

NPV & ASSOCIATES

**Chartered Accountants** 

## BENEFITS AVAILABLE TO START-UPS UNDER ROC

- CA. RAKESH WAGHELA

## RELAXATIONS GRANTED UNDER THE COMPANY ACT, 2013 AND THE RULES THEREUNDER TO STARTUP COMPANIES

For the purposes of this Act, the term 'start-up' or "start-up company" means a private company incorporated under the Companies Act, 2013 (18 of 2013) or the Companies Act, 1956 (1 of 1956) and recognised as start-up in accordance with the notification issued by the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Ministry of Commerce and Industry".

Provision	Relates to	Particulars	Explanation
Section	Financial	"financial statement" in relation to a company, includes—	This would mean that
No. 2(40)	Statements	(i) a balance sheet as at the end of the financial year;	PWPL will not be
		( <i>ii</i> ) a profit and loss account, or in the case of a company	required to prepare the
		carrying on any activity not for profit, an income and	statement of cashflows
		expenditure account for the financial year;	until the time it is
		(iii) cash flow statement for the financial year;	recognized as a Startup
		( <i>iv</i> ) a statement of changes in <i>equity</i> , <i>if applicable</i> ; and	under this act.
		(v) any explanatory note <i>annexed</i> to, or forming part of, any	
		document referred to in sub-clause $(i)$ to sub-clause $(iv)$ :	
		Provided that the financial statement, with respect to one	
		person company, small company, dormant company and	
		private company (if such private company is a start-up)	
		may not include the cash flow statement;	
Section	Acceptance	Following Provision will not apply to a Startup, for 5 Years	This would mean that
73(2)(a)	of Deposits	from the date of its incorporation: [However, the Startup shall	PWPL can now accept
to (e)		file the details of monies accepted to the Registrar in such	deposits from their
		manner as may be specified]:	members without having
			to fulfil conditions
		"A company may, subject to the passing of a resolution in	relating to deposits'
		general meeting and subject to such rules as may be	acceptance under the
		prescribed in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India,	Act and subject to them
		accept deposits from its members on such terms and	having filed necessary
		conditions, including the provision of security, if any, or for	information as per the
		the repayment of such deposits with interest, as may be	Act
		agreed upon between the company and its members, subject	
		to the fulfilment of the following conditions, namely:-	(Meaning of deposits -
			"deposit" includes any
		(a) issuance of a circular to its members including therein a	receipt of money by way
		statement showing the financial position of the company, the	of deposit or loan or in
		credit rating obtained, the total number of depositors and the	any other form, by a
		amount due towards deposits in respect of any previous	company)
		deposits accepted by the company and such other particulars	
		in such form and in such manner as may be prescribed;	
		(b) filing a copy of the circular along with such statement with	
		the Registrar within thirty days before the date of issue of the	
		circular;	

Proviso to Section 92(1)	Annual Returns	<ul> <li>(c) depositing such sum which shall not be less than fifteen per cent. of the amount of its deposits maturing during a financial year and the financial year next following, and kept in a scheduled bank in a separate bank account to be called as deposit repayment reserve account;</li> <li>(d) providing such deposit insurance in such manner and to such extent as may be prescribed;</li> <li>(e) certifying that the company has not committed any default in the repayment of deposits accepted either before or after the commencement of this Act or payment of interest on such deposits"</li> <li>Following proviso shall will be effective in case of the provision:</li> <li>Section 92(1) - Every company shall prepare a return</li> </ul>	Annual returns of a startup may either be signed by its company secretary or by a
		<ul> <li>(hereinafter referred to as the annual return) in the prescribed form containing the particulars as they stood on the close of the financial year and signed by a director and the company secretary, or where there is no company secretary, by a company secretary in practice:</li> <li>Provided that in relation to One Person Company, small company and private company (if such private company is a start-up), the annual return shall be signed by the company secretary, or where there is no company secretary, by the director of the company."</li> </ul>	director (if no company secretary) [In case of PWPL, Rule 8A of the Companies Appointment and Remuneration of Managerial Personnel Rules, 2017 applies, which states that - A company other than a company covered under rule 8 (Listed and Public Companies) which has a paid up share capital of five crore rupees or more shall have a whole-time company secretary.]
Section 143(3)(i)	Report on Internal Financial Controls by Auditor	<ul> <li>The below shall not apply to a private company: <ul> <li>i) which is a one person company or a small company OR</li> <li>ii) which has turnover less than rupees fifty crores as per latest audited financial statement or which has aggregate borrowings from banks or financial institutions or any body corporate at any point of time during the financial year less than rupees twenty five crore</li> <li>"Section 143(3)(i) - The auditor's report shall also state:-(i) whether the company has adequate internal financial controls with reference to financial statements in place and the operating effectiveness of such controls"</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	The Auditor's of PWPL shall not be required to submit a report on its Internal Financial Controls, provided it fulfils the conditions mentioned

Section 173(5)	Board meetings	A One Person Company, small company, dormant company and a private company (if such private company is a start-up) shall be deemed to have complied with the provisions of this section if at least one meeting of the Board of Directors has been conducted in each half of a calendar year and the gap between the two meetings is not less than ninety days:	Startups to hold at least one board meeting (instead of quarterly board meetings) in each half of a calendar year (previously permitted only for OPCs and small companies) with a minimum gap of 90 days between two board meetings.
Section 174(3)	Interested directors	Where at any time the number of interested directors exceeds or is equal to two thirds of the total strength of the Board of Directors, the number of directors who are not interested directors and present at the meeting, being not less than two, shall be the quorum during such time. In case of Private Company - Sub-Section (3) of Section 174 shall apply with the exception that the interested director may also be counted towards quoram in such meeting after disclosure of his interest pursuant to section 184.	An 'interested' director can now be counted towards the quorum for board meetings (which was not the case earlier), provided that the 'interested' director discloses his/her interest to the board.