



Ministry of Finance



New record of over 6.77 crore Income Tax Returns (ITRs) filed till 31st July, 2023; record growth of 16.1% Year-on-Year

64.33 lakh ITRs filed on 31st July, 2023

53.67 lakh ITRs from first time filers indicates widening of tax base

5.63 crore ITRs already e-verified, with more than 3.44 crore (61%) ITRs for AY 2023-24 processed by 31st July, 2023

Posted On: 01 AUG 2023 8:13PM by PIB Delhi

The Income-tax Department appreciates the taxpayers and tax professionals for making compliances in time, leading to a surge in filing of Income-tax Returns (ITRs), resulting in a new record of ITRs filed. The total number of ITRs for AY 2023-24 filed till 31st July, 2023 are more than **6.77 crore**, which is **16.1%** more than the total ITRs for AY 2022-23 (5.83 crore) filed till 31st July 2022.

The filing of ITRs peaked on 31st July, 2023 (due date for salaried taxpayers and other non-tax audit cases) with over **64.33 lakh** ITRs being filed on a single day i.e. on 31st July, 2023. The e-filing portal also observed its highest per hour rate of **4,96,559** of ITR filing between 5 PM to 6 PM on 31st July, 2023, with highest per second rate of ITR filing of **486** (31-Jul-2023: 16:35:06) and highest per minute rate of ITR filing of **8,622** (31-Jul-2023: 17:54).

The Department also received 53.67 lakh ITRs till 31st July, 2023 from first time filers, a fair indication of widening of tax base.

Campaigns on Socialmedia along with targeted e-mail and SMS campaigns were launched to encourage the taxpayers to file their ITRs early. Such concerted efforts led to fruitful results with taxpayers filing their ITRs for AY 2023-24 relatively earlier compared to the corresponding period of the preceding year. The following data corroborates the same:

ITR filing milestone	AY 2022-23	AY 2023-24
1 crore	8 th July 2022	26 th June 2023

 2 crore	20 th July 2022	11 th July 2023
 3 crore	25 th July 2022	18 th July 2023
 4 crore	28 th July 2022	24 th July 2023
 5 crore	30 th July 2022	27 th July 2023
 5.83 crore	31 st July 2022	30 th July 2023
5 crore	---	30 th July 2023
6.77 crore	---	31 st July 2023

Out of the 6.77 crore ITRs filed for AY 2023-24, 49.18% of ITRs are ITR-1 (3.33 crore), 11.97% are ITR-2 (81.12 lakh), 11.13% are ITR-3 (75.40 lakh), 26.77% are ITR-4 (1.81 crore) and 0.94% are ITR-5 to 7 (6.40 lakh). Over 46% of these ITRs have been filed using the online ITR utility available on the e-filing portal and the balance have been filed using offline ITR utilities.

During the peak filing period, e-filing portal successfully handled huge traffic providing a seamless experience to taxpayers for filing of ITRs. During the period from 1st July, 2023 to 31st July, 2023, there were more than **32 crore** successful logins on the e-filing portal. On 31st July, 2023 itself, successful logins stood at **2.74 crore**.

It is heartening to note that a large number of taxpayers did their due diligence by comparing data of their financial transactions by viewing their Annual Information Statement (AIS) and Taxpayer Information Summary (TIS). A substantial portion of the data for ITR-1,2,3 and 4 was already prefilled with data pertaining to salary, interest, dividend, personal information, tax payment including TDS related information, brought forward losses, MAT credit etc to further ease compliance for taxpayers. The taxpayers used this facility extensively, resulting in smoother and faster filing of ITRs.

The process of e-verification through Aadhaar OTP and other methods is important for the Department to commence processing of the ITR and to issue refunds, if any. It is encouraging to note that 5.63 crore returns have been e-verified, out of which more than 5.27 crore are through Aadhaar based OTP (94%). Of the e-verified ITRs, more than 3.44 crore ITRs for AY 2023-24 have been processed (61%) by 31st July, 2023.

Further, a new e-pay tax payment platform TIN 2.0 was made available on the e-filing portal, replacing the earlier Protean (NSDL) based OLTAS payment system. This enabled provision of more user-friendly options for e-payment of taxes and making available more number of options for mode of payments such as Internet Banking, NEFT/RTGS, OTC, Debit Card, payment gateway and UPI. TIN 2.0 platform has enabled real time credit of taxes to taxpayers which made ITR filing easier and faster. Over **1.26 crore** challans have been received through TIN 2.0 payment system in the month of July, 2023 itself, while total challans filed through TIN 2.0 since 1st April, 2023 stands at **3.56 crore**.

The e-filing Helpdesk team has handled approximately **5 lakh** queries from taxpayers in the month of July, 2023 supporting the taxpayers proactively during the peak filing period. The support from the Helpdesk was provided to taxpayers through inbound calls, outbound calls, live chats, webex and co-browsing sessions. Helpdesk team also supported resolution of queries received on the Twitter handle of the Department through Online Response Management (ORM), by proactively reaching out to the taxpayers/ stakeholders and assisting them for different issues on near real-time basis.

The Department is thankful for the support in timely compliances and requests all taxpayers to verify their ITRs within 30 days of filing. The Department also urges taxpayers, who for any reason, missed the due date, to complete their filing immediately.

 PG/KMN

(Release ID: 1944821) Visitor Counter : 2431

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