

COVID-19: MCA extends due date for submitting cost audit report to the Board of Directors

Introduction

As per Rule 6(5) the Companies (Cost Records and Audit) Rules, 2014 every cost auditor is required to forward duly signed report to the Board of Directors of the company within a period of **180 days from the end of the financial year (FY)**.

Further, the company is required to file the cost audit report in Form CRA-4, **within 30 days** from the date of receipt of the cost audit report.

Key highlights

- Due to the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic and difficulties faced by the companies, the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) has, vide circular dated 27 September 2021, extended the last date for submission of cost audit report by the cost auditor to the Board of Directors of the company for the FY 2020-21 to **31 October 2021**.
- Consequently, e-form CRA-4 for the FY 2020-21 shall be filed by the company within 30 days from the date of receipt of cost audit report by the company.
- However, if extension to hold the Annual General Meeting (AGM) for the FY 2020-21 has been availed by any company upon application made to the Registrar of Companies (ROC) or in pursuance to the general extension, accorded by respective ROCs on 23 September 2021, then such company shall file e-form CRA-4 (if applicable) **within 30 days from the date of the AGM**.