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## STATE GOVERNMENT

### **Karnataka to Set Up Exclusive Body to Boost Innovation**

Karnataka has decided to set up an exclusive body to boost innovation ecosystem and also to take the knowledge industry to the next level of growth.

Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa on Thursday said, to support latest technologies, his government would set up Karnataka Innovation Authority under his chairmanship and one of his deputies, C.N. Ashwath Narayan, would be the co-chairman of the proposed entity.

He was speaking at an industry interactive session here. "Karnataka is on a mission to promote faster and inclusive growth. We recognise the prominence of IT to achieve this goal and we will also announce a revised IT policy in the coming days. The policy will focus on attracting investments and generating employment in tier-2 and tier-3 cities," Mr. Yediyurappa said.

The State would also set up a vision group for start-ups, in partnership with the industry and the academia, to further strengthen the start-up ecosystem in the State, he said.

Dr. Narayan said Karnataka was recognised as a global leader in innovation, technology, and R&D, with Bengaluru being the fourth largest tech cluster in the world and one of the top global innovation hubs, along the lines of New York, Tokyo, London, Beijing, and Tel Aviv.

"To further enhance our position as a global innovator, our government will establish a legal framework for innovation with an aim to encourage new and emerging technologies in the State. We are working on a draft Bill which proposes to establish a mechanism for the creation of regulatory sandboxes in Karnataka, which will broadly describe a set of conditions under which innovative technologies can be tested in a controlled testing environment, by relaxing regulatory requirements," said Dr. Narayan.

The government was committed to adopting a multifaceted strategy to ensure that Karnataka remained a global leader in innovation. Going forward, the key focus would be on skilling start-up incubation, developing global alliances, concentrating on tier-2 cities, and providing a legal framework for supporting innovation, he added.

**Source: The Hindu September, 19, 2019**

## Government to Amend the Karnataka Solar Policy (2014-21) to Declare 25-MW Plants as Solar Parks

The State Cabinet has decided to introduce amendments to the Karnataka Solar Policy (2014-21) enabling investors to set up solar parks with 25 MW capacity. At present, only plants generating 100 MW and more are declared as solar parks. The 2014-21 policy was brought out by the Siddaramaiah government when D.K. Shivakumar was Energy Minister.

Briefing presspersons on the Cabinet decisions on Friday, Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs J.C. Madhuswamy and Secondary Education Minister S. Suresh Kumar said that nearly 500 acres is required to set up a 100-MW solar park, and this has discouraged many investors.

Under the new amendments, investors can set up a 25-MW plant and declare it as a solar park, making them eligible for subsidy from the Centre. A 25-MW solar park needs about 100 acres. The producers can sell power to either the State grid or the private sector.

The Cabinet has also decided to set up a sub-committee to fix support price for agricultural and horticultural commodities when prices crash. Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa has been authorised to nominate members to the panel.

The Cabinet has approved model bylaws for solid waste management in all urban local bodies, except the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike. The bylaws aim to clean up towns and cities and ensure proper management of solid waste.

**Source: The Hindu September, 7, 2019**

## Issue of Certificate of Origin

Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC) has been authorized by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) to issue the Certificate of Origin (Non Preferential) to exporters for products manufactured in India. This Certificate is an integral part of the export document process.

MEMBERS	Rs.60 per Certificate of Origin
NON - MEMBERS	Rs.120 per Certificate of Origin

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Secretary



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## **KIADB to Map Water Availability in Industrial Areas**

The Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board (KIADB) will carry out the mapping of water availability in all its industrial areas across the state to ensure guaranteed water supply for upcoming industries.

To get in-depth knowledge on water availability, the board will shortly invite tender for conducting a study of water resources at industrial areas in all 25 districts.

The move is termed to be a precautionary measure. According to KIADB officials, this will also create an industry-friendly atmosphere in the state.

“Private agencies will map issues of water availability, treatment, reuse and also recommend solutions with the implementation plans for long-term industrial water security in all our industrial areas. This study report will help us decide on permission for the industries based on its water demand,” KIADB senior official told DH.

The study report will also suggest an alternate source if there is no proper source of water. Currently, the KIADB is supplying fresh water for Rs 20–Rs 125 per litre based on the locality.

Along with the study report, the KIADB has also geared up to give a facelift for major industrial areas in the state, which also includes the laying of dual piping systems and extending the road width.

Due to bulk availability of the treated water produced by BWSSB in Bengaluru city, the board aims to reduce the dependency on the freshwater by industries.

“We are planning to take up this project jointly with the BWSSB, especially for the industrial areas in Bengaluru Urban and Rural. The piping will be laid from the nearest Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) to the industrial areas, where the industries can use this water,” the official added.

The KIADB is also open to setting up STPs in its industrial areas, which will be maintained by the BWSSB.

**Source: The Hindu September 30, 2019**

## AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING

**Ministry of Agriculture, Consumer Affairs  
Food & Public Distribution  
New Delhi**

**September 16, 2019**

### **Need to Spread Awareness to Curb Plastic Usage**

Highlighting the ill effects of plastics, the Union Minister of Consumer Affairs Food and Public Distribution Shri Ram Vilas Paswan informed at a media interaction that 95 lakh tonnes of plastic waste is generated by single use plastic out of this 6 lakh tonnes goes into the sea contaminating the waters. He also said that plastic waste when burnt gives rise to respiratory illnesses. The aim of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution is to phase out plastic use in packaging and move towards 100% use of jute in packaging foodstuff. Informing the media about initiatives taken by his Ministry in replacing one time use plastic bottles for drinking water with suitable alternatives, the Minister said that during a meeting attended by industry organisations and stakeholders and various government departments there were deliberations on issues relevant to packaging of drinking water. All stakeholders presented suggestions on replacing one time use plastic bottles for drinking water with suitable alternatives. They said there is a need for formulation of standards for packaging of drinking water using compostable material and a need to spread consumer awareness to curb plastic usage. Shri Paswan informed that all attached, subordinate autonomous bodies under the administrative control of his Ministry have stopped using single use plastic.

Conveying birthday wishes to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on his 69th birthday Minister of Consumer Affairs Food and Public Distribution Shri Ram Vilas Paswan lauded the work that has taken place in the country in every sphere. Addressing media he said that under Prime Ministers leadership India's profile has risen on the global platform and PM has proved that India is a strong nation that can take on any security challenge. On the economy the Minister said that that GST and demonetisation have laid the foundations of a strong economy. On social justice the Minister said that the PM has ensured social justice for all sections of society including Muslim women. About Kashmir the Minister said that PM's policies will go a long way in restoring normalcy in Kashmir and making it a prime tourism destination. He stated that today Swatch Bharat Abhiyan which began on 2nd October 2014 has become a national movement and Prime Minister has appealed to all people to make India plastic free.

## ECONOMIC & CORPORATE AFFAIRS

Ministry of Corporate Affairs  
New Delhi

September 18, 2019

### Government Constitutes Company Law Committee for Implementation of the Companies Act

In line with the Government's objective of promoting Ease of Living in the country by providing Ease of Doing Business to law abiding corporates, fostering improved corporate compliance for stakeholders at large and also to address emerging issues having impact on the working of corporates in the country, it has been decided to constitute a Company Law Committee for examining and making recommendations to the Government on various provisions and issues pertaining to implementation of the Companies Act, 2013 and the Limited Liability Partnership Act, 2008.

**The Company Law Committee shall comprise of the following members:-**

S. No.	Name of Person/ Institution	- Position
1.	Secretary, MCA	• Chairman
2.	Dr. T. K. Viswanathan, Ex - Secretary General, Lok Sabha	• Member
3.	Shri Uday Kotak, MD, Kotak Mahindra Bank	• Member
4.	Shri Shardul S Shroff, Executive Chairman, Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co.	• Member
5.	Shri Amarjit Chopra, Senior Partner, GSA Associates, New Delhi	• Member
6.	Shri Rajib Se khar Sahoo, Principal Partner, SRB & Associates, Chartered Accountants, Bhubaneswar	• Member
7.	Shri Ajay Bahl, Founder and Managing Partner, AZB & Partners, Advocates & Solicitors	• Member
8.	Shri G. Ramaswamy, Partner, G. Ramaswamy & Co. Chartered Accountants, Coimbatore	• Member
9.	Shri Sidharth Birla, Chairman, Xpro India Limited	• Member
10.	Ms. Preeti Malhotra, Group President, Corporate Affairs & Governance, Smart Group	• Member
11.	Joint Secretary (Policy)	- Member Secretary



### The terms of reference of the Committee are as follows:-

- i. Analyze the nature of the offences (compoundable and non-compoundable) and submit its recommendation as to whether any of the offences could be re-categorized as 'civil wrongs' along with measures to optimize the compliance requirements under the Companies Act, 2013 and concomitant measures to provide further Ease of Doing Business;
- ii. Examine the feasibility of introducing settlement mechanism, deferred prosecution agreement, etc., within the fold of the Companies Act, 2013;
- iii. Study the existing framework under the Limited Liability Partnership Act, 2008 and suggest measures to plug the gaps, if any, while at the same time enhancing the Ease of Doing Business;
- iv. Propose measures to further de-clog and improve the functioning of the NCLT;
- v. Suggest measures for removing any bottlenecks in the overall functioning of the statutory bodies like SFIO, IEPFA, NFRA, etc. under the Act;
- vi. Identify specific provisions under the Companies Act, 2013 and the Limited Liability Partnership Act, 2008 which are required to be amended to bring about greater Ease of Living for the corporate stakeholders including but not restricted to review of Forms under the two Acts;
- vii. Any other relevant recommendation as it may deem necessary.

The Committee shall submit its recommendations in phases and subject-wise to the Government from time to time as may be decided by the Chairperson of the Committee.

The Committee shall initially have a tenure of one year from the date of its first meeting.

### BCIC INFORMATION DIGEST



	Mechanical Data (Width x Height)	Advertisement Tariff (Monthly)	
Full Page	18 cm x 26 cm	Back cover (Colour)	Rs. 7,500/-
Half Page	18 cm x 13 cm	Inside front cover Colour	Rs. 5,000/-
Book Size	21 cm x 29.7 cm	Back inside Cover (Colour)	Rs. 5,000/-



भारतीय प्रतिभूति और विनिमय बोर्ड  
Securities and Exchange Board of India

प्रेस विज्ञप्ति  
PRESS RELEASE

संपर्क प्रभाग, सेबी भवन, बान्द्रा कुरुआ कॉम्प्लेक्स, बान्द्रा (पूर्व), मुंबई - 400 051  
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PR No.21/2019

### SEBI constitutes working group on 'Social Stock Exchanges' (SSE)

The Hon'ble Finance Minister as part of the Budget Speech for FY 2019-20 had proposed to initiate steps towards creating a social stock exchange, under the regulatory ambit of Securities and Exchange Board of India, for listing social enterprise and voluntary organizations.

Pursuant to initial discussions with various stakeholders, SEBI has decided to constitute a working group under the Chairmanship of Shri Ishaat Hussain (Director, SBI Foundation; Ex-Director (Finance) Tata Sons Limited). The other members of the working group shall be:

- i. Shri TV Mohandas Pai, Chairman of Manipal Global Education; Ex-Director (Infosys)
- ii. Ms. Roopa Kudva, MD, Omidyar Network India
- iii. Shri Amit Chandra, Chairman, Bain Capital (Private Equity firm); noted philanthropist
- iv. Dr. Saurabh Garg, Principal Secretary to Government of Odisha
- v. Dr. Shamika Ravi, Director of Research, Brookings India; Member, PM's Economic Advisory Council
- vi. Shri Vineet Rai, - Founder and MD, Aavishkaar Venture Management Services Private Limited
- vii. Representative from Ministry of Corporate Affairs
- viii. Representative from Department of Economic Affairs
- ix. Shri Hemant Gupta, MD & CEO, BSE Samman
- x. Representative from NSE
- xi. Shri Girish G. Sohani, President, BAIF Development Research Foundation
- xii. Shri Amarjeet Singh, Executive Director (SEBI)
- xiii. Ms. Ruchi Chojer, CGM (SEBI)
- xiv. Shri Jeevan Sonparote, CGM (SEBI) - Convener

The working group shall examine and make recommendations with respect to possible structures and mechanisms, within the securities market domain, to facilitate raising of funds by social enterprises and voluntary organizations.

Mumbai

September 19, 2019



**FINANCE**

**Ministry of Finance  
New Delhi**

**September 20, 2019**

**Corporate tax Rates Slashed to 22% for Domestic Companies and 15% for new Domestic Manufacturing Companies**

The Government has brought in the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Ordinance 2019 to make certain amendments in the Income-tax Act 1961 and the Finance (No. 2) Act 2019. This was announced by the Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs Smt Nirmala Sitaraman during the Press Conference in Goa today. The Finance Minister elaborated further, the salient features of these amendments, which are as under:-

- a. In order to promote growth and investment, a new provision has been inserted in the Income-tax Act with effect from FY 2019-20 which allows any domestic company an option to pay income-tax at the rate of 22% subject to condition that they will not avail any exemption/incentive. The effective tax rate for these companies shall be 25.17% inclusive of surcharge & cess. Also, such companies shall not be required to pay Minimum Alternate Tax.
- b. In order to attract fresh investment in manufacturing and thereby provide boost to 'Make-in-India' initiative of the Government, another new provision has been inserted in the Income-tax Act with effect from FY 2019-20 which allows any new domestic company incorporated on or after 1st October 2019 making fresh investment in manufacturing, an option to pay income-tax at the rate of 15%. This benefit is available to companies which do not avail any exemption/incentive and commences their production on or before 31st March, 2023. The effective tax rate for these companies shall be 17.01% inclusive of surcharge & cess. Also, such companies shall not be required to pay Minimum Alternate Tax.
- c. A company which does not opt for the concessional tax regime and avails the tax exemption/incentive shall continue to pay tax at the pre-amended rate. However, these companies can opt for the concessional tax regime after expiry of their tax holiday/exemption period. After the exercise of the option they shall be liable to pay tax at the rate of 22% and option once exercised cannot be subsequently withdrawn. Further, in order to provide relief to companies which continue to avail exemptions/incentives, the rate of Minimum Alternate Tax has been reduced from existing 18.5% to 15%.

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- c. A company which does not opt for the concessional tax regime and avails the tax

## Issue of Visa Recommendation Letter

Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC) has been successfully offering the following services to its Members / Non – Members at a very nominal fee for more than three decades. Since BCIC has excellent working relationships with all the High Commission/Trade Offices, it is needless to mention that our recommendation has its

<b>MEMBERS</b>	<b>Rs.240 per Letter</b>	Please send in your request to the mail ID <a href="mailto:visaletters@bcic.org.in">visaletters@bcic.org.in</a>
<b>NON - MEMBERS</b>	<b>Rs.360 per Letter</b> (Introduction Letter of any BCIC member is mandatory)	

**Contact : Mr. Prithvi  
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Ministry of Finance  
New Delhi

September 2, 2019

### **CBDT Consolidates Circulars for Ease of Compliance of Start-ups**

In order to provide hassle-free tax environment to the Start-ups, a series of announcements have been made by Union Finance & Corporate Affairs Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman in her General Budget Speech, 2019, and also on 23rd August 2019. To give effect to these announcements, the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) issued various circulars/clarifications in the matter from time to time. Vide Circular No.22/2019 dated 30.08.2019, CBDT has consolidated all the circulars/clarifications issued on this subject for the ease of compliance of Start-up entities. The present circular inter alia highlights the following:-

- **Simplification of process of assessment of Start-ups:** Circular No. 16/2019 dated 7th of August, 2019 provided for the simplified procedure of assessment of Start-ups recognized by DPIIT. The circular covered cases under "limited scrutiny", cases where multiple issues including issue of section 56(2)(viib) were involved or cases where Form No.2 was not filed by the Start-up entity. Detailed process of obtaining mandatory approval of the supervisory authorities for conducting enquiry was also laid down by this circular.
- **Time limit for Completion of pending assessments of Start-ups:** The time limit for completion of pending assessments was also specified by CBDT. All cases involving "limited scrutiny" were to be completed preferably by 30th September, 2019 and the other cases of Start-ups were to be disposed off on priority, preferably by 31st October, 2019.
- **Procedure for addition made u/s 56(2)(viib) in the past assessment:** Vide clarification issued on 9th August, 2019 it was provided that the provisions of section 56(2)(viib) of the Act would also not be applicable in respect of assessment made before 19th February, 2019 if a recognised Start-up had filed declaration in Form No. 2. The timelines for disposal of appeals before CsIT(Appeals) was also specified. Further, the addition made under section 56(2)(viib) would also not be pressed in further appeal.
- **Income-tax demand:** It has been reiterated time and again by CBDT that outstanding income-tax demand relating to additions made under section 56(2)(viib) would not be pursued and no communication in respect of outstanding demand would be made with the Start-up entity. Other income-tax demand of the Start-ups would not be pursued unless the demand was confirmed by ITAT.
- **Constitution of Start-up Cell:** Vide order dated 30.08.2019, CBDT has constituted a Start-up Cell under the aegis of Member(IT&C), CBDT to redress grievances and to address various tax related issues in the cases of Start-ups. Grievances can also be filed online at [startupcell.cbdt@gov.in](mailto:startupcell.cbdt@gov.in).

The Circular No.22/2019 dated 30.08.2019 is available on [www.incometaxindia.gov.in](http://www.incometaxindia.gov.in).



**Ministry of Finance  
New Delhi**

**September 2, 2019**

**Steering Committee on Fintech related Issues Submits its Final Report**

The Steering Committee on Fintech related issues constituted by the Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs, today submitted its Final Report to Union Finance & Corporate Affairs Minister Smt. Nirmla Sitharaman in her office in New Delhi.

The Committee was constituted in pursuance to the announcement made by the Union Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs, Shri Arun Jaitley in his Budget Speech 2018-19 (Para 75). The report outlines the current landscape in the Fintech space globally and in India, studies the various issues relating to its development and makes recommendations focusing on how fintech can be leveraged to enhance financial inclusion of MSMEs with a view to making fintech related regulations more flexible and generate enhanced entrepreneurship. The Committee report also identifies application areas and use cases in Governance and financial services and suggests regulatory upgrades enabling fintech innovations.

The Committee has recommended that the RBI may consider development of a cash-flow based financing for MSMEs, development of an open-API MSME stack based on TReDS data validated by GSTN and a standardised and trusted e-invoice infrastructure designed around TReDS-GSTN integration.

It has also recommended that Insurance companies and lending agencies to be encouraged to use drone and remote sensing technology for crop area, damage and location assessments to support risk reduction in insurance/lending business.

Given the rapid pace at which technology is being adopted primarily by private sector financial services, the Committee recommends Department of Financial Services(DFS) to work with PSU banks to bring in more efficiency to their work and reduce fraud and security risks. Significant opportunities can be explored to increase the levels of automation using Artificial Intelligence (AI), cognitive analytics & machine learning in their back-end processes.

The Committee has highlighted the positive impact of Fintech innovations on sectors such as Agriculture and MSMEs. And it has recommended NABARD to take immediate steps to create a credit registry for farmers with special thrust for use of fintech along with core banking solutions (CBS) by agri-financial institutions, included Cooperative societies.

The Committee recommends a special drive for modernisation and standardisation of land records by setting up a dedicated National Digital Land Records Mission based on a common National Land Records Standards with involvement of State Land and Registration departments, with a view to making available land ownership data on an online basis to Financial Institutions.

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**Ministry of Finance  
New Delhi**

**September 4, 2019**

**CBDT Enters into 26 APAs during the current Financial Year (2019-20)**

The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has entered into 26 Advance Pricing Agreements (APAs) in the first 5 months of the current financial year (April to August, 2019). With the signing of these APAs, the total number of APAs entered into by the CBDT as of now stand at 297, which includes 32 Bilateral Advance Pricing Agreements (BAPAs).

Out of these 26 APAs, 1 is a BAPA entered into with the United Kingdom and the remaining 25 are Unilateral Advance Pricing Agreements (UAPAs).

The BAPAs and UAPAs entered into during this period pertain to various sectors and sub-sectors of the economy like Information Technology, Banking, Semiconductor, Power, Pharmaceutical, Hydrocarbon, Publishing, Automobile, etc.

The international transactions covered in all these agreements, inter alia, include the following: -

- contract manufacturing
- provision of software development services
- back office engineering support service
- provision of back office (ITeS) support services
- provision of marketing support services
- payment of royalty for use of technology and brand
- trading and distribution
- payment of charter charges
- corporate guarantee
- intra-group services
- interest on financial instruments

The progress of the APA scheme strengthens the Government's resolve of fostering a non-adversarial tax regime. The Indian APA programme has been appreciated nationally and internationally for being able to address complex transfer pricing issues in a fair and transparent manner.

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**LABOUR /COMMERCE AND INDUSRY / HR**

**Ministry of Commerce & Industry  
New Delhi**

**September 6, 2019**

**Smart Cities Mission Technology Showcased**

Smart Cities Mission, in partnership with Invest India and the Office of the Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India organized the Smart Cities Mission Technology Showcase in Pune. Pune Smart City Development Corporation Ltd. was the host smart city for the event. The aim of the event held on 30th August 2019 was to bring forward the best technologies in four focus areas:

- Traffic management, transport and mobility, pollution management
- Water, sanitation and solid waste management
- Safety, surveillance and security
- Social (health, education, and citizen engagement)

The solutions in the above focus sectors will help solve some of the pressing issues faced by Indian smart cities today. The showcase was a first step towards bringing the innovation ecosystem and smart cities closer to contributing towards the development of smart cities.

The start-ups and national science and technology research labs presented their solutions to smart city CEOs during small round table discussions wherein each CEO along with knowledge partners interacted with start-ups and research labs to understand their solutions better and identify possible synergies. The knowledge partners present at the event gave their inputs for the solutions presented to help them customize their innovation for smart cities.

Twelve smart city CEOs from Maharashtra and Gujarat along with various knowledge partners and R&D labs were present at the event. A total of nine start-ups got an excellent opportunity to present their technologies, interact and network with the various stakeholders present there.

Smart city CEOs expressed intent to work with the start-ups and further materialise pathways to deploy these solutions in their respective smart cities. To take the initiative forward, Invest India along with Smart Cities Mission, [Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs](#) will organize similar technology showcases in other zones of India as well.

**Ministry of Commerce & Industry  
New Delhi**

**September 12, 2019**

**Scheme for Export Credit to be Announced Soon: ECGC procedures being  
made Exporter Friendly**

The Union Minister of Commerce and Industry & Railways, Piyush Goyal, chaired a meeting of the Board of Trade (BoT) and held a day-long interaction with the Industry and Agriculture Ministers and officials of various States, industry representatives, Export Promotion Councils and officers of the economic and infrastructure Ministries of the Central Government for identifying and addressing issues aimed at boosting exports and improving competitiveness of domestic manufacturing.

The Minister addressed the gathering and noted that significant progress has been made since the last Board of Trade meeting held on 6 June 2019, and an action taken report in the matter has been shared with stakeholders.

In the area of export credit, including forex credit, especially with regard to credit at affordable terms and in sufficient volume, Piyush Goyal informed that the contours of a scheme will be soon shared by the Government. In addition, he informed that ECGC procedures and practices are being revamped to make them more exporter friendly. He also assured that issues raised by States will be resolved expeditiously.

The Commerce and Industry Minister also stressed the importance of cooperative and competitive federalism for faster growth and the need for transforming each district into an export hub to fulfil the vision of Prime Minister to make India a USD 5 trillion economy within the next five years. He emphasized the need to prioritize the area of addressing key issues related to imports, including unfair competition through dumping and subsidies, and import of sub-standard products due to lack of standards, while enabling smooth import of key inputs and raw materials.

During the day-long deliberations, Export Promotion Council and other Industry bodies raised the issue of transparency in risky exporters by Customs/GST authorities, GST refunds, declining export credit, requirement of collaterals and inverted duty structure.

Various States also participated in the discussions and raised the matter of special packages for automobile, textiles, diamonds and fisheries as these sectors are facing problems leading to loss of employment.

The Union Minister of Commerce and Industry & Railways, Piyush Goyal, chaired a meeting of the Board of Trade (BoT) and held a day-long interaction with the Industry and Agriculture Ministers and officials of various States, industry representatives, Export Promotion Councils and officers of the economic and infrastructure Ministries of the Central Government for identifying and addressing issues aimed at boosting exports and improving competitiveness of domestic manufacturing.

The Minister addressed the gathering and noted that significant progress has been made since the last Board of Trade meeting held on 6 June 2019, and an action taken report in the matter has been shared with stakeholders.

In the area of export credit, including forex credit, especially with regard to credit at affordable terms and in sufficient volume, Piyush Goyal informed that the contours of a scheme will be soon shared by the Government. In addition, he informed that ECGC procedures and practices are being revamped to make them more exporter friendly. He also assured that issues raised by States will be resolved expeditiously.

The Commerce and Industry Minister also stressed the importance of cooperative and competitive federalism for faster growth and the need for transforming each district into an export hub to fulfil the vision of Prime Minister to make India a USD 5 trillion economy within the next five years. He

### Issue of Certificate of Origin

As you are all aware, Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC) has been authorized by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) to issue the Certificate of Origin to exporters for the products manufactured in India. This Certificate is an integral part of the export document.

We hereby request you to kindly utilize this unique service offered by the Chamber. The Secretariat has been strengthened effectively to provide you the Certificate within the shortest time keeping in mind your utmost requirement and convenience.

We therefore earnestly request you to avail this facility and also give us an opportunity to serve you and interact on a regular basis.

**For Members we charge Rs.60/- per certificate**

**For Non Members we charge Rs.120/- per certificate**



**Ministry of Commerce & Industry  
New Delhi**

**September 20, 2019**

**Registration and Licensing of Industrial Undertaking (Amendment) Rules, 2019**

G.S.R. (E).- Whereas draft of certain rules further to amend the Registration and Licensing of Industrial Undertakings Rules, 1952, were published, as required by sub-section (1) of section 30 of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 (65 of 1951), vide notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade) number G.S.R. 145(E), dated the 20th February, 2019, in the Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part II, Sub-section (i) inviting objections and suggestions from all persons likely to be affected thereby, before the expiry of a period of thirty days from the date on which the copies of the Official Gazette in which the said notification is published, are made available to the public;

And whereas, the said Gazette notification was made available to the public on 25th February, 2019;

And whereas, no objections or suggestions have been received by the Central Government on the said draft rules;

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 30 read with sections 10 and 11 sub-section (2) section 12 and sections 13 and 14 of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 (65 of 1951), the Central Government hereby makes the following rules further to amend the Registration and Licensing of Industrial Undertakings Rules, 1952, namely: -

1. (1) Short title and commencement. -

These rules may be called the Registration and Licensing of Industrial Undertaking (Amendment) Rules, 2019.

(2) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.

2. In the Registration and Licensing of Industrial Undertakings Rules, 1952 (hereinafter referred to as the principal rules) for the words and brackets "Ministry of Industry (Department of Industrial Development)" or "Ministry of Industrial Development" wherever they occur, the words "Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade" shall respectively be substituted.

G.S.R (E).- Whereas draft of certain rules further to amend the Registration and Licensing of Industrial Undertakings Rules, 1952, were published, as required by sub-section (1) of section 30 of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 (65 of 1951), vide notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade) number G.S.R. 145(E), dated the 20th February, 2019, in the Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part II, Sub-section (i) inviting objections and suggestions from all persons likely to be affected thereby, before the expiry of a period of thirty days from the date on which the copies of the Official Gazette in which the said notification is published, are made available to the public;

And whereas, the said Gazette notification was made available to the public on 25th February, 2019;  
And whereas, no objections or suggestions have been received by the Central Government on the said draft rules;

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 30 read with sections 10 and 11 sub-section (2) section 12 and sections 13 and 14 of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 (65 of 1951), the Central Government hereby makes the following rules further to amend the Registration and Licensing of Industrial Undertakings Rules, 1952, namely: -

**Ministry of Human Resource Development  
New Delhi**

**September 12, 2019**

**National Educational Alliance for Technology (NEAT) Scheme for Better  
Learning Outcomes in Higher Education**

Ministry of Human Resource Development has announced a new PPP Scheme, National Educational Alliance for Technology (NEAT) for using technology for better learning outcomes in Higher Education.

The objective is to use Artificial Intelligence to make learning more personalised and customised as per the requirements of the learner. This requires development of technologies in Adaptive Learning to address the diversity of learners. There are a number of start-up companies developing this and MHRD would like to recognise such efforts and bring them under a common platform so that learners can access it easily. Educating the youth is a National effort and MHRD proposes to create a National Alliance with such technology developing EdTech Companies through a PPP model.

MHRD would act as a facilitator to ensure that the solutions are freely available to a large number of economically backward students. MHRD would create and maintain a National NEAT platform that would provide one-stop access to these technological solutions. EdTech companies would be responsible for developing solutions and manage registration of learners through the NEAT portal. They would be free to charge fees as per their policy. As their contribution towards the National cause, they would have to offer free coupons to the extent of 25% of the total registrations for their solution through NEAT portal. MHRD would distribute the free coupons for learning to the most socially/economically backward students.

AICTE would be the implementing agency for NEAT programme. The scheme shall be administered under the guidance of an Apex Committee constituted by MHRD. Independent Expert Committees would be constituted for evaluating and selecting the EdTech solutions. MoUs will be signed with the shortlisted EdTech companies. Awareness programs would be taken up by MHRD to create awareness of the NEAT solutions to teachers and students.

MHRD proposes to launch and operationalise NEAT in early November 2019.