

PAPER 4: CORPORATE AND ECONOMIC LAWS

PART – I: RELEVANT AMENDMENTS APPLICABLE FOR MAY, 2019 EXAMINATION

Applicability of Relevant Amendments/ Circulars/ Notifications/Regulations etc.

For May 2019 examinations for Paper 4: Corporate and Economic Laws, the significant amendments made in the respective subject for the period 1st May 2017 to 31st October, 2018 are relevant and applicable for said examinations.

This RTP of May 2019 examination will help the students to know of the significant changes, that are relevant and applicable for May 2019 examination.

Relevant amendments: Here are the given relevant amendments arranged chapter wise.

PART I: CORPORATE LAWS

SECTION A: COMPANY LAW

CHAPTER 1: APPOINTMENT AND QUALIFICATION OF DIRECTORS

1. Exemptions to Government Companies Vide Notification G.S.R. 582(E) Dated 13th June, 2017

The Central Government amends the Notification G.S.R. 463(E), dated 5th June 2015. Following are the amendments:

According to the amendment, section 152(6) & (7) shall not apply to –

(a) a Government company, which is not a listed company, in which not less than fifty-one per cent. of paid up share capital is held by the Central Government, or by any State Government or Governments or by the Central Government and one or more State Governments;

(b) a subsidiary of a Government company, referred to in (a) above.

2. Insertion of Paragraph 2A in the principal notification G.S.R. 463(E), dated 5th June 2015 vide Notification G.S.R. 582(E) Dated 13th June, 2017

In the principal notification, after paragraph 2, the following paragraph shall be inserted, namely:-

“2A. The exceptions, modifications and adaptations provided in column (3) of the aforesaid Table shall be applicable to a Government company which has not committed a default in filing its financial statements under section 137 of the said Act or annual return under section 92 of the said Act with the Registrar.”

3. Exemptions to Companies covered section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013 vide Notification G.S.R. 584(E) Dated 13th June, 2017

The Central Government amends the Notification G.S.R. 466(E), dated 5th June 2015. Following are the amendments:

Section 149(1)(b) & first proviso shall not apply on section 8 companies.

Insertion of Paragraph 2A in the principal notification G.S.R. 466 (E), dated 5th June 2015
Vide Notification G.S.R. 584(E) Dated 13th June, 2017

In the principal notification, after paragraph 2, the following paragraph shall be inserted, namely:- “2A. The exceptions, modifications and adaptations provided in column (3) of the aforesaid Table shall be applicable to a company covered under section 8 of the said Act which has not committed a default in filing its financial statements under section 137 or annual return under section 92 of the said Act with the Registrar.

4. Enforcement of the Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Amendment Rules, 2017 Vide Notification G.S.R. 839(E) dated 5th July 2017

The Central Government hereby makes the following rules further to amend the *Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Rules, 2014*.

In the *Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Rules, 2014*, rule 4 shall be numbered as sub-rule (1) and after sub-rule (1) as so renumbered, the following sub-rule shall be inserted namely :-

“(2) The following classes of unlisted public company shall not be covered under sub-rule (1), namely:-

- (a) a joint venture;
- (b) a wholly owned subsidiary; and
- (c) a dormant company as defined under section 455 of the Act.”

5. Exemptions given to certain unlisted public companies under the Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Rules, 2014 from appointment of Independent Directors Vide notification of circular 09/2017 dated 5th September 2017

Vide Notification number G.S.R. 839(E) dated 5th July, 2017 an amendment was issued through the *Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Amendment Rules, 2017* inter-alia amending rule 4 of the *Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Rules, 2014*.

The said amended Rule 4 provides that an unlisted public company which is a joint venture, a wholly owned subsidiary or a dormant company will not be required to appoint Independent Directors.

Through the issue of this circular, it is hereby clarified that a “joint venture”, would mean a joint arrangement, entered into in writing, whereby the parties that have joint control of the arrangement, have rights to the net assets of the arrangement. The usage of the term is similar to that under the Accounting Standards.

6. Enforcement of the Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Amendment Rules, 2018 Vide Notification G.S.R.51(E) dated 22nd January, 2018

The Central Government hereby makes the following rules further to amend the *Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Rules, 2014*

In the *Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Rules, 2014*, in rule 9,

(A) for the marginal heading, the following marginal heading shall be substituted, namely:-

“Application for allotment of Director Identification Number before appointment in an existing company”;

(B) for sub-rule (1), the following shall be substituted, namely:-

“(1) Every applicant, who intends to be appointed as director of an existing company shall make an application electronically in Form DIR-3, to the Central Government for allotment of a Director Identification Number (DIN) along with such fees as provided under the *Companies (Registration Offices and Fees) Rules, 2014*.

Provided that in case of proposed directors not having approved DIN, the particulars of maximum three directors shall be mentioned in Form No.INC-32 (SPICe) and DIN may be allotted to maximum three proposed directors through Form INC-32 (SPICe);

(C) in sub-rule (3),

(I) In sub-clause (a), after sub-clause (iii), the following sub-clause shall be inserted, namely:-

“(iiiia) board resolution proposing his appointment as director in an existing company”;

(II) for clause (b), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:-

“(b) Form DIR-3 shall be signed and submitted electronically by the applicant using his or her own Digital Signature Certificate and shall be verified digitally by a company secretary in full time employment of the company or by the managing director or director or CEO or CFO of the company in which the applicant is intended to be appointed as director in an existing company,”

7. *Companies (Removal of Difficulties) Order, 2018 S.O. 768(E) dated 21st February, 2018*

In the *Companies Act, 2013*, in section 169, in sub-section (1), –

(i) before the proviso, the following proviso shall be inserted, namely :-

“Provided that an independent director re-appointed for second term under sub-section (10) of section 149 shall be removed by the company only by passing a special resolution and after giving him a reasonable opportunity of being heard.”;

(ii) in the existing proviso, for the words “Provided that”, the words “Provided further that” shall be substituted.

8. Enforcement of the *Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Second Amendment Rules, 2018* vide Notification G.S.R. 431(E) dated 7th May 2018

The Central Government makes the *Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Second Amendment Rules, 2018* to amend the *Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Rules, 2014*.

In the *Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Rules, 2014*,

(a) rule 5 shall be numbered as sub-rule (1) thereof, and after sub-rule (1) as so numbered, the following sub-rule shall be inserted, namely:-

“(2) None of the relatives of an independent director, for the purposes of sub-clauses (ii) and (iii) of clause (d) of sub-section (6) of section 149,-

(i) is indebted to the company, its holding, subsidiary or associate company or their promoters, or directors; or

(ii) has given a guarantee or provided any security in connection with the indebtedness of any third person to the company, its holding, subsidiary or associate company or their promoters, or directors of such holding company,

for an amount of fifty lakhs rupees, at any time during the two immediately preceding financial years or during the current financial year.”

(b) In the principal rules, in rule 16, for the word “shall”, the word “may” shall be substituted.

9. Enforcement of the *Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Third Amendment Rules, 2018* vide Notification G.S.R. 558 (E) dated 12th June 2018

The Central Government makes the *Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Third Amendment Rules, 2018* to amend the *Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Rules, 2014*.

In the *Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Rules, 2014*, in the annexure for form DIR-3, a new form shall be substituted.

10. Enforcement of the *Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) fourth Amendment Rules, 2018* vide Notification G.S.R. 615(E) w.e.f. 10th July, 2018

The Central Government makes the *Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Fourth Amendment Rules, 2018* to amend the *Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Rules, 2014*.

In *Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Rules, 2014*,

(i) The rule 11 shall be renumbered as sub-rule (1) thereof and after sub-rule (1) as so renumbered, the following sub-rules shall be inserted, namely:-

“(2) The Central Government or Regional Director (Northern Region), or any officer authorised by the Central Government or Regional Director (Northern Region)

shall, deactivate the Director Identification Number (DIN), of an individual who does not intimate his particulars in e-form DIR-3-KYC within stipulated time in accordance with Rule 12A.

(3) The de-activated DIN shall be re-activated only after e-form DIR-3-KYC is filed along with fee as prescribed under Companies (Registration Offices and Fees) Rules, 2014.

(ii) after rule 12, the following shall be inserted, namely:-

“12A Directors KYC:- Every individual who has been allotted a Director Identification Number (DIN) as on 31st March of a financial year as per these rules shall, submit e-form DIR-3-KYC to the Central Government on or before 30th April of immediate next financial year.

Provided that every individual who has already been allotted a Director Identification Number (DIN) as at 31st March, 2018, shall submit e-form DIR-3 KYC on or before 31st August, 2018.”;

(iii) In the Annexure after Form DIR-3 the Form DIR-3-KYC shall be inserted.

11. Enforcement of the *Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Fifth Amendment Rules, 2018* vide Notification G.S.R. 798 (E) dated 21st August 2018

The Central Government makes the *Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Fifth Amendment Rules, 2018* to amend the *Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Rules, 2014*.

In the *Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Rules, 2014*,

(i) in the proviso to rule 12A, for the words and numbers “DIR-3 KYC on or before 31st August, 2018, the words and numbers “DIR-3 KYC on or before 15th September, 2018” shall be substituted.

(ii) in the Annexure, for Form No.DIR-3 KYC, a new Form shall be substituted.

12. Enforcement of the *Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Sixth Amendment Rules, 2018* vide Notification G.S.R. 904(E) dated 20th September 2018

The Central Government makes the *Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Sixth Amendment Rules, 2018* to amend the *Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Rules, 2014*.

In the *Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Rules, 2014*, in the proviso to rule 12A, for the words and figures “before 15th September, 2018,” the words and figures “before 5th October, 2018 ” shall be substituted.

13. Amendments through the Companies (Amendment) Act, 2017

Relevant sections	Amendment
Amendment of section 149	<p>In section 149 of the principal Act,—</p> <p>(i) for sub-section (3), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:— "(3) Every company shall have at least one director who stays in India for a total period of not less than one hundred and eighty-two days during the financial year: Provided that in case of a newly incorporated company the requirement under this sub-section shall apply proportionately at the end of the financial year in which it is incorporated.";</p> <p>(ii) in sub-section (6),—</p> <p>(a) in clause (c), for the words "pecuniary relationship", the words "pecuniary relationship, other than remuneration as such director or having transaction not exceeding ten per cent. of his total income or such amount as may be prescribed," shall be substituted;</p> <p>(b) for clause (d), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:— "(d) none of whose relatives—</p> <p>(i) is holding any security of or interest in the company, its holding, subsidiary or associate company during the two immediately preceding financial years or during the current financial year: Provided that the relative may hold security or interest in the company of face value not exceeding fifty lakh rupees or two per cent. of the paid-up capital of the company, its holding, subsidiary or associate company or such higher sum as may be prescribed;</p> <p>(ii) is indebted to the company, its holding, subsidiary or associate company or their promoters, or directors, in excess of such amount as may be prescribed during the two immediately preceding financial years or during the current financial year;</p> <p>(iii) has given a guarantee or provided any security in connection with the indebtedness of any third</p>

	<p>person to the company, its holding, subsidiary or associate company or their promoters, or directors of such holding company, for such amount as may be prescribed during the two immediately preceding financial years or during the current financial year; or</p> <p>(iv) has any other pecuniary transaction or relationship with the company, or its subsidiary, or its holding or associate company amounting to two per cent. or more of its gross turnover or total income singly or in combination with the transactions referred to in sub-clause (i), (ii) or (iii);";</p> <p>(c) in clause (e), in sub-clause (i), the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:— "Provided that in case of a relative who is an employee, the restriction under this clause shall not apply for his employment during preceding three financial years."</p>
Amendment of section 152	<p>In section 152 of the principal Act,—</p> <p>(a) in sub-section (3), after the word and figures "section 154", the words and figures "or any other number as may be prescribed under section 153" shall be inserted;</p> <p>(b) in sub-section (4), after the word "Number", the words and figures "or such other number as may be prescribed under section 153" shall be inserted.</p>
Amendment of section 153	<p>In section 153 of the principal Act, the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:— "Provided that the Central Government may prescribe any identification number which shall be treated as Director Identification Number for the purposes of this Act and in case any individual holds or acquires such identification number, the requirement of this section shall not apply or apply in such manner as may be prescribed."</p>
Amendment of Section 157	<p>In section 157 of the principal Act,—</p> <p>(i) in sub-section (1), the words and figures, "within the time specified under section 403" shall be omitted;</p> <p>(ii) in sub-section (2), the words and figures, "before the expiry of the period specified under section 403 with additional fee", shall be omitted.</p>

Amendment of section 160.	<p>In section 160 of the principal Act, in sub-section (1), the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:—</p> <p>“Provided that requirements of deposit of amount shall not apply in case of appointment of an independent director or a director recommended by the Nomination and Remuneration Committee, if any, constituted under sub-section (1) of section 178 or a director recommended by the Board of Directors of the Company, in the case of a company not required to constitute Nomination and Remuneration Committee.”</p>
Amendment of section 161.	<p>In section 161 of the principal Act,—</p> <p>(i) in sub-section (2), after the words "alternate directorship for any other director in the company", the words "or holding directorship in the same company" shall be inserted;</p> <p>(ii) in sub-section (4),—</p> <p>(a) the words "In the case of a public company," shall be omitted;</p> <p>(b) after the words "meeting of the Board", the words "which shall be subsequently approved by members in the immediate next general meeting" shall be inserted.</p>
Amendment of section 164	<p>In section 164 of the principal Act,—</p> <p>(i) in sub-section (2), the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:—</p> <p>"Provided that where a person is appointed as a director of a company which is in default of clause (a) or clause (b), he shall not incur the disqualification for a period of six months from the date of his appointment.";</p> <p>(ii) in sub-section (3), for the proviso, the following proviso shall be substituted, namely:—</p> <p>"Provided that the disqualifications referred to in clauses (d), (e) and (g) of sub-section (1) shall continue to apply even if the appeal or petition has been filed against the order of conviction or disqualification."</p>
Amendment of section 165.	<p>In section 165 of the principal Act, in sub-section (1), the Explanation shall be renumbered as Explanation I and after Explanation I as so numbered, the following Explanation shall be inserted, namely:—</p> <p>"Explanation II.—For reckoning the limit of directorships of twenty companies, the directorship in a dormant company shall</p>

	not be included."
Amendment of section 167.	In section 167 of the principal Act, in sub-section (1),— (i) in clause (a), the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:— "Provided that where he incurs disqualification under sub-section (2) of section 164, the office of the director shall become vacant in all the companies, other than the company which is in default under that sub-section."; (ii) in clause (f), for the proviso the following proviso shall be substituted, namely,— "Provided that the office shall not be vacated by the director in case of orders referred to in clauses (e) and (f)— (i) for thirty days from the date of conviction or order of disqualification; (ii) where an appeal or petition is preferred within thirty days as aforesaid against the conviction resulting in sentence or order, until expiry of seven days from the date on which such appeal or petition is disposed of; or (iii) where any further appeal or petition is preferred against order or sentence within seven days, until such further appeal or petition is disposed of."
Amendment of Section 168	In section 168 of the principal Act, in sub-section (1), in the proviso, for the words, "director shall also forward", the words "director may also forward" shall be substituted.

CHAPTER 2: APPOINTMENT AND REMUNERATION OF MANAGERIAL PERSONNEL

1. Enforcement of the *Companies (Appointment and Remuneration of Managerial Personnel) Amendment Rules, 2018* vide Notification G.S.R. G.S.R 875(E) dated 12th September 2018

The Central Government makes the *Companies (Appointment and Remuneration of Managerial Personnel) Amendment Rules, 2018* to amend the *Companies (Appointment and Remuneration of Managerial Personnel) Rules, 2014*.

In *Companies (Appointment and Remuneration of Managerial Personnel) Rules, 2014*,

- (i) in rule 6,
 - (a) for the heading 'application to the Central Government' the heading 'Parameters for consideration of remuneration' shall be substituted.
 - (b) the words 'Central Government' shall be omitted.

- (ii) in rule 7, sub-rule (2) shall be omitted
 (iii) for form no.MR-2, a new form MR-2 shall be substituted.

2. Amendment in Schedule V to the Companies Act, 2013

The Central Government vide Notification No. S.O. 4822(E) dated 12th September 2018 has amended the Schedule V to the Companies Act, 2013.

3. Amendments through the Companies (Amendment) Act, 2017

Relevant Sections	Amendment
Amendment in Section 2(51)	<p>in clause (51),—</p> <p>(a) in sub-clause (iv), the word "and" shall be omitted;</p> <p>(b) for sub-clause (v), the following sub-clauses shall be substituted, namely:—</p> <p>"(v) such other officer, not more than one level below the directors who is in whole-time employment, designated as key managerial personnel by the Board; and</p> <p>(vi) such other officer as may be prescribed;"</p>
Amendment of section 196	<p>In section 196 of the principal Act,—</p> <p>(a) in sub-section (3), in clause (a), after the proviso, the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:—</p> <p>"Provided further that where no such special resolution is passed but votes cast in favour of the motion exceed the votes, if any, cast against the motion and the Central Government is satisfied, on an application made by the Board, that such appointment is most beneficial to the company, the appointment of the person who has attained the age of seventy years may be made.";</p> <p>(b) in sub-section (4), for the words "specified in that Schedule", the words "specified in Part I of that Schedule" shall be substituted.</p>
Amendment of Section 197	<p>In section 197 of the principal Act,—</p> <p>(a) in sub-section (1),—</p> <p>(i) in the first proviso, the words "with the approval of the Central Government," shall be omitted;</p> <p>(ii) in the second proviso, after the words "general meeting," the words "by a special resolution," shall be inserted;</p>

	<p>(iii) after the second proviso, the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:—</p> <p>"Provided also that, where the company has defaulted in payment of dues to any bank or public financial institution or non-convertible debenture holders or any other secured creditor, the prior approval of the bank or public financial institution concerned or the non-convertible debenture holders or other secured creditor, as the case may be, shall be obtained by the company before obtaining the approval in the general meeting.";</p> <p>(b) in sub-section (3), the words "and if it is not able to comply with such provisions, with the previous approval of the Central Government" shall be omitted;</p> <p>(c) for sub-section (9), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—</p> <p>"(9) If any director draws or receives, directly or indirectly, by way of remuneration any such sums in excess of the limit prescribed by this section or without approval required under this section, he shall refund such sums to the company, within two years or such lesser period as may be allowed by the company, and until such sum is refunded, hold it in trust for the company.";</p> <p>(d) in sub-section (10),—</p> <p>(i) for the words "permitted by the Central Government", the words "approved by the company by special resolution within two years from the date the sum becomes refundable" shall be substituted;</p> <p>(ii) the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:—</p> <p>"Provided that where the company has defaulted in payment of dues to any bank or public financial institution or non-convertible debenture holders or any other secured creditor, the prior approval of the bank or public financial institution concerned or the non-convertible debenture holders or other secured creditor, as the case may be, shall be obtained by the company before obtaining approval of such waiver.";</p>
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	<p>(e) in sub-section (11), the words "and if such conditions are not being complied, the approval of the Central Government had been obtained" shall be omitted;</p> <p>(f) after sub-section (15), the following sub-sections shall be inserted, namely:—</p> <p>"(16) The auditor of the company shall, in his report under section 143, make a statement as to whether the remuneration paid by the company to its directors is in accordance with the provisions of this section, whether remuneration paid to any director is in excess of the limit laid down under this section and give such other details as may be prescribed.</p> <p>(17) On and from the commencement of the Companies (Amendment) Act, 2017, any application made to the Central Government under the provisions of this section [as it stood before such commencement], which is pending with that Government shall abate, and the company shall, within one year of such commencement, obtain the approval in accordance with the provisions of this section, as so amended."</p>
Amendment of Section 198	<p>In section 198 of the principal Act,—</p> <p>(i) in sub-section (3),—</p> <p>(a) in clause (a), after the words "sold by the company", the words, letter, brackets and figures "unless the company is an investment company as referred to in clause (a) of the Explanation to section 186" shall be inserted;</p> <p>(b) after clause (e), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—</p> <p>"(f) any amount representing unrealised gains, notional gains or revaluation of assets.";</p> <p>(ii) in sub-section (4), in clause (l), the words "which begins at or after the commencement of this Act" shall be omitted.</p>
Amendment of section 200.	In section 200 of the principal Act, the words "the Central Government or" appearing at both the places shall be omitted.
Amendment of section 201.	In section 201 of the principal Act,—

	<p>(a) in sub-section (1), for the words "this Chapter", the word and figures "section 196" shall be substituted;</p> <p>(b) in sub-section (2), in clause (a), for the words "any of the sections aforesaid", the word and figures "section 196" shall be substituted.</p>
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CHAPTER 3: MEETING OF BOARD AND ITS POWERS

1. Exemptions to Private Companies Vide Notification G.S.R. 583(E) Dated 13th June, 2017

The Central Government amends the Notification G.S.R. 464(E), dated 5th June 2015. Following are the amendments:

(i) With respect to Section 173(5), the following sub-section shall be substituted:

(5) A One Person Company, small company, dormant company and a private company (if such private company is a start-up) shall be deemed to have complied with the provisions of this section if at least one meeting of the Board of Directors has been conducted in each half of a calendar year and the gap between the two meetings is not less than ninety days:

Provided that nothing contained in this subsection and in section 174 shall apply to One person Company in which there is only one director on its Board of Directors.

(ii) With respect to section 174(3)-

It shall apply with the exception that the interested director may also be counted towards quorum in such meeting after disclosure of his interest pursuant to section 184.

2. Insertion of Paragraph 2A in the principal notification G.S.R. 464(E), dated 5th June 2015 Vide Notification G.S.R. 583(E) Dated 13th June, 2017

In the principal notification, after paragraph 2, the following paragraph shall be inserted, namely:- "2A. The exceptions, modifications and adaptations provided in column (3) of the aforesaid Table shall be applicable to a private company which has not committed a default in filing its financial statements under section 137 of the said Act or annual return under section 92 of the said Act with the Registrar."

3. Exemptions to Companies covered section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013 Vide Notification G.S.R. 584(E) Dated 13th June, 2017

The Central Government amends the Notification G.S.R. 466(E), dated 5th June 2015. Following are the amendments:

In section 186(7)- following proviso shall be inserted-

Provided that nothing contained in this sub-section shall apply to a company in which twenty-six per cent. or more of the paid-up share capital is held by the Central Government or one or more State Governments or both, in respect of loans provided by such company for funding Industrial Research and Development projects in furtherance objects as stated in its memorandum of association."

4. Insertion of Paragraph 2A in the principal notification G.S.R. 466 (E), dated 5th June 2015 Vide Notification G.S.R. 584(E) Dated 13th June, 2017

In the principal notification, after paragraph 2, the following paragraph shall be inserted, namely:- "2A. The exceptions, modifications and adaptations provided in column (3) of the aforesaid Table shall be applicable to a company covered under section 8 of the said Act which has not committed a default in filing its financial statements under section 137 or annual return under section 92 of the said Act with the Registrar."

5. Enforcement of the *Companies (Meetings of Board and its Powers) Second Amendment Rules, 2017* vide Notification G.S.R. 880(E) Dated 13th July 2017

The Central Government hereby makes the following rules further to *amend the Companies (Meetings of Board and its Powers) Rules, 2014*.

Following are the amendments:

- (1) In rule 3 for clause (e), the following shall be substituted, -

"(e) Any director who intends to participate in the meeting through electronic mode may intimate about such participation at the beginning of the calendar year and such declaration shall be valid for one year: Provided that such declaration shall not debar him from participation in the meeting in person in which case he shall intimate the company sufficiently in advance of his intention to participate in person."

- (2) In the principal rules, for rule 6, the following rule shall be substituted, namely:-

"6. Committees of the Board. - The Board of directors of every listed company and a company covered under rule 4 of the *Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Rules, 2014* shall constitute an 'Audit Committee' and a 'Nomination and Remuneration Committee of the Board'.

6. Enforcement of the *Companies (Restriction on number of layers) Rules, 2017* in exercise of the powers conferred under proviso to clause (87) of section 2 Vide notification G.S.R. 1176(E), dated 20th September 2017

Restriction on number of layers for certain classes of holding companies -

- (1) On and from the date of commencement of these rules, no company, other than a company belonging to a class specified in sub-rule (2) , shall have more than two layers of subsidiaries:

Provided that the provisions of this sub-rule shall not affect a company from acquiring a company incorporated outside India with subsidiaries beyond two layers as per the laws of such country.

Provided further that for computing the number of layers under this rule, one layer which consists of one or more wholly owned subsidiary or subsidiaries shall not be taken into account.

- (2) **The provisions of this rule shall not apply to the following classes of companies, namely:—**
- (a) a banking company as defined in the Banking Regulation Act, 1949
 - (b) a non-banking financial company as defined in the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934 which is registered with the Reserve Bank of India and considered as systematically important non-banking financial company by the Reserve Bank of India;
 - (c) an insurance company being a company which carries on the business of insurance in accordance with provisions of the Insurance Act, 1938 and the Insurance Regulatory Development Authority Act, 1999
 - (d) a Government company referred to in clause (45) of section 2 of the Companies Act.
- (3) The provisions of this rule shall not be in derogation of the proviso to sub-section (1) of section 186 of the Act.
- (4) Every company, other than a company referred to in sub-rule (2), existing on or before the commencement of these rules, which has number of layers of subsidiaries in excess of the layers specified in sub-rule (1) –
- (i) shall file, with the Registrar a return disclosing the details specified therein, within a period of one hundred and fifty days from the date of publication of these rules in the Official Gazette;
 - (ii) shall not, after the date of commencement of these rules, have any additional layer of subsidiaries over and above the layers existing on such date; and (iii) shall not, in case one or more layers are reduced by it subsequent to the commencement of these rules, have the number of layers beyond the number of layers it has after such reduction or maximum layers allowed in sub rule (1), whichever is more.
- (5) If any company contravenes any provision of these rules the company and every officer of the company who is in default shall be punishable with fine which may extend to ten thousand rupees and where the contravention is a continuing one, with a further fine which may extend to one thousand rupees for every day after the first during which such contravention continues.

7. Enforcement of the *Companies (Meetings of Board and its Powers) Amendment Rules, 2018* vide Notification G.S.R. 429 (E) dated 7th May, 2018

The Central Government makes the *Companies (Meetings of Board and its Powers) Amendment Rules, 2018* to amend the *Companies (Meetings of Board and its Powers) Rules, 2014*.

In *Companies (Meetings of Board and its Powers) Rules, 2014*,

- (i) in rule 4, the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:-
 “Provided that where there is quorum in a meeting through physical presence of directors, any other director may participate through video conferencing or other audio visual means.”
- (ii) In the principal rules, in rule 6, for the words “every listed company”, the words “every listed public company” shall be substituted.
- (iii) In the principal rules, for rule 13, the following rule shall be substituted, namely:-
 “13. Special Resolution- A resolution passed at a general meeting in terms of sub-section (3) of section 186 to give any loan or guarantee or investment or providing any security or the acquisition under sub-section (2) of section 186 shall specify the total amount up to which the Board of Directors are authorised to give such loan or guarantee, to provide such security or make such acquisition:
 Provided that the company shall disclose to the members in the financial statement the full particulars in accordance with the provisions of sub-section (4) of section 186.”

8. Amendments through the *Companies (Amendment) Act, 2017*

Relevant sections	Amendment
Amendment of section 173	In section 173 of the principal Act, in sub-section (2), after the first proviso, the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:— "Provided further that where there is quorum in a meeting through physical presence of directors, any other director may participate through video conferencing or other audio visual means in such meeting on any matter specified under the first proviso."
Amendment of section 177.	In section 177 of the principal Act,— (i) in sub-section (1), for the words "every listed company", the words "every listed public company" shall be substituted; (ii) in sub-section (4), in clause (iv), after the proviso, the following provisos shall be inserted, namely:— "Provided further that in case of transaction, other than transactions referred to in section 188, and

	<p>where Audit Committee does not approve the transaction, it shall make its recommendations to the Board:</p> <p>Provided also that in case any transaction involving any amount not exceeding one crore rupees is entered into by a director or officer of the company without obtaining the approval of the Audit Committee and it is not ratified by the Audit Committee within three months from the date of the transaction, such transaction shall be voidable at the option of the Audit Committee and if the transaction is with the related party to any director or is authorised by any other director, the director concerned shall indemnify the company against any loss incurred by it:</p> <p>Provided also that the provisions of this clause shall not apply to a transaction, other than a transaction referred to in section 188, between a holding company and its wholly owned subsidiary company."</p>
Amendment of Section 178	<p>In section 178 of the principal Act,—</p> <p>(i) in sub-section (1), for the words "every listed company", the words "every listed public company" shall be substituted;</p> <p>(ii) in sub-section (2), for the words "shall carry out evaluation of every director's performance", the words "shall specify the manner for effective evaluation of performance of Board, its committees and individual directors to be carried out either by the Board, by the Nomination and Remuneration Committee or by an independent external agency and review its implementation and compliance" shall be substituted;</p> <p>(iii) in sub-section (4), in clause (c), for the proviso, the following proviso shall be substituted, namely:— "Provided that such policy shall be placed on the website of the company, if any, and the salient features of the policy and changes therein, if any, along with the web address of the policy, if any, shall be disclosed in the Board's report.";</p> <p>(iv) in sub-section (8), in the proviso, for the words "non-consideration of resolution of any grievance",</p>

	the words "inability to resolve or consider any grievance" shall be substituted.
Amendment of Section 180	In section 180 of the principal Act, in sub-section (1), in clause (c), for the words "paid-up share capital and free reserves", the words "paid-up share capital, free reserves and securities premium" shall be substituted.
Amendment of Section 184	In section 184 of the principal Act,— (i) in sub-section (4), the words "shall not be less than fifty thousand rupees but which" shall be omitted; (ii) in sub-section (5), for clause (b), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:— "(b) shall apply to any contract or arrangement entered into or to be entered into between two companies or between one or more companies and one or more bodies corporate where any of the directors of the one company or body corporate or two or more of them together holds or hold not more than two per cent. of the paid-up share capital in the other company or the body corporate."
Substitution of new section for section 185. Loan to Directors	For section 185 of the principal Act, the following section shall be substituted, namely:— '185. (1) No company shall, directly or indirectly, advance any loan, including any loan represented by a book debt to, or give any guarantee or provide any security in connection with any loan taken by,— (a) any director of company, or of a company which is its holding company or any partner or relative of any such director; or (b) any firm in which any such director or relative is a partner. (2) A company may advance any loan including any loan represented by a book debt, or give any guarantee or provide any security in connection with any loan taken by any person in whom any of the director of the company is interested, subject to the condition that— (a) a special resolution is passed by the company in general meeting: Provided that the explanatory statement to the notice for the relevant general meeting shall disclose the full particulars of the loans given, or

	<p>guarantee given or security provided and the purpose for which the loan or guarantee or security is proposed to be utilised by the recipient of the loan or guarantee or security and any other relevant fact; and</p> <p>(b) the loans are utilised by the borrowing company for its principal business activities.</p> <p><i>Explanation.</i>—For the purposes of this sub-section, the expression "any person in whom any of the director of the company is interested" means—</p> <p>(a) any private company of which any such director is a director or member;</p> <p>(b) any body corporate at a general meeting of which not less than twenty-five per cent. of the total voting power may be exercised or controlled by any such director, or by two or more such directors, together; or</p> <p>(c) any body corporate, the Board of directors, managing director or manager, whereof is accustomed to act in accordance with the directions or instructions of the Board, or of any director or directors, of the lending company.</p> <p>(3) Nothing contained in sub-sections (1) and (2) shall apply to—</p> <p>(a) the giving of any loan to a managing or whole-time director—</p> <p>(i) as a part of the conditions of service extended by the company to all its employees; or</p> <p>(ii) pursuant to any scheme approved by the members by a special resolution; or</p> <p>(b) a company which in the ordinary course of its business provides loans or gives guarantees or securities for the due repayment of any loan and in respect of such loans an interest is charged at a rate not less than the rate of prevailing yield of one year, three years, five years or ten years Government security closest to the tenor of the loan; or</p> <p>(c) any loan made by a holding company to its wholly owned subsidiary company or any guarantee given or security provided by a holding company in</p>
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	<p>respect of any loan made to its wholly owned subsidiary company; or</p> <p>(d) any guarantee given or security provided by a holding company in respect of loan made by any bank or financial institution to its subsidiary company:</p> <p>Provided that the loans made under clauses (c) and (d) are utilized by the subsidiary company for its principal business activities.</p> <p>(4) If any loan is advanced or a guarantee or security is given or provided or utilised in contravention of the provisions of this section,—</p> <p>(i) the company shall be punishable with fine which shall not be less than five lakh rupees but which may extend to twenty-five lakh rupees;</p> <p>(ii) every officer of the company who is in default shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months or with fine which shall not be less than five lakh rupees but which may extend to twenty-five lakh rupees; and</p> <p>(iii) the director or the other person to whom any loan is advanced or guarantee or security is given or provided in connection with any loan taken by him or the other person, shall be punishable with imprisonment which may extend to six months or with fine which shall not be less than five lakh rupees but which may extend to twenty-five lakh rupees, or with both.'</p>
Amendment of section 186.	<p>In section 186 of the principal Act,—</p> <p>(i) in sub-section (2), the following Explanation shall be inserted, namely:—</p> <p><i>'Explanation.—</i>For the purposes of this sub-section, the word "person" does not include any individual who is in the employment of the company.;</p> <p>(ii) for sub-section (3), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—</p> <p>'(3) Where the aggregate of the loans and investment so far made, the amount for which guarantee or security so far provided to or in all other bodies corporate along with the investment, loan, guarantee or security</p>

	<p>proposed to be made or given by the Board, exceed the limits specified under sub-section (2), no investment or loan shall be made or guarantee shall be given or security shall be provided unless previously authorised by a special resolution passed in a general meeting:</p> <p>Provided that where a loan or guarantee is given or where a security has been provided by a company to its wholly owned subsidiary company or a joint venture company, or acquisition is made by a holding company, by way of subscription, purchase or otherwise of, the securities of its wholly owned subsidiary company, the requirement of this sub-section shall not apply.</p> <p>Provided further that the company shall disclose the details of such loans or guarantee or security or acquisition in the financial statement as provided under sub-section (4).”.</p> <p>(iii) for sub-section (11), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—</p> <p>“(11) Nothing contained in this section, except sub-section (1), shall apply—</p> <p>(a) to any loan made, any guarantee given or any security provided or any investment made by a banking company, or an insurance company, or a housing finance company in the ordinary course of its business, or a company established with the object of and engaged in the business of financing industrial enterprises, or of providing infrastructural facilities;</p> <p>(b) to any investment—</p> <p>(i) made by an investment company;</p> <p>(ii) made in shares allotted in pursuance of clause (a) of sub-section (1) of section 62 or in shares allotted in pursuance of</p>
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	<p>rights issues made by a body corporate;</p> <p>(iii) made, in respect of investment or lending activities, by a non-banking financial company registered under Chapter III-B of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934 and whose principal business is acquisition of securities.";</p> <p>(iv) in the <i>Explanation</i>, in clause (a), after the words "other securities" the following shall be inserted, namely:— "and a company will be deemed to be principally engaged in the business of acquisition of shares, debentures or other securities, if its assets in the form of investment in shares, debentures or other securities constitute not less than fifty per cent. of its total assets, or if its income derived from investment business constitutes not less than fifty per cent. as a proportion of its gross income."</p>
Amendment of section 188.	<p>In section 188 of the principal Act,—</p> <p>(i) in sub-section (1), after the second proviso, the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:— "Provided also that nothing contained in the second proviso shall apply to a company in which ninety per cent. or more members, in number, are relatives of promoters or are related parties:"</p> <p>(ii) in sub-section (3), for the words "shall be voidable at the option of the Board", the words "shall be voidable at the option of the Board or, as the case may be, of the shareholders" shall be substituted.</p>
Omission of section 194	Section 194 of the principal Act shall be omitted.
Omission of section 195	Section 195 of the principal Act shall be omitted.

CHAPTER 4: INSPECTION, INQUIRY AND INVESTIGATION

1. Enforcement of Section 212(8), (9), & (10) vide Notification S.O. 2751(E) dated 24th of August, 2017

The Central Government notified the provisions of sub-sections (8), (9) and sub-section (10) of section 212 of the Companies Act, 2013 with effect from 24th day of August, 2017.

2. Enforcement of the *Companies (Arrests in connection with Investigation by Serious Fraud Investigation Office) Rules, 2017* Vide Notification G.S.R. 1062(E) dated 24th of August 2017

In exercise of the powers conferred under sub-section (1) of section 469 read with section 212 of the Companies Act, 2013, Central Government enforced the *Companies (Arrests in connection with Investigation by Serious Fraud Investigation Office) Rules, 2017*.

According to the Rule where any person has been guilty of any offence punishable under section 212 of the Act, he may be arrested as per the respective rules.

The Companies (Arrests in Connection with Investigation by Serious Fraud Investigation Office) Rules, 2017

- a. **In case of other than government companies/foreign companies:** Where the Director, Additional Director or Assistant Director of the Serious Fraud Investigation Office (herein after referred to as SFIO) investigating into the affairs of a company other than a Government company or foreign company has, on the basis of material in his possession, reason to believe (the reason for such belief to be recorded in writing) that any person has been guilty of any offence punishable under section 212 of the Act, he may arrest such person; Provided that in case of an arrest being made by Additional Director or Assistant Director, the prior written approval of the Director SFIO shall be obtained.
- b. **Competent authority:** The Director SFIO shall be the competent authority for all decisions pertaining to arrest.
- c. **In case of Government Company /foreign company:** Where an arrest of a person is to be made in connection with a Government company or a foreign company under investigation, such arrest shall be made with prior written approval of the Central Government. Provided that the intimation of such arrest shall also be given to the Managing Director or the person in-charge of the affairs of the Government Company and where the person arrested is the Managing Director or person in-charge of the Government Company, to the Secretary of the administrative ministry concerned, by the arresting officer.
- d. **Serving of Arrest order to arrestee:** The Director, Additional Director or Assistant Director, while exercising powers under sub-section (8) of section 212 of the Act, shall sign the arrest order together with personal search memo in the Form appended to these rules and shall serve it on the arrestee and obtain written acknowledgement of service.
- e. **Forwarding of copy of arrest order and other documents:** The Director, Additional Director or Assistant Director shall forward a copy of the arrest order along with the material in his possession and all the other documents including personal search memo to the office of Director, SFIO in a sealed envelope with a forwarding letter after signing on each page of these documents, so as to reach the office of the Director, SFIO within twenty four hours through the quickest possible means.

- f. **Maintenance of arrest order:** An arrest register shall be maintained in the office of Director, SFIO and the Director or any officer nominated by Director shall ensure that entries with regard to particulars of the arrestee, date and time of arrest and other relevant information pertaining to the arrest are made in the arrest register in respect of all arrests made by the arresting officers.
- g. **Entry in arrest register:** The entry regarding arrest of the person and information given to such person shall be made in the arrest register immediately on receipt of the documents as specified under rule 5 in the arrest register maintained by the SFIO office.
- h. **Preservation of copy of arrest order:** The office of Director, SFIO shall preserve the copy of arrest order together with supporting materials for a period of five years a) from the date of judgment or final order of the Trial Court, in cases where the said judgment has not been impugned in the appellate court; or b) from the date of disposal of the matter before the final appellate court, in cases where the said judgment or final order has been impugned, whichever is later.
- i. **Applicability of provision of Cr.P.C:** The provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (2 of 1974), relating to arrest shall be applied mutatis mutandis to every arrest made under this Act.

3. Amendments through the Companies (Amendment) Act, 2017

Relevant sections	Amendment
Amendment of section 223.	In section 223 of the principal Act, in sub-section (3), after the words "may be obtained", the words "by members, creditors or any other person whose interest is likely to be affected" shall be inserted.

CHAPTER 5: COMPROMISES, ARRANGEMENTS AND AMALGAMATIONS

1. Exemptions to Government Companies Vide Notification G.S.R. 582(E) Dated 13th June, 2017

The Central Government amends the Notification G.S.R. 463(E), dated 5th June 2015. Following are the amendments:

The word "Tribunal" wherever it occurs in sections 230 to 232, the words "Central Government" shall be substituted.

2. Amendments through the Companies (Amendment) Act, 2017

Relevant sections	Amendment
Amendment of section 236.	In section 236 of the principal Act, in sub-sections (4), (5) and (6), for the words, "transferor company", wherever they occur, the words "company whose shares are being transferred" shall be substituted.

CHAPTER 9: COMPANIES INCORPORATED OUTSIDE INDIA**Amendments through the Companies (Amendment) Act, 2017**

Relevant sections	Amendment
Amendment of section 379.	Section 379 of the principal Act shall be renumbered as sub-section (2) thereof and before sub-section (2) as so renumbered, the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:— “(1) Sections 380 to 386 (both inclusive) and sections 392 and 393 shall apply to all foreign companies: Provided that the Central Government may, by Order published in the Official Gazette, exempt any class of foreign companies, specified in the Order, from any of the provisions of sections 380 to 386 and sections 392 and 393 and a copy of every such Order shall, as soon as may be after it is made, be laid before both Houses of Parliament.”
Amendment of section 384.	In section 384 of the principal Act, in sub-section (2), after the word and figures "section 92", the words and figures "and section 135" shall be inserted.
Amendment of section 391.	In section 391 of the principal Act, for sub-section (2), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:— “(2) Subject to the provisions of section 376, the provisions of Chapter XX shall apply <i>mutatis mutandis</i> for closure of the place of business of a foreign company in India as if it were a company incorporated in India in case such foreign company has raised monies through offer or issue of securities under this Chapter which have not been repaid or redeemed.”

CHAPTER 10: MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**1. Notification of Section 247 vide Notification S.O. 3393(E) dated 18th October 2017**

The Central Government hereby appoints the 18th October, 2017 as the date on which the provisions of section 247 of the said Act shall come into force.

Section 247: Valuation by Registered Valuers

- (1) Where a valuation is required to be made in respect of any property, stocks, shares, debentures, securities or goodwill or any other assets (herein referred to as the assets) or net worth of a company or its liabilities under the provision of this Act, it shall be valued by ¹a person having such qualifications and experience and registered as a valuer in such manner, on such terms and conditions as may be

¹ Substituted by the Companies (Removal of Difficulties) Second Order 2017

prescribed] and appointed by the audit committee or in its absence by the Board of Directors of that company.

- (2) The valuer appointed under sub-section (1) shall,—
- (a) make an impartial, true and fair valuation of any assets which may be required to be valued;
 - (b) exercise due diligence while performing the functions as valuer;
 - (c) make the valuation in accordance with such rules as may be prescribed; and
 - (d) not undertake valuation of any assets in which he has a direct or indirect interest or becomes so interested at any time ²[during a period of three years prior to his appointment as valuer or three years after the valuation of assets was conducted by him.]
- (3) If a valuer contravenes the provisions of this section or the rules made thereunder, the valuer shall be punishable with fine which shall not be less than twenty-five thousand rupees but which may extend to one lakh rupees.
- However if the valuer has contravened such provisions with the intention to defraud the company or its members, he shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year and with fine which shall not be less than one lakh rupees but which may extend to five lakh rupees.
- (4) Where a valuer has been convicted under sub-section (3), he shall be liable to—
- (i) refund the remuneration received by him to the company; and
 - (ii) pay for damages to the company or to any other person for loss arising out of incorrect or misleading statements of particulars made in his report.

2. Notification of the *Companies (Registered Valuers and Valuation) Rules, 2017* vide Notification G.S.R 1316(E) dated 18th October, 2017

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 247, the Central Government hereby enforced the *Companies (Registered Valuers and Valuation) Rules, 2017*.

COMPANIES (REGISTERED VALUERS AND VALUATION) RULES, 2017

2. Definitions

- (1) In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires -
- "authority" means an authority specified by the Central Government under section 458 of the Companies Act, 2013 to perform the functions under these rules;

² Amended through the Companies (Amendment) Act, 2017 on 9th February, 2018

"asset class" means a distinct group of assets, such as land and building, machinery and equipment, displaying similar characteristics, that can be classified and requires separate set of valuers for valuation;

"certificate of recognition" means the certificate of recognition granted to a registered valuers organisation under sub-rule (5) of rule 13 and the term "recognition" shall be construed accordingly;

"certificate of registration" means the certificate of registration granted to a valuer under sub-rule (6) of rule 6 and the term "registration" shall be construed accordingly;

"registered valuers organisation" means a registered valuers organization recognised under sub-rule (5) of rule 13;

"valuer" means a person registered with the authority in accordance with these rules and the term "registered valuer" shall be construed accordingly.

3. Eligibility for registered valuers

- (1) A person shall be eligible to be a registered valuer if he-
- (a) Is a valuer member of a registered valuers organisation;

Explanation.- For the purposes of this clause, "a valuer member" is a member of a registered valuers organisation who possesses the requisite educational qualifications and experience for being registered as a valuer;
 - (b) Is recommended by the registered valuers organisation of which he is a valuer member for registration as a valuer;
 - (c) Has passed the valuation examination under rule 5 within three years preceding the date of making an application for registration under rule 6;
 - (d) Possesses the qualifications and experience as specified in rule 4;
 - (e) Is not a minor;
 - (f) Has not been declared to be of unsound mind;
 - (g) Is not an undischarged bankrupt, or has not applied to be adjudicated as a bankrupt;
 - (h) Is a person resident in India;

Explanation.- For the purposes of these rules 'person resident in India' shall have the same meaning as defined in clause (v) of section 2 of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (42 of 1999) as far as it is applicable to an individual;
 - (i) Has not been convicted by any competent court for an offence punishable with imprisonment for a term exceeding six months or for an offence involving moral turpitude, and a period of five years has not elapsed from the date of expiry of the sentence:

Provided that if a person has been convicted of any offence and sentenced in respect thereof to imprisonment for a period of seven years or more, he shall not be eligible to be registered;

- (j) Has not been levied a penalty under section 271J of Income-tax Act, 1961 (43 of 1961) and time limit for filing appeal before Commissioner of Income-tax (Appeals) or Income-tax Appellate Tribunal, as the case may be has expired, or such penalty has been confirmed by Income-tax Appellate Tribunal, and five years have not elapsed after levy of such penalty; and

- (k) Is a fit and proper person:

Explanation.- For determining whether an individual is a fit and proper person under these rules, the authority may take account of any relevant consideration, including but not limited to the following criteria-

- (i) Integrity, reputation and character,
- (ii) Absence of convictions and restraint orders, and
- (iii) Competence and financial solvency.

- (2) No partnership entity or company shall be eligible to be a registered valuer if-
 - (a) It has been set up for objects other than for rendering professional or financial services, including valuation services and that in the case of a company, it is not a subsidiary, joint venture or associate of another company or body corporate;
 - (b) It is undergoing an insolvency resolution or is an undischarged bankrupt;
 - (c) All the partners or directors, as the case may be, are not ineligible under clauses (c), (d), (e), (g), (h), (i), (j) and (k) of sub-rule (1);
 - (d) Three or all the partners or directors, whichever is lower, of the partnership entity or company, as the case may be, are not registered valuers; or
 - (e) None of its partners or directors, as the case may be, is a registered valuer for the asset class, for the valuation of which it seeks to be a registered valuer.

4. Qualifications and experience

An individual shall have the following qualifications and experience to be eligible for registration under rule 3, namely:-

- (a) post-graduate degree or post-graduate diploma, in the specified discipline, from a University or Institute established, recognised or incorporated by law in India and at least three years of experience in the specified discipline thereafter; or
- (b) a Bachelor's degree or equivalent, in the specified discipline, from a University or Institute established, recognised or incorporated by law in India and at least five years of experience in the specified discipline thereafter; or

- (c) membership of a professional institute established by an Act of Parliament enacted for the purpose of regulation of a profession with at least three years' experience after such membership and having qualification mentioned at clause (a) or (b).

Explanation-I- For the purposes of this clause the 'specified discipline' shall mean the specific discipline which is relevant for valuation of an asset class for which the registration as a valuer or recognition as a registered valuers organisation is sought under these rules.

Explanation-II- Qualifying education and experience and examination or training for various asset classes, is given in an indicative manner in **Annexure-IV** of these rules.

6. Application for certificate of registration

- (1) An individual eligible for registration as a registered valuer under rule 3 may make an application to the authority in Form-A of Annexure-II along with a non-refundable application fee of five thousand rupees in favour of the authority.
- (2) A partnership entity or company eligible for registration as a registered valuer under rule 3 may make an application to the authority in Form-B of Annexure-II along with a non-refundable application fee of ten thousand rupees in favour of the authority.
- (3) The authority shall examine the application, and may grant twenty one days to the applicant to remove the deficiencies, if any, in the application.
- (4) The authority may require the applicant to submit additional documents or clarification within twenty- one days.
- (5) The authority may require the applicant to appear, within twenty one days, before the authority in person, or through its authorised representative for explanation or clarifications required for processing the application.
- (6) If the authority is satisfied, after such scrutiny, inspection or inquiry as it deems necessary, that the applicant is eligible under these rules, it may grant a certificate of registration to the applicant to carry on the activities of a registered valuer for the relevant asset class or classes in Form-C of the Annexure-II within sixty days of receipt of the application, excluding the time given by the authority for presenting additional documents, information or clarification, or appearing in person, as the case may be.
- (7) If, after considering an application made under this rule, the authority is of the prima facie opinion that the registration ought not be granted, it shall communicate the reasons for forming such an opinion within forty-five days of receipt of the application, excluding the time given by it for removing the deficiencies, presenting additional documents or clarifications, or appearing in person, as the case may be.

- (8) The applicant shall submit an explanation as to why his/its application should be accepted within fifteen days of the receipt of the communication under sub-rule (7), to enable the authority to form a final opinion.
- (9) After considering the explanation, if any, given by the applicant under sub-rule (8), the authority shall either -
 - (a) accept the application and grant the certificate of registration; or
 - (b) reject the application by an order, giving reasons thereof.
- (10) The authority shall communicate its decision to the applicant within thirty days of receipt of explanation.

7. Conditions of Registration

The registration granted under rule 6 shall be subject to the conditions that the valuer shall -

- (a) at all times possess the eligibility and qualification and experience criteria as specified under rule 3 and rule 4;
- (b) at all times comply with the provisions of the Act, these rules and the Bye-laws or internal regulations, as the case may be, of the respective registered valuers organisation;
- (c) in his capacity as a registered valuer, not conduct valuation of the assets or class(es) of assets other than for which he/it has been registered by the authority;
- (d) take prior permission of the authority for shifting his/ its membership from one registered valuers organisation to another;
- (e) take adequate steps for redressal of grievances;
- (f) maintain records of each assignment undertaken by him for at least three years from the completion of such assignment;
- (g) comply with the Code of Conduct of the registered valuers organisation of which he is a member;
- (h) in case a partnership entity or company is the registered valuer, allow only the partner or director who is a registered valuer for the asset class(es) that is being valued to sign and act on behalf of it;
- (i) in case a partnership entity or company is the registered valuer, it shall disclose to the company concerned, the extent of capital employed or contributed in the partnership entity or the company by the partner or director, as the case may be, who would sign and act in respect of relevant valuation assignment for the company;

- (j) in case a partnership entity is the registered valuer, be liable jointly and severally along with the partner who signs and acts in respect of a valuation assignment on behalf of the partnership entity;
- (k) in case a company is the registered valuer, be liable along with director who signs and acts in respect of a valuation assignment on behalf of the company;
- (l) in case a partnership entity or company is the registered valuer, immediately inform the authority on the removal of a partner or director, as the case may be, who is a registered valuer along with detailed reasons for such removal; and
- (m) comply with such other conditions as may be imposed by the authority.

8. Conduct of Valuation

- (1) The registered valuer shall, while conducting a valuation, comply with the valuation standards as notified or modified under rule 18:
Provided that until the valuation standards are notified or modified by the Central Government, a valuer shall make valuations as per-
 - (a) internationally accepted valuation standards;
 - (b) valuation standards adopted by any registered valuers organisation.
- (2) The registered valuer may obtain inputs for his valuation report or get a separate valuation for an asset class conducted from another registered valuer, in which case he shall fully disclose the details of the inputs and the particulars etc. of the other registered valuer in his report and the liabilities against the resultant valuation, irrespective of the nature of inputs or valuation by the other registered valuer, shall remain of the first mentioned registered valuer.
- (3) The valuer shall, in his report, state the following:-
 - (a) background information of the asset being valued;
 - (b) purpose of valuation and appointing authority;
 - (c) identity of the valuer and any other experts involved in the valuation;
 - (d) disclosure of valuer interest or conflict, if any;
 - (e) date of appointment, valuation date and date of report;
 - (f) inspections and/or investigations undertaken;
 - (g) nature and sources of the information used or relied upon;
 - (h) procedures adopted in carrying out the valuation and valuation standards followed;
 - (i) restrictions on use of the report, if any;
 - (j) major factors that were taken into account during the valuation;

- (k) conclusion; and
- (l) caveats, limitations and disclaimers to the extent they explain or elucidate the limitations faced by valuer, which shall not be for the purpose of limiting his responsibility for the valuation report.

9. Temporary surrender

- (1) A registered valuer may temporarily surrender his registration certificate in accordance with the bye-laws or regulations, as the case may be, of the registered valuers organisation and on such surrender, the valuer shall inform the authority for taking such information on record.
- (2) A registered valuers organisation shall inform the authority if any valuer member has temporarily surrendered his/its membership or revived his/ its membership after temporary surrender, not later than seven days from approval of the application for temporary surrender or revival, as the case may be.
- (3) Every registered valuers organisation shall place, on its website, in a searchable format, the names and other details of its valuers members who have surrendered or revived their memberships.

10. Functions of a Valuer

A valuer shall conduct valuation required under the Act as per these rules and he may conduct valuation as per these rules if required under any other law or by any other regulatory authority.

12. Eligibility for registered valuers organisations

- (1) An organisation that meets requirements under sub-rule (2) may be recognised as a registered valuers organisation for valuation of a specific asset class or asset classes if -
 - (i) it has been registered under section 25 of the Companies Act, 1956 (1 of 1956) or section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013 (18 of 2013) with the sole object of dealing with matters relating to regulation of valuers of an asset class or asset classes and has in its bye laws the requirements specified in **Annexure-III**;
 - (ii) a professional institute established by an Act of Parliament enacted for the purpose of regulation of a profession;

Provided that, subject to sub-rule (3), the following organisations may also be recognised as a registered valuers organisation for valuation of a specific asset class or asset classes, namely:-

- (a) an organisation registered as a society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 (21 of 1860) or any relevant state law, or;
- (b) an organisation set up as a trust governed by the Indian Trust Act, 1882 (2 of 1882).

- (2) The organisation referred to in sub-rule (1) shall be recognised if it –
- (a) conducts educational courses in valuation, in accordance with the syllabus determined by the authority, under rule 5, for individuals who may be its valuers members, and delivered in class room or through distance education modules and which includes practical training;
 - (b) grants membership or certificate of practice to individuals, who possess the qualifications and experience as specified in rule 4, in respect of valuation of asset class for which it is recognised as a registered valuers organisation ;
 - (c) conducts training for the individual members before a certificate of practice is issued to them;
 - (d) lays down and enforces a code of conduct for valuers who are its members, which includes all the provisions specified in **Annexure-I**;
 - (e) provides for continuing education of individuals who are its members;
 - (f) monitors and reviews the functioning, including quality of service, of valuers who are its members; and
 - (g) has a mechanism to address grievances and conduct disciplinary proceedings against valuers who are its members.
- (3) A registered valuers organisation, being an entity under proviso to sub-rule (1), shall convert into or register itself as a company under section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013, and include in its bye laws the requirements specified in **Annexure-III**, within one year from the date of commencement of these rules.

14. Conditions of Recognition

The recognition granted under rule 13 shall be subject to the conditions that the registered valuers organisation shall-

- (a) at all times continue to satisfy the eligibility requirements specified under rule 12;
- (b) maintain a register of members who are registered valuers, which shall be publicly available;
- (c) admits only individuals who possess the educational qualifications and experience requirements, in accordance with rule 4 and as specified in its recognition certificate, as members;
- (d) make such reports to the authority as may be required by it;
- (e) comply with any directions, including with regard to course to be conducted by valuation organisation under clause (a) of sub-rule (2) of rule 12, issued by the authority;

- (f) be converted or registered as company under section 8 of the Act, with governance structure and bye laws specified in **Annexure-III**, within a period of one year from the date of commencement of these rules if it is an organisation referred to in proviso to sub-rule (1) of rule 12;
- (g) shall have the governance structure and incorporate in its bye laws the requirements specified in **Annexure-III** within one year of commencement of these rules if it is an organisation referred to in clause (i) of sub-rule (1) of rule 12 and existing on the date of commencement of these rules;
- (h) display on its website, the status and specified details of every registered valuer being its valuer members including action under rule 17 being taken against him; and
- (i) comply with such other conditions as may be specified by authority.

15. Cancellation or suspension of certificate of registration or recognition

The authority may cancel or suspend the registration of a valuer or recognition of a registered valuers organisation for violation of the provisions of the Act, any other law allowing him to perform valuation, these rules or any condition of registration or recognition, as the case may be in the manner specified in rule 17.

16. Complaint against a registered valuer or registered valuers organisation

A complaint may be filed against a registered valuer or registered valuers organisation before the authority in person or by post or courier along with a non-refundable fees of rupees one thousand in favour of the authority and the authority shall examine the complaint and take such necessary action as it deems fit:

Provided that in case of a complaint against a registered valuer, who is a partner of a partnership entity or director of a company, the authority may refer the complaint to the relevant registered valuers organisation and such organisation shall handle the complaint in accordance with its bye laws.

18. Valuation Standards

The Central Government shall notify and may modify (from time to time) the valuation standards on the recommendations of the Committee set up under rule 19.

20. Punishment for contravention

Without prejudice to any other liabilities where a person contravenes any of the provision of these rules he shall be punishable in accordance with sub-section (3) of section 469 of the Act.

21. Punishment for false statement

If in any report, certificate or other document required by, or for, the purposes of any of the provisions of the Act or the rules made thereunder or these rules, any person makes a statement,—

- (a) which is false in any material particulars, knowing it to be false; or
- (b) which omits any material fact, knowing it to be material, he shall be liable under section 448 of the Act.

3. Enforcement of the *Companies (Registered Valuers and Valuation) Amendment Rules, 2018* vide Notification No. G.S.R. 155 (E) dated 9th February, 2018

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 247 read with section 469 of the Companies Act, 2013, the Central Government makes the *Companies (Registered Valuers and Valuation) Amendment Rules, 2018* to amend the *Companies (Registered Valuers and Valuation) Rules, 2017*, namely:-

In the *Companies (Registered Valuers and Valuation) Rules, 2017*, in rule 11, for the figures, letters and word "31st March, 2018", occurring at both the places, the figures, letters and word "30th September, 2018" shall be substituted.

4. Enforcement of the *Companies (Registered Valuers and Valuation) Second Amendment Rules, 2018* vide Notification G.S.R. 559(E) dated 13th June, 2018

The Central Government makes the *Companies (Registered Valuers and Valuation) Second Amendment Rules, 2018* to amend the *Companies (Registered Valuers and Valuation) Rules, 2017*.

In *Companies (Registered Valuers and Valuation) Rules, 2017*, in rule 19, in sub-rule 2, after clause (g), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:-

"(h) Presidents of, the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, the Institute of Company Secretaries of India, the Institute of Cost Accountants of India as ex-officio members."

5. Enforcement of the *Companies (Registered Valuers and Valuation) Third Amendment Rules, 2018* vide Notification G.S.R. G.S.R. 925(E) dated 25th September, 2018

The Central Government makes the *Companies (Registered Valuers and Valuation) Third Amendment Rules, 2018* to amend the *Companies (Registered Valuers and Valuation) Rules, 2017*.

In the *Companies (Registered Valuers and Valuation) Rules, 2017*,

- (i) in rule 11, for the figures, letters and word "30th September, 2018" occurring at both the places, the figures, letters and word "31st January, 2019" shall be substituted.
- (ii) In the said rules, in rule 14, in clause (f), for the words "one year", the words "two years" shall be substituted.

6. Amendments through the *Companies (Amendment) Act, 2017*

Relevant sections	Amendment
Amendment of Section 247	In section 247 of the principal Act, in sub-section (2), in clause (d), for the words "during or after the valuation of assets", the

		words "during a period of three years prior to his appointment as valuer or three years after the valuation of assets was conducted by him" shall be substituted.
Amendment section 366.	of	In section 366 of the principal Act, in sub-section (2),— (i) for the words "seven or more members", the words "two or more members" shall be substituted; (ii) in the proviso, after clause (vi), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:— "(vi) a company with less than seven members shall register as a private company."
Amendment section 374.	of	In section 374 of the principal Act, after clause (d), the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:— "Provided that upon registration as a company under this Part a limited liability partnership incorporated under the Limited Liability Partnership Act, 2008 shall be deemed to have been dissolved under that Act without any further act or deed."
Amendment section 403.	of	(1) Any document, required to be submitted, filed, registered or recorded, or any fact or information required or authorised to be registered under this Act, shall be submitted, filed, registered or recorded within the time specified in the relevant provision on payment of such fee as may be prescribed: Provided that where any document, fact or information required to be submitted, filed, registered or recorded, as the case may be, under section 92 or 137 is not submitted, filed, registered or recorded, as the case may be, within the period provided in those sections, without prejudice to any other legal action or liability under this Act, it may be submitted, filed, registered or recorded, as the case may be, after expiry of the period so provided in those sections, on payment of such additional fee as may be prescribed, which shall not be less than one hundred rupees per day and different amounts may be prescribed for different classes of companies: Provided further that where the document, fact or information, as the case may be, in cases other than referred to in the first proviso, is not submitted, filed, registered or recorded, as the case may be, within the period provided in the relevant section, it may, without prejudice to any other legal action or liability under this Act, be submitted, filed, registered or recorded as the case may be, on payment of such additional fee as may be prescribed

		<p>and different fees may be prescribed for different classes of companies:</p> <p>Provided also that where there is default on two or more occasions in submitting, filing, registering or recording of the document, fact or information, it may, without prejudice to any other legal action or liability under this Act, be submitted, filed, registered or recorded, as the case may be, on payment of a higher additional fee, as may be prescribed and which shall not be lesser than twice the additional fee provided under the first or the second proviso as applicable.</p> <p>(2) Where a company fails or commits any default to submit, file, register or record any document, fact or information under sub-section (1) before the expiry of the period specified in the relevant section, the company and the officers of the company who are in default, shall, without prejudice to the liability for the payment of fee and additional fee, be liable for the penalty or punishment provided under this Act for such failure or default.</p>
Amendment section 447.	of	<p>In section 447 of the principal Act,—</p> <p>(i) after the words "guilty of fraud", the words "involving an amount of at least ten lakh rupees or one per cent. of the turnover of the company, whichever is lower" shall be inserted;</p> <p>(ii) after the proviso, the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:—</p> <p>"Provided further that where the fraud involves an amount less than ten lakh rupees or one per cent. of the turnover of the company, whichever is lower, and does not involve public interest, any person guilty of such fraud shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years or with fine which may extend to twenty lakh rupees or with both."</p>
Amendment section 458	of	<p>In section 458 of the principal Act, in sub-section (1), the proviso shall be omitted.</p>

CHAPTER 11: COMPOUNDING OF OFFENCES, ADJUDICATION, SPECIAL COURTS

Amendments through the Companies (Amendment) Act, 2017

Relevant sections	Amendment
Amendment of section 435.	For section 435 of the principal Act, the following shall be substituted, namely:—

Establishment of Special Courts	435. (1) The Central Government may, for the purpose of providing speedy trial of offences under this Act, by notification, establish or designate as many Special Courts as may be necessary. (2) A Special Court shall consist of— (a) a single judge holding office as Session Judge or Additional Session Judge, in case of offences punishable under this Act with imprisonment of two years or more; and (b) a Metropolitan Magistrate or a Judicial Magistrate of the First Class, in the case of other offences, who shall be appointed by the Central Government with the concurrence of the Chief Justice of the High Court within whose jurisdiction the judge to be appointed is working."
Amendment of section 438.	In section 438 of the principal Act, for the words "deemed to be a Court of Session", the words "deemed to be a Court of Session or the court of Metropolitan Magistrate or a Judicial Magistrate of the First Class, as the case may be," shall be substituted.
Amendment of section 439.	In section 439 of the principal Act, in sub-section (2), after the words "a shareholder", the words "or a member" shall be inserted.
Amendment of section 440.	In section 440 of the principal Act, for the words "Court of Session", at both the places, the words "Court of Session or the Court of Metropolitan Magistrate or a Judicial Magistrate of the First Class, as the case may be" shall be substituted.
Amendment of section 441.	In section 441 of the principal Act, in sub-section (1), for the words "with fine only", the words "not being an offence punishable with imprisonment only, or punishable with imprisonment and also with fine" shall be substituted.
Insertion of new section 446A. Factors for determining level of punishment.	After section 446 of the principal Act, the following sections shall be inserted, namely:— "446A. The court or the Special Court, while deciding the amount of fine or imprisonment under this Act, shall have due regard to the following factors, namely:— (a) size of the company; (b) nature of business carried on by the company; (c) injury to public interest; (d) nature of the default; and (e) repetition of the default.
Lesser penalties for One Person	446B. Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act, if a One Person Company or a small company fails to comply with the provisions of

Companies or small companies.	sub-section (5) of section 92, sub-section (2) of section 117 or sub-section (3) of section 137, such company and officer in default of such company shall be punishable with fine or imprisonment or fine and imprisonment, as the case may be, which shall not be more than one-half of the fine or imprisonment or fine and imprisonment, as the case may be, of the minimum or maximum fine or imprisonment or fine and imprisonment, as the case may be, specified in such sections."
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CHAPTER 12: NATIONAL COMPANY LAW TRIBUNAL AND APPELLATE TRIBUNAL

1. Enforcement of the Companies (Removal of Difficulties) Orders, 2017 Vide Order S.O. 2042(E) dated 29th June, 2017

In the Companies Act, 2013, in section 434, in sub-section (1), in clause (c),-

- (a) in the third proviso, for "Provided further that-", the following shall be substituted, namely:- "Provided also that-";
- (b) after the third proviso, the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:-

"Provided also that proceedings relating to cases of voluntary winding up of a company where notice of the resolution by advertisement has been given under sub-section (1) of section 485 of the Companies Act, 1956 but the company has not been dissolved before the 1st April, 2017 shall continue to be dealt with in accordance with provisions of the Companies Act, 1956 and the Companies (Court) Rules, 1959."

2. Amendments through the Companies (Amendment) Act, 2017

Relevant sections	Amendment
Amendment of section 409	<p>In section 409 of the principal Act, in sub-section (3),—</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) in clause (a), for the words "out of which at least three years shall be in the pay scale of Joint Secretary to the Government of India or equivalent or above in that service", the words "and has been holding the rank of Secretary or Additional Secretary to the Government of India" shall be substituted; (ii) for clause (e), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:— "(e) is a person of proven ability, integrity and standing having special knowledge and professional experience of not less than fifteen years in industrial finance, industrial management, industrial reconstruction, investment and accountancy."

Amendment section 410	of	In section 410 of the principal Act, for the words “orders of the Tribunal”, the words “orders of the Tribunal or of the National Financial Reporting Authority” shall be substituted.
Amendment section 411.	of	In section 411 of the principal Act, for sub-section (3), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:— “(3) A technical member shall be a person of proven ability, integrity and standing having special knowledge and professional experience of not less than twenty-five years in industrial finance, industrial management, industrial reconstruction, investment and accountancy.”.
Amendment section 412	of	In section 412 of the principal Act, for sub-section (2), the following sub-sections shall be substituted, namely:— “(2) The Members of the Tribunal and the Technical Members of the Appellate Tribunal shall be appointed on the recommendation of a Selection Committee consisting of— (a) Chief Justice of India or his nominee— Chairperson; (b) a senior Judge of the Supreme Court or Chief Justice of High Court— Member; (c) Secretary in the Ministry of Corporate Affairs— Member; and (d) Secretary in the Ministry of Law and Justice— Member. (2A) Where in a meeting of the Selection Committee, there is equality of votes on any matter, the Chairperson shall have a casting vote.”.

SECTION B: SECURITIES LAWS

CHAPTER 2: The Securities Exchange Board of India Act, 1992, SEBI (ICDR) REGULATIONS, 2009 & SEBI (LODR) REGULATIONS, 2015

1. SEBI (Issue of Capital and Disclosure Requirements) (Amendment) Regulations, 2018 w.e.f. 12.02.2018

Vide this amendment regulation, Clause (c) of the Regulation 82 which dealt with the conditions for qualified institutions placement has been omitted. Following was the clause prior to the omission.

“(c) it is in compliance with the requirement of minimum public shareholding specified in the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Rules, 1957;”

PART II: ECONOMIC LAWS

CHAPTER 1: The Foreign Exchange and Management Act, 1999

1. Foreign Exchange Management (Acquisition and Transfer of Immovable Property in India) Regulations, 2018

As per the Notification dated 26th of March, 2018, the Reserve Bank of India makes the Foreign Exchange Management (Acquisition and Transfer of Immovable Property in India) Regulations, 2018 with the enforcement from the date of their publication in the Official Gazette i.e., 26th of March, 2018.

2. Relevant Definitions:- In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires-
'Non-Resident Indian (NRI)' means a person resident outside India who is a citizen of India;

'Overseas Citizen of India (OCI)' means a person resident outside India who is registered as an Overseas Citizen of India Cardholder under Section 7(A) of the Citizenship Act, 1955;

'Repatriation outside India' means the buying or drawing of foreign exchange from an authorised dealer in India and remitting it outside India through banking channels or crediting it to an account denominated in foreign currency or to an account in Indian currency maintained with an authorised dealer from which it can be converted in foreign currency;

3. Acquisition and Transfer of Property in India by a Non-Resident Indian or an Overseas Citizen of India:-

An NRI or an OCI may-

- (a) acquire immovable property in India other than agricultural land/ farm house/ plantation property:

Provided that the consideration, if any, for transfer, shall be made out of (i) funds received in India through banking channels by way of inward remittance from any place outside India or (ii) funds held in any nonresident account maintained in accordance with the provisions of the Act, rules or regulations framed thereunder.

Provided further that no payment for any transfer of immovable property shall be made either by traveler's cheque or by foreign currency notes or by any other mode other than those specifically permitted under this clause.

- (b) acquire any immovable property in India other than agricultural land/ farm house/ plantation property by way of gift from a person resident in India or from an NRI or from an OCI, who in any case is a relative as defined in section 2(77) of the Companies Act, 2013;
- (c) acquire any immovable property in India by way of inheritance from a person resident outside India who had acquired such property (a) in accordance with the provisions of the

foreign exchange law in force at the time of acquisition by him or the provisions of these Regulations or (b) from a person resident in India;

- (d) transfer any immovable property in India to a person resident in India;
- (e) transfer any immovable property other than agricultural land/ farm house/ plantation property to an NRI or an OCI.

4. Acquisition of Immovable Property for carrying on a permitted activity:-

A person resident outside India who has established in India in accordance with the Foreign Exchange Management (Establishment in India of a branch office or a liaison office or a project office or any other place of business) Regulations, 2016, as amended from time to time, a branch, office or other place of business for carrying on in India any activity, excluding a liaison office, may -

- (a) acquire any immovable property in India, which is necessary for or incidental to carrying on such activity;

Provided that

- i all applicable laws, rules, regulations or directions for the time being in force are duly complied with; and
- ii the person files with the Reserve Bank a declaration in the form IPI as prescribed by Reserve Bank from time to time, not later than ninety days from the date of such acquisition.

- (b) transfer by way of mortgage to an authorised dealer as a security for any borrowing, the immovable property acquired in pursuance of clause (a).

Provided no person of Pakistan or Bangladesh or Sri Lanka or Afghanistan or China or Iran or Hong Kong or Macau or Nepal or Bhutan or Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) shall acquire immovable property, other than on lease not exceeding five years, without prior approval of the Reserve Bank.

5. Purchase/ sale of Immovable Property by Foreign Embassies/ Diplomats/ Consulate Generals:-

A Foreign Embassy/ Diplomat/ Consulate General may purchase/ sell immovable property in India other than agricultural land/ plantation property/ farm house provided (i) clearance from Government of India, Ministry of External Affairs is obtained for such purchase/ sale, and (ii) the consideration for acquisition of immovable property in India is paid out of funds remitted from abroad through banking channels.

6. Joint acquisition by the spouse of an NRI or an OCI:-

A person resident outside India, not being a Non-Resident Indian or an Overseas Citizen of India, who is a spouse of a Non-Resident Indian or an Overseas Citizen of India may

acquire one immovable property (other than agricultural land/ farm house/ plantation property), jointly with his/ her NRI/ OCI spouse.

Provided that

- (i) The consideration for transfer, shall be made out of (i) funds received in India through banking channels by way of inward remittance from any place outside India or (ii) funds held in any non-resident account maintained in accordance with the provisions of the Act and the regulations made by the Reserve Bank;
- (ii) No payment for any transfer of immovable property shall be made either by traveler's cheque or by foreign currency notes or by any other mode other than those specifically permitted under this clause;
- (iii) Provided that the marriage has been registered and subsisted for a continuous period of not less than two years immediately preceding the acquisition of such property;
- (iv) Provided further that the non-resident spouse is not otherwise prohibited from such acquisition.

7. Acquisition by a Long-Term Visa holder:-

A person being a citizen of Afghanistan, Bangladesh or Pakistan belonging to minority communities in those countries, namely, Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis and Christians who is residing in India and has been granted a Long Term Visa (LTV) by the Central Government may purchase only one residential immovable property in India as dwelling unit for self-occupation and only one immovable property for carrying out self-employment subject to the following conditions:

- (a) the property should not be located in and around restricted/ protected areas so notified by the Central Government and cantonment areas;
- (b) the person submits a declaration to the Revenue Authority of the district where the property is located, specifying the source of funds and that he/ she is residing in India on LTV;
- (c) the registration documents of the property should mention the nationality and the fact that such person is on LTV;
- (d) the property of such person may be attached/ confiscated in the event of his/ her indulgence in anti-India activities;
- (e) a copy of the documents of the purchased property shall be submitted to the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP)/ Foreigners Registration Office (FRO)/ Foreigners Regional Registration Office (FRRO) concerned and to the Ministry of Home Affairs (Foreigners Division);
- (f) such person shall be eligible to sell the property only after acquiring Indian citizenship. However, transfer of the property before acquiring Indian citizenship shall require prior approval of DCP/FRO/FRRO concerned.

8. Repatriation of sale proceeds:-

- (a) A person referred to in sub-section (5) of Section 6 of the Act, or his successor shall not, except with the general or specific permission of the Reserve Bank, repatriate outside India the sale proceeds of any immovable property referred to in that sub-section;
- (b) In the event of sale of immovable property other than agricultural land/ farm house/ plantation property in India by an NRI or an OCI, the authorised dealer may allow repatriation of the sale proceeds outside India, provided the following conditions are satisfied, namely:
- (i) the immovable property was acquired by the seller in accordance with the provisions of the foreign exchange law in force at the time of his acquisition or the provisions of these Regulations;
 - (ii) the amount for acquisition of the immovable property was paid in foreign exchange received through banking channels or out of funds held in Foreign Currency Non-Resident Account or out of funds held in Non-Resident External account;
 - (iii) in the case of residential property, the repatriation of sale proceeds is restricted to not more than two such properties.
- (c) In the event of failure in repayment of external commercial borrowing availed by a person resident in India under the provisions of the Foreign Exchange Management (Borrowing or Lending in Foreign Exchange) Regulations, 2000, as amended from time to time, a bank which is an authorised dealer may permit the overseas lender or the security trustee (in whose favour the charge on immovable property has been created to secure the ECB) to sell the immovable property on which the said loan has been secured only to a (by the) person resident in India and to repatriate the sale proceeds towards outstanding dues in respect of the said loan and not any other loan.

9. Prohibition on acquisition or transfer of immovable property in India by citizens of certain countries:-

No person being a citizen of Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, China, Iran, Nepal, Bhutan, Hong Kong or Macau or Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) without prior permission of the Reserve Bank shall acquire or transfer immovable property in India, other than lease, not exceeding five years.

Provided this prohibition shall not apply to an OCI.

Explanation: For the purpose of this regulation the term "citizen" shall include natural persons and legal entities.

10. Prohibition on transfer of immovable property in India:-

Save as otherwise provided in the Act or Regulations, no person resident outside India shall transfer any immovable property in India:-

Provided that

- (i) The Reserve Bank may, for sufficient reasons, permit the transfer, subject to such conditions as may be considered necessary.
- (ii) A bank which is an authorised dealer may, subject to the directions issued by the Reserve Bank in this behalf, permit a person resident in India or on behalf of such person to create charge on his immovable property in India in favour of an overseas lender or security trustee, to secure an external commercial borrowing availed under the provisions of the Foreign Exchange Management (Borrowing or Lending in Foreign Exchange) Regulations, 2000, as amended from time to time.
- (iii) An Authorized Dealer in India being the Indian correspondent of an overseas lender may, subject to the directions issued by the Reserve Bank in this regard, create a mortgage on an immovable property in India owned by an NRI or an OCI, being a director of a company outside India, for a loan to be availed by the company from the said overseas lender.

Provided

- (a) the funds shall be used by the borrowing company only for its core business purposes overseas;
- (b) in case of invocation of charge, the Indian bank shall sell the immovable property to an eligible acquirer and remit the sale proceeds to the overseas lender.
- (iv) A person resident outside India who has acquired any immovable property in India in accordance with foreign exchange laws in force at the time of such acquisition or with the general or specific permission of the Reserve Bank may transfer such property to a person resident in India provided the transaction takes place through banking channels in India and provided that the resident is not otherwise prohibited from such acquisition.

11. Miscellaneous:-

Any transaction involving acquisition or transfer of immovable property under these regulations shall be undertaken:

- (a) through banking channels in India;
- (b) subject to payment of applicable taxes and other duties/levies in India.

12. Saving:-

Any existing holding of immovable property in India by a person resident outside India made in accordance with the policy in existence at the time of such acquisition would not require any modifications to conform to these regulations.

CHAPTER 3: PREVENTION OF MONEY LAUNDERING ACT, 2002

Amendments to the prevention of Money-Laundering Act, 2002 through the Finance Act, 2018 w.e.f. 19.04.2018

In the Prevention of Money-laundering Act, 2002,—

- (a) in section 2, in sub-section (1), in clause (u), after the words “within the country”, the words “or abroad” shall be inserted;
- (b) in section 5,—
- (i) in sub-section (1), after the second proviso, the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:— “Provided also that for the purposes of computing the period of one hundred and eighty days, the period during which the proceedings under this section is stayed by the High Court, shall be excluded and a further period not exceeding thirty days from the date of order of vacation of such stay order shall be counted.”;
 - (ii) in sub-section (3), for the word, brackets and figure “sub-section (2)”, the word, brackets and figure “sub-section (3)” shall be substituted;
- (c) in section 8,—
- (i) in sub-section (3), in clause (a), after the words “continue during”, the words “investigation for a period not exceeding ninety days or” shall be inserted;
 - (ii) in sub-section (8), after the proviso, the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:— “Provided further that the Special Court may, if it thinks fit, consider the claim of the claimant for the purposes of restoration of such properties during the trial of the case in such manner as may be prescribed.”;
- (d) in section 19, in sub-section (3),— (i) after the words “be taken to a”, the words “Special Court or” shall be inserted; (ii) in the proviso, after the words “from the place of arrest to the”, the words “Special Court or” shall be inserted;
- (e) in section 45, in sub-section (1), —
- (i) for the words “punishable for a term of imprisonment of more than three years under Part A of the Schedule”, the words “under this Act” shall be substituted;
 - (ii) in the proviso, after the words “sick and infirm,”, the words “or is accused either on his own or along with other co-accused of money-laundering a sum of less than one crore rupees” shall be inserted;
- (f) in section 50, in sub-section (5), in the proviso, in clause (b), for the word “Director”, the words “Joint Director” shall be substituted;
- (g) section 66 shall be numbered as sub-section (1) thereof, and after sub-section (1) as so numbered, the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:—
- “(2) If the Director or other authority specified under sub-section (1) is of the opinion, on the basis of information or material in his possession, that the provisions of any other law for the time being in force are contravened, then the Director or such other authority shall share the information with the concerned agency for necessary action.”;

In “**Paragraph 29 -Offence Under the Companies Act, 2013**

Section 447 i.e., punishment for fraud has been inserted.

CHAPTER 6: INSOLVENCY AND BANKRUPTCY CODE, 2016**(1) Enforcement of clause (a) to clause (d) of section 2 of the Code vide notification S.O. 1570(E) , dated 15th May , 2017**

The Central Government hereby appoints the 1st April, 2017 as the date on which the provisions of clause (a) to clause (d) of section 2 of the Code relating to voluntary liquidation or bankruptcy shall come into force.

(2) Commencement of sections related to Fast Track Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process vide Notification S.O. 1910(E) dated 14th June 2017

The Central Government hereby appoints the 14th day of June, 2017 as the date on which the provisions of section 55 to section 58 (both inclusive) of the said Code shall come into force.

(3) Commencement of sections related to Fast Track Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process u/s 55(2) of the Code vide Notification S.O.1911(E) dated 14th June 2017

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 55(2) of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 , the Central Government hereby notifies that an application for fast track corporate insolvency resolution process may be made in respect of the following corporate debtors, namely :-

- (a) a small company as defined under clause (85) of section 2 of Companies Act, 2013, or
- (b) a Startup (other than the partnership firm) as defined in the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry number G.S.R. 501(E), dated the 23rd May, 2017, or
- (c) an unlisted company with total assets, as reported in the financial statement of the immediately preceding financial year, not exceeding rupees one crore.

(4) Issue of clarification regarding approval of resolution plans under section 30 and 31 of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 vide general circular IBC/01/ 2017 dated 25th October 2017

Ministry of Corporate Affairs issued a clarification in view of the requirement under section 30(2)(e) of the Code for the resolution professional to confirm that each resolution plan received by him does not contravene any of the provisions of the law for the time being in force.

Accordingly clarification was sought whether approval of shareholders/ members of the corporate debtor/ company is required for a resolution plan at any stage during the process for its consideration and approval as laid down under section 30 & 31 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code and after approval during its implementation, for any actions contained in the resolution plan which would normally require specific approval of shareholders/ members under provisions of Companies Act, 2013 or any other law.

Through the issue of this circular, it has been clarified that the approval of shareholders / members of the corporate debtor/company for a particular action required in the resolution plan for its implementation, which would have been required under the Companies Act, 2013 or any other law if the resolution plan of the company was not being considered under the Code, is deemed to have been given on its approval by the Adjudicating Authority.

(5) Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Act, 2018

Ministry of Law and Justice, amended the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 (Principal Act) through the enforcement of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Act, 2018 vide notification dated 19th January, 2018. This Act came into enforcement on 23rd day of November 2017.

Significant relevant changes are as follows:

(i) Amendment in section 2 of the Principal Act

- a. in clause (d), the word "and" shall be omitted;
- b. for clause (e), the following clauses shall be substituted, namely:—
"(e) personal guarantors to corporate debtors;
- c. partnership firms and proprietorship firms; and
- d. individuals, other than persons referred to in clause (e),".

(ii) Amendment in section 5 of the Principal Act

in clause (26), for the words "any person", the words "resolution applicant" shall be substituted.

(iii) In section 30 of the principal Act, for sub-section (4), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

"(4) The committee of creditors may approve a resolution plan by a vote of not less than seventy-five per cent. of voting share of the financial creditors, after considering its feasibility and viability, and such other requirements as may be specified by the Board:

Provided that the committee of creditors shall not approve a resolution plan, submitted before the commencement of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code Ord. 7 of (Amendment) Ordinance, 2017, where the resolution applicant is ineligible under 2017. section 29A and may require the resolution professional to invite a fresh resolution plan where no other resolution plan is available with it:

Provided further that where the resolution applicant referred to in the first proviso is ineligible under clause (c) of section 29A, the resolution applicant shall be allowed by the committee of creditors such period, not exceeding thirty days, to make payment of overdue amounts in accordance with the proviso to clause (c) of section 29A:

Provided also that nothing in the second proviso shall be construed as extension of period for the purposes of the proviso to sub-section (3) of section 12, and the corporate insolvency resolution process shall be completed within the period specified in that sub-section.”

(2) The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Second Amendment) Act, 2018

Vide Notification dated 17th August, 2018, Ministry of Law and Justice hereby amended the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 through the enforcement of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Second Amendment) Act, 2018. With the enforcement of this Amendment Act, the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Ordinance, 2018 have been repealed. This amendment Act is effective from **6th June, 2018**.

Following are the relevant amendments:

- (1)** In **section 3(12)**, in the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016(Principal Act), for the word "repaid", the word "paid" shall be substituted.
- (2)** In **section 5** of the principal Act,
- (i) after clause (5) i.e., after the definition of Corporate applicant, the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—
'(5A) "corporate guarantor" means a corporate person who is the surety in a contract of guarantee to a corporate debtor;'
- (ii) in clause (8) prescribing the term "Financial Debt" in the Code, in sub-clause (f), the following Explanation shall be inserted, namely:—
'Explanation.—For the purposes of this sub-clause,—
(i) any amount raised from an allottee under a real estate project shall be deemed to be an amount having the commercial effect of a borrowing; and
(ii) the expressions, "allottee" and "real estate project" shall have the meanings respectively assigned to them in clauses (d) and (zn) of section 2 of the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016;
(iii) in clause (12) i.e., as to the "Insolvency commencement date", the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:—
"Provided that where the interim resolution professional is not appointed in the order admitting application under section 7, 9 or section 10, the insolvency commencement date shall be the date on which such interim resolution professional is appointed by the Adjudicating Authority;"
- (iv) **after clause (24)**, the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—
'**(24A) "related party"**, in relation to an individual, means—

- (a) a person who is a relative of the individual or a relative of the spouse of the individual;
- (b) a partner of a limited liability partnership, or a limited liability partnership or a partnership firm, in which the individual is a partner;
- (c) a person who is a trustee of a trust in which the beneficiary of the trust includes the individual, or the terms of the trust confers a power on the trustee which may be exercised for the benefit of the individual;
- (d) a private company in which the individual is a director and holds along with his relatives, more than two per cent. of its share capital;
- (e) a public company in which the individual is a director and holds along with relatives, more than two per cent. of its paid-up share capital;
- (f) a body corporate whose board of directors, managing director or manager, in the ordinary course of business, acts on the advice, directions or instructions of the individual;
- (g) a limited liability partnership or a partnership firm whose partners or employees in the ordinary course of business, act on the advice, directions or instructions of the individual;
- (h) a person on whose advice, directions or instructions, the individual is accustomed to act;
- (i) a company, where the individual or the individual along with its related party, own more than fifty per cent. of the share capital of the company or controls the appointment of the board of directors of the company.

Explanation.—For the purposes of this clause,—

- (a) "relative", with reference to any person, means anyone who is related to another, in the following manner, namely:—
 - (i) members of a Hindu Undivided Family,
 - (ii) husband,
 - (iii) wife,
 - (iv) father,
 - (v) mother,
 - (vi) son,
 - (vii) daughter,
 - (viii) son's daughter and son,
 - (ix) daughter's daughter and son,

- (x) grandson's daughter and son,
 - (xi) granddaughter's daughter and son,
 - (xii) brother,
 - (xiii) sister,
 - (xiv) brother's son and daughter,
 - (xv) sister's son and daughter,
 - (xvi) father's father and mother,
 - (xvii) mother's father and mother,
 - (xviii) father's brother and sister,
 - (xix) mother's brother and sister, and
- (b) wherever the relation is that of a son, daughter, sister or brother, their spouses shall also be included;'
- (3) In **section 7(1)** of the principal Act which deals with the initiation of CIRP by financial creditor, for the words "other financial creditors", the words "other financial creditors, or any other person on behalf of the financial creditor, as may be notified by the Central Government," shall be substituted.
- (4) In **section 8(2)** of the principal Act which deals with the Insolvency resolution by operational creditor, following are the amendments—
- (i) in clause (a), for the words "if any, and", the words "if any, or" shall be substituted;
 - (ii) in clause (b), for the word "repayment", the word "payment" shall be substituted;
- In the Explanation, for the word "repayment", the word "payment" shall be substituted.
- (5) In **section 9(3)** of the principal Act, which states of the provision related to the filing of an application for initiation of corporate insolvency resolution process by operational creditor—
- (i) in clause (c), for the words "by the corporate debtor; and", the words "by the corporate debtor, if available;" shall be substituted;
 - (ii) for clause (d), the following clauses shall be substituted, namely:—
 - "(d) a copy of any record with information utility confirming that there is no payment of an unpaid operational debt by the corporate debtor, if available; and
 - (e) any other proof confirming that there is no payment of an unpaid operational debt by the corporate debtor or such other information, as may be prescribed.";
- (6) in **section 9(5)** of the principle Code which deals with the provision related to the filing of an application for initiation of corporate insolvency resolution process by operational creditor —

- (a) in clause (i), in sub-clause (b), for the word "repayment", the word "payment" shall be substituted;
 - (b) in clause (ii), in sub-clause (b), for the word "repayment", the word "payment" shall be substituted.
- (7) **Section 10 (3)** of the principal Act, deals with the initiation of corporate insolvency resolution process by corporate applicant, shall be substituted with the following-
- "(3) The corporate applicant shall, along with the application, furnish—
- (a) the information relating to its books of account and such other documents for such period as may be specified;
 - (b) the information relating to the resolution professional proposed to be appointed as an interim resolution professional; and
 - (c) the special resolution passed by shareholders of the corporate debtor or the resolution passed by at least three-fourth of the total number of partners of the corporate debtor, as the case may be, approving filing of the application.";
- (8) In **Section 10 (4)** related to the initiation of corporate insolvency resolution process by corporate applicant, following amendments have been made—
- (i) in **clause (a)**, after the words "if it is complete", the words "and no disciplinary proceeding is pending against the proposed resolution professional" shall be inserted;
 - (ii) in **clause (b)**, after the words "if it is incomplete", the words "or any disciplinary proceeding is pending against the proposed resolution professional" shall be inserted.
- (9) In **section 12(2)** of the principal Act, related to the time limit for completion of corporate insolvency resolution process, for the word "seventy-five", the word "sixty-six" shall be substituted.
- (10) **After section 12** of the principal Act, the section 12A shall be inserted-
- "12A. Withdrawal of application admitted under section 7, 9, or 10:** The Adjudicating Authority may allow the withdrawal of application admitted under section 7 or section 9 or section 10, on an application made by the applicant with the approval of ninety per cent. voting share of the committee of creditors, in such manner as may be specified."
- (11) **Section 14(3)** of the principal Act which deals with the moratorium, shall be substituted, with the following—
- "(3) The provisions of sub-section (1) shall not apply to—
- (a) such transaction as may be notified by the Central Government in consultation with any financial regulator;
 - (b) **a surety in a contract of guarantee to a corporate debtor."**

- (12) In **section 15(1)(c)** of the principal Act which deals with the provisions related to the public announcement, for the word "claims", the words "claims, as may be specified" shall be substituted.
- (13) In **section 16(5)** of the principal Act which is related to the appointment and tenure of interim resolution professional, for the words "shall not exceed thirty days from date of his appointment", the words and figures "shall continue till the date of appointment of the resolution professional under section 22" shall be substituted.
- (14) In **section 17(2)(d)** of the principal Act which deals with the management of affairs of corporate debtor by IRP, for the words "may be specified.", the words "may be specified; and" shall be substituted;
- (15) **After section 17(2)(d)** which deals with the management of affairs of corporate debtor by IRP, the following **section 17(2)(e)**, shall be inserted,
 "(e) be responsible for complying with the requirements under any law for the time being in force on behalf of the corporate debtor."
- (16) In **section 21** of the principal Act, which deals with the committee of creditors, following are the relevant amendments —
- (i) **in sub-section (2), — in the proviso**, for the words "related party to whom a corporate debtor owes a financial debt", the words, brackets, figures and letter "financial creditor or the authorised representative of the financial creditor referred to in sub-section (6) or sub-section (6A) or sub-section (5) of section 24, if it is a related party of the corporate debtor," shall be substituted;
- (ii) after this proviso under sub-section (2), the following **proviso is inserted-**
 "Provided further that the first proviso shall not apply to a financial creditor, regulated by a financial sector regulator, if it is a related party of the corporate debtor solely on account of conversion or substitution of debt into equity shares or instruments convertible into equity shares, prior to the insolvency commencement date.";
- (iii) **Insertion of new sub-section 6(A) & 6(B) after sub-section (6)-**
"(6A) Where a financial debt—
- (a) is in the form of securities or deposits and the terms of the financial debt provide for appointment of a trustee or agent to act as authorised representative for all the financial creditors, such trustee or agent shall act on behalf of such financial creditors;
- (b) is owed to a class of creditors exceeding the number as may be specified, other than the creditors covered under clause (a) or sub-section (6), the interim resolution professional shall make an application to the Adjudicating Authority along with the list of all financial creditors, containing the name of an insolvency professional, other than the interim resolution professional, to act as their authorised representative who

shall be appointed by the Adjudicating Authority prior to the first meeting of the committee of creditors;

- (c) is represented by a guardian, executor or administrator, such person shall act as authorised representative on behalf of such financial creditors,

and such authorised representative under clause (a) or clause (b) or clause (c) shall attend the meetings of the committee of creditors, and vote on behalf of each financial creditor to the extent of his voting share.

(6B) The remuneration payable to the authorised representative—

- (i) under clauses (a) and (c) of sub-section (6A), if any, shall be as per the terms of the financial debt or the relevant documentation; and
- (ii) under clause (b) of sub-section (6A) shall be as specified which shall form part of the insolvency resolution process costs.";
- (iii) (iv) for sub-sections (7) and (8), the following sub-sections shall be substituted, namely:—

"(7) The Board may specify the manner of voting and the determining of the voting share in respect of financial debts covered under sub-sections (6) and (6A).

- (8) Save as otherwise provided in this Code, all decisions of the committee of creditors shall be taken by a vote of not less than fifty-one per cent. of voting share of the financial creditors:

Provided that where a corporate debtor does not have any financial creditors, the committee of creditors shall be constituted and shall comprise of such persons to exercise such functions in such manner as may be specified."

- (17) In **section 22(2)** of the principal Act, for the word, "seventy-five", the word "sixty-six" shall be substituted;
- (18) In **section 23(1)** of the principal Act, the following proviso shall be inserted-
- "Provided that the resolution professional shall, if the resolution plan under sub-section (6) of section 30 has been submitted, continue to manage the operations of the corporate debtor after the expiry of the corporate insolvency resolution process period until an order is passed by the Adjudicating Authority under section 31."
- (19) In **section 24(3)** of the principal Act, in clause (a), for the words "Committee of creditors", the words, brackets, figures and letter "committee of creditors, including the authorised representatives referred to in sub-sections (6) and (6A) of section 21 and sub-section (5)" shall be substituted;
- (20) **Insertion of new section 25A** which deals with the Rights and duties of authorised representative of financial creditors.

'25A. (1) **Right to participate and Vote on behalf of FC:** The authorised representative(AR) under section 21(6) & 21(6A) or section 24(5) shall have the right to participate and vote in meetings of the committee of creditors on behalf of the financial creditor(FC) he represents in accordance with the prior voting instructions of such creditors obtained through physical or electronic means.

(2) **Duty of AR to circulate agenda & minutes to FC:** It shall be the duty of the authorised representative to circulate the agenda and minutes of the meeting of the committee of creditors to the financial creditor he represents.

(3) **AR to act on instruction of FC:** The authorised representative shall not act against the interest of the financial creditor he represents and shall always act in accordance with their prior instructions:

Provided that if the authorised representative represents several financial creditors, then he shall cast his vote in respect of each financial creditor in accordance with instructions received from each financial creditor, to the extent of his voting share:

Provided further that if any financial creditor does not give prior instructions through physical or electronic means, the authorised representative shall abstain from voting on behalf of such creditor.

(4) **To ensure recording of instruction by IRP/RP:** The authorised representative shall file with the committee of creditors any instructions received by way of physical or electronic means, from the financial creditor he represents, for voting in accordance therewith, to ensure that the appropriate voting instructions of the financial creditor he represents is correctly recorded by the interim resolution professional or resolution professional, as the case may be.

(21) **Amendment in section 27(2)** of the principal Act which deals with the Replacement of Resolution Professional (RP) by Committee of creditors(CoC): This sub-section is substituted with the following provision-

"The committee of creditors may, at a meeting, by a vote of sixty-six per cent. of voting shares, resolve to replace the resolution professional appointed under section 22 with another resolution professional, subject to a written consent from the proposed resolution professional in the specified form."

(22) **Amendment in section 28(3)** of the principal Act which deals with the approval of committee of creditors for certain actions, for the word, "seventy-five", the word "sixty-six" shall be substituted.

(23) **Amendment in Section 29 A**, dealt with the persons not eligible to be resolution applicant came into enforcement on 23rd day of November 2017 through the enforcement of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Act, 2018 vide notification dated 19th January, 2018.

(i) **in clause (c),—**

- (a) for the words "has an account," the words "at the time of submission of the resolution plan has an account," shall be substituted;
- (b) after the words and figures "the Banking Regulation Act, 1949", the words "or the guidelines of a financial sector regulator issued under any other law for the time being in force," shall be inserted;
- (c) after the proviso, the following shall be inserted, namely:—"Provided further that nothing in this clause shall apply to a resolution applicant where such applicant is a financial entity and is not a related party to the corporate debtor.

The expression "**related party**" here shall not include a financial entity, regulated by a financial sector regulator, if it is a financial creditor of the corporate debtor and is a related party of the corporate debtor solely on account of conversion or substitution of debt into equity shares or instruments convertible into equity shares, prior to the insolvency commencement date.

For the purposes of this clause, where a resolution applicant has an account, or an account of a corporate debtor under the management or control of such person or of whom such person is a promoter, classified as non-performing asset and such account was acquired pursuant to a prior resolution plan approved under this Code, then, the provisions of this clause shall not apply to such resolution applicant for a period of three years from the date of approval of such resolution plan by the Adjudicating Authority under this Code;";

- (ii) **for clause (d)**, the following clause shall be substituted, namely:—

"(d) has been convicted for any offence punishable with imprisonment—

- (i) for two years or more under any Act specified under the Twelfth Schedule; or
- (ii) for seven years or more under any other law for the time being in force:

Provided that this clause shall not apply to a person after the expiry of a period of two years from the date of his release from imprisonment:

Provided further that this clause shall not apply in relation to a connected person referred to in clause (iii) of Explanation I;"

- (iii) **in clause (e)**, the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:—

"Provided that this clause shall not apply in relation to a connected person referred to in clause (iii) of Explanation I;"

- (iv) **in clause (g)**, the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:—

"Provided that this clause shall not apply if a preferential transaction, undervalued transaction, extortionate credit transaction or fraudulent transaction has taken place prior to the acquisition of the corporate debtor by the resolution applicant pursuant to a resolution plan approved under this Code or pursuant to a scheme or plan approved by a financial sector regulator or a court, and such resolution applicant has not

otherwise contributed to the preferential transaction, undervalued transaction, extortionate credit transaction or fraudulent transaction;"

(v) in clause (h),—

- (a) for the words "an enforceable guarantee", the words "a guarantee" shall be substituted;
- (b) after the words "under this Code", the words "and such guarantee has been invoked by the creditor and remains unpaid in full or part" shall be inserted;

(vi) in clause (i), for the words "has been", the word "is" shall be substituted;

(vii) the Explanation occurring after clause (j) shall be numbered as *Explanation I*, and in *Explanation I* as so numbered, for the proviso, the following provisos shall be substituted, namely:—

'Provided that nothing in clause (iii) of *Explanation I* shall apply to a resolution applicant where such applicant is a financial entity and is not a related party of the corporate debtor:

Provided further that the expression "related party" shall not include a financial entity, regulated by a financial sector regulator, if it is a financial creditor of the corporate debtor and is a related party of the corporate debtor solely on account of conversion or substitution of debt into equity shares or instruments convertible into equity shares, prior to the insolvency commencement date;';

(viii) after *Explanation I* as so numbered, the following *Explanation* shall be inserted, namely:—

'*Explanation II*—For the purposes of this section, "financial entity" shall mean the following entities which meet such criteria or conditions as the Central Government may, in consultation with the financial sector regulator, notify in this behalf, namely:—

- (a) a scheduled bank;
- (b) any entity regulated by a foreign central bank or a securities market regulator or other financial sector regulator of a jurisdiction outside India which jurisdiction is compliant with the Financial Action Task Force Standards and is a signatory to the International Organisation of Securities Commissions Multilateral Memorandum of Understanding;
- (c) any investment vehicle, registered foreign institutional investor, registered foreign portfolio investor or a foreign venture capital investor, where the terms shall have the meaning assigned to them in regulation 2 of the Foreign Exchange Management (Transfer or Issue of Security by a Person Resident Outside India) Regulations, 2017 made under the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999.

- (d) an asset reconstruction company registered with the Reserve Bank of India under section 3 of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002;
- (e) an Alternate Investment Fund registered with the Securities and Exchange Board of India;
- (f) such categories of persons as may be notified by the Central Government.

(24) Amendment in section 30: The said section deals with the submission of resolution plan. Following are the amendments-

- (i) in **sub-section (1)**, after the words "resolution plan", the words, figures and letter "along with an affidavit stating that he is eligible under section 29A" shall be inserted;
- (ii) in **sub-section (2)**,—
 - (a) in clauses (a) and (b), for the word "repayment" at both the places where it occurs, the word "payment" shall be substituted;
 - (b) after clause (f), the following *Explanation* shall be inserted, namely:—
"Explanation.—For the purposes of clause (e), if any approval of shareholders is required under the Companies Act, 2013 or any other law for the time being in force for the implementation of actions under the resolution plan, such approval shall be deemed to have been given and it shall not be a contravention of that Act or law."
- (iii) in **sub-section (4)**,—
 - (a) for the word "seventy-five", the word "sixty-six" shall be substituted;
 - (b) after the third proviso, the following proviso shall be inserted,
 namely:—
"Provided also that the eligibility criteria in section 29A as amended by the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Ordinance, 2018 shall apply to the resolution applicant who has not submitted resolution plan as on the date of commencement of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Ordinance, 2018."

(25) Amendment in section 31 of the principal Act, which deals with the approval of resolution plan—

- (a) in **sub-section (1)**, the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:—
"Provided that the Adjudicating Authority shall, before passing an order for approval of resolution plan under this sub-section, satisfy that the resolution plan has provisions for its effective implementation."
- (b) after **sub-section (3)**, the following sub-section shall be inserted namely:—
"(4) The resolution applicant shall, pursuant to the resolution plan approved under sub-section (1), obtain the necessary approval required under any law for the time

being in force within a period of one year from the date of approval of the resolution plan by the Adjudicating Authority under sub-section (1) or within such period as provided for in such law, whichever is later:

Provided that where the resolution plan contains a provision for combination, as referred to in section 5 of the Competition Act, 2002, the resolution applicant shall obtain the approval of the Competition Commission of India under that Act prior to the approval of such resolution plan by the committee of creditors."

- (26) Amendment made in section 33(2) of the principal Act. This section deals with the initiation of liquidation process. Amendments made is that after the words "decision of the committee of creditors", the words "approved by not less than sixty-six per cent. of the voting share" shall be inserted.
- (27) In **section 34** of the principal Act, which states of appointment of liquidator and fee to be paid, following amendments are made—
- a. in **sub-section (1)**, for the words and figures "Chapter II shall", the words and figures "Chapter II shall, subject to submission of a written consent by the resolution professional to the Adjudicatory Authority in specified form," shall be substituted;
 - b. in **sub-section (4)**,—
 - i. in clause (b), for the words "in writing", the words "in writing; or" shall be substituted;
 - ii. after clause (b), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—
"(c) the resolution professional fails to submit written consent under sub-section (1).";
 - c. in **sub-section (5)**, for the word, brackets and letter "clause (a)", the words, brackets and letters "clauses (a) and (c)" shall be substituted;
 - d. in **sub-section (6)**, after the words "another insolvency professional", the words "along with written consent from the insolvency professional in the specified form," shall be inserted.
- (28) In section 42 of the principal Act, which deals with the provisions related to the appeal against the decision of liquidator, after the words "of the liquidator", the words "accepting or" shall be inserted.
- (29) In **section 45(1)** of the principal Act, which deals with the Avoidance of undervalued transactions, the words and figures "of section 43" shall be omitted.

Amendment in Regulation – 3 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (Insolvency Resolution Process for Corporate Persons) Regulations, 2016 contained on Page no. 6.25 of module 3 (New) / Not covered in the Study material of Old Scheme

Eligibility for resolution professional.

3.(1) An insolvency professional shall be eligible to be appointed as a resolution professional for a corporate insolvency resolution process of a corporate debtor if he, and all partners and directors of

the insolvency professional entity of which he is a partner or director, are independent of the corporate debtor.

Explanation— A person shall be considered independent of the corporate debtor, if he:

(a) is eligible to be appointed as an independent director on the board of the corporate debtor under section 149 of the Companies Act, 2013 (18 of 2013), where the corporate debtor is a company;

(b) is not a related party of the corporate debtor; or

(c) is not an employee or proprietor or a partner:

(i) of a firm of auditors or *secretarial auditors in practice or cost auditors of the corporate debtor; or

(ii) of a legal or a consulting firm, that has or had any transaction with the corporate debtor amounting to **five per cent or more of the gross turnover of such firm, in the last three financial years.

*** (1A) Where the committee decides to appoint the interim resolution professional as resolution professional or replace the interim resolution professional under section 22 or replace the resolution professional under section 27, it shall obtain the written consent of the proposed resolution professional in Form AA of the Schedule.

(2) A resolution professional shall make disclosures at the time of his appointment and thereafter in accordance with the Code of Conduct.

(3) A resolution professional, who is a director or a partner of an insolvency professional entity, shall not continue as a resolution professional in a corporate insolvency resolution process if the insolvency professional entity or any other partner or director of such insolvency professional entity represents any of the other stakeholders in the same corporate insolvency resolution process.

PART II – QUESTION AND ANSWERS

Multiple Choice Questions

1. All the three directors of Cygnus Wires Limited generally remain out of India for developing connections and securing business opportunities on behalf of the company. However, the company must strictly follow the legal requirement that at least one of its directors must stay for the specified statutory period in India. To reckon as 'resident director' for the financial year 2018-19, advise the company as to which period spent in India shall count towards statutory period.
 - (a) Period spent in India during the previous financial year 2017-18.
 - (b) Total of fifty percent each of the period spent in India during the financial year 2016-17 and 2017-18.
 - (c) Period spent in India during the financial year 2018-19.
 - (d) Total of fifty percent each of the period spent in India during the financial year 2017-18 and 2018-19.

2. Mr. Roop was appointed as an Additional Director of XYZ Limited in July, 2018. Immediately after his appointment, on behalf of the Company he entered into an agreement with NY Private Limited for supplies of raw material. In the ensuing meeting, he was regularized as a Director. He signed Contract with Laxmi vendors. At the end of the December 2018, management came to know that his appointment was not valid as he was disqualified to act as a Director of any Company. He signed one more agreement in January 2019 with Saraswati vendors. In such scenario, what will be the status of contract/agreements he signed on behalf of XYZ Limited?
- (a) All agreement/ contracts will become invalid;
 - (b) All agreement/ contracts will be valid;
 - (c) All agreement/ contracts before December 2018 will be valid;
 - (d) All agreement/ contracts before December 2018 will be invalid.
3. Mr. Nagar a director, decided to resign from MGT Private Limited due to preoccupation. He sent his resignation letter dated 12th June, 2018 to the Company stating that he will resign w.e.f. 15th June, 2018. Due to non receipt of any communication from the Company he dropped a mail on 17th June, 2018, to confirm whether Company has received his letter. Finally Company received his letter on 25th June, 2018. In this case, from which date his resignation will be effective?
- (a) 12th June, 2018
 - (b) 15th June, 2018
 - (c) 17th June, 2018
 - (d) 25th June, 2018
4. Mr. Raman, is appointed as valuer in April, 2018 in ABC Ltd. He undertook the valuation of the assets of the company in 2018. In case, Mr. Raman becomes interested in any property, stock etc. of the company, he may not be eligible to undertake valuation in such property of the company till:
- (a) 2019
 - (b) 2020
 - (c) 2021
 - (d) He will never be appointed as Registered Valuer of the company.
5. Under the IBC, The resolution plan shall be approved by the Committee of Creditors by a vote of not less than-----percent of voting share of the financial creditors.
- (a) 51%
 - (b) 66%
 - (c) 75%

- (d) 95%
6. Who is empowered to designate court of session as special courts for trial of offence of money laundering?
- (a) Central government in consultation with the Chief Justice of Supreme Court
- (b) High court in consultation with the Chief Justice of Supreme Court
- (c) Central government in consultation with the Chief Justice of Session Court
- (d) Central government in consultation with the Chief Justice of High Court

Descriptive Questions

Part I: Corporate Laws

7. Mr. X, a Director of Sunrise Limited, was appointed on 1st April, 2016, one of the terms of appointment was that in the absence of adequacy of profits or if the company had no profits in a particular year, he will be paid remuneration in accordance with Schedule V. The company suffered heavy losses during the financial year ended 31st March, 2018. The company was not in a position to pay any remuneration, but he was paid ₹ 50 Lakhs for the year, as paid to other directors. The effective capital of the company is ₹ 150 crores. Referring to provisions of the Companies Act, 2013, examine the validity of the above payment of remuneration to Mr. X.
8. Rudraksh Ltd., a public company, was incorporated for supply of solar panels for the emerging project of government for construction of highways. However, the said project did not turn up for two years due to some legal implications. During the said period, no any significant accounting transaction was made and so the company did not file financial statements and annual returns during the last two financial years. In the meantime, the Board proposed for Mr. Ram & Mr. Rahim to be appointed as an Independent Directors for their independent and expertise knowledge and experience for better working and improvement of financial position of the company.
- Evaluate in the light of the given facts, the following legal position:
- (i) Comment upon the accountability for non-filing of financial statements and annual returns for last two financial years of the Rudraksh Ltd.
- (ii) Nature of the proposal for an appointment of Mr. Ram & Mr. Rahim in the Rudraksh Ltd. for improvement of the company.
9. The Board of Directors of IBC Consultants Limited, registered in Maharashtra, proposes to hold the next board meeting in the month of May, 2019. They seek your advice in respect of the following matters:
- (i) Can the board meeting be held in Delhi through video conferencing, when all the directors of the company reside at Maharashtra.
- (ii) Is it necessary that the notice of the board meeting should specify the nature of

business to be transacted?

10. The Board of Directors of APCO Limited a listed company for carrying out the valuation of the immovable properties standing in the name of the company as required under the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 proposes to appoint Mr. Mehta, an individual as the valuer. Referring to the provisions of the *Companies Act, 2013 read with the Companies (Registered Valuers and Valuation) Rules, 2017*, the Audit Committee is of the opinion that the Board of Directors does not have the right to appoint the valuer. Decide.
11. Decide the liability of the person for commission of the act during the course of inspection, inquiry or investigation under the Companies Act, 2013:
 - (i) A person who is required to make statement during the course of investigation pending against its company, is a party to the manipulation of documents related to the transfer of securities and naming of holders in the register of members by the company.
 - (ii) An employee of the company publicized among his social networking of sound financial position of his organization in order to incite them to purchase the shares of its company. In actuality, the company was running in loss.
12. Board of Directors of the ABC Ltd., a listed company, in their meeting passed the resolution for an appointment of Company Secretary and the Compliance Officer for the guidance to the Board with regards to their duties, responsibilities and powers and the conduct of the affairs of the company. Draft the Resolution for an appointment of Mr. Nirman as Company Secretary and Compliance Officer of the company.
13. (i) Mr. RG is a practicing Chartered Accountant and having 15 years of professional experience. Can he be appointed as Technical Member of National Company Law Appellate Tribunal as per section 411 of the Companies Act, 2013? Will your answer be different, if he is appointed as Technical Member of National Company Law Tribunal?
 - (ii) IJK Limited was wound up with effect from 15th March 2018 by an order of the Court. Mr. A, who ceased to be a member of the company from 1st June 2017, has received a notice from the liquidator that he should deposit a sum of ₹ 5000 as his contribution towards the liability on the shares previously held by him. In this context explain whether Mr. A can be called as a contributory, whether he can be made liable and whether there is any limitation on his liability.
14. M/s DJ Limited, a listed company, as per the audited financial statements as on 31st March, 2018 is having issued and paid-up equity share capital comprising of 10 lakhs shares of ₹ 10 each and issued and paid up preference share capital of 5 Lakhs shares of ₹ 10 each respectively. The members of the company after complying with the provisions of section 169 of the Companies Act, 2013 removed one Mr. Satish from the directorship of the

company on 1st August 2018 before the completion of his term of office. Mr. Satish is also one of the members of the company holding 110000 fully paid-up equity shares. Mr. Satish has alleged oppression on his removal and has moved the jurisdictional Honourable National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) under section 241 read with section 244 of the Companies Act, 2013. The Board of Directors of the company is of the opinion that the application is not maintainable as per the provisions of Section 244 of the Companies Act, 2013. Decide.

Also, state if any other recourse that is available with Mr. Satish under the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013.

15. DEJY Company Limited incorporated in Singapore desires to establish a place of business at Mumbai. You being a practising Chartered Accountant have been appointed by the company as a liaison officer, for compliance of legal formalities on behalf of the company. Examining the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013, state the documents you are required to furnish on behalf of the company, on the establishment of a place of business at Mumbai.
16. (i) Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has undertaken inspection of books of accounts and records of LR Ltd., a listed public company. Specify the measures which may be taken by SEBI under the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992 to protect the interest of investors and securities market, on completion of such inquiry.
(ii) Upon complaints been received by SEBI, regarding the listed securities of Blue Rock Limited at the Guwahati Stock Exchange, SEBI has passed an order to delist the securities of the company from the said stock exchange. Blue Rock Limited is aggrieved by the order of the SEBI. Advise the company on the further step that the company can take against the order of SEBI to delist the securities.

Part II: Economic Laws

17. The financial creditor, Mr. Raman, was an investor and a debenture holder of 'Optionally Convertible Debenture Bond (OPDB)' payable on maturity, was issued by the M/s Asset Ltd. (corporate debtor). The zero interest OCD bonds amounted to 2 crore matured in 2016. The liability to redeem the debentures on maturity along with a redemption premium lay on the debtor, which was not made. Mr. Raman filed the Corporate Insolvency resolution process before the NCLT. Advise in the light of the given facts, the following situations:
 - (i) State whether Mr. Raman is eligible for filing of application for initiation of CIRP?
 - (ii) Do the redemption of debenture payable on the maturity date amounts to debt?
18. Answer the following with reference to the provisions of the FEMA, 1999-
 - (i) Mr. Bharat, a person resident in India can remit amount to his son Arjun residing in USA, to buy immovable property there.

- (ii) Mr. Raghav, a resident of India went to Australia for a business deal. He realised foreign exchange for bearing expenses while staying there for the business purpose. After maturing the deal, he returned back to India. Mr. Raghav was left with certain unused foreign exchange. He retained the foreign exchange with him for future use.
19. (i) On what grounds the Reserve Bank of India can cancel a certificate of registration granted to an Asset Reconstruction Company?
- (ii) X is an association having registration to transfer the Foreign Contribution received by it to another organization? Is the valid act of X? If yes, then what is the process to do so? Is there any restriction on transfer of funds to other organisations?
20. (i) The Adjudicating Authority appointed under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 issued an order attaching certain properties of XYZ Limited alleged to be involved in money laundering for a specified period. The company aggrieved by the order of the Adjudicating Authority seeks your advice about the remedy that is available under the Act. Advise explaining the relevant provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002.
- (ii) In 2016, Company Amar, food processor manufacturing unit entered into a joint venture agreement with Company USHA, the largest manufacturer of Food processors for supply of parts of mixer & grinder for manufacturing its latest model. Both the companies are registered under the Companies Act 2013. Agreement carries the term that all disputes shall be arbitrated in Mumbai. State the type of arbitration agreement made between them.

SUGGESTED ANSWERS/HINTS

Answers MCQs

1. (c)
2. (c)
3. (d)
4. (c)
5. (b)
6. (d)

Descriptive answers

7. Under Section II of Part II of Schedule V to the Companies Act, 2013, the remuneration payable to managerial personnel is linked to the effective capital of the company. According to section 197(3) of the Companies Act, 2013, where in any financial year during the currency of tenure of a managerial person, a company has no profits or its profits are

inadequate, it may, pay remuneration to the managerial person not exceeding ₹ 120 Lakh in the year in case the effective capital of the company is between ₹100 crore to ₹ 250 crore. However, the remuneration in excess of ₹ 120 Lakhs may be paid if the resolution passed by the shareholders is a special resolution.

From the foregoing provisions contained in schedule V to the Companies Act, 2013 the payment of ₹ 50 Lakh in the year as remuneration to Mr. X is valid in case he accepts it, as under the said schedule he is entitled to a remuneration of ₹ 120 Lakh in the year and his terms of appointment provide for payment of the remuneration as per schedule V.

8. (i) As per the stated facts, Rudraksh Ltd. is an inactive company as per the provision given under the Companies Act, 2013. According to the section 455 of the Companies Act, 2013, where a company is formed and registered under this Act for a future project or to hold an asset or intellectual property and has no significant accounting transaction, such a company or an inactive company (which has not been carrying on any business or operation, or has not made any significant accounting transaction during the last two financial years, or has not filed financial statements and annual returns during the last two financial years;) may make an application to the Registrar for obtaining the status of a dormant company. Since in the given case, Rudraksh Ltd. has not filed financial statements or annual returns for 2 financial years consecutively, the Registrar shall issue a notice to that effect and enter the name in the register maintained for dormant companies.
- (ii) As per section 149(6) read with Rule 4 of the *Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Rules, 2014*, the public companies of prescribed class shall require to appoint minimum 2 Independent directors. However, vide Notification number G.S.R. 839(E) dated 5th July, 2017, an amendment was issued through the *Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Amendment Rules, 2017* inter-alia amending rule 4 of the *Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Rules, 2014*. It is provided that an unlisted public company which is a joint venture, a wholly owned subsidiary or a dormant company will not be required to appoint Independent Directors. So, the proposal for appointment of Independent Director (Mr. Ram & Mr. Rahim) is not necessitated.
9. (i) There is no provision in the Companies Act, 2013 under which the board meetings must be held at any particular place. Therefore, there is no difficulty in holding the board meeting at Delhi even if all the directors of the company reside at Maharashtra and the registered office is situated at Maharashtra provided that the requirements regarding the holding of a valid board meeting and the other provisions relating to the signing of register of contracts, taking roll calls, etc. are complied with.
- (ii) Section 173 (3) of the Companies Act, 2013 provides for the giving of notice of every board meeting of not less than seven days to every director of the company. There is no provision in the Act laying down the contents of the notice. Hence, it may be construed that notice may be interpreted as intimation of the meeting and does not

necessarily include the sending of the Agenda of the meeting. However, considering the importance of Board Meetings and the responsibilities placed on the directors for decisions taken at the meetings, it is inevitable for them to be properly prepared and informed about the items to be discussed at the Board Meetings.

The Agenda, setting out the business to be transacted at the Meeting, and Notes on Agenda shall be given to the Directors at least seven days before the date of the Meeting, unless the Articles prescribe a longer period as a matter of good secretarial practice.

The articles of association of the company may make it mandatory to do so in almost all cases.

- 10. Valuation by Registered Valuers (Section 247):** According to the provisions of section 247 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with the *Companies (Registered Valuers and Valuation) Rules, 2017*, where a valuation is required to be made in respect of any property, stocks, shares, debentures, securities or goodwill or any other assets (herein referred to as the assets) or net worth of a company or its liabilities under the provision of this Act, it shall be valued by a person having such qualifications and experience and registered as a valuer in such manner, on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed and appointed by the audit committee or in its absence by the Board of Directors of that company.

Hence, in the given instance, proposal for appointment of Mr. Mehta as the valuer by the Board of directors of APCO Ltd. is against the said provision. In fact, valuer shall be appointed by the audit committee or in its absence by the Board of Directors of that company.

In view of above, the opinion of the Audit Committee is correct.

- 11.** Section 229 of the Companies Act, 2013 states that where a person who is required to provide an explanation or make a statement during the course of inspection, inquiry or investigation, or an officer or other employee of a company or other body corporate which is also under investigation,—
- (a) destroys, mutilates or falsifies, or conceals or tampers or unauthorisedly removes, or is a party to the destruction, mutilation or falsification or concealment or tampering or unauthorised removal of, documents relating to the property, assets or affairs of the company or the body corporate;
 - (b) makes, or is a party to the making of, a false entry in any document concerning the company or body corporate; or
 - (c) provides an explanation which is false or which he knows to be false,
- he shall be punishable for fraud in the manner as provided in section 447.

As per the above provisions:

- (i) With respect to this part of the question, the person shall be liable for fraud. Since, in the given case, he is a party in the manipulation of documents relating to the transfer of securities and in the register of members of the company which is under investigation.
 - (ii) Employee shall not be liable here, as the said company in which he is an employee, is not undergoing investigation. Secondly, the person purchasing the shares can act with due diligence before purchasing shares rather fully relying on the publicity made on social networking.
12. To consider the appointment of Mr. Nirman as Company Secretary and Compliance Officer of ABC Ltd.:

“RESOLVED THAT pursuant to the provisions of section 203 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Rule 8 of the *Companies (Appointment and Remuneration of Managerial Personnel) Rules, 2014*, approval of the Board be and is hereby given to appoint Mr. Nirman as Whole Time Company Secretary of ABC listed company, with effect from 11th January 2019, to perform the duties which shall be performed by a Company Secretary under the Companies Act, 2013 and other duties as assigned to him by the Board from time to time.

“RESOLVED FURTHER that Mr. Nirman be and is hereby appointed as Compliance Officer of the company as per the Regulation 6 of the *SEBI (LODR) Regulations, 2015* with effect from 11th January 2019.

13. (i) **Qualifications of Chairperson and members of Appellate Tribunal [Section 411]**

Section 411 of the Companies Act, 2013 prescribes the qualifications of the chairperson and the members of the Appellate Tribunal.

According to section 411(3), a technical member shall be a person of proven ability, integrity and standing having special knowledge and professional experience of not less than twenty-five years in industrial finance, industrial management, industrial reconstruction, investment and accountancy."

Here, in the given case, Mr. RG is having professional experience of 15 years. Hence, Mr. RG cannot be appointed as technical member of NCLAT.

However, as per section 409, Mr. RG is eligible to be appointed as technical member of NCLT as he is meeting up the requirement by being into practice as a Chartered Accountant, for fifteen years.

- (ii) **Contributory:** According to section 285 of the Companies Act, 2013, as soon as may be after the passing of a winding up order by the Tribunal, the Tribunal shall settle a list of contributories.

While settling the list of contributories, the Tribunal shall include every person, who is or has been a member, who shall be liable to contribute to the assets of the company an amount sufficient for payment of the debts and liabilities and the costs,

charges and expenses of winding up, and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves.

Liability of the contributory: a person who has been a member shall not be liable to contribute if he has ceased to be a member for the preceding one year or more before the commencement of the winding up.

In the given case, M/s, IJK Ltd. was wound up on 15th March 2018. Whereas Mr. A ceased to be a member of the company from 1st June, 2017. So, according to the above provision, Mr. A will be a contributory and be liable to contribute as the time period of one year from the commencement of winding up has not elapsed. So Mr. A is liable to deposit ₹ 5000 (if any unpaid on the shares in respect of which he is liable as member [Section 285 (3) (d)]) as his contribution towards the liability on the shares previously held by him.

14. According to section 244(1) (a) of the Companies Act, 2013, the following members of a company shall have the right to apply under section 241, namely:—

-in the case of a company having a share capital, not less than one hundred members of the company or not less than one-tenth of the total number of its members, whichever is less, or any member or members holding not less than one-tenth of the issued share capital of the company, subject to the condition that the applicant or applicants has or have paid all calls and other sums due on his or their shares.

However, the Tribunal may, on an application made to it in this behalf, waive all or any of the requirements specified above so as to enable the members to apply under section 241.

In the instant case, the equity share capital of the company is ₹ 1 crore (10 lakh shares of ₹ 10 each) and preference share capital is ₹ 50 Lakh (5 lakh shares of ₹ 10 each). The total issued and paid up share capital is ₹ 1.50 crore comprising of 15 lakh shares.

Mr. Satish is holding 110000 fully paid up equity shares. His holding is less than one-tenth of the issued share capital of the company [$1/10^{\text{th}}$ of 15 Lakh i.e. 150000 shares].

Hence, his application is not maintainable as per provisions of section 244 of the Companies Act, 2013 and therefore the opinion of Board of directors is correct.

However, as per proviso to section 244(1), Mr. Satish may make an application to the Tribunal in this behalf for the waiver of the above condition so that he may apply under section 241.

15. Under section 380(1) of the Companies Act, 2013 every foreign company shall, within 30 days of the establishment of place of business in India, deliver to the Registrar for registration of the following documents:

- (a) a certified copy of the charter, statutes or memorandum and articles, of the company or other instrument constituting or defining the constitution of the company. If the instruments are not in the English language, a certified translation thereof in the English language;

- (b) the full address of the registered or principal office of the company;
- (c) a list of the directors and secretary of the company containing such particulars as may be prescribed;

In relation to the nature of particulars to be provided as above, the *Companies (Registration of Foreign Companies) Rules, 2014*, provide that the list of directors and secretary or equivalent (by whatever name called) of the foreign company shall contain the following particulars, for each of the persons included in such list, namely:

- (1) personal name and surname in full;
 - (2) any former name or names and surname or surnames in full;
 - (3) father's name or mother's name and spouse's name;
 - (4) date of birth;
 - (5) residential address;
 - (6) nationality;
 - (7) if the present nationality is not the nationality of origin, his nationality of origin;
 - (8) passport Number, date of issue and country of issue; (if a person holds more than one passport then details of all passports to be given)
 - (9) income-tax permanent account number (PAN), if applicable;
 - (10) occupation, if any;
 - (11) whether directorship in any other Indian company, (Director Identification Number(DIN), Name and Corporate Identity Number (CIN) of the company in case of holding directorship);
 - (12) other directorship or directorships held by him;
 - (13) Membership Number (for Secretary only); and
 - (14) e-mail ID.
- (d) the name and address or the names and addresses of one or more persons resident in India authorised to accept on behalf of the company service of process and any notices or other documents required to be served on the company;
 - (e) the full address of the office of the company in India which is deemed to be its principal place of business in India;
 - (f) particulars of opening and closing of a place of business in India on earlier occasion or occasions;
 - (g) declaration that none of the directors of the company or the authorised representative in India has ever been convicted or debarred from formation of companies and management in India or abroad; and

- (h) any other information as may be prescribed.
16. (i) As per section 11 (4) of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992, the Board may, by an order, for reasons to be recorded in writing, in the interest of investors or securities market, take any of the following measures, either pending investigation or inquiry or on completion of such investigation or inquiry, namely:—
1. suspend the trading of any security in a recognised stock exchange;
 2. restrain persons from accessing the securities market and prohibit any person associated with securities market to buy, sell or deal in securities;
 3. suspend any office-bearer of any stock exchange or self-regulatory organization from holding such position;
 4. impound and retain the proceeds or securities in respect of any transaction which is under investigation;
 5. attach, after passing of an order on an application made for approval by the Judicial Magistrate of the first class having jurisdiction, for a period not exceeding one month, one or more bank account or accounts of any intermediary or any person associated with the securities market in any manner involved in violation of any of the provisions of this Act, or the rules or the regulations made thereunder:

However only the bank account or accounts or any transaction entered therein, so far as it relates to the proceeds actually involved in violation of any of the provisions of this Act, or the rules or the regulations made thereunder shall be allowed to be attached;
 6. direct any intermediary or any person associated with the securities market in any manner not to dispose of or alienate an asset forming part of any transaction which is under investigation.
- (ii) As per the facts of the case given in the question above, the aggrieved company, i.e. Blue Rock Limited may appeal to the Securities Appellate Tribunal ('SAT') against the decision of SEBI within 45 days of date from which the order has been passed, unless further extension has been granted by SAT on reasonable grounds.

As per Section 23L, the Tribunal shall give an opportunity of being heard to the respondent and may pass the order confirming, modifying or setting aside the decision of SEBI.

SAT shall also send a copy of its order to every party to appeal and to the concerned adjudicating officer. Also, the company, Blue Rock Limited should be assured that a speedy decision shall be taken, since the Tribunal is required to dispose of in every 6 months from the date of receipt of appeal.

17. As per Section 5(7) of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016, financial creditor means any person to whom a financial debt is owed and includes a person to whom such debt has been legally assigned or transferred to.

Whereas the term Financial debt defined under Section 5(8) means a debt along with interest, if any, which is disbursed against the consideration for the time value of money and includes any amount raised pursuant to the issue of bonds, notes, debentures, loan stock or any similar instrument.

As per the facts, Mr. Raman, was an investor and a debenture holder of 'Optionally Convertible Debenture Bond (OPDB)' issued by the Asset Ltd. With the debenture payable, as on the maturity date with interest, it was disbursed against consideration for the time value of the money. Thus, it can be said that debentures on maturity will come under that purview of Section 5(8)(c). Since Mr. Raman is a person to whom a financial debt is owed, he will come within the definition of Financial creditor. Being a debenture-holder and shareholder of the company, he, being a creditor is entitled to claim debt amount. Therefore, as per section 7, Mr. Raman is entitled to file an application to initiate CIRP against the M/s Asset Ltd.

18. (i) According to Regulations on Acquisition and Transfer of Immovable Property outside India, a person resident in India may acquire immovable property outside India, jointly with a relative who is a person resident outside India, provided there is no outflow of funds from India.

In the instant case, Mr. Bharat wants to remit money to meet his obligation of 50% in the immovable property in USA under joint ownership with his son Arjun. Hence, as per the regulations, Mr. Bharat cannot remit amount to buy immovable property in USA.

- (ii) **Period for surrender of received/ realised/ unspent/ unused foreign exchange by Resident individuals [Regulation 5 of *Foreign Exchange Management (Realisation, repatriation and surrender of foreign exchange) Regulations, 2015*]:** A Person being an individual resident in India shall surrender the received/realised/unspent/ unused foreign exchange whether in the form of currency notes, coins and travellers cheques, etc. to an authorised person within a period of 180 days from the date of such receipt/realisation/purchase/acquisition or date of his return to India, as the case may be. Retention of unused foreign exchange by Mr. Raghav is against the Law.

19. (i) **Cancellation of certificate of registration (Section 4)**

The Reserve Bank may cancel a certificate of registration granted to an ARC, if such company-

- (i) ceases to carry on the business of securitisation or asset reconstruction; or
- (ii) ceases to receive or hold any investment from a qualified buyer; or

- (iii) has failed to comply with any conditions subject to which the certificate of registration has been granted to it; or
- (iv) at any time fails to fulfil any of the conditions referred to in clauses (a) to (g) of sub-section (3) of section 3; or
- (v) fails to-
 - (a) comply with any direction issued by the Reserve Bank under the provisions of this Act; or
 - (b) maintain accounts in accordance with the requirements of any law or any direction or order issued by the Reserve Bank under the provisions of this Act; or
 - (c) submit or offer for inspection its books of account or other relevant documents when so demanded by the Reserve Bank; or
 - (d) obtain prior approval of the Reserve Bank required under sub-section (6) of section 3.

Before cancelling a certificate of registration on the ground that the ARC has failed to comply with the provisions of clause (c) or has failed to fulfil any of the conditions referred to in clause (d) or sub-clause (iv) of clause (e), the Reserve Bank, unless it is of the opinion that the delay in cancelling the certificate of registration granted under sub-section (4) of section 3 shall be prejudicial to the public interest or the interests of the investors or the ARC, shall give an opportunity to such company on such terms as the Reserve Bank may specify for taking necessary steps to comply with such provisions or fulfilment of such conditions.

- (ii) Yes, X can transfer the Foreign Contribution received by it to another organization as section 7 of FCRA, 2010. According to the provision no person who –
 - a. is registered and granted a certificate or has obtained prior permission under this Act; and
 - b. receives any foreign contribution,

shall transfer such foreign contribution to any other person unless such other person is also registered and had been granted the certificate or obtained the prior permission under this Act:

Provided that such person may transfer, with the prior approval of the Central Government, a part of such foreign contribution to any other person who has not been granted a certificate or obtained permission under this Act in accordance with the rules made by the Central Government.”

Restrictions on transfer: *Rule 24 of FCRR, 2011*, prescribes the procedure for transferring foreign contribution to any unregistered person as under:

- (1) A person who has been granted a certificate of registration or prior permission under section 11 and intends to transfer part of the foreign contribution received by him to a person who has not been granted a certificate of registration or prior permission under the Act, may transfer such foreign contribution to an extent not exceeding ten per cent of the total value thereof and for this purpose, make an application to the Central Government in the prescribed Form.
- (2) Every application made under sub-rule (1) shall be accompanied by a declaration to the effect that- (a) the amount proposed to be transferred during the financial year is less than ten per cent of the total value of the foreign contribution received by him during the financial year; (b) the transferor shall not transfer any amount of foreign contribution until the Central Government approves such transfer.
- (3) A person who has been granted a certificate of registration or prior permission under section 11 shall not be required to seek the prior approval of the Central Government for transferring the foreign contribution received by him to another person who has been granted a certificate of registration or prior permission under the Act provided that the recipient has not been proceeded against under any of the provisions of the Act.
- (4) Both the transferor and the recipient shall be responsible for ensuring proper utilisation of the foreign contribution so transferred and such transfer of foreign contribution shall be reflected in the returns in Form to be submitted by both the transferor and the recipient.

20. (i) Establishment of Appellate Tribunal

According to section 25 of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002, the Appellate Tribunal constituted under sub-section (1) of section 12 of the Smugglers and Foreign Exchange Manipulators (Forfeiture of Property) Act, 1976 shall be the Appellate Tribunal for hearing appeals against the orders of the Adjudicating Authority and the other authorities under this Act.

Appeals to Appellate Tribunal

Section 26 deals with the right and time frame to make an appeal to the Appellate Tribunal. The Director or any person aggrieved by an order made by the Adjudicating Authority under this Act may prefer an appeal to the Appellate Tribunal.

The appeal shall be filed within a period of 45 days from the date on which a copy of the order made by the Adjudicating Authority is received and it shall be in such form and be accompanied by prescribed fees. The appeal shall be in such form and be accompanied by such fee as may be prescribed. The Appellate Tribunal may extend the period if it is satisfied that there was sufficient cause for not filing it within the period of 45 days.

The Appellate Tribunal may after giving the parties to the appeal an opportunity of being heard, pass such order as it thinks fit, confirming, modifying or setting aside the order appealed against.

Appeals to High Court

The Act also provides further appeal. According to Section 42 any person aggrieved by any decision or order of the Appellate Tribunal may file an appeal to the High Court within 60 days from the date of communication of the order of the Appellate Tribunal.

In the light of the provisions of the Act explained above the company is advised to prefer an appeal to Appellate Tribunal in the first instance.

- (ii) There are two basic types of arbitration agreement are:
- (a) **Arbitration clause** - a clause contained within a principal contract. The parties undertake to submit disputes in relation to or in connection with the principal contract that may arise in future to arbitration.
 - (b) **Submission agreement** - an agreement to refer disputes that already exist to arbitration. Such an agreement is entered into after the disputes have arisen.

In this case, the agreement already carries the term that all disputes shall be arbitrated in Mumbai at the time of entering into joint venture agreement. This would be an arbitration clause as it is contained in the principal contract (JVA) and no disputes have arisen till yet. It concerns future disputes that may arise.