

## **Revised tax appeal limits will apply to pending cases**

The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has clarified in an internal notification sent to high ranking I-T officials that the revised monetary limits for filing of appeals by tax authorities before the I-T tribunals and courts will apply to all pending cases too.

TOI, in its August 9 edition, had analysed CBDT's notification that raised the threshold limits for filing of appeals by the I-T authorities with the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal (ITAT) to Rs 50 lakh (earlier limit being Rs 20 lakh). Additionally, it had doubled the threshold limit for filing of appeals with the high courts and the Supreme Court to Rs 1 crore and Rs 2 crore respectively. TOI had also correctly pointed out that the revised thresholds would apply to all pending cases.

The internal notification, dated August 20, instructs the I-T authorities to withdraw all pending appeals within the revised limit by October 31. To better monitor the situation, a fortnightly report has to be submitted by the I-T authorities to the CBDT.

ITAT-Ahmedabad was the first to take cognisance of CBDT's circular. Last week, it dismissed more than 600 pending appeals in a single day as the tax effect of the disputed amounts in these cases was less than Rs 50 lakh. The I-T department's contention that the revised threshold would not apply to pending cases was dismissed by the bench. "The clarity now offered by the CBDT will remove doubts, if any, and ease the backlog in the tax tribunals and courts," a government official said.

*(Times of India)*