

MANUPATRA WEEKLY WRAP

4th - 9th May 2026



Case Laws

CIVIL

Manjula & Ors. vs. D.A. Srinivas, Dated: 08.05.2026 (MANU/SC/0453/2026; 2026 INSC 465)

The Supreme Court has held that while considering an application under Order VII Rule 11 CPC, **courts must undertake a “meaningful and wholesome” reading of the plaint to determine whether a statutory bar has been concealed through clever drafting.** The Court further observed that suits based on illusory causes of action or involving suppression of material facts are liable to be rejected at the earliest stage.

CONSTITUTION

Sauraj Singh vs. M/s Indian Airlines Ltd. & Anr., Dated: 08.05.2026 (MANU/DE/3473/2026; 2026:DHC:4055)

The Delhi High Court has held that writ petitions challenging awards of Labour Courts and Industrial Tribunals remain maintainable even after the privatisation of Air India. The Court made the observation while hearing a batch of petitions filed by former Air India and Indian Airlines employees and unions. The petitions challenged Central Government Industrial Tribunal (CGIT) awards that had upheld the illegality of termination but granted monetary compensation instead of reinstatement. The Court clarified that **Air India’s privatisation does not bar judicial review under Article 226 of the Constitution.**

Supreme Court: Courts must examine plaints carefully to uncover statutory bars masked through clever drafting under Order VII Rule 11 CPC

Delhi High Court: Air India’s privatisation does not bar judicial review under Article 226 of Constitution against Labour Tribunal awards

Supreme Court: Failure to deposit amount within time does not lead to automatic cancellation of contract under Section 28 of Specific Relief Act

Supreme Court: Doctor's legal heirs can be held liable for medical negligence claims under Consumer Protection Act

Punjab & Haryana High Court: Accused cannot seek quashing of FIR after failing to obtain anticipatory bail without surrender or change in circumstances

Delhi High Court: Prolonged pre-trial incarceration in case based on circumstantial evidence violates right to speedy trial under Article 21 of Constitution.

Supreme Court: Article 226 cannot be invoked directly to seek FIR registration without exhausting statutory remedies

CONSUMER

Anand Narayan Shukla vs. Jagat Dhari, Dated: 08.05.2026 (MANU/SC/0455/2026; 2026 INSC 463)

The Supreme Court has held that under Section 28 of the Specific Relief Act, courts retain jurisdiction to extend time for payment even after expiry of the period fixed in a decree for specific performance. It clarified that **there is no automatic rescission of such a decree merely because the purchaser fails to deposit the balance consideration within the stipulated time.** The Court observed that extension of time can be granted based on the facts and equities of each case.

Kumud Lall vs. Suresh Chandra Roy (Dead) through Legal Representatives & Others, Dated: 04.05.2026 (MANU/SC/0435/2026; 2026 INSC 443)

The Supreme Court ruled that **if a doctor dies during the pendency of proceedings under the Consumer Protection Act, his or her legal heirs can be brought on record as parties.** The Court clarified that any compensation arising from proven medical negligence would be recoverable only to the extent of the estate inherited from the deceased. A bench endorsed the NCDRC's view that such liability remains limited to the assets left behind by the doctor.

CRIMINAL

Kuldeep Singh vs. State of Punjab & Ors., Dated: 06.05.2026 (MANU/PH/2418/2026; 2026:PHHC:06960B)

The Punjab & Haryana High Court has held that an **accused cannot seek quashing of an FIR by invoking the Court's inherent jurisdiction after failing to obtain anticipatory bail**, particularly when he has neither surrendered nor joined the investigation. The Court observed that such attempts amount to a "procedural artifice" aimed at bypassing an adverse order on anticipatory bail by misusing the remedy of FIR quashing. The Court noted that the petitioner was essentially trying to re-litigate issues already decided, despite no change in circumstances or compliance with the investigative process.

Ranjit Mehto vs. State (NCT of Delhi) & Anr., Dated: 05.05.2026 (MANU/DE/3342/2026; 2026:DHC:3784)

The Delhi High Court has granted bail to an accused in an abduction-for-ransom and murder case, holding that prolonged pre-trial incarceration in a matter based on circumstantial evidence violates the constitutional guarantee of speedy trial under Article 21. The Court observed that although the alleged offences are serious, continued detention at a relatively early stage of trial in a circumstantial evidence case cannot be justified. It further held that such **prolonged incarceration undermines the fundamental right to personal liberty and speedy justice.**

Sujal Vishwas Attavar & Anr. vs. The State of Maharashtra & Ors., Dated: 04.05.2026 (MANU/SC/0433/2026; 2026 INSC 442)

The Supreme Court has clarified that the writ jurisdiction under **Article 226 is not meant to be the first resort for directing police to register an FIR.** Observing that statutory remedies must generally be exhausted first, the Court stated that grievances relating to FIR registration or investigation should be handled within the legal framework, except where urgent circumstances demand otherwise. The bench made these observations while setting aside a Bombay High Court order directing police action on a complaint.

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CYBER LAW

Mohammad Rahil Belim vs. State of Rajasthan & Ors., Dated: 06.05.2026 (MANU/RH/0378/2026; 2026:RJ-JD:8759)

The Rajasthan High Court has held that **cyber crimes are not merely private disputes between individuals** but offences that affect the digital ecosystem and public confidence in electronic transactions. The Court observed that allowing quashing of such cases solely on the basis of compromise between parties would defeat the objective of laws enacted to curb cyber crimes. A bench noted that such offences have a broader public impact as they can potentially affect a large number of users relying on digital platforms.

EDUCATION

Sunil Kumar Yadav & Ors. vs. The State of Jharkhand & Ors., Dated: 07.05.2026 (MANU/SC/0450/2026; 2026 INSC 462)

The Supreme Court has observed that **contractually appointed teachers cannot claim regularisation through judicial orders as a matter of right merely on the basis of long-term service**, as it would create a parallel recruitment system outside statutory rules. A bench observed that while it is natural for such teachers to aspire for permanent government posts, the State is equally obligated to assess their “desirability” and suitability to ensure quality education standards. The Court further clarified that para-teachers’ aspirations cannot override the constitutional and statutory recruitment process. It reaffirmed that under Article 309, the State retains exclusive authority to determine eligibility and conduct recruitment for teaching positions in accordance with established rules.

ELECTRICITY

Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission vs. Tata Power Delhi Distribution Limited, Dated: 07.05.2026 (MANU/SC/0446/2026; 2026 INSC 461)

The Supreme Court has held that electricity **consumers cannot be burdened with paying depreciation costs of a power plant for periods during which no electricity was supplied** to them, even if the asset continues to have residual technical life. The Court noted that since supply to consumers had admittedly stopped after March 2018, they cannot be made to pay for a service they no longer receive. A bench allowed the appeal filed by the Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission and set aside the Appellate Tribunal for Electricity (APTEL) order.

ENVIRONMENT

Hemant Kumar Shikarwar vs. State of Jharkhand, Dated: 07.05.2026 (MANU/JH/0666/2026; 2026:JHHC:13668-DB)

The Jharkhand High Court has held that illegal mining activities and non-compliant stone crusher units in the Ichak region of Hazaribagh are clearly established, observing that **authorities cannot justify inaction by citing “institutional unpreparedness”** amid ongoing environmental damage. A Division Bench was hearing a PIL on rampant illegal mining and crusher operations near the Siwane River.

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Rajasthan High Court:

Cyber offences have wider public impact and cannot be ended solely on private settlement between parties

Supreme Court:

Para-teachers cannot claim regularisation as matter of right unless they meet educational standards and qualifications prescribed by State

Supreme Court

rules consumers not liable to pay depreciation costs of power plants during periods of no electricity supply

Jharkhand High Court:

Illegal mining in Hazaribagh region amounts to a serious assault on environment and right to clean air cannot be sacrificed

Kerala High Court: Embassy No Objection Certificate (NOC) not mandatory for marriage between Indian and foreign national under Special Marriage Act

Supreme Court: In insolvency proceedings, corporate veil can be lifted to consider group company assets as part of CIRP of holding entity

Supreme Court: Employees cannot be penalised for unframed charges unless fresh show-cause notice is issued

Supreme Court: No separate application required to rescind agreement to sell under Section 28 of Specific Relief Act in case of buyer's default

FAMILY

Vinu Vikraman vs. State of Kerala & Anr., Dated: 05.05.2026
(MANU/KE/0918/2026; 2026:KER:33547)

The Kerala High Court has directed the Sub-Registrar/Marriage Officer of Mavelikkara to process and solemnise the marriage of an Indian man and a Sri Lankan woman under the Special Marriage Act, 1954 without insisting on a No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the Embassy. The Court held that **there is no legal requirement under the Act mandating embassy clearance for marriages between an Indian citizen and a foreign national.**

INSOLVENCY

Alpha Corp Development Private Limited vs. Greater Noida Industrial Development Authority (GNIDA) & others, Dated: 05.05.2026
(MANU/SC/0438/2026; 2026 INSC 449)

The Supreme Court held that, to protect homebuyers and ensure completion of stalled real estate projects, the **corporate veil may be lifted during Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process (CIRP) of a holding company.** This allows inclusion of assets of subsidiary companies where necessary for effective resolution. The Court set aside the NCLAT's view that had excluded subsidiary assets from the insolvency estate of the holding company. It observed that a broader approach is needed in such cases to enable meaningful resolution and safeguard homebuyers' interests.

SERVICE

Dr. Nigam Prakash Narain vs. National Medical Commission & Ors., Dated: 06.05.2026
(MANU/SC/0443/2026; 2026 INSC 453)

The Supreme Court has held that a delinquent **employee who has successfully defended the charges originally framed against him cannot be penalised on a new charge** without being given a proper opportunity to defend himself. A bench observed that disciplinary authorities must strictly adhere to principles of natural justice in such proceedings. The Court made the ruling while hearing an appeal filed by a retired paediatrician who was barred from the Indian Medical Register for three months over alleged non-disclosure during a National Medical Commission inspection at Patna Medical College.

SPECIFIC RELIEF

Habban Shah vs. Sheruddin, Dated: 06.05.2026
(MANU/SC/0441/2026; 2026 INSC 451)

The Supreme Court has held that failure of a decree-holder to deposit the balance sale consideration within the time fixed in a decree for specific performance makes the decree inexecutable and leads to rescission of the agreement to sell under Section 28 of the Specific Relief Act. A bench clarified that a separate application by the judgment-debtor is not required for rescission in case of buyer's default. The Court observed that the **consequence of non-compliance with the stipulated time flows from the decree itself.**

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News

06.05.2026

CIVIL

The **Supreme Court** has empowered District Collectors nationwide to implement the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2026, through the delegation of statutory powers under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

Following outrage over a viral video clip purportedly showing an Andhra Pradesh High Court judge threatening a junior advocate with police custody, the **Andhra Pradesh High Court Advocates Association** has written to the Chief Justice of the High Court, urging that the matter not be taken further as it has been resolved amicably.

BANKING

The **Calcutta High Court** has observed that bank accounts cannot be frozen solely on complaints filed through the Ministry of Home Affairs-cybercrime portal without a competent court order under the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023. It ordered immediate defreezing of Xenixt Technologies Pvt Ltd's accounts as no judicial authorization was shown.

CRIMINAL

The **Rajasthan High Court** has issued a series of directions to curb public humiliation of arrestees by police, with particular emphasis on preventing the posting of arrestees' photos on social media.

The **Supreme Court** has observed that the right to a speedy trial cannot be violated regardless of the offence's gravity, and granted bail to a murder undertrial, citing his prolonged incarceration and the unlikelihood of the trial concluding in the near future.

ENVIRONMENT

The **Kerala High Court** has directed state authorities to closely monitor wild elephant "KM1" amid concerns over its movement near Aralam Farm and nearby tribal settlements in Kannur district.

06.05.2026

05.05.2026

04.05.2026

08.05.2026

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04.05.2026

INSOLVENCY

The **Supreme Court** has declined to interfere with a National Company Law Appellate Tribunal order restoring the original Committee of Creditors, including Aditya Birla and Glas Trust Company LLC, in the insolvency proceedings of Think & Learn Pvt Ltd, which operated Byju's.

07.05.2026

LAW OF MEDICINE

The **Karnataka High Court** has allowed two transwomen challenging the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Amendment Act, 2026, to continue their hormone replacement therapy as an interim measure, subject to the final verdict of the petition.

05.05.2026

NARCOTICS

The **Rajasthan High Court** has observed that lapses in the prosecution advisory process prior to recommending a charge sheet against a person undermine the fairness and integrity of the legal process.

04.05.2026

SERVICE

The **Madhya Pradesh High Court** has observed that a tehsildar's actions of property attachment and auction for recovery of dues are quasi-judicial in nature and cannot be subjected to disciplinary proceedings unless malafide intent is specifically alleged and proved.



Notification Updates

Reserve Bank of India

The Reserve Bank of India has issued the **Foreign Exchange Management (Authorised Persons) Regulations, 2026**, to streamline the framework for authorising persons under the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999. This aims to enhance foreign exchange service delivery and simplify compliance requirements. The regulations amend existing directions and supersede certain circulars, with specific instructions for authorised persons to follow.

The **Reserve Bank of India** warns the public against unauthorized campaigns falsely promising loan waivers, which mislead people and disrupt the credit system. These campaigns involve false promises, issuance of fake documents, and collection of fees, and are subject to legal action. The public is advised to avoid such entities and report them to law enforcement.

The Reserve Bank of India has issued **draft guidelines on Prudential Norms for Specified Non-financial Assets** (SNFAs) to provide clarity on their treatment when acquired by regulated entities as part of recovery strategies. These guidelines outline conditions for acquisition, valuation, and disposal of SNFAs, including a maximum holding period and disclosure requirements, while prohibiting sales back to borrowers or related parties. Public comments on the draft are invited.

Securities and Exchange Board of India

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) **has established a regulatory framework for Index Providers under the SEBI (Index Providers) Regulations, 2024**, to enhance transparency and accountability in the governance of indices in the securities market. Indices tracked by mutual funds with assets exceeding INR. 20,000 Crore are classified as 'Significant Indices' and must be registered with SEBI. The circular outlines the criteria for classification and registration requirements for these indices.

Circular No. : A.P. (DIR Series) Circular No. 09,
Dated: 06.05.2026,
MANU/APDR/0016/2026

Press Release No. :
2026-2027/199,
Dated: 04.05.2026,
MANU/RPRL/0271/2026

Press Release No.: 2026-
2027/208,
Dated: 05.05.2026,
MANU/RPRL/0273/2026

Circular
No.:HO/47/17/12(8)2025-
MRD-POD2,
Dated:05.05.2026,
MANU/SMIS/0041/2026

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Press Information
Bureau,
Dated: 05.05.2026,
MANU/PIBU/0648/2026

Notification No. :
SO2204(E),
Dated: 05.05.2026,
MANU/EINT/0014/2026

Press Information
Bureau,
Dated: 07.05.2026,
MANU/PIBU/0656/2026

Press Information
Bureau,
Dated: 06.05.2026,
MANU/PIBU/0652/2026

Notification No. GSR
342(E),
Date: 08.05.2026,
MANU/LABR/0020/2026

Cabinet

The Union Cabinet has approved a proposal to introduce a bill in Parliament to **increase the number of Supreme Court judges from 33 to 37**, excluding the Chief Justice of India. This amendment aims to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the Supreme Court in delivering speedy justice. The additional expenditure for judges' salaries and facilities will be covered by the Consolidated Fund of India.

Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

The **amendment to the Electronics and Information Technology Goods (Requirement of Compulsory Registration) Order, 2021** involves substituting the entry for standalone hard disk drives in the schedule. The requirements for USB Type External Hard Disk Drives remain unchanged, while other standalone HDDs will follow the amended provisions effective from November 5th.

Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation

The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation has updated the **base year for National Accounts to 2022-23** to better reflect the current economy, requiring States and Union Territories to adopt this for Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) compilation. A Sub-Committee on Regional Accounts has been formed to guide this transition, focusing on data integration, methodology refinement, and alignment with national aggregates. The updated guidelines aim to ensure consistency and comparability in state-level economic assessments.

Ministry of Education

The Union Minister for Education, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, launched the **School Management Committee (SMC) Guidelines 2026** in New Delhi to enhance community participation and governance in schools. The guidelines aim to transform SMCs into active governing bodies focusing on holistic child development, academic quality, and community involvement, aligning with the National Education Policy 2020.

Ministry of Labour and Employment

The Central Government has notified the **Industrial Relations (Central) Rules, 2026** under Section 99 of the Industrial Relations Code, 2020. These Rules replace and consolidate various provisions of the earlier labour law framework, particularly parts of the Industrial Disputes (Central) Rules, 1957 and the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Central Rules, 1946.

**Notification No. Leg.
23/2026,
Date: 05.05.2026,
MANU/SNHR/0077/2026**

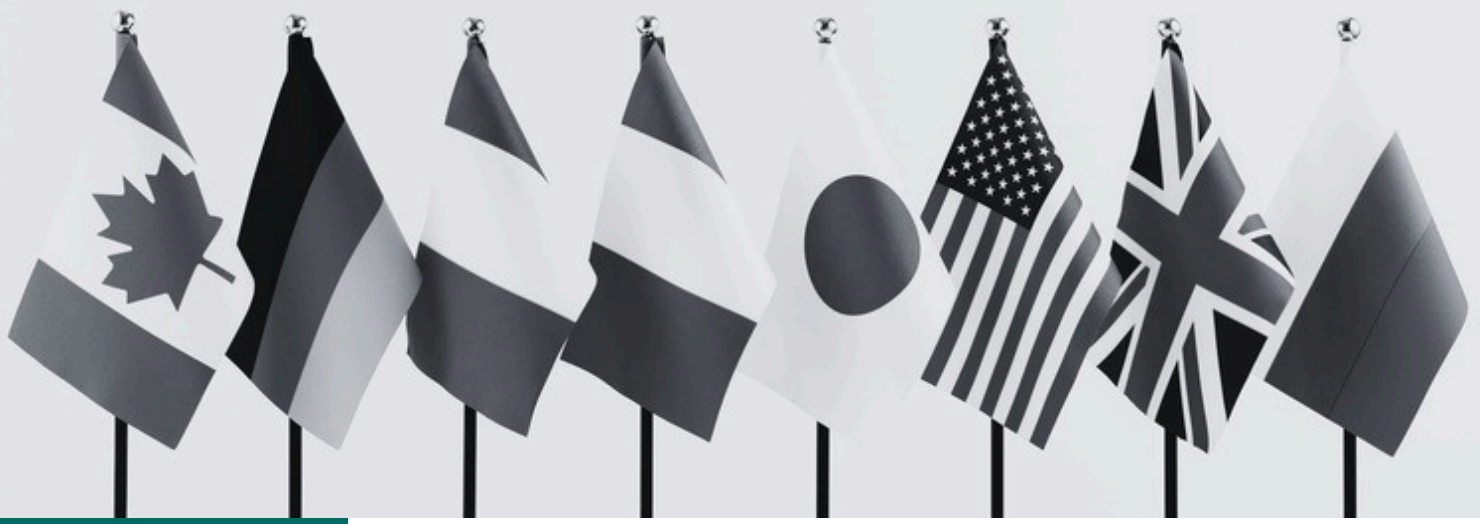
**Notification No.
2/28/2026-2Lab,
Date: 05.05.2026,
MANU/SNHR/0078/2026**

Law and Legislative

The Haryana Police (Amendment) Act, 2026 received the Governor's assent on **10th April 2026** and amends the **Haryana Police Act, 2007** by substituting Sections 65 and 68C to redefine the powers and functions of the State and District Police Complaint Authorities for inquiry into allegations of "serious misconduct" by police personnel, including custodial death, custodial rape, grievous hurt, illegal detention, extortion, coercive property acquisition, organized crime involvement, and wilful inaction in serious offences under the **Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023**. The amendment bars inquiry into anonymous complaints, matters already pending before courts or statutory commissions, delayed complaints beyond the prescribed limitation period, and cases arising from police action during unlawful assemblies or protests. It also mandates disposal of complaints within six months, places District Police Complaint Authorities under the supervision of the State Authority and empowers them to recommend disciplinary action against erring police officials.

Labour

The Industrial Relations (Haryana) Rules, 2026 [Draft] have been notified by the Haryana Government under the **Industrial Relations Code, 2020** following the enforcement of the Code by the Central Government on **21st November 2025**. The draft rules are proposed in supersession of the existing **Industrial Disputes (Punjab) Rules, 1958, Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Punjab Rules, 1949, and Punjab Trade Union Regulations, 1927**, as applicable to Haryana. The notification invites objections and suggestions from stakeholders within thirty days of publication in the Official Gazette, which may be submitted to the Labour Department through the prescribed format specifying proposed amendments and reasons. The proposed rules aim to streamline industrial dispute resolution, trade union regulation, and standing orders in conformity with the new labour code framework. The State Government has clarified that all objections and suggestions received within the stipulated period will be duly considered before finalization of the rules.



International Updates

AUSTRALIA

The long-awaited judgment in the **Brambles shareholder class action** examined whether the company misled investors through its **FY2017 financial guidance and disclosure practices**. While the court found that Brambles initially had **reasonable grounds for its profit and revenue forecasts**, it later ruled that the company failed to update or withdraw guidance once internal data showed the targets were unlikely to be achieved. The decision is significant because the court treated even **small deviations from guidance—well below the usual 5% materiality threshold—as potentially market-sensitive**, leading to findings of misleading conduct and breaches of continuous disclosure obligations. The ruling also broadened the interpretation of who may qualify as an **“officer”** for disclosure purposes and highlighted the limited protection offered by **generic disclaimer statements**. Overall, the judgment may encourage listed companies to take a more cautious approach toward issuing and maintaining market guidance in the future.

Australia’s proposed **Digital Economy Bill 2026** aims to strengthen consumer protection laws by targeting **manipulative online practices, subscription traps, and hidden fees** in digital markets. The reforms would prohibit businesses from using **“dark patterns” and misleading tactics** that pressure consumers into purchases or make cancellations difficult. Companies offering subscription services may be required to provide **clear disclosures about pricing, renewals, and cancellation methods**, while also ensuring cancellations are simple and accessible. The Bill also introduces stricter rules against **drip pricing**, where extra charges are added during the checkout process instead of being disclosed upfront. If passed, businesses operating online—including streaming platforms, retailers, travel services, gyms, and software providers—may need to redesign websites, update contracts, and improve compliance practices before the rules take effect in 2027.

Capital Market

Brambles Class Action Judgment: A Mixed Outcome After a Long-Awaited Decision

Company & Commercial

Australia Moves to Crack Down on Online Consumer Manipulation, Subscription Traps, and Hidden Charges

Construction

Victoria's Updated Security of Payment Reforms Have Officially Taken Effect

Victoria's amended **Security of Payment regime** officially commenced on **15 April 2026**, introducing the most significant reforms to the state's construction payment laws in nearly two decades. The changes remove the long-criticized "**excluded amounts**" regime, expand the types of claims that can be pursued through adjudication, and abolish the concept of **reference dates** for payment claims. The reforms also strengthen protections around **performance security**, restrict parties from raising **new reasons for withholding payment** during adjudication, and allow unfair notice-based **time bar clauses** to be challenged. In addition, the new rules impose stricter payment timelines and aim to better align Victoria's system with other Australian jurisdictions such as New South Wales and Western Australia. Importantly, the amended laws apply broadly to both existing and future construction contracts across Victoria.

Employment & Labor

Fuel Cost Recovery Shake-Up: New FWC Order Reshapes Commercial Contract Terms

The **Fair Work Commission's new fuel cost recovery order**, effective from **21 April 2026**, requires rising fuel expenses to be passed through the entire road transport supply chain through **periodic rate adjustments or agreed recovery mechanisms**. Introduced amid ongoing global fuel market disruptions linked to the **Middle East conflict**, the order aims to ensure that increased transport costs are ultimately borne by the **end users of road freight services**. The changes affect not only transport operators and owner-drivers, but also businesses that hire transport providers or sit higher up the commercial chain. Companies involved in logistics or supply agreements must now **review contracts, assess compliance obligations, and prepare for revised pricing and cost recovery arrangements**.

IT & Data Protection

APRA's AI Guidance Signals a Move from Broad Frameworks to Clearer Regulatory Expectations

The **Fair Work Commission's new order on fuel cost recovery**, requires rising fuel expenses to be passed through the road transport supply chain through **rate adjustments or agreed recovery mechanisms**. Introduced amid ongoing disruptions in global energy markets linked to the **Middle East conflict**, the order aims to ensure that higher transport costs are ultimately carried by the **end of users of freight services**. The changes affect not only transport operators and owner-drivers, but also businesses that rely on road transport services at any level of the supply chain. Companies involved in transport agreements should now **review their contracts, pricing structures, and compliance processes** to prepare for the new obligations.

Litigation

Breaking Service Barriers: The 2026 Hong Kong–Mainland Pact on Cross-Border Judicial Document Service

CHINA

The new **2026 Hong Kong–Mainland Arrangement on Mutual Service of Judicial Documents** aims to fix long-standing delays in cross-border litigation caused by difficulties in proving service of legal documents. Replacing the older 1999 system, the updated framework introduces **multiple service methods**, including **postal, electronic, authorized-person, and public announcement service**, allowing parties to use several channels at the same time for faster results. The arrangement also recognizes **electronic transmission between courts** and sets clearer timelines to improve efficiency in cross-border disputes. These reforms are expected to reduce procedural delays, simplify enforcement and litigation processes, and strengthen judicial cooperation between **Hong Kong and Mainland China** in commercial and civil matters.

USA

Litigation

Navigating Disputes, Enforcement, and Regulatory Compliance in Venezuela

Recent legislative changes and evolving sanctions policies in Venezuela are reshaping the business environment for foreign companies and investors. While **regulatory uncertainty, enforcement risks, and compliance challenges** still remain, recent **US sanctions of relief and new OFAC general licenses** have opened limited opportunities for cross-border trade, investment, and financial activity. Businesses are now closely monitoring developments related to **commercial disputes, arbitration, enforcement of arbitral awards, anti-corruption compliance, and international banking flows**. Companies engaging with Venezuelan counterparties are advised to adopt **strong due diligence, sanctions screening, and risk-management strategies** to navigate the country's complex and changing legal landscape.

Capital Markets

SEC Revises Qualified Client Thresholds Through Final Regulatory Order

The **US Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)** has issued a **final order increasing the “qualified client” thresholds** for investors who can be charged performance-based fees by registered investment advisers. Effective **29 June 2026**, investors must now either maintain **\$1.4 million in assets under management** with the adviser or have a **net worth of \$2.7 million**, excluding their primary residence and certain related debt. The updated rules mainly affect **new investors and investment agreements**, while most existing arrangements remain protected under grandfathering provisions. Investment advisers and private funds are now expected to **update subscription documents, client agreements, and compliance procedures** to reflect the revised thresholds before the new rules take effect.

Company & Commercial

EU Deforestation Regulation Sees Fresh Updates Through New Guidance, FAQs and Proposed Legal Changes

The **European Commission** has introduced a fresh set of measures under the **EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR)** to simplify compliance and provide greater clarity for businesses, member states, and global stakeholders. The update includes a **simplification review report**, revised **FAQs and guidance**, and a proposed **Delegated Act** aimed at refining the regulation of product scope. While the Commission estimates these changes could reduce annual compliance costs by nearly **75%**, it has also confirmed that **no further extension** of the EUDR timeline is planned, meaning most companies must comply by **30 December 2026**. The proposed reforms also introduce new exemptions, clarify supply-chain obligations, and improve the **EUDR Information System** to make reporting and due diligence more practical and efficient.

Employment & Labor

Virginia Introduces New Workplace Rules on Pay Transparency and Salary History

Virginia has passed a new law introducing stricter **pay transparency** and **salary history restrictions**, joining several other US states adopting similar workplace reforms. Starting from **July 1, 2026**, employers will be required to clearly disclose **salary ranges** in all public and internal job postings and ensure that those ranges are set in **good faith**. The law also prohibits employers from asking about or relying on a candidate's previous salary when making hiring or compensation decisions, except in limited cases where the applicant voluntarily shares that information. Employers who fail to comply may face **civil penalties**, lawsuits, and other legal consequences. Businesses are therefore being encouraged to update hiring practices, job advertisements, and recruiter guidelines well before the law takes effect.

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AI in Use

Stop Reading Two Documents Line by Line

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