

**INTERNATIONAL
TAX REVIEW™**

**India
Quarterly**

FREE for
in-house tax executives

2nd Annual India Tax Forum 2011

September 6-7, 2011 • Taj Mahal Hotel, New Delhi

Benefits of attending:

- Gain practical solutions on how to adjust your tax strategy for 2012 and maintain a healthy relationship with the authorities
- Understand the implications of the Direct Taxes Code
- Learn why substance over form is more important than ever
- Hear from leading tax professionals on Indian corporate, international and indirect tax
- Enhance your sectoral understanding of the GST

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India Tax Forum 2011

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Tax in India has always been high up the agenda for domestic and multinational companies operating in the country. However, 2012 marks a significant period of change for the Indian tax market forcing tax directors to completely reconsider strategies and to seek efficiencies at all levels of their company's tax affairs.

A completely new tax law, a much-debated goods and service tax and the ever-present litigation threat are just three critical concerns taxpayers will be contending with. They have to become skilled at identifying the best methods to migrate to the new systems while obtaining the most tax benefits. Every part of a business's tax operation is being examined.

International Tax Review's second India Tax Forum will once again bring together leading tax directors, officials and advisers to discuss these issues and help you to practically prepare for the changes that 2012 will bring. The Direct Taxes Code, tax policy and tax controversy will be three of the key talking points between panellists and among the delegates.

There is much to talk about. The challenges taxpayers will face once the GAAR is introduced while at the same time analysing whether an APA is right for business. Choosing the best transfer pricing methodology and navigating the increased risk of joint audits are others. And how to cooperate and negotiate with the CBDT is guaranteed to spark debate.

The foremost Indian tax experts will tackle these issues and more. It is a unique opportunity to hear their views, increase your understanding of the upcoming changes, learn how best to prepare for the future, and gain practical insight into how your tax department can be enhanced over the next 12 months.

Day 1: Tuesday September 6, 2011

08.30 Registration

09.00 Opening remarks

Ralph Cunningham, Managing Editor, *International Tax Review*

09.10 Keynote address

09.30 A Direct Taxes Code update

The DTC is eight months away. Is your tax strategy aligned to cope with such dramatic changes in the country's tax system?

- What stage are we at?
- Considerations you need to be aware of
- Are SEZs still the best option?
- Mitigating the Minimum Alternate Tax
- Concerns with the GAAR
- How to reduce persistent concerns with residency

11.00 Coffee

11.30 GST and indirect tax

After a series of delays and discussions, GST is set for India in 2012. The wrangling between the centre and states seems to be coming to an end and now companies must focus on how the new framework will impact operations. Now is the time to utilise the new levy and maximise its potential in tax planning.

- How best to shift to the new regime
- The winners and losers from GST
- What will your operational impacts be?
- Analysis of recent indirect tax disputes
- Innovations in reducing the administrative burden of indirect tax management
- Outline any new legislation/case law and its ramifications

13.00 Lunch

14.00 Indian corporate tax department forum

The way corporates handle their tax affairs varies from business to business as well as across industries. Tax is also being placed higher on the board's agenda as tax directors are being challenged to assist their company's growth strategy. However, managing such a key department has its own challenges and attaining best practice is not easily achieved.

- How do different companies manage tax compliance
- How do tax departments shape their tax functions
- Controversy management functions from across India
- Case study: Learn how to best structure your M&A activity
- Case study: How best to deploy your tax department's resources
- Case study: What is the best litigation strategy for your company

15.30 Coffee

16.00 Tax planning: How to achieve better efficiency

Effective tax planning is more important than ever. The DTC will make some drastic changes to the way tax planning is carried out and the use of traditional planning methods may be coming to an end. What this creates is opportunity. While many focus on the DTC's restrictions, now is the time to target the potential of India's changing system.

- Use and preservation of losses
- Tax efficient supply chain management
- The use of treaties post-DTC
- Maintaining the tax officer's confidence
- Why constant planning assessment is vital
- India's attitude to low-tax jurisdictions

17.30 Chair's closing remarks

17.40 Cocktail reception

Confirmed speakers:

RN Dash, Director General of Income Tax (International Taxation), **Government of India**

SK Dash, Commissioner, **Authority for Advance Rulings**

Sunil Gupta, Joint Secretary (Tax Policy and Legislation), **Ministry of Finance, India**

Mohan Parasaran, Senior Advocate, **Supreme Court of India and Additional Solicitor General of India**

Navin Jain, General Manager, Tax, **Cairn India Group**

Sunil Kothare, Director Finance & Tax, **Citibank**

Manisha Pande, Vice President, Transfer Pricing, **GE COE**

Pallav Gupta, Head of Tax, **ITC**

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Day 2: Wednesday September 7, 2011

08.30 Registration

09.00 Opening remarks

Jack Grocott, Editor, *India Quarterly*

09.10 Keynote address

09.30 Transfer pricing focus

2011 marks the 10th anniversary of transfer pricing being introduced to India. And with each year revealing record assessments by the authorities, having a robust and up-to-date transfer pricing policy is key to reducing your risk of exposure. With advance pricing agreements on their way and reinvigorated hopes of an effective safe harbour regime, it's a good time to examine whether your transfer pricing strategy is the best one for your company.

- Outline of any new legislation/case law and its ramifications
- Managing the relationship with the TPO
- Top tips for handling an assessment
- APA filing techniques
- What's the best methodology
- How to find the comparables that will resist challenge
- Why intangibles are more relevant than ever

11.00 Coffee

11.30 Tax disputes and advance rulings

Disputes in India have been described as unavoidable. This does not have to be the case. With a series of recent cases going in favour of taxpayers and the increasing reliance on the Authority for Advance Rulings, steering clear of disputes should be seen as the key to growing a business in India.

- Dispute Resolution Panels vs Commissioners of Income Tax
- Maintaining the tax officer's confidence
- An in-depth look at the Settlement Commission
- Why the appeal of E*Trade is a worrying development
- An essential update on key developments and rulings from across India
- What can be learnt from recent case law

13.00 Lunch

13.45 Keynote address

14.00 Anti-avoidance: How other countries have managed GAAR

India's proposed general anti-avoidance rule has been criticised by many. Concerns have been expressed over the power of the CBDT chairman to ultimately decide on the substance vs form debate. And with the GAAR panel being criticised as not impartial, what have other countries done to make their GAAR regimes work and what can India learn from them.

- Anti-avoidance initiatives from across the world
- Why substance over form is key
- How will the GAAR operate in practice
- Is this the end for the Mauritius treaty relief?
- The tax authority attitude to anti-avoidance
- Lessons India's GAAR panel can learn

15.30 Coffee

16.00 Global tax developments

In today's environment tax authorities are talking to each other and to taxpayers more than ever. India now has tax officials stationed across the world in more than 10 locations. With India looking to the rest of the world and cherry-picking best practices, being on top of global developments is the closest way taxpayers can see into the future and prepare for further Indian tax developments.

- The threat of joint-audits
- How much information do the authorities really have?
- Controversy management strategies from across the world
- Just why have India sent tax officials abroad?
- Circumnavigating regional and global regulations
- Advice for structuring transactions
- Latest OECD developments on beneficial ownership and intangibles

17.30 Chair's closing remarks

Hotel

1, Mansingh Road
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One of the most distinguished addresses in the national capital, The Taj Mahal Hotel is located in the exclusive residential area of Lutyens' Delhi, close to the seat of government. Reflecting the heritage of Mughal Delhi, this hotel offers graceful architecture with modern facilities.

The warm, pristine white lobby of The Taj includes design details reminiscent of Mughal architecture such as intricate motifs, golden inlay work, and niches from 'Shahjahanabad', the erstwhile mogul capital. The hotel is a veritable showcase of artefacts with the intricate design work of the lobby's domes and panels perfectly complementing the calm marble fountain streams.

The hotel is a city landmark, centrally located, in close proximity to key areas. It is a 40-minute drive from the airport and near the bustling city centre, Connaught Place, Pragati Maidan, Government offices and Diplomatic missions.

The Taj Mahal Hotel has been awarded the 5 Star Diamond Award by the American Academy of Hospitality.

Taj Mahal Hotel, New Delhi



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ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION:

CANCELLATION POLICY: If you cannot attend you must cancel your registration in writing by 6 August 2011 to receive a refund less a 10% administration charge. Cancellations received after 6 August 2011 are liable for the full conference fee. You may send a substitute to attend in your place at no extra charge, however we must know by 1 September 2011 via email. We cannot accept verbal cancellations. If you make your booking via the telephone, you are automatically adhering to our terms and conditions.

REGISTRATION FEE: The registration fee includes participation in the conference, lunches, coffee breaks, documentation material, which will be distributed at the beginning of the event and a cocktail reception at the end of day one. All bookings are binding on receipt of the booking form.

TRAVEL & ACCOMMODATION: Delegates are responsible for the arrangement and payment of their own travel and accommodation.