

Reliefs Amid COVID-19 Outbreak



Table of Contents

Economic Survey 2020-21 Amid Pandemic Covid-19	2
Non-Tax Stimulus Package Amid Pandemic Covid-19	3
Tax Stimulus Package Amid Pandemic Covid-19	7
Stimulus Package- Second Tranche Amid Pandemic Covid-19	18
Stimulus Package- Third Tranche Amid Pandemic Covid-19	24
Stimulus Package- Fourth Tranche Amid Pandemic Covid-19	27
Stimulus Package- Fifth Tranche Amid Pandemic Covid-19	31
	36

Economic Survey 2020-21 Amid Pandemic Covid-19

GDP Growth 2020-21

- India extended a nationwide lockdown to 40 days from 21 days, but relaxed restrictions in rural areas to facilitate agricultural harvesting in the second half of April.
- According to the UN Report, India's economic growth is forecast to slow to 1.2 per cent in 2020.
- While India could clock a 1.2 per cent GDP growth, China is estimated to record a 1.7 per cent growth rate. All other economies in the world, including the US (-4.8 per cent), Japan (-4.2 per cent), European Union (-5.5 per cent) and the United Kingdom (-5.4 per cent) are projected to shrink this year.

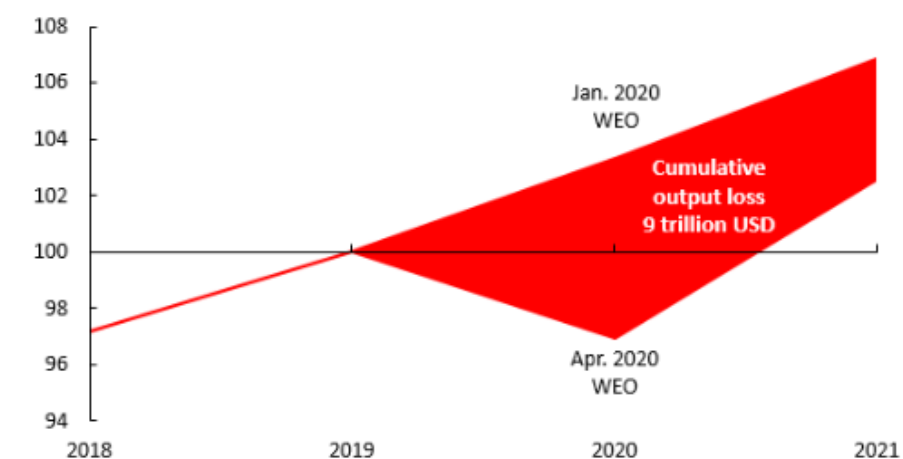
World's Economy

- UN has predicted that the world economy will contract by 3.2 per cent in 2020 amid the coronavirus crisis, the sharpest contraction since the Great Depression in the 1930s.
- According to IMF, the cumulative loss to global GDP over 2020 and 2021 from the pandemic crisis could be around 9 trillion dollars.

Output losses

The cumulative output loss over 2020 and 2021 from the pandemic crisis could be around 9 trillion dollars.

(global real GDP level, index)

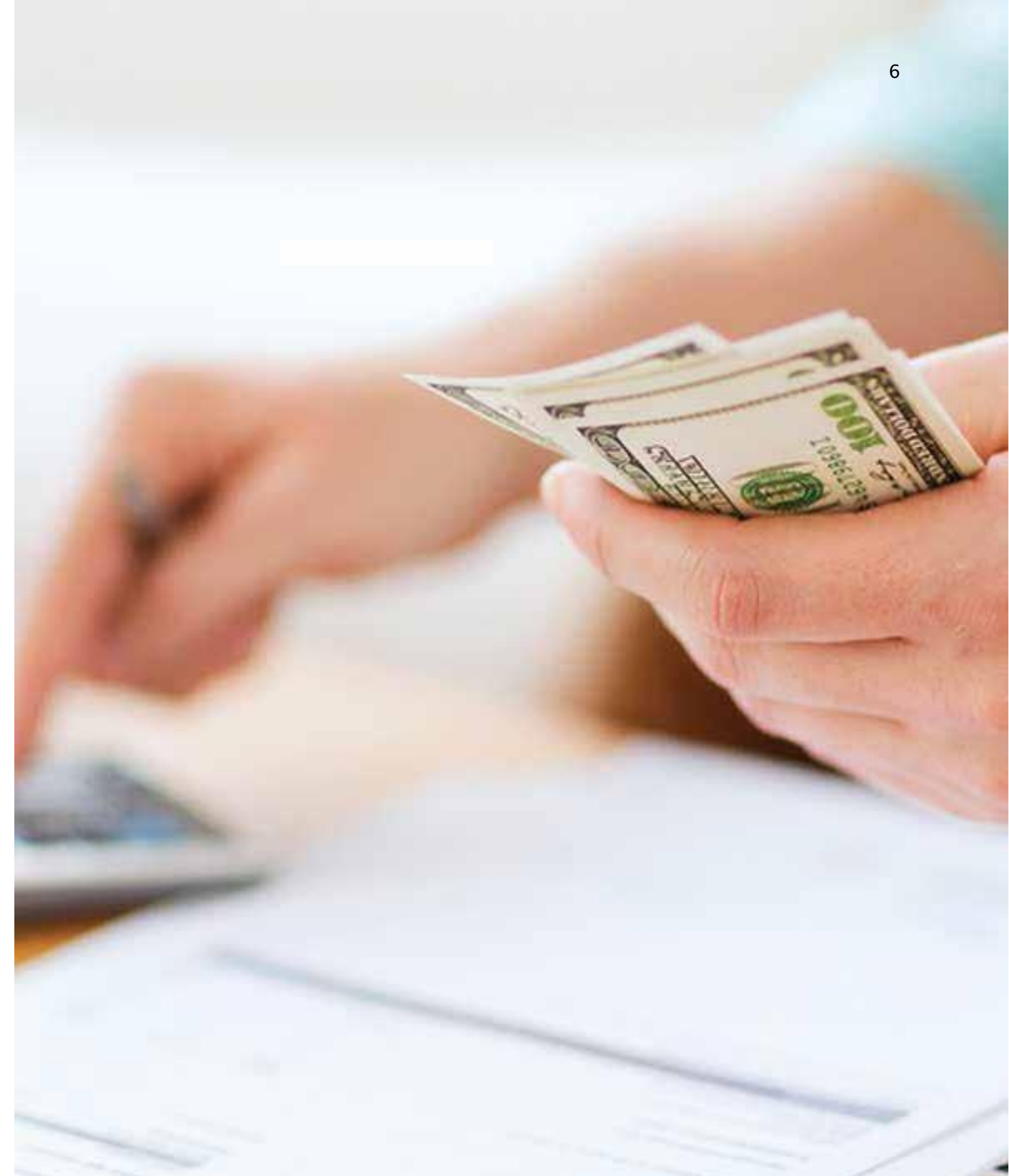


Sources: IMF, *World Economic Outlook*; and IMF staff calculations.



Foreign Direct Investment

- Net Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in half year of 2019-20 is 21.3 US\$ billion as compared to 30.7 US\$ billion in 2018-19 for the full year.
- Rise in foreign investment in India is due to continuous liberalization of FDI guidelines.
- Foreign Direct Investment in India averaged \$1412.87 Million from 1995 until 2020. Although, During COVID-19 pandemic, FDI in India increased by \$2873 Million in February of 2020.
- In April 2020, Government of India notified changes in FDI rules which made prior approval of the Government mandatory for foreign investments from countries that share border with India, to prevent opportunistic takeover of domestic firms amid Covid-19 pandemic.



Non-Tax Stimulus Package Amid Pandemic Covid-19

Businesses Including MSMEs

New Definition of MSMEs

- Investment limit revised upwards
- Additional criteria of turnover brought in to define MSMEs
- Manufacturing and service-bases MSMEs to now enjoy same benefits

Existing MSME Classification			
Criteria: Investment in Plant & Machinery or Equipment			
Classification	Micro	Small	Medium
Mfg. Enterprises	Investment<INR 2.5 Million	Investment<INR 50 Million	Investment<INR 100 Million
Services Enterprise	Investment<INR 1 Million	Investment<INR 20 Million	Investment<INR 50 Million
Revised MSME Classification			
Composite Criteria: Investment and Annual Turnover			
Classification	Micro	Small	Medium
Manufacturing & Services	Investment<INR 10 Million And Turnover<INR 50 Million	Investment<INR 100 Million And Turnover<INR 500 Million	Investment<INR 200 Million And Turnover<INR 1 Billion.



Businesses Including MSMEs

Relief to MSMEs

- Collateral Free Automatic Loan for MSMEs including:
 - INR 3 Trillion worth loans for those firms with INR 250 Million outstanding loans or annual turnover is over INR 1 Billion.
 - 4 -year tenure on the loans
 - moratorium of 10 months to be offered
 - 100% credit guarantee to banks and NBFCs on principal and interest
 - offer valid until October 31,2020
 - no fresh collateral required
 - no extra fee to be charged
- INR 200 Billion Subordinate Debt for Stressed MSMEs
 - Two Lakh MSMEs are likely to benefit
 - Functioning MSMEs which are NPA or are stresses will be eligible
 - Govt to provide INR 40 Billion to Credit Guarantee Funds Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE)
 - CGTMSE will provide partial Credit Guarantee support to Banks.
- Fund of Funds
 - Funds of Funds (FoF) with Corpus of INR 100 Billion with be set up.
 - Infusing INR 500 Billion equity into MSMEs for those who are viable and eligible
 - FoF will be operated though mother-fund and daughter-fund framework
 - to help MSMEs expand capacity and eventually get listed on main board of Stock Exchanges



Relief to Contractors

- Extension of up to 6 months without costs to Contractor:
 - All GoI agencies, such as railways, roadways, Central Public Works Dept. etc. will provide 6 months extension to contractors.
 - No cost extension of upto six months for govt contractors to comply with contract conditions construction work, goods and services contract, completion of work.
- Government agencies to partially release bank guarantees to the extent contracts are partially completed, to ease cash flows.

Relief to Real Estate

- Covid-19 period should be treated as a force majeure and relax timelines.
- Registration and completion date should be extended suo-moto by 6 months for all registered projects expiring on or after 25th March 2020 without individual applications.
- Extension of timeliness for various statutory compliances under RERA concurrently
- Issue of fresh 'Project Registration Certificates' automatically with revised timelines.

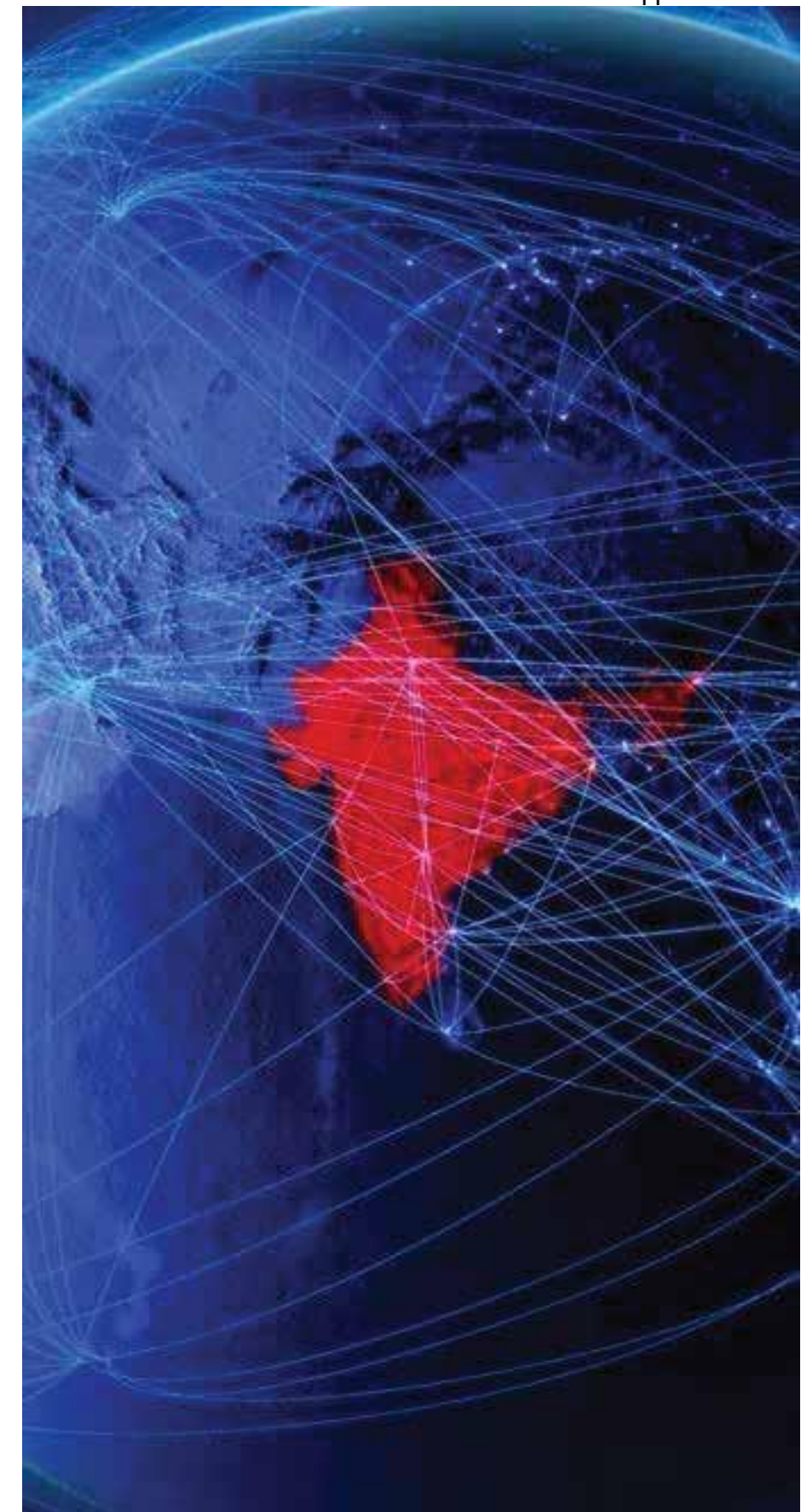


Relief to NBFCs

- Existing PCGS scheme to be extended to cover borrowings such as primary issuance of Bonds/CPs (liability side of balance sheets) of such entities.
- First 20% of loss will be borne by the Guarantor i.e. Government of India.
- AA paper and below including unrated paper eligible for investment (esp. relevant for many MFIs)
- Special Liquidity Scheme will be launched to support for NBFCs/HFC/MFIs and mutual funds and create confidence in the market and support for NBFCs/HFC/MFIs and mutual funds and create confidence in the market.

Other Key Points

- Global tenders will be disallowed in Government Procurement for tenders up to INR 2Billion. This will make India self-reliant.
- Seamless e-market linkages across the Board will be provided to MSMEs, considering their inability to participate in trade fairs due to COVID-19. All pending payments to MSMEs, from Central Government bodies & PSUs to be done within the next 45 days.
- Liquidity Injections for DISCOMs of INR 900 Billion under which Loans to be given against State guarantees for exclusive purpose of discharging liabilities of Discoms to Gencos.
- Five pillars of a self-reliant India are: Economy, infrastructure, system, demography and demand.



Financial Relief Measures as Announced by RBI

- Repo Rate has been reduced by 75 basis points and reverse repo rate has been reduced by 90 basis points. The repo rate now stands at 4.4% and reverse repo rate now stands at 4%.
- RBI to conduct auctions of Targeted longer-term refinancing operations of up to three-year tenor of appropriate sizes for a total amount up to INR 1 Trillion at a floating rate.
- Cash reserve ratio of all banks to be reduced by 100 basis points to 3% for a year. (Effective date: 28th March 2020)
- The Marginal Standing Facility (MSR) raised from 2% of Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) to 3%. (Effective date: The same shall be effective immediately and shall be applicable up to 30th June 2020)
- Above measures to infuse liquidity of INR 3.74 Trillion to our economy.
- Rescheduling of payments:
 - All lending institutions and banks are allowed a moratorium of three months on repayment of installments for term loans outstanding as on 1st March 2020. The same shall not result in asset classification downgrade..
 - The lending institutions are also allowed deferment of three months on payment of interest in respect to all such working capital facilities outstanding as of 1st March 2020. The same shall not result in asset classification downgrade.
 - Further deferring implementation of last tranche of 0.625% of capital conservation buffer to 30th September 2020.
- The banks in India that operate IFSC banking units allowed to participate in offshore INR NDF market. (Effective date: 1st June 2020)



Financial Relief Measures as Announced by RBI

- Reduction of Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) has resulted in liquidity enhancement of INR 137 Billion.
- Targeted Long Term Repo Operations (TLTROs) of INR 1 Trillion for fresh deployment in investment grade corporate bonds, commercial paper, and non convertible debentures.
- TLTRO of INR 500 Billion for investing them in investment grade bonds, commercial paper, and non-convertible
- Announced special refinance facilities to NABARD, SIDBI and the NHB for a total amount of INR 500 Billion at the policy repo rate
- Announced the opening of a special liquidity facility (SLF) of INR 500 Billion for mutual funds to alleviate intensified liquidity pressures.
- Moratorium of three months on payment of instalments and payment of Interest on Working Capital Facilities in respect of all
- Easing of Working Capital Financing by reducing margins
- For loans by NBFCs to commercial real estate sector, additional time of one year has been given for extension of the date for commencement for commercial operations (DCCO).



Global Tenders upto INR 2 Billion to be Disallowed

- To avoid unfair competition from foreign companies. Therefore, Global tenders will be disallowed in Government procurement tenders upto INR 2 Billion.
- This will be a step towards Self Reliant India and also support Make in India plans
- Necessary amendments of General Financial Rules will be effected.
- This will also help MSMEs to increase their business.



Amendments under the Companies Act, 2013

- Board Meeting: The mandatory requirement of holding meetings of the Board of the Companies within the prescribed intervals under the Companies Act, 2013 (120 days) shall be extended by a period of 60 days till next two quarters i.e. till September 30th, 2020.
- Meeting of Independent Directors: The Independent Directors of companies who have not been a part of even one meeting in the last year, the same should not be treated as a violation in the F.Y. 20.
- No Additional Fees by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs: Moratorium will be issued from 01.04.2020 to 30.09.2020, no additional fees will be charged by the Ministry for the late filing.
- Applicability of Companies (Auditor's Report) Order, 2020 shall be made applicable from the financial year 2020-2021 instead of from 2019-2020 notified earlier. This will significantly ease the burden on companies & their auditors for the year 2019-20.



Amendments under the Companies Act, 2013

- Commencement of Business: New Companies to be given 6 more months for filing Declaration of Commencement of Business with the Registrar of Companies.
- Debentures: Requirement to invest 15% of debentures maturing during a particular year in specified instruments before 30th April 2020, may be done so before 30th June 2020.
- Deposit Reserve: Deposit Reserve that was earlier required to be created by 30.04.2020 can now be created by 30.06.2020.
- Residency requirement for a Director: Minimum residency requirement for a director of 182 days in India is waived off for the current Financial Year.



Employee Provident Fund

INR 25 Billion EPF Support for Business & Workers for 3 more months

- Under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package (payment of 12% of employer and 12% employee contributions was made into EPF accounts of eligible establishments
- This was provided earlier for salary months of March, April and May 2020
- This support will be extended for 3 months i.e salary months of June, July and August 2020
- This relief would provide liquidity of INR 25 Billion to 367000 establishments and for 7.2 Million employees

EPF contribution reduced for Business & Workers for 3 months INR 67.5 Billion

- To support business, it is necessary to provide more take home salary to employees and also to give relief to employers in payment of Provident Fund dues.
- Therefore, statutory PF contribution of both employer and employee will be reduced to 10 % each from existing 12% each for all establishments covered by EPFO for next 3 months.
- CPSEs and State PSUs will however continue to contribute 12% as employer contribution
- This scheme will be applicable for workers who are not eligible for 24% EPF support under PM Garib Kalyan Package and its extension
- This will provide relief to about 650000 establishments covered under EPFO and about 430 Million such employees.

Amendments under the Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code, 2016

The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code: The announcement has made that the default threshold limit of INR 100,000 has been steeply raised to INR 10 Million. This is to help small companies facing the threat of defaults due to coronavirus-related lockdown. The government has raised the threshold that would trigger insolvency proceedings to INR 10 Million from current INR 1,00,000. This raising of the threshold will help small and medium enterprises (MSME's).

Tax Stimulus Package Amid Pandemic Covid-19

Income Tax

Direct Tax Rates

Amendments under the Income-tax Act:

- All pending refunds to charitable trusts, non-corporate business & professions including proprietorship, LLPs and co-operatives shall be processed immediately.
- Due Date of all ITR filings shall be extended from 31st July, 2020 & 31st October, 2020 to 30th November, 2020 and for tax audit filing from 30th September, 2020 to 31st October, 2020.
- Period of Vivaad Se Vishwas Scheme for making payments without additional amount extended to 31st December 2020.
- Date of assessments getting barred as on 30th September 2020 has been extended to 31st December 2020 and for those getting barred as on 31st March 2021 extended to 30th September 2021.
- TDS for period beginning from 14th May 2020 till 31st March 2021 has been reduced by 25% of the existing rate for non-salaried payments to residents. Payment for contract, professional fees, interest, rent, dividend, commission, brokerage etc. shall be eligible for this reduction in TDS rates. Similarly, TCS rates are reduced for same period and with same percent for specified receipts.

Necessary legal circulars and legislative amendments for giving effect to the aforesaid relief shall be issued in due course.

Income Tax

Direct Tax Rates

Amendments under the Income-tax Act:

- Income Tax Return :Deadline to file Income-tax return for the Financial Year (“FY”) 2018-19 has been extended to 30th June 2020.
- Delayed Payments: For delayed payments of advanced tax, self-assessment tax, regular tax, Tax Deducted at Source (“TDS”), Tax Collected at Source (“TCS”), Equalization levy, Security Transaction Tax (“STT”), Commodities Transaction Tax (“CTT”) made between 20th March 2020 and 30th June 2020, reduced interest rate at 9% instead of 12% / 18% per annum (i.e. 0.75% per month instead of 1/1.5% per month) will be charged for this period. No late fee/penalty shall be charged for delay relating to this period.
- Aadhaar PAN Linking: Aadhaar Pan linking has been extended from 31st March 2020 to 30th June 2020.
- Extension of date for Other purposes: Various dates of notices, intimation, notification, approval order, sanction order, filing of appeal, furnishing of returns, statements, applications, reports any other documents and any compliance by the taxpayer including saving and investment instruments or investments for roll-over benefit of capital gains under Income-tax Act, Wealth-tax Act, Prohibition of Benami property Act , Security Transaction Tax Law, Commodities Transaction Tax Law, Equilisation levy Law, where the time limit was expiring on 20th March 2020 has been extended to 30th June 2020.

Goods & Services Tax

- **Persons having aggregate turnover less than INR 50 million:**
 - Last date for filing GSTR-3B in March, April and May 2020 will be extended till the last week of 30th June 2020 (in staggered manner)
 - No interest, late fee and penalty to be charged.
- **Persons having aggregate turnover more than INR 50 million: If compliance is made before 30th June 2020 then:**
 - For any delayed payment made between 20th March 2020 and 30th June 2020 reduced rate of interest @ 9% per annum which be charged as against the current interest rate of 18 % per annum.
 - No late fee and penalty to be charged.
- **Sabka Vishwas Scheme**

Payment date under Sabka Vishwas Scheme shall be extended to June 30, 2020. No interest for this period shall be charged if paid by June 30, 2020.

- **Composition Scheme**
 - Date for opting composition scheme is extended till the last week of June, 2020.
 - Last date for making payments for the quarter ending March 31, 2020 and filing of return for FY 2019 - 20 will be extended till the last week of June, 2020.
- **Extension Due Dates**
 - Due date, i.e. 31st March 2020, for filing GST Annual Returns of FY 2018-19 is extended till the last week of June, 2020.
 - Due date for issue of notice, notification, approval order, sanction order, filing of appeal, furnishing of return, statements, applications, reports, any other documents, time limit for any compliance under the GST laws where the time limit is expiring between 20th March 2020 to 29th June 2020 shall be extended to 30th June 2020.

Necessary legal circulars and legislative amendments to give effect to the aforesaid GST relief shall follow with the approval of GST Council.

Amendment for Customs

- 24X7 Custom clearance till end of 30th June 2020.
- Due date for issue of notice, notification, approval order, sanction order, filing of appeal, furnishing applications, reports, any other documents etc., time limit for any compliance under the Customs Act and other allied Laws where the time limit is expiring between 20th March 2020 to 29th June 2020 shall be extended to 30th June 2020.

Stimulus Package- Second Tranche Amid Pandemic Covid-19

Measures for Migrant Workers

- Free food grain supply to all migrant workers, even non-card holders, for the next two months.
- National portability of ration cards. 'One nation, one ration card' to be implemented and 100% coverage will be done by March 2021. In 23 states, 67 million will be benefited from this.
- Affordable rental accommodation for migrant workers/urban poor. This is a special scheme for rental housing under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana. This is incentivizing manufacturing units to build affordable rental housing complexes. This will also convert govt-funded houses into rental housing complexes. And the scheme will be implemented on PPP model via concessionaire arrangements.

Measures for Farmers

- INR 0.3 Trillion working capital facility is provided to them, in addition to the Rs 0.9 Trillion already provided by Nabard. States will be given this fund via SSBs, RRBs.
- INR 2 trillion worth of concessional credit to be extended to 25 million farmers. This will be provided through Kisan credit cards. Animal husbandry and fisheries will also be eligible for this scheme.

Mudra Shishu Loans (INR 50,000 or less)

- Interest subvention support of 2% for 12 months at the cost of INR 15 Billion. So far, INR 1.62 Trillion given out under this type of loan. 30 million people to benefit by this.

Measures for Street Vendors

- Each Street vendors will be able to avail INR 10,000 loan from Rs. 50 Billion special credit facility once the lockdown is lifted. And those making repayments through the digital mode to get additional benefit.

Measures for Employment Generation

- INR 60 Billion CAMPA funds to be used for afforestation and similar projects. This aims to generate employment for tribal and rural people.

Measures for Housing

- Credit-linked affordable housing subsidy scheme provided for the middle-income group, this was started in 2017 and now extended to March 31, 2021. This is a INR 0.7 trillion scheme to spur job creations and demand for construction material is expected to improve with this.

Stimulus Package- Third Tranche Amid Pandemic Covid-19

Agricultural Reforms

- 1 Trillion fund for strengthening the farm gate infrastructure like cold chains, post harvest storage infrastructures etc.
- INR 100 Billion fund for micro food scheme will be executed with cluster-based approach. Will benefit 0.2 Million Micro Food Enterprises.
- **Agriculture Marketing Reforms** : A central law will be formulated to provide adequate choices to sell produce at attractive price, barrier free inter-state trade and a framework for e-trading of agriculture produce.
- **Agriculture Produce Price and Quality Assurance**: Facilitative legal framework will be created to enable farmers for engaging with processors, aggregators, large retailers, exporters etc. in a fair and transparent manner.

Promotion of Herbal Cultivation

- 10,00,000 hectare will be covered under Herbal cultivation in next two years with outlay of INR 40 Billion
- NMPB will bring 800-hectare area by developing a corridor of medicinal plants along the banks of Ganga..

Reforms for Animal Husbandry

- An Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund of INR 150 Billion will be set up.

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Operation Greens Initiative

- INR 5 Billion for Operation Greens that will be extended from Tomatoes, Onion and Potatoes (TOP) to ALL fruits and vegetables (TOTAL)
- 50% subsidy on transportation from surplus to deficient markets.
- 50% subsidy on storage, including cold storages.

Beekeeping Initiative

- INR 5 Billion have been allocated for beekeeping. This will help 0.2 Million beekeepers.
- Implementation of standards & Developing traceability system

Reforms for Marine And Inland Fisheries

- INR 200 Billion for Fishermen through Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)
- INR 110 Billion for activities in Marine, Inland fisheries and Aquaculture.
- INR 90 Billion for Infrastructure - Fishing Harbours, Cold chain, Markets etc.

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National Animal Disease Control Programme

- National Animal Disease Control Programme for Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) and Brucellosis launched with total outlay of INR 133.43 Billion
- It ensures 100% vaccination of cattle, buffalo, sheep, goat and pig population (total 53 crore animals) for Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) and for brucellosis.

Amendments to Essential Commodities Act

- Agriculture food stuffs including cereals, edible oils, oilseeds, pulses, onions and potato to be deregulated.
- Stock limit to be imposed under very exceptional circumstances like national calamities, famine with surge in prices.
- No such stock limit shall apply to processors or value chain participant, subject to their installed capacity or to any exporter subject to the export demand.

Dairy Infrastructure Initiative

- INR 15 Billion will be spent on ramping up the dairy infrastructure. Also, investments will be made in cattle feed.

Stimulus Package- Fourth Tranche Amid Pandemic Covid-19

Fast track Investment Clearance

- Fast track Investment Clearance through Empowered Group of Secretaries (EGoS).
- Project Development Cell in each Ministry to prepare investible projects, coordinate with investors and Central/ State Governments
- Ranking of States on Investment Attractiveness to compete for new investments
- Incentive schemes for Promotion of New Champion Sectors will be launched in sectors such as Solar PV manufacturing; Advanced cell battery storage; etc

Reforms for Industrial Infrastructure

- Schemes will be implemented in states through challenge mode for industrial cluster upgradation of common infrastructure facilities and connectivity.
- Availability of Industrial Land/ Land Bank for promoting new investments and making information available on Industrial Information System (IIS) with GIS mapping.

Atomic Energy Reforms

- Technology Development cum Incubation Centres will be set up for fostering synergy between research facilities and tech entrepreneurs.
- Establishment of research reactor in PPP mode for production of medical isotopes.

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Reforms for Coal Sector

- Government is introducing the commercial mining of coal. India needs to reduce import of substitutable coal and increase self-reliance in coal production.
- Revenue sharing mechanism instead of regime of fixed Rupee/tonne: Now, any party can bid for a coal block and sell in the open market.
- Nearly 50 blocks will be auctioned.
- The investment of INR 0.05 Trillion is for the evacuation of enhanced CIL's (Coal India Limited) target of 1 billion tons of coal production by 2023-24 plus coal production from private blocks.
- Liberalised Regime in Coal Sector:
 - Coal Bed Methane (CBM) extraction rights to be auctioned from Coal India Limited's (CIL) coal mines.
 - Ease of doing business measures, such as Mining Plan simplification, will be taken
 - Concessions in commercial terms given to CIL's consumers (relief worth INR 50 Billion offered)

Reforms for Minerals Sector

- Enhancing private investment in mineral sector.
- Rationalisation of stamp duty payable at the time of award of mining leases.
- Introduction of a seamless composite exploration-cum-mining-cum-production regime.
- 500 mining blocks would be offered through an open and transparent auction process, a joint auction of Bauxite & Coal mineral blocks will be introduced to enhance Aluminum industry's competitiveness.
- Remove distinction between captive and non- captive mines to allow transfer of mining leases and sale of surplus unused minerals, leading to better efficiency in mining and production.
- Ministry of Mines is in the process of developing a Mineral Index for different minerals.

Reforms in Civil Aviation Sector

- Restrictions on the utilisation of Indian Air Space will be eased so that civilian flying becomes more efficient. The effort will bring a total benefit of INR 10 Billion per year for the aviation sector.
- Construction of world-class airports through PPP route.
- Government is working hard to make India a global hub for aircraft maintenance, repair and overhaul.
- Airports Authority of India has awarded 3 airports out of 6 bid for operation & maintenance on (PPP) basis.
- India to become a global hub for Aircraft Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO)
 - Tax regime for MRO ecosystem has been rationalized.
 - Convergence between defence sector and the civil MROs will be established to create economies of scale.

Boosting pvt sector investment in Social Infrastructure

- Boosting private sector investment in Social Infrastructure through revamped Viability Gap Funding Scheme of INR 81 Billion.
- Government will enhance the quantum of Viability Gap Funding upto 30% each of Total Project Cost as VGF by Centre and State/Statutory Bodies.
- For other sectors, VGF existing support of 20 % each from Gol and States/Statutory Bodies shall continue

Power Sector Reforms

- Power Distribution Companies in Union Territories to be privatised in line with the new tariff policies.

Space Sector Reforms

- Indian private sector will be a co-traveller in India's space sector journey.
- Private sector will be allowed to use ISRO facilities and other relevant assets to improve their capacities.
- Future projects for planetary exploration, outer space travel etc to be open for private sector.
- Liberal geo-spatial data policy for providing remote-sensing data to tech-entrepreneurs.

Tariff Policy Reform

- Tariff Policy laying out following reforms will be released:
- **Consumer rights** (e.g. DISCOM inefficiencies not to burden consumers, standard of service and associated penalties) ,
- **Promoting industry** (reduction in cross subsidies, selection of generation & transmission project developers competitively) and
- **Sustainability of sector** (Smart prepaid meters, DBT for subsidy)

Enhancing Self Reliance in Defence Production

- Indigenization of imported spares, separate budget provisioning for domestic capital procurement.
- Improve autonomy, accountability and efficiency in Ordnance Supplies by Corporatisation of Ordnance Factory Board
- FDI limit in the defence manufacturing under automatic route will be raised from 49% to 74%
- Time bound defence procurement process will be ushered along with faster decision making

Stimulus Package- Fifth Tranche Amid Pandemic Covid-19

Measures the Companies Act, 2013

- **Decriminalisation of Companies Act defaults:**
 - Violations involving minor technical and procedural defaults such as shortcomings in CSR reporting, inadequacy in board report, filing defaults and delay in holding AGMs will be decriminalized from Company Act. From now on, the company shall face only monetary penalty on companies.
 - Majority of the compoundable offences sections to be shifted to internal adjudication mechanism (IAM) and powers of RD for compounding enhanced (58 sections to be dealt with under IAM as compared to 18 earlier.
 - Seven compoundable offences under Companies Act being dropped, 5 offences to be dealt under alternative framework.
- **New provisions for producer companies:**
 - Provisions of old Companies Act, 1956 pertaining to producer companies being included in the new Companies Act, 2013.

Measures under The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 (IBC)

In further enhancement of Ease of Doing Business, Government is intending to induce IBC related measures as:

- Special Insolvency Resolution framework for MSMEs under Section 240A of the Code to be notified soon.
- Suspension of fresh initiation proceedings up to one year.
- Covid-related debt to be excluded from definition of default under the IBC.

Measure under Health and Education Sector

- Public Expenditure on health will be increased. The investments at grassroots for health and wellness centres both at rural and urban levels will be getting ramped up.
- All the districts will have infectious disease hospital blocks. This apart, public health labs will be set up at block levels.

Relaxations under Listing Norms

- Listing of securities by the Public Companies can be done in permitted foreign jurisdictions. Private Companies which list NCDs on stock exchanges not to be regarded as listed companies.

Technology driven Education with Equity

- PM e-VIDYA programme for digital/online education, Manodarpan, an initiative for mental health and emotional well being to be launched.
- National Curriculum and Pedagogical framework and national foundational literacy and numeracy mission to be launched.

Ashok Maheshwary & Associates LLP

C H A R T E R E D A C C O U N T A N T S

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