

NEWS ALERT

DOWNTURN MORE UNKIND TO DIRECTORS THAN STAFF—

Employees Got Pay Hikes, But Directors Saw Hole In Pockets



Directors and shareholders were hit harder by the economic downturn that affected corporate profits in the financial year ended March 2009 compared to employees who continued to receive pay hikes during the period.

A study of 750 companies, revealed that directors, who comprise a mix of top executives who run the company and some independent members not on its rolls, took a 4% cut in aggregate remuneration as the slowdown took a toll on net profits.

SEBI may let companies switch to int'l accounting norms

ACCOUNTING UPDATE

Capital markets regulator SEBI will soon offer listed companies the option of switching over to the International Financial Reporting Standards for improved corporate governance, but is yet to take a decision on allowing quarterly audits, due to stiff opposition from companies themselves.



SEBI's move to offer the option to companies to switch is in line with the mandatory requirement for public interest entities in India to comply with the IFRS from 2011.

OTHER NEWS:

- Expressing concern at the rising fiscal deficit, International Monetary Fund (IMF) has said there should be a successor to the Fiscal Responsibility & Budget Management (FRBM) Act to reduce the scope for window dressing in government finances.
- In order to prevent recurrence of Satyam-like fraud, the government has decided to set up a specialized research and analysis wing to scrutinize media reports, corporate press releases and advertisements which can have a bearing on share prices of companies. The new unit will work in close coordination with SEBI, Enforcement Directorate, I-T department and RBI.

DID YOU KNOW?

Which were the top 5 carbon dioxide emitting countries in the world in 2008?

- 1) China
- 2) US
- 3) Russia
- 4) India
- 5) Japan



Source: IWR, a German renewable energy institute