

COMPANY SECRETARIES

Regulatory Update – March & April 2023

Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA)

MCA General Notification No. G.S.R. 239(E) dated 24.03.2021 – Audit Trail feature in Accounting Software w.e.f. April 1, 2023

Vide aforesaid notification MCA has made mandatory for Companies that use accounting software for maintaining their books of account to have Audit Trail feature with effect from 01st April 2023 and therefore the Companies need to be compliant with Account Rules from FY 2023-24.

Further Companies (Audit and Auditor) Rules, 2014 have been correspondingly amended wherein auditors are now required to report, as part of the Auditors report, in the section Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements, as to whether (a) the accounting software used by the company being audited has the feature of recording audit trail (edit logs); and (b) the audit trail feature was operational throughout the financial year and had not been tampered with and such audit trails have been retained for the period as statutorily prescribed.

With this move, business entities would now be required to keep an edit log of all transactions and time stamps, with changes made in the books of account. This amendment will be applicable to All Public and Private Limited Companies, One Person Companies (OPCs), Companies owned by Government of India, State Government Companies, Not-for-Profit Companies/Organization including those which receives fund from various stakeholders, Nidhi Companies & Companies managed by State and Central Government

For further details refer below mentioned Link: https://www.mca.gov.in/bin/ebook/dms/getdocument?doc=MTM0ODc=&docCategory=Notifications&type=open



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MCA General Notification No. G.S.R. 298(E) dated 17.04.2023 – Constitution of Centre for PACE to approve applications for voluntary striking off.

MCA has constituted Registrar, Centre for Processing Accelerated Corporate Exit (Registrar, Centre for PACE), who shall be responsible for approving applications for voluntary striking-off by Companies to with effect from 01st May 2023. According to the said notification, the Registrar, Centre for PACE shall be the Authority exercising functional jurisdiction of processing and disposing applications made in e-Form STK-2 and all matters related thereto as mentioned under Section 248 having territorial jurisdiction all over India. In order to bring all the E-Forms related to striking off companies in line with the said notification, E-Form STK-2, E-Form No STK-6 and E-Form STK-7 has also been substituted. Subsequently, E-form STK-2 was shifted to MCA V3 portal.

For further details refer below mentioned Link: https://www.mca.gov.in/bin/dms/getdocument?mds=aXFM3x3zIHizG%252Bdju1LKvQ%253D%253D&type=open

MCA General Notification No. G.S.R. 242(E) dated 31.03.2023 – Amendment to Companies (Indian Accounting Standard) Rules w.e.f. April 1, 2023

MCA has vide aforesaid notification made major changes in Indian Accounting Standard Rules ('IND-AS'), these shall become effective from April 1, 2023. 3 portal.

For further details refer below mentioned Link: getdocument (mca.gov.in)



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Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)

Brief on Major Amendments in SEBI (Listing Obligation and Disclosure Requirements) regulations, 2015 which will be applicable since 01st April, 2023

- Limit for Identification of related Party is lowered to 10% from previous 20% i.e., any person or any entity, holding equity shares of 10% or more, in the listed entity either directly or not, at any time, during the immediately preceding financial year; shall be deemed to be a related party.
- Any transaction to which the subsidiary of a listed entity is a party, but the listed entity is not a party, shall require prior approval of the audit committee of the listed entity if the value of such transaction individually or together with previous transactions during a financial year, exceeds 10% of the annual standalone turnover, as per the last audited financial statements of the subsidiary.
- The listed entity shall make disclosure of related party to stock exchange half yearly on the date of publication of its standalone and consolidated financial results.
- for the top one thousand listed entities based on market capitalization, business responsibility and sustainability report are mandatory from Financial Year 2022-23.
- As per Schedule V of SEBI(LODR regulation) 2015, Annual report of listed entity must contain Details of material subsidiaries of the listed entity; including the date and place of incorporation and the name and date of appointment of the statutory auditors of such subsidiaries. This will be applicable for Annual Report filed for FY 2022-23.

For further details refer updated LODR Regulations in below mentioned Link: <u>https://www.sebi.gov.in/legal/regulations/feb-2023/securities-and-exchange-board-of-india-listing-obligations-and-disclosure-requirements-regulations-2015-last-amended-on-february-07-2023-_69224.html</u>

Stock Exchange Circular - Additional Affirmations by Practicing Company Secretary in Annual Secretarial



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Compliance Reports

NSE & BSE vide Circular No. NSE/CML/2023/21 and 20230316-14 both dated March 16, 2023, had included additional affirmations, as detailed herein, by Practicing Company Secretary in Annual Secretarial Compliance Reports from year ended March 31, 2023:

Additional Affirmations:

- 1. Compliance of Secretarial Standards
- 2. Adoption and timely updation of Policies
- 3. Maintenance and Disclosure on Website
- 4. Disqualification of Directors
- 5. To examine details related to Subsidiaries of Listed entities
- 6. Preservation of documents
- 7. Performance evaluation
- 8. Related Party Transactions
- 9. Disclosure of Events or Information
- 10. Prohibition of Insider Trading
- 11. Actions taken by SEBI or Stock Exchanges if any
- 12. Additional Non-compliance if any

Further the information table in connection with Non-compliances observed and action taken on Observations in previous report has been amended to include additional report.

Aforesaid Circulars were further amended by NSE and BSE vide Circular No. NSE/CML/2023/30 and 20230410-41 respectively dated April 10, 2023.

For further details refer to following link of NSE Circular: Circular dated March 16, 2023 - <u>Microsoft Word - Draft SCR Circular (nseindia.com)</u> Circular dated April 10, 2023 - <u>Microsoft Word - Revised circular_final (nseindia.com)</u>



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*Attached Below is Compliance Calendar under Companies Act, 2013 and SEBI Act, 1992 for first Quarter of the Financial year 2023-24.

	First Quarter (April - June)					
Sr. No	Form	Section & Rules	Timelines for compliance	Particulars	Frequency	Applicability
1	MBP- 1	184(1)	First Board Meeting of every financial year / Change in disclosure already made.	Every Director of the Company in First Meeting of the Board of Director in each Financial Year will disclose his interest in other entities also fresh MBP-1 whenever there is change in his interest from the earlier given MBP-1.	Annual	Every Director/All Companies
2	DIR – 8	164(1) & (2)	First day of the Financial Year	Every Director of the Company in each Financial Year will file with	Annual	Every Director

COMPLIANCE'S UNDER COMPANIES ACT, 2013



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				the Company disclosure of non- disqualification.		
3	MSME Form 1	MSME Order dated 22 January, 2019	Within 30 days from the end of half year i.e., 30th April and 30 th September	Every specified company shall file details of all outstanding dues to Micro or small enterprises (MSME) suppliers for the period from October to March	Half-yearly	Every Company which has outstanding due to MSME
4	FLA	FEMA Rules	On or before 15 th July	Filing of return on Foreign Liabilities and Assets (FLA) with the RBI by every company which has received FDI or has an investment outside India in some foreign entity.	Annual	Every Company which has Foreign Assets & Liability
5	DPT-3	Rule 16 Companies (Acceptance of Deposits) Rules, 2014	On or before 30 th June	Return of Deposits/Exempte d Deposits: Every Company will file return of	Annual	Every Company except Government Company

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deposit or particulars of transaction not considered as deposit (exempted deposits). 6 PAS-6 (55A) 30 Days from the Company need to Half yearly Public Company end of Half Year file form for i.e. 30th April reporting Reconciliation of Share Capital 7 Form-11 35 Within sixty days LLP's need to file Annual Every LLP of the end of Annual Return Financial Year with Registrar i.e. 30th May **OTHER EVENT BASED FORMS** DIR-8 164(1) & (2) 8 Every Director at Event based Every Director Appointment /Reappointment the time of of Director appointment/ reappointment will file with the Company disclosure of nondisqualification.

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9 DIR-9 Rule 14 (1A) Within 30 days Whenever Event based Every Company of receipt of Company receives DIR-8 by DIR 8 need to file Company DIR 9 with Registrar INC 20 10A Within 180 Days 10 Declaration of Event based Every Company from the date of Commencement Α Incorporation of Business 11 **MGT-14** 117(3) within 30 days of Every Company Event based Every Company Special need to file resolution Special Resolutions / agreement with Registrar MGT -14 12 179(3) Within 30 days Adoption of Annual Every Company of Board Meeting Financials and Director Report 13 **MR** 1 196 within sixty days Companies need Event based Every Company to file Return of of the appointment appointment of MD/ WTD/ manager

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14 90 E-form Within 30 days Every significant Event based Every Person on of acquiring BEN-1 owner needs to whom significant Section 90 applies Report to beneficial company in this ownership or any form change there in 15 E-form 90 Within 30 days Company needs to Event based Every Company who file with Registrar received BEN-1 BEN-2 of receipt of BEN-1 Return of significant beneficial owners in shares after Receipt of BEN-1 Every person who's MGT 4 89 Within 30 days 16 Person must Event based of entering name name entered in the submit declaration in Register of in MGT 4 with the Register of Members members but who does not hold Company beneficial interest in the shares 17 MGT 5 89 Within 30 days Person must Event based Every person who holds beneficial acquiring submit declaration beneficial in MGT 5 with the interest in the shares interest in the of Company but Company whose name is not shares entered in the register of members

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MGT 6 Within 30 days 18 89(6) Return to Event based Every Company who from the receipt Registrar for receives MGT 4 of declaration by declaration /MGT 5 the company received under Section 89 19 ADT 1 139(6) Within 30 days Notice to the Event based Every Company of incorporation Registrar for appointment of First Statutory Auditor

<u>COMPLIANCE'S UNDER SEBI (LISTING OBLIGATIONS AND DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS)</u> <u>REGULATIONS, 2015</u>

First Quarter (April-June)					
Regulation	Compliance	Timeline	Due Date		
13 (3)	Statement of Grievance Redressal	Within 21 days from the	By 21 st April		
	Mechanism	end of the quarter			
27(2)(a)	Corporate Governance Report	Within 21 days from the	By 21 st April		
		end of the quarter			
31 (1)(b)	Shareholding Pattern	Within 21 days from the	By 21 st April		
		end of the quarter			
76 (1)	Reconciliation of share capital audit	Within 30 days from the	By 30 th April		
	report	end of the quarter			
7 (3)	Share Transfer Agent	Within 30 days from the	By 30th April		
		end of financial year.			
40 (10)	Transfer or transmission or	Within 30 days from the	By 30th April		
	transposition of securities	end of the financial year			



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Circular No. Initial Disclosure requirements or Within 30 days from the By 30th April large entities beginning of the FY SEBI/HO/DDHS/ CIR/P/2018/144 Annual Disclosure requirements Within 45 days of the By 15th May Circular No. SEBI/HO/DDHS/ for large entities end of the FY CIR/P/2018/144 By 30th May Statement of deviation(s) or Within 60 days from the 32(1) variation(s) end of the last quarter (In case of variation in the object of fund raising and its utilisation) Financial Results along with Within 60 days from end By 30th May 33 (3)(a) Limited review report/Auditor's of the last quarter report Secretarial Compliance Report within 60 days of the end By 30th May 24A of the financial year 23 (9) on the date of publication Disclosures of related party of its standalone and transactions consolidated financial results. Within 60 days from the By 30th May 33 (3) (d) Financial Results along with Auditor's Report end of the financial year 34(1) Not later than the day of Not less than 21 Annual Report commencement of days before the dispatch to its AGM shareholders. 34(2)(f) Business Responsibility and Along with Annual Report Sustainability Report (applicable to top 1000 listed entities)

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Event Based Compliances

Regulation	Compliance	Timeline
7(5)	Intimation of appointment of Share Transfer Agent	Within 7 days of Agreement with RTA
28 (1)	In-principle approval of recognized stock exchange(s)	Before issuing securities
29 (2) (b)	Prior intimation of Board meeting for Buyback,	Atleast two working days in
to (f)	Dividend, Raising of Funds, Voluntary Delisting, Bonus, etc.,	advance, excluding the date of the intimation and date of the meeting
29 (2) (a)	Prior intimation of Board meeting for Financial Results	Atleast five days in advance (excluding the date of the intimation and date of the meeting)
29(3)	Prior intimation of Board Meeting for alteration in nature of securities etc.	At least eleven working days in advance
30 (6)	Disclosure of events or information	Disclose to stock exchange(s) of all events, as specified in Part A of Schedule III, or information as soon as reasonably possible and not later than twenty-four hours from the occurrence of event or information
30 (6)	Disclosure of events or information	Disclosure with respect to events specified in sub-para 4 of Para A of Part A of Schedule III shall be made within thirty minutes of the conclusion of the board meeting
31(1)(a)	Shareholding Pattern prior to listing of securities	One day prior to listing of securities
31(1)(c)	Shareholding Pattern in case of capital restructuring	Within 10 days of any change in capital +/- 2%
37(2)	Draft Scheme of arrangement	Obtain observation letter or No-



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objection letter from the stock exchange(s) before filing the scheme with any court or tribunal Loss of share certificates and issue of the duplicate Within two days of getting 39(3) certificates information 44(3) Voting Results Within two working days of conclusion of Meeting 45(3) Change in name Prior approval from Stock Exchange before filing application with Registrar of Companies The listed entity shall maintain a 46 Website functional website containing the basic information about the listed entity.

• **Disclaimer:** Content of this document has been prepared based on relevant regulatory provisions applicable at the time of preparation. While care has been taken to ensure accuracy, completeness, and reliability of information, we assume no responsibility and the users are expected to refer regulatory requirements. This note is not a Professional advice and is subject to change without notice. We assume no responsibility for the consequences of such information.



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