020 (General Circular No : 30/2020, Dated September 28, 2020)**

In continuation to MCA General Circular No.12/2020 dated March, 30 2020, in view of the large scale disruption caused by the COVID-19 Pandemic and after due examination, it has been decided to extend the Companies Fresh Start Scheme (CFSS), 2020 till December 31, 2020. All other requirements provided in the said circular shall remain unchanged.

***Impact***

*The Ministry of Corporate Affairs had introduced a scheme known as the Companies Fresh Start Scheme (CFSS), 2020, valid from April 01, 2020 to September 30, 2020 to enable companies to make good their previous defaults. This Scheme has now been extended till December 31, 2020 on account of ongoing disruption caused due to COVID-19 pandemic.*

***For more details:***
***http://www.mca.gov.in/Ministry/pdf/GeneralCircularNo.30_28092020.pdf***

**3) Extension of LLP Settlement Scheme, 2020 (General Circular No: 31/2020, Dated September 28, 2020)**

In continuation to MCA General Circular No.13/ 2020 dated March 30,2020, in view of large scale disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and after due examination, it has been decided to extend the LLP Settlement Scheme, 2020 till December 31, 2020. All other requirements provided in the said circular shall remain unchanged.

***Impact***

*MCA has further extended the validity of LLP Settlement Scheme, 2020 from September 30, 2020 to December 31, 2020 on account of ongoing disruption caused due to COVID-19 pandemic to enable LLPs to make good their previous defaults.*

***For more details:***
***http://www.mca.gov.in/Ministry/pdf/GeneralCircularNo.31_28092020.pdf***

**4) Extension of time - Scheme for relaxation of time for filing forms related to creation or modification of charges under the Companies Act, 2013 (General Circular No: 32/2020, Dated September 28, 2020)**

In continuation to MCA General Circular No.23/2020 dated June 17, 2020 and after due examination it has been decided to extend the validity of the scheme for relaxation of time for filing forms related to creation or modification of charges under the Companies Act, 2013 till December 31, 2020. Accordingly, the figures "30.09.2020" and "01.10.2020"

wherever they appear in the General Circular shall be substituted with figures "31.12.2020" and "01.01.2021" respectively. The other requirements as mentioned in the said circular shall remain unchanged.

***Impact***

*MCA has extended the validity of the Scheme for relaxation of time for filing forms related to creation or modification of charges under the Companies Act, 2013 till December 31, 2020.*

***For more details:***
***http://www.mca.gov.in/Ministry/pdf/GeneralCircularNo.32_28092020.pdf***

**5) Clarification on passing of ordinary and special resolutions by companies under the Companies Act,2013 read with rules made thereunder on account of COVID-19-Extension of time -reg. (General Circular No: 33/2020, Dated September 28, 2020)**

In continuation to MCA General Circulars No.14/2020 dated April 08, 2020, and General Circular No.17 /2020 dated April 13, 2020 and General Circular No.22/2020 dated June 15, 2020 and after due examination and it has been decided to allow companies to conduct their EGMs through VC or OAVM or transact items through postal ballot in accordance with the framework provided in the aforesaid Circulars up to December 31, 2020. All other requirements provided in the said Circulars shall remain unchanged.

***Impact***

*Owing to continuous Covid-19 crisis, the time-limit for convening unavoidable Extra-Ordinary General Meeting to transact urgent matters through video conferencing (VC) or other audio visual means (OAVM) or transact items through postal ballot without convening general meeting in accordance with the framework provided in the Circulars dated April 8, 2020 and April 13, 2020 has been further extended from September 30, 2020 to December 31, 2020.All other requirements provided in the said Circulars remain unchanged.*

***For more details:***
***http://www.mca.gov.in/Ministry/pdf/GeneralCircularNo.33_28092020.pdf***

**6) MCA clarification with regard to creation of deposit repayment reserve of 20% u/s. 73 (2)(c) of the Companies Act 2013 and to invest or deposit 15% of amount of debentures u/r.18 of Companies (Share capital and Debentures) Rules 2014-COVID 19-Extension of time-regarding (General Circular No: 34/2020, Dated September 29, 2020)**

The MCA in continuation to General Circulars No. 11/2020 dated March 24, 2020 and General Circular No: 24/2020 dated June 19, 2020 and keeping in view the requests received from various stakeholders seeking extension of time for compliance of the subject requirements on account of COVID-19 has further extended the time in respect of matters

referred to in paras V, VI of the aforesaid circular dated March 24, 2020 from September 30, 2020, to December 31, 2020. All other requirements shall remain unchanged.

***Impact***

*The Companies which have taken deposit under Section 73 of the Companies Act, 2013 are required to deposit, on or before the 30th day of April each year, such sum which shall not be less than 20% of the amount of its deposits maturing during the following financial year and kept in a scheduled bank in a separate bank account to be called deposit repayment reserve account. Earlier MCA has extended the time for creation of Deposit repayment reserve from April 30, 2020 to June 30, 2020, and then extended to September 30, 2020. Now, MCA vide notification dated September 29, 2020 has further extended it to December 31, 2020.*

*In respect of debentures issued by the Specific class of Companies which are required to, invest or deposit as the case may be, on or before the 30th day of April in each year, a sum which shall not be less than 15%, of the amount of its debentures maturing during the year, ending on the 31st day of March of the next year in any one or more methods of investments or deposits which was earlier extended from April 30,2020 to June 30,2020 and then extended to September 30, 2020. Now, MCA vide notification dated September 29, 2020 has further extended it to December 31, 2020.*

***For more details:***
***http://www.mca.gov.in/Ministry/pdf/GeneralCircularNo.34_29092020.pdf***

**7) Filings under Section 124 and Section 125 of the Companies Act, 2013 r/w IEPFA (Accounting, Audit, Transfer and Refund) Rules, 2016 in view of extension of CFSS, 2020 (General Circular No: 35/2020, Dated September 29, 2020)**

MCA vide General Circular No. 30/2020 dated September 28, 2020, has extended the Companies Fresh Start Scheme (CFSS) - 2020 till December 31, 2020. Accordingly, necessary relaxation, insofar as filing of various IEPF e-forms (IEPF -1, IEPF-1A, IEPF-2, IEPF-3, IEPF-4, IEPF-7) and e-verification of claims filed in e-form IEPF-5 without additional fees till December 31, 2020 has also been provided in the said circular.

***For more details:***
***http://www.mca.gov.in/Ministry/pdf/GeneralCircularNo.35_30092020.pdf***

**8) Extension of Special Measures under the Companies Act, 2013 and Limited Liability Partnership Act, 2008 in view of COVID- 19 outbreak (General Circular No: 36/2020, Dated October 20,2020)**

MCA in continuation to General Circular No. 11/2020 dated March 24, 2020, has clarified that non-compliance of minimum residency in India for a period of at least 182 days in a year, by at least one director in every company, under Section 149 of the Companies Act, 2013 shall not be treated as non-compliance for the financial year 2020-2021 also.

***For more details:***
***http://www.mca.gov.in/Ministry/pdf/GeneralCircularNo.36_20102020.pdf***

# *Initiatives by Securities and Exchange Board of India*

**1. Amendments to guidelines for preferential issue and institutional placement of units by a listed REIT**

**(Circular No. SEBI/HO/DDHS/DDHS/CIR/P/2020/184 dated September 28, 2020)**

SEBI issued circular SEBI/HO/DDHS/DDHS/CIR/P/2019/142 dated November 27, 2019 providing guidelines for preferential issue and institutional placement of units by listed REITs ("Guidelines"). The guidelines were subsequently revised vide circular SEBI/HO/DDHS/DDHS/CIR/P/2020/35 dated March 13, 2020.

In view of the situation emerging out of the COVID-19 pandemic SEBI has granted certain relaxations for raising of equity capital. On similar lines the extant guidelines for preferential issue and institutional placement of units by listed REITs stand modified as set out in the Annexure to this circular.

***For more details:***
***https://www.sebi.gov.in/legal/circulars/sep-2020/amendments-to-guidelines-for-preferential-issue-and-institutional-placement-of-units-by-a-listed-reit_47696.html***

**2. Amendments to guidelines for preferential issue and institutional placement of units by a listed InvIT**

**(Circular No. SEBI/HO/DDHS/DDHS/CIR/P/2020/183 dated September 28, 2020)**

SEBI issued circular SEBI/HO/DDHS/DDHS/CIR/P/2019/143 dated November 27, 2019 providing guidelines for preferential issue and institutional placement of units by listed InvITs ("Guidelines"). The guidelines were subsequently revised vide circular SEBI/HO/DDHS/DDHS/CIR/P/2020/36 dated March 13, 2020.

In view of the situation emerging out of the COVID-19 pandemic SEBI has granted certain relaxations for raising of equity capital. On similar lines the extant guidelines for preferential issue and institutional placement of units by listed InvITs stand modified as set out in the Annexure to this circular.

***For more details:***
***https://www.sebi.gov.in/legal/circulars/sep-2020/amendments-to-guidelines-for-preferential-issue-and-institutional-placement-of-units-by-a-listed-invit_47697.html***

**3. Relaxation with respect to Validity of SEBI Observations and Revision in issue size**

**(Circular No. SEBI/HO/CFD/DIL1/CIR/P/2020/188 dated September 29, 2020)**

SEBI vide circular no. SEBI/HO/CFD/DIL1/CIR/P/2020/66 dated April 21, 2020 had given certain relaxations with respect to validity of SEBI Observations and filing of fresh offer document in case of increase or decrease of issue size beyond a particular threshold.

There have been representations that in view of the prevailing conditions due to Covid 19, the relaxations granted in April 2020 be continued for some more time. After due consideration, it has been decided that the relaxation mentioned at Sr. No. 1(ii) of SEBI Circular no. SEBI/HO/CFD/DIL1/CIR/P/2020/66 dated April 21, 2020 for revision in issue size upto 50% shall continue till March 31, 2021.

Secondly, the validity of the SEBI observations expiring between October 1, 2020 and March 31, 2021 shall be extended upto **March 31, 2021**, subject to an undertaking from lead manager to the issue confirming compliance with Schedule XVI of the ICDR Regulations, 2018 while submitting the updated offer document to the Board.

This circular shall come into force with effect from October 01, 2020.

***For more details:***
***https://www.sebi.gov.in/legal/circulars/sep-2020/relaxation-with-respect-to-validity-of-sebi-observations-and-revision-in-issue-size_47719.html***

**4. Relaxation in timelines for compliance with regulatory requirements**

**(Circular No. SEBI/HO/MIRSD/DOP/CIR/P/2020/191 dated October 01, 2020)**

SEBI vide its circulars issued earlier had provided relaxations in timelines / period of exclusion for compliance with various regulatory requirements by the trading members / clearing members / depository participants.

In view of the prevailing situation due to Covid-19 pandemic and representation received from the Stock Exchanges, it has been decided to further extend the timelines for compliance with the regulatory requirements by the trading members / clearing members, mentioned in the SEBI circulars, as under:

| **Compliance requirements for which timelines were extended vide SEBI circular No. SEBI/HO/MIRSD/DOP/CIR/P/2020/61 dated April 16, 2020.** | **S. No. for which timeline is extended** | **Extended timeline / Period of exclusion** |
|---|---|---|
| Maintaining call recordings of orders / instructions received from clients. | XI | December 31, 2020 |

| **Compliance requirements for which timelines were extended vide SEBI circular SEBI/HO/MIRSD/DOP/CIR/P/2020/62 dated April 16, 2020.** | **S. No. for which timeline is extended** | **Extended timeline/ Period of exclusion** |
|---|---|---|
| KYC application form and supporting documents of the clients to be uploaded on system of KRA within 10 working days | III | Period of exclusion shall be from March 23, 2020 till December 31, 2020 |
| **Compliance requirements for which timelines were extended vide SEBI circular SEBI/HO/MIRSD/DOP/CIR/P/2020/141 dated July 29, 2020.** | **S. No. for which timeline is extended** | **Extended timeline/ Period of exclusion** |
| Cyber Security & Cyber Resilience Audit for the year ended March 31, 2020. | - | December 31, 2020 |

Stock Exchanges / Clearing Corporations are directed to bring the provisions of this circular to the notice of their members and also disseminate the same on their websites. All other conditions specified in the aforementioned circulars shall continue to remain applicable till the period of relaxation.

***For more details:***
***https://www.sebi.gov.in/legal/circulars/oct-2020/relaxation-in-timelines-for-compliance-with-regulatory-requirements_47778.html***

**5. Review of provisions regarding valuation of debt and money market instruments due to the COVID - 19 pandemic.**

**(Circular No. SEBI/HO/IMD/DF4/CIR/P/2020/192 dated October 01, 2020)**

In terms of the SEBI Circular No. SEBI/HO/IMD/DF4/CIR/P/2019/102 dated September 24, 2019, valuation agencies engaged by AMFI recognize default of a security under clause 5.1.1.2 and 9.1.2. The said provisions were relaxed vide SEBI Circular No. SEBI/HO/IMD/DF3/CIR/2020/70 dated April 23, 2020 till the period of moratorium permitted by Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

SEBI, vide Circular No. SEBI/HO/MIRSD/CRADT/CIR/P/2020/160 dated August 31, 2020 has provided relaxation to Credit Rating Agencies in recognition of default for restructuring by the lender/ investors solely due to COVID-19 related stress.

In line with the same, discretion needs to be provided to valuation agencies engaged by AMCs/AMFI for recognition of default in case proposal of restructuring of debt is solely due to COVID-19 related stress. For the said purpose, any proposal of restructuring received by Debenture Trustees shall be communicated to investors immediately. Further, any proposal received by Mutual Funds from lenders/issuer/Debenture Trustees shall be reported immediately to the valuation agencies (along with the other material information required for the purpose of valuation), Credit Rating Agencies and AMFI. AMFI, on receipt of such information, shall immediately disseminate it to its members.

Further, if the valuation agency, based on its assessment of the proposal, is of the view that the proposed restructuring is solely due to fallout of COVID-19 pandemic then the valuation agency may not consider the restructuring / non receipt of the dues as a default for the purpose of valuation of money market or debt securities held by Mutual Funds. Further, valuation agencies shall ensure that change in terms of investment, financial stress of the issuer and the capability of issuer to repay the dues/borrowings on the extended dates are reflected in the valuation of the securities.

Further, in the scenario as stated above, if there is any difference in the valuation of securities provided by two valuation agencies, the conservative valuation shall be accepted.

The above modifications permitted to SEBI Circular dated September 24, 2019 shall be in force till December 31, 2020.

Further, as per the Principles of Fair Valuation specified in Eighth Schedule of SEBI (Mutual Funds) Regulations, 1996, and other circulars issued, AMCs shall continue to be responsible for true and fairness of valuation of securities.

This Circular shall come into force with immediate effect.

***For more details:***
***https://www.sebi.gov.in/legal/circulars/oct-2020/circular-on-review-of-provisions-regarding-valuation-of-debt-and-money-market-instruments-due-to-the-covid-19-pandemic_47779.html***

**6. Standard Operating Procedure in the cases of Trading Member / Clearing Member leading to default - Extension of timeline for submission of the Undertaking cum Indemnity bond by the Trading members (TMs) / Clearing Members (CMs) for all the bank accounts**

**(Circular No. SEBI/HO/MIRSD/DOP/CIR/P/2020/193 dated October 01, 2020)**

In terms of clause 9 of SEBI circular SEBI/HO/MIRSD/DPIEA/CIR/P/2020/115 dated July 01, 2020 on the captioned subject, TMs / CMs are required to provide a list of all their bank accounts to the Stock Exchanges (SEs) / Clearing Corporations (CCs) and the SEs / CCs shall obtain an Undertaking cum Indemnity bond from the TM within 90 days from the date of the said SEBI circular.

In view of the prevailing situation due to Covid-19 pandemic and representation received from the Stock Exchanges, it has been decided to extend the timeline for submission of the Undertaking cum Indemnity bond by the TM / CM for all the bank accounts by a period of one month i.e. till October 31, 2020.

It has also been decided to provide flexibility to the SEs / CCs for modifying the Undertaking cum Indemnity bond they need to take from TMs / CMs and suitably modify the draft undertaking wherever required.

Stock Exchanges and Clearing Corporations are directed to bring the provisions of this circular to the notice of their members and also disseminate the same on their websites.

***For more details:***
***https://www.sebi.gov.in/legal/circulars/oct-2020/standard-operating-procedure-in-the-cases-of-trading-member-clearing-member-leading-to-default-extension-of-timeline-for-submission-of-the-undertaking-cum-indemnity-bond-by-the-trading-members-tm-_47780.html***

**7. Extension of facility for conducting extraordinary meeting(s) of unit holders of InvITs and REITs through Video Conferencing or Other Audio-Visual Means (VC/OAVM)**

**(Circular No. SEBI/HO/DDHS/DDHS/CIR/P/2020/201 dated October 08, 2020)**

Kindly refer to SEBI circular no. SEBI/HO/DDHS/DDHS/CIR/P/2020/102 dated June 22, 2020, whereby InvITs/ REITs were permitted to conduct meetings of unitholders through VC or OAVM subject to compliance with the procedure specified therein.

Vide clause 6 of the aforesaid circular, the facility of VC or OAVM was made available for annual meeting of unitholders in terms of Regulation 22(3)(a) of InvIT Regulations and Regulation 22(3) of REIT Regulations, to be conducted during calendar year 2020. For meetings, other than annual meeting of unitholders, the facility for conducting meeting of unitholders through VC or OAVM was provided upto September 30, 2020.

In this respect, representations have been received for extending the facility of VC or OAVM for conducting extraordinary meetings of unitholders for some more time due to the pandemic.

In this regard, it has now been decided to extend the facility of VC or OAVM for conducting extraordinary meetings(s) of unitholders by InvITs/ REITs upto December 31, 2020, subject to compliance with the procedure prescribed in Annexure-I of SEBI circular no. SEBI/HO/DDHS/DDHS/CIR/P/2020/102 dated June 22, 2020.

***For more details:***
***https://www.sebi.gov.in/legal/circulars/oct-2020/extension-of-facility-for-conducting-extraordinary-meeting-s-of-unit-holders-of-invits-and-reits-through-video-conferencing-or-other-audio-visual-means-vc-oavm-_47815.html***

**8. Regulatory measures to continue**

**(Press Releases No.56/2020 dated October 22, 2020)**

On review of the COVID-19 pandemic related situation, SEBI has decided that the regulatory measures introduced vide SEBI Press Release dated March 20, 2020, shall continue to be in force till **November 26, 2020**.

***For more details:***
***https://www.sebi.gov.in/media/press-releases/oct-2020/regulatory-measures-to-continue_47955.html***

**9. Extension of the Settlement Scheme 2020 (October 31, 2020)**

Vide public notice dated July 27, 2020, SEBI has introduced the Settlement Scheme ("the Scheme") which proposes to provide a onetime settlement opportunity to those entities that have executed trade reversals in the stock options segment of BSE during the period from April 01, 2014 to September 30, 2015 and against whom enforcement proceedings have been approved by SEBI. The period of the Scheme commenced on August 01, 2020 and was to end on October 31, 2020.

In view of the large scale disruption caused by the Covid-19 pandemic SEBI has approved the extension of the period of the Scheme till December 31, 2020.

***For more details:***
***https://www.sebi.gov.in/media/public-notices/oct-2020/public-notice-in-respect-of-extension-of-the-sebi-settlement-scheme-2020_48049.html***

# *Initiatives by Central Board of Direct Taxes*

**1. Income Tax Filing AY 2019-20 extends deadline till November 30, 2020 (September 30, 2020)**

In view of the genuine difficulties being faced by the taxpayers due to the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic, the Central Board of Direct Taxes vide its order dated September 30, 2020 further extended the date for furnishing the belated and revised return for Assessment Year 2019-20 from September 30, 2020 to November 30, 2020.

***For more details:***
***https://www.incometaxindiaefiling.gov.in/eFiling/Portal/StaticPDF_News/Order_119_of_the_IT_ACT_Extension_of_dates_for_filing_of_ITRs_AY_2019-20.pdf***

**2. Extension of due date of furnishing of Income Tax Returns and Audit Reports (PIB Dated October 24, 2020)**

In order to provide more time to taxpayers for furnishing of Income Tax Returns, it has been decided to further extend the due date for furnishing of Income-Tax Returns as under:

- The due date for furnishing of Income Tax Returns for the taxpayers (including their partners) who are required to get their accounts audited [for whom the due date (i.e. before the extension by the said notification) as per the Act is 31st October, 2020] has been extended to 31st January, 2021.
- The due date for furnishing of Income Tax Returns for the taxpayers who are required to furnish report in respect of international/specified domestic transactions [for whom the due date (i.e. before the extension by the said notification) as per the Act is 30th November, 2020] has been extended to 31st January, 2021.
- The due date for furnishing of Income Tax Returns for the other taxpayers [for whom the due date (i.e. before the extension by the said notification) as per the Act was 31st July, 2020] has been extended to 31st December, 2020.

Consequently, the date for furnishing of various audit reports under the Act including tax audit report and report in respect of international/specified domestic transaction has also been extended to 31st December, 2020.

Further, the due date for payment of self-assessment tax for taxpayers whose self-assessment tax liability is up to Rs. 1 lakh has been extended to 31st January, 2021 for the taxpayers mentioned in point no. 1 & 2 and to 31st December, 2020 for the taxpayers mentioned in point no. 3.

***For more details:***
***https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1667281***

**3. Taxpayers can make payments under 'Vivad se Vishwas' scheme till March 31, 2020 (October 27, 2020)**

The Government further extended the date for making payment without any addition under Vivad se Vishwas scheme by three months i.e. till March 31, 2021. However, declaration by taxpayers for opting dispute settlement under the scheme must be made by December 31, 2020. The initial deadline of the scheme was extended from March 31, 2020 to June, 2020 and then again to December 31, 2020.

***For more details:***
***https://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/taxpayers-can-make-payments-under-vivad-se-vishwas-scheme-till-march-31-120102701597_1.html***

# *Initiatives by Reserve Bank of India*

1. **Resolution Framework for COVID-19-related Stress – Financial Parameters (Notification No. RBI/2020-21/34 DOR. No. BP. BC/13/21.04.048 / 2020-21 Dated September 7, 2020)**

   The Reserve Bank had set up an Expert Committee with Shri K. V. Kamath as the Chairperson, as announced in the press release dated August 7, 2020. The Expert Committee has since submitted its recommendations to the Reserve Bank on September 4, 2020, which have been broadly accepted by the Reserve Bank. Accordingly, all lending institutions shall mandatorily consider the following key ratios while finalizing the resolution plans in respect of eligible borrowers.

   ***For more details:***
   ***https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx? Id=11961&Mode=0***

2. **Basel III Framework on Liquidity Standards – Net Stable Funding Ratio (NSFR) (Notification No. RBI/2020-21/43DOR.BP.BC.No.16/21.04.098/2020-21 Dated September 29, 2020)**

   In view of the continued uncertainty on account of COVID-19, on a review, it has been decided to defer the implementation of NSFR guidelines by a further period of six months. These guidelines shall now come into effect from April 1, 2021.

   ***For more details:***
   ***https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=11971&Mode=0***

3. **Submission of returns under Section 31 (read with section 56) of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 - Extension of time (Notification No. RBI/2020-2021/55DoR (PCB). BPD. Cir No.4/12.05.001/2020-21 Dated October 13, 2020)**

   In view of the difficulties faced by UCBs in finalizing the financial statements amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, Government of India, on the recommendation of the Reserve Bank, has issued a Gazette Notification No. S.O. 3377(E) dated September 29, 2020 declaring that the provisions of Section 31 read with clause (t) of Section 56 of the Act shall not apply to Primary Co-operative Banks till December 31, 2020. Accordingly, all UCBs shall ensure submission of the aforesaid returns to the Reserve Bank on or before December 31, 2020.

   ***For more details:***
   ***https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=11983&Mode=0***

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