

NEWS & VIEWS

APRIL 2021

FINANCE

FIEO proposes government to issue tax-free bonds to exporters in lieu of Rs 40,000 crore stuck refunds



Exporters have proposed the government to issue tax-free bonds in lieu of pending refunds under the Merchandise Export from India Scheme, in the wake of the country's poor revenue realization. The Federation of Indian Export Organizations (FIEO) has proposed a mechanism of tax-free bond attracting 6% annual interest with a three-year lock-in period to provide certainty of refund and ensure liquidity for exporters. As per FIEO president Sharad Kumar Saraf, exporters are yet to receive around Rs 40,000 crore worth of tax refund under the MEIS as they were not allowed to file their claim under the scheme April 2019 onwards. "This has affected the liquidity of exporters, particularly the micro and small ones. This has also added to the uncertainties which are rising day by day," the organization said in the letter sent last month. Under MEIS, the government gave duty benefits depending on product and country. Rewards under the scheme were payable as percentage of realized free-on-board value (of 2%, 3% and 5%) and MEIS duty credit scrip could be transferred or used for payment of a number of duties including the basic customs duty.

PERSONS IN NEWS

Justice N. V. Ramana appointed as the 48th Chief Justice of India

President Ram Nath Kovind appointed Justice N. V. Ramana as Chief Justice of India with effect from April 24. Born into a family of agriculturists in Krishna district of Andhra Pradesh, Chief Justice of India-designate, Justice Ramana, has adorned many hats — from student leader working for farmers and industrial workers to journalist for a leading Telugu newspaper to a first-generation lawyer. He was Additional Advocate General for Andhra Pradesh before being called to the State High Court Bench in 2001. Justice Ramana was the Delhi High Court Chief Justice prior to his elevation to the apex court. As CJ, Justice Ramana has tenure of 16 months. Incumbent CJ Sharad A. Bobde had recommended Justice Ramana, the senior most judge of the Supreme Court, for appointment as the 48th Chief Justice of India in a letter addressed to the Ministry of Law and Justice on March 24.



Sivasubramanian Ramann takes charge as SIDBI Chief

Sivasubramanian Ramann has taken charge as the Chairman and Managing Director of Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), the principal financial institution engaged in the promotion, financing and development of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs). The appointment is for a period of three years. He has a BA in Economics and MBA from Delhi University. His professional qualifications include LLB, M Sc in Regulation from the London School of Economics, Certified Internal Auditor from the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA), Florida and Post Graduate Diploma in Securities Law. Under his leadership, SIDBI's vision of serving the national missions of AtmaNirbhar Bharat with credit plus, digital delight and strengthened MSME ecosystem, is expected to reach greater heights.

Cabinet reshuffle - Tarun Bajaj - Revenue Secretary, Ajay Seth - Economic Affairs Secretary & Anil Kumar Jha - Ministry of Tribal Affairs

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi reshuffles at the North Block, department of economic affairs (DEA) secretary Tarun Bajaj has been made the new revenue secretary, while Ajay Seth, a 1987-batch Karnataka cadre officer of the Indian Administrative Service (IAS) and the managing director of Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation, has been appointed as DEA secretary and Anil Kumar Jha, special secretary in the department of revenue, as secretary in the ministry of tribal affairs.



Are you looking for

Skilled & Qualified Independent Directors?

ONEID
ORGANIZATION
FOR
NON EXECUTIVE
INDEPENDENT
DIRECTORS



WHY ONEID?

- Easily access the pool of good candidates empanelled by the Expert Committee of ONEID
- Post vacancies with detailed description
- Ability to search profiles with keywords like Industry, Specialization, Job Category, Location, Experience, etc.
- Download CVs submitted
- Cost effective & time saving
- Identification of the right candidate
- Update Company profile at any time
- 24* 7 availability
- Get to know the applicants just as they would want to know you, and to determine if there is a fit
- Personalized mail, forwarding suitable candidates' profiles on request.

HOW TO GET EMPANELMENT / REGISTERED

For registering with ONEID as an employer, please consider the following steps:

- Login to <https://iodglobal.com/certifiedcorporatedirectors/>
- Click on Sign up, Select Independent Director / Employer, create your User ID.
- Enter all the requisite details.
- Post verification, password shall be sent via registered mail.

OBJECTIVES

To implement its mission, ONEID has prescribed the following set of objectives for servicing its members:

- To prescribe the criteria, norms and standards for qualified Independent Directors, in conformity with legal requirements.
- To maintain a panel of qualified, eligible and willing - to - be independent directors, who meet the criteria, laid down by the Institute Of Directors, in addition to those specifically prescribed by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs.
- To obtain the requirements of companies and other organizations, and match them with the aspirants available in the qualified panel of ONEID's database of independent directors.
- To provide professional and non-partisan advice to the companies as well as to the independent directors.
- To provide all other services, including networking of independent directors, and keep them acquainted with changes in the law, the concerned rules and the best boardroom practices.



INSTITUTE OF DIRECTORS

M-56 A, Greater Kailash, Part - II (Market), New Delhi - 110048, India
Board Nos.: +91- 11- 41636294, 41636717, 41008704
Fax: +91- 11- 41008705 • Email: info@iodglobal.com
<https://iodglobal.com/certifiedcorporatedirectors/>

NEWS & VIEWS

APRIL 2021

INTERNATIONAL

China-US Climate Change Cooperation

The two biggest polluters of the world China and US have agreed to work together in tackling climate change issues. They recently issued a joint statement that they will work together to uphold Paris Agreement. The announcement comes days before the Earth Day Leaders' Summit. The announcement was made after Kerry, the former US Secretary met China's special envoy for Climate Change. Kerry is the first official to visit China from President Biden's administration.



IMF to distribute SDR to member countries by August

The International Monetary Fund recently announced that it will distribute the Special Drawing Rights to its member countries by mid-August. Key Highlights The IMF has agreed to support SDR allocation of 650 million USD. This is the largest in the history of IMF. Recently, the G20 Finance Ministers agreed to the International Monetary Fund.

ECONOMY



NITI Aayog outlines a range of investment opportunities in healthcare sector

NITI Aayog has released a report titled 'Investment Opportunities in India's Healthcare Sector'. The report highlights invest -

ment opportunities in different segments of the healthcare sector of India, including health insurance, telemedicine, medical devices and equipment, hospitals, home healthcare, and medical value travel. NITI Aayog CEO – Mr. Amitabh Kant, Member - Dr. VK Paul, and Additional Secretary - Dr. Rakesh Sarwal released the report. As per the report, since 2016 India's healthcare industry has been growing at a Compound Annual Growth Rate of around 22%. The healthcare sector of India is expected to reach USD 372 billion, at the rate of 22% (Compound Annual Growth Rate) in 2022. The report highlights investment opportunities in 7 key segments - Health insurance, medical tourism, medical devices, pharmaceuticals and biotechnology, hospitals and infrastructure, home healthcare as well as telemedicine and other technology-related health services.

ECONOMY

Crude oil output of India drops

The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas recently released its data for the fiscal year 2020-21. According to the data, crude oil production of India fell to 30.5 million tonnes. It was 32.17 million tonnes in 2019-20. The demand for petroleum products in the country fell by 9% in 2020-21. In 2020-21, India consumed 194.6 million tonnes of petroleum products. In 2019-20, India consumed 214.1 million tonnes of petroleum products.

REGULATORY

Investment advisers cannot charge implementation fee for advisory clients: SEBI



Investment advisers can offer execution services for their advisory clients but without charging any commission or fees, markets regulator SEBI said. It further said an investment adviser cannot avail reimbursement of any amount for the services given to its clients from the asset management companies (AMCs) whose direct plans are being sold by it to clients.

SEBI orders attachment of bank, demat accounts of Alchemist Holdings, 3 others

Markets regulator SEBI has ordered attachment of bank as well as demat accounts of Alchemist Holdings and three individuals to recover investors' money to the tune of Rs 444.67 crore. The recovery proceedings have been initiated against the entities after they failed to refund investors' money as directed by the SEBI.

NEWS & VIEWS

APRIL 2021

MERGER AND ACQUISITION

DCB BANK

DCB Bank acquires minority stake in Techfino Capital

DCB Bank Limited, a private sector bank, has acquired a minority equity stake of about 9 per cent in Bengaluru-based non-banking financial company (NBFC), Techfino Capital Private Limited (TCPL). The funds raised by TCPL will be used in enhancement of current tech stack apart from on-lending to customers. Techfino provides customised consumer loans in education and healthcare sectors. It is present in key metros and tier II cities across India.

Singapore's Grab to go public in world's biggest \$40 bn SPAC merger

Grab Holdings, the largest ride-hailing and food delivery firm in Southeast Asia, clinched a merger with special-purpose acquisition company Altimeter Growth Corp securing a valuation of nearly \$40 billion and paving the way for a coveted U.S. listing. The merger, the biggest blank-check company deal ever, underscores the frenzy on Wall Street as shell firms have raised \$99 billion in the United States so far this year after a record \$83 billion in 2020. As part of Singapore-based Grab's agreement with the SPAC backed by Altimeter Capital, investors such as Temasek Holdings, BlackRock, Fidelity International, Abu Dhabi's Mubadala and Malaysia's Permodalan Nasional Bhd will participate in a \$4 billion private investment in public equity offering. Funds managed by Altimeter Capital will lead the investment with \$750 million.



Flipkart acquires Cleartrip as part of its diversification drive

Flipkart has officially announced its plan to acquire a 100% stake in Cleartrip, one of the oldest travel booking portals in India, as the online retailer looks to strengthen its overall offerings. The Walmart-owned e-commerce firm said it will acquire the operations of Cleartrip and retain all employees. Cleartrip will continue to operate as a separate brand and will work closely with Flipkart to further develop technology solutions. The deal is subject to regulatory approval, the company said. While the terms of the acquisition were not disclosed, the deal is expected to be a mix of cash and equity, likely valuing the online travel agent at around \$40 million in what is considered to be a distress sale.

Wipro to acquire Australia's Ampion for \$117 million

Wipro Limited said it has agreed to acquire Ampion, an Australia-based provider of cybersecurity, DevOps and engineering services, for \$117 million. This is Wipro's second acquisition in about a month and among several other acquisitions it has made since Thierry Delaporte took charge as the chief executive and managing director last July. The Ampion deal is expected to close this quarter. The deal is also part of Wipro's strategy to focus on strategic investments in markets that are closer to its clients.

