# Extension of time for furnishing comments for consideration of High Level Committee on Corporate Social Responsibility-2018

The Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) has constituted a High Level Committee on Corporate Social Responsibility-2018 (HLC-2018) to review the existing framework and guide and formulate a coherent policy on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).

- 2. Comments/suggestions are invited on the provisions of CSR in the Companies Act 2013 Companies (CSR Policy) Rules, 2014 and Circulars issued concerning CSR.
- 3. All stakeholders are requested to furnish comments/suggestions through mails only on the following e-mail id:

Email: hlc.csr-2018@gov.in

### 4. The time period for receiving comments has been extended till 14.04.2019.

Sections of	Text	Public Comment
Companies Act,		
2013		
Section 135 (1)	Every company having net worth of	
	rupees five hundred crore or more,	
	or turnover of rupees one thousand	
	crore or more or a net profit of rupees	
	five crore or more during	
	immediately preceding financial	
	year shall constitute a Corporate	
	Social Responsibility Committee of	
	the Board consisting of three or more	
	directors, out of which at least one	
	director shall be an independent	
	director.	
Proviso to	Provided that where a	
Section 135 (1)	company is not required to appoint	
	an independent director under sub-	
	section (4) of section 149, it shall have	

	in its Corporate Social Responsibility	
	Committee two or more directors.	
Section 135 (2)	The Board's report under sub-section	
	(3) of section 134 shall disclose the	
	composition of the Corporate Social	
	Responsibility Committee.	
Section 135 (3)	The Corporate Social Responsibility	
	Committee shall,—	
	(a) formulate and recommend	
	to the Board, a Corporate	
	Social Responsibility Policy	
	which shall indicate the	
	activities to be undertaken	
	by the company in areas or	
	subject, specified in	
	Schedule VII;	
	(b) recommend the amount of	
	expenditure to be incurred	
	on the activities referred to	
	in clause (a); and	
	(c) monitor the Corporate	
	Social Responsibility Policy	
	of the company from time to	
	time.	
Section 135 (4)	The Board of every company	
	referred to in sub-section (1) shall,—	
	a) after taking into account the	
	recommendations made by	
	the Corporate Social	
	Responsibility Committee,	
	approve the Corporate Social	
	Responsibility Policy for the	

	company and disclose	
	contents of such Policy in its	
	,	
	report and also place it on the	
	company's website, if any, in	
	such manner as may be	
	prescribed; and	
	b) ensure that the activities as are	
	included in Corporate Social	
	Responsibility Policy of the	
	company are undertaken by	
	the company.	
Section 135 (5)	The Board of every company	
	referred to in sub-section (1), shall	
	ensure that the company spends, in	
	every financial year, at least two per	
	cent of the average net profits of the	
	company made during the three	
	immediately preceding financial	
	years, in pursuance of its Corporate	
	Social Responsibility Policy:	
1st Proviso to	Provided that the company shall give	
Section 135 (5)	preference to the local area and areas	
	around it where it operates, for	
	spending the amount earmarked for	
	Corporate Social Responsibility	
	activities:	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Proviso to	Provided further that, if the company	
Section 135 (5)	fails to spend such amount, the	
	Board shall, in its report made under	
	clause (o) of sub-section (3) of section	
	134, specify the reasons for not	
	spending the amount.	
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Explanation	For the purposes of this section "net	
	profit" shall not include such sums as	
	may be prescribed, and shall be	
	calculated in accordance with the	
	provisions of section 198.	

### Activities covered in Schedule VII of the Act and Amendments made thereunder

No. of Activity	Activities	Public Comments
(i)	eradicating hunger, poverty and	
	malnutrition; promoting health	
	care including preventive health	
	care and sanitation including	
	contribution to the 'Swachh Bharat	
	Kosh' set-up by the Central	
	Government for the promotion of	
	sanitation and making available	
	safe drinking water;	
(ii)	Promoting education, including	
	special education and employment	
	enhancing vocational skills	
	especially among children,	
	women, elderly, and the	
	differently abled and livelihood	
	enhancement projects;	
(iii)	promoting gender equality and	
	empowering women, setting up	
	homes and hostels for women and	
	orphans; setting up old age homes,	
	day care centers and such other	
	facilities for senior citizens and	
	measures for reducing inequalities	
	faced by socially and economically	
	backward groups;	
(iv)	ensuring environmental	
	sustainability, ecological balance,	
	protection of flora and fauna,	
	animal welfare, agro forestry,	
	conservation of natural resources	

	and maintaining quality of soil, air	
	and water including contribution	
	to the 'Clean Ganga Fund' set-up	
	by the Central Government for	
	rejuvenation of river Ganga;	
(v)	Protection of national heritage, art	
	and culture including restoration	
	of building and sites of historical	
	importance and works of art;	
	setting up public libraries;	
	promotion and development of	
	traditional arts and handicrafts;	
(vi)	measures for the benefit of armed	
	forces veterans, war widows and	
	their dependents;	
(vii)	training to promote rural sports,	
	nationally recognized sports,	
	Paralympic sports and Olympic	
	sports;	
(viii)	contribution to the Prime Minister's	
1	National Relief Fund or any other	
f	und set up by the Central	
	Government for socio-economic	
C	levelopment and relief and welfare	
C	of the Scheduled Castes, the	
S	Scheduled Tribes, other backward	
C	classes, minorities and women;	
(ix)	Contributions or funds provided	
	to technology incubators located	
	within academic institutions which	
	are approved by the Central	
	Government;	

(x)	Rural development projects.	
(xi)	Slum area development.	
	Explanation- For the purpose of	
	this item, the term'slum area' shall	
	mean any area declared as such by	
	the Central Government or any	
	State Government or any other	
	competent authority under any	
	law for the time being in force.	

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The Companies (Corporate Social Responsibility Policy) Rules, 2014 notified on 27-02-2014 (inclusive of all amendments).

**G.S.R.129(E).** - In exercise of the powers conferred under section 135 and sub-sections (1) and (2) of section 469 of the Companies Act, 2013 (18 of 2013), the Central Government hereby makes the following rules, namely

Rule No.	Rules	<b>Public Comments</b>
1. Short title and	These rules may be called the	
commencement	Companies (Corporate Social	
	Responsibility Policy) Rules, 2014	
	(2) They shall come into force on	
	the 1st day of April, 2014.	
2. Definitions	(l) In these rules, unless the context	
	otherwise requires, -	
	(a) "Act" means the Companies	
	Act, 2013;	
	(b) "Annexure" means the	
	Annexure appended to these rules;	
	(c) "Corporate Social	
	Responsibility (CSR)" means and	
	includes but is not limited to :-	
	(i) Projects or programs relating to	
	activities areas or subjects	
	specified in Schedule VII to the	
	Act; or	
	(ii) Projects or programs relating to	
	activities undertaken by the	
	board of directors of a	
	company (Board) in pursuance	
	of recommendations of the	
	Committee of the Board as per	
	declared CSR Policy of the	
	company subject to the	

condition that such policy will	
include activities, areas or	
subjects specified in Schedule	
VII of the Act.	
(d) "CSR Committee" means the	
Corporate Social Responsibility	
Committee of the Board referred to	
in section 135 of the Act.	
(e) "CSR Policy" relates to the	
activities to be undertaken by the	
company in areas or subjects	
specified in Schedule VII to the Act	
and the expenditure thereon,	
excluding activities undertaken in	
pursuance of normal course of	
business of a company;	
(f) "Net profit" means the net	
profit of a company as per its	
financial statement prepared in	
accordance with the applicable	
provisions of the Act, but shall not	
include the following, namely:-	
(i) any profit arising from any	
overseas branch or branches of	
the company, whether operated	
as a separate company or	
 otherwise; and	
(ii) any dividend received from	
other companies in India, which	
are covered under and	
complying with the provisions	
of section 135 of the Act:	

1st proviso to	Provided that net profit in respect	
definition of Net	of a financial year for which the	
profit	relevant financial statements were	
	prepared in accordance with the	
	provisions of the Companies Act,	
	1956, (1 of 1956) shall not be	
	required to be re-calculated in	
	accordance with the provisions of	
	the Act:	
2 <sup>nd</sup> proviso to	Provided further that in case of a	
definition of Net	foreign company covered under	
profit	these rules, net profit means the net	
	profit of such company as per profit	
	and loss account prepared in terms	
	of clause (a) of sub-section	
	(l) of section 381 read with section	
	198 of the Act.	
	(2) Words and expressions	
	used and not defined in these rules	
	but defined in the Act shall have the	
	same meanings respectively	
	assigned to them in the Act.	
3. (1) Corporate	Every company including its	
Social	holding or subsidiary, and a	
Responsibility.	foreign company defined under	
	clause (42) of section 2 of the Act	
	having its branch office or project	
	office in India which fulfills the	
	criteria specified in sub-section (l)	
	of section 135 of the Act shall	
	comply with the provisions of	

section 135 of the Act and these	
rules:	
Provided that net worth, turnover	
or net profit of a foreign company	
of the Act shall be computed in	
accordance with balance sheet and	
profit and loss account of such	
company prepared in accordance	
with the provisions of clause (a) of	
sub-section (1) of section 381 and	
section 198 of the Act.	
Every company which ceases to be	
a company covered under sub-	
section (1) of section 135 of the Act	
for three consecutive financial	
years shall not be required to -	
(a) constitute a CSR Committee;	
and	
(b) comply with the provisions	
contained in sub-section (2) to (5) of	
the said section,	
till such time it meets the criteria	
specified in sub-section (1) of	
section 135.	
The CSR activities shall be	
undertaken by the company, as per	
its stated CSR Policy, as projects or	
programs or activities (either new	
or ongoing), excluding activities	
undertaken in pursuance of its	
normal course of business.	
	Provided that net worth, turnover or net profit of a foreign company of the Act shall be computed in accordance with balance sheet and profit and loss account of such company prepared in accordance with the provisions of clause (a) of sub-section (1) of section 381 and section 198 of the Act.  Every company which ceases to be a company covered under subsection (1) of section 135 of the Act for three consecutive financial years shall not be required to -  (a) constitute a CSR Committee; and  (b) comply with the provisions contained in sub-section (2) to (5) of the said section,  till such time it meets the criteria specified in sub-section (1) of section 135.  The CSR activities shall be undertaken by the company, as per its stated CSR Policy, as projects or programs or activities (either new or ongoing), excluding activities undertaken in pursuance of its

Rule 4 (2)	The Board of a company may	
	decide to undertake its CSR	
	activities approved by the CSR	
	Committee, through -	
	(a) a company established under	
	Section 8 of the Act or a registered	
	trust or a registered society,	
	established by the company, either	
	singly or along with any other	
	company, or	
	(b) a company established under	
	Section 8 of the Act or a registered	
	trust or a registered society,	
	established by the Central	
	Government or State Government	
	or any entity established under on	
	Act of Parliament or State	
	legislature :	
Proviso to rule 4	Provided that if, the Board of a	
(2)	company decides to undertake its	
	CSR activities through a company	
	established under Section 8 of the	
	Act or a registered trust or a	
	registered society, other than those	
	specified in this sub-rule, such	
	company or trust or society shall	
	have an established track record of	
	three years in undertaking similar	
	programs or projects; and the	
	company has specified the projects	
	or programs to be undertaken, the	
	modalities of utilization of funds of	

	such projects and programs and the	
	monitoring and reporting	
	mechanism.	
Rule 4 (3)	A company may also collaborate	
	with other companies for	
	undertaking projects or programs	
	or CSR activities in such a manner	
	that the CSR Committees of	
	respective companies are in a	
	position to report separately on	
	such projects or programs in	
	accordance with these rules.	
Rule 4 (4)	Subject to provisions of sub-section	
	(5) of section 135 of the Act, the CSR	
	projects or programs or activities	
	undertaken in India only shall	
	amount to CSR Expenditure.	
Rule 4 (5)	The CSR projects or programs or	
	activities that benefit only the	
	employees of the company and	
	their families shall not be	
	considered as CSR activities in	
	accordance with section 135 of the	
	Act.	
Rule 4 (6)	Companies may build CSR	
	capacities of their own personnel as	
	well as those of their Implementing	
	agencies through Institutions with	
	established track records of at least	
	three financial years but such	
	expenditure including expenditure	
	on administrative overheads, shall	

	not exceed five percent of total CSR	
	expenditure of the company in one	
	financial year.	
Rule 4 (7)	Contribution of any amount	
	directly or indirectly to any	
	political party under section 182 of	
	the Act, shall not be considered as	
	CSR activity.	
5. (1) CSR	The companies mentioned in the	
Committees	rule 3 shall constitute CSR	
	Committee as under	
	(i) a company covered under sub-	
	section (1) of section 135 which	
	is not required to appoint an	
	independent director pursuant	
	to sub-section (4) of section 149	
	of the Act, shall have its CSR	
	Committee without such	
	director;	
	(ii) a private company having only	
	two directors on its Board shall	
	constitute its CSR Committee	
	with two such directors;	
	(iii) with respect to a foreign	
	company covered under these	
	rules, the CSR Committee	
	shall comprise of at least two	
	persons of which one person	
	shall be as specified under	
	clause (d) of sub-section (1) of	
	section 380 of the Act and	
	another person shall be	

	nominated by the foreign	
	company.	
Rule 5 (2)	The CSR Committee shall institute	
	a transparent monitoring	
	mechanism for implementation of	
	the CSR projects or programs or	
	activities undertaken by the	
	company.	
6. (1) CSR	The CSR Policy of the company	
Policy	shall, inter-alia, include the	
	following, namely :-	
	(a) a list of CSR projects or	
	programs which a company	
	plans to undertake areas or	
	subjects specified in Schedule	
	VII of the Act, specifying	
	modalities of execution of such	
	project or programs and	
	implementation schedules for	
	the same; and	
	(b) monitoring process of such	
	projects or programs:	
1st Proviso to	Provided that the CSR activities	
Rule 6 (1)	does not include the activities	
	undertaken in pursuance of normal	
	course of business of a company.	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Proviso to	Provided further that the Board of	
Rule 6 (1)	Directors shall ensure that activities	
	included by a company in its	
	Corporate Social Responsibility	
	Policy are related to the areas or	

	subjects specified in Schedule VII of	
	the Act.	
Rule 6 (2)	The CSR Policy of the company	
	shall specify  that the surplus	
	arising out of the CSR projects or	
	programs or activities shall not	
	form part of the business profit of a	
	company.	
7. CSR	CSR expenditure shall include all	
Expenditure	expenditure including contribution	
	to corpus, for projects or programs	
	relating to CSR activities approved	
	by the Board on the	
	recommendation of its CSR	
	Committee, but does not include	
	any expenditure on an item not in	
	conformity or not in line with	
	activities which fall within the	
	areas or subjects, specified in	
	Schedule VII of the Act.	
8. (1) CSR	The Board's Report of company	
Reporting	covered under these rules	
	pertaining to a financial year	
	commencing on or after the 1st day	
	of April, 2014 shall include an	
	annual report on CSR containing	
	particulars specified in Annexure.	
Rule 8 (2)	In case of a foreign company, the	
	balance sheet filed under sub-	
	clause (b) of sub-section (l) of	
	section 381 shall contain an	
	Annexure regarding report on CSR.	

9. Display of	The Board of Directors of the
CSR activities	company shall, after taking into
on its website	account the recommendations of
	CSR Committee, approve the CSR
	Policy for the company and
	disclose contents of such policy its
	report and the same shall be
	displayed on the company's
	website, if any, as per the
	particulars specified in the
	Annexure.

General Circular No. 21/2014

Dated: 18<sup>th</sup> June, 2014

Subject: - Clarifications with regard to provisions of Corporate Social Responsibility under section 135 of the Companies Act, 2013.

No.	Clarifications	<b>Public Comments</b>
(*)		
(i)	The statutory provision and	
	provisions of CSR Rules, 2014, is to	
	ensure that while activities	
	undertaken in pursuance of the CSR	
	policy must be relatable to Schedule	
	VII of the Companies Act 2013, the	
	entries in the said Schedule VII must	
	be interpreted liberally so as to	
	capture the essence of the subjects	
	enumerated in the said Schedule. The	
	items enlisted in the amended	
	Schedule VII of the Act, are broad-	
	based and are intended to cover a	
	wide range of activities as	
	illustratively mentioned in the	
	Annexure.	
(ii)	It is further clarified that CSR	
	activities should be undertaken by the	
	companies in project/ programme	
	mode [as referred in Rule 4 (1) of	
	Companies CSR Rules, 2014]. One-off	
	events such as marathons/ awards/	
	charitable contribution/	
	advertisement/ sponsorships of TV	
	Programmes etc. would not be	
	qualified as part of CSR expenditure.	

(iii)	Expenses incurred by companies for the fulfillment of any Act/ Statute of regulations (such as Labor Laws, Land Acquisition Act etc.) would not count as CSR expenditure under the Companies Act.	
(iv)	Salaries paid by the companies to regular CSR staff as well as to volunteers of the companies (in proportion to company's time/hours spent specifically on CSR) can be factored into CSR project cost as part of the CSR expenditure.	
(v)	"Any financial year" referred under Sub-Section (1) of Section 135 of the Act read with Rule 3(2) of Companies CSR Rule, 2014, implies 'any of the three preceding financial years'.	
(vi)	Expenditure incurred by Foreign Holding Company for CSR activities in India will qualify as CSR spend of the Indian subsidiary if, the CSR expenditures are routed through Indian subsidiaries and if the Indian subsidiary is required to do so as per section 135 of the Act.	
(vii)	'Registered Trust' (as referred in Rule 4(2) of the Companies CSR Rules, 2014) would include Trusts registered under Income Tax Act 1956, for those	

	States where registration of Trust is
	not mandatory.
(viii)	Contribution to Corpus of a Trust/ society/ section 8 companies etc. will qualify as CSR expenditure as long as (a) the Trust/ society/ section 8 companies etc. is created exclusively for undertaking CSR activities or (b) where the corpus is
	created exclusively for a purpose directly relatable to a subject covered in Schedule VII of the Act.

### General Circular No. 01/2016 Dated: 12.01.2016

# Subject: FAQ with regard to Corporate Social responsibility

Q.	FAQ	<b>Public Comments</b>
No.		
1.	Whether CSR provision of the Companies Act, 2013 is applicable to all companies?	
	CSR provisions of the Companies Act 2013 is applicable to every company registered under the Companies Act 2013 and any other previous companies law having  i. Net worth of rupees five hundred crore or more, or	
	<ul><li>ii. iii. Turnover of rupees one thousand crore or more or</li><li>iii. A net profit of rupees five crore or</li></ul>	
	more during any financial year	
2.	What is meaning of 'any financial year' mentioned above?  "Any Financial Year" referred under Subsection (1) of Section 135 of the Act read with Rule 3(2) of Companies CSR Rule, 2014 implies any of the three preceding financial years (refer General Circular No. 21/2014, dated: 18.06.2014)	
3	Whether CSR expenditure of a company can be claimed as a business expenditure?  The amount spent by a company towards CSR cannot be claimed as business expenditure. The Finance Act, 2014 provides that any expenditure incurred by an assessee on the activities relating to Corporate Social Responsibility referred to in section 135 of the Companies Act, 2013 shall not be deemed to be an expenditure incurred by the assessee for the purposes of the business or profession.	

4.	Whether the 'average net profit' criteria for	
	section 135(5) is net profit before tax or net	
	profit after tax?	
	Computation of net profit for section 135 is as	
	per section 198 of the Companies Act, 2013	
	which is primarily PROFIT BEFORE TAX	
	(PBT).	
5	Can the CSR expenditure be spent on the	
	activities beyond schedule vii?	
	General Circular No. 21/2014 dated June 18,	
	2014 of MCA has clarified that the statutory	
	provision and provisions of CSR Rules, 2014, is	
	to ensure that activities undertaken in	
	pursuance of the CSR policy must be relatable	
	to Schedule VII of the Companies Act, 2013. The	
	entries in the said Schedule VII must be	
	interpreted liberally so as to capture the essence	
	of the subjects enumerated in the said Schedule.	
	The items enlisted in the Schedule VII of the	
	Act, are broad-based and are intended to cover	
	a wide range of activities. The General Circular	
	also provides an illustrative list of activities that	
	can be covered under CSR. In a similar way	
	many more can be covered. It is for the Board of	
	the company to take a call on this.	
6.	What tax benefits can be availed under CSR?	
	No specific tax exemptions have been extended	
	to CSR expenditure per se. The finance Act,	
	2014 also clarifies that expenditure on CSR does	
	not form part of business expenditure. While no	
	specific tax exemption has been extended to	
	expenditure incurred on CSR, spending on	
	several activities like contributions to Prime	
	Minister's Relief Fund, Scientific Research,	
	Rural development projects, skill development	
	projects, agricultural extension projects, etc.	
	which find place in Schedule VII, already enjoy	
	exemptions under different sections of the	
	Income Tax Act, 1961.	
7.	Which activities would not qualify as CSR?	
	i. The CSR projects or programs or activities	
	that benefit only the employees of the company	
	and their families.	
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	ii. One- off events such as marathons/ awards/ charitable contribution/ advertisement/ sponsorships of TV programs etc. iii. Expenses incurred by companies for the fulfilment of any other Act/ Statue of	
	regulations (such as Labor Laws, Land Acquisition Act, 2013, Apprentice Act, 2013,	
	Apprentice Act, 1961 etc.) iv. Contribution of any amount directly or	
	indirectly to any political party. v. Activities undertaken by the company in	
	pursuance of its normal course of business.	
	vi. The project or programs or activities undertaken outside India.	
8.	Whether a holding or subsidiary of a company which fulfils the criteria under section 135(1) has to comply with section 135, even if the holding and subsidiary itself does not fulfill the criteria.	
	Holding or subsidiary of a company does not have to comply with section 135(1) unless the holding or subsidiary itself fulfills the criteria.	
9.	Whether provisions of CSR are applicable on Section 8 Company, if it fulfills the criteria of section 135(1) of the Act.	
	Section 135 of the Act reads "Every company", i.e. no specific exemption is given to section 8 companies with regard to applicability of section 135, hence section 8 companies are required to follow CSR	
	provisions.	

10.	Can contribution of money to a trust/ society/	
	section 8 companies by a company be treated as	
	CSR expenditure of the company?	
	General Circular No 21/2014 of MCA dated	
	June 18, 2014 clarifies that contribution to	
	Corpus of a Trust/ Society/ Section 8	
	companies etc. will qualify as CSR expenditure	
	as long as:	
	1. The trust/ Society/ Section 8 company	
	etc. is created exclusively for	
	undertaking CSR activities or	
	2. Where the corpus is created exclusively	
	for a purpose directly relatable to a	
	subject covered in Schedule VII of the Act.	
11.	Whether display of CSR policy of a company on	
11.	website of the company is mandatory or not?	
	Website of the company is mandatory of not.	
	As per section 135(4) the Board of Directors of	
	the company shall, after taking into account the	
	recommendations of CSR Committee, approve	
	the CSR Policy for the company and disclose	
	contents of such policy in its report and the	
	same shall be displayed on the company's	
	website, if any (refer Rule 8 & 9 of CSR policy,	
	Rules 2014).	
12.	Whether reporting of CSR is mandatory in	
	board's report?	
	The Board's Report of a company qualifying	
	under section 135(1) pertaining to a financial	
	year commencing on or after the 1st day of	
	April, 2014 shall include an annual report on CSR containing particulars specified in	
	CSR containing particulars specified in Annexure. (refer Rule 9 of CSR policy, Rules	
	2014).	
13.	Whether it is mandatory for foreign company to	
	give report on CSR activity?	
	In case of a foreign company, the balance sheet	
	filed under sub-clause (b) of sub-section (1) of	
	section 381 shall contain an Annexure	
	regarding report on CSR.	

4.4	TATE -1 - 11 - 11 - 11 - 11 - 11 - 11 - 11	
14.	Whether contribution towards disaster relief	
	qualifies as CSR or not?	
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	(Max places refer point no 7 to the approximate	
	(May please refer point no. 7 to the annexure to	
	General Circular dated 18.06.2014 issued by	
	Ministry of Corporate Affairs).	
15.	Whether contribution in kind can be monetized	
	to be shown as CSR Expenditure?	
	to be shown as con Experientare.	
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	Section 135 prescribes " shall ensure that	
	company spends". The company has to	
	spend the amount.	
16.	if a company spends in excess of 2% of its	
10.	average net profits of three preceding years on	
	CSR in a particular year, can the excess amount	
	spent be carried forward to the next year and be	
	offset against the required 2% CSR expenditure	
	of the next year?	
	of the flext year.	
	Any excess amount spent (i.e., more than 2% as	
	specified in Section 135) cannot be carried	
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
	forward to the subsequent years and adjusted	
	against that year's CSR expenditure.	
17.	Can the unspent amount from out of the	
	minimum required CSR expenditure be carried	
	forward to the next year?	
	The Board is free to decide whether any	
	unspent amount from out of the minimum	
	required CSR expenditure is to be carried	
	forward to the next year. However, the carried	
	forward amount should be over and above the	
	next year's CSR allocation equivalent to at least	
	2% of the average net profit of the company of	
	the immediately preceding three years.	
	inc miniculating processing time years.	

18.	What is the role of government in monitoring implementation of CSR by companies under the provision of the companies act, 2013?	
	The main thrust and spirit of law is not to monitor but to generate conductive environment for enabling the corporates to conduct themselves in a socially responsible manner, while contributing towards human development goals of the country. The existing legal provisions like mandatory disclosures, accountability of the CSR committee and the Board, provisions for audit of the accounts of the company etc., provide sufficient safeguards in this regard. Government has no role to play in monitoring implementation of CSR by companies.	
19.	Whether government is proposing to establish any mechanism for third parties to monitor the quality and efficacy of CSR expenditure as well as to have an impact assessment of CSR by companies?	
	Government has no role to play in engaging external experts for monitoring the quality and efficacy of CSR expenditure of companies. Boards / CSR Committees are fully competent to engage third parties to have an impact assessment of its CSR programme to validate compliance of the CSR provisions of the law.	

20. Can CSR funds be utilized to fund government scheme?

The objective of this provision is indeed to involve the corporates in discharging their social responsibility with their innovative ideas and management skills and with greater efficiency and better outcomes. Therefore, CSR should not be interpreted as a source of financing the resource gaps in Government Scheme. Use of Corporate innovations and management skills in the delivery of 'public goods' is at the core of CSR implementation by the companies. In- principle, CSR fund of companies should not be used as a source of funding Government Schemes. CSR projects should have a larger multiplier effect than that under the Government Schemes.

However, under CSR provision of the Act and rules made thereunder, the Board of the eligible company is competent to take decision on supplementing any Government Scheme provided the Scheme permits corporates participation and all provisions of Section 135 of the Act and rules thereunder are compiled by the company.

21. Who is the appropriate authority for approving and implementation of the CSR programmes/projects of a company? What is government's role in this regard?

Government has no role to play in this regard. Section 135 of the Act, Schedule VII and Companies CSR Policy Rules, 2014 read with General Circular dated 18.06.2014 issued by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, provide the broad contour within which eligible companies are required to formulate their CSR policies including activities to be undertaken and implement the same in the right earnest. Therefore, all CSR programmes/ projects should be approved by the Boards on the recommendations of their CSR Committees. Changes, if any, in the programme / project should also be undertaken only with the approval of the Committee / Board.

22.	How can companies with small CSR funds take	
	up CSR activities in a project/ programme	
	mode?	
	A well designed CSR project or programme can	
	be managed with even small fund. Further,	
	there is a provision in the CSR policy Rules,	
	2014 that such companies can combine their	
	CSR programs with other similar companies by	
	way of pooling their CSR resources. (refer rule	
	4 in Companies (CSR Policy) Rules, 2014.	
23.	Whether involvement of employees of the	
	company in CSR project/ programme of a	
	company can be monetized and accounted for	
	under the head of 'CSR expenditure'?	
	Contribution and involvement of employees in	
	CSR activities of the company will no doubt	
	generate interest/ pride in CSR work and	
	promote transformation from Corporate Social	
	Responsibility (CSR) as an obligation to Socially	
	Responsible Corporate (SRC) in all aspects of	
	their functioning. Companies therefore, should	
	be encouraged to involve their employees in	
	CSR activities. However monetization of pro	
	bono services of employees would not be	
	counted towards CSR expenditure.	

## General Circular No. 06/2018 Dated: 28.05.2018.

Subject: Clarification with regard to provisions under section 135(5) of the Companies Act, 2013.

Clarification	<b>Public Comments</b>
The company shall give	
preference to the local area and	
areas around it where it	
operates, for spending the	
amount earmarked for	
Corporate Social Responsibility	
activities - It is reiterated that the	
above provision has to be	
followed in letter and spirit	