Statutory body under an Act of Parliament
(Under the jurisdiction of Ministry of Corporate Affairs)

6th September, 2023

ADVISORY FOR ENSURING COMPLIANCE WITH VARIOUS REGULATIONS/ CIRCULARS ISSUED BY SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE BOARD OF INDIA (SEBI) AND THE STOCK EXCHANGES

Dear Professional Colleague,

The Regulators i.e. Securities and Exchange Board of India and the Stock Exchanges have reposed confidence in the profession of Company Secretaries and have recognised Company Secretaries in Practice for issuance of Certificates, Reports and conduct audit under various Regulations and Circulars issued by them from time to time. The details of few are as under for reference: -

- SEBI (Depositories and Participants) Regulations, 2018,
- SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015,
- SEBI (Investment Advisers) Regulations, 2013,
- SEBI (Delisting of Equity Shares) Regulations, 2021,
- SEBI (Share Based Employee Benefits and Sweat Equity) Regulations, 2021,
- SEBI (Issue of Capital and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2018,
- SEBI (Buy-Back of Securities) Regulations, 2018,
- SEBI (Infrastructure Investment Trusts) Regulations, 2014,
- SEBI (Real Estate Investment Trusts) Regulations, 2014,
- BSE/NSE Circulars w.r.t. compliance with Structured Digital Database under SEBI (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulations, 2015 and many alike.

With an intent to further strengthen the effectiveness of the certification/ audit/ report issued by the Company Secretaries in Practice and to protect the interest of investors and stakeholders as a whole, Company Secretaries in Practice are advised to thoroughly check minutest regulatory compliance on the part of the client, maintain updated checklists to cross verify the compliances and be inquisitive w.r.t. compliances.

All Company Secretaries in Practice are further expected to also report the non-compliances of the applicable provisions, penalties imposed and show cause notices served, during the period under review, to the company or its directors & KMP either by the SEBI, MCA, RBI, Stock Exchanges or any other Regulator, to reflect the true picture of the governance standards.

This advisory is being issued in order to encourage fellow Company Secretaries to uphold governance culture and ensure compliances as a whole.

CS Manish Gupta President, ICSI