



*Your Growth, Our Business*

**BULLETIN – MAY 2025**



## SEBI

### Extension of timeline for complying with the certification requirement for the key investment team of the Manager of AIF

- SEBI vide circular dated May 13, 2024 has, inter alia, specified that schemes of AIFs as on May 13, 2024 and schemes of AIFs whose application for launch of scheme were pending with SEBI as on May 10, 2024, may comply with the 'NISM Series-XIX-C: Alternative Investment Fund Managers Certification Examination' requirement by May 9, 2025 for the compliance with Regulation 4(g)(i) of AIF Regulations.
- Based on representation received from the AIF industry, and with the objective of providing ease of compliance to the AIF industry, SEBI has been decided to extend the said timeline from May 9, 2025 to July 31, 2025 to obtain the requisite NISM certification.

### Consultation Paper on providing flexibility to AIFs to offer Co-Investment opportunities to investors within the AIF structure under SEBI (Alternative Investment Funds) Regulations, 2012

- SEBI Consultation Paper proposes amendments to the AIF Regulations with the primary objectives of:
  - enabling AIFs to extend co-investment opportunities in unlisted securities through a designated Co-Investment Vehicle (CIV) structured as a distinct scheme under the AIF framework; and
  - removing existing restrictions on AIF managers from rendering advisory services in relation to listed securities.

***Stakeholders are invited to submit comments by May 30, 2025, via SEBI's online form.***

### Accessibility and Inclusiveness of Digital KYC to Persons with Disabilities

- The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgement dated April 30, 2025, emphasized the need for equal and accessible inclusion of persons with disabilities for availing financial services and directed to ensure that the process of digital KYC is accessible to persons with disabilities.
- SEBI is committed to the cause of enabling equal access of services of its registered intermediaries to persons with disabilities, including persons with visual impairments and in order to make the digital KYC process inclusive and accessible, FAQ on Account opening by Persons with Disabilities has been revised and is available on **'SEBI Website → FAQs → Know Your Client Requirements, Demat / Trading Account Opening → Ministry of Education medium FAQ on Account Opening by Persons with Disabilities.**
- SEBI, vide this circular, directed the intermediaries to extend their services enabling digital accessibility to client including persons with disabilities and will be guided by the said FAQ on Account opening by Person with Disabilities.

### SEBI Mandates Investor Charter publication for KYC Registration Agencies

SEBI has mandated all KYC Registration Agencies (KRAs) to publish an Investor Charter on their websites and other platforms to boost investor awareness and transparency. The charter, designed by SEBI, outlines the services provided by KRAs, investor rights, key Dos and Don'ts, and grievance redressal procedures.

- KRAs support KYC registration/modification, allow online tracking of KYC status, verify details with official databases, and ensure data privacy. Investors are advised to submit accurate information, avoid sharing sensitive data like OTPs, and refrain from dealing with unauthorized agents.
- For complaints, investors should first approach the KRA, escalate to SEBI's SCORES if unresolved, and finally use the ODR portal for dispute resolution. This move aims to enhance investor protection and accountability in the KYC process.

## RBI

### RBI Issues Reporting Norms for Partly Paid Units

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI), through Circular No. 06 under the A.P. (DIR Series), has issued guidelines to Category-I Authorised Dealer Banks concerning the reporting of partly paid units issued by investment vehicles to foreign investors. This follows recent amendments to the Foreign Exchange Management (Non-debt Instruments) Rules, 2019, which now permit investment vehicles to issue partly paid units to non-resident individuals.
- As per Regulation 4(10) of the amended rules, such issuances must be reported in Form InVI within 30 days of issuance. For issuances made prior to the circular's release, a one-time window of 180 days has been provided for reporting without attracting late submission fees. However, for issuances occurring on or after May 23, 2025, the standard 30-day reporting timeline will apply.
- These directions take immediate effect and have been issued under Sections 10(4) and 11(1) of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999. The circular also clarifies that these directions do not supersede any other applicable legal approvals or requirements. Authorised Dealer Banks have been advised to inform their clients of these new compliance requirements and ensure timely and accurate reporting through the FIRMS portal.

### Reserve Bank of India (Digital Lending) Directions, 2025

- The RBI has issued the Digital Lending Directions, 2025, to strengthen oversight in the digital lending space. These guidelines address risks related to third-party involvement, data misuse, unfair charges, and unethical recovery practices. They apply to regulated entities and their tie-ups with Lending Service Providers (LSPs), especially in multi-lender setups.
- Key provisions include mandatory due diligence, borrower disclosures, grievance redressal, data protection, and creditworthiness checks. The rules also cover digital lending apps (DLAs) and Default Loss Guarantee (DLG) arrangements, setting out clear compliance, disclosure, and reporting norms.
- Most provisions are effective immediately, while rules on multi-lender models and DLA directories take effect from November 1, 2025, and June 15, 2025, respectively. Earlier circulars stand superseded.

## MCA

### **The Companies (Accounts) Amendment Rules, 2025**

- ❑ The Central Government have notified the Companies (Accounts) Amendment Rules, 2025. As per the amendment in the Companies (Accounts) Rules, 2014, in rule 12, in sub-rule (1B), in the fourth proviso, for the words, figures and letters “on or before 31st March 2025”, the words, figures and letters “on or before 30th June, 2025” shall be substituted.
- ❑ Thus, the Proviso shall now be read as: “Provided also that for the financial year 2023-2024, Form CSR-2 shall be filed separately on or before 30th June 2025 after filing Form No. AOC-4 or Form No. AOC-4-NBFC (Ind AS), as specified in these rules or Form No. AOC-4 XBRL as specified in the Companies (Filing of Documents and Forms in Extensible Business Reporting Language) Rules, 2015 as the case may be

## TAX

### **CBDT extends date of filing of Income Tax Returns (ITRs) due for filing by July 31, 2025 to September 15, 2025**

- ❑ In view of extensive changes introduced in the notified Income Tax Returns (ITRs) and considering the time required for systems readiness and roll out of ITR utilities for the AY 2025-26, the CBDT has decided to extend the due date for filing returns.

## IFSCA

### **Framework to facilitate Co-investment by Existing Schemes at GIFT IFSC**

- ❑ The Fund Management Regulations, 2025 permits co-investment, with or without leverage, through a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) (also known in Industry parlance as a Co-Investment Vehicle (CIV)), herein after referred to as the Special Scheme.
- ❑ To operationalise this, the IFSCA has brought out a framework that will facilitate Co-investment by venture capital schemes and restricted schemes, paving the way for existing schemes to create special schemes to undertake the investments much faster.
- ❑ The framework defines the structure, objective and nature of such special schemes. One salient feature of the framework is that these special schemes can make investments even before intimating the Authority.
- ❑ Moreover, the term sheet of the special scheme can be filed with authority within 45 days from the date of investments, thus making the process of investment easier and faster.