

## **E-filing of Income Tax Returns begins**

**The finance ministry on Wednesday announced the commencement of the electronic filing of income tax returns for 2015-16.**

The ITR 1-SAHAJ, 2 and 2A can be used by an individual or HUF, whose income does not include income from business. ITR 4S-SUGAM can be used by an individual or HUF, whose income includes business income assessable on presumptive basis.

“Taxpayers are requested to e-file their returns early to avoid the rush closer to the last date of filing,” the ministry said. The tax department had notified the new set of ITR forms last week, including the three-page simplified form called ITR-2A. The e-filing of ITR can be done till August 31, the new deadline set in this regard by the government after it had dropped the earlier forms that had attracted criticism for seeking numerous additional details such as on foreign travel and dormant bank accounts.

Starting this time, the tax department has asked taxpayers to provide their Aadhaar number in the ITR, so that it can do a back-end validation of the same and successfully process the returns in an online fashion, thus removing the need of posting the duly signed ITR-V form to CPC, Bengaluru, after e-filing of the income tax.

“When the taxpayer exercises this option and just fills in his PAN, then personal information and information on taxes paid and TDS will be auto-filled in the form,” the finance ministry statement noted.

*(Economic Times)*