

o/c

VOICE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT (NGO)

303, PRABHAT KIRAN BUILDING, 17 RAJINDER PLACE, NEW DELHI-110008

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August 28, 2015

The Chairperson,
Central Board of Direct Taxes
Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance,
Government of India,
North Block, New Delhi-110 001



Respected Madam,

Sub: Extension of date for filing of ITRs under Section 139 – request reg.

As you may kindly be aware, the Voice of CA [VoCA] is a not-for-profit organization registered under the Societies Registration Act. The number of subscribers to VoCA, founded in March, 2009 - to facilitate sharing of thoughts on matters concerned all walks of life, in addition, of course, to the matters of professional enrichment - aggregates to over 43,000. Majority of them are chartered accountant. The aims and objectives of the VoCA include - enabling members to serve their employers, clients and the nation as a whole in a better manner, and represent members before the legislators/regulators.

With regard to the captioned subject matter, a good number of subscribers have shared their concern with VoCA and the hardship being faced by them in adhering the due date for filing of required Income-Tax Returns for the Assessment Year 2015-16 on account, inter alia, of the following :

(1) The related Forms of Income-tax Returns for the AY 2015-16 were available / notified almost at the end of July, 2015 - as against the such Forms being available in April itself/or in May of the concerned AY. Indirectly, the time gap available has been just about 35 days between the availability of related Forms and the last date for filing the same, as against the usual minimum availability of such gap of 60-90 days.

(2) The amendments in the above Forms necessitated re-development of the software. Such development naturally took sometime.

In the above context, the ITR utility on the website of the Department of Income-tax, after incorporating therein the required modification/updation as a consequence of amendment in the Forms of Income-tax Returns, was available to the public in the second week of August, 2015. This further reduced the availability of time in the hands of the filers.

(3) The Forms for Tax Audit for the period ended 30th September, 2014 were similarly amended without any prior notice and at the last minute. The same, on account of shorter span of time available, resulted in lot of hardship in finalizing and thereafter e-filing the same. You will please appreciate that had those amendments made/notified in good time, we would have been saved of the hardship. As of now, we do not know if the tax audit forms will again be subjected to any amendments. If yes, what will be the time frame available to the chartered accountant in between the notification of amendments and the usual due date of filing the report on tax audit.

In view of the above, may we request you to kindly extend the date for filing the aforementioned ITRs suitably, but by atleast a month. While making this request, we are aware, that the due date as regards the current AY had earlier been extended from 31st July, 2015 to 31st August, 2015 in the backdrop inter alia of what has been submitted above.

We are sure our request will find favour and you will kindly have the necessary orders issued.

Yours faithfully

(CA. Monika Aggarwal)
Executive Member
For and on behalf of Voice of CAs