GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CORPORAE AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1210
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.07.2026, 2026/SHRAVANA 5, 1948 (SAKA)

Schemes Pertaining to ICAI, ICSI and ICMAI

1210. Shri Ganesh Singh:

Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes implemented by the Government, including objectives, implementation framework, eligibility criteria and the role envisaged for professional bodies such as the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI), the Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI) and the Institute of Cost and Management Accountants of India (ICMAI);

(b) whether the Government has undertaken any assessment regarding the compliance-related challenges faced by Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in smaller cities and towns, if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated number of paraprofessionals proposed to be trained under the scheme during the next three years, State-wise, including Madhya Pradesh; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure that MSMEs receive affordable, accessible and reliable compliance assistance under the proposed scheme, particularly in aspirational districts and underserved regions of the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

[SHRI HARSH MALHOTRA]

(a) The Government has announced 'Corporate Mitra' to create a cadre of accredited para-professionals for providing affordable

compliance, accounting, taxation, financial, governance and regulatory support to MSMEs, particularly in Tier-II and Tier-III Towns thereby strengthening the foundation of India's entrepreneurial ecosystem and contributing to the vision of Viksit Bharat.

The details of the Corporate Mitra, including objectives, implementation framework, eligibility criteria and role of Professional bodies have been specified in the guidelines for Corporate Mitra.(Guidelines:https://resource.cdn.icai.org/92897cmc260626c.pdf).

(b) No such specific assessment has been done by this Ministry. However, the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) has been taking several measures for ease of doing business and to ease compliance burden for small companies in the entire country. Some of the important measures taken by MCA are at Annexure-I.

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(c) The Professional Institutes will initially train 2,000 candidates across the country in the first batch of this financial year including 200 candidates from the North Eastern Region (NER). Targets for three years has not been finalised. There are no State wise targets.

(d) The proposed course aims to ensure that MSMEs including those located in aspirational districts and underserved regions, have access to affordable, accessible and reliable compliance assistance through a trained pool of Corporate Mitras.

To promote inclusive participation, the course provides for dedicated representation from the North Eastern Region and adopts an online academic learning model complemented by structured on-the-job training, thereby facilitating participation from candidates across the country, including remote and underserved areas.

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Annexure-I

Annexure-I to the Lok Sabha Unstarred Q. No. 1210 part (b) to be answered on 27.07. 2026

Some of the important steps taken by MCA for ease of doing business and to ease compliance burden for small companies

Sr. No.	Section	Subject	Provisions in the Company Act, 2013 to support small companies
1.	2 (40) proviso	Financial Statement	Requirement of cash flow statement to be part of financial statement made optional.
2.	92(1) Proviso	Annual return	(i) Shall be signed by a company secretary or where is there is no company secretary by a Director of the company. (ii) Abridged annual return prescribed for small companies.
3.	92(1)(g)	Disclosure in annual return about remuneration of directors	Disclosure as to aggregate of amount of remuneration drawn by directors adequate for small companies.
4.	134(3A)	Board's Report	Abridged Board Report prescribed for small companies.
5.	139(2) read with rule 5 of Companies (Audit and Auditors) rules, 2014	Rotation of auditors	Rotation of auditors in small companies is not mandatory.
6.	141(3)(g)	Restriction on auditor-ships	Restriction w.r.t. maximum auditor-ships not applicable to auditors of small companies.
7.	143(3)(i)	Disclosure in Auditors report on internal financial controls	These disclosures are not applicable for small companies.

Sr. No.	Section	Subject	Provisions in the Company Act, 2013 to support small companies
8.	173 (5)	Meetings of Board.	Under Companies Act, 2013, Board of Directors of a company are required to meet at least once in 120 days, 4 board meetings in a year. However, in case of a small company, one board meeting in each half of a calendar year with a gap between two meetings of not less than 90 days is sufficient to comply with the requirement of section 173(5) of the Companies Act.
9.	233	Merger through approval of RD	Mergers between two or more small companies or between one or more start-up company with one or more small company allowed through approval of RD.
10.	446B	Lesser penalties	Small companies are entitled for lesser penalties as per section 446B.
11.	Rule 8(12)(a)	Companies (Registration offices and Fees) amendment Rules, 2014	Small companies are exempted from requirements w.r.t. pre-certification of forms by professionals.
12.	Annexure- Table of fees	Companies (Registration offices and Fees) amendment Rules, 2014	Lesser fees allowed for small companies.
13.	Clause 1(2)(iv)	Companies (Auditor's Report) Order, 2020 (CARO 2020)	The Companies (Auditor's Report) Order (CARO) 2020 is not applicable on small companies
14.	Incorporation of small companies		Zero fee is charged for incorporation of all companies with authorized capital up to Rs. 15 lakh or with up to 20 members where no share capital is applicable.
15.	Specified Companies (Furnishing of information	MSME Form-1 vide Notification S.O. 2751(E) dated 15.07.2024	MCA has notified revised MSME Form-1. Companies having outstanding payments to Micro or Small Enterprise suppliers for more than 45 days from the date of acceptance or deemed

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	about payment to Micro and Small Enterprise Suppliers) Amendment Order, 2024		acceptance of goods or services, as per section 9 of the MSMED Act, 2006, are required to furnish such details in MSME Form-1.
16.	Section 2(85) read with The Companies (Specification of Definitions Details) Rules, 2014	Definition of Small Company (Amendment)	With effect from 1st December 2025, the thresholds for classification of small companies have been enhanced. The paid-up capital limit has been increased from up to ₹4 crore to up to ₹10 crore and the turnover limit from up to ₹40 crore to up to ₹100 crore, thereby bringing more companies under the definition of small company and reducing their compliance burden.