



Compendium on relief measures provided by the Government under Direct & Indirect Taxes to mitigate the impact of pandemic COVID

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PHD Chamber's Viewpoint



Dr D K Aggarwal
President

The proactive and combative measures undertaken by the Government to curtail the spread of pandemic COVID-19 are highly appreciable. PHD Chamber stands in complete solidarity with the government and has been extending its full-fledged support to the government and its countrymen. Issuance of Rs 18,000 crore pending refunds of income-tax, GST & custom by IT Department at this extremely difficult time is highly appreciable. It is suggested that income tax of the proprietorship and LLPs firms may be reduced to the level of 25% for old and 15% for new companies; reduce the customs duties on basic raw materials by at least 5 percentage points are crucial to enhance the competitiveness of manufacturers and exporters in international market.



Shri Sanjay Aggarwal
Senior Vice President

The proactive and fast track measures undertaken by the Government to combat the impact of pandemic COVID-19 on trade and industry are highly appreciable. The long term capital gains tax should be brought down to zero to encourage investments in capital markets to boost confidence in the market and to encourage people to invest for the long term. No interest and penalty on late payments of TDS should be done to support people and industry in this difficult time. Advanced tax due on 15th June and all statutory dues falling in these 3 months from March 2020 should be deferred by 3 months. Further, all compliances related to all labor laws, factories act and other statutory compliances related to industry should be deferred by 3 months for the smooth functioning of businesses in this difficult time.



Shri Pradeep Multani
Vice President

The reforms undertaken by the Government to contain the spread of pandemic COVID-19 in India are highly encouraging. It is suggested that Government tax collection targets may be suspended in this extremely difficult time. Further, MAT should be postponed for one year to support industry amid pandemic COVID-19. The Government should abolish the tax on buyback of shares as the prices of shares have come down drastically and to the unrealistic levels amid pandemic Covid-19 impact on economy, trade and industry. Further, there is request for waiver of 9% Interest for GST returns deferment for businesses above Rs 5 crore annual turnover and rationalisation of GST rate structure by merging 18% tax slab with 12% tax slab, among others are necessary to enhance the competitiveness of businesses



Shri Saurabh Sanyal
Secretary General

Government's proactive and fast track measures to safeguard its people, economy, trade and industry against the wild tide of pandemic COVID-19 are appreciable. Amid pandemic COVID-19, there is a need to provide a graded personal income tax cut, with no tax on income up to Rs 10 lakhs for FY19- 20 to provide relief to the lower and middle class. Going ahead, ease in compliance and regulatory environment in direct and indirect taxes regime would go a long way in mitigating the impact of pandemic COVID-19 on trade and industry.



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Executive Summary

While worrying about the severity of pandemic COVID-19 increasing each day across the world, Governments and tax authorities provided various tax relief measures in response to the pandemic COVID-19. The relief measures and easing of compliance deadlines will enable businesses to sustain themselves in the current atmosphere and is likely to have a positive impact on economic activities and more importantly remove uncertainty in the system.

Some of the key measures includes last date for income tax returns for (FY 18-19) extended from 31st March, 2020 to 30th June, 2020; Aadhaar-PAN linking date to be extended from 31st March, 2020 to 30th June, 2020; Due dates for issue of notice, intimation, notification, approval order, sanction order, filing of appeal, furnishing of return, statements, applications, reports, any other documents and time limit for completion of proceedings by the authority and any compliance by the taxpayer including investment in saving instruments or investments for roll over benefit of capital gains under Income Tax Act, Wealth Tax Act, Prohibition of Benami Property Transaction Act, Black Money Act, STT law, CTT Law, Equalization Levy law.

To provide immediate relief to the business entities and individuals, the Ministry of Finance has decided to issue all the pending income-tax refunds up to Rs. 5 lakh, immediately. This would benefit around 14 lakh taxpayers. It has also been decided to issue all pending GST and Custom refunds which would provide benefit to around 1 lakh business entities, including MSME. Thus, the total refund granted will be approximately Rs. 18,000 crore. This effort of the government is highly appreciable.

Due to outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic, there is severe disruption in the normal working of almost all sectors. To mitigate the hardships of taxpayers, the CBDT has issued the following directions/clarifications by exercise of its power u/s 119 of the Income-tax Act, 1961. Over 10.2 lakh Refunds worth Rs 4,250 crore issued in a week by CBDT to help taxpayers in pandemic COVID-19 situation.

In order to enable income taxpayers to avail full benefits of various timeline extensions granted by the Government of India due to Covid-19 pandemic situations, the CBDT is revising the return forms for FY 2019-20 (Assessment Year 2020-21) which shall be notified by the end of this month. CBDT mentioned that in order to facilitate taxpayer to avail full benefits with various timeline extension up to 30th June 2020 granted by the government, it has initiated necessary changes in the return forms so that taxpayers could take benefits of their transactions carried out during the period from 1st April 2020 to 30th June 2020 in the return forms for FY 2019-20.

CBIC amended Notification No. 52/2003- Customs dated March 31, 2003 to extend the exemption from IGST and compensation cess to EOUs on imports till March 31, 2021 by substituting "1st day of April, 2020" in proviso to the opening para of Notification No. 52/2003- Customs dated March 31, 2003 with "1st day of April, 2021".



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CBIC amended Notification No. 11/2017-Central Tax (Rate) dated June 28, 2017 (“Services Rate Notification”) to reduce CGST rate on Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (“MRO”) services in respect of aircraft from 18% to 5% with full Input Tax Credit (“ITC”) w.e.f. April 1, 2020.

In order to give effect to the announcements made by the Union Finance Minister vide Press Release dated 24.03.2020, regarding several relief measures relating to statutory and regulatory compliance matters across sectors in view of COVID-19 outbreak, the government has brought in an Ordinance on 31.03.2020 which provides for extension of time limits contained in the Rules or Notification which are prescribed/ issued under these Acts.

Some of the important features and time limits which get extended by this Ordinance are as under:-Last date of furnishing of the Central Excise returns due in March, April and May 2020 has been extended to 30th June,2020, Wherever the last date for filing of appeal, refund applications etc., under the Central Excise Act, 1944 and rules made thereunder is from 20th March 2020 to 29th June 2020, the same has been extended to 30th June 2020, Wherever the last date for filing of appeal, refund applications etc., under the Customs Act, 1962 and rules made thereunder is from 20th March 2020 to 29th June 2020, the same has been extended to 30th June 2020., Wherever the last date for filing of appeal etc., relating to Service Tax is from 20th March 2020 to 29th June 2020, the same has been extended to 30th June 2020.

In addition to the extension of time limits under the Taxation and Benami Acts as above, an enabling section has got inserted in the CGST Act, 2017 empowering the Government to extend due dates for various compliances inter-alia including statement of outward supplies, filing refund claims, filing appeals, etc. specified, prescribed or notified under the Act, on recommendations of the GST Council.

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) said that it is fully committed to help the GST taxpayers in the present COVID-19 situation.

Since 30th March 2020, CBIC has processed 12,923 refund applications involving claims worth Rs 5,575 Crore, while in the last week itself, CBIC has processed 7,873 claims worth Rs 3854 Crore.

The CBIC vide Circular No. 20/2020 - Customs dated April 21, 2020 to defer the implementation of Electronic Sealing-Deposit in and removal of goods from Customs Bonded Warehouses vide Circular - 10/2020 - Customs dated February 07, 2020. The Board has decided to defer the implementation of Circular-10/2020-Customs till June 30, 2020.



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Relief measures provided by Central Board of Direct Taxes, Ministry of Finance to mitigate the impact of pandemic COVID-19

S.No.	Date of Issue of Notification	Issued by Ministry	Relief measures provided by the Central Board of Direct Taxes to mitigate the impact of pandemic COVID-19	Link
1.	24 March 2020	Ministry of Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Hon'ble Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman announced several relief measures relating to Statutory and Regulatory compliance matters across Sectors in view of COVID-19 outbreak.The relaxations relating to Statutory and Regulatory compliance includes last date for income tax returns for (FY 18-19) extended from 31st March, 2020 to 30th June, 2020; Aadhaar-PAN linking date to be extended from 31st March, 2020 to 30th June, 2020; Due dates for issue of notice, intimation, notification, approval order, sanction order, filing of appeal, furnishing of return, statements, applications, reports, any other documents and time limit for completion of proceedings by the authority and any compliance by the taxpayer including investment in saving instruments or investments for roll over benefit of capital gains under Income Tax Act, Wealth Tax Act, Prohibition of Benami Property Transaction Act, Black Money Act, STT law, CTT Law, Equalization Levy law; Vivad Se Vishwas law where the time limit is expiring between 20th March 2020 to 29th June 2020 shall be extended to 30th June 2020.	https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1607942
2.	30 March 2020	Ministry of Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">No Extension of the Financial YearA notification issued by the Government of India on 30th March 2020 with respect to some other amendments done in the Indian Stamp Act is being misquoted. There is no extension of the Financial Year.It pertains to putting in place an efficient mechanism for collection of Stamp Duty on Security Market Instruments transactions through Stock Exchanges or Clearing Corporation authorized by Stock Exchanges	https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1609424



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			Depositories.	
3.	31 March 2020	Ministry of Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finance Ministry issues Taxation and other Laws (Relaxation of Certain Provisions) Ordinance, 2020 In order to give effect to the announcements made by the Union Finance Minister <i>vide</i> Press Release dated 24.03.2020, regarding several relief measures relating to statutory and regulatory compliance matters across sectors in view of COVID-19 outbreak, the govt has brought in an Ordinance on 31.03.2020 which provides for extension of various time limits under the Taxation and Benami Acts. 	https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1609734
4.	04 April 2020	Ministry of Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CBDT issues orders u/s 119 of IT Act,1961 to mitigate hardships to taxpayers arising out of compliance of TDS/TCS provisions Due to outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic, there is severe disruption in the normal working of almost all sectors. To mitigate the hardships of taxpayers, the CBDT has issued the following directions/clarifications by exercise of its power u/s 119 of the Income-tax Act, 1961. All the assessees who have filed application for lower or nil deduction of TDS/TCS for F.Y. 2020-21 and whose applications are pending for disposal as on date and they have been issued such certificates for F.Y. 2019-20, then such certificates would be applicable till 30.06.2020 of F.Y. 2020-21 or disposal of their applications by the Assessing Officers, whichever is earlier, in respect of the transaction and the deductor or collector if any, for whom the certificate was issued for F.Y. 2019-20. 	https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1611042
5.	08 April 2020	Ministry of Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IT Department to release all pending income tax refunds up to Rs 5 lakhs immediately & All GST & CUSTOM refunds also to be released. In the context of the COVID-19 situation and with a view to provide immediate relief to the business entities and individuals, it has been decided to issue all the pending income-tax refunds up to Rs. 5 lakh, immediately. This would benefit around 14 lakh taxpayers. It has also been decided to issue all pending GST and 	https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseFramePage.aspx?PRID=1612291



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			<p>Custom refunds which would provide benefit to around 1 lakh business entities, including MSME. Thus, the total refund granted will be approximately Rs. 18,000 crore.</p>	
6.	15 April 2020	Ministry of Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over 10.2 lakh Refunds worth Rs 4,250 crore issued in a week by CBDT to help taxpayers in pandemic COVID-19 situation. In pursuance to the Government's decision vide Press Note on 8th April 2020 to issue pending income tax refunds up to Rs 5 lakh in order to help taxpayers in a COVID-19 pandemic situations, the Central Board of Direct taxes (CBDT) today said that it has already issued over 10.2 lakh refunds totalling to around Rs. 4,250 crore as on 14th April 2020. These refunds are over and above the 2.50 crore refunds already issued in FY 19-20 till 31st March 2020 totalling Rs 1.84 lakh crore. 	https://pib.gov.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=202274
7.	17 April 2020	Ministry of Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CBDT issued I-T refunds worth Rs 5,204 Crore in last 10 days as a relief to MSMEs The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) said that Income tax refunds to nearly 8.2 lakh small businesses (proprietors, firms, corporate and trusts) worth Rs 5,204 Crore have been issued since 8th April 2020. These income tax refunds would help MSMEs to carry on their business activities without pay cuts and layoffs in Covid-19 pandemic situations. The CBDT said that since the Government's decision vide Press Note dated 8th April 2020, I-T department has till date issued nearly 14 lakh refunds up to Rs 5 lakh each in order to help taxpayers in COVID-19 pandemic situation. Keeping its focus on providing relief to the small businesses in MSME sector, CBDT will further issue refunds of Rs 7,760 Crore earliest possible. 	https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1609734
8.	19 April 2020	Ministry of Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In order to enable income taxpayers to avail full benefits of various timeline extensions granted by the Government of India due to Covid-19 pandemic situations, the CBDT is revising the return forms for FY 2019-20 (Assessment Year 2020-21) which shall be notified by the end of this month. 	https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1616035



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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CBDT said that in order to facilitate taxpayer to avail full benefits with various timeline extension up to 30th June 2020 granted by the government, it has initiated necessary changes in the return forms so that taxpayers could take benefits of their transactions carried out during the period from 1st April 2020 to 30th June 2020 in the return forms for FY 2019-20. 	
9	21 April 2020	Ministry of Finance	<p>The CBDT said that its email seeking clarification from all those who are entitled to get tax refund but also have outstanding tax to pay cannot be misconstrued as harassment. These computer generated emails have been sent to almost 1.72 lakh assesseees which includes all classes of taxpayers – from individual to HUF to firms, big or small companies including start-ups and therefore to say that start-ups are being singled out and harassed is total misrepresentation of facts.</p>	<p>https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1616620</p>



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Relief measures provided by Central Board of Indirect Taxes, Ministry of Finance to mitigate the impact of pandemic COVID-19

S.No	Date of Issue of Notification	Issued by Ministry	Relief measures provided by the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs to mitigate the impact of pandemic COVID-19	Link								
1	24 March 2020	Ministry of Finance	<p>Notification No. 16 /2020-Customs</p> <p>CBIC amended Notification No. 52/2003- Customs dated March 31, 2003 to extend the exemption from IGST and compensation cess to EOUs on imports till March 31, 2021 by substituting “1st day of April, 2020” in proviso to the opening para of Notification No. 52/2003- Customs dated March 31, 2003 with “1st day of April, 2021”.</p>	http://cbic.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2020/cs-tarr2020/cs16-2020.pdf								
2	24 March 2020	Ministry of Finance	<p>Exchange Rates Notification No. 30/2020 - Customs (N.T.)</p> <p>Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs in exercise of the powers conferred by section 14 of the Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962), the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs hereby makes the following amendment in the Notification of the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs No.27/2020-CUSTOMS (N.T.), dated 19thMarch, 2020 with effect from 25th March, 2020.</p> <p>In the SCHEDULE-I of the said Notification, for serial No. 9 and the entries relating thereto, the following shall be substituted, namely: -</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="479 1528 1263 1766"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Foreign Currency</th> <th colspan="2">Rate of exchange of one unit of foreign currency equivalent to Indian rupees</th> </tr> <tr> <th>(For Imported Goods)</th> <th>(For Exported Goods)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>New Zealand Dollar</td> <td>45.30</td> <td>43.10</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Foreign Currency	Rate of exchange of one unit of foreign currency equivalent to Indian rupees		(For Imported Goods)	(For Exported Goods)	New Zealand Dollar	45.30	43.10	https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1607949
Foreign Currency	Rate of exchange of one unit of foreign currency equivalent to Indian rupees											
	(For Imported Goods)	(For Exported Goods)										
New Zealand Dollar	45.30	43.10										
	25 March 2020	Ministry of Finance	<p>Notification No. 17/2020 – Customs</p> <p>CBIC further amends notification No. 69/2011-Customs to deepen the tariff concessions under the India-Japan</p>	http://cbic.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs								



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			Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement	act/notifications/notfns-2020/cs-tarr2020/cs17-2020.pdf
3	25 March 2020	Ministry of Finance	Tariff Notification No. 31/2020-CUSTOMS (N.T.) In respect of Fixation of Tariff Value of Edible Oils, Brass Scrap, Poppy Seeds, Areca Nut, Gold and Silver	https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1608115
4	26 March 2020	Ministry of Finance	Notification No. 02/2020- Central Tax (Rate) CBIC amended Notification No. 11/2017-Central Tax (Rate) dated June 28, 2017 (“Services Rate Notification”) to reduce CGST rate on Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (“MRO”) services in respect of aircraft from 18% to 5% with full Input Tax Credit (“ITC”) w.e.f. April 1, 2020.	CGST (Rate) Notification- http://www.cbic.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/gst/notfctn-02-2020-cgst-rate-english.pdf IGST (Rate) Notification- http://www.cbic.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/gst/notfctn-02-2020-igst-rate-english.pdf UTGST (Rate) Notification- http://www.cbic.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/gst/notfctn-02-2020-utgst-rate-english.pdf
5	27 March 2020	Ministry of Finance	Exchange Rate Notification No. 34/2020 - Customs (N.T.) In exercise of the powers conferred by section 14 of the	https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1



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			<p>Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962), the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs hereby make the following amendments in the Notification of the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs No. 27/2020-CUSTOMS (N.T.), dated 19th March, 2020 with effect from 28th March, 2020.</p> <p>In the SCHEDULE-I of the Notification No.27/2020-Customs (N.T.), dated 19th March, 2020 for serial No. 10 & 11 and the entries relating thereto, the following shall be substituted, namely: -</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Foreign Currency</th> <th colspan="2">Rate of exchange of one unit of foreign currency equivalent to Indian rupees</th> </tr> <tr> <th>(For Imported Goods)</th> <th>(For Exported Goods)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Norwegian Kroner</td> <td>7.30</td> <td>7.05</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pound Sterling</td> <td>93.65</td> <td>90.35</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Foreign Currency	Rate of exchange of one unit of foreign currency equivalent to Indian rupees		(For Imported Goods)	(For Exported Goods)	Norwegian Kroner	7.30	7.05	Pound Sterling	93.65	90.35	<u>608634</u>
Foreign Currency	Rate of exchange of one unit of foreign currency equivalent to Indian rupees														
	(For Imported Goods)	(For Exported Goods)													
Norwegian Kroner	7.30	7.05													
Pound Sterling	93.65	90.35													
6	30 March 2020	Ministry of Finance	<p>Notification No. 18/2020- Customs</p> <p>CBIC extends the exemption from Integrated Tax and Compensation Cess upto 31.03.2021 on goods imported against AA/EPCG authorizations vide Notification No. 18/2020-Customs dated 30th March, 2020.</p>	http://cbic.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2020/cs-tarr2020/cs18-2020.pdf											
7	30 March 2020	Ministry of Finance	<p>Exchange Rate Notification No.35/2020 - Customs (N.T.)</p> <p>CBIC notifies Customs Rate of Australian Dollar with effect from 31st March, 2020 vide Notification No. 35/2020-Customs (N.T.) dated 30th March 2020.</p>	https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1609354											
8	31 March 2020	Ministry of Finance	<p>Tariff Notification No. 36/2020-Customs (N.T.)</p> <p>In respect of Fixation of Tariff Value of Edible Oils, Brass Scrap, Poppy Seed, Areca nut, Gold & Silver</p>	https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1609652											
9	31 March 2020	Ministry of Finance	<p>In order to give effect to the announcements made by the Union Finance Minister vide Press Release dated 24.03.2020, regarding several relief measures relating to statutory and regulatory compliance matters across sectors in view of</p>	https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1609734											



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			<p>COVID-19 outbreak, the govt has brought in an Ordinance on 31.03.2020 which provides for extension of time limits contained in the Rules or Notification which are prescribed/ issued under these Acts.</p> <p>Some of the important features and time limits which get extended by this Ordinance are as under:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Last date of furnishing of the Central Excise returns due in March, April and May 2020 has been extended to 30th June,2020. • Wherever the last date for filing of appeal, refund applications etc., under the Central Excise Act, 1944 and rules made thereunder is from 20th March 2020 to 29th June 2020, the same has been extended to 30th June 2020. • Wherever the last date for filing of appeal, refund applications etc., under the Customs Act, 1962 and rules made thereunder is from 20th March 2020 to 29th June 2020, the same has been extended to 30th June 2020. • Wherever the last date for filing of appeal etc., relating to Service Tax is from 20th March 2020 to 29th June 2020, the same has been extended to 30th June 2020 • The date for making payment to avail of the benefit under Sabka Vishwas Legal Dispute Resolution Scheme 2019 has been extended to 30th June 2020 thus giving more time to taxpayers to get their disputes resolved. • In addition to the extension of time limits under the Taxation and Benami Acts as above, an enabling section has got inserted in the CGST Act, 2017 empowering the Government to extend due dates for various compliances inter-alia including statement of outward supplies, filing refund claims, filing appeals, etc. specified, prescribed or notified under the Act, on recommendations of the GST Council. 	
10	1 April 2020	Ministry of Finance	<p>The gross GST revenue collected in the month of March, 2020 is Rs. 97,597 crore of which CGST is Rs. 19,183 crore, SGST is Rs. 25,601 crore, IGST is Rs. 44,508 crore (including Rs. 18,056 crore collected on imports) and Cess is Rs. 8,306 crore (including Rs. 841 crore collected on imports). The total number of GSTR-3B Returns filed for the month of February up to 31st March, 2020 is 76.5 lakh.</p>	<p>https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1609919</p>



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11	1 April 2020	Ministry of Finance	<p>Exchange Rate Notification No.37/2020 - Customs (N.T.)</p> <p>CBIC notifies Rate of Exchange of Foreign Currencies against India Rupees wef 28.03.2020</p>	<p>https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1609919</p>
12	3 April, 2020	Ministry of Finance	<p>Notification No. 36/2020 – Central Tax</p> <p>The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (“CBIC”) vide Notification No. 36/2020 Central Tax dated April 03, 2020, which further amends the N. No. 29/2020 – CT dated March 23, 2020, which notified the due dates for filing of monthly outward supply return i.e. GSTR – 3B for the period May 2020.</p>	<p>http://cbic.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/gst/notfctn-36-central-tax-english-2020.pdf;jsessionid=653EE6280AFDBE448CF15886F160C7A4</p>
13	3 April, 2020	Ministry of Finance	<p>Notification No. 30/2020 – Central Tax</p> <p>The CBIC made following amendments to Central Goods and Services Tax Rules, 2017 (“CGST Rules”):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inserted following proviso to Rule 3(3) of CGST Rules w.e.f. March 31, 2020:- 2. Inserted following proviso to Rule 36(4) of the CGST Rules 	<p>http://www.cbic.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/gst/notfctn-30-central-tax-english-2020.pdf</p>
14	3 April, 2020	Ministry of Finance	<p>Notification No. 31/2020 – Central Tax</p> <p>The Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs has sought to provide relief by conditional lowering of interest for the tax periods of February 2020 to April 2020 w.e.f March 20, 2020. The Notification makes amendment in Notification 13/2017 – Central Tax dated June 28, 2017 by way of insertion of a proviso in the first paragraph providing for reduction in rate of interest for the class of registered persons who are required to furnish FORM GSTR 3B.</p>	<p>http://www.cbic.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/gst/notfctn-31-central-tax-english-2020.pdf</p>
15	3 April, 2020	Ministry of Finance	<p>Notification No. 34/2020 – Central Tax</p> <p>The Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs has sought to</p>	<p>http://www.cbic.gov.in/resources/htdocs-</p>



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			<p>extend the due date of furnishing FORM GST CMP-08 for the quarter ending March, 2020 till July 7, 2020 and filing of FORM GSTR-4 for the F.Y 2019-20 till July 15, 2020.</p> <p>The Notification makes amendment in Notification No. 21/2019 – Central Tax dated April 23, 2019 (“said Notification”) by way of insertion of a proviso after the second paragraph providing that –</p> <p>The said persons shall furnish a statement, containing the details of payment of self-assessed tax in FORM GST CMP-08 of the Central Goods and Services Tax Rules, 2017, for the quarter ending 31st March, 2020, till the July 7, 2020.</p> <p>In the 3rd Paragraph of the said Notification, the following proviso shall be inserted providing that –</p> <p>The said persons shall furnish the return in FORM GSTR-4 of the Central Goods and Services Tax Rules, 2017, for the financial year ending 31st March, 2020, till the 15th day of July, 2020.</p>	<p>cbec/gst/notfctn-34-central-tax-english-2020.pdf</p>
16	3 April, 2020	Ministry of Finance	<p>Notification No. 33/2020 – Central Tax</p> <p>The Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs (“CBIC”) has sought to provide the relief by waiver of late fees for delay in furnishing of return in FORM GSTR 1 for the month of March, 2020, April, 2020 and May, 2020, and for the quarter ending 31st March, 2020, for the registered persons who fail to furnish the details of outward supplies for the said periods in FORM GSTR-1 by the due date, but furnishes the said details in FORM GSTR-1, on or before the 30th day of June, 2020.</p>	<p>http://www.cbic.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/gst/notfctn-33-central-tax-english-2020.pdf</p>
17	3 April, 2020	Ministry of Finance	<p>Notification No. 35/2020 – Central Tax</p> <p>The Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs has sought to extend due date of compliance which falls during the period from "March 20, 2020 to June 29, 2020" till June 30, 2020 and to extend the validity of E-Way Bills w.e.f March 20, 2020.</p>	<p>http://www.cbic.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/gst/notfctn-35-central-tax-english-2020.pdf</p>



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18	9 April 2020	Ministry of Finance	<p>Notification No. 19/2020 – Customs</p> <p>The CBIC has amended Notification No. 8/2020-Customs dated February 2, 2020 to make the following changes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For the words, figures and brackets “clause 139 of the Finance Bill, 2020, which, by virtue of the declaration made in the said Finance Bill under the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act, 1931 (16 of 1931), has the force of law”, the words, figures and brackets, “section 141 of Finance Act, 2020 (12 of 2020)” shall be substituted; 2. For the words “under the said clause of the Finance Bill”, the words “under the said section of the said Finance Act” shall be substituted. 	<p>http://cbic.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2020/cs-tarr2020/cs19-2020.pdf</p>
19	9 April 2020	Ministry of Finance	<p>Notification No. 20/2020– Customs</p> <p>Government Grants exemption from Basic Custom duty & Health Cess on import of Ventilators , PPE, COVID Test Kits & Face & Surgical Masks</p> <p>In the context of Covid-19 situation, considering the immediate requirement of ventilators and other items,the Central Government has granted exemption from Basic Customs Duty and Health cess, on the import of the following goods, with immediate effect:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Ventilators, b. Face masks, surgical Masks, c. Personal protection equipment (PPE) d. Covid-19 test kits e. inputs for manufacture of the above items <p>This basic customs duty exemption shall be available upto the 30th September, 2020.</p>	<p>http://cbic.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/customs/cs-act/notifications/notfns-2020/cs-tarr2020/cs20-2020.pdf</p>
20	9 April 2020	Ministry of Finance	<p>The CBIC vide Instruction No. 2/1/2020 - GST dated April 09, 2020, which states that all pending GST refunds including IGST refunds shall be expeditiously processed. The decision to process the pending refund claims has been taken with a view to provide immediate relief to the taxpayers in these</p>	<p>http://cbic.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/gst/GST%20Refunds_Clarifi</p>



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			difficult times even though the GST Law provides 15 days for issuing acknowledgment or deficiency memo and total 60 days for disposing of the refund claims without any liability to pay interest, all pending refund applications must be taken up for processing immediately.	cation%202 1 2 020.pdf
21	11 April 2020	Ministry of Finance	<p>The Goods and Services Tax Network ("GSTN") has issued an advisory alter to the taxpayers who are filing GSTR - 6 on the GST portal. The following are the advisory for such taxpayers are as under:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Changes are being made in the credit utilization criteria in Form GSTR-6, filed by Input Service Distributors (ISDs). These changes are likely to be implemented on the GST portal with effect from April 14, 2020. 2. During the implementation of this change, any data which is lying in Form GSTR-6 of ISDs, <u>in saved stage</u>, will be lost. Thus, if there is some data, filled up in Form GSTR-6 and is in saved stage (which is not Submitted so far), that data will not be available to ISD, in their Form GSTR 6, for its further use. ISD will be required to fill up this data (which was in the Saved stage and now lost due to implementation of change) <u>again</u> in their Form GSTR 6. 3. All the Input Service Distributors (ISDs) are, therefore, requested to take note of this and take suitable action accordingly. 	https://www.gst.gov.in/newsandupdates/read/374
22	13 April 2020	Ministry of Finance	The CBIC vide Circular No.137/07/2020 - GST, dated April 13, 2020, which clarified that the compliance requirements under various other provisions of the CGST Act.	http://www.cbic.gov.in/resources//htdocs-cbec/gst/Circular_Refund_137_7_2020.pdf
23	13 April 2020	Ministry of Finance	The CBIC vide Circular No.137/07/2020 - GST, dated April 13, 2020, which clarified the challenges faced by the registered persons in adhering to the provisions of the Central Goods & Services Act, 2017 ("CGST Act") on account of measures	http://www.cbic.gov.in/resources//htdocs-cbec/gst/Circular



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			taken to prevent the spread of COVID-19.	Refund 137 7 2020.pdf
24	16 APR 2020	Ministry of Finance	Exchange Rate Notification No.39/2020 - Customs (N.T.) CBIC notifies Rate of Exchange of Foreign Currencies against India Rupees w.e.f 17.04.2020	https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1615116
25	17 April 2020	Ministry of Finance	The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) said that it is fully committed to help the GST taxpayers in the present COVID-19 situation. Since 30th March 2020, CBIC has processed 12,923 refund applications involving claims worth Rs 5,575 Crore, while in the last week itself, CBIC has processed 7,873 claims worth Rs 3854 Crore.	https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1615508
26	21 April 2020	Ministry of Finance	The CBIC vide Circular No. 20/2020 - Customs dated April 21, 2020 to defer the implementation of Electronic Sealing-Deposit in and removal of goods from Customs Bonded Warehouses vide Circular - 10/2020 - Customs dated February 07, 2020. The Board has decided to defer the implementation of Circular-10/2020-Customs till June 30, 2020.	http://cbic.gov.in/resources//htd ocs-cbec/customs/cs-circulars/cs-circulars-2020/Circular-No-20-2020-updated.pdf
27	21 April 2020	Ministry of Finance	The Board has decided to further extend the facility of accepting undertaking in lieu of bond for the period till 15.05.2020. Consequently, the date for submission of proper bond in lieu of which the undertaking is being temporarily accepted is extended till 30.05.2020. This relaxation will be reviewed by the Board at the end of the lockdown period.	http://cbic.gov.in/resources//htd ocs-cbec/customs/cs-circulars/cs-circulars-2020/Circular-No-21-2020.pdf



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PHD Research Bureau

PHD Research Bureau; the research arm of the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry was constituted in 2010 with the objective to review the economic situation and policy developments at sub-national, national and international levels and comment on them in order to update the members from time to time, to present suitable memoranda to the government as and when required, to prepare State Profiles and to conduct thematic research studies on various socio-economic and business developments.

The Research Bureau has been instrumental in forecasting various lead economic indicators national and sub-national. Many of its research reports have been widely covered by media and leading newspapers. The Research Bureau has undertaken various policy studies for Government of India and State Governments.

Research Activities	Comments on Economic Developments	Newsletters	Consultancy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research Studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Economic Developments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic Affairs Newsletter (EAC) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trade and Investment Facilitation Services (TIFS)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State Profiles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> India's Economic Developments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forex and FEMA Newsletter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business Research and Consultancy: Innovative and customised research solutions for growth of Industry and businesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impact Assessments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> States' Economic Developments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Economic Monitor (GEM) 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thematic Research Reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Developments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trade & Investment Facilitation Services (TIFS) Newsletter 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Releases on Economic Developments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial Markets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State Development Monitor (SDM) 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foreign exchange market 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developments in International Trade 		



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Studies Undertaken by PHD Research Bureau

A: Thematic research reports

1. Comparative study on power situation in Northern and Central states of India (September 2011)
2. Economic Analysis of State (October 2011)
3. Growth Prospects of the Indian Economy, Vision 2021 (December 2011)
4. Budget 2012-13: Move Towards Consolidation (March 2012)
5. Emerging Trends in Exchange Rate Volatility (Apr 2012)
6. The Indian Direct Selling Industry Annual Survey 2010-11 (May 2012)
7. Global Economic Challenges: Implications for India (May 2012)
8. India Agronomics: An Agriculture Economy Update (August 2012)
9. Reforms to Push Growth on High Road (September 2012)
10. The Indian Direct Selling Industry Annual Survey 2011-12: Beating Slowdown (March 2013)
11. Budget 2013-14: Moving on reforms (March 2013)
12. India- Africa Promise Diverse Opportunities (November 2013)
13. India- Africa Promise Diverse Opportunities: Suggestions Report (November 2013)
14. Annual survey of Indian Direct Selling Industry-2012-13 (December 2013)
15. Imperatives for Double Digit Growth (December 2013)
16. Women Safety in Delhi: Issues and Challenges to Employment (March 2014)
17. Emerging Contours in the MSME sector of Uttarakhand (April 2014)
18. Roadmap for New Government (May 2014)
19. Youth Economics (May 2014)
20. Economy on the Eve of Union Budget 2014-15 (July 2014)
21. Budget 2014-15: Promise of Progress (July 2014)
22. Agronomics 2014: Impact on economic growth and inflation (August 2014)
23. 100 Days of new Government (September 2014)
24. Make in India: Bolstering Manufacturing Sector (October 2014)
25. The Indian Direct Selling Industry Annual Survey 2013-14 (November 2014)
26. Participated in a survey to audit SEZs in India with CAG Office of India (November 2014)
27. Role of MSMEs in Make in India with reference to Ease of Doing Business in Ghaziabad (Nov 2014)
28. Exploring Prospects for Make in India and Made in India: A Study (January 2015)
29. SEZs in India: Criss-Cross Concerns (February 2015)
30. Socio-Economic Impact of Check Dams in Sikar District of Rajasthan (February 2015)
31. India - USA Economic Relations (February 2015)
32. Economy on the Eve of Union Budget 2015-16 (February 2015)
33. Budget Analysis (2015-16)
34. Druzhiba-Dosti: India's Trade Opportunities with Russia (April 2015)
35. Impact of Labour Reforms on Industry in Rajasthan: A survey study (July 2015)
36. Progress of Make in India (September 2015)
37. Grown Diamonds, A Sunrise Industry in India: Prospects for Economic Growth (November 2015)
38. Annual survey of Indian Direct Selling Industry 2014-15 (December 2015)
39. India's Foreign Trade Policy Environment Past, Present and Future (December 2015)
40. Revisiting the emerging economic powers as drivers in promoting global economic growth (February 2016)
41. Bolstering MSMEs for Make in India with special focus on CSR (March 2016)
42. BREXIT impact on Indian Economy (July 2016)
43. India's Exports Outlook (August 2016)
44. Ease of Doing Business : Suggestive Measures for States (October 2016)



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45. Transforming India through Make in India, Skill India and Digital India (November 2016)
46. Impact of Demonetization on Economy, Businesses and People (January 2017)
47. Economy on the eve of Budget 2017-18 (January 2017)
48. Union Budget 2017-18: A budget for all-inclusive development (January 2017)
49. Annual Survey of Indian Direct Selling Industry 2015-16 (February 2017)
50. Worklife Balance and Health Concerns of Women: A Survey (March 2017)
51. Special Economic Zones: Performance, Problems and Opportunities (April 2017)
52. Feasibility Study (socio-Economic Survey) of Ambala and Rohtak Districts in Haryana (March 2017)
53. Goods and Services (GST): So far (July 2017)
54. Reshaping India-Africa Trade: Dynamics and Export Potentiality of Indian Products in Africa (July 2017)
55. Industry Perspective on Bitcoins (July 2017)
56. Senior Housing: A sunrise sector in India (August 2017)
57. Current state of the economy (October 2017)
58. Equitable finance to fulfill funding requirements of Indian Economy (October 2017)
59. The Wall of Protectionism: : Rise and Rise of Protectionist Policies in the Global Arena, (November 2017)
60. India-Israel Relations: Building Bridges of Dynamic Trade(October 2017)
61. Role of Trade Infrastructure for Export Scheme (TIES) in Improving Export Competitiveness (November 2017)
62. India - China Trade Relationship: The Trade Giants of Past, Present and Future (January 2018)
63. Analysis of Trade Pattern between India and ASEAN(January 2018)
64. Union Budget 2018-19 – (February 2018)
65. Ease of Doing Work for Women: A survey of Delhi NCR (February 2018)
66. Restraining Wilful Defaults: Need of the hour for Indian Banking System (March 2018)
67. Impact of GST on Business, Industry and Exporters (April 2018)
68. India – Sri Lanka Bilateral Relations: Reinforcing trade and investment prospects (May 2018)
69. Growth Prospects of the Indian Economy: Road to US \$5 Trillion Economy(May 2018)
70. India's Free Trade Agreements Dynamics and Diagnostics of Trade Prospects(May 2018)
71. India – UK Trade Relations and Societal Links: Way Forward (June 2018)
72. Rural Economy: Road to US \$5 Trillion Economy(September 2018)
73. Indian Economy on the Eve of Union Budget 2019-20 (Interim): Steady...strong...fastest moving economy (January 2019)
74. Interim Budget 2019-2020: A Dynamic, Inclusive & Pragmatic Budget (February 2019)
75. Women Entrepreneurship: Transforming from Domestic Households to Financial Independence (March 2019)
76. Prospects for Exports from India: Five Pronged Strategy to Achieve USD700 Billion Merchandise Exports by 2025 (March 2019)
77. India Towards Shared Prosperity: Economic Agenda for the Next five Years (March 2019)
78. Job Creation: A Pan India Survey of Households (March 2019)
79. India Inc. Speaks Live: Wish List for the Next Five Years (May 2019)
80. Suggestive Roadmap for Revitalizing Economic Growth (June 2019)
81. Indian Economy on the Eve of Union Budget 2019-20 (July 2019)



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82. Union Budget 2019-20: Road to US\$ 5 trillion economy (July 2019)
83. Ease of Doing Business for MSMEs (September 2019)
84. Report Emerging contours in the defence and homeland security
85. Framework of University-Industry Linkages in Research DSIR
86. India's Trade and Investment opportunities with ASEAN Economies (November 2019)
87. Indian Economy on the Eve of Union Budget 2020-21 (February 2020)
88. Union Budget 2020-21: Aspirational, Caring and Developmental Budget (February 2020)
- B: State profiles**
89. Rajasthan: The State Profile (April 2011)
90. Uttarakhand: The State Profile (June 2011)
91. Punjab: The State Profile (November 2011)
92. J&K: The State Profile (December 2011)
93. Uttar Pradesh: The State Profile (December 2011)
94. Bihar: The State Profile (June 2012)
95. Himachal Pradesh: The State Profile (June 2012)
96. Madhya Pradesh: The State Profile (August 2012)
97. Resurgent Bihar (April 2013)
98. Life ahead for Uttarakhand (August 2013)
99. Punjab: The State Profile (February 2014)
100. Haryana: Bolstering Industrialization (May 2015)
101. Progressive Uttar Pradesh: Building Uttar Pradesh of Tomorrow (August 2015),
102. Suggestions for Progressive Uttar Pradesh (August 2015)
103. State profile of Telangana- The dynamic state of India (April 2016)
104. Smart Infrastructure Summit 2016- Transforming Uttar Pradesh (August 2016)
105. Smart Infrastructure Summit 2016- Transforming Uttar Pradesh : Suggestions for the State Government (August 2016)
106. Rising Jharkhand: An Emerging Investment Hub (February 2017)
107. Punjab: Roadmap for the New Government Suggestions for the Industrial and Socio-Economic Development – Focus MSMEs ease of doing business (May 2017)
108. Prospering Himachal Pradesh: A Mountain of Opportunities (August 2017)
109. Kashmir: The way forward (February 2018)
110. Analysis of State Budgets for 2018-19: Select Sates (March 2018)
111. Rising Uttar Pradesh One District One Product Summit (August 2018)
112. Rajasthan: Steady Strides into the Future- Emerging Growth Dynamics and the Way Forward (September 2018)
113. Rising Jharkhand: Economic Profile (January 2019)
114. Rising Jharkhand: Skill Development to Spur Socio-Economic Growth (January 2019)
115. Progressive Haryana: Economic Profile (February 2019)
116. Progressive Haryana: The Agricultural Hub of India (February 2019)