THE INSTITUTE OF
Company Secretaries of India
भारतीय कम्पनी सचिव संस्थान
IN PURSUIT OF PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE
Statutory body under an Act of Parliament
(Under the jurisdiction of Ministry of Corporate Affairs)

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

Motto
सत्यं वद। धर्मं चर। speak the truth. abide by the law.

Mission
"To develop high calibre professionals facilitating good corporate governance"

Monday, May 26, 2025

Info Capsule

President
CS Dhananjay Shukla
Vice President
CS Pawan G Chandak

❖ *NITI Aayog*

NITI Aayog Releases Report on "Designing a Policy for Medium Enterprises" (May 26, 2025)

NITI Aayog released a report titled "Designing a Policy for Medium Enterprises", offering a comprehensive roadmap for transforming medium enterprises into future growth engines of India's economy. The report highlights the critical, yet under-leveraged role played by medium enterprises and outlines targeted interventions to unlock their full potential. The report underscores key challenges faced by medium enterprises, including constrained access to tailored financial products, limited adoption of advanced technologies, inadequate R&D support, lack of sectoral testing infrastructure, and a mismatch between training programmes and enterprise needs. These limitations hinder their ability to scale and innovate.
Read the complete report: *https://www.niti.gov.in/sites/default/files/2025-05/Designing-a-Policy-for-Medium-Enterprises.pdf*

For details: *https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2131261*

❖ *Capital Market and Securities Laws*

Accessibility and Inclusiveness of Digital KYC to Persons with Disabilities (May 23, 2025)

The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgement dated April 30, 2025, emphasized the need for equal and accessible inclusion of persons with disabilities for availing financial services and directed to ensure that the process of digital KYC is accessible to persons with disabilities. SEBI is committed to the cause of enabling equal access of services of its registered intermediaries to persons with disabilities, including persons with visual impairments and in order to make the digital KYC process inclusive and accessible, FAQ on Account opening by Persons with Disabilities has been revised and is available on 'SEBI Website → FAQs → Know Your Client Requirements, Demat / Trading Account Opening → FAQ on Account Opening by Persons with Disabilitlies. SEBI, vide this circular, directed the intermediaries to extend their services enabling digital accessibility to client including persons with disabilities and will be guided by the said FAQ on Account opening by Person with Disabilities.

For details: *https://www.sebi.gov.in/legal/circulars/may-2025/accessibility-and-inclusiveness-of-digital-kyc-to-persons-with-disabilities_94096.html*

❖ *Ministry of Education*

15 foreign universities to set up campuses in India this academic year (May 26, 2025)

Union Education Minister Shri. Dharmendra Pradhan has said that around 15 foreign universities will be coming to establish their campuses in India by this academic year. He said, in this regard, the government has permitted foreign universities. Mr. Pradhan highlighted this while addressing the letter of intent handover ceremony to the United Kingdom's Liverpool University in New Delhi today. He described this partnership as a symbolic gesture and a reauthorization of India's emergence as a trusted partner in global higher education. Speaking to the media, the Minister said Liverpool University will be operational from next year. He informed that two Australian-based universities have started their academic sessions in Gujarat.

For details: *https://www.newsonair.gov.in/15-foreign-universities-to-set-up-campuses-in-india-this-academic-year-education-minister-pradhan/*

❖ *ESG Update*

Bank of America: Financial Services for Sustainability

As a major financial institution, Bank of America recognized its role in promoting environmental, social, and governance (ESG) practices through its financing decisions. The challenge was to integrate sustainability into its core business strategies without compromising financial performance. Bank of America committed to providing $300 billion in financing by 2030 to sustainable business activities. This included funding for renewable energy projects, energy-efficient infrastructure, and support for small businesses engaged in sustainable practices.

Impact:

- Directed significant capital towards renewable and sustainable projects.
- Encouraged other financial institutions to consider similar ESG-focused financing.

Key Takeaways

- Financial institutions have a critical role in driving the global sustainability agenda.
- ESG-focused financing can be both profitable and impactful.
- Strategic investments in sustainability can lead to long-term economic and environmental benefits.

For details: *https://digitaldefynd.com/IQ/esg-case-studies/#:~:text=Large%2Dscale%20recycling%20initiatives%20can,to%20industry%2Dwide%20environmental%20improvements.*

❖ *Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment*

DoSJE organized 28th Coordination Committee Meeting to devise Ways and Means to curb Offences of Untouchability and Atrocities against SCs and STs (May 23, 2025)

Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment (SJ&E), Dr. Virendra Kumar, and Union Minister for Tribal Affairs (TA), Shri Jual Oram, co-chaired the 28th meeting of the Committee to devise ways and means to curb offences of Untouchability and Atrocities against SCs and STs. In the meeting, discussions were held regarding charge sheet filing rate in the courts, pendency of cases in courts, status of Exclusive Special courts, meeting of Vigilance and Monitoring Committees, pending grievances on National Helpline against Atrocities and Action plan to do away with shortcomings in implementation of the PCR and PoA Acts etc. was reviewed. The Committee reaffirmed the resolution of the Government to provide dignity to all the vulnerable sections of the society.

For details: *https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2130851*

❖ *Business & Economy*

- **India Becomes World's 4th Largest Economy, Surpasses Japan: NITI Aayog (May 25, 2025)**

India has surpassed Japan to become the world's fourth-largest economy. NITI Aayog CEO B.V.R. Subrahmanyam said, India is now poised to displace Germany from the third rank in the next 2.5 to 3 years. Yesterday, briefing the media after tenth Governing Council Meeting of NITI Aayog in New Delhi, he said India is now a 'four trillion dollar' economy as per the IMF data. He said, it's only the United States, China, and Germany's economies which are larger than India.

The IMF in its recent report has said that India will remain the world's fastest-growing major economy. The IMF had stated earlier this month in the World Economic Outlook report that India continues to remain the world's fastest-growing major economy and the only country expected to clock over 6 per cent growth in the next two years. According to the IMF, India's GDP currently stands at 4.3 trillion dollar. India's GDP was 2.1 trillion dollar in 2015, since then, the country has more than doubled its economy. According to the report, the high rate of growth will see India's GDP increasing to 5.5 trillion dollar in 2028 overtaking Germany to become the third-largest economy.

For details: https://www.newsonair.gov.in/india-becomes-worlds-4th-largest-economy-surpasses-japan-niti-aayog/

- **FPI ₹13,835 crore in Indian equities in May, exit debt markets (May 26, 2025)**

Foreign investors have pumped in nearly 14,000 crore rupees into the Indian equities market so far in May. According to the depositories' data, the Foreign Portfolio investors, or FPIs, invested 13,835 crore rupees into the equities market but pulled out 7,743 crore rupees from the debt markets so far in May.
The positive sentiment towards equities comes after a net investment of 4,223 in April after three months of continuous outflows. Earlier, they had pulled out 3,973 crore rupees in March, 34,574 crore in February, and 78,027 crore rupees in January.

For details: *https://www.newsonair.gov.in/fpi-%e2%82%b913835-crore-in-indian-equities-in-may-exit-debt-markets/*

❖ ***Pronouncement***

21st May, 2025	**Abbas Khan (through legal heir Mr. Iqbal Khan) vs. NFAC/ITO Ward 41(1)(1), Mumbai,**	**ITAT Mumbai**

Reopening of assessment in the name of a deceased person and addition under Section 68/69A of the Income Tax Act, 1961.

Fact of the Case: Assessee was an individual engaged in the business of trading in iron scrap. For the relevant assessment year, the assessee had filed his return of income on 06.02.2014 declaring a total income of Rs.2,32,120/-. The case was reopened under Section 147 of the Act on account of a reported mismatch in TDS amounting to Rs.39,571/- under Section 194C (TDS on contractual receipts) for the AY 2012–13. Subsequently, a notice under Section 148 of the Act dated 28.03.2019 was issued in the name of the deceased assessee. Pursuant thereto, notices under Section 142(1) dated 22.07.2019 and 07.11.2019 were issued, followed by final show cause notices dated 12.11.2019 and 22.11.2019, requiring an explanation as to why a sum of Rs.42,22,616/- should not be added to the income of the assessee. However, since the assessee had passed away on 09.12.2017, and his legal heir was unaware of the said proceedings, no response was filed on the assessee's income tax portal. Without conducting a proper enquiry, and solely relying on the information available, the Ld. AO treated the amount of Rs.42,22,616/- as unexplained income under Section 69A of the Act and added it to the total income of the assessee.

Being aggrieved, the legal heir of the deceased assessee preferred an appeal before the Ld. CIT(A), challenging the assessment order dated 30.11.2019 passed under Section 144 read with Section 147 of the Act. However, owing to the legal heir's unfamiliarity with the process of filing submissions on the portal of his deceased father, no effective submission could be made. Consequently, the Ld. CIT(A) dismissed the appeal ex parte by order dated 12.11.2024. Aggrieved by the said order of the Ld. CIT(A), the legal heir has now preferred the present appeal before ITAT.

ITAT Observation and Decision: The notice under Section 148 was issued in the name of a dead person. Such notice is null and void ab initio, as a non-existent person cannot be the subject of a legal proceeding. The assessment framed on such a void notice lacks legal authority and must be quashed. The addition of ₹42,22,616 under Section 69A is automatically rendered invalid.

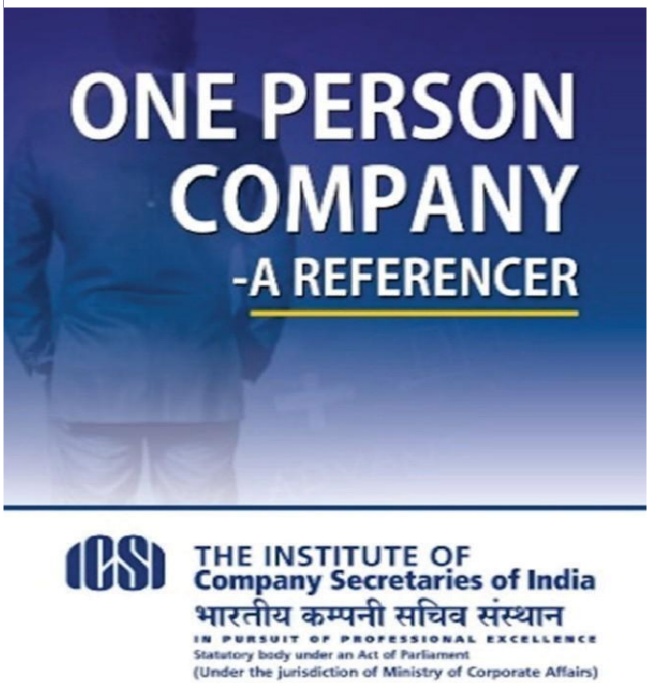
For Details: *https://itat.gov.in/public/files/upload/1747809097-Ag7YBB-1-TO.pdf*

Market Watch

Stock Market Indices as on 26.05.2025	
S & P BSE Sensex	82176.45(+0.56%)
Nifty 50	25001.15(+0.60%)

Foreign Exchange Rates as on 26.05.2025 *(https://m.rbi.org.in//scripts/ReferenceRateArchive.aspx)*			
INR / 1 USD	**INR / 1 EUR**	**INR / 1 GBP**	**INR/ 1 JPY**
84.90	96.90	115.36	.59

ONE PERSON COMPANY - A REFERENCER



About the Book

The Objective of this referencer is to discuss on the nitty-gritty of the concept of a 'One Person Company' which is the development of the Companies Act, 2013. Various facets have been discussed with regard to the incorporation, operation, management, privileges and exemptions etc.

Year of Publication: 2023

Price: Rs 400/-

Weblink for Purchase:
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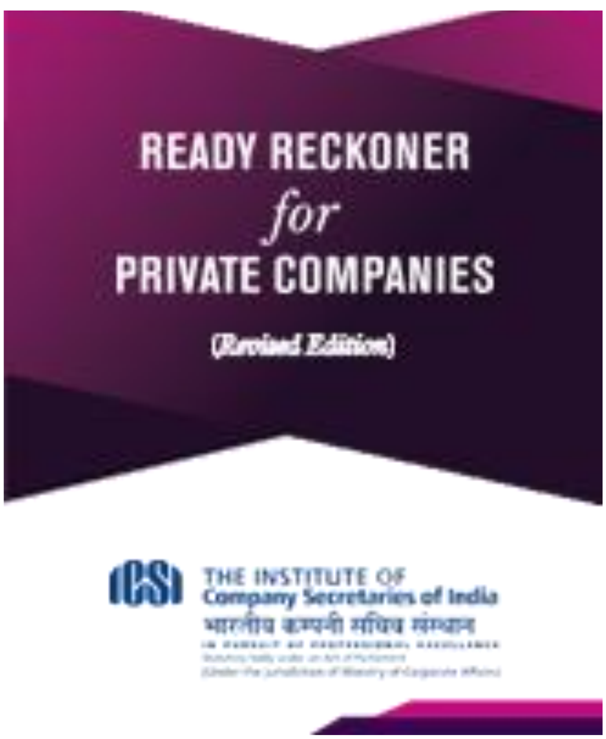
READY RECKONER FOR PRIVATE COMPANIES



About the Book

The distinguishment between companies into Public and Private companies has less to do with the distinction at a foundational level and more to do with survival and growth. The Private companies, given their size and structures and with that their contribution in the overall economic set-up have found a soft spot in the books of lawmakers who have provided numerous relaxations and exemptions to this segment. Yet, it goes without saying, the onus of governance is as much theirs as is of the public entities. The initiation of the project of drafting a Handbook of sorts for the Private companies was an attempt of the Institute of Company Secretaries of India to create a one-stop destination for all company law legislations applicable to Private companies. What came out after all the efforts was not only a collated set of checklists to be ticked while pursuing compliance but a procedural ready reckoner for both companies and professionals to refer to all throughout the life span of a private company and utilize the knowledge stored as and when needed

Year of Publication: 2023
Price: Rs 350/-

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