Info Capsule

Tuesday, July 29, 2025

President

CS Dhananjay Shukla

Vice President

CS Pawan G Chandak

APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR 25TH ICSI NATIONAL AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

LAST DATE FOR SUBMISSION 14TH AUGUST, 2025.

NO PARTICIPATION FEES!

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

❖ *Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises*

Export Competitiveness of MSMEs (July 28, 2025)

The Trade Enablement and marketing Initiative (TEAM) Scheme supports onboarding Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) onto the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) network. The initiative aims to empower 5 lakh MSEs with a special focus on ensuring at least 50% of the beneficiaries are women-owned enterprises. The TEAM scheme provides assistance in digital catalogue creation; account management etc. and also facilitates linkages with Seller Network Participants (SNPs) to promote market access and help MSEs thrive in digital economy.

For Details:
https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2149385

❖ *Ministry of Finance*

New Digital Credit Assessment Model for MSMEs leverages real-time digital data to fast-track loan approvals for MSMEs (July 28, 2025)

The New Digital Credit Assessment Model for MSMEs was announced in the Union Budget 2024-25. The model envisioned that the Public sector banks (PSBs) will build their in-house capability to assess MSMEs for credit, instead of relying on external assessment. PSBs would develop a new credit assessment model, based on the scoring of digital footprints of MSMEs in the economy. Subsequently, Union Finance Minister had launched the New Credit Assessment Model for MSMEs on 6th March, 2025. The model leverages the digitally fetched and verifiable data and devises automated journeys for MSME Loan appraisal using objective decisioning for all loan applications and model-based limit assessment for both Existing to Bank (ETB) as well as New to Bank (NTB) MSME borrowers.

For Details:
https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2149474

❖ *Competition Commission of India*

CCI approves the proposed combination involving inter alia Anantam Highways Trust ("InvIT"), Alpha Alternatives Fund Advisors LLP ("Alpha Alternatives") & others (Sponsor and Sponsor Group) and Dilip Buildcon ("DBL") & DBL Infraventures ("DIPL")(July 28, 2025)

The "Proposed Combination" envisages acquisition by the InvIT (acting through its IM), from the respective shareholders of the Target SPVs, of: (i) 100% shareholding of Dodaballapur Hoskote Highways Limited, Repallewada Highways Limited, Dhrol Bhadra Highways Limited, Narenpur Purnea Highways Limited, Villuppuram Highways Limited, Bangalore Malur Highways Limited, Malur Bangarpet Highways Limited and DPJ Pollachi HAM Project Private Limited; and (ii) 49% of PHL. As consideration, the shareholders of the Target SPVs (i.e., the Sponsor and Sponsor Group, DBL, and DIPL will be allotted units in the InvIT upon its listing.)

For Details:
https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleseDetail.aspx?PRID=2149474

❖ *ESG Update*

Bharat Forge Limited

- In the S&P Global Corporate Sustainability Assessment, the company maintained its score of 46 in 2024, building on significant gains made since 2021 through the formalization of key policies, risk management upgrades, and enhanced supply chain oversight.
- The company's Sustainalytics ESG Risk Rating improved to 20.2 in 2024, down from 29.4 in 2021, driven by ongoing initiatives in environmental compliance, human capital development, and third-party assured sustainability reporting.
- Improving the resource efficiency by focusing on reduce, recycle and reuse principle. Increased the use of secondary raw material in the process.
- Monitoring and controlling water consumption through the existing water management system. This helps in reducing the freshwater consumption, increasing the use of recycled water.
- Reducing waste generation, disposing them off effectively and moving towards the aim of achieving Zero Waste to Landfill.
- Supplier Sustainability audit conducted, Supplier Sustainability Index (SSI) deployed to evaluate the supplier sustainability performance and site assessments of hazardous waste recyclers were carried out.
- Undertaking holistic development in 100 villages covering areas of water availability, livelihood opportunities, enhancing healthcare, promoting education and creating infrastructure. Six of these villages have been assessed and certified as 'Green Villages' by an external agency.

For Details: *https://www.bseindia.com/stock-share-price/bharat-forge-ltd/bharatforg/500493/financials-annual-reports/*

❖ *Business & Economy*

- **Digital payments rise 10.7 pc at end-March 2025: RBI data (July 28, 2025)**

Digital payments across the country registered a 10.7 per cent year-on-year rise as on March 2025, according to the RBI's index that measures the adoption of online transactions. The index for March 2025 stands at 493.22 as against 465.33 for September 2024 and 445.5 for March 2024, the RBI said in a statement. The increase in RBI-DPI index was driven by significant growth in parameters viz. Payment Infrastructure - Supply-side factors and Payment Performance across the country over the period," according to the semi-annual data. The RBI-DPI comprises five broad parameters that enable measurement of deepening and penetration of digital payments in the country over different time periods. These parameters are Payment Enablers (weight 25 per cent), Payment Infrastructure - Demand-side factors (10 per cent), Payment Infrastructure - Supply-side factors (15 per cent), Payment Performance (45 per cent) and Consumer Centricity (5 per cent).

For Details: *https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/finance/digital-payments-rise-10-7-pc-at-end-march-2025-rbi-data/articleshow/122956186.cms*

- **DPIIT signs pact with Ather Energy to strengthen EV manufacturing (July 29, 2025)**

The DPIIT has partnered with Ather Energy to foster growth opportunities for startups in the electric vehicle and manufacturing sectors. This collaboration aims to offer strategic mentorship and infrastructure support, particularly within the EV value chain. The initiative seeks to create an environment where startups can significantly contribute to EV manufacturing advancements and clean energy solutions. The MoU will focus on providing strategic mentorship for deep-tech startups, infrastructure support for startups in the EV value chain.

For Details: *https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/renewables/dpiit-signs-pact-with-ather energy-to-strengthen-ev-manufacturing/articleshow/122967195.cms*

❖ *Pronouncement*

July 25, 2025	**Sukdeb Saha{Appellant(s)}** **Versus** **The State of Andhra Pradesh & Ors{Respondent(s)}**	**Supreme Court of India** **Criminal Appeal No(s) of 2025 (Arising out of SLP (Crl.) No (s). 6378 of 2024)**

Mental health is an integral component of the right to life under Article 21 of the Constitution of India

Judgement

In the above case, Hon'ble Apex Court has Prescribed Guidelines ensuring psychological wellbeing of Students and ruled that that Mental health is an integral component of the right to life under Article 21 of the Constitution of India. Supreme Court has, in a consistent line of precedents, affirmed that the right to life does not mean mere animal existence, but a life of dignity, autonomy, and well-being. Mental health is central to this vision. In *Shatrughan Chauhan v. Union of India (2014) 3 SCC 1 and Navtej Singh Johar v. Union of India (2018) 10 SCC 1,* Supreme Court recognised mental integrity, psychological autonomy, and freedom from degrading treatment as essential facets of human dignity under Article 21 of the Constitution of India. Further, the Mental Healthcare Act, 2017, a rights-based legislation, reinforces this constitutional mandate by recognising every person's right to access mental healthcare and protection from inhuman or degrading treatment in mental health settings. Section 18 of the MH Act guarantees mental health services to all, and Section 115 of the MH Act explicitly decriminalises attempted suicide, acknowledging the need for care and support rather than punishment. These provisions read with judicial precedents reflect a broader constitutional vision that mandates a responsive legal framework to prevent self-harm and promote well-being, particularly among vulnerable populations such as students and youth.

The Guidelines *inter alia* prescribed as under:

I. All educational institutions shall adopt and implement a uniform mental health policy, drawing cues from the UMMEED Draft Guidelines, the MANODARPAN initiative, and the National Suicide Prevention Strategy. This policy shall be reviewed and updated annually and made publicly accessible on institutional websites and notice boards of the institutes.

II. All educational institutions with 100 or more enrolled students shall appoint/engage at least one qualified counsellor, psychologist, or social worker with demonstrable training in child and adolescent mental health. Institutions with fewer students shall establish formal referral linkages with external mental health professionals.

III. All educational institutions shall ensure optimal student-to-counsellor ratios. Dedicated mentors or counsellors shall be assigned to smaller batches of students, especially during examination periods and academic transitions, to provide consistent, informal, and confidential support.

IV. All educational institutions, more particularly the coaching institutes/centres, shall, as far as possible, refrain from engaging in batch segregation based on academic performance, public shaming, or assignment of academic targets disproportionate to students' capacities.

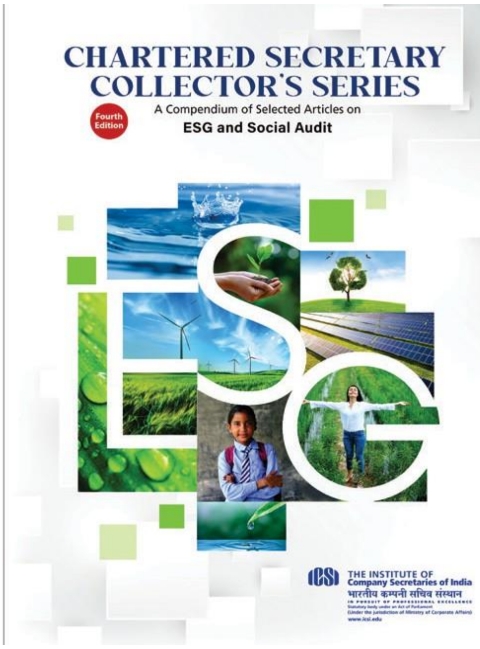
Xx xx xx xx

Xx xx xx xx

Supreme Court has directed that all States and Union Territories shall, as far as practicable, notify rules within two months from the date of this judgment mandating registration, student protection norms, and grievance redressal mechanisms for all private coaching centres. These rules shall require compliance with the mental health safeguards prescribed herein.

For details: *https://www.sci.gov.in/view-pdf/?diary_no=173812023&type=j&order_date=2025-03-17&from=latest_judgements_order*

Chartered Secretary COLLECTOR SERIES - ESG and Social Audit



About the Book

The Chartered Secretary Collector's Series (Fourth Edition) - A Compendium of Selected Articles on ESG and Social Audit, is an attempt of the Institute towards collating the pearls of wisdom spread over the various editions and volumes of the Chartered Secretary Journal across years and bringing them within the bindings of a single publication.

Year of Publication: 2024

Price: Rs. 700/-

Weblink for Purchase:
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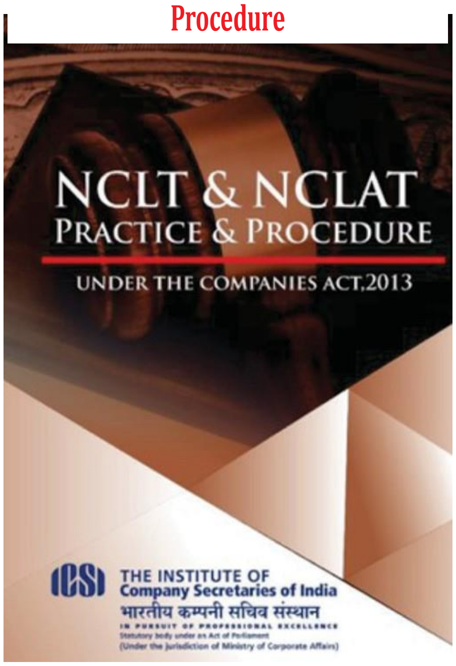
NCLT & NCLAT - Practice & Procedure



About the Book

The publication intends to provide a comprehensive insight into the functioning, significance, and evolving jurisprudence of the NCLT & NCLAT under the Companies Act, 2013 specifically garnering the role of Company Secretaries. The publication shall serve as a valuable companion in the exploration of the NCLT and NCLAT, enriching the understanding of Tribunal's role, procedures, and powers and as one stop solution for the hassles in NCLT practice for our practicing professionals. The publication intends to provide a comprehensive insight into the functioning, significance, and evolving jurisprudence of the NCLT & NCLAT under the Companies Act, 2013 specifically garnering the role of Company Secretaries. The publication shall serve as a valuable companion in the exploration of the NCLT and NCLAT, enriching the understanding of Tribunal's role, procedures, and powers and as one stop solution for the hassles in NCLT practice for our practicing professionals.

Year of Publication: 2024

Price: Rs 500/-

Weblink for Purchase:
https://smash.icsi.edu/Scripts/ECart/Default/ItemWiseECartSearchOnlineBooks.aspx?ItemId=329

❖ *Market Watch*

Stock Market Indices as on 29.07.2025	
S & P BSE Sensex	81337.95(0.55%)
Nifty 50	24821.75 (0.57%)

Foreign Exchange Rates as on 29.07.2025
(https://m.rbi.org.in//scripts/ReferenceRateArchive.aspx)

INR / 1 USD	INR / 1 EUR	INR / 1 GBP	INR/ 1 JPY
86.84	100.36	115.78	.58

Prepared by Directorate of Academics

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