

THE INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS OF INDIA

CPE Seminar on International Taxation

Navi Mumbai Branch of WIRC

CA SIDDHARTH BANWAT

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BRIEF OVERVIEW

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>Interaction of more than one country's tax laws and rules

➢ Body of legal provisions of different countries that covers the tax aspects of cross border transactions

➢ International taxation encompasses global tax rules that apply to transaction/s between two or more countries.

≻Three basic rules of Taxation:

- Source rule;

- Residence rule; and
- Citizenship rule

PROMINENT FEATURES

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- Allocation of taxing right to the country of source and country of residence
- Elimination of double taxation
- Promotion of economic relations between contracting states
- Determination of residential status of taxpayers in case when difficulties arise in determining the same residential status of the taxpayer.
- Forming anti avoidance measures (Ex:-Transfer pricing regulations)

SOURCE & RESIDENCE RULE

RULE

SOURCE & RESIDENCE RULE

- The state of source or situs is the state where a certain income has its origin.
- The state of residence is the state where person earning such income resides.
- ➢ In any cross-border movement of income and capital, two or more States seek to exercise taxing rights in accordance with their respective domestic laws.
- ➤ If they decide to tax such income on unilateral basis without coordination or agreement with the corresponding state, the same income may get taxed more than once and therefore, states around the world have accepted as a general principle that international juridical double taxation should be avoided or minimized to extent possible.

THREE LIMBS OF INERNATIONAL TAXATION

Domestic Tax Law Provision

Treaty Provisions (DTAA)

Foreign Country's Tax Law Provisions

International Taxation primarily Involves the following provisions:

REFERENCE UNDER INCOM TAX ACT, 1961	PROVISION	
Section 2(31)	Definition of a Person	
Section 4	Charging Section	
Section 5	Scope of Total Income	
Section 6	Residence in India	
Section 9	Income deemed to accrue or arise in India	
Section 44B to 44BBB & 44C to 44DA	Presumptive Tax	
Section 90	Agreement with foreign countries or specified territories	
Section 90A	Adoption by Central Government of agreement between specified associations for Double Taxation Relief	
Section 91	Countries with which no agreement exists	
Section 115A to 115BBA & 115C to 115F	Provisions relating to Non - Residents	
Section 195	WHT obligation for payment to Non Resident	
Section 195A	Income payable 'Net of Tax'	

SECTION 4

SECTION 4

SECTION 4 – BASIS OF CHARGE

- Definition of income is not exclusive but inclusive based on its general and natural meaning (includes illegal income)
- Tax law and rates are determined on April 1 of a financial year for the assessment year; subsequent changes generally do not apply
- Each year is separately assessed any shortfall cannot be taxed in another tax year
- ➤ Tax is generally deducted at source or paid in advance during previous year with any balance remaining is payable under self assessment with tax return (sec.4(2))
- Tax is assessed for the assessment year on the total income of the previous year of every person

SECTION 5

SECTION 5

SECTION 5 – SCOPE OF INCOME

Income is classified as

- Income accrue or arise or deemed to accrue or arise in India
- Income received or is deemed to be received in India
- Income accrued or arise outside India

Income Which		Resident & Ordinarily Resident (ROR)	Resident, Not Ordinarily Resident (RNOR)	Non Resident (NR)
Accrues & Arises In India		\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark
Is Deemed to Accrue or Arise in India		\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark
Does not Accrue	Is Received/ Deemed to be Received in India	~	✓	~
or Arise In India	Is Not Received/ Deemed to be Received in India	~	×	×

SECTION 6

SECTION 6

SECTION 6 – RESIDENCE IN INDIA TYPES OF RESIDENTIAL STATUS For Firm, Company, AOP/BOI, Local For Individual and Authority, Other Artificial Juridical Persons Hindu Undivided Family Non-Resident Resident Ordinary Non-Ordinary Non-Resident Resident Resident

Residence (Individuals)

- Resident
 - Stay of at least 182 days in a previous year, or
 - Stay of at least 60 days in previous year (substituted as 182 days for (a) Indian citizens leaving India for employment abroad or as a crew member on an Indian ship or (b) Indian citizen or person of Indian origin visiting India) and 365 or more days in the preceding four years in India
- <u>Resident and ordinarily resident (ROR)</u>
 - Resident in at least 2 out of the 10 preceding previous years, and
 - Aggregate stay in India of at least 730 days in the 7 preceding previous years
- <u>Resident but not ordinarily resident (RNOR)</u>
 - Non-Resident for at least 9 out of 10 preceding previous years or
 - Aggregate stay in India less than 730 days in the 7 preceding previous years

 Basic conditions for Resident: An individual who stays in India for: 182 days or more; or 60 days or more in a year and 365 days or more during preceding 4 years Additional Conditions for Ordinarian Resident: Resident in India for at least 2 out of preceding 10 years or Stays in India for an aggregate period of 730 days or more in the preceding 7 years 				
Category	Resident and Ordinarily	Resident but not Ordinarily	Non Resident	
	Resident	Resident		
Basic Condition	Either of the basic conditions	Either of the basic conditions	None of the basic conditions	
<u>Additional</u> <u>Condition</u>	Both the additional Conditions	Either or None of the additional Conditions	Not Applicable	

Stay in India

- Not necessarily continuous
- Need not be in one place
- Includes day of arrival and departure
- Indian origin: person or either of the parents or grandparents born in undivided India
- ➢ For an individual, being a citizen of India and a member of a crew of a foreign bound ship leaving India, the period of stay in India for determining his residence for income-tax purposes shall be determined in the manner and subject to such conditions as prescribed *(inserted vide Finance Act, 2015).*
- ➤ "India" includes its territorial waters and air above it (Sec. 2(25A))
- Tax residence differs from residence under exchange controls (Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 - FEMA)
- > Type of tax residence determines the scope of taxation of total income

RESIDENTIAL STATUS OF HUF/FIRM/AOP



RESIDENT HUF – ROR & RNOR



Residence (Companies)

With effect from Assessment year 2017-18, a company would be resident in India in any previous year, if

(i) it is an Indian company; or

(ii) its place of effective management, in that year, is in India.

"Place of effective management" (introduced by the Finance Act, 2015 with effect from AY 2017-18) means a place where key management and commercial decisions that are necessary for the conduct of the business of an entity as a whole are, in substance made [Explanation to section 6(3)].

RESIDENTIAL STATUS - COMPANY



TAXATION OF NON - RESIDENTS

- Non Resident taxpayers are taxed on
 - Income received in India
 - Income deemed to be received in India
 - Income accruing or arising in India
 - Income deemed to accrue or arise in India
- Non Residents are not subject to tax on income that accrues or arises outside India or received outside India unless it is deemed to accrue or arise in India under its business connection rules
- Only income attributable to Indian operations taxable
- Permanent Establishment ('PE') Rule under treaty overrides business connection rule.

Tax treaty overrides domestic law, but taxpayer can apply domestic law if it is more beneficial

SECTION 9

SECTION 9

INCOME DEEMED TO ACCRUE OR ARISE IN INDIA

Section	Description
9(1)(i)	Income from a business connection in India or through or from any property or capital asset or source of income or transfer of capital asset situated in India.
9(1)(ii)	Salaries for services rendered in India.
9(1)(iii)	Salaries by Govt. for services outside India.
9(1)(iv)	Dividend paid by an Indian company outside India (Exempt, if Dividend Distribution tax has been paid)
9(1)(v)	Interest by Govt. or by a resident (unless for a business or source outside India) or by a NR
9(1)(vi)	'Royalty' by Govt. or a resident (unless for a business or a source outside India).
9(1)(vii)	'Fees for Technical Services (FTS)' by Govt. or a resident (unless for a business or a source outside India).

SECTION 9 (1) (i)

➢ Income is deemed to accrue or arise in India if it accrues, directly or indirectly

- through or *from any business connection* in India or
- through or *from any property* in India or
- through or *from any asset or source of income* in India or
- through the *transfer of a capital asset* situated in India

EXPLANATION 1 TO SECTION 9 (1) (i)

Explanation 1 to section 9(1)(i) provides for following exemptions:-

➢ Business where all operations are not carried out in India, only that income reasonably attributable to Indian operations would deem to accrue or arise in India.

No income shall be taxable in India if,

- operations of NR is confined to purchase of goods in India for the purpose of export.
- NR runs a news agency/ publishes newspapers/magazines/journals, activities confined to collection of news & views in India for transmission out of India.
- Foreign Company engaged in business of mining of diamonds from activities confined to display of uncut and unassorted diamonds in special zone notified by GOI
- operations are limited to shooting of film in India provided that NR is either,
- An individual who is not a citizen of India
- A firm which doesn't have any partner who is Indian citizen or resident in India, or
- A company which doesn't have any shareholder who is a citizen or resident of India

EXPLANATION 2 TO SECTION 9 (1) (i)

Explanation 2 to section 9(1)(i) - Business Connection

Determining what constitutes business connection is crucial as it has a direct bearing on income deemed to accrue or arise in India. It shall include the following:

- Business activities through a person:
 - having authority to conclude contracts on behalf of NR provided he habitually exercises such authority.
 - who habitually maintains stock of goods on behalf of NR from which he regularly delivers goods & merchandise on behalf of NR without having authority.
 - who habitually secures orders mainly or wholly for NR or/and other NR entities controlling, controlled by or under the same control as NR
- Business connection will exclude any business activity through brokers or commission agents of independent status acting in ordinary course of their business.
- However, where such broker or commission agent works mainly on behalf of NR or/and other NR entities controlling, controlled by or under the same control as NR, such brokers will not be considered as having

independent status.

RULES TO IDENTIFY BUSINESS CONNECTION

➢What is Business Connection

- There is no definition in the Indian tax law
- Meaning largely based on Indian case laws
- ➤ "Force of attraction" rule OR "effectively connected" rule?
- ➢ Significance of Business Connection
 - Relevant for transactions with "NOR"/"NR" on income that accrues or arises outside & not received/ deemed to be received in India
 - It is overruled by tax treaties e.g. if no PE exists

GUIDELINES TO DETERMINE BUSINESS CONNECTION

- A business connection in section 9 involves a relation between a business carried on by a non-resident which yields profits or gains and some activity in the taxable territories which contributes directly or indirectly to the earning of those profits or gains. It predicates an element of continuity between the business of the non resident and the activity in the taxable territories. An isolated transaction is normally not to be regarded as a business connection. [CIT v. R.D. Aggarwal & co. (1965) 56 ITR 20(SC)]
- The expression 'Business' is a much wider than trade or manufacture and includes professions and vocations and callings for a fairly long time. It means an activity carried on continuously and systematically by a person applying his labour and skill with a view to earn income.
 [Barendra Prasad Ray v. Income tax Officer (1981) 129 ITR 0295 (SC)]

GUIDELINES TO DETERMINE BUSINESS CONNECTION

➢ Mere purchase of plant and machinery from a non resident wherein certain technical personnel are deputed to supervise and impart training in India is not sufficient to establish business connection in India. [CIT v. Hindustan Shipyard Ltd. (1977) 109 ITR 158 (AP)]

However, in each case the question whether there is a business connection from or through which income arises or accrues must be determined upon the facts and circumstances of that case. [Blue Star Engg. Co. (Bom.) P. Ltd. v CIT 73 ITR 283 (Bom.)]

EXPLANATION 3, 4 & 5 TO SECTION 9 (1) (i)

- Explanation 3: In case of a business connection, only that income which is attributable to activities in India shall be deemed to accrue or arise in India. If no operations are carried out in India, no income can be deemed to accrue or arise in India even though there may be a "business connection" in India [CIT v Toshoku Ltd. 125 ITR 525 (SC)]
- Explanation 4: It is clarified that the expression "through" shall mean and include and shall be deemed to have always meant and included "by means of", "in consequence of" or "by reason of".
- Explanation 5: It is clarified that an asset or a capital asset being any share or interest in a company or entity registered or incorporated outside India shall be deemed to be and shall always be deemed to have been situated in India, if the share or interest derives, directly or indirectly, its value substantially from the assets located in India; [Provided that nothing contained in this Explanation shall apply to an asset or capital asset, which is held by a non-resident by way of investment, directly or indirectly, in a Foreign Institutional Investor as referred to in clause (a) of the Explanation to section 115AD for an assessment year commencing on or after the 1st day of April, 2012 but before the 1st day of April, 2015:]

EXPLANATION 6 TO SECTION 9 (1) (i)

- **Explanation 6:** It is declared that
 - a) the share or interest shall be deemed to derive its value substantially from the assets (whether tangible or intangible) located in India, if, on the specified date, the value of such assets—
 - (i) exceeds the amount of **ten crore rupees**; and

(ii) represents **at least fifty per cent** of the value of all the assets owned by the company or entity, as the case may be

b) the value of an asset shall be the fair market value as on the specified date, of such asset without reduction of liabilities, if any, in respect of the asset, *determined in such manner as may be prescribed* (the CBDT has issued rules vide Notification No. 55/2016 dated 28th June, 2016 for determining the fair market value (FMV) of assets and the income attributable to assets in India in relation to the indirect transfer of assets)

EXPLANATION 7 TO SECTION 9 (1) (i)

Explanation 7: It is clarified that

- a) No income shall be deemed to accrue or arise to a non-resident, from transfer outside India, of any share of, or interest in, a company or an entity, registered or incorporated outside India, if the transferor (whether individually or along with its associated enterprises), at any time in the 12 months preceding the date of transfer, neither holds the right of management or control in relation to such company or entity, nor holds voting power or share capital or interest exceeding 5% of the total voting power or total share capital or total interest, as the case may be, of such company or entity.
- b) In a case where all the assets owned, by a company or, as the case may be, an entity, are not located in India, the income of the non-resident transferor, from transfer outside India of a share of, or interest in, such company or entity, deemed to accrue or arise in India under this clause, shall be only such part of the income as is reasonably attributable to assets located in India and determined *in such manner as may be prescribed*

SECTION 9 (1) (ii)

- Salaries will be deemed to accrue or arise in India only if "earned in India".
- Further, it has been clarified by way of Explanation that salary payable for "service rendered in India" & rest period/leave period preceding & succeeding such service in India & forms part of the service contract of employment shall be regarded as income earned in India.
- Salaries payable for services rendered in India shall be regarded as income earned in India, though it may be paid in India or outside. i.e. the payment or receipt of salary is immaterial. What is important is the place of rendering of services.
- Section 9(2) makes an exception to the aforesaid rule in the case of certain retired civil servants and judges permanently residing out side India.

Section 9 (1) (iii)

Salary payable by GoI to Indian citizen is taxable if :

- Income is chargeable under the head "Salaries"
- Recipient should be an Indian Citizen, irrespective of their residential status
- The services should be rendered outside India
- ➢ It is important to note that all allowances or perquisites paid outside India by the GoI to the Indian Citizens for rendering services outside India are exempt under section 10(7).
- Dividend paid by an Indian Company outside India is deemed to accrue or arise in India
- Any dividend paid by Indian Co. shall be taxed in India irrespective residential status
- Similarly, dividend from Foreign Co. paid in India shall be taxable on receipt basis as income is received in India.
- The place of accrual of dividend should be decided on the basis of the place of registered office of the company.
- The place of declaration or payment of such dividend is immaterial.

Interest payable by	When deemed to accrue or arise in India
Government 9(1)(v)(a)	Always. Immaterial whether interest is payable on debt incurred or moneys borrowed in India
Resident 9(1)(v)(b)	Always, except where interest is payable in respect of debt incurred or moneys borrowed and used for business or profession outside India or for earning any income from any source outside India
Non-Resident 9(1)(v)(c)	Only when interest is payable in respect of debt incurred or moneys borrowed and used for business or profession carried on by such person in India

- The words "or for the purpose of making or earning income from any source in India" as mentioned in clause (b) Sec 9(1)(v) are absent in clause (c).
- By virtue of that interest payable by NR in respect of any debt incurred/ money borrowed & used for purpose other than business or profession in India, the interest income is not deemed to accrue or arise in India under this clause.
- CBDT vide circular dt. 5/7/1976 clarified that if a lead bank obtains loans outside India from a consortium of foreign banks and lends the same to an Indian concern, interest paid by the lead bank to the members of the consortium will not attract liability towards tax in India.

Payable by	When deemed to accrue or arise in India
Government	Always
Resident	Always, except where payable w.r.t right/property/ information used/ service utilised for business/profession outside India or earning income from any source outside India
NR	Only when w.r.t. any right/property/information used/ service utilised for business/profession in India or to earn income from any source outside India

- First proviso excludes lump sum payments received under approved agreements made before 1/4/1976 if conditions in Explanation 1 to Sec 9(1)(vi) are satisfied.
- Royalty is not deemed to accrue/ arise in India if it consists of lump sum consideration for transfer or imparting information outside India in respect of any data/documentation/drawing/ specification relating to patent/invention/ model/ design/ secret formula/ process/trademark or similar property

Second proviso excludes Royalty which consists of lump sum payment by Resident for transfer of all or any rights (including granting of license) in respect of computer software supplied by NR manufacturer along with computer or computer based equipment under approved scheme.

Paid By	When deemed to accrue or arise in India
For this purpose, an agreement made of or after 1 April, 1976 will be deemed to have been made before that date	
Foreign Co.	i) Agreement in accordance with proposal approved by CG before 1 April, 1976ii) Foreign Co. makes declaration that agreement maybe regarded as made before 1 April, 1976
any other assessee	Agreement in accordance with proposal approved by CG before 1 April, 1976

- Explanation 2: Consideration (incl. lump sum consideration excl. CG) for:
 - Transfer of all or any rights (including license) in:
 - patent/invention/model/design/secret formula/process/trademark
 - Copyright, literary/artistic/scientific work etc.
 - Imparting of any information concerning:
 - working of or use of patent, model, design, secret formula or process
 - technical, commercial or scientific knowledge, experience or skill.
 - Use of:
 - patents, model, design, secret formula or process etc;
 - industrial, commercial or scientific equipment
 - Rendering of services in respect of the above

- □ Explanation 3: "Computer software" means any computer programme recorded on disc, tape, perforated media/ other information storage device and includes any such programme or any customized electronic data.
- □ Explanation 4 clarifies that transfer of all/ any rights w.r.t. any right, property or information includes and has always included right to use computer software (including granting license) irrespective of the medium of transfer.
- **Explanation 5**: Royalty includes & has always included consideration in respect of any right, property or information, whether or not—

(a) possession/ control is with the payer;

(b) such right, property or information is used directly by the payer;

(c) the location of such right, property or information is in India.

- □ Explanation 6 clarifies that the expression "process" includes and deems to always have included transmission by satellite (including up-linking, amplification, conversion for down-linking of any signal), cable, optic fibre or by any other similar technology, whether or not such process is secret.
- □ This amendment has tax implications of wide amplitude for telecom industry, cable operators, broad band service providers, etc.
- Royalty doesn't include payment to satellite companies for broadcasting by use of transponder capacity – Asia Satellite Co. Ltd. Vs DIT [2011] (Delhi)

Payable by	When deemed to accrue or arise in India
Government	Always
Resident	Always, except where FTS payable in respect of services utilised in business or profession/ earning any income outside India
NR	Only when FTS payable in respect of services utilised in a business or profession/ for earning any income in India
Exception	Any income by way of FTS payable in pursuance to an agreement made before 1 April 1976 and approved by CG
For this purpose, an agreement made on/after 1 April, 1976 will be deemed to have been made before that date: If the agreement is in accordance with proposal approved by CG before 1 April, 1976	

- Explanation 2 defines FTS to mean any consideration (including lumpsum consideration) for rendering of managerial/ technical/ consultancy services, including provision of services of technical or other personnel.
- Doesn't include consideration for construction/assembly/mining project or consideration which would be income of the recipient chargeable under the head "Salaries".
- ➢ FTS arising out of even a business connection will be covered by Sec 9(1)(vii) and not Sec 9(1)(i), since it is a special provision for that type of income. [CIT v Copes Vulcan Inc. 167 ITR 884 (Mad)]
- On the interpretation of the provisions of Sec 9(1)(vi) and 9(1)(vii) it may be noted that the section provides for services utilised and not the place of rendering of services.

SECTION 9 (2)

- Pension payable outside India to person residing permanently out of India shall beconsidered to accrue or arise in India, if payable to a person referred to in article 314 of the Constitution or to person was appointed before 15th August, 1947 as a Judge of Federal Court/ High Court & continues to serve on or after the commencement of the Constitution as a Judge in India.
- The Explanation states that for the purposes of this section, income of an NR shall be deemed to accrue or arise in India under clause (v) or (vi) or (vii) of sub-section (1) and shall be included in the total income of the NR, whether or not the NR has
 - X(*i*) residence or place of business or business connection in India; or

(ii) rendered services in India.

WITHOLDING TAXES

WITHOLDING TAXES

KEY PROVISIONS OF THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961

REFERENCE UNDER IT ACT	PROVISION
Section 195	Payment of any other sum to non-resident
Section 195(1)	Scope and conditions of applicability
Section 195(2)	Application by payer to A.O. to determine sum chargeable to tax
Section 195(3)	Application by payee to A.O. for grant of certificate for NIL/lower deduction of tax
Section 195(4)	Validity of certificate issued by AO u/s 195(3)
Section 195(5)	CBDT power to make Rules in respect of Section 195(3)
Section 195(6)	Furnishing of prescribed information – CBDT empowered to prescribe rules/ forms
Section 195(7)	CBDT empowered to specify class of persons or cases who shall make mandatorily application to AO for determination of sum chargeable
Section 195A	Income payable 'Net of Tax'
Section 197	Certificate for deduction at lower rates
Section 206AA	Tax Rates in absence of PAN

SECTION 195

Payment of any other sum to non-resident:

> Any person responsible for paying interest (other than interest referred to in section 194LB or section 194LC or section 194LD) or any other sum chargeable to tax (other than salaries) to a noncorporate non-resident or to a foreign company is liable to deduct tax at source at the rates prescribed by the relevant Finance Act. Such persons are also required to furnish the information relating to payment of any sum in such form and manner as may be prescribed by the CBDT

- **PAYER –** Any person (includes both residents and non-residents)
- **PAYEE –** Non-corporate non-resident or foreign company
- PAYMENT Interest (other than interest referred to in section 194LB/194LC/194LD) or any other sum chargeable to tax (other than salaries)
- **RATE –** Rate prescribed by relevant Finance Act
- **TIME OF DEDUCTION –** Credit of income to account of payee or payment thereof in cash/cheque/draft/any other mode (whichever is earlier)

EXCLUSIONS:

- Interest referred to in Section 194LB, 194LC or Section 194LD
- Income chargeable under the head "salaries"
- Dividends referred to in Section 115-O
- Sums not chargeable to tax in India
 - I. Non-chargeability due to Act or DTAA
 - II. Due to scope of total income or exemption
 - III. No TDS on amounts exempt u/s 10 Hyderabad Industries Ltd vs. ITO 188 ITR 749 (Kar)
 - IV. Income from specified services such as online advertisement, digital advertising space – Equalization Levy – Exempt u/s 10(50)
 - V. DTAA benefit subject to TRC and Form 10F

EXCLUSIONS (contd.):

- Where a certificate has been obtained by payee u/s 197 for non-deduction of TDS and certificate is in force then the payer cannot be treated as an assessee in default for non-deduction of TDS CIT v/s Bovis Lend Lease (I) Ltd 241 Taxman 312 (SC)
- Section 172 Profits of NRs from Occasional Shipping Business
 - I. CBDT circular No 723 dated 19.09.1995 Payments to shipping agents of NR ship owners – Provisions of Section 172 will apply and Section 194C or Section 195 will not apply.
 - II.CIT v/s V. S. Dempo & Co (P) Ltd 381 ITR 303 (Bom) Section 195 not applicable to shipping profits governed by Section 172 and Section 44B.

Amount on which tax is to be deducted:

- The Honourable Supreme Court in Transmission Corporation of A.P. Ltd. vs. CIT held that the provisions of section 195 shall apply not only to the amounts which wholly bear the character of income but also to gross sums, the whole of which may not be income or profit, but have income element embedded therein.
- The above led to misinterpretation that tax withholding was required on the gross sums paid to non-residents even when only a portion of the remittance was chargeable to tax unless an application was made to AO u/s 195(2)

Amount on which tax is to be deducted (contd.):

- After considerable controversies and divergent views, the Honorable Supreme Court in GE India Technology Centre P. Limited vs CIT & Others clarified that tax has to be deducted on the income element embedded in the payment and not on the whole sum, except where income is taxable on gross basis
- The Honourable Supreme Court pointed out that words used under section 195 were "any other sums chargeable under the provisions of the Act" as against "any sum" used in provisions falling in Chapter XVII of the Income Tax Act, 1961.

INCOME CHARGEABLE AT CONCESSIONAL RATES

- Under Chapter XII of the Act, certain types of income of non-residents such as **dividend**, **interest**, **royalty**, **fees for technical services** are taxed on gross basis at concessional rate of tax subject to fulfillment of prescribed conditions.
- The question arises At what rate is tax required to be deducted at source?
- When special provisions are invoked, TDS is required at rates prescribed under such special provisions (For example – 10% of gross receipt in case of royalty and FTS)

SECTION 195A

Where, under an agreement or other arrangement, the **tax chargeable on any income** referred to in the foregoing provisions of this Chapter is to be **borne** by the **person by whom the income is payable**, then, for the purposes of deduction of tax under those provisions such income shall be increased to such amount as would, after deduction of tax thereon, be equal to the **net amount payable** under such agreement or arrangement.

However, no grossing up is required in the case of tax paid [under section 192(1A)] by an employer on the non-monetary perquisites provided to the employee.

CERTIFICATE BY A CA FOR REMITTANCE

- CA certificate to be obtained in Form 15CB
- Form 15CB to be furnished electronically as against earlier practice of issuing physically.
- Digital signature is mandatory
- Form 15CA to be furnished electronically by the assessee on e-filing portal
- No requirement to furnish certificate if:
 - I. The payments are not chargeable to tax **AND**
 - II. Payment is included in list of 33 payments specified under Rule 37BB(3) OR
 - III. Payment by individuals for a remittance which does not require RBI approval (Example LRS)

FLOW OF FORM 15CB



FORM 15CA

PART	DESCRIPTION
Part A	If remittance is taxable and the total value of such remittance or remittances during the Financial Year is less than Rs. 5 lakh.
Part B	If remittance is taxable and the total value of such remittance or remittances during the Financial Year is more than Rs. 5 lakh and an order/ certificate u/s $195(2)/195(3)/197$ of Income-tax Act has been obtained from the Assessing Officer.
Part C	If remittance is taxable and the total value of such remittance or remittances during the Financial Year is more than Rs. 5 lakh and a certificate in Form No. 15CB from an accountant as defined in the explanation below subsection (2) of section 288 has been obtained.
Part D	To be filled up if the remittance is not taxable other than payments referred to in rule 37BB(3) by the person referred to in rule 37BB(2).

APPLYING RATES OF DTAA

APPLYING KAIES OF DIAA

APPLYING RATES OF DTAA

- Section 195(1) provides for TDS at the 'rates in force' i.e., rates specified in Part II of First Schedule to the Finance Act of the relevant year or the rates specified in DTAA, as may be beneficial to the assessee
- ➢ For applying the rates prescribed under DTAA, the following points may be noted:
 - TRC of the payee
 - PAN of the payee
 - Surcharge and education cess should not be added to the DTAA rates
 - Grossing up of tax

TAX RESIDENCY CERTIFICATE (TRC)

- Section 90(4) of the Act requires every non-resident who intends to claim DTAA benefit to furnish a TRC issued by the Government of his country of residence
- Section 90(5), read with Rule 21AB requires the payee to furnish the following information in Form 10F, to the extent such information is not covered in the TRC:
 - Status of the assessee
 - PAN of the assessee, if allotted
 - Nationality/ country of incorporation or registration
 - Tax Identification number
 - Period for which residential status, as mentioned in the TRC is applicable
 - Address of the assessee in the country of residence

PAN OF THE PAYEE

- As per section 206AA, (post amendment vide Finance Act, 2016) provides that tax shall not be deducted at a higher rate in case of *specified payments* to non-residents not having PAN subject to providing information specified in Rule 37BC:
 - Basic information i.e., name, e-mail ID, contact number and address in the country of tax residence
 - TRC, if the law of the country of tax residence provides for issuance of such certificate
 - Tax Identification Number

WHETHER SURCHARGE & CESS SHOULD BE ADDED TO DTAA RATES?

- Article 2 of most of the DTAAs provides that income-tax shall also include surcharge thereon
- Thus, the tax rate under the DTAA is all inclusive and need not be added separately
- Judicial decisions:
 - [2013] Sunil V. Motiani (59 SOT 37) (ITAT Mumbai)
 - [2015] BOC Group Ltd. (156 ITD 402) (ITAT Kolkata)
 - [2016] Capgemini SA (72 taxmann.com 58) (ITAT Mumbai)

GROSSING UP OF TAX

- Section 195A of the Act relates to 'net of tax' arrangements under which TDS liability is to be borne by the payer of the income. It provides for the grossing up of tax i.e., for increase in income to such an amount as would, after TDS at the rates in force, be equal to the net amount payable under the arrangement.
- An illustration is mentioned on the succeeding slide to explain the grossing up mechanism under section 195A

GROSSING UP OF TAX

► Illustration:

Suppose a foreign company agrees to provide FTS to a resident company for Rs.100. Under the arrangement, tax has to be borne by the resident company. The tax rate as per Indian law provisions after adding surcharge and cess is 10.92% and tax rate under DTAA is 10%. The grossed up tax and the increased income under 195A will be:

100 * 100/(100-(lower of Income tax or DTAA rates, i.e., 10))

= Rs. 111.11

Therefore, the grossed up TDS amount under 195 will be:

111.11 - 100

= Rs. 11.11

Section 197 provides for no deduction of tax or lower rate of tax. To avail of this benefit, the assessee whose TDS is likely to be deducted on certain receipts should make an application before the TDS Assessing Officer who has a jurisdiction over his/ her/ its case. The deductee concerned may apply for a certificate for Nil or lower deduction of TDS on their receipts in Form No 13.

PRACTICAL ASPECTS & CHALLENGES

CHALLENGES

TAX RESIDENCY CERTIFICATE

- Suppose, X Co. of USA agrees to provide consultancy services to Y Co. of India. The USA company follows calendar year (January to December) while Indian company follows financial year (April to March). X Co. has produced a TRC for the calendar year 2018 to Y Co. Accordingly, Y Co. deducts tax as per provisions of the DTAA, i.e., 10 percent on the payable amount (it has been agreed that the tax will be borne by the payee). Y Co. records the services received in its books of accounts on 28th December, 2018. The payment however was made on 6th January 2019.
- ➤X Co is yet to apply for TRC for calendar year 2019. Since the payment was made in the next calendar year, although the financial year for Y Co is the same, whether TRC for 2018 will be valid to deduct tax prescribed in the DTAA or Y Co is required to provide the TRC for 2019?

ONLINE APPLICATION OF FORM 13 (SECTION 197)

- ➢ Notification No. 74/2018 dated 25.10.2018 provides for electronic application (Form 13) for grant of certificate for deduction of Income-tax at any lower rate or no deduction of Income-tax under sub-section (1) of Section 197/collection of the tax at any lower rate under sub-section (9) of Section 206C
- ➢ Further, vide Notification No. 08/2018 dated 31.12.2018, CBDT prescribed the procedure, formats and standards for filing an application for grant of certificate under section 197/ 206C through TRACES-reg. The procedure for electronic filing of Form 13 is prescribed as under:
- ► Login to TRACES or register in case of first time users
- Submission of Form 13 with supporting documents under DSC or through EVC
After logging in, select Statement/Forms > Request for Form 13



A window will pop-up, displaying whether DSC is registered or not

		ACES econciliation Analysis and Correction	n Enabling System	neuron ant Generation of India Incloser Tax Department	
My Hom	e View/ Verify Tax C	redit Request for Resolutio	n Downloads Profile	Statements/Forms	
	Your Di final su Aadhaa	SC is not Registered at TRACES. Kindly re dmission of request for Form-13/15C/19 ir.	gister your DSC otherwise your D will be done through EVC or	Help	
	Do you	want to proceed 7			
			Yes No	If user Click on "No"	
		Click on here to		then redirect to welcome screen.	\nearrow
		proceed further	\square		

Select residential status:

Rule 28AB covers the following:

A person in receipt of income or deemed income derived from property held under trust wholly for charitable or religious purposes and who claims exemption under section 11 or section 12 or required to file a return in respect of a scientific research association, news agency, association or institution, fund or trust or university or other educational institution or any hospital or other medical institution or trade union referred to in sub-section (4C) of section 139



Checklist for 197:

	TDS Centralized Processing Cell TRACES	and Correction Enal	oling System		Encome Tax Department
	My Home View/ Verify Tax Credit Reques	t for Resolution	Downloads	Profile	Statements/Forms
					Hel
					CHINO!
SL.		Checklist for 197			
1	Form-13 application can be submit through TRACES from F.Y 2018-19 o	nwards.			
2	DSC or E-Venification (Through Internet Banking) or Aadhaar validation		on of Form. If DSC is a	not registered at 1	TRACES kindly register your DSC
3	Jurisdictional AD will be decided on the basis of State & District provided	d by the applicant in orig	inal application of For	m-13.	
			and the second second second second second		
4	Offline mode will be applicable for uploading annexure in case number of	f entries are more than	50.		
4 5	Offline mode will be applicable for uploading annexure in case number o Please upload Self/Authorized person certified Estimated income comput			orm-13 in case of	original application.
4 5 6		tation for which F.Y Cert		orm-13 in case of	original application.
4 5 6 7	Please upload Self/Authorized person certified Estimated income comput	tation for which F.Y Cert in the total income.	ificate is sought for Fo		
4 5 6 7 8	Please upload Self/Authorized person certified Estimated income comput Please upload details of income claimed to be exempt and not included i Please upload Self /Authorized person certified computation of Estimate been filed for Form-13 in case of original application. Please upload Assessment Orders if assessed, for the last four assessme	tation for which F.Y Cert in the total income, id Income for any of the ent years in case of origi	ificate is sought for Fo four previous year p nal application of Form	receding to the pr	revious year in case return has r
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Choose the financial year:



T	DS	TRACE	S			Jan Barris
Centra	lized Processing Cell	TDS Reconciliat	ion Analysis and Correction Ena	bling System		Government of India Income Tax Department
My Home	View/ Ver	ify Tax Credit	Request for Resolution	Downloads	Profile	Statements/Forms
						Help
Status of the Reque	est No. can be tracked	through 'Track Re	quest Form 13 under tab 'Statemen	t/Forms'.		
Request No. 17905]					
Kindly choose belov	v option to proceed fu	inther				
Select he continu	reto	(s) & amount both	are available			
	m-13 without TAN in (case of Annexure-II	will be available subsequently			
iote: Application of For			the second accordently			

My Home	View/ Verify Tax Credit	Request for Resolution	Downloads	Profile	Statements/Forms
÷					Help
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	o, can be tracked through Track Re	quest Form 13 under tab Statemer	to/Porms .		
Request No. 17905				×	
Kindly choose below opt	tion to proceed f	ber of entries which you wants to men	tion in Annexure		
With (TAN & Amount)	Less than or eq	ual to 50 (Online) OMore than 50 (Offline upload of Annexi	ure(s))	
- With (TAN & Amount)	- Deductor TAT				
Selecte	here to proceed				
	further				

Details will be populated as per profile on TRACES:

Aggregated TDS Compliance Statements/Forms	Help
Details are populated as per your profile information. User can update details in the populated as per your profile information.	n profile section.
Maximum limit to enter the amount in amount column is 18 digit (e.g., 99999)	999999999999)
Status of the Request No. can be tracked through "Track Request Form 13 upper status of the Request	inder tab 'Statement/Forms'.
Request No. 17907 Please fill up the following	g details to be furnished in Form-13
The particulars of my income and other relevant details are as under :	
(i) Status (State whether individual, Hindu undivided family, firm, body of individu	als, etc.) Company
(ii) Residential status (Whether resident during the year which is sought)	Resident
(iii) Permanent Account No.	AARCS4276N
(iv) Email Id	
Alternate Email Id	
(v) Mobile Number	+91
Alternate Mobile Number	+91

Details will be populated as per profile on TRACES (contd.):

				+91 9633686929	
Alternate Mobile Numb	rer .			+91	
State (Please enter St	ate as per current address of T	axpayer) =		Jharkhand	
District*				Pakur	•
Note: Jurisdictional A.O will b	e assigned on the basis of State	& District given by taxpayer in Orig	inal application of Form-13		
(vi) Details of existing liab	ility under Income-tax Act, 190	51 and Wealth-tax Act, 1957:			
		Liability under the I	ncome-tax Act, 1961		Amount payable
Assessment Year	Amount payable in respect of advance-tax(₹)	Amount payable for self assessment tax(₹)	Amount for which notice of demand under section 156 has been served but not paid(₹)	Amount payable as deductor or collector which had become due but not paid(₹)	under the Wealth-tax Act, 1957(₹)
	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
(Please upload compo (x) Total tax including into (x) Details of income claim (Please upload a note (x) Details of payment of	ne of the previous year referrent tation of estimated total incom- erest payable for the total inco- ned to be exempt and not inclu- giving reason for claiming such advance-tax and tax already d ion is on or after 1st April for v	the of the previous year in uploat me referred to in (viii) ded in the total income in (viii) exemption) educted/collected, if any, for the which Financial year certificate is	e previous year referred to in ()	2018-19 9000000 9000 9000	Auto populate on the basis of F.Y selected the user Estimated total income of the previous year relevant to the
(If the date of Applicat	And the second se	nount of Tax Paid	If amour	t is provided in this	assessment year will be
(If the date of Applicat	id tax	(7)			
	id tax	(*)	column	then upload will be	filled by user.
Nature of prepa	id tax	(*)	column enable		

Click on 'Save' button and then click on 'Next" button to proceed further:

vii) Previous year to which the payn	ients relate.	2018-19
 Estimated total income of the p (Please upload computation of e 	revious year referred to in (vii)" stimated total income of the previous year in upload section)	900000
x) Total tax including interest paya	ble for the total income referred to in (viii)	650000
x) Details of income claimed to be e (Please upload a note giving reas)	exempt and not included in the total income in (viii) on for claiming such exemption)	
	ax and tax already deducted/collected, if any, for the previous year referre r after 1st April for which Financial year certificate is sought)	ed to in (vii) till date
Nature of prepaid tax		×
Advance Tax	Please save the changes before proceeding	
TDS		
TCS		
 Declaration for exemption un Kindly select any one of the belo 		OK Rule 28AB*
(Please of the astrony of the astron	come of the applicant is exempt under section 11 or section 12 of Income nption certificate in upload section) oplicant furnishes return of income as referred to in sub section (4C) of se nption certificate in upload section, if any) of the four previous year preceding to the previous year referred to in (vii estimated total income of the previous year for which return of income has of the four previous year has been filed in paper returns in upload section.) Next Next	i) has not been filed,

Declaration page: User needs to enter details like TAN, section code and estimate amount of income

Click on 'Add	d Row' to add more rows and click on 'Re	smove Row' to Remove Rows					
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Click on 'Sa	ve & Proceed' Button to proceed the Form	n details					
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Declaration page: User needs to enter details like TAN, section code and estimate amount of income

		With (TAN	& Amount) - Deductor TAN	(s) & amount both are a	vailable	
Click	k on 'A	dd Row' to add more rows and click on 'Re	move Row' to Remove Rows			
Clief	k on Ec	dit to update the details and click on 'Save	to Save the updates			
Click	k on 'S	iave & Proceed' Button to proceed the Form	n details			
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		10-590 C	Success message be appear	Will Deduction		
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	etails h	Nave been successfully saved	Success message be appear Annexure-I - No [For the purpose of tax d 44,1940,194,192,1941-(1941A / 1940 Tax deduction and collection	Will Deduction eduction at source] EL194H.194C.194G.194J.194LA. Section under which tax at	Estimated amount of income/sum to be received	Requested rate of Deduction (5)

Uploading mandatory documents:

It is enable when section 11or		selected file vie uploaded then p	on Template Button pop-up screen will be
12 declaration given on basic details & will be mandatory to	Verification Code*	files displa	
upload	Enter text as in above image *		
upidad			
Upload & Fill Estimated Income	a Computation for which F.Y certificate is sought"	Browse Files Uploaded	Ter Ate
Upload & Fill computation of ex to the previous year for which	stimated total income any of the four previous year preceding return of income has not been filed	Browse Files Uploaded	Template
3. Upload registration/exemption	Certificate in case of certain entities covered under section 11 or 12**	Browse Files Uploaded	
4. Upload registration/exemption	Certificate in case of certain entities covered under section 139(4C)	Browse Files Uploaded	It is enable when
5. Upload Assessment Orders if a	ssessed, for the last four assessment years	Browse	 section 139(4C) declaration given o
6. Upload return of income for an	y of the four previous year has been filed in paper form	Browse Files Uploaded	basic details & will t
7. Upfoad Details of income claim	ed to be exempt and not included in the total income**	Browse Files Uploaded	non mandatory to upload
8. Upload any other document	Click here to	Browse Files Uploaded	
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Upload -	document		
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	nly when users browse all the files successfully. After that	at user need to click on 'Unload' button	to unload all the
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		ui, .zip,. JFEG formats only.	
 Size of file should not be 	larger than 5MB. Kindly upload password free file.		

Successful upload:



Computation of estimated income of financial year:



Note: Total Tax Payable should not be greater than Gross Receipt/ Turnover/ (GR/TO)

'Preview and Submit'



Review of Form 13 details:

	Form 13
[See	rules 28 and 37G]
Application by a person for a certificate under sections 197 and/ deduction/colle	or 206C(9) of the Income-tax Act,1961, for no deduction/collection of tax or ection of tax at a lower rate
To The Assessing Officer	
Sir,	
income-tax at lower rate, at the time of payment of such income/sum to me. T	he person responsible for paying me the incomes/sum, authorizing him not to deduct/ded he details are specified in Annexure-I.
2. The particulars of my income and other relevant details are as under :	
(i) Status	Individual
(ii) Residential status	Resident
(iii) Permanent Account No.	FYBPS3731Q
(iv) Email Id	ANS_USER@TDSCPCTD.NET
(v) Mobile Number	+9190909099
State	Kerala
District	Ernakulam
Note: Jurisdictional A.O will be assigned on the basis of State & District given by ta	xpayer in Original application of Form-13

Form 13 details will appear:

		Liability under the Income-tax Act, 1961			
(1)	Amount payable in respect of advance- tax(₹) (2)	Amount payable for self assessment tax(₹) (3)	Amount for which notice of demand under section 156 has been served but not paid(₹) (4)	Amount payable as deductor or collector which had become due but not paid(₹) (5)	under the Wealth-tax Act, 1957(₹) (6)
2019-20	0	0	0	0	0
	the payments relate. e of the previous year referre	d to in (vii)	2018-19 900000		
otal tax including inte	rest payable for the total inco	me referred to in(viii)	850000		

 (xi) Details of payment of advance-tax and tax already deducted/collected, if any, for the previous year referred to in (vii) till date. (If the date of Application is on or after April for which Financial year certificate is sought)

Nature of prepaid tax	Amount of Tax Paid (₹)
Advance Tax	0
TDS	0
TCS	0

(xii) Declaration for exemption under section 10, section 11 or section 12 for certain entities covered under Income Tax Rule 28AB

It is hereby declared that the applicant furnishes return of income as referred to in sub section (4C) of section 139 of Income Tax Act 1961

(xiii) Where return of income for any of the four previous year preceding to the previous year referred to in (vii) has not been filed,

(xiv) Where return of income for any of the four previous year has been filed in paper form

Page for final submission:



Validation pop up will appear for request submission:

Anexure-1-No Deduction For the purpose of tax deduction at source Tax deduction and coller No. (TAN) 1 AGRC10003 AGRC10003 Click here to proceed further do hereby deduce was to use own of any other person under sectors 60 to 64 of the Inome-tax, 1961. If further declare that has is stated as Self and I am also competent to make this application and verify t. I am holding permanent ter: 5-Nov-2018 ter: 5-Nov-2018			sen filed,	
Al. No Tax deduction and coller No. (TAN) Do you want to validate the form request through: Do you want to validate the form request through: ncome/sum (€) ncome/sum Deduction 1 AGRC10003 O evenfy (Net Sanking) (2) DSC (2) 1212 0 4 Monoreal of the representation of the person under sections 60 to 64 of the Income-tax Act, 1961. I further declare that what is stated in to policition is correct. I further declare that I am making application in my capacity as Self and I am also competent to make this application and verify it. I am holding permanent te: 5-Nov-2018 te: S-Nov-2018 Text Hold Self Text Hold Self Text Hold Self		Annexure-I-No Deduction		
BL No No. (TAN) Do you want to validate the form request through: (*) Deduction 1 AGRC10003		For the purpose of tax deduction at source		
AGRC10003 Proceed Click here to proceed further stated above is correct complete and over stated, I declare that the incomes/s erred to in this form are not includible in the total income of any other person under sections 60 to 64 of the Income-tax Act, 1961. I further declare that the incomes/s erred to in this form are not includible in the total income of any other person under sections 60 to 64 of the Income-tax Act, 1961. I further declare that is stated in the total income of any other person under sections 60 to 64 of the Income-tax Act, 1961. I further declare that is stated in the total income of any other person under sections 60 to 64 of the Income-tax Act, 1961. I further declare that is stated in the total income of any other person under sections 60 to 64 of the Income-tax Act, 1961. I further declare that is stated in the total income of any other person under sections 60 to 64 of the Income-tax Act, 1961. I further declare that what is stated in to proceed further count number 1 te: 5-Nov-2018 te: 5-Nov-2018 te: Delhi		Do you want to validate the form request through:		
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Click on DSC option if user wants to validate the request with DSC:



After validating DSC, Click on 'Submit'

(xii) Declaration for exemption under section 10, section 11 or section 12 for certain entities covered under Income Tax Rule 28AB (Not Applicable)

(xiii) Where return of income for any of the four previous year preceding to the previous year referred to in (vii) has not been filed.

(xiv) Where return of income for any of the four previous year has been filed in paper form



Request for Form 13 will be submitted successfully message will display on screen:

W Centralize	ed Processing Cell	TDS Reconciliati	on Analysis and Correction Ena	bling System		Reports and Government of India Income Tax Department
My Home	View/ Verif	y Tax Credit	Request for Resolution	Downloads	Profile	
Aggregated TDS Co	moliance	Statements/For				Help
Aggregated 103 co	Impliance	Statements/rol	1113			neip
			O Approval. Request number is	17907 . An e-mail an	d SMS has been se	ent for submission. You can
ck status under Trac			O Approval. Request number is	17907 . An e-mail an	d SMS has been se	ent for submission. You can
ck status under Trac			.O Approval. Request number is	17907 . An e-mail an	d SMS has been se	ent for submission. You can
uest for Form-13 has ck status under Trac ck Request Form 13			O Approval. Request number is	17907 . An e-mail an	d SMS has been so	ent for submission. You can
ck status under Trac		n 13.	O Approval. Request number is	17907 . An e-mail an	d SMS has been se	ent for submission. You can

TDS ON PRESUMPTIVE INCOME

- ➢ Suppose, X Co. of USA (not having valid PAN) earned equipment rentals income from India which is falling under the presumptive provision of section 44BB. As per section 44BB, 10 percent on the amounts received/receivable by X Co shall be presumed to be business income. The corporate tax rate for a foreign company is 40% plus applicable surcharge and cess. Therefore, the effective rate at which the resident payer has to deduct tax is 4% (being 40 percent of 10% income offered to tax u/s 44BB)
- ➤ While filing TDS returns, tax was deductible and payable at the rate of 20% since X Co was not having a PAN. The TDS utility computes tax deducted on the gross payments i.e., it gives a false conclusion that tax has been deducted at less than 20% while in effect, tax was deducted at 40%. Due to this, disallowance u/s 40(i) would also get attracted.

UNIQUE DOCUMENTATION IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (UDIN)

- ➤ The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India introduced the concept of UDIN w.e.f. 01.02.2019
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INTERNATIONAL TAXATION -RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AND UPDATES

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AND UPDATES

SIGNIFICANT ECONOMIC PRESENCE ('SEP')

PRESENCE ('SEP')

SIGNIFICANT ECONOMIC PRESENCE

- The concept of SEP was introduced in the Income Tax Act, 1961 from April 01st, 2018 i.e., A.Y. 2019-20 to tax income of non-residents arising from transactions relating to goods, services or property in India, including allowing download of data or software or carrying on business activities in India through digital means.
- ➢The Finance Act, 2018 expanded the meaning of "business connection in India" by including SEP as a manner of forming a business connection (applicable from 1st April, 2019).

SIGNIFICANT ECONOMIC PRESENCE

- ➢It provides that the income earned by a non-resident through a business connection in India is deemed to accrue and arise in India, and is therefore subject to tax in India.
- ➤"Business connection" is a concept under Indian tax law that is similar to PE (though wider in scope).

Text of the provision relating to SEP- Explanation 2A to section 9(i)(1) For the removal of doubts, it is hereby clarified that the significant economic presence of a non-resident in India shall constitute "business connection" in India and "significant economic presence" for this purpose, shall mean—

(a) transaction in respect of any goods, services or property carried out by a non-resident in India including provision of download of data or software in India, if the aggregate of payments arising from such transaction or transactions during the previous year exceeds such amount as may be prescribed; or

(b) systematic and continuous soliciting of business activities or engaging in interaction with such number of users as may be prescribed, in India through <u>digital means</u>:

Provided that the transactions or activities shall constitute significant economic presence in India, whether or not,—

- (i) the agreement for such transactions or activities is entered in India; or
- (ii) the non-resident has a residence or place of business in India; or
- (iii) the non-resident renders services in India:"

SIGNIFICANT ECONOMIC PRESENCE

- ➤ Therefore, if a non-resident has SEP in India, the same would amount to a business connection in India and accordingly, such income earned from or through the SEP would be taxable in India.
- > SEP is said to be established if a non-resident:
 - undertakes transactions concerning any goods, services or property, including provision of download of data or software in India, above specified threshold,

OR

 through digital means, systematically and continuously solicits business or interacts with users greater than a <u>specified threshold</u>.

CBDT'S PAPER ON PROFIT ATTRIBUTION TO 'PE'

ATTRIBUTION TO 'PE'

PROFIT ATTRIBUTION TO PE

- ➢On 18th April, 2019 the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) released a Public Consultation Paper on Attribution of Profits to Permanent Establishments (PE), calling for comments on the amendment to the rules under the Income-tax Act, 1961 (ITA) for attributing profits to PEs of Non-Residents in India.
- ➤The paper seeks to address the uncertainty and unpredictability resulting from present PE attribution rules (Rule 10 of Income Tax Rules, 1962) which gives wide powers to tax officers without providing specific guidance.
PROFIT ATTRIBUTION TO PE

- ➢ India has already rejected OECD's "pure supply side" approach to attribution based on Functions, Assets and Risk (FAR) analysis since this approach is detrimental to the interest of countries that are net exporters of capital and technology, especially the developing economies like India, which are primarily importers of capital and technology.
- ➢ India's suggested approach is based on the premise that business profits are generated by both demand side factors and supply side factors and every jurisdiction that contributes to demand as well as one that contributes to the production and supply have a right to tax such profits.

PROFIT ATTRIBUTION TO PE

➤The Paper proposes the adoption of a "mixed" or "balanced" approach to profit attribution which gives due weightage to sales (i.e. demand function) and to FAR factors (supply side) – a three-factor approach based on sales, assets, and employees.

Since India has recently introduced the concept of business connection through Significant Economic Presence (SEP) and the same is likely to become a mainstay in tax treaties and laws across the globe, the Paper recommends a four-factor approach in case of PE created through SEP based on sales, assets, employees and users.

PROFIT ATTRIBUTION TO PE

➤ The Paper provides that "profits from India operations" will be determined be the revenue from India multiplied by the global operational profit margin. However, to protect India's interest, the "total profits from India operations" shall be a minimum of 2% of revenue from India, relevant for scenarios where global operations overall have low margins or are loss making.

PROPOSED WEIGHTS FOR EACH FACTOR FOR PROFIT ATTRIBUTION

	User Role	Weight of Factors				
PE or		Demand Side (Sales)	Supply Side			
Business Connection			No. of employees	Wages	Assets	Users
Without SEP	-	1/3	1/6	1/6	1/3	-
Through	Low/Med	30%	15%	15%	30%	10%
SEP	High	30%	12.5%	12.5%	25%	20%

UN'S DRAFT GUIDANACE ON FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS (FT)

TRANSACTIONS (FT)

- ➤ The draft discusses the importance of corporate financing decisions within multinational groups (non-financial) and how those decisions could lead to tax base erosion.
- ➤ The Report focusses on a Three Step approach for the assessment of the ALP of an intra-group FT essentially, follows the same approach that applies for other intercompany transactions:-
 - 1. Analysis of the economically significant characteristics;
 - 2. Accurate delineation of the entire transaction undertaken;
 - 3. Selection of the most appropriate transfer pricing method; and
 - 4. Application of the method

- ➤ The draft discusses the importance of corporate financing decisions within multinational groups (non-financial) and how those decisions could lead to tax base erosion.
- The draft identifies four steps to determine the arm's length nature of intra- group loans:
 - 1. Analysis of the economically significant characteristics;
 - 2. Accurate delineation of the entire transaction undertaken;
 - 3. Selection of the most appropriate transfer pricing method;
 - 4. Application of the method

Analysis of economically significant characteristics:

- Contractual Terms: Unlike financial transactions with unrelated parties, the contractual arrangements between AEs of an MNE may be much less explicit. In such case, certain aspects are to be considered such as:
 - Interest to be paid for obtaining the financing
 - Repayment obligations and consequences on failure to repay
 - Tenure for which financing is provided
 - Security- collateral, guarantee or unsecured
 - Currency in which loan is denominated
 - Convertibility of the funding

Analysis of economically significant characteristics (contd.):

Functional Analysis:

- Purpose of the financial transaction
- Whether funding can be obtained from other sources
- Credit and other risk of the lender
- Regulatory body who monitors compliance with terms of financing agreement
- Intended/actual use of funds

The above analysis should consider "how those functions relate to the wider generation of value by the MNE Group to which the parties belong, the circumstances surrounding the transaction, and industry practices"

Analysis of economically significant characteristics (contd.):

Characteristics of financial products or services

- Economic circumstances:
 - Currency of the financial transaction
 - Geographic jurisdictions of the parties
 - Specific business sector/industry in which parties operate
 - Timing of the transaction
 - Macro-economic trends

Business Strategies

Accurate delineation of the transaction

- ➤ The characteristics of the specific financial transactions (or financial services) under review are clearly defined and supported by the conduct of the parties and other facts.
- Even though the interest rate is at an arm's length rate, whether a prima facie loan can be instead regarded as contribution to capital.

Application and selection of the most appropriate transfer pricing method:

- Consider creditworthiness and credit rating (standalone or group rating) of the AEs and creditworthiness of the financial instrument
- CUP (internal or external comparable) is most commonly used method

BEPS – 'PROGRAMME OF WORK'

WORK'

PROGRAMME OF WORK

- ➤ To resolve the tax challenges arising from digitalization, the Inclusive Framework on BEPS releases 44-pager 'Programme of Work' to develop a consensus-based long-term solution by the end of 2020
- The proposals are grouped into two pillars which could form the basis for consensus:
 - Pillar One focuses on the allocation of taxing rights, and seeks to undertake a coherent and concurrent review of the profit allocation and nexus rules;
 - Pillar Two focuses on the remaining BEPS issues and seeks to develop rules that would provide jurisdictions with a right to "tax back" where other jurisdictions have not exercised their primary taxing rights or the payment is otherwise subject to low levels of effective taxation

PROGRAMME OF WORK

 \succ The paper is divided into five chapters:

- Chapter One Introduction
- Chapter II Allocation of taxing rights, resolution of different technical issues and undertake a coherent and concurrent revision of the profit allocation and nexus rules.
- Chapter III Remaining BEPS issues (Pillar Two), and global anti-base erosion (GloBE) proposal, provide jurisdictions with a right to "tax back" where other jurisdictions have not exercised their primary taxing rights or the payment is otherwise subject to low levels of effective taxation
- Chapter IV Impact assessment and economic analysis of the proposals
- Chapter V Organization of the work to deliver the Programme of Work and next steps

CASE SIGNIFICANT LAWS

CASE SIGNIFICANT LAWS

AVAILABILITY OF FOREIGN TAX CREDIT (FTC) TO RNOR

TAX CREDIT (FTC) TO RNOR

Facts of the case:

- Assessee, an individual, having residential status of 'not ordinarily resident in India' stayed in India for 224 days for AY 2011-12. He declared salary income for the proportionate period for which he was employed with the USA employer.
- During the course of assessment proceedings, the AO observed that assessee claimed pro rata tax credit of the federal and state taxes paid in USA (taxes in USA are levied at two levels- federal and state)
- AO took a view that since Indo-USA treaty allows credit of federal taxes paid, assessee was only entitled to proportionate credit of federal taxes paid in United States of America against the Indian income tax liability. Upon further appeal, CIT(A) also rejected the assessee's claim

> The ITAT was posed with two questions for adjudication:

- 1. Whether assessee is eligible to claim relief u/s 91 of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the federal and state income tax paid in USA;
- 2. Whether assessee who is an RNOR is eligible to claim relief u/s 91 of the Act

≻ Observations of the ITAT:

- that the provisions of a tax treaty, based on which tax credits are said to be inadmissible, cannot be pressed into service to decline a benefit to the assessee which is otherwise available to him, even in the absence of such a tax treaty, under the provisions of the Income Tax Act;
- Circular 621 dated 19-12-1991 issued by CBDT observes that: *"Since the tax treaties are intended to grant relief and not put residents of a Contracting State at a disadvantage vis-a-vis other taxpayers, section 90 of the Income-tax Act has been amended to clarify any beneficial provision in the law will not be denied to a resident of a contracting country merely because corresponding provision in a tax treaty is less beneficial"*

≻ Observations of the ITAT (contd.)

- Section 90(2) makes it clear that the provisions of Act shall apply only to the extent they are more beneficial to the taxpayer. This means that treaty override is only restricted to the extent it is beneficial to a taxpayer
- Section 91 does not discriminate with federal and state taxes and in effect provides for both these types of income taxes to be taken into account for the purpose of tax credits against Indian income tax liability
- Provisions of section 91(1) and 91(2) deals with the person who is a "resident" in India.

▷ Observations of the ITAT (contd.)

• Section 6 provides that for qualification of the persons who are residents in India. The provisions of section 6(6) carves out anther category of persons in 'residents' who are said to be 'non ordinarily resident' in India. The category is also called a "resident but not ordinarily resident" in India. Therefore persons who are "resident but not ordinarily resident" in India are forming larger group of the persons who are "resident" in India.

 \succ In view of the aforesaid observations, the ITAT held that:

- 1. The assessee is entitled for tax credit of federal as well as state taxes paid by him u/s 91(1) of the Act;
- 2. The contention of the Revenue that benefit of section 91 (1) of the Act does not apply to a person who is not ordinarily resident in India stands rejected.

INDOSTAR CAPITAL VS. ACIT

Facts of the case:

- Indostar Capital (M Co.) was incorporated as a private limited company in Mauritius. It held a Category 1 Global Business License to act as an investment holding company. M Co. was also issued a tax residency certificate (TRC) by the Mauritius Revenue Authority.
- M Co. was formed to promote an Indian non-banking financial company called Indostar Capital Finance Limited (**I Co.**) and M Co.'s entire share investment in I Co. had been made prior to 01-04-2017. M Co. sought to sell 1.85 crore shares of I Co. through an IPO for a total consideration of Rs. 1058.68 crores.
- It applied to the ACIT for the grant of a nil withholding certificate under Section 197 of the Act. It contended that in absence of any tax liability in India, deduction of tax at source would not be permissible and therefore, the certificate as required may be granted. In the application, M Co. placed before the ACIT its corporate structure, the source of funds for acquisition of the shares and several documents including a copy of its TRC.

CORPORATE STRUCTURE



ACIT's order:

- The ACIT, after carrying out a detailed inquiry, rejected M Co.'s application on the basis that:
 - 1. The company has not undertaken any business transaction or commercial activities,
 - 2. It did not maintain an establishment or incur any administrative expenses in Mauritius
 - 3. It was a majority shareholder in I Co. The ACIT questioned the genuineness of the transaction and contended that the entire structure was crested with the purpose of avoiding taxes.

Bombay HC's ruling:

- The HC held that certificate under Section 197 of the Act provides immunity to the payer but does not decide the taxability of the receipts in the hands of the payee.
- Placing reliance on Supreme Court's rulings in the case of GE India (mere remittances to nonresident does not give rise to the duty to deduct tax at source under Section 195) and Vodafone, it observed that question of deducting tax at source arises only if the income is taxable in the hands of the payee
- Circular 789 of 2000 states that wherever a TRC is issued by the Mauritian authorities, such TRC will constitute sufficient evidence for accepting the status of residence as well as beneficial ownership for applying the treaty

Bombay HC's ruling:

- As per the provisions of the Indo- Mauritius treaty, the gain arising the sale of shares acquired on or before 31.3.2017, in a company which is resident of India, could not be taxed in Indian territory
- The mere fact that M Co had not transacted any other business is not conclusive to prove that the transaction is bogus.
- Therefore, the HC quashed the order passed under Section 197 of the Act and directed that the tax already deducted by the payer had to be released in favour of Indostar along with the applicable interest.

THANK YOU

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