

Faceless Assessments, Tax Charter and Honouring the honest

Tax system aims to be Seamless, Painless, Faceless: Prime Minister

In a recent address by PM Modi to the nation, pertaining to Faceless Assessment, Appeal and Tax Charter, following points were brought out:

- Faceless Assessments: its features and benefits
- The Tax Charter, listing the Income Tax Department's duties to taxpayers and in turn highlighting the taxpayer's responsibilities
- Prime Minister launches platform for "Transparent Taxation - Honouring the Honest"



Faceless Assessments

Features and Benefits

- Selection is done through system using data analytics and artificial intelligence.
- A central computer picks up tax returns for scrutiny based on risk parameters and mismatch and then allots them randomly to a team of officers.
- Government's attempts to erase the probabilities of corruption by eliminating human-interaction in the tax return assessment process.
- Centralised issuance of notices with document identification number(DIN) making the system transparent and efficient
- No physical interface and need to visit income tax office, as such no human interference.
- The facility for faceless appeals will be available to the people of the country from 25th September 2020.

Exceptions:

Cases relating to serious fraud, major tax evasion, sensitive and search matters.

"Honouring the Honest"

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launches platform for "Transparent Taxation-Honouring the Honest" - says the number of taxpayers is significantly low with only 1.5 Crore paying taxes in a country of 130 Crore people.
- He urges people to introspect and come forward to pay Income taxes due on them to build an AtmaNirbharBharat.
- He adds that this would help in the making of a Self - Reliant India, AtmaNirbharBharat.
- **He appealed to those not paying taxes despite the capability, to come forward, file their income tax returns and commit themselves to the cause of making the country self-reliant.**

Tax Charter

In India, where tax targets are always overestimated, **the field officials are constantly told to achieve a certain target** and that leads to intimidation of taxpayers.

The government has introduced the tax charter to define the roles and responsibilities of taxpayers and of income tax officers.



The main highlights of the Tax Charter

- To provide fair, courteous and reasonable treatment.
- Treat taxpayer as honest.
- To provide complete and accurate information.
- To collect the correct amount of tax by Income Tax Officers.
- To respect privacy of taxpayers.
- To maintain confidentiality.
- shows the duties and responsibilities of both the income tax department and taxpayers

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