



Vision

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

Motto

सत्यं वद। धर्मं चर। इष्टकारं कुरु। प्रसादात् लोकान्मुच्यते।

Mission

"To develop high calibre professionals facilitating good corporate governance"

Tuesday, February 24, 2026

Info Capsule

President

CS Pawan G Chandak

Vice President

CS Dwarakanath C

❖ **NITI Aayog**

Union Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman launched National Monetisation Pipeline 2.0 (NMP 2.0) (February 23, 2026)

Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman launched the second phase of asset monetisation pipeline of Central ministries and public sector entities - 'National Monetisation Pipeline 2.0 (NMP 2.0)'. The second phase of the pipeline has been developed by NITI Aayog, in consultation with infrastructure line ministries, based on the mandate for 'Asset Monetisation Plan 2025-30' as announced in the Union Budget 2025-26.

Highlighting the significance of asset monetisation, the Union Finance Minister said NMP enables recycling of productive public assets, thereby unlocking resources for reinvestment in new projects and capital expenditure. She noted that this approach facilitates efficient mobilisation of funds for CAPEX in public assets while minimising budgetary outgo of the Government.

For details:

<https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2231900®=3&lang=1>

❖ **Ministry of Finance**

India and France sign Amending Protocol to update Double Taxation Avoidance Convention (DTAC) (February 23, 2026)

During the recent visit of the President of France to India, the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the French Republic have signed a Protocol amending the India-France Double Taxation Avoidance Convention, signed on 29 September 1992 ('India-France DTAC').

The Amending Protocol provides full taxing rights in respect of capital gains arising from sale of shares of a company, to the jurisdiction where such company is a resident. The Amending Protocol also deletes the so-called Most-Favoured-Nation (MFN) Clause from the Protocol to the DTAC, thereby bringing to rest all issues relating to it. The Amending Protocol also modifies the taxation of income from dividends by replacing a single rate of 10% of tax with a split rate of 5% for those holding at least ten percent of capital and 15% of tax for all other cases. It also modifies the definition of 'Fees for Technical Services' by aligning it with the definition in India US Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement, and expands the scope of 'Permanent Establishment' by adding Service PE.

For details:

<https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2231751®=3&lang=1>

❖ **Ministry of Labour & Employment**

Ministry of Labour & Employment decides to refund money to inactive EPFO account subscribers (February 23, 2026)

The Ministry of Labour and Employment has decided to refund money of the inoperative Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) accounts subscribers who are having balance of upto one thousand rupees. The Ministry said that the amount will be directly transferred to the subscriber's Aadhar-linked bank account. It added that beneficiaries will not need to file any claim or submit documents to initiate the refund process.

An EPFO account becomes inactive if there has been no contribution or transaction for three consecutive years. Currently, there are more than six lakh inoperative accounts that have a balance of up to one thousand rupees.

For details:

<https://www.newsonair.gov.in/ministry-of-labour-employment-decides-to-refund-money-to-inactive-epfo-account-subscribers/>

❖ Ministry of Commerce & Industry

India Must Become High-Quality Producer to Achieve \$2 Trillion Export Target: Said by Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Shri Piyush Goyal (February 23, 2026)

Addressing the first National Quality Conclave, organised by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) in partnership with the Quality Council of India (QCI), Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Shri Piyush Goyal, who joined the event virtually, underscored that no country can progress merely as a consumer; it must establish itself as a globally recognised producer of high-quality goods and services. He emphasised that Brand India must stand for quality, reliability and trust. Noting that India has been the world's fastest-growing large economy for the past four years and is poised to become the third-largest GDP in the next two to two-and-a-half years, he said the country's \$2 trillion export target — comprising \$1 trillion in merchandise and \$1 trillion in services within the next six to seven years — can only be achieved through uncompromising quality standards.

For details:

<https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2231790®=3&lang=1>

❖ Business & Economy

• Banking sector earnings likely to rebound 17% in FY27-28: IIFL Capital. (February 23, 2026)

The earnings of India's banking sector are expected to register a strong rebound of 17 per cent over FY27-28, supported by improved loan growth, recovery in margins and stable asset quality, according to a report by IIFL Capital.

The report stated that earnings revisions for banks have turned positive after several quarters, indicating that the sector may be nearing an inflection point. Non-core income accounts for 25-35 per cent of profit before tax (PBT) for public sector banks, indicating a relatively higher reliance on non-core earnings compared to private sector peers. It is also noted that after an estimated 3 per cent growth in FY26, overall banking sector earnings are projected to grow at a compounded annual growth rate (CAGR) of 17 per cent over FY27-28. Private sector banks are expected to post a stronger CAGR of 20 per cent, while public sector banks are projected to grow at 11 per cent during the same period. It is also noted that overall profit after tax (PAT) growth for the banking sector is expected to remain modest at around 3 per cent in FY26, before witnessing a stronger recovery in subsequent years.

For details:

<https://ddnews.gov.in/en/banking-sector-earnings-likely-to-rebound-17-in-fy27-28-iifl-capital/>

• Gujarat sets record with over 1 lakh MSME certifications, Deputy CM told the Assembly (February 23, 2026)

Gujarat has certified a record 1,00,135 Micro, Small and Medium enterprises (MSMEs), marking what the state government described as a significant milestone for the sector, Deputy Chief Minister Harsh Sanghavi told the Gujarat Legislative Assembly on Monday. He informed that Gujarat has also been ranked a "Best Performer" for the fifth consecutive time in the national startup rankings, underscoring its position in enterprise development. Highlighting employment generation alongside MSME expansion, he said the government had announced a 10-year recruitment calendar to fill more than two lakh government posts between 2024 and 2033. By December 2025, 72,128 young people had secured employment through 1,268 recruitment fairs conducted across the state.

For details:

<https://ddnews.gov.in/en/gujarat-sets-record-with-over-1-lakh-msme-certifications-dy-cm-tells-assembly/>

❖ **Pronouncement**

January 15, 2026	Elegna Co-op. Housing and Commercial Society Ltd {Appellant(s)} Versus Edelweiss Asset Reconstruction Company Limited & Anr {Respondent(s)}	Supreme Court of India Civil Appeal No. 10261 of 2025 with Civil Appeal No. 10012 of 2025 2026 INSC 58
-------------------------	--	---

Resident Welfare Association, not being a creditor has no locus standi to intervene in proceedings arising out a Section 7 of IBC

Judgement

Hon'ble Apex Court inter alia observed that in the present case, the appellant Society is neither a financial nor an operational creditor. It is a maintenance society not constituted for insolvency representation. No documentary proof of registration, collective authorisation, or general body resolution has been produced. Membership is automatic and mandatory, negating consensual representation. Reliance on compulsory membership to claim representational authority on behalf of allottees is nothing but a brutm fulmen. Notably, the intervention application was filed only at the appellate stage and not before the NCLT. The Society is not a party to the financial transaction forming the substratum of the Section 7 application. Hence, no statutory right of appeal inheres in the appellant.

While the NCLAT's distinction between completed and uncompleted towers may be overbroad and untenable, the ultimate conclusion on absence of locus standi rests on sound legal footing. Permitting such intervention would undermine the expeditious and structured insolvency framework envisaged under the Code the Court said.

The plea of violation of principles of natural justice is equally untenable. It is settled that such violation cannot be alleged in the absence of demonstrable prejudice, particularly where no foundational right of participation exists. Reference may be made to *Bishambhar Prasad v. Arfat Petrochemicals Pvt. Ltd. and others* 2023 SCC OnLine SC 458, the relevant paragraphs of which are usefully extracted below:

"77. The importance of Principles of Natural Justice, among which we are concerned with audi alterem partem in this case, have been deliberated upon by this Court numerous times in the past. As far back as in Union of India v. P.K. Roy (1968) 2 SCR 186, the Court held:

"12...But the extent and application of the doctrine of natural justice cannot be imprisoned within the strait-jacket of a rigid formula. The application of the doctrine depends upon the nature of the jurisdiction conferred on the administrative authority, upon the character of the rights of the persons affected, the scheme and policy of the statute and other relevant circumstances disclosed in the particular case..."

Xx xx xx

79. In this context, it may be true that the Principles of Natural Justice entailed giving Respondent No. 1 an opportunity to defend its rights. However, the most decisive and crucial factor is whether any legally vested 'right' ever accrued in favour of Respondent No. 1, which the State Government could not have despoiled behind its back. It has already been held by us categorically that RIICO had no authority whatsoever to accord permission for conversion and sub-division of the industrial land allotted to Respondent No. 1. We have further opined that the State Government has always retained its authority as lessor and was the only competent authority to grant such permissions to Respondent No. 1 within the framework of the 1959 Rules. The irresistible conclusion would be that the self-styled power exercised by RIICO, was without any sanction in law; it lacked inherent competence and RIICO acted beyond its jurisdiction in respect of LIA, Kota. The permissions accorded by RIICO in favour of Respondent No. 1 did not confer any rights whatsoever, much less any enforceable right in the eyes of law. RIICO usurped the powers vested in the State Government and passed palpably illegal orders in favour of Respondent No. 1. The agreements between RIICO and Respondent No. 1 are nothing but brutum fulmen."

Accordingly, in the instant case, in the absence of any foundational right to participate in the proceedings before NCLT or NCLAT, the appellant society cannot claim a vested right to be heard at the appellate stage, for such right flows from the statute and is not a matter of right.

Accordingly, Supreme Court held that:

- The right to initiate or participate in insolvency proceedings is statutory, not equitable.
- A society or Resident Welfare Association, not being a creditor in its own right and not recognised as an authorised representative of allottees under the IBC, has no locus standi to intervene in proceedings arising out a Section 7 petition.

❖ **Market Watch**

Stock Market Indices as on 24.02.2026	
S & P BSE Sensex	82225.92(-1.28%)
Nifty 50	25424.65 (-1.12%)

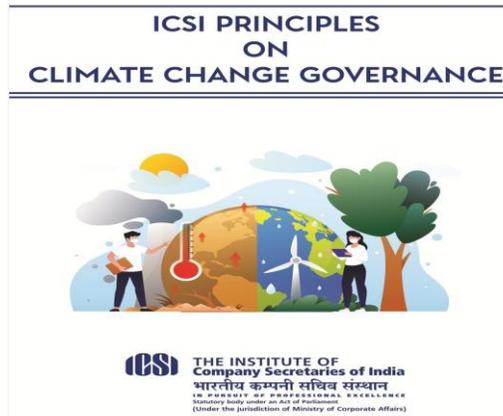
Foreign Exchange Rates as on 24.02.2026 (https://m.rbi.org.in//scripts/ReferenceRateArchive.aspx)			
INR / 1 USD	INR / 1 EUR	INR / 1 GBP	INR/ 1 JPY
90.96	107.15	122.70	.58

❖ **ESG Update****Hindalco Industries Limited****Hindalco Advances ESG Goals with Smelter Energy Efficiency, Waste Reduction, and Refinery Steam Optimization Initiatives**

- The Company uses Eco-Friendly Cold Tamping/Ramming Paste for Smelting Operation. Reduction in aluminium smelter energy consumption through phased implementation of copper insert collector bar, clamp modification, step stub-anode, pot noise control, etc.
- New generation economiser, replacement of pump seals and various actions to reduce steam consumption in aluminium refinery.
- Waste Management Task Forces are formed to serve the purpose of developing a structured approach for prevention and reduction of waste generation.
- Energy efficient & corrosion-resistant coating in pumps are used and replacement of cooling tower fan blade with E-glass epoxy FRP blade is done for efficient energy consumption.
- New generation economiser, replacement of pump seals and various actions to reduce steam consumption in aluminium refinery.

For details:

<https://www.hindalco.com>



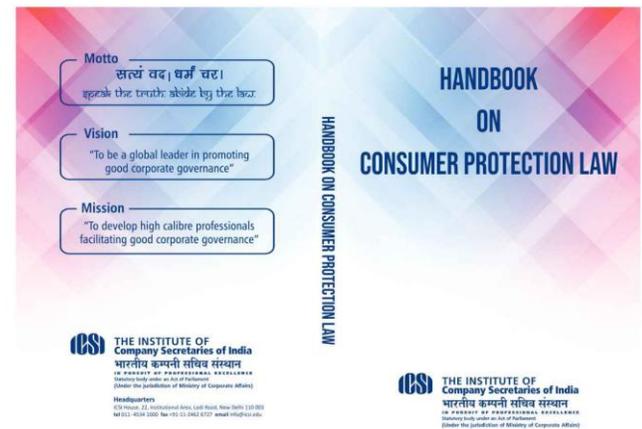
ICSI PRINCIPLES ON CLIMATE CHANGE GOVERNANCE- OCT25

Year of Publication: 2025

Price: Rs. 200/-

Web-link for Purchase:

<https://smash.icsi.edu/Scripts/ECart/Default/ItemWiseECartSearchOnlineBooks.aspx?ItemId=393>



HANDBOOK ON CONSUMER PROTECTION LAW

Year of Publication: 2025

Price: Rs. 540/-

Web-link for Purchase:

<https://smash.icsi.edu/Scripts/ECart/Default/ItemWiseECartSearchOnlineBooks.aspx?ItemId=396>

Prepared by Directorate of Academics & Research

For any suggestions, please write to academics@icsi.edu.

Disclaimer: Although due care and diligence have been taken in preparation and uploading this info capsule, the Institute shall not be responsible for any loss or damage, resulting from any action taken on the basis of the contents of this info capsule. Anyone wishing to act on the basis of the material contained herein should do so after cross checking with the original source.