

Wednesday, August 06, 2025

Info Capsule

President

CS Dhananjay Shukla

Vice President

CS Pawan G Chandak

**APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR 4TH
ICSI BUSINESS RESPONSIBILITY
AND SUSTAINABILITY AWARDS**

**LAST DATE FOR SUBMISSION
14TH AUGUST, 2025.**

NO PARTICIPATION FEES!

AWARD CATEGORIES

ONE AWARD EACH TO BEST CORPORATE IN THE FOLLOWING SEGMENTS	
CATEGORY	SEGMENT
A	SERVICE
B	NON-SERVICE (MANUFACTURING, MINING, ETC.)

Please Visit:

[https://icsi.edu/home/cg_award/4th_brs
_awards_2025/](https://icsi.edu/home/cg_award/4th_brs_awards_2025/)

❖ Ministry of Finance

NABARD and RBI Promote Rural Financial Literacy through various initiatives (August 05, 2025)

National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and Reserve Bank of India (RBI) undertook various initiatives to promote financial literacy and awareness of rural population, including microfinance borrowers.

This same has been promoted through following initiatives:

- i. By providing financial support for conduct of Financial and Digital Literacy Camps through rural bank branches and Financial Literacy Centres (FLCs) in areas with limited awareness. These programmes involved creating awareness on various banking products, social security schemes of Government of India, digital banking, mobile banking, cyber security, etc.
- ii. Centre for Financial Literacy (CFL) Project has been initiated by RBI since 2017 with an objective to adopt community-led innovative and participatory approaches to financial literacy. In this regard, a total of 2,421 CFLs have been set up across the country as on March 31, 2025 with one CFL covering three blocks on an average
- iii. It also sponsors Village Level Programmes (VLPs) which are conducted with the support of banks and State Rural Livelihoods Missions (SRLMs) for a better interface between bankers and Self-Help Groups (SHGs) to facilitate opening of SHG accounts, their credit linkage and regular loan repayments, thereby facilitating financial inclusion at the village level.

For details:

<https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2152632>

❖ Ministry of Commerce & Industry

E-Commerce export hubs to support Indian SMEs with cost-effective logistics and streamlined regulatory processes

With an objective to support SMEs, artisans, and small businesses by reducing the cost and time associated with logistics, streamlining regulatory processes, and simplifying re-imports for e-commerce returns or 2 rejects, an initiative is launched by the E-Commerce Export Hubs (ECEHs), which aims to provide dedicated zones for facilitating cross-border e-commerce exports from India. The ECEHs shall provide integrated services at a single location, encompassing customs clearance, quality certification, packaging, and off-port warehousing.

For details:

<https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2152518>

❖ **Competition Commission of India**

CCI approves acquisition of Jaiprakash Associates Limited by Dalmia Cement (Bharat) Limited(August 05, 2025)

The Competition Commission of India has approved the acquisition of Jaiprakash Associates Limited by Dalmia Cement (Bharat) Limited. The Proposed Combination envisages 100% acquisition of Jaiprakash Associates Limited (JAL) by Dalmia Cement (Bharat) Limited (Acquirer) pursuant to a corporate insolvency resolution process (CIRP) under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 (IBC).

The Acquirer is a wholly owned subsidiary of Dalmia Bharat Limited (DBL) which is the ultimate parent entity of the Dalmia Bharat Group. DBL (directly and through its affiliates) is primarily engaged in manufacture and sale of cement. JAL is engaged in diverse business activities viz., real estate, cement, hospitality, engineering, procurement, & construction (EPC) and is currently undergoing a CIRP under the IBC.

For details:

<https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2152731>

❖ **ESG Update**

Arrow Electronics, Inc.

- Arrow's ESG responsibility starts at the top and permeates throughout the business. Arrow's Board of Directors primarily through committees, is accountable for ensuring ESG risks and opportunities are integrated into their long-term strategy. It receives regular updates on ESG matters at meetings, reviews and approves ESG-related disclosures, and advises on significant strategic investments.
- The Company's Board has three standing committees: Audit; Compensation; and Corporate Governance. Each committee follows a written charter and plays a role in the oversight of ESG-related practices at Arrow.
- The Company's Global Environmental Sustainability Policy provides a set of guiding principles for approach to sustainable operations and environmental management. This policy highlights its approach to reducing our carbon footprint and promotes a culture of environmental stewardship.
- Throughout 2024, the Company intended to ramp up its renewable procurement via utility green power programs while preparing to engage in regional projects that provide net-new renewables, as well as social impact benefits, within, the U.S. and Canada. It begun this process through its recent engagement with Evergreen Renewables Inc. to procure 5,000 MWh annually from 2024 to 2034.

For details:

<https://www.arrow.com/company/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/Environmental-Social-and-Governance-Report-2023.pdf>

❖ **Business and Economy**

India and Philippines exchange nine MoUs across sectors including Defence, Digital technology, Space, maritime co-operation, tourism and cultural exchange (August 05, 2025)

India and the Philippines exchanged nine MoUs on 05th August, 2025 in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Philippines President Ferdinand Romualdez Marcos Jr. The MoUs include Strategic Partnership between India and Philippines, Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matter, Defence, Science and Technology among others.

According to the Prime Minister of India, under the Development Partnership, India will increase the number of Quick Impact Projects in the Philippines. He also said that India will also cooperate in the development of sovereign data cloud infrastructure in the Philippines. The Prime Minister said, the bilateral trade between the two countries is increasing continuously and has crossed the figure of 3 Billion dollars. He added that it will be the priority to complete the review of India-ASEAN Free Trade Agreement at the earliest.

For details:

<https://www.newsonair.gov.in/india-and-philippines-exchange-nine-mous-across-sectors-including-defence-digital-technology-space-maritime-co-operation-tourism-and-cultural-exchange/>

❖ **Pronouncement**

July 01, 2025	Kroll Information Assurance, LLC(Appellant) Versus The Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trademarks and Ors	Delhi High Court C.A.(COMM.IPD-PAT) 439/2022
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“Algorithms” ‘Computer Programme per se’ stored as instructions or any sequence of steps in a computer memory in a computer-readable medium is not patentable under Section 3(k) of the Patents Act.

Brief Facts

The Appellant is an entity based in the United States of America. The subject patent application was filed by Appellant as a national phase application under the Patent Cooperation Treaty ('PCT') claiming priority from the US patent application with priority date 12th April, 2005. A request for examination of the subject patent application was filed by the Appellant and it was rejected by The Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trademarks.

The impugned order was passed by the Controller on 25th June, 2019, refusing the subject patent application on the following grounds:

- The proposed amendments claimed are beyond the scope of the invention under Section 59 of the Act.
 - The Claims of the subject patent application are non-inventive under Section 2(1)(j) of the Act in light of prior art D1;
 - The subject invention relates to 'algorithm' and 'computer program per se' under Section 3(k) of the Act.
- Aggrieved by impugned order, Appellant approached to the High Court.

Judgement

Hon'ble High Court inter alia observed that according to Guidelines for Examination of Computer Related Inventions, 2017 issued by the Patent Office, an 'algorithm' is a mere sequence of instructions or set of rules or procedures or any sequence of steps and is not considered to be subject matter eligible for the grant of a patent. Further, a 'computer programme per se' stored as instructions in a computer memory in a computer-readable medium would also not be an eligible subject matter for the grant of a patent.

Therefore, in terms of Section 3(k) of the Act, an 'algorithm' or 'computer programme per se' is not patentable. Further, while assessing the patentability of 'computer programme per se' under Section 3(k) of the Act, the Controller has to see whether the invention results in a technical effect or a technical advancement of the hardware.

High Court inter alia referred the case of Blackberry v. Controller of Patents & Designs. The relevant extract of the case is set out below:

“48. Accordingly, it is evident that insofar as algorithms are concerned, if the invention relates purely to a set of instruction or policies which determine the flow without any substantial change in the hardware, such instructions even if they have a bearing on the manner in which the flow of data occurs would not be entitled to patent protection in India.”

Court said that holding that the technical contribution of the subject matter of the patent application therein was solely covering a complex sequence of instructions without offering any technical effect or advancement on the hardware, the coordinate bench in Blackberry (supra) sustained the objection of the Controller under Section 3(k) of the Act.

In fact, the reasoning adopted in Blackberry (supra) for upholding non-patentability under Section 3(k) of the Act would squarely be applicable in the present case. The invention claimed in the patent application is a mere sequence of instructions stored in hardware without solving any technical problem or offering any technical advancement to the hardware.

In view of above, High Court concluded that the subject patent application has rightly been refused by the Controller under Section 3(k) of the Act.

DECRIMINALISATION OF OFFENCES - EMERGING TRENDS IN ADJUDICATION

भारतीय कम्पनी सचिव संस्थान
INSTITUTE OF COMPANY SECRETARIES, INDIAN
(under the jurisdiction of Ministry of Corporate Affairs)

DECRIMINALISATION OF OFFENCES Emerging Trends in Adjudication Opportunities for Professionals

About the Book

Diligence, Compliance and Good Governance have always been looked through the lens of absence of non-compliance or default. The law while enlisting the provision for actions to be undertaken and procedures to be followed under different circumstances and situations has been equally wary of the scenarios wherein such compliances may not be made in true letter and spirit. Hence, the outline of punishments in the form of fines & penalties and imprisonment also in certain cases, depending on the severity of default. However, the downside of such punishments is that where criminal prosecution is provided for non-compliance of procedural requirements, it acts as a roadblock in attracting investment. Severe punitive measures for technical nature offences tend to hinder investment both from domestic and foreign investors. Criminalizing procedural lapses and minor non-compliances increases burden on businesses only.

Year of Publication: 2024

Price: Rs. 450/-

Weblink for purchase:

<https://smash.icsi.edu/Scripts/ECart/Default/ItemWiseECartSearchOnlineBooks.aspx?ItemId=327>

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE - FROM COMPLIANCE TO EXCELLENCE

About the Book

The ICSI in its endeavour to identify, foster and reward the best practices of corporate governance among Indian companies had instituted "The ICSI National Awards for Excellence in Corporate Governance" in the year 2001. Based on the analysis of the governance practices adopted by the companies which participated in these Awards in 2021, ICSI rolled out a publication titled 'Corporate Governance – From Compliance to Excellence (Handbook on Best Practices)' in the year 2022.

The publication highlights the governance practices adopted in aspects like Board effectiveness, Transparency and Disclosure, Risk Management, Stakeholders' Value Enhancement, Sustainability and Workplace Innovation.

Year of Publication: 2024

Price: Rs. 1250/-

Weblink for purchase:

<https://smash.icsi.edu/Scripts/ECart/Default/ItemWiseECartSearchOnlineBooks.aspx?ItemId=317>

❖ Market Watch

Stock Market Indices as on 06.08.2025		Foreign Exchange Rates as on 06.08.2025 (https://m.rbi.org.in/scripts/ReferenceRateArchive.aspx)			
S & P BSE Sensex	80543.99(-0.21%)	INR / 1 USD	INR / 1 EUR	INR / 1 GBP	INR / 1 JPY
Nifty 50	24574.20(-0.31%)	87.70	101.60	116.69	.59

Prepared by Directorate of Academics

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

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