Info Capsule

Thursday, August 21, 2025

President
CS Dhananjay Shukla
Vice President
CS Pawan G Chandak

APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR 25TH ICSI LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FOR TRANSLATING EXCELLENCE IN CORPORATE GOVERNANCE INTO REALITY

LAST DATE FOR SUBMISSION 31ST AUGUST, 2025 NO PARTICIPATION FEES!

ELIGIBILITY:

- All listed entities and unlisted companies may nominate any individual who has Experience of 30 years as the following: Founder, Chairman, Md or Ceo.
- The nominated individual shall be of at least 60 years of age.

Please Visit:
https://icsi.edu/home/cg_award/25th_lta_awards_2025/

❖ *Ministry of Commerce & Industry*

- **India and Eurasian Economic Union sign Terms of Reference to launch FTA negotiations (August 20,2025)**

India and the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) comprising Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic and the Russian Federation have signed the Terms of Reference (ToR) to launch negotiations on a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) in Moscow. Both sides noted the growing trade turnover between India and the EAEU, which stood at USD 69 billion in 2024, registering a 7 percent increase over 2023. With a combined GDP of USD 6.5 trillion, the proposed FTA is expected to expand market access for Indian exporters, support diversification into new sectors and geographies, enhance competitiveness against non-market economies, and deliver significant benefits to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs). The ToR provides the framework for negotiations and is expected to unlock untapped trade potential, increase investments and establish a stronger, durable India–EAEU economic partnership.

For details:
https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2158480

- ***Index Of Eight Core Industries (Base Year: 2011-12=100) For July, 2025* (August 20,2025)**

The combined Index of Eight Core Industries (ICI) increased by 2.0 per cent (provisional) in July, 2025 as compared to the Index in July, 2024. The production of Steel, Cement, Fertilizer and Electricity recorded positive growth in July, 2025. The ICI measures the combined and individual performance of production of eight core industries viz. Coal, Crude Oil, Natural Gas, Refinery Products, Fertilizers, Steel, Cement and Electricity. The Eight Core Industries comprise 40.27 percent of the weight of items included in the Index of Industrial Production (IIP). The final growth rate of Index of Eight Core Industries for June 2025 was observed at 2.2 per cent. The cumulative growth rate of ICI during April to July, 2025-26 is 1.6 per cent (provisional) as compared to the corresponding period of last year.

For details:
https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2158423

❖ *ESG Update*

Airbus SE

- Airbus is part of a broad ecosystem that shares a goal of creating a sustainable aerospace industry. This ecosystem includes international aviation organisations such as ATAG, IATA and ICAO, all of which align behind the industry's ambition of reaching net-zero carbon emissions by 2050.
- Airbus participates in the development of the European Space Agency's Zero Debris Charter alongside other players in the space community. The Company is committed to actions to reduce and remediate space debris by 2030, with innovations in product design and the elimination or management of debris in space.
- Airbus has a dedicated programme to reduce the environmental footprint of its operations: high5+. The high5+ programme is built on a set of ambitious absolute reduction targets (compared to 2015 levels) that prioritise the reduction of environmental impacts from Airbus' operations. Focus areas include reductions in purchased energy, CO2 emissions, water withdrawal, volatile organic compounds (VOC) emissions and waste production. The high5+ CO2 emissions reduction targets reflect Airbus' Scope 1 and 2 targets validated by the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi).
- Airbus invests in projects that expand access to STEM education, empowering young people from vulnerable communities to explore and develop future-ready skills that can boost their prospects and employability.

For details:
https://www.airbus.com/sites/g/files/jlcbta136/files/2025-04/2025_Airbus_Pioneering_sustainable_aerospace_publication.pdf

❖ *Ministry of Labour & Employment*

EPFO Records All-Time Highest Net Addition of Nearly 22 Lakh Members during June 2025 (August 20, 2025)

The Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) has released provisional payroll data for June 2025, revealing a net addition of 21.89 lakh members, marking the highest recorded addition since payroll data tracking began in April 2018. This figure depicts an increase of 9.14 % in net payroll additions during the current month as compared to the previous month of May 2025. Further, the year-on-year analysis reveals a growth of 13.46 % in net payroll additions in June 2025 compared to June 2024, signifying increased employment opportunities and heightened awareness of employee benefits, bolstered by EPFO's effective outreach initiatives.

For details: *https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2158341*

❖ *Ministry of Corporate Affairs*

IEPFA Opens Three Niveshak Seva Kendras in Hyderabad, Two more centres to be operational soon (August 20, 2025)

The Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA), under the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India, in collaboration with SEBI, CDSL, NSDL, BSE and NSE, has successfully opened three Niveshak Seva Kendras in Hyderabad. The centre, which commenced operations on 16th August 2025, marks a significant step towards strengthening investor protection and ensuring faster, hassle-free services for investors. The Niveshak Seva Kendras have been set up to provide faster, easier and more accessible solutions to investors, particularly in matters related to unclaimed dividends and KYC/nomination updates.

For details: *https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2158540*

❖ *Bill(s) Passed*

Lok Sabha Passed the bill for Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming (August 20, 2025)

The online gaming sector has emerged as one of the fastest-growing components of the creative economy, contributing significantly to innovation, employment generation and export earnings. At present, the online gaming sector ecosystem has multiple segments. These include e-sports; online social games including casual games; and education games; and online money games. The sector operates without a dedicated institutional mechanism for strategic support, co-ordination and capacity building.

The unchecked and widespread proliferation of online money games which readily accessible through mobile devices, computers, and the internet, and offering monetary returns in exchange for deposited funds has led to grave social, economic, and psychological consequences across the country. A significant number of young persons and economically vulnerable individuals have been adversely impacted by the seamless availability of these games, driven by the low cost of internet access, the ubiquity of mobile and computing devices, and the ease of app-based participation.

Considering the deleterious and negative impact of online money games on the individuals, families, society and the nation, this bill provides the provisions for completely prohibit the activity of online money gaming, rather than attempt to regulate.

This Bill has been passed by Lok Sabha and proposes to establish a robust legal framework, not only prohibit online money gaming in the country but also to regulate, promote and encourage the sector for innovation and economic growth and ensure a developed, safe and responsible digital environment for all citizens.

For details: *https://sansad.in/ls/legislation/bills*

❖ *Business & Economy*

- **UIDAI Partners with Starlink for Seamless Aadhaar-Based Customer Verification (August 21, 2025)**

The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has collaborated with a private satellite-based internet service provider, Starlink, for seamless Aadhaar-based customer verification. In a statement, the Ministry of Electronics and IT said that the use of Aadhaar authentication by a global satellite internet provider demonstrates the scalability and reliability of India's digital infrastructure. It added that this collaboration emphasises how Aadhaar can enable innovation in service delivery while ensuring transparency and accountability. Referring to Aadhaar as a catalyst for ease of living and ease of doing business, the Ministry said that its face authentication solution is now gaining momentum faster due to its ease of usage and convenience for Aadhaar number holders.

For details: *https://www.newsonair.gov.in/uidai-partners-with-starlink-for-seamless-aadhaar-based-customer-verification/*

- **India's private sector posts record growth in August (August 21, 2025)**

India's private sector economy expanded at its fastest pace on record in August, buoyed by a surge in new orders, according to HSBC's flash Purchasing Managers' Index survey released. The HSBC flash India Composite Output Index, which tracks month-on-month changes in combined output across manufacturing and services, jumped to 65.2 in August from 61.1 in July. The four-point increase marked the sharpest expansion since the survey began in December 2005, said the latest flash survey. The acceleration was underpinned by one of the strongest rises in sales volumes on record, with businesses reporting robust demand that lifted activity across sectors

***For details**:* *https://www.livemint.com/economy/india-private-sector-economy-india-pmi-august-hsbc-flash-india-pmi-indian-economy-growth-purchasing-managers-index-11755755696939.html*

❖ *Pronouncement*

August 19, 2025	Swaraj Shares and Securities Private Limited	SEBI

Merchant Banker was non-compliant with 'fit and proper' criteria, which is an essential pre-requisite for registration, resulting in suspension of certificate of registration.

Facts of the case:

The present matter emanates from post enquiry show cause notice issued to Swaraj Shares and Securities Pvt. Ltd. ("Company"/ "Noticee") under regulation 27(1) of the SEBI (Intermediaries) Regulations, 2008 ("Intermediaries Regulations"). The Noticee is registered with SEBI as a Merchant Banker.

SEBI conducted inspection of the Noticee from March 5, 2024 to March 6, 2024 concerning various compliance requirements under provisions of SEBI (Merchant Banker) Regulations, 1992 and applicable SEBI Circulars. SEBI held that the Noticee has violated the following provisions:

- Failure to exercise proper due diligence in certain takeover transactions
- Failure to comply with provisions pertaining to Investor Grievances
- Discrepancies in the Periodic Reports submitted by Noticee
- Failure to display Information regarding investor grievance redressal mechanism at Noticee's Office
- Failure to maintain specific Email ID for regulatory communications
- Failure to comply with PIT Regulations
- Failure to intimate regarding changes
- Creation of False Records and submission to the Inspection Team

SEBI Order:

The Noticee's act of creating false records to hoodwink the inspections team and its series of falsehoods to cover up the act of creating false records is particularly egregious and inexcusable. Aside from this being unprofessional, these acts are symptomatic of utter disregard for ensuring high standards of integrity.

Thus, in the exercise of powers conferred upon SEBI under sub section (3) of section 12 and section 19 of the SEBI Act, 1992 read with the sub-regulation (5) of regulation 27 of the Intermediaries Regulations, SEBI directed that the certificate of registration of the Noticee i.e. Swaraj Shares and Securities Private Limited be suspended for a period of 3 (three)months from the date of this order.

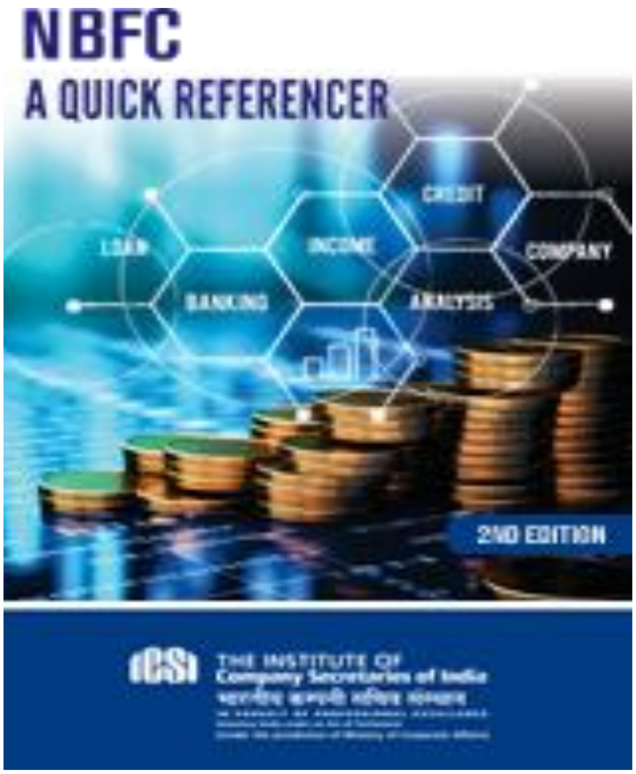
For details: *https://www.sebi.gov.in/enforcement/orders/aug-2025/order-in-respect-of-swaraj-shares-and-securities-pvt-ltd-_96141.html*

❖ *Market Watch*

Stock Market Indices as on 21.08.2025	
S & P BSE Sensex	82000.71(+0.17%)
Nifty 50	25083.75(+0.13%)

Foreign Exchange Rates as on 21.08.2025 *(https://m.rbi.org.in//scripts/ReferenceRateArchive.aspx)*			
INR / 1 USD	**INR / 1 EUR**	**INR / 1 GBP**	**INR/ 1 JPY**
86.97	101.19	116.96	.58

NBFC – A QUICK REFERENCER



About the Book

NBFCs supplement banks in providing financial services to individuals and firms as well as company and provide multiple alternatives to transform an economy's savings into capital investment. NBFC sector to drive innovation, enhance financial accessibility, and contribute to a robust economic framework.

To dig deeper into the nuances of these financial institutions & to explore the myriad opportunities and challenges that lie ahead for NBFCs in this rapidly changing landscape, ICSI launched the revised version of the publication titled "NBFC - A Quick Referencer".

Year of Publication: 2024

Price: Rs. 275/-

Weblink for Purchase:
https://smash.icsi.edu/Scripts/ECart/Default/ItemWiseECartSearchOnlineBooks.aspx?ItemId=348

GUIDANCE NOTE ON LOAN TO DIRECTORS AND LOAN, INVESTMENT, ISSUE OF GUARANTEE AND SECURITY BY COMPANIES (SECTIONS 185 & 186 OF THE COMPANIES ACT, 2013)

About the Book

This Guidance Note aims to make the provisions of Sections 185 and 186 more accessible and comprehensible to professionals and stakeholders. It transcends basic statutory interpretation by providing relevant illustrations that clarify complex legal principles. Additionally, a practical Q&A format addresses common scenarios and queries, equipping professionals with insights to navigate these provisions effectively.

Year of Publication: 2024

Price: Rs. 90/-

Weblink for Purchase:
https://smash.icsi.edu/Scripts/ECart/Default/ItemWiseECartSearchOnlineBooks.aspx?ItemId=347

Prepared by Directorate of Academics

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