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The Ministry of Corporate Affairs vide general circular no. 21/2020 dated May 11, 2020 has issued Clarification on dispatch of notice under section 62(2) of Companies Act, 2013 by listed companies for rights issue opening up to 31 st July, 2020

- MCA had vide **Circular No. 21/ 2020 dated 11th May, 2020** issued Clarification on dispatch of notice under section 62(2) of Companies Act, 2013 by listed companies for rights issue opening up to 31 st July, 2020.
- Several representations have been received in the Ministry for providing clarification on the mode of issue of notice referred to in section 62(1)(a)(i) of Companies Act (the 'Act') read with section 62(2) of the Act for rights issue by listed companies, in view of the difficulties faced by companies in sending notices through postal or courier services on account of the threat posed by Covid-19. The issues raised in the said representations have been examined. The Circular (Number SEBI/HO/CFD/DIL2/CIR/P/2020/78) issued by SEBI on 6th May, 2020 has also been considered.
- In view of above and on account of the overall situation, it is hereby clarified that for rights issues opening up to 31st July, 2020, in case of listed companies, which comply with the aforementioned SEBI Circular dated 6th May, 2020, inability to dispatch the notice referred in para 1 of this Circular to their shareholders through registered post or speed post or courier would not be viewed as violation of section 62(2) of the Act.
- This issues with the approval of the competent authority.

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The Securities Exchange Board of India vide circular no. SEBI/HO/CFD/CMD1/CIR/P/2020/79 dated May 12, 2020 has provided additional relaxation in relation to compliance with certain provisions of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations 2015

- SEBI vide circular no. SEBI/HO/CFD/CMD1/CIR/P/2020/79 dated May 12, 2020 has provided additional relaxation in relation to compliance with certain provisions of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations 2015.
- In view of the CoVID-19 pandemic, SEBI had provided relaxations to listed entities, from compliance with certain provisions of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations 2015 ('SEBI LODR' / 'LODR') and circulars issued thereunder vide the following circulars:

No. SEBI/HO/CFD/CMD1/CIR/P/2020/38 dated March 19, 2020,

No. SEBI/HO/CFD/CMD1/CIR/P/2020/48 dated March 26, 2020,

No. SEBI/HO/CFD/CMD1/CIR/P/2020/63 dated April 17, 2020 and

No. SEBI/HO/CFD/CMD1/CIR/P/2020/71 dated April 23, 2020.

It has been decided to grant the following further relaxations / issue clarifications regarding provisions of the LODR in the face of challenges faced by listed entities due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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The Securities Exchange Board of India vide circular no. SEBI/HO/CFD/CMD1/CIR/P/2020/81 dated May 14, 2020 has provided relaxation from the applicability of SEBI Circular dated October 10, 2017 on non-compliance with the Minimum Public Shareholding (MPS) requirements

- SEBI vide circular no. SEBI/HO/CFD/CMD1/CIR/P/2020/81 dated May 14, 2020 has provided relaxation from the applicability of SEBI Circular dated October 10, 2017 on non-compliance with the Minimum Public Shareholding (MPS) requirements.
- SEBI circular No. CFD/CMD/CIR/P/2017/115 dated October 10, 2017 lays down the procedure to be followed by the recognized stock exchanges/depositories with respect to MPS non-compliant listed entities, their promoters and directors, including levy of fines, freeze of promoter holding etc.
- After taking into consideration requests received from listed entities and industry bodies as well as considering the prevailing business and market conditions, it has been decided to grant relaxation from the applicability of the October 10, 2017 circular. Accordingly, the stipulations of the aforesaid October 10, 2017 SEBI circular are relaxed for listed entities for whom the deadline to comply with MPS requirements falls between the period from March 1, 2020 to August 31, 2020. Recognized Stock Exchanges are advised not to take any penal action as envisaged in the October 10, 2017 circular against such entities in case of non-compliance during the said period. Penal actions, if any, initiated by Stock Exchanges from March 1, 2020 till date for non-compliance of MPS requirements by such listed entities may be withdrawn.



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- This Circular shall come into force with immediate effect. The Stock Exchanges are advised to bring the provisions of this circular to the notice of all listed entities that have issued specified securities and also disseminate on their websites.
- The Circular is issued in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 11(1) of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992 read with regulations 97, 98, 101 and 102 of the LODR.

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The Securities Exchange Board of India vide circular no. SEBI/CIR/CFD/DCR1/CIR/P/2020/83 dated May 14, 2020 has provided relaxations relating to procedural matters – Takeovers and Buy-back

- SEBI vide circular no. SEBI/CIR/CFD/DCR1/CIR/P/2020/83 dated May 14, 2020 has provided relaxations relating to procedural matters – Takeovers and Buy-back.
- In view of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the lockdown measures undertaken by Central and State Governments, based on representations, the following one time relaxations are granted from strict enforcement of certain regulations of SEBI (Substantial Acquisition of Shares and Takeovers) Regulations, 2011 (hereafter “Takeover Regulations”) and SEBI (Buy-back of securities) Regulations, 2018 (hereafter “Buy-back Regulations”) pertaining to open offers and buy-back tender offers opening up to July 31, 2020.

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The Securities Exchange Board of India vide circular no. SEBI/HO/MIRSD/DOP/CIR/P/2020/82 dated May 15, 2020 has provided relaxation in in timelines for compliance with regulatory requirements

- SEBI vide circular no. SEBI/HO/MIRSD/DOP/CIR/P/2020/82 dated May 15, 2020 has provided relaxation in in timelines for compliance with regulatory requirements.
- In view of the situation arising due to COVID-19 pandemic, lockdown imposed by the Government and representations received from Stock Exchanges, SEBI had earlier provided relaxations in timelines for compliance with various regulatory requirements by the trading members / clearing members, vide circular nos. SEBI/HO/MIRSD/DOP/CIR/P/2020/61 dated April 16, 2020, SEBI/HO/MIRSD/DOP/CIR/P/2020/62 dated April 16, 2020, and SEBI/HO/MIRSD/DOP/CIR/P/2020/68 dated April 21, 2020.
- In view of the prevailing situation and representations received from the Stock Exchanges, it has been decided to further extend the timelines for compliance with the regulatory requirements, by the trading members / clearing members/ depository participants, mentioned in the aforesaid SEBI circulars.

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The Central Board of Direct Taxes vide Press Release dated May 13, 2020 has provided Reduction in rate of Tax Deduction at Source (TDS) & Tax Collection at Source (TCS)

- In order to provide more funds at the disposal of the taxpayers for dealing with the economic situation arising out of COVID-19 pandemic, the rates of Tax Deduction at Source (TDS) for the following non-salaried specified payments



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made to residents has been reduced by 25% for the period from 14th May, 2020 to 31st March, 2021.

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