



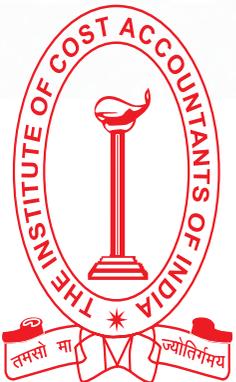
February, 2026

TAX Bulletin

Volume - 201
02.02.2026

**Special Edition :
Union Budget - 2026**

Part - I



ICMAI

THE INSTITUTE OF COST ACCOUNTANTS OF INDIA

भारतीय लागत लेखाकार संस्थान

Statutory Body under an Act of Parliament

(Under the Jurisdiction of Ministry of Corporate Affairs)

Headquarters: CMA Bhawan, 3, Institutional Area, Lodhi Road, New Delhi - 110003. Ph: 091-11-24666100

Kolkata Office: CMA Bhawan, 12, Sunder Street, Kolkata - 700016. Ph: 091-33-2252 1031/34/35/1602/1492

VISION STATEMENT

“The Institute of Cost Accountants of India would be the preferred source of resources and professionals for the financial leadership of enterprises globally.”

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Objectives of Taxation Committees:

1. Preparation of Suggestions and Analysis of various Tax matters for best Management Practices and for the professional development of the members of the Institute in the field of Taxation.
2. Conducting webinars, seminars and conferences etc. on various taxation related matters as per relevance to the profession and use by various stakeholders.
3. Submit representations to the Ministry from time to time for the betterment and financial inclusion of the Economy.
4. Evaluating opportunities for CMAs to make way for further development and sustenance of the opportunities.
5. Conducting and monitoring of Certificate Courses on Direct and Indirect Tax for members, practitioners and stake holders and also Crash Courses on GST for Colleges and Universities.



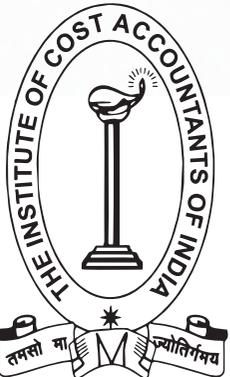
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2. Advanced Certificate Course on GST (ACCGST)
3. Advanced Certificate Course on GST Audit and Assessment Procedure (ACGAA)
4. Certificate Course on TDS (CCTDS)
5. Certificate Course on Filing of Returns (CCFOF)
6. Advanced Course on Income Tax Assessment and Appeals (ACIAA)
7. Certificate Course on International Trade (CCIT)

Admission Link - <https://icmai.in/advsc/DelegatesApplicationForm-new.aspx>

Modalities

Description	Course Name						
	CCGST	ACCGST	ACGAA	CCTDS	CCFOF	ACIAA	CCIT
Hours	72	40	30	30	30	30	50
Mode of Class	Offline/ Online	Online					
Course Fee* (₹)	10,000	14,000	12,000	10,000	10,000	12,000	10,000
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On passing the examination with 50% marks a Certificate would be awarded to the participant with the signature of the President of the Institute

Course Details

<https://icmai.in/TaxationPortal/OnlineCourses/index.php>

Courses for Colleges & Universities by the Tax Research Department

Modalities

Eligibility

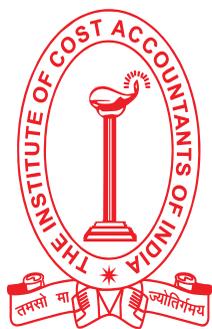
- ▲ B.Com/ BBA pursuing or completed
- ▲ M.Com/ MBA pursuing or completed

Description	Courses for Colleges and Universities	
	GST Course	Income Tax
Batch Size	Minimum 50 Students per Batch per course	
Course Fee* (₹)	1,000	1,500
Exam Fee* (₹)	200	500
Duration (Hrs)	32	32

For enquiry about courses, mail at: trd@icmai.in

*18% GST is applicable on both Course fee and Exam fee

Behind every successful business decision, there is always a **CMA**



Chairman's Message

CMA Rajendra Singh Bhati

Chairman Direct Taxation Committee



I am pleased to be associated with the release of this *Special Edition of the Tax Bulletin* on the Union Budget 2026, brought out by the Institute of Cost Accountants of India – Tax Research Department.

The Union Budget 2026 has introduced significant proposals in the domain of Direct Taxation, focusing on rationalisation, transparency, reduction of litigation, and strengthening of compliance architecture. The Budget reflects a calibrated approach towards widening the tax base, improving procedural efficiency, and reinforcing taxpayer confidence within the evolving framework of the Income Tax Act.

The Institute has been actively organising programmes in collaboration with the Income Tax Department across various locations on the Income Tax Act, 2025. These initiatives aim to create structured awareness, foster dialogue between professionals and administrators, and ensure smooth transition to the new legislative framework.

Further reinforcing our commitment to capacity building and structured professional discourse, the Direct Tax Committee organised an extensive series of Outreach Programmes and Webinars on the Income Tax Act, 2025, in collaboration with the Income Tax Department, which witnessed overwhelming participation from members and stakeholders across the country.

Outreach Programme on Income Tax Act, 2025

15th February 2026 – Seminar on Income Tax Act, 2025

Organised by the Tax Research Department in association with ICAI–NIRC and ICAI–Prayagraj in collaboration with the Income Tax Department at Prayagraj, the seminar was comprehensively addressed by CMA (Dr.) Pawan Jaiswal, CMA Balgovind Yadav, and CMA Anwar Hasan. The session was honoured by the presence of Shri Shiv Kumar Rai, IRS, Principal Commissioner of Income Tax, as Chief Guest. The programme witnessed encouraging participation from members and facilitated meaningful professional interaction.

Webinar : Discussion on Union Budget 2026 on 1st February 2026

A significant highlight of the knowledge initiatives undertaken by the Tax Research Department was the comprehensive Union Budget 2026 Discussion Programme held on 01.02.2026, wherein Direct and Indirect Tax proposals were deliberated in an integrated manner. The technical discussions were led by Shri Vivek Jalan, CMA Rohit Singh, CMA Mrityunjay Acharjee, and CMA B.M. Gupta, who provided a structured and analytical examination of the Budget announcements.

The Direct Tax segment was graced by Shri Abhishek Mishra, IRS, Additional Commissioner of Income Tax (Exemptions), Bhopal, as Guest of Honour. His address enriched the deliberations by offering valuable administrative and policy perspectives on the Direct Tax proposals. The integrated format enabled participants to gain a holistic understanding of the Budget's implications across tax domains and its broader impact on professionals, industry, and trade.

The Income Tax Series 2025 (Direct Taxation)

Further strengthening professional discourse under *The Income Tax Series 2025 (Direct Taxation)*, several focused technical sessions were organised:

- 3rd February 2026 – Dr. Gopal Krishna Raju delivered an insightful session titled “*Assessment Reimagined: Streamlined Review Mechanisms under the Framework of Income Tax Act.*” The presentation critically analysed procedural reforms aimed at enhancing transparency, efficiency, and accountability in tax administration.
- 10th February 2026 – CMA Ritu Dash Choudhury conducted a focused session titled “*Foreign Asset Disclosure is Non-Negotiable in the Light of ITA, 2025.*” The discussion emphasised evolving global transparency standards, reporting obligations, and the serious consequences of non-compliance in the contemporary international tax environment.

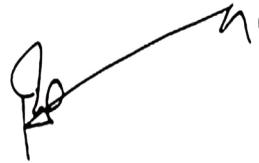
These programmes collectively reflect the Direct Tax Committee’s commitment to continuous professional development, policy awareness, and capacity building. By facilitating structured and analytical discussions, we aim to equip Cost and

Management Accountants with the knowledge and perspective required to navigate the evolving direct tax landscape effectively.

I commend the Tax Research Department for bringing out this Special Edition with clarity and depth. I also express my appreciation to all speakers, dignitaries, and contributors who enriched these deliberations through their expertise and insights.

I am confident that this publication, along with our continuing professional initiatives, will serve as a valuable resource for members, practitioners, corporates, and students in understanding and implementing the Direct Tax proposals of the Union Budget 2026.

With best regards,

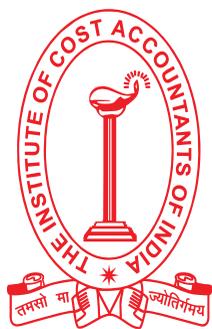


CMA Rajendra Singh Bhati

Chairman – Direct Taxation Committee

The Institute of Cost Accountants of India

02.02.2026



Chairman's Message

CMA Dr. Ashish P. Thatte

Chairman Indirect Taxation Committee



It is a matter of great privilege to be associated with the release of this *Special Edition of the Tax Bulletin* on the **Union Budget 2026**, brought out by the ICMAI -Tax Research Department.

The Union Budget 2026 carries significant implications for the indirect tax regime, particularly in the areas of GST rationalisation, compliance streamlining, system-driven governance, and trade facilitation. The proposals reflect the Government's continued focus on strengthening digital infrastructure, enhancing transparency, and promoting ease of doing business while safeguarding revenue.

Webinar on Discussion on Union Budget 2026 was held on 1st February 2026, wherein both Direct and Indirect Tax proposals were deliberated in an integrated manner. The technical deliberations were steered by Shri Vivek Jalan, CMA Rohit Singh, CMA Mrityunjay Acharjee, and CMA B.M. Gupta, who presented a systematic, in-depth, and analytical review of the Budget announcements, highlighting their policy intent and practical implications.

The Indirect Tax segment of the programme was graced by CMA Sanjali Dias, Joint Commissioner (GST), Maharashtra and Formerly Senior Vice President, GSTN, as Guest of Honour. She offered insightful observations on GST amendments, compliance implications, and system-driven reforms. The Direct Tax segment was graced by Shri Abhishek Mishra, IRS, Additional Commissioner of Income Tax (Exemptions),

Bhopal, as Guest of Honour. The combined deliberations enabled participants to gain a holistic understanding of the Budget's impact across both Direct and Indirect Tax domains, along with its broader implications for professionals, industry, and trade.

Under the **Kar Kranti Series (Indirect Taxation)**, focused technical deliberations were organised to deepen professional understanding of GST developments:

- **11th February 2026** – CMA Sanjali Dias delivered a highly technical session titled “*Technical Compliance with Recent Changes in GST.*” The webinar addressed system-driven updates, GST portal modifications, and procedural refinements affecting day-to-day compliance practices.

For knowledge on **Union Budget, 2026 (Indirect Taxation)**,

- **13th February 2026** – Shri Bikash Gupta presented “*The Cost Accountant's Lens: Budget 2026 GST Analysis.*” The session offered a cost and industry-oriented perspective on GST proposals, evaluating their operational and financial impact across sectors.

The integrated approach adopted by the Institute ensured that members received both policy-level understanding and practical compliance guidance. These initiatives reflect the Indirect Taxation Committee's commitment to equipping professionals with technical clarity, strategic insight,

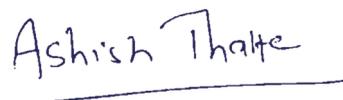
and implementation readiness in the evolving GST landscape.

In this context, the initiative of the Tax Research Department in publishing a comprehensive and analytical Special Edition is highly commendable. The publication provides a lucid examination of key amendments, policy intent, and their practical impact, making it an invaluable reference for Cost and Management Accountants, tax practitioners, corporates, academicians, and students.

I sincerely appreciate the diligent efforts of the Tax Research Department and all contributors who have ensured the timely release of this knowledge resource.

I am confident that this Special Edition will greatly assist the professional community in understanding and effectively implementing the indirect tax proposals of the Budget.

With Best Wishes

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ashish Thatte". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal stroke.

CMA (Dr) Ashish P Thatte

Chairman – Indirect Taxation Committee

The Institute of Cost Accountants of India

02.02.2026

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Articles on the Topics of Direct and Indirect Taxation are invited from readers and authors. Along with the article please share a recent passport-sized photograph, a brief profile and the contact details. The articles should be the author's own original.

Please send the articles to
trd@icmai.in / trd.dd2@icmai.in

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Impact of Union Budget 2026 on the Implementation of the New Income Tax Act, 2025

The Income-tax Act, 1961 has been amended with almost 4000 times, nearly every year for over six decades, resulting in a statute that is voluminous, complex, and heavily cross-referenced sections, inserted sections, sub sections, clauses, sub clauses, provisos, explanations. The stated objective behind the Income-tax Act, 2025 is not to introduce nor change the existing tax policy but to recast the law into a concise, transparent, lucid, and easy-to-read code, without disturbing settled principles and by avoiding redundant provisions.

The Income-tax Act, 2025 represents one of the most radical structural rewrites of India's direct tax regime since 1961. While the Bill largely preserves the substantive tax policy embedded in the Income-tax Act, 1961, it fundamentally alters the architecture, language, and operational logic of income-tax law by introducing concepts such as the "tax year", eliminating the assessment year, rationalising provisions into tables, and consolidating dispersed explanations. The Union Budget 2026 assumes critical importance because it is expected to be the first Budget to operationalise the new Income-tax Act, 2025 in full.

In her budget speech Hon. Finance minister Smt. Nirmala Seetharaman was remarking about the new Income tax Act 2025 that In July 2024, she announced a comprehensive review of the Income Tax Act, 1961. This was completed in a record time and the Income Tax Act, 2025 will come into effect from 1st April, 2026. The simplified Income Tax Rules and Forms will be notified shortly, giving adequate time to taxpayers to acquaint themselves with its requirements. The



Dr. Lakshmanan MP

Associate Professor of Commerce,
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&



CMA Ajith Sivadas

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forms have been redesigned such that ordinary citizens can comply without difficulty.

There are no significant changes in personal, corporate nor others income tax slabs and rates, rather some reduction in MAT rates by 1%, non-applicability of MAT to presumptive schemes for non residents etc. Over and above the draconian sec 195 of ITA 2025 (115BBE ITA 1961) the high pitched rate of 60% has been reduced to half the rate and thereby change in effective rate from 78% to 39%.

While computing the income under the head PGBP a long pending proposal from the employers regarding the due date in respect of employees contribution to EPF, ESI etc. to the respective fund, from respective act due dates to income tax due dates was found to have been accepted by the ministry and there by for

allowability of contribution from employers part and employees collection to be paid in par ie. due date us 263(1) (139(1)).

Further expenditure disallowed on account of non-deduction or non-deposit of TDS can be claimed by non-life insurance companies when TDS is subsequently paid, extension of the tonnage tax scheme to inland vessels, rationalisation of eligible assessee under sec 58(11) are also welcome moves as far as business fraternity is concerned.

Regarding capital gain taxes taxation on buyback of shares taxed under the head IFOS now added under capital gain head taxed at the rate 30% for individual promoters and 22% by companies. And thereby the price paid while purchasing the shares now allowed as cost of acquisition which was not allowed under present provisions. And exemption for sovereign gold bonds to be allowed only to original holders if held till maturity.

For computing taxable dividend the interest on borrowed funds for investing was allowed maximum of 20% of gross dividend where as in the budget it is proposed to have no deduction for interest against dividend and mutual fund income. For clarity of interpretation group entity, parent entity, principal entity are being proposed aligning them to IFSC authority. Further interest awarded under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 is now given full exemption giving end to the long pending litigation area.

Moreover some benefits and easiness of compliance have been given to NPOs by making merger of registered NPOs with another registered NPO with similar objectives not to attract accreted tax, to remove litigation risk under new act. And it is proposed that no cancellation of registration of an NPO merely on the grounds of carrying on commercial activity in the advancement of any other object of general public utility. Certain central state government funds in form of PM Cares Fund, The Swach Bharath khosh, Clean ganga fund etc. shall enjoy the exemption with out procedural registration, audit etc. par with ITA 1961 provisions. As per proposed 2025 act the NPOs were required to

file returns with in due date specified under 263 (1) only to enjoy exemption. Wherein the budget 2026 proposes to include belated time limit also for exemption eligibility to make it par with existing provisions.

Various deductions cum exemptions have been extended to dividends received and distributed by cooperative societies, for ancillary activities related to cattle feed and cotton seeds, deduction regarding the income of a federal cooperative society, disability pension to armed forces and paramilitary personnel shall be exempt only where the individual is invalidated out of service due to a service-related disability, deduction regarding the income of a federal cooperative society, deduction in respect of dividends received and distributed by cooperative societies, tax exemption for foreign companies supplying capital equipment to electronic goods manufacturers in bonded warehouses, tax holiday for foreign companies procuring data centre services from India in order to provide various benefits for investors.

Further exemption of income arising from compulsory acquisition of land under the RFCTLAAR act, giving statutory amendment provided in par with circular 36/2016 being made. It gives harmonious interpretation between compensation act and income tax act and giving clear stand for giving exemption out for the receipt of compensation. But still the taxability of interest on the delayed compensation is in grey area.

TDS / TCS provisions have been rationalised by combining all TDS sections 192 to 196D of ITA 1961 to two sections 392 and 393 of ITA 2025 with five tables, all TCS items under 206C in 394 of new act. Moreover in this budget also more simplification have been done by making TCS rates to be uniform at 2% in major cases. Further MACT interest made non TDS item making in line with exemption given to the interest. Existing request for nil or lower deduction application in physical form 13 is found to be proposed in electronic form, which is also a welcome move. And while purchasing immovable property from non-residents at present all the formalities

to have TAN, challan payment, returns in 27Q etc. are there. But it is proposed to remove these conditions for resident individuals and HUF deductors in par with resident seller type procedure.

Earlier while drafting ITA 2025 itself to avoid ambiguity in TDS rates for advertisement services, the same was included under the definition of the term 'work' and now in this budget manpower supply services also included in this bucket itself, and thereby better clarity on confusions whether to be classified under contract or professional cum technical services. No TDS on interest paid to co-operative banking societies also being proposed, becoming a big relief to co-operatives.

In connection to proposals on return filing, one more due date for non tax audit assessee with PGBP income has been extended from 31st July to 31st August. Non tax audit assessee submitting returns without business/professional income still continue their due dates on 31st July and all other due dates on 31st of October for tax audit cases and 30th November for international transaction cases would be the same. Further for revision of returns 9 months time limit from the end of previous / Tax year has been extended to 12 months ie. 31st March, subject to payment of fees us 234 I amounting to Rs. 1000/5000.

Some cosmetic changes in submission of updated returns are being proposed regarding eligibility to file loss return, if the updated loss is lower than original returns is allowed. And to submit updated returns even assessee selected for reassessment and the updated income to be considered for assessment and not subject to concealment penalty, but subject to 10% extra payment in addition to existing 140 (b).

After Bombay High Court verdict in case of Hexaware Technologies created legal lacuna in JAO issuing 148 A notices. This controversy has been settled by making amendment retrospective in sec 279 of ITA 2025 and existing 148, 148 A is made. Further Sec 522 of ITA 2025 providing notices and proceedings shall not be made invalid due to mistake in computer generated DIN, leading to avoidable litigation. Time

limit for rationalisation of block assessments and extended time limit of 12 months for draft assessment order also proposed.

Extension of immunity provisions has been given for misreporting case also subject to declaration not to file appeal and payment of tax along with interest in 30 days time. But 100% of tax to be paid extra in normal cases and 120% of tax on unexplained income/investment cases to be made. Penalty for non-furnishing or in accurate crypto currency transaction is being proposed. Relaxation for prosecution proceedings in cases of contravention of order during search, failure to afford a facility for inspection during search, concealment of property to evade recovery, failure to deposit TDS/TCS, failure to furnish return of income, to produce books etc. Moreover penalties would now be combined in order itself and separate proceedings would be avoided.

Certain penalties for delay or non submission of tax audit reports, transfer pricing reports and AIR related forms converted to compulsory late fees. Tax audit report delay attracting Rs.75,000 till one month and Rs.1,50,000 there after. Failure to furnish TP report to attract late fees of Rs.50,000 and Rs.1,00,0000. And no interest would be on penalty during appeal pendency irrespective of outcome was also been proposed.

A scheme for small tax payers to disclose legacy foreign assets by paying a specified tax or fees is proposed. Cooperative Society Registered Under the Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act is now included as a cooperative society. Consolidation of provisions governing the optional tax regime for NRIs on foreign exchange assets were also been proposed.

Conclusion

The Union Budget 2026 plays a pivotal role in smoothing the transition to the Income-tax Act, 2025. While the new Act focuses on structural simplification, the Budget complements it through targeted reliefs, rationalisation measures, and compliance easing initiatives. Together, they mark a decisive step towards a simpler, more predictable, and litigation-resilient direct tax regime in India.

Finance Bill 2026 : Discussion on certain proposed amendments.

As in every year, the first day of February of the current calendar year marked the date of presentation of the Finance Bill, 2026 by the Hon'ble finance minister to the parliament. What this yearly ritual of presentation of budget proposals means to a layman is significantly different from what it signifies to a tax administrators or a tax consultant. While a layman is interested only in the fact whether tax rate has been tinkered with or whether any new concession has been doled out to them, the tax administrators and the tax consultants have to go through and analyse each of the clauses of the Finance Bill and the explanatory memorandum thereto, in order to understand every nuance of the proposed changes. For tax administrators, this is necessary because they are saddled with the responsibility of implementing the amended provisions correctly when the amended provisions come into force. For tax consultants, it is necessary for them to get acquainted with the proposed changes so that they can advise their clients appropriately about the new tax concessions and compliance burdens which are mandated by the Finance Act for the year.

2. The finance bill for the year 2026 is characteristically singular in the sense that it incorporates proposed changes both for the provisions of the Income tax Act, 1961 and the New Income tax Act, 2025 operation of which will take effect from 1.4.2026. It is important to note that the proposed changes pertaining to the Income tax Act, 1961 will be effective from 1.3.2026. The Income tax Act, 2025, which was tabled before the parliament on 13.02.2025 and



Shri Nilay Baran Som

IRS, (Retd.)

received the presidential ascent on 21 .08.2025 has been subjected a few proposed amendments by this Finance Bill also. Thus, interestingly, the New Income Tax Act, 2025, will stand modified from its very inception. **The Union Budget can be said to have contributed the initial final shape of the new legislation.**

3. Before going to the proposed amendments, it is pertinent to consider the number of amendments proposed by this Finance Bill. The Finance Bill incorporates 23 amendments for the Income tax Act, 1961 (hereinafter referred to as ITA 61) and for the Income tax Act 2025 (hereinafter referred to as ITA 2025), there are 81 proposed amendments and several other amendments to six schedules which are part of the Act. It is also important to note that since the New Income Tax Act is supposed to be aligned with the amended provision of the ITA61, it is necessary to consider the proposed amendments of for both the ITA 61 and ITA 2025 together.

4. It goes without mention that it is not possible to discuss about all the proposed changes in a few pages of the tax bulletin. Therefore, I shall discuss a few proposed amendments, which in my humble view, are of far-reaching consequence for both the tax administrators and the tax consultants. Since the rate of tax have

been left unchanged by the proposed bill, no discussion is made on the proposed changes.

5. The discussion is being made under the following heads :

(i) Online application of LDC: The existing provisions of section 395 of the ITA 2025 requires an assessee to submit application for lower deduction certificate for TDS and TCS. The amended provision will enable an assessee to also file such application online, which will of great help to taxpayers.

The proposed amendment is reproduced below :

“(6) The application referred to in sub-section (1)(a) may also be filed before the prescribed income-tax authority, subject to such conditions as may be prescribed, and such authority on electronic verification of the contents of the application, may— (a) either issue a certificate for deduction of income-tax at lower rate or no deduction of income-tax; or

(b) reject such application on account of non-fulfillment of the prescribed conditions or on account of the application being incomplete.”.

The option of filing online application will definitely help small taxpayers, resident as well as non-residents, who may get the desired LDC without having to make a visit to the Tax Office. However, it is not clear whether the system will be able to process such applications for large taxpayers with complicated transactions. It is noteworthy to mention that the dispute in the Tiger Global Case (the case in which the Hon’ble Supreme Court has recently passed an order favouring the revenue) triggered from a simple application for issuance of lower deduction certificate. We may have to wait for the rules pertaining to the ITA 2025 to see whether this facility will be available to all taxpayers, across the board.

(ii) Rationalisation and Simplification of TCS Rates and clarification in TDS matter:

Tax Collection at Source is mainly a mechanism for advance collection of tax from the payer in an ad-hoc manner. Another major aim of this provision to keep a trail of the transactions and to form a database of economic activities of a taxpayer. However, higher TCS rates cause higher cost of compliance for the taxpayers. Therefore, rationalisation of various TCS rates to the level of to 2% is a welcome change for the taxpayers.

Another important amendment is with reference to manpower services. There was certain ambiguity whether manpower supply services will fall within the ambit of works contract or professional services. The ITA 2025 has been amended with the clarification that such services are to be categorised professional services.

(iii) Amendments in due date of filing return for certain classes of taxpayers :

Section 139 of ITA 61 pertain to the filing of returns while section 263 is the relevant section under the ITA 2025. Amendments in this area have been made to shift the due date of filing to 31st day of August in case of following assesseees:

- (a) Assessee having income from profits and gains of business or profession whose accounts are not required to be audited under this Act or under any other law for the time being in force.*
- (b) partner of a firm whose accounts are not required to be audited under this Act or under any other law for the time being in force or the spouse of such partner (if section 5A applies to such spouse*

These proposed amendments recognise the need for staggered dates for filing of tax return, in response to the reality that some more time

may be necessary even for non-audit cases for taxpayers having income from business and profession. Extending the same benefit to partners of such firms having business income (non-tax audit cases) is a logical and consequential.

(iv) Continuation of ‘Nudge approach’ in extending the scope Updated returns : The concept of updated returns was introduced in the Income tax Act by the Finance Act 2022. The facility of updated return actually nudges the taxpayers to exhibit correct taxpaying behaviour by disclosing their true income. The updated return gives a taxpayer a chance to disclose his correct income with payment of additional tax without imposition of penalty and initiation of prosecution proceedings.

The Finance Bill proposes to extend the benefit of filing tax returns in cases where the updated return will result in claiming a lesser amount of loss. Another amendment in this area is allowing filing of tax returns in cases of reassessment proceedings. The proposed amendment seeks to allow filing of updated return if proceedings for reassessment have been initiated and a notice of reassessment has been issued under Section 280 (corresponding to section 148 of Income Tax Act 1961).

If an updated return is filed pursuant to a reassessment notice under section 280, the additional income-tax payable will be increased by 10% of the aggregate of tax and interest payable. These amendments will come into force on 1st April 2026 and apply to the tax year 2026-27 and subsequent years.

(v) Consolidated assessment and penalty order (where penalty is for misreporting and underreporting of income)

Section 270 A of the Income Tax Act has been amended with effect from 1st March 2026 and the corresponding provision, section 440 of the

ITA 2025 has also been amended to provide for passing a consolidated assessment and penalty order and the penalty involves misreporting and underreporting of income. This is one of the path-breaking amendments seeking to solve the problem of pendency of either assessment or penalty proceedings throughout the financial year. Having said that, it is too early to fathom how the proposed amendment will unfold itself while adhering to the amended statutory provisions and principle of natural justice.

(vi) Rationalisation of buy-back provisions :

Sections 2(40)(f) & section 69 of Income Tax Act, 2025 are proposed to be amended, rationalising buy back provisions for the shareholders.

In the existing provisions of the Income-tax Act, 2025, consideration received by a shareholder on buy-back of shares by a company is treated as dividend income under section 2(40)(f) of the Act and taxed accordingly. Cost of acquisition of the corresponding shares are treated separately as a capital loss under section 69. It has been proposed to rationalize the taxation of share buy-backs by providing that consideration received on buy-back shall be chargeable to tax under the head “Capital gains” and not as dividend income. Significantly, in the case of promoters, the effective tax liability on gains arising from buy-back shall be thirty per cent, comprising tax payable at the applicable rates together with an additional tax. In case of promoter companies, the effective tax liability will be 22%.

(vii) Proposed Clarificatory amendments.

There have been diverse judicial decisions of various High Courts in respect of the following issues and cases are pending before the Hon’ble Supreme Court :

- (a) Who is the authority to issue notice under section 148, the Jurisdictional Assessment



Officer (JAO), or the Faceless Assessing Officer (FAO)?

- (b) Whether any mistake or defect in quoting or placing DIN will invalidate the entire proceedings?
- (c) What is the time limit for passing draft assessment order in cases referred to the Transfer Pricing Officer?

Amendments in both ITA 1961 and ITA 2025 have been proposed, in line of the departmental position in the above litigated areas, with insertion of overriding clauses like *“Notwithstanding anything contained in any judgment, order or decree of any court, for the removal of doubts”*.

Therefore, the department has positioned all these amendments as clarificatory in nature, bringing out the legislative intent of the corresponding provisions of ITA 61 and ITA 2025.

6. There have been lot of other amendments , including decriminalisation of certain offences, conversion of certain penalties into fees , hike in the rate of securities transaction tax and the like.

It appears that the proposed finance bill and the ensuing finance act will be discussed in the public sphere by various stakeholders in the remaining months of the financial year and even in the next financial year.

TDS Provision under the Income Tax Act, 2025 – A Critical Appraisal



CMA Ritu Dash Choudhury

Speaker

One of the most talked about changes introduced by the Income-tax Act, 2025 (“ITA 2025”) relates to the provisions governing tax deduction at source (TDS) and tax collection at source (TCS). The exiting forty-three existing TDS sections in the existing Income-tax Act, 1961 is replaced by three sections under the Income Tax Act 2025. The arrangement, might appear at first glance like a bold and positive step toward reducing

complexity. However, a deeper reading of ITA 2025 indicates that while the number of words might have decreased, it has not necessarily become easier to understand or apply.

The number of existing TDS provisions in ITA 1961-

S. No.	Section under existing 1961 Act	S. No.	Section under existing 1961 Act	S. No.	Section under existing 1961 Act
1	192	16	194-I	31	194P
2	192A	17	194-IA	32	194Q
3	193	18	194-IB	33	194R
4	194	19	194-IC	34	194S
5	194A	20	194J	35	194T
6	194B	21	194K	36	195
7	194BA	22	194LA	37	195A
8	194BB	23	194LB	38	196
9	194C	24	194LBA	39	196A
10	194D	25	194LBB	40	196B
11	194DA	26	194LBC	41	196C
12	194E	27	194LC	42	196D
13	194EE	28	194M	43	197A
14	194G	29	194N		
15	194H	30	194-O		

The New Framework

Under ITA 2025, the TDS provisions are structured as follows:

- **Section 392:** deals with tax deduction on salary and withdrawals from provident fund, combining the earlier sections 192 and 192A.
- **Section 393:** Consolidates the remaining

forty-two TDS provisions, which were earlier spread across numerous sections.

- **Section 394:** now contains all TCS provisions, which earlier formed part of Chapter XVII-BB
- **Section 402:** Contains definitions and interpretative clauses, including as many as 47 definitions relevant to TDS/TCS provisions.

To operationalise section 393, the legislature has introduced a tabular presentation, resembling a *ready-reckoner* embedded within the statute itself.

Section 393 is divided into multiple tables:

- **Table 1** – Payments to residents [Section 393(1)]
- **Table 2** – Payments to non-residents [Section 393(2)]
- **Table 3** – Payments to any person, irrespective of residential status [Section 393(3)]
- **Table 4** - Transactions where no tax is required to be deducted [Section 393(4)]
- **Table 5** – Declarations for non-deduction [Section 393(5)]

Initially, it might seem easier and more effective to refer to three sections and a set of tables, rather than having to look up forty-three individual sections each time. However, once you actually start looking for what the legislation means when applying these provisions, the amount of time it takes to read and apply the TDS provisions has significantly gone up. Each table is followed by notes, which in substance operate as provisos and carve-outs. Also, all of the major definitions in those Tables come from Section 402; therefore, one has to keep switching back and forth from looking up the meaning of words. Earlier, for a given transaction, most of the relevant conditions, thresholds and exceptions were available within a single, self-contained section. Under the new act, the same information is spread across in different sections and tables. This dispersion substantially increases the effort required to ascertain the applicable TDS obligation for any given transaction.

TDS: From Revenue Collection to Information Tool

The core rationale of the TDS mechanism is to secure tax revenue at an early stage and with a reasonable degree of certainty. Without such a mechanism, direct tax collections would depend almost entirely on advance tax payments and post-facto self-assessment, inevitably pushing revenue realisation further down the line.

Over time, however, TDS /TCS has assumed an increasingly prominent role as a tool to capture information and reporting. The steady expansion of the regime over the past decade reflects a shift from a purely revenue-collection tool to a broader data-gathering framework.

Seen in this context, the move to a tabular format offered an opportunity not just to compress provisions, but to rationalise them—by aligning thresholds, rates, timing of deduction, and classes of deductors. Such alignment could have materially reduced the need for entries in tables marked with asterisk followed by explanation in form of notes below the table and reference to the Interpretation clause.

The absence of this harmonisation has diluted the very objective of simplification. Although the number of sections has been reduced, the effort required to read, interpret, and comply with the TDS provisions has, in practice, increased. The exercise has therefore resulted in a more compact statute, but not a more coherent one, further complicating an area that was already among the most compliance-intensive under the Act.

Conclusion:

The quality of any tax statute does not depend on the number of sections it contains, but on whether it provides clarity, certainty and ease of compliance. If we look at the stated intent behind rewriting the Income-tax law was guided by three broad principles:

- Simplifying the text and structure for better readability
- Avoiding any major tax policy changes
- Retaining existing tax rates to ensure continuity

The TDS provisions illustrate where this approach has not fully succeeded. What has been presented as simplification seems to be largely limited to shortening the text and merging sections, rather than achieving genuine clarity or making the law easier to understand and apply.

PRESS RELEASE

DIRECT TAX

BUDGET

New Income Tax Act

- New Income tax Act ,2025 to come into effect from April 2026
- The simplified Income Tax Rules and Forms will be notified shortly. The forms redesigned for easy compliance of ordinary citizens.

Ease of Living

- Interest awarded by the Motor Accident Claims Tribunal to a natural person will be exempt from Income Tax, and any TDS on this account will be done away with.
- TCS Rationalization
- Reduce TCS rate on sale of overseas tour program package to 2 % (from current 2-20%).
- Reduce the TCS rate to 2% (from current 5%) for LRS remittances for education and medical.
- Simplified TDS provisions for manpower supply will benefit labour intensive business.
- Scheme for small taxpayers wherein a rule based automated process for obtaining Lower or nil deduction certificate instead of filing application with the assessor.
- Single window filing with depositories for Form 15G or 15 H for TDS on dividends, interests etc.
- Extend time available for revising returns from 31st December to upto 31st March with payment of nominal fees.

- The timeline for filing of tax returns to be staggered.
- TAN for property transactions involving NRIs will be replaced with resident buyers PAN based challan.
- A one time 6 month foreign asset disclosure scheme for small taxpayers to disclose their overseas income or asset.

Rationalizing Penalty and Prosecution

- IT assessment & penalty proceedings are proposed to be integrated by way of common order for both.
- Taxpayers allowed updating their returns even after reassessment proceedings have been initiated to reduce litigations, at an additional 10 percent tax rate over and above the rate applicable for the relevant year.
- Penalty for misreporting of income also eligible for immunity with payment of additional income tax.
- Prosecution framework under the Income Tax Act to be rationalized.
- Non-production of books of account and documents, and requirement of TDS payment, where payment is made in kind, to be decriminalised.
- Non-disclosure of non-immovable foreign assets with aggregate value less than 20 lakh rupees to be provided with immunity from prosecution with retrospective effect from 1.10.2024.



Cooperatives

- Extend deduction already allowed to a primary cooperative society engaged in supplying milk, oilseeds, fruits or vegetables raised or grown by its members to those supplying cattle feed and cotton seed also.
- Allow the inter-cooperative society dividend income as deduction under the new tax regime to the extent it is further distributed to its members.
- Exemption for a period of 3 years allowed to dividend income received by a notified national cooperative federation, on their investments made in companies up to 31.1.2026, for dividends further distributed to its member co-operatives.

Supporting IT sector as India's growth engine

- Software development services, IT enabled services, knowledge process outsourcing services and contract R&D services relating to software development to be clubbed under a single category of Information Technology Services with a common safe harbour margin of 15.5 percent.
- The threshold for availing safe harbour for IT services to be enhanced from 300 crore rupees to 2,000 crore rupees.
- Safe harbour for IT services shall be approved by an automated rule-driven process, can be continued for a period of 5 years at a stretch.
- Unilateral Advanced Pricing Agreement (APA) process for IT services to be fast-tracked with the endeavour to conclude it within a period of 2 years, which can be extended by 6 months on taxpayer's request.
- The facility of modified returns available to the entity entering APA to be extended to its associated entities.

Attracting global business and investment

- Any foreign company that provides cloud services to customers globally by using data

centre services from India to be provided Tax holiday till 2047

- A safe harbour of 15 percent on cost to be provided if the company providing data centre services from India is a related entity.
- A safe harbour to non-residents for component warehousing in a bonded warehouse at a profit margin of 2 percent of the invoice value. The resultant tax of about 0.7 percent will be much lower than in competing jurisdictions.
- Exemption from income tax for 5 years to be provided to any non-resident who provides capital goods, equipment or tooling, to any toll manufacturer in a bonded zone.
- Exemption to global (non-India sourced) income of a non-resident expert, for a stay period of 5 years under notified schemes.
- Exemption from Minimum Alternate Tax (MAT) to all non-residents who pay tax on presumptive basis.

Tax administration

- A Joint Committee of Ministry of Corporate Affairs and Central Board of Direct Taxes to be constituted for incorporating the requirements of Income Computation and Disclosure Standards (ICDS) in the Indian Accounting Standards (Ind AS) itself. Separate accounting requirement based on ICDS will be done away with from the tax year 2027-28.
- Definition of accountant for the purposes of Safe Harbour Rules to be rationalized.

Other Tax proposals

- In the interest of minority shareholders, buyback for all types of shareholders to be taxed as Capital Gains. Promoters to pay an additional buyback tax, making effective tax 22 percent for corporate promoters and 30 percent for non-corporate promoters.
- TCS rate for sellers of specific goods namely alcoholic liquor, scrap and minerals will be



rationalized to 2 percent and that on tendu leaves will be reduced from 5 percent to 2 percent.

- STT on Futures to be raised to 0.05 percent from present 0.02 percent. STT on options premium and exercise of options to be raised to 0.15 percent from the present rate of 0.1 percent and 0.125 percent respectively.
- To encourage companies to shift to the new regime, set-off of brought forward MAT credit to be allowed to companies only in

the new regime. Set-off using available MAT credit to be allowed to an extent of 1/4th of the tax liability in the new regime.

- MAT is proposed to be made final tax. There will be no further credit accumulation from 1st April 2026. The rate of final tax to be reduced to 14 percent from the current MAT rate of 15 percent. The brought forward MAT credit of taxpayers accumulated till 31st March 2026, will continue to be available to them for set-off as above.

INDIRECT TAX

Tariff Simplification

Marine, leather, and textile products:

- The limit for duty-free imports of specified inputs used for processing seafood products for export, to increase from the current 1 per cent to 3 per cent of the FOB value.
- The duty-free imports of specified inputs, which is currently available for exports of leather or synthetic footwear to be allowed.

Energy transition and security:

- The basic customs duty exemption given to capital goods used for manufacturing Lithium-Ion Cells for batteries to be extended.
- The basic customs duty on import of sodium antimonate for use in manufacture of solar glass to be exempted.

Nuclear Power:

- The existing basic customs duty exemption on imports of goods required for Nuclear Power Projects to be extended till the year 2035.

Critical Minerals:

- The basic customs duty to the import of capital goods required for processing of critical minerals to be exempted.

Biogas blended CNG:

- The entire value of biogas while calculating the Central Excise duty payable on biogas blended CNG to be excluded.

Civil and Defence Aviation:

- The basic customs duty on components and parts required for the manufacture of civilian, training and other aircrafts to be exempted.
- The basic custom duty on raw materials imported for manufacture of parts of aircraft to be used in maintenance, repair, or overhaul requirements by Units in the Defence sector to be exempted.'

Electronics:

- The basic customs duty on specified parts used in the manufacture of microwave ovens to be exempted.

Special Economic Zone:

- A special one-time measure, to facilitate sales by eligible manufacturing units in SEZs to the Domestic Tariff Area (DTA) at concessional rates of duty is proposed. The quantity of such sales will be limited to a prescribed proportion of their exports.



Ease of Living:

- The tariff rate on all dutiable goods imported for personal use to be reduced from 20 per cent to 10 per cent.
- The basic customs duty on 17 drugs/medicines is to be exempted.
- Duty free personal import of drugs/medicines and food for 7 more rare diseases.

Customs Process simplification

- Custom processes to have minimal intervention for smoother and faster movement of goods.

Trust-based systems

- Duty deferral period for Tier 2 and Tier 3 Authorised Economic Operators, known as AEOs, to be enhanced from 15 days to 30 days. Same is extended to the eligible manufacturer-importers.
- Validity period of advance ruling, binding on Customs, to be extended from the present 3 years to 5 years.
- Government agencies will be encouraged to leverage AEO accreditation for preferential treatment in clearing their cargo.
- Filing of bill of entry by a trusted importer, and arrival of goods will automatically notify Customs for completing their clearance formalities (for import of goods not needing any compliance).
- The Customs warehousing framework to be transformed into a warehouse operator-centric system with self-declarations, electronic tracking and risk-based audit.

Ease of Doing Business

- Cargo clearance approvals from various Government agencies to be seamlessly processed through a single and interconnected

digital window by the end of the financial year.

- Processes involved in clearance of food, drugs, plant, animal & wild life products, accounting for around 70 percent of interdicted cargo, to be operationalised on this system by April 2026 itself.
- For goods not having any compliance requirement, clearance to be done by Customs immediately after online registration is completed by the importer.
- Customs Integrated System (CIS) to be rolled out in 2 years as a single, integrated and scalable platform for all the customs processes.
- Utilization of non-intrusive scanning with advanced imaging and AI technology for risk assessment to be expanded in a phased manner with the objective to scan every container across all the major ports.

New export opportunities

- Fish catch by an Indian fishing vessel in Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) or on the High Seas to be made free of duty, Landing of such fish on foreign port will be treated as export of goods.
- Complete removal of the current value cap of ₹10 lakh per consignment on courier exports-supports aspirations of India's small businesses, artisans and start-ups to access global markets through e-commerce

Ease of Living

- Provisions governing baggage clearance to be revised during international travel. Revised rules to enhance duty-free allowances in line with the present day travel realities.
- Honest taxpayers, willing to settle disputes will be able close cases by paying an additional amount in lieu of penalty.

INDIRECT TAX

Government notifies Baggage Rules, 2026. New Customs Baggage (Declaration and Processing) Regulations, 2026 and also issues a Master Circular

New Rules will simplify procedures, enhance transparency, enable electronic and advance declarations and ensure smooth clearance

New changes will allow enhanced general free allowance; transfer of residence benefits; special allowances for jewellery; new provisions for temporary import/re-import; duty-free import of one laptop (for passengers above 18 years) and pets; and enhanced passenger Facilitation

Posted On: 02 FEB 2026 9:58PM by PIB Delhi

The Central Government has notified the Baggage Rules, 2026. New Customs Baggage (Declaration and Processing) Regulations, 2026 and a Master Circular have also been issued. These measures reflect facilitative and revised provisions for international passengers and in line with new economic conditions, rising travel volumes and passenger expectations. The changes have been aimed at in consultation with stakeholders including Ministries, airport operators, and feedback from passengers, etc. These Rules will simplify procedures, enhance transparency, enable electronic and advance declarations and ensure smooth clearance.

Salient Features

1. Enhanced general free allowance:

- (i) The revised rules enhance duty-free allowances in line with present-day travel realities, by revising entitlements for different passenger categories, as under.-

(in rupees)

Sl. No.	Class of passengers	Duty free allowance
1.	Resident	75,000/-
2.	Tourist of Indian origin	75,000/-
3.	Foreigner with a valid visa, other than tourist visa	75,000/-
4.	Tourist of foreign origin	25,000/-
5.	Crew Members	2,500/-

- (ii) Passengers arriving by land borders do not have any general duty-free allowances.
- (iii) Transfer of residence benefits:
- upto 12 months: Rs. 1.5 lakh
 - 1–2 years: Rs. 3 lakh
 - Above 2 years: Rs. 7.5 lakh



The transfer of residence benefits has also been simplified and modernised by having only a single rationalised list of duty-free articles, with an overall value cap as per eligibility. Details are provided in new Baggage Rules, 2026.

(link for rules: <https://taxinformation.cbic.gov.in/view-pdf/1010571/ENG/Notifications>)

2. Special allowances for jewellery have been prescribed solely on weight basis by removing outdated value caps, under which eligible returning residents/tourists of Indian origin (after stay abroad for more than one year), are allowed to duty-free jewellery purely a weight basis :

Female: upto 40 grams;

Other than female: upto 20 grams

3. New provisions for temporary import/Re-import:

The facility of issuance of temporary baggage import certificate or export certificate for temporarily carriage of goods brought in or taken out, respectively have been envisioned for hassle-free clearance at arrival and avoid unnecessary detention of goods.

4. Consolidated Concessions:

Duty-free import of one laptop (for passengers above 18 years) and pets incorporated into the Rules.

5. **New Customs Baggage** (Declaration and Processing) Regulations, 2026 and Master Circular consolidates and revise 35 earlier circulars provide clear details of operationalisation of new rules.

(link for regulations: <https://taxinformation.cbic.gov.in/view-pdf/1010572/ENG/Notifications>)

(link for Circular: <https://taxinformation.cbic.gov.in/view-pdf/1003304/ENG/Circulars>)

6. Passenger Facilitation

The revised framework focuses on higher duty-free limits, reduced detention, digital and simplified processes, simplified procedures to enhance passenger convenience, while strengthening India's position as a globally connected and tourism-friendly destination through uniform implementation across Customs formations.



NOTIFICATION

INDIRECT TAX

Notification No. 01/2026-Customs

New Delhi, the 1st February, 2026

G.S.R... (E).- In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 25 of the Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962) read with Section 110 of Finance Act, 2018 (13 of 2018), the Central Government, on being satisfied that it is necessary

in the public interest so to do, hereby amends the following notifications of the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), specified in column (2) of the Table below, shall be amended in the manner specified in the corresponding entries in column (3) of the said Table, namely:-

Table

S. No.	Notification No. and date	Amendments
(1)	(2)	(3)
1.	Notification No. 248-Cus, dated the 2nd August, 1976, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i) vide number G.S.R. 617(E), dated the 2 nd August, 1976.	In the said notification, in the second paragraph, for the figures, letters and word “31st March, 2026”, the figures, letters and word “31st March, 2028” shall be substituted.
2.	Notification No. 32/1997-Customs dated 1st April 1997 published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i) vide number G.S.R. 188 (E), dated the 1st April, 1997	In the said notification, in the second paragraph, for the figures, letters and word “31st March, 2026”, the figures, letters and word “31st March, 2028” shall be substituted.
3.	Notification No. 24/2001-Customs, dated 1 st March, 2001, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i) vide number G.S.R. 123(E), dated the 1 st March, 2001	In the said notification, in the second paragraph, for the figures, letters and word “31st March, 2026”, the figures, letters and word “31st March, 2028” shall be substituted.
4.	Notification No. 25/2001-Customs, dated 1 st March, 2001 published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i) vide number G.S.R. 124(E), dated the 1 st March, 2001	In the said notification, in the second paragraph, for the figures, letters and word “31st March, 2026”, the figures, letters and word “31st March, 2028” shall be substituted.
5.	Notification No. 25/2002-Customs, dated the 1 st March, 2002, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i) vide number G.S.R. 122(E), dated the 1 st March, 2002	In the said notification, in the TABLE, against S. No. 69A, in column (3), after the words “Electrically Operated Vehicles”, the words “or Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS)” shall be inserted;



6.	Notification No. 36/2024-Customs, dated the 23 rd July, 2024, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i) <i>vide</i> number G.S.R. 439(E), dated the 23 rd July, 2024	In the said notification,- (i) in the Table, Sl. Nos. 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 21, 38, 39, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55 and entries relating thereto shall be omitted; (ii) to the second paragraph, the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:- “Provided that nothing contained in this notification shall have effect after the 30 th day of April, 2026.”.
7.	Notification No. 29/2025-Customs, dated the 9 th May, 2025, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i) <i>vide</i> number G.S.R. 302(E), dated the 9 th May, 2025	In the said notification, after the TABLE and before the ANNEXURE, the following paragraph shall be inserted, namely:- “2. Nothing contained in this notification shall have effect after the 31 st March, 2028.”.

2. This notification shall come into force on the 2nd day of February, 2026.

Notification No. 02/2026-Customs

New Delhi, the 1st February, 2026

G.S.R... (E).- In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 25 of the Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962) and sub-section (12) of section 3 of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 (51 of 1975), the Central Government, on being satisfied that it is necessary in the public interest so to do, hereby makes the following further amendments in the notification of the Government of India, Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), No. 45/2025-Customs, dated the 24th October, 2025, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i), *vide* number G.S.R. 781(E), dated the 24th October, 2025, namely: —

In the said notification, -

I. in TABLE I, -

- (1) S. No. 1 and the entries relating thereto shall be omitted;
- (2) S. No. 4 and the entries relating thereto shall be omitted with effect from the 1st day of May, 2026;

- (3) against S. No. 5, in column (3), the following proviso shall be inserted at the end, namely:- “Provided that nothing contained in this S.No. shall have effect after the 31st March, 2028”;
- (4) S. No. 7 and the entries relating thereto shall be omitted with effect from the 1st day of May, 2026;
- (5) S. No. 10 and the entries relating thereto shall be omitted with effect from the 1st day of May, 2026;
- (6) against S. No. 12, in column (6), for the entries, the entries “3 and 88” shall be substituted;
- (7) S. No. 13 and the entries relating thereto shall be omitted with effect from the 1st day of May, 2026;
- (8) against S. No. 14, in column (3), in the proviso, for the figures, letters and word “31st March, 2026”, the figures, letters and word “31st March, 2028” shall be substituted;



- (9) S. No. 24 and the entries relating thereto shall be omitted with effect from the 1st day of May, 2026;
- (10) S. No. 25 and the entries relating thereto shall be omitted with effect from the 1st day of May, 2026;
- (11) S. No. 26 and the entries relating thereto shall be omitted with effect from the 1st day of May, 2026;
- (12) S. No. 27 and the entries relating thereto shall be omitted with effect from the 1st day of May, 2026;
- (13) S. No. 30 and the entries relating thereto shall be omitted with effect from the 1st day of May, 2026;
- (14) S. No. 31 and the entries relating thereto shall be omitted with effect from the 1st day of May, 2026;
- (15) S. No. 32 and the entries relating thereto shall be omitted with effect from the 1st day of May, 2026;

Entire notification can be read as follows: <https://taxinformation.cbic.gov.in/view-pdf/1010564/ENG/Notifications>

Notification No. 03/2026-Customs

New Delhi, the 1st February, 2026

G.S.R.....(E). - In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 25 of the Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962) read with sections 110 of the Finance Act, 2018 (13 of 2018) and 124 of the Finance Act, 2021 (13 of

2021), the Central Government, on being satisfied that it is necessary in the public interest so to do, hereby amends the following notifications of the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), specified in column (2) of the TABLE below, to the extent specified in the corresponding entries in column (3) of the said TABLE, namely:-

TABLE

S. No.	Notification No. and Date	Amendments
(1)	(2)	(3)
1.	11/2018-Customs, dated the 2 nd February, 2018, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i), vide number G.S.R. 114(E), dated the 2 nd February, 2018	<p>In the said notification, in the TABLE-</p> <p>(i) against Sl. No. 1, in column (2),</p> <p>(a) after the figures “2009 19 00,” the figures “2106 90 51,” shall be inserted with effect from the 1st May, 2026;</p> <p>(b) after the figures “2208,” the figures “2504, 2506,” shall be inserted with effect from the 1st May, 2026;</p> <p>(c) after the figures “2516 12 00,” the figures “2811 22 00,” shall be inserted with effect from the 1st May, 2026;</p> <p>(d) after the figures “3406,” the figures “3801,” shall be inserted with effect from the 1st May, 2026;</p> <p>(ii) Sl. No. 7 and the entries relating thereto shall be omitted with effect from the 1st May, 2026;</p>



		<p>(iii) Sl. No. 8H and the entries relating thereto shall be omitted with effect from the 1st April, 2026;</p> <p>(iv) for Sl. No. 54A and the entries relating thereto, the following Sl. No. and entries shall be substituted with effect from the 1st April, 2026, namely:-</p> <p>(v) for Sl. No. 59 and the entries relating thereto, the following Sl. No. and entries shall be substituted, namely:-</p>								
2.	11/2021-Customs, dated the 1 st February, 2021, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i), vide number G.S.R. 69(E), dated the 1 st February, 2021	<p>In the said notification, in the TABLE,-</p> <p>(i) for Sl. No. 13A and the entries relating thereto, the following Sl. No. and entries shall be substituted, namely:-</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="582 609 1383 838"> <thead> <tr> <th>(1) (1)</th> <th>(2)</th> <th>(3)</th> <th>(4)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>“13A.</td> <td>401 1 30 00</td> <td>All goods other than goods covered under S. Nos. 155 and 156 of TABLE I of notification No. 45/2025-Customs, dated the 24th October, 2025</td> <td>0.5%”;</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>(ii) against Sl. No. 20, in column (3), item (iv) shall be omitted with effect from 1st April, 2026.</p>	(1) (1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	“13A.	401 1 30 00	All goods other than goods covered under S. Nos. 155 and 156 of TABLE I of notification No. 45/2025-Customs, dated the 24th October, 2025	0.5%”;
(1) (1)	(2)	(3)	(4)							
“13A.	401 1 30 00	All goods other than goods covered under S. Nos. 155 and 156 of TABLE I of notification No. 45/2025-Customs, dated the 24th October, 2025	0.5%”;							

2. Save as otherwise provided, this notification shall come into force on the 2nd day of February, 2026.

Notification No. 04/2026

New Delhi, the 1st of February, 2026.

G.S.R.... (fs). - In exercise of the powers conferred by section (I) of section 25 of the Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962), the Central Government, being satisfied that it is necessary in the public interest so to do, hereby makes the following amendments in the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), No. 26 /2016-Customs, dated the 31st March, 2016, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part 11, Section 3, Sub-section (i) vide number G.S.R. 379(E), dated the 31st March, 2016, namely:-

in the said notification, for the words and figures “Baggage Rules, 2016”, occurring at

both the places, the words and figures “Baggage Rules, 2026” shall be substituted.

2. This notification shall come into force on the 2nd of February, 2026.

Notification No. 05/2026

New Delhi, the 1st of February, 2026.

G.S.R.... (E). - In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 25 of the Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962), the Central Government, being satisfied that it is necessary in the public interest so to do, hereby rescinds the following notifications of the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), as mentioned in the following Table, except as respects things done or omitted to be done before such rescission, namely:-

Table

SI. No	Notifications
(1)	(2)
1	No. 11/2004-Customs, dated the 8th January, 2004, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part 11, Section 3, Sub-section (i) <i>vide</i> number G.S.R. 24 (E), dated the 8 th January, 2004
2	No. 27/2016-Customs, dated the 31st March, 2016, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i) <i>vide</i> number G.S.R. 380(E), dated the 31 st March, 2016.

2. This notification shall come into force on the 2nd of February, 2026.

DIRECT TAX

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 19th January, 2026

S.O. 260(E).—In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-clause (b) of clause (46A) of section 10 of the Income-tax Act, 1961 (43 of 1961), (hereinafter referred to as “the Income-tax Act”), the Central Government hereby notifies “Aligarh Development Authority” (PAN:AAALA0082G) (hereinafter referred to as “the assessee”), an authority constituted under the Uttar Pradesh Urban Planning and Development Act, 1973 (President’s Act No.11 of 1973), for the purposes of the said clause. 2. This notification shall be effective from the assessment year 2025-26, subject to the condition that the assessee continues to be an authority constituted under the Uttar Pradesh Urban Planning and Development Act, 1973 (President’s Act No.11 of 1973), with one or more of the purposes specified in sub-clause (a) of clause (46A) of section 10 of the Income-tax Act.

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 19th January, 2026

S.O. 261(E).— In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-clause (b) of clause (46A) of

section 10 of the Income-tax Act, 1961 (43 of 1961), (hereinafter referred to as “the Income-tax Act”), the Central Government hereby notifies the ‘Barnala Improvement Trust’ (PAN: AABTB1345E) (hereinafter referred to as “the assessee”), an authority constituted under the Punjab Town Improvement Act, 1922 (Punjab Act No. 4 of 1922), for the purposes of the said clause. 2. This notification shall be effective from the assessment year 2024-25, subject to the condition that the assessee continues to be a local authority constituted under the Punjab Town Improvement Act, 1922 (Punjab Act No. 4 of 1922) with one or more of the purposes specified in sub-clause (a) of clause (46A) of section 10 of the Income-tax Act.

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 19th January, 2026

S.O. 262(E).— In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-clause (b) of clause (46A) of section 10 of the Income-tax Act, 1961 (43 of 1961), (hereinafter referred to as “the Income-tax Act”), the Central Government hereby notifies “Agra Development Authority” (PAN: AAALA0081F) (hereinafter referred to as “the assessee”), an authority constituted under the Uttar Pradesh Urban Planning & Development



Act, 1973(President's Act No. 11 of 1973), for the purposes of the said clause. 2. This notification shall be effective from the assessment year 2024-25, subject to the condition that the assessee continues to be an authority constituted under the Uttar Pradesh Urban Planning & Development Act, 1973(President's Act No. 11 of 1973) with one or more of the purposes specified in sub-clause (a) of clause (46A) of section 10 of the Income-tax Act.

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 21st January, 2026

S.O. 332(E).— In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (46) of section 10 of the Income-tax Act, 1961 (43 of 1961), the Central Government hereby notifies for the purposes of the said clause, 'Karnataka State Rural Livelihood Promotion Society' (PAN AACAK0581H), a body constituted by the Government of Karnataka, in respect of the following specified income arising to the said body namely, as follows:

- (a) Grants received from the Central Government;
- (b) Grants received from the State Government of Karnataka; and
- (c) Interest earned on bank deposits.

2. This notification shall be effective subject to the conditions that Karnataka State Rural Livelihood Promotion Society –

- (a) shall not engage in any commercial activity;
- (b) activities and the nature of the specified income shall remain unchanged throughout the financial years; and
- (c) shall file return of income in accordance with the provision of clause (g) of sub-section (4C) of section 139 of the Income-tax Act, 1961.

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 21st January, 2026

S.O. 333(E).— In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (46) of section 10 of the Income-tax Act, 1961 (43 of 1961), the Central Government hereby notifies for the purposes of the said clause, 'Dadra and Nagar Haveli Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board (PAN: AAALT2225N)', a Board constituted by UT Administration of Dadra and Nagar Haveli, in respect of the following specified income arising to the said Board, as follows:

- (a) Cess collected under the Building And Other Construction Workers' Welfare Cess Act, 1996 (28 of 1996)
- (b) Registration fees under the Buildings And Other Construction Workers' (Regulation of Employment And Conditions of Service) Act, 1996 (27 of 1996); and
- (c) Interest earned on bank deposits.

2. This notification shall be effective subject to the conditions that Dadra and Nagar Haveli Building and other Construction Workers Welfare Board –

- (a) shall not engage in any commercial activity;
- (b) activities and the nature of the specified income shall remain unchanged throughout the financial years; and
- (c) shall file return of income in accordance with the provision of clause (g) of sub-section (4C) of section 139 of the Income-tax Act, 1961.

2.1 Failure to comply with these conditions may result in the initiation of penal actions under the provisions of the Income-tax Act, 1961 and withdrawal of the exemption granted u/s 10(46) of the Act.

3. This notification shall be deemed to have been applied for assessment years 2019-2020, to 2023-2024 relevant for the financial years F.Ys. 2018-19 to 2022-23.



NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 21st January, 2026

S.O. 334(E).— In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (46) of section 10 of the Income-tax Act, 1961 (43 of 1961), the Central Government hereby notifies for the purposes of the said clause, ‘Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency’, (PAN:AABTT6381N) an agency formed by the State Government of Tamil Nadu, in respect of the following specified income arising to that Authority, namely:-

- (a) Amount received in the form of recurring contributions/Grants-in-aid from Governments including Government of Tamil Nadu and specified authorities, if any, towards current operational expenditure;
- (b) Service charges received through Common Service Centre’s for offering online services to citizens;
- (c) Service charges for the software development projects and IT consultancies rendered for Other State Government Departments/Public Sector Undertakings/Statutory Boards and interest earned on sources of funds received in advance, pending disbursements, from time to time towards various projects sponsored;
- (d) Dividend received from CSC e-Governance Services India Limited (CSC-SPV);
- (e) Admin cost on PEC grants released by UIDAI to enrolment Agencies through Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency which is functioning as enrolment Registrar;
- (f) Revenue sharing on conducting online examination for other State Government Departments/Public Sector Undertakings/Statutory Boards;
- (g) Any other income that may arise in future incidental to/furtherance of the objects of the society; and

(h) Interest earned on (a) to (g) above.

2. This notification shall be effective subject to the conditions that Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency, Chennai Authority: -

- (a) shall not engage in any commercial activity;
- (b) activities and the nature of the specified income shall remain unchanged throughout the financial years; and
- (c) shall file return of income in accordance with the provision of clause (g) of sub-section (4C) of section 139 of the Income-tax Act, 1961.

2.1 Failure to comply with these conditions may result in the initiation of penal actions under the provisions of the Income Tax Act, 1961 and withdrawal of exemption granted u/s 10(46) of the Act.

3. This notification shall be deemed to have been applied for the period of assessment year 2024-2025, 2025-26 and shall apply with respect to the assessment year 2026-2027, 2027-2028 and 2028-2029.

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 27th January, 2026

S.O. 386(E).— In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (ii) of sub-section (1) of section 35 of the Incometax Act, 1961 (43 of 1961) (the Act) read with Rules 5C and 5E of the Income-tax Rules, 1962 (the Rules), the Central Government hereby approves ‘Sikshya O Anusandhan’ (PAN: AABTS1525R), Bhubaneswar, Odisha for ‘Scientific Research’ under the category of ‘University, college or other institution’ for the purposes of clause (ii) of sub-section (1) of section 35 of the Income-tax Act, 1961 read with rules 5C and 5E of the Income-tax Rules, 1962.

2. This Notification shall be applicable for Assessment years 2026-27 to 2030-31 subject to the following conditions:



- (i) 'Sikshya O Anusandhan' Bhubaneswar, Odisha shall comply with the conditions specified in Rule 5E of the Income-tax Rules, 1962.
- (ii) 'Sikshya O Anusandhan' Bhubaneswar, Odisha shall prepare statement under sub-section (1A) of section 35 of the Act for each financial year as prescribed in Form No. 10BD and deliver or cause to be delivered to the said prescribed income-tax authority or the person authorised by such authority such statement in such form, verified in such manner, setting forth such particulars on or before the 31st May, immediately following the financial year in which the donation is received, as prescribed in Rule 18AB of the Income-tax Rules, 1962.

Provided that such university, college or other institution may also deliver to the prescribed authority a correction statement for rectification of any mistake or to add, delete or update the information furnished in the statement delivered under sub-section (1A) of section 35 of the Act;

- (iii) 'Sikshya O Anusandhan' Bhubaneswar, Odisha shall furnish to the donor, a certificate in Form No. 10BE specifying the amount of donation in such manner, containing such particulars and within such time from the date of receipt of sum, as prescribed in Rule 18AB of the Income-tax Rules, 1962.

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 28th January, 2026

S.O. 399(E).—In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (46) of section 10 of the Income-tax Act, 1961 (43 of 1961), the Central Government hereby notifies for the purposes of the said clause, 'State Legal Service Authority Union Territory, Chandigarh (PAN: AAAGS1716A), an Authority constituted by the Administrator,

Union Territory, Chandigarh under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 (Central Act 39 of 1987), in respect of the following specified income arising to the said Authority, as follows:-

- (a) Grants received from the Punjab and Haryana High Court, Central Authority i.e. National Legal Services Authority constituted under Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987;
- (b) Grants or donation received from the Central Government or the State Government of Punjab/Haryana for the purpose of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987;
- (c) Amount received under the order of the Court;
- d) Fees received as recruitment application fee; and
- (e) Interest earned on bank deposits

2. This notification shall be effective subject to the conditions that 'State Legal Service Authority Union Territory, Chandigarh-

- (a) shall not engage in any commercial activity;
- (b) activities and the nature of the specified income shall remain unchanged throughout the financial years; and
- (c) shall file return of income in accordance with the provision of clause (g) of sub-section (4C) of section 139 of the Income-tax Act, 1961.

2.1 Failure to comply with these conditions may result in the initiation of penal actions under the provisions of the Income-tax Act, 1961 and withdrawal of the exemption granted u/s 10(46) of the Act.

3. This notification shall be deemed to have been applied for assessment years 2024-25 to 2025-26 relevant for the financial years 2023-24 to 2024-25 and shall be applicable for assessment year 2026-27 to 2028-29 relevant for the financial year 2025-26 to 2027-28.



NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 30th January, 2026

S.O. 433(E).—In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (ii) of sub-section (1) of section 35 of the Income-tax Act, 1961 (43 of 1961) (the Act) read with Rules 5C and 5E of the Income-tax Rules, 1962 (the Rules), the Central Government hereby approves Rajalakshmi University Trust, Chennai (PAN: AABTR3879F), for ‘Scientific Research’ under the category of ‘University, college or other institution’ for the purposes of clause (ii) of sub-section (1) of section 35 of the Income-tax Act, 1961 read with rules 5C and 5E of the Income-tax Rules, 1962.

2. This Notification shall be applicable for Assessment years 2026-27 to 2030-31 subject to the following conditions:

- (i) Rajalakshmi University Trust, Chennai shall comply with the conditions specified in Rule 5E of the Income-tax Rules, 1962.
- (ii) Rajalakshmi University Trust, Chennai shall prepare statement under sub-section (1A)

of section 35 of the Act for each financial year as prescribed in Form No.10BD and deliver or cause to be delivered to the said prescribed income-tax authority or the person authorised by such authority such statement in such form, verified in such manner, setting forth such particulars on or before the 31st May, immediately following the financial year in which the donation is received, as prescribed in Rule 18AB of the Income-tax Rules, 1962.

Provided that such university, college or other institution may also deliver to the prescribed authority a correction statement for rectification of any mistake or to add, delete or update the information furnished in the statement delivered under sub-section (1A) of section 35 of the Act;

- (iii) Rajalakshmi University Trust, Chennai shall furnish to the donor, a certificate in Form No.10BE specifying the amount of donation in such manner, containing such particulars and within such time from the date of receipt of sum, as prescribed in Rule 18AB of the Income-tax Rules, 1962.



CIRCULAR

INDIRECT TAX

Circular No. 02/2026-Customs

New Delhi, dated 1st February, 2026

Subject: Clarification on the term “RPA (Remote Pilot Aircraft) for military use”– reg.

Reference is invited to S.No. 59 of Table II of notification No.45/2025-Customs dated 24.10.2025, wherein exemption from payment of Basic Customs Duty (BCD) and Integrated Goods and Services Tax (IGST) has been prescribed for ‘RPA (Remote Pilot Aircraft) for military use’.

2. The above said exemption is available only when the said goods are imported into India by the Ministry of Defence, or the Defence forces, or the Defence Public Sector Units, or other Public Sector Units, or any other entity, for the Defence forces. Further, the exemption is subject to the importer furnishing a certificate from an officer not below the rank of Joint Secretary to the Government of India in the Ministry of Defence.
3. In this regard, it is clarified that for the purposes of S. No. 59 of Table II of notification No.45/2025-Customs dated 24.10.2025, the term RPA (Remote Pilot Aircraft) covers aircrafts that are remotely piloted, by whatever name known, i.e., Drones or Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV) or Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS).
4. Difficulty faced, if any, in implementation, may be brought to the notice of the Board.

Circular No. 03/2026 Customs

New Delhi, Dated 1st February, 2026

Subject: Extension of time period under Deferred Payment of Import Duty Rules, 2016 and addition of eligible manufacture importer in class of eligible importers to avail the facility— reg.

Kind attention is invited towards the Deferred Payment of Import Duty Rules, 2016 issued under Customs Notification No. 134/2016-Customs (N.T) to permit certain class of importers to make deferred payment of import duties under the provision of Section 47 of the Customs Act, 1962.

2. The Board has examined various recommendations of the trade for extension of time frame for deferred payment of the import duty and to include additional class of importers in line with its objectives of greater operational and financial benefits to the trade. It has been decided to extend the deferred payment period for import duty from 15 days to 30 days by amending Rule 4 of the Deferred Payment of Import Duty Rules, 2016 vide Notification No. 13/2026Wustoms (N.T.) dated 1st February, 2026, as:
 - (a) for goods corresponding to Bills of Entry returned for payment from the 1st day to the last day of the month other than March, the duty shall be paid by the 1st day of the following month; and
 - (b) for goods corresponding to Bills of Entry returned for payment from the 1st day to the 31st day of March, the duty shall be paid by the 31st day of March.

1.1 Eligible importers availing the facility of deferred payment of duty shall pay the deferred duty in accordance with



the time limits specified in rule 4 of the Deferred Payment of Import Duty Rules, 2016, as amended. The amended time limits shall be applicable to all eligible importers covered under the deferred payment of duty scheme with effect from 01.03.2026.

4. Further, vide **Notification No. 12/2022 (N.T.) dated 1st February, 2026**, a separate class of eligible importers to avail the facility of deferred payment of Customs import duty has been notified as ‘Eligible Manufacturer Importer’. The Eligible Manufacturer Importer shall be approved by the Directorate of International Customs, CBIC. Detailed instructions/guidelines in this regard shall be issued separately. The applications from such importers shall be allowed to be filed from 01.03.2026. This facility shall be made available to the ‘Eligible Manufacturer Importers’ for a period up to 31st March, 2028.
5. The Chief Commissioners of Customs are requested to ensure uniform implementation of the above decisions across all field formations. Reports related to availing the deferred payment of Customs import duty are available in ICES dashboards available to the Principal Commissioner / Commissioner of the respective Customs station. The Principal Commissioner / Commissioner of Customs may monitor timely payments as per the said rules.
6. Difficulties, if any, in implementation of this circular may be brought to the notice of the board.

Circular No. 05/2026-Customs

Dated: 1st February 2026

Subject: Onboarding of CDSCO, WCCB, Textile Committee and MeitY on SWIFT 2.0 as Single Touch Point for Trade — reg.

Kind reference is invited to Board Circular No. 29/2025-Customs dated 21.11.2025 regarding the launch of SWIFT 2.0, wherein it was envisaged to onboard more than 60 Partner Government Agencies (PGAs) in a phased manner. As part of the first phase of rollout, three PGAs, namely AQCS, PQMS and FSSAI, were onboarded on SWIFT 2.0 on pilot basis, and accordingly, consolidated lists of data fields/values and document requirements for AQCS, PQMS and FSSAI were finalised with the objective of providing a single touch point for EXIM clearances. At present, in order to have stakeholders’ feedback, AQCS unified application under SWIFT 2.0 is live for NOC processing at all ports; the PQMS unified application is live for NOC processing at Delhi and the FSSAI unified application is live for FSSAI ports including at Delhi and Kolkata Region.

2. In the process of further deepening the scope of SWIFT 2.0, it has now been decided to extend the same to two more PGAs, namely CDSCO and WCCB. Accordingly, the consolidated lists of data fields/values and document requirements for these PGAs have been formulated after inter-ministerial consultations involving Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. “the detailed list of data fields, document codes and declarations for WCCB and CDSCO are annexed as Annexure-A and Annexure-D respectively, for reference.
3. In addition to this, at present, multiple Partner Government Agencies (PGAs) issue Licences, Permits, Certificates and Other Documents (LPCOs)/No Objection Certificates (NOCs) separately. In order to harmonise and streamline the filing and processing of such documents, a specific document code has been assigned to each document issued by PGAs. These documents, mapped to the appropriate document codes, shall be consumed under SWIFT



- 2.0. Accordingly, a set of new additional document codes of LPCOs/NOCs issued by various PGAs has been created and annexed as Annexure-C. Further, document codes used by trade for uploading documents have been created and attached as Annexure-D and two document codes issued vide Circular No. 03/2020-Customs dated 15.01.2020 are updated as annexed in Annexure-E.
4. Further, it is informed that the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and Textile Committee have been integrated into the SWIFT 2.0. The competent officers of MeitY and Textile Committee process the application in the Single Window environment. The Confessional Rate of Customs Duty Certificates (CCDC) and Compulsory Registration Order (CRO) exemption certificates issued by the MeitY shall be generated and accessed through the SWIFT 2.0 dashboard. These certificates shall be digitally integrated with the Bill of Entry for validation and record-keeping, thereby obviating the requirement for physical production of such certificates before Customs authorities. For the Textile Committee, importers may view Textile Committee test reports on the SWIFT dashboard, which shall also be made available to the proper Customs officer for cargo clearance, and may make payment of the prescribed fees through the single-touch-point interface.
5. Earlier, AQCS, CDSCO and WCCB were working on separate systems, now in the present system, with an aim to provide single touch point for EXIM stakeholders and to reduce the dwell time, the PGA officers of AQCS, CDSCO and WCCB have been collocated onto the I'f infrastructure systems of Indian Customs under SWIIT 2.0 for processing the NOCs. "this would obviate the need for producing the documents separately before these authorities.
6. DG Systems is advised to issue a detailed advisory in respect of all PGAs integrated under SWIFT 2.0. The above functionalities shall initially be made operational for obtaining feedback from the stakeholders prior to mandatory rollout.
7. Accordingly, five PGAs, namely FSSAI, AQCS, PQMS, WCCB and CDSCO, involved in live Customs clearance shall be progressively onboarded for complete integration under SWIFT 2.0 on or before 31.03.2026 suitably capturing the feedback of all stakeholders for this purpose. All PGAs will be onboarded in a phased manner by 31.03.2027.
8. Field formations are requested to issue suitable Public Notices/Trade Notices to sensitise stakeholders and ensure correct and complete filing of data and documents under SWIFT 2.0.
9. Any difficulties in implementation may be brought to the notice of the Board at the earliest.

Circular No. 06/2026-Customs

New Delhi, Dated 1st February, 2026

Subject: Automation of Customs processes in import and export- reg.

In furtherance of Government's policy of trade facilitation, transparency, predictability, ease of doing business and enhancing Eust with trade, CBIC has progressively leveraged digital technologies to minimize physical interface, ensure uniformity in assessment practices and enable faster clearance of goods.

2. Additional measures have now been taken by the Board for improved anonymity, Digital monitoring, supervision, access control and greater transparency. Building upon the experience, feedback received from trade and field formations and the need for further optimization and contactless processing for



making import and export process efficient, Board has decided to implement three new measures. They are mentioned as under:

A. Auto Goods registration and Auto Out of Charge in import:

- i. In the case of imports by AEO T2 & T3 entities, on arrival of goods, goods registration shall be carried out automatically by the system, in place of the existing web-based goods registration.
- ii. The facility of auto goods registration will also be extended to approved “Eligible Manufacturer Importers” as notified by Notification No. 12/2026-Customs (N.T.) dated 1st February, 2026.
- iii. Importers having longstanding supply chain will also be provided the facility of auto goods registration.
- iv. Importers availing Direct Port Delivery (DPD) facility will also be provided the facility of auto goods registration.
- v. The facility of auto Out of Charge will be extended to all the importers subject to payment of duty, if required and where there is no compliance requirement. This will complement the existing facility of Auto Out of Charge without any manual intervention for AEO T2 and T3 entities implemented vide Circular 01/2025-Customs dated 01.01.2025.

B. Auto Goods registration for e Sealed Cargo on Export-

- i. Under the existing procedure, exporters are required to approach Customs officers for goods registration after the arrival of cargo in the customs area. This process involves physical interaction with Customs and may lead to delays. To make this process digital, an online goods registration facility is being enabled for all exporters.

- ii. Further, a pilot project for e-seal—based auto goods registration is to be rolled out at Nhava Sheva, Mumbai (INNSAI). Based on the outcome of the pilot, the facility will be extended to other ports in a phased manner as and when e-seal scanners are implemented at such ports.

C. Auto Let Export Order:

Once the goods are registered, on the basis of risk treatment, Auto-Let Export Order (LEO) shall be granted to all exporters. This facility will be available for facilitated Shipping Bills (SBs) meeting the following criteria:

- i. Not selected for examination/assessment
 - ii. No requirement of any PGA related NOC
 - iii. Duty/Cess related to Shipping Bill is paid, if applicable.
3. Both Auto OOC and Auto LEO will be granted on risk based evaluation, however, officers can invoke “HOLD” in Customs Systems to override it based on intelligence.
 4. All Zonal Heads shall ensure strict implementation of these measures. They shall also ensure e-seal reader and its integration with Customs System to operationalize the auto goods registration at export. DG Systems will issue a detailed advisory for online goods registration in exports.
 5. This Circular may be given wide publicity by issuing suitable Trade Notice/Public Notice. All Stakeholders under your jurisdiction may be informed suitably of these changes.
 6. Any difficulty faced by stakeholders may be brought to notice of the Board.

Circular No. 07/2026-Customs

New Delhi, Dated: 1st February 2026

Subject: Introduction of system based e-Scheduling for examination of cargo and mandatory use of Body Worn Cameras (BWC) during examination of import cargo – reg.



CBIC has already undertaken various reforms through leveraging technology so as to improve transparency & ease of doing business and to achieve steady improvements across various trade facilitation measures. In this line Board had Circular No. 07/2022-Customs issued by F. No.450/33/2022-Cus. IV dated 7th March, 2023, which extended the use of boarding jackets fitted with Body Worn Camera (BWC) by Boarding Officers on vessels with respect to the sea customs functions to seamlessly initiate and conduct customs formalities and procedures. Instruction No. 34 /2025-Customs dated 30th December 2025 were also issued for the uniformed officers having interface with passengers at International Airports to wear Body Worn Camera (BWC) having video/audio recording facility for enhanced transparency, accountability and professionalism concerning passenger facilitation and intervention. In addition, Circular No. 10/2024-Customs dated 20.08.2024 has been issued for conducting examination of import consignments by real-time upload of examination images in a paperless and transparent manner using ICETAB. These circulars were issued to achieve transparency and efficiency in Customs processes.

2. Section 46 of the Customs Act, 1962 provides for filing of Bill of Entry for clearance of imported goods. Further, Section 17 of the Customs Act, 1962 lays down the provisions for self assessment, including verification and examination, wherever required, with goods being primarily selected on the basis of risk evaluation. The cargo selected for examination is produced before examining officer for completion of verification process. Timely completion of examination process and manner of examination is not captured in the digital environment. Therefore, in order to bring complete transparency in examination process, create an audit trail, and minimise disputes to further enhance transparency and ease of doing business, Board has decided to initiate two new measures in respect of examination of import cargo. These are as under-

- a. Use of Body Worn Cameras (BWC) by Customs officers during physical examination of imported goods.
- b. System-based Examination Application on ICEGATE 2.0 for scheduling of physical examination of imported goods (E- scheduling of Cargo Examination)

3. Use of Body Worn Cameras (BWC) during Cargo Examination-

It has been decided by the Board that Body Worn Cameras (BWC) shall be used by officers for physical examination of cargo selected for examination in import. This facility will be implemented across all customs formations involved in the examination of goods by 01.04.2026. The following aspects must be ensured in this context-

- i. The examination process is recorded from the stage prior to opening of packages or containers and will continue until completion of examination. The recording should capture the examination of goods, interaction with the importer, Customs Broker or authorised representative.
- ii. The recording should cover all critical stages of examination, including the condition of seals, opening of packages or containers, verification of description and quantity of goods, sampling where required. In the event of any interruption in recording, the same will be recorded along with reasons.
- iii. The BWC recordings will be securely stored and retained for 2 years. For cases involving investigation, dispute or litigation, the recordings will be preserved until final disposal of the proceedings.

Entire circular can be read at: <https://taxinformation.cbic.gov.in/view-pdf/1003307/ENG/Circulars>

JUDGEMENT

INDIRECT TAX

Goods detained under GST to be released as per Sec. 129(1)(a) if assessee is owner of goods: HC

■ **Facts of the Case :**

Pal Enterprise vs. State of U.P. - [2026] (Allahabad)

The petitioner challenged the action of the respondent authorities relating to the detention of its goods and vehicle, along with the consequential order passed under Section 129(3) of the CGST Act. The petitioner contended that it was the owner of the goods and, therefore, the goods were liable to be released in accordance with Section 129(1)(a) of the CGST Act. However, the authorities proceeded to compute tax and penalty under section 129(1)(b). It was further argued that the issue was squarely covered by earlier decisions of the Allahabad High Court, particularly in Halder Enterprises v. State of U.P., wherein it was held that in cases where the owner of goods comes forward, release must be governed by Section 129(1)(a).

■ **Decision of the Case :**

The High Court, upon examining the record and the precedents relied upon, held that there was no justification to take a view different from that already settled in Halder Enterprises. It was observed that since the petitioner was the owner of the goods, the release ought to have been governed by Section 129(1)(a) of the CGST Act. Accordingly, the impugned order passed under Section 129(1)(b) was quashed and set aside, and the respondent authorities were directed to re-compute and release the goods in terms of Section 129(1)(a) on the basis of the valuation declared in the invoice, within the stipulated time.

Blocking Electronic Credit Ledger based on Enforcement authority report without independent analysis invalid: HC

■ **Facts of the Case :**

RDTMT Steels (India) (P.) Ltd. vs. Assistant Commissioner of Commercial Tax (Admin),

Mandya - [2026 (Karnataka)

The petitioner challenged the order blocking the petitioner's electronic credit ledger, invoking Rule 86A of the CGST Rules and the Karnataka GST Rules. It was contended that the competent authority did not provide a pre-decisional hearing, the impugned order did not record independent or cogent reasons to believe that blocking was necessary, and that the order was based solely on reports/communication of the enforcement authority without any independent analysis. It was submitted that the impugned order was cryptic and failed to form an opinion as mandated under Rule 86A. The matter was accordingly placed before the High Court.

■ **Decision of the Case :**

The High Court held that the impugned order was arbitrary and reflected a premeditated conclusion, as it did not record an opinion and was based on the satisfaction of another officer, not on independent analysis by the competent authority. It was observed that the order was cryptic, unreasoned, and non-speaking, failing to meet the test of formation of an opinion and not supported by valid or sufficient material constituting 'reasons to believe'. The Court held that the mandatory requirements under Rule 86A were not fulfilled, rendering the order vitiated and liable to be quashed.

Assignment of leasehold rights in plot is not supply of service as same not in course or furtherance of business: HC

■ **Facts of the Case :**

Aerocom Cushions (P.) Ltd. vs. Assistant Commissioner (Anti-Evasion), CGST & CX, Nagpur-1 - [2026] (Bombay)

The petitioner received a notice under Section 74(1) of the CGST Act alleging concealment of a transaction in which it assigned its leasehold rights

in a plot of land allotted to it. It was contended that the assignment of leasehold rights would amount to the supply of services under Section 7 of the CGST Act. The petitioner challenged the notice by filing the instant writ petition, asserting that the transaction constituted a transfer of immovable property rather than a supply of services. The matter was accordingly placed before the High Court.

■ Decision of the Case :

The High Court held that the transaction on record constituted a transfer of immovable property, namely the assignment of leasehold rights in a plot allotted, and therefore did not involve any supply of services. It was observed that the transfer pertained exclusively to benefits arising out of immovable property and had no nexus with the business of the petitioner company, thus negating the essential element of supply of service in the course or furtherance of business. The Court held that such an assignment/transfer of leasehold rights is not subject to GST. The petition was allowed and the impugned order was set aside.

Single assessment order covering multiple AYs set aside; matter be remanded to pass separate order for each AY: HC

■ Facts of the Case :

Shirdi Sai Enterprises vs. Deputy Assistant Commissioner of State Tax [2026] (Andhra Pradesh)

The petitioner challenged a single composite assessment order passed covering three assessment years. The petitioner's registration was cancelled, and it had not carried on any further business thereafter. It was contended that the impugned order was impermissible as it covered three separate assessment years. It was submitted that the composite order be set aside and separate orders be passed for each assessment year. The matter was accordingly placed before the High Court.

■ Decision of the Case :

The High Court held that the impugned assessment order covered three separate assessment and a

composite order was not permissible. It was held that the composite assessment order was required to be set aside and the matter remanded to the assessing authority for passing appropriate orders for each assessment year separately. The Court noted that Section 73 read with Sections 74 and 2(97) of the CGST Act/Andhra Pradesh GST Act mandates separate adjudication for each assessment year, and therefore directed the assessing authority to pass fresh orders.

Assessee pleaded ignorance of proceedings for non-participation; matter remanded subject to pre-deposit: HC

■ Facts of the Case :

Sivasakthi Constructions vs. Joint Commissioner (ST) [2026] (Madras)

The petitioner challenged ex parte assessment orders confirming GST demands. Show Cause Notices in GST DRC-01 were issued for the respective tax periods, to which the petitioner failed to reply, resulting in the impugned assessment orders. In an affidavit filed in support of the writ petition, the petitioner contended that it was unaware of the proceedings and did not participate in the adjudication. It sought leniency by submitting that it supported marginalized sections of society by providing employment and requested an opportunity to defend the case. The matter was accordingly placed before the High Court.

■ Decision of the Case :

The High Court held that under similar circumstances, orders have been quashed and remitted for fresh adjudication on terms, subject to the assessee depositing 50% to 100% of the disputed tax depending upon the delay in approaching the Court. The assessee was directed to file a reply to the SCN together with requisite documents substantiating the case, treating the respective impugned orders as an addendum to the SCN. The Court held that the concerned authority should pass a final order on merits and in accordance with law as expeditiously as possible, applying Section 75 of the CGST Act/Tamil Nadu GST Act.

INDIRECT TAX

Agricultural land claim rejected as assessee failed to prove agricultural use beyond certificates and nominal income: HC

■ **Facts of the Case :**

M J George vs. Deputy Commissioner of Income-tax - [2026] (Kerala)

The appellant-assessee sold an extent of 5.21 Acres of land at Kakkanad village for Rs.977.10 Lakhs vide registered Sale Deed dated 13.2.2006. He reported the income from the sale of land as agricultural income and claimed it to be exempt from tax. However, the Assessing Officer (AO) rejected the assessee's claim and taxed the income as capital gains.

The assessee preferred an appeal to the CIT(A), and the CIT(A) granted relief to the assessee. Aggrieved by the order, an appeal was filed to the Tribunal. The Tribunal reversed the order of CIT(A) and confirmed the additions made by the AO. The matter then reached the Kerala High Court.

■ **Decision of the Case :**

The High Court held that the assessee did not produce any evidence other than a certificate from the Village Officer that the land in question was agricultural land, which certificate went against the revenue records itself, which pointed to the land being in the nature of 'Purayidam', which translates as dry land suitable for the construction of houses.

In addition, the assessee also produced copies of some returns showing that he had returned an amount slightly over Rs. 1 lakh as agricultural income derived from the property over many years prior to the sale of the land. The appellant, however, did not produce any other cogent evidence such as wages paid to agricultural labourers, purchase invoices in respect of manure, fertilizers etc., purchase invoices pertaining to agricultural implements, if any, used in connection with the agricultural operations, the details regarding the source of water for irrigation purposes, etc.

It is on account of the absence of any cogent evidence adduced by the appellant that the appellate tribunal

proceeded to hold, based on the evidence on record, that the appellant had not established that the land sold by him was agricultural in nature. The above findings of the appellate tribunal are entirely factual and, in the absence of any evidence adduced by the assessee, cannot be said to be arbitrary or perverse for the purposes of maintaining an appeal under Section 260A of the Income Tax Act.

Mandamus issued where online return utility prevented assessee from raising set-off claim: HC

■ **Facts of the Case :**

K2 Family (P.) Trust vs. Deputy Commissioner of Income-tax - [2026] (Bombay)

The petitioner Trust earned short-term capital gains from the sale of equity shares and units of equity-oriented mutual funds on which STT was paid [STCG (STT paid)]. It also incurred short-term capital loss from the sale of equity shares on which STT was paid [STCL (STT paid)].

The petitioner was desirous of computing its total income by setting off the STCL (STT paid) against the STCG (non-STT paid). However, when the petitioner attempted to do so while filing its Return of Income electronically, the income-tax utility did not permit a claim to be made where the total income was computed by setting off the STCL (STT paid) against the STCG (non-STT paid).

The petitioner noticed that the utility first set off the STCL (STT paid) against the STCG (STT paid), and only if any losses remained was a set-off of the balance STCL (STT paid) allowed against the STCG (non-STT paid). Aggrieved by this, the petitioner filed a writ petition to the Bombay High Court.

■ **Decision of the Case :**

The High Court held that the Income Tax Department processes the return of income under Section 143(1) of the Income Tax Act. At this stage, adjustments in the nature of arithmetical errors, incorrect claims apparent from records, etc., which are specified in

Section 143(1)(a), can be made to the assessee's income, and an intimation along with the amount of tax payable is issued to the assessee under Section 143(1). If aggrieved, the assessee can avail of remedies provided by the Act, including filing an appeal.

After the stage of processing a return in terms of Section 143(1) stage, the department may also select the assessee's return for a scrutiny assessment by issuing a notice under Section 143(2) of the Income Tax Act. The assessment proceedings culminate in an assessment order under Section 143(3), against which various remedies, including that of filing an appeal, is available to the assessee.

Thus, the scheme of the Income Tax Act is that an assessee has to compute his income in accordance with his understanding of the law, and, thereafter, the revenue's role begins, and it frames an assessment having regard to the interpretation they put on the relevant provisions of the law. Ultimately, the hierarchy of appellate authorities under the Act will determine which view is correct.

When an assessee is prevented from making a claim in the Return of Income, it amounts to a determination of that claim at the very threshold, i.e., at the stage of filing of the return itself. This effectively forecloses examination of the claim during the assessment proceedings and, if necessary, adjudication through the appellate hierarchy. If an assessee is not permitted to make a claim merely because the income tax department is of the view that such a claim is not sustainable as per its interpretation, the very purpose of assessment and an appellate mechanism to redress the grievances stands defeated.

The Act contains detailed provisions enabling the income tax department to scrutinise and verify a return, and to accept or reject a claim based on established procedure. Such verification is intended to take place after the return is filed. By disallowing the making of a claim at the stage of filing the return itself, the assessment process is rendered nugatory, and the validity of a claim is pre-decided unilaterally by the Department, an approach wholly alien to the scheme of the Income Tax Act.

Therefore, the High Court directed the Respondent to modify the utility for filing the Return of Income so that the Petitioner is not required to approach the

Court again for filing its future Returns of Income.

AO must record satisfaction on incriminating material before forwarding to another AO: HC

■ Facts of the Case :

Paras Chandreshbhai Koticha vs. Income-tax Officer - [2026] (Gujarat)

The core issue before the Gujarat High Court was

“Whether the Assessing Officer can directly reopen assessments under Sections 147/148 of the Income-tax Act on the basis of material found during a search under Sections 132/132A, without first following the special procedure under Sections 153A/153C (including recording the mandatory satisfaction note), particularly in the case of a person other than the searched person.

■ Decision of the Case :

The Gujarat High Court held as follows:

- (a) It is mandatory for the Assessing Officer of a “searched person” (Section 153A of the Act) to record satisfaction on the incriminating material found during the search under Sections 132/132A of the Act and communicate the same to the jurisdictional Assessing Officer of the “other/third person”.
- (b) In the absence of any satisfaction note recorded by the Assessing Officer of the searched person, the jurisdictional Assessing Officer of the other person cannot assume jurisdiction under Section 153C of the Act solely on the basis of material sent to him by the Assessing Officer of the searched person.
- (c) In other words, the “other person” cannot be subjected to assessment/reassessment under Section 153C of the Act on the material received by him sans a satisfaction note; hence, such an approach would be illegal, without jurisdiction, and liable to be quashed.
- (d) The jurisdictional Assessing Officer of the “other/searched person” (Section 153C) can invoke the provisions of Sections 147/148 of the Act only on the basis of material available to him from other sources, other than the incriminating material sent to him.

- (e) In case a satisfaction note is recorded on the incriminating material and transmitted to him/her, then the only recourse available to the jurisdictional Assessing Officer is to proceed under Section 153C of the Act and not under Sections 147/148 of the Act.
- (f) In the case of assessee who are subjected to reassessment under the provisions of Section 153A of the Act, the Assessing Officer cannot switch over or invoke the provisions of Sections 147/148 of the Act on the basis of incriminating material found during the search and seizure conducted under Sections 132 or 132A of the Act.
- (g) However, the Revenue cannot be restricted, barred, or left remediless from invoking the provisions of Sections 147/148 of the Act, subject to fulfillment of the conditions mentioned therein, and the assessment can be reopened on the basis of material collected post-search from any other independent source.

ITAT has power to direct refund of tax recovered unlawfully during pendency of rectification application

■ Facts of the Case :

TLG India (P.) Ltd. vs. Assistant Commissioner of Income-tax - [2026] (Mumbai - Trib.)

Assessee filed its return of income reporting total income at nil. Transfer pricing adjustment of Rs. 113,11,80,000 were proposed by the Id. Transfer Pricing Officer (TPO) vide order dated 26.10.2023 which was objected to by the assessee before the Id. Disputes Resolution Panel (DRP).

The proposed adjustment was confirmed by the Id. DRP based on which the final assessment order was passed by the Id. Assessing Officer on 23.10.2024, assessing total income at Rs. 113,11,80,000, raising a demand of Rs. 23,30,67,630.

Against this final assessment order, the assessee filed an appeal before the Tribunal. However, during the pendency of the appeal, the assessee filed an application before the Tribunal for the refund of demand already recovered by the Assessing Officer (AO) during the pendency of the appeal.

Assessee contended that post passing of rectification order under section 154 by the learned AO, there remained no demand to be recovered from the assessee. Since there was no tax payable by the assessee, there was nothing to be stayed under the present stay application before the Tribunal.

■ Decision of the Case :

The Mumbai Tribunal held that the assessee was seeking direction from the Tribunal for the refund of the money which was recovered unlawfully during the pendency of the rectification application. For the purpose of grant of refund, the Tribunal has the power to ensure that the assessee is not left high and dry only on account of illegal and high-handed action on the part of the revenue and its Assessing Officer.

In the instant case, it was not merely a case of procedural defect adopted for recovery of demand during the pendency of the rectification application. Instead, such a recovery of tax resulted in double jeopardy in the hands of the assessee, well established by the outcome of the rectification order passed under section 154 by the learned AO.

Thus, the prayer for the refund of recovery made by the learned AO leading to double jeopardy carries a heavy force in favour of the assessee. Therefore, the Tribunal exercised powers under section 254 of the Act to direct the AO to grant the refund of recovery of tax made by him to the assessee for the year under consideration.

Project completion method permissible for landowners in DAs; AO cannot impose percentage completion method: ITAT

■ Facts of the Case :

Deputy Commissioner of Income-tax vs. Anushka Estates [2026] (Bangalore - Trib.)

The assessee, a real estate company, was engaged in real estate activity. During the survey proceedings, it was found that the assessee had entered into a Joint Development Agreement (JDA) with the developer. In respect of these joint development projects, the assessee adopted the project-completion method for recognising revenue/income.



Considering that the developer adopted the percentage completion method of accounting, the Assessing Officer (AO) contended that the assessee should also recognise the revenue accordingly. AO added to the assessee's income under the percentage-of-completion method. The CIT(A) deleted the additions made by AO, and the matter reached the Bangalore Tribunal.

■ **Decision of the Case :**

The Tribunal held that the assessee was only a landowner and not a developer or contractor. The assessee had granted the developer development rights to develop the property owned by the assessee. The developer was responsible for the construction of premium residential apartment buildings. The assessee, being the landowner, was the sole legal and beneficial owner of the scheduled property.

The assessee was recognising the revenue based on the ultimate registration of the sale deed. Since

no part of the property had been registered under a duly registered sale deed, the amount received by the assessee was shown as a liability in the balance sheet. The assessee remained the owner of the land throughout the development of the property, and there was no transfer of ownership to the developer. At the highest, possession alone was given under the agreement and that too for a specific purpose.

The revenue cannot be thrust upon the assessee to adopt the percentage completion method of accounting merely because the developer was following it. The percentage completion method, as one of the recognised methods under the construction contract, is not applicable to the assessee firm, which is a landowner.

Since the assessee adopted the project completion method for revenue recognition and has consistently followed it over the years, the accounting method is also not subject to any change by the revenue.



TAX CALENDAR

INDIRECT TAX

10th February, 2026	GSTR – 7 (Jan,2026)
	GSTR- 8 (Jan, 2026)
11th February, 2026	GSTR-1 (Jan, 2026)
13th February, 2026	GSTR – 5 (Jan, 2026)
	GSTR – 6 (Jan, 2026)
	IFF (Jan, 2026)

INDIRECT TAX

Due Date	Return
14th February 2026	Due date for issue of TDS Certificate for tax deducted under section 194 IA, 194-IB, 194M, 194S in the month of December, 2025
15th February 2026	Due date for furnishing of Form 24G by an office of the Government where TDS/TCS for the month of January, 2026 has been paid without the production of a challan
	Quarterly TDS certificate (in respect of tax deducted for payments other than salary) for the quarter ending December 31, 2025.



E-PUBLICATIONS

Of

TAX RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

Guide Book for GST Professionals

Handbook for Certification for difference between GSTR-2A & GSTR - 3B

Impact of GST on Real Estate

Insight into Customs-Procedure & Practice

Input Tax Credit and In depth Discussion

Taxation on Co-operative Sector

Guidance notes on Preparation and Filing of Form GSTR 9 and 9C

Guidance Note on Anti Profiteering

Handbook on GST on Service Sector

Handbook on Works Contract under GST

Handbook on Impact of GST on MSME Sector

Assessment under the Income Tax Law

Impact on GST on Education Sector

International Taxation and Transfer Pricing

Handbook on E-Way Bill

Handbook on Filing of Returns

Handbook on Special Economic Zone and Export Oriented Units

For E-Publications, Please Visit Taxation Portal
<https://icmai.in/TaxationPortal/>

TAXATION COMMITTEES - PLAN OF ACTION

Proposed Action Plan:

1. Successfully conduct all Taxation Courses.
2. Publication and Circulation of Tax bulletin (both in electronic and printed formats) for the awareness and knowledge updation of stakeholders, members, traders, Chambers of Commerce, Universities.
3. Publication of Handbooks on Taxation related topics helping stakeholders in their job deliberations.
4. Carry out webinars for the Capacity building of Members - Trainers in the locality to facilitate the traders/ registered dealers.
5. Conducting Seminars and workshops on industry specific issues, in association with the Trade associations/ Traders/ Chamber of commerce in different location on practical issues/aspects associated with GST.
6. Tendering representation to the Government on practical difficulties faced by the stakeholders in Taxation related matters.
7. Updating Government about the steps taken by the Institute in removing the practical difficulties in implementing various Tax Laws including GST.
8. Facilitating general public other than members through GST Help-Desk opened at Head quarter of the Institute and other places of country.
9. Introducing advance level courses for the professionals on GST and Income Tax.
10. Extending Crash Courses on Taxation to Corporates, Universities, Trade Associations etc.

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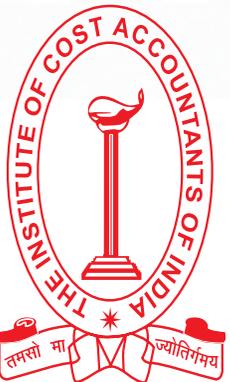
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