

*Vision*

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

*Motto*

सत्यं वद। धर्मं चर। इष्टार्थं कुरु। त्पुत्रे। प्रामाण्ये। लोकोत्कृष्टोद्भवइइ

*Mission*

"To develop high calibre professionals facilitating good corporate governance"

Monday, February 16, 2026

# Info Capsule

*President*

**CS Pawan G Chandak**

*Vice President*

**CS Dwarakanath C**

## ❖ *Ministry of Commerce & Industry*

### **Cabinet approves Startup India Fund of Funds 2.0 to Mobilize Venture Capital for India's Startup Ecosystem (February 14, 2026)**

In a major boost to India's growing startup ecosystem, the Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, has approved the establishment of the Startup India Fund of Funds 2.0 (Startup India FoF 2.0) with a total corpus of Rs. 10,000 crore for the purpose of mobilizing venture capital for the startup ecosystem of the country. The Scheme is designed to accelerate the next phase of India's startup journey by mobilising long-term domestic capital, strengthening the venture capital ecosystem, and supporting innovation-led entrepreneurship across the country. Aligned with the national vision of Viksit Bharat @ 2047, the Fund represents the Government's continued commitment to empowering entrepreneurs, fostering innovation, and unlocking the full potential of India's startup ecosystem.

**For details:**

<https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2227994&reg=3&lang=1>

## ❖ *Views/ Comments sought by Regulators*

### **• Ease of doing business measures- Relaxations in the reporting requirements for Stock Brokers (February 13, 2026)**

As part of enhanced supervision for Stock Brokers and depository participants, SEBI Master Circular for Stock Brokers dated June 17, 2025 specifies that bank accounts and demat accounts maintained by all brokers shall have appropriate nomenclature to reflect the purpose for which those bank or demat accounts are being maintained. Further, it has been specified that brokers shall inform Stock Exchanges regarding opening or closure of demat or bank accounts to the Stock Exchanges. However, certain exemptions have been provided to brokers which are banks. In order to enhance the ease of doing business, certain relaxations in the reporting requirement for brokers have been proposed.

**For details:**

[https://www.sebi.gov.in/reports-and-statistics/reports/feb-2026/consultation-paper-on-ease-of-doing-business-relaxations-in-the-reporting-requirements-for-stock-brokers\\_99758.html](https://www.sebi.gov.in/reports-and-statistics/reports/feb-2026/consultation-paper-on-ease-of-doing-business-relaxations-in-the-reporting-requirements-for-stock-brokers_99758.html)

### **• Consultation Paper on "Review of provisions related to Base Price and Price Bands for Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs)" (February 13, 2026)**

SEBI has placed this consultation paper with the objective to seek public comments on the proposals on Base Price and Price Bands for Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs). The same was required to be reviewed as the closing NAV of ETFs typically differs between T-1 and T-2 Day. Accordingly, the existing practice of using the T-2 Day closing NAV for determining the base price for ETFs, results in an inherent lag of one trading day in the base or reference value used for applying price bands. Further, the existing fixed price band of +20% to all ETFs (except Overnight ETFs) regardless of its underlying/benchmark does not appropriately reflect the permissible movement and volatility of the underlying, and therefore may lead to situations where the ETF's trading range is excessively wide relative to the underlying.

**For details:**

[https://www.sebi.gov.in/reports-and-statistics/reports/feb-2026/consultation-paper-on-review-of-provisions-related-to-base-price-and-price-bands-for-exchange-traded-funds-etfs\\_99760.html](https://www.sebi.gov.in/reports-and-statistics/reports/feb-2026/consultation-paper-on-review-of-provisions-related-to-base-price-and-price-bands-for-exchange-traded-funds-etfs_99760.html)

## ❖ **International Financial Services Centres Authority**

- **Unified Registration (Master Key) under the IFSCA (Capital Market Intermediaries) Regulations, 2025 (February 13, 2026)**

With a view to easing procedural requirements for entities applying for various capital market activities, the IFSCA (Capital Market Intermediaries) Regulations 2025 were amended in January 2026 enabling unified registration for such activities. Consequently, IFSCA vide this circular specified the type of capital market intermediaries, permitted under the CMI Regulations, who may apply for a Master Key for undertaking multiple capital market. This reform enhances ease of doing business to entities seeking registration for multiple capital market activities in IFSC and streamlines the overall registration process and saving time. The Master Key would enable an entity desirous of seeking registration for undertaking multiple capital market activities to apply through a single application form using the Single Window IT System Portal (SWIT).

### **For details:**

[https://ifsc.gov.in/CommonDirect/GetFileView?id=36ff47aueb9222f627d166fe86c6ec20&fileName=Unified\\_Registration\\_for\\_multiple\\_Capital\\_Market\\_Activities\\_under\\_the\\_IFSCA\\_Capital\\_Market\\_Intermediaries\\_Regulations\\_2025\\_Master\\_Key\\_20260213\\_0615.pdf](https://ifsc.gov.in/CommonDirect/GetFileView?id=36ff47aueb9222f627d166fe86c6ec20&fileName=Unified_Registration_for_multiple_Capital_Market_Activities_under_the_IFSCA_Capital_Market_Intermediaries_Regulations_2025_Master_Key_20260213_0615.pdf)

- **Frequently asked questions on International Financial Services Centres Authority (Global in-House Centres) Regulations, 2025 (February 13, 2026)**

IFSCA has uploaded frequently asked questions on its website on International Financial Services Centres Authority (Global In-House Centres) Regulations, 2025 to provide a simplified explanation of processes, terms, and requirements. However, these FAQs are not an authoritative interpretation of the law. In case of any disparity between these FAQs and the provisions of the Act/Regulations/Circulars, the later shall prevail.

### **For details**

[https://ifsc.gov.in/CommonDirect/GetFileView?id=36ff47aueb9222f627d166fe86bf0b8a&fileName=FAQs\\_on\\_IFSCA\\_GIC\\_Reg\\_2025\\_20260213\\_1019.pdf](https://ifsc.gov.in/CommonDirect/GetFileView?id=36ff47aueb9222f627d166fe86bf0b8a&fileName=FAQs_on_IFSCA_GIC_Reg_2025_20260213_1019.pdf)

- **IFSCA and Finanstilsynet sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) (February 13, 2026)**

The International Financial Services Centres Authority of India ('IFSCA') and Finanstilsynet, the Financial Supervisory Authority of Norway, have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to formalize regulatory cooperation in identified areas of mutual interest. The objective of the MoU is to facilitate the sharing of information on recent trends and best practices in development, regulatory and business structures in the financial markets in the respective jurisdictions as well as to promote and secure the fitness and properness of licensed or registered persons and to promote high standards of fair dealing and integrity in conduct of business.

### **For details:**

[https://ifsc.gov.in/CommonDirect/GetFileView?id=36ff47aueb9222f627d166fe86c61abe&fileName=12\\_02\\_2026\\_Press\\_Release\\_MoU\\_with\\_FSA\\_Norway\\_clean\\_version\\_revised\\_1\\_20260213\\_0552.pdf](https://ifsc.gov.in/CommonDirect/GetFileView?id=36ff47aueb9222f627d166fe86c61abe&fileName=12_02_2026_Press_Release_MoU_with_FSA_Norway_clean_version_revised_1_20260213_0552.pdf)

## ❖ **ESG Update**

### **Indraprastha Gas Limited**

**IGL is committed towards reducing its carbon footprint in line with GOI vision. IGL has generated 5,61,309 units of Power in FY 2024-2025**

- IGL has generated 5,61,309 units of power from solar plants installed by IGL.
- IGL has off taken 9553 tons of Compressed Biogas (CBG) from 6 (six) biogas generating plants of total capacity 25 Tons Per Day (TPD).
- IGL investments in developing new assets are accessed through process of hazard identification and risk analysis.

### **For details:**

[https://nsearchives.nseindia.com/corporate/IGL1\\_24102025145919\\_BRSRReportFY202425.pdf](https://nsearchives.nseindia.com/corporate/IGL1_24102025145919_BRSRReportFY202425.pdf)

❖ **Pronouncement**

<b>November 17,2025</b>	<b>M/s Lena Modern Rice Mill</b>	<b>Authority for Advance Ruling AAR/No.47/2025, (Tamil Nadu )</b>
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**Whether rent for Godown for storage of Paddy is taxable or not?****Brief Facts:**

In given case, the applicant M/s Lena Modern Rice Mill is a service provider who has given the premises for installation of machinery for Rice Mill and Godown for storage of Paddy. Applicant further stated that the above said premises consist of Rice Mill, Warehouse, Machinery and Storage area. The applicant has given the place to a tenant, to be used as Godown for storage of Paddy. Since the tenant is refusing to pay GST on the Rent for the Godown for storing Paddy, the applicant filed application for advance ruling to know whether GST is payable on the same.

The applicant refers to S.no.54 of Notification no.12/2017-Central Tax (Rate) dated 28.06.2017 and claims exemption from GST on Rent for the godown used for storage of paddy.

**Order:**

In this regard, AAR found that

“serial no. 24 of Notification no 11/20217-Central Tax (Rate) dated 28.06.2017 and Serial No 54 of the Notification No 12/2017 Central Tax (Rate) dated 28.06.2017 prescribes **NIL rate of GST** under Chapter heading 9986 to “Services relating to cultivation of plants and ..... or other similar products or agricultural produce by way of ..... e) loading, unloading ,packing ,storage or warehousing of agricultural produce.”

“**agricultural produce** “ in the notification has been

defined to mean “any produce out of cultivation of plants and rearing of all life forms of animals, except the rearing of horses, for food, fibre, fuel, raw material or other similar products, on which either no further processing is done or such processing is done as is usually done by a cultivator or producer which does not alter its essential characteristics but makes it marketable for primary market”

Since Paddy is the rice grain while its husk is an unprocessed grain, harvested from the rice plant. Paddy is processed by cultivator to make it marketable as rice and it can be termed as agricultural produce.

As the services relating to or storage or warehousing of agricultural produce is attracting “**NIL**” rate of GST as per serial no 54 of notification no 12/2017 CT (Rate) dated 28.06.2017, **the godown rent for storage of Paddy is not taxable under GST** .

**For details:**

<https://tnvat.tn.gov.in/ctdportal/DownloadServlet?fileId=me2e77saFq7RcNkKuZzfxg%3D%3D>

**Stock Market Indices as on  
16.02.2026**

S & P BSE Sensex	83,277.15 (+0.79%)
Nifty 50	25,682.75 (+0.83%)

**Foreign Exchange Rates as on 16.02.2026**

<https://www.rbi.org.in/scripts/referenceratearchive.aspx>

INR / 1 USD	INR / 1 EUR	INR / 1 GBP	INR/ 1 JPY
90.71	107.64	123.75	.59

## ❖ *Business and economy*

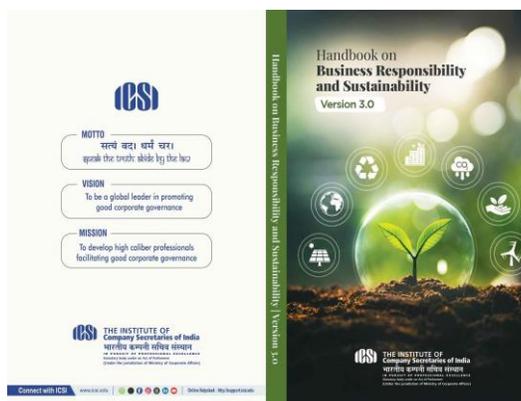
### UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres says India is right place to host first-ever AI Summit in global south (February 16, 2026)

United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has said India is the right place to host the first-ever AI Summit in the global south. While speaking to PTI ahead of the AI Impact Summit 2026, starting today (16.02.2026), Guterres said artificial intelligence must serve the entire world and not just serve a handful of powerful nations. Meanwhile, the British government has said that the UK's focus during the AI Impact Summit in New Delhi will be on championing how artificial intelligence can supercharge growth, unlock new jobs, improve public services and deliver benefits for people around the globe. The UK delegation, led by Deputy Prime Minister David Lammy and AI Minister Kanishka Narayan, is keen to highlight how AI can improve everyday life in every corner of the world and make the case for AI as an engine of renewal that can help doctors diagnose faster, teachers personalise learning, councils deliver services in minutes and businesses create the next generation of good jobs.

#### **For details:**

<https://www.newsonair.gov.in/un-secretary-general-antonio-guterres-says-india-is-right-place-to-host-first-ever-ai-summit-in-global-south/>

### HANDBOOK ON BUSINESS RESPONSIBILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY VERSION 3.0



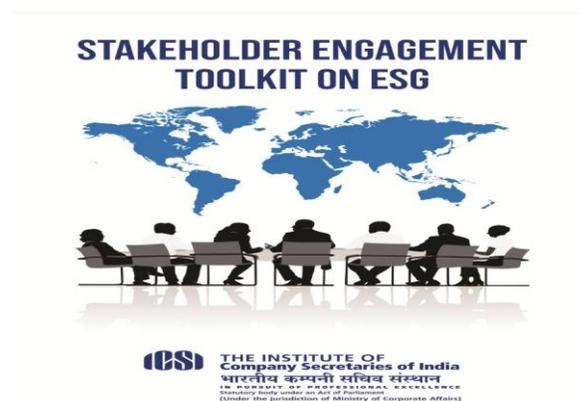
Year of Publication: 2025

Price: Rs. 400/-

#### **For Subscription:**

<https://smash.icsi.edu/Scripts/ECart/Default/ItemWiseECartSearchOnlineBooks.aspx?ItemId=391>

### STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT TOOLKIT ON ESG - OCT 25



Year of Publication: 2025

Price: Rs. 250/-

#### **For Subscription:**

<https://smash.icsi.edu/Scripts/ECart/Default/ItemWiseECartSearchOnlineBooks.aspx?ItemId=392>

**Prepared by Directorate of Academics & Research**

For any suggestions, please write to [academics@icsi.edu](mailto:academics@icsi.edu)

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