

INCOME TAX BAR ASSOCIATION LUCKNOW

(REGISTERED UNDER SOCIETIES ACT. 1860)

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Nirmala Sitaraman, Hon'ble Finance Minister, Ministry of Finance, Government of India, North Block, New Delhi 110 001

22.12.2020 Lucknow

Sub: Extension of time for certain compliances under the Income-tax Act 1961 due to COVID-19 - Request - Regarding

Respected Madam,

Income Tax Bar Association Lucknow is a premier Tax Bar of the country formed in the year 1947 and comprises of Advocates & Chartered Accountant members practicing on the taxation side. – both of direct and indirect taxes. The Bar formed in 1947 has a glorious past of having celebrated Silver Jubilee Function, Golden Jubilee Function and Diamond Jubilee Function was graced by the then Hon'ble Vice President of India, Chief Justices, Hon'ble Law Minister of India, Governors and other Senior Legal Luminaries to name a few.

The spread of the COVID-19 virus has impacted adversely the normal working in the country. Due to this, several business establishments, industries and private offices have still not resumed functioning at all or fully. This also includes the offices of the Advocates, Chartered Accountants and Tax Practitioners. Details required for carrying on tax audit and filing the income tax return are not being received promptly and thus the audits cannot be efficiently performed. Also travelling to the place of audit is very difficult for the professionals and their staff.

Several Chartered Accountants and Tax Practitioners themselves have also been infected and have not been able to work for minimum of 14 days. Also, visiting any audit place all the more exposes them to the virus making them prone infection. Further, the senior citizens including senior professionals and senior assessees are advised to stay at home. Moreover the utilities for the income tax return were made available only June'20 onwards instead of April'20. Usually, the income tax returns are notified in the month of April, due to the pandemic, the release of the returns also have been delayed on an average by 4 months.

With due respect to the above difficulties faced by the assessees and the professionals, we request your Honour to take them into consideration and extend the due dates for tax audit and transfer pricing audit to 31' March 2021 and the Income Tax return filing also to 31° March 2021 at the

earliest. The entire fraternity of taxpayer and professionals will highly appreciate if this is done soon enough (i.e. well in advance) to allow them to get a clarity and to focus on filing of returns of non-corporate/non-tax audit entities.

We look forward for your kind consideration to the genuine request. Yours Sincerely,

K.K.DIXIT, Advocate

Presedent Income Tax Bar Association,

Lucknow.

Cc: 1.Hon'ble Chairman CBDT, New Delhi 2.The Pr. CCIT, Lucknow.