Srinivasan Shankar,

Chartered Accountants

COVID-19 Relief Measures	
Under Companies Act	
S.NO	Particulars
1	The conduct of the board meetings by the companies within an interval of 120 days is now extended by a further period of 60 days until the next two quarters, i.e. 30th September 2020. It has also relaxed the requirements of holding board meetings requiring physical presence of directors till 30 June.
2	Companies (Auditor's Report) Order 2020 (CARO, 2020) will be made applicable from FY 2020-21 instead of FY 2019-20, benefiting the companies and its statutory auditors.
3	Section 4 of the Companies Act, 2013 is not considered to be violated if the independent directors of a company could not hold their exclusive meeting during the FY 2019-20.
4	The newly incorporated companies will get an additional 6 months for filing the declaration form INC 20A for the commencement of business .
5	Any director of a company who has not stayed in India for more than 182 days will still be considered as a resident of India in compliance with the law.
6 a b	The following requirements have been postponed from 30th April 2020 to 20th June 2020: Creation of a deposit reserve containing at least 20% of deposits maturing in the FY 2020-21 Investment of 15% of debentures maturing in a specific year in specified instruments
7	In order to give a chance Companies and LLPs who have not filed their returns/forms and thereby, facing difficulty in paying heft late fee/penalty/fine, a Companies/LLP Fresh Start Scheme, 2020 have been launched not only to reduce the compliance burden, including financial burden of Companies/ LLPs at large, but also enable long-standing noncompliant Companies/ LLPs to make a 'fresh start' . Under this scheme a chance has been given to file forms, returns, documents, statements etc., between April 1, 2020 to Sep 30, 2020 without any additional fee/fine/penalty irrespective of its due date.
8	Contribution to PM-Cares Fund is eligible under CSR expenditure , however contribution to 'Chief Minister's Relief Fund' or 'State Relief Fund' is not eligible under CSR.