

F.No.153/191/2002-TPL
Government of India
Ministry of Finance & Company Affairs
Department of Revenue
Central Board of Direct Taxes

New Delhi, the 6th September, 2002

ORDER

Subject: Task Force on Direct Taxes – Constitution regarding.

Ministry of Finance and Company Affairs has decided to set up a Task Force on Direct Taxes. The objective is to rationalize and simplify the Direct Tax Laws and re-design procedures to bring them at par with best international practices so as to encourage voluntary compliance and reduce compliance cost. Accordingly, the Task Force on Direct Taxes is constituted as under:

1.	Dr. V.L. Kelkar, Adviser to the Minister of Finance and Company Affairs.	Chairman
2.	Dr. Ashok Lahiri, Director, NIPFP, New Delhi**	Member
3.	Shri S.N.L. Agarwala, Advocate and former Chief Commissioner of Income-tax, Ahmedabad.	Member
4.	Shri Arvind Sonde, Advocate, Mumbai.	Member
5.	Dr. Omkar Goswami, Chief Economist, Confederation of Indian Industries, New Delhi.	Member
6.	Dr. Urjit Patel, Executive Vice-President, IDFC Ltd., Mumbai	Member
7.	Shri S. Ananthanaryanan, Executive Director, AMCO Batteries Ltd., Bangalore.	Member
8.	Shri Dipankar Chatterji, Chartered Accountant, Kolkata.	Member
9.	Shri T.V. Mohandas Pai, Chief Financial Officer, Infosys Technologies Ltd., Bangalore.	Member
10.	Shri P.C. Parmar, Chartered Accountant, Pune.	Member
11.	Shri A.J. Majumdar, Joint Secretary, CBDT, Department of Revenue.	Member-Secretary

Tax Policy and Legislation (Unit-II), Central Board of Direct Taxes, Department of Revenue will serve as the Secretariat of the Task Force.

2. The terms of Reference of the Task Force are as follows:

- (i) Rationalisation and simplification of the direct taxes with a view to minimizing exemptions, removing anomalies and improving equity.
- (ii) Improvement in tax-payer services so as to reduce compliance cost, impart transparency and facilitate voluntary compliance.
- (iii) Re-designing procedures for strengthening enforcement so as to improve compliance of direct tax laws.

(iv) Any other matter related to the above points.

3. The terms and conditions of the Task Force will be as follows:

- (a) The Task Force should furnish to the Government a Draft Consultation Paper containing its recommendations by 31.10.2002. The same will be made available to the public for feedback and comments by 07.11.2002, which shall be considered by the Task Force and a Final Report submitted to Government by 15.12.2002.
- (b) The Task Force is empowered to interact with departmental officials, trade interests and individuals and visit field formations as it may choose.
- (c) The non-official Task Force members would be entitled to TA/DA as per norms.

(DEEPIKA MITTAL)
Under Secretary to the Government of India

To

Chairman and Members of Task Force

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Copy to:

- 1. Director (Finance Minister's Office)
- 2. PS to Adviser to F.M. & CA
- 3. PS to MOS(Revenue)
- 4. PS to MOS (Expenditure, Banking & Insurance)
- 5. Sr. PPS to Finance Secretary
- 6. PPS to Secretary (Revenue)
- 7. PPS to Secretary (Expenditure)
- 8. PPS to Secretary (Banking & Insurance)
- 9. PPS to Chief Economic Adviser
- 10. PPS to Chairman, CBDT
- 11. PPS to Chairman, CBEC
- 12. PS to Members, CBDT
- 13. Financial Adviser, Ministry of Finance & Company Affairs
- 14. All Directors General/Chief Commissioners of Income-tax

Sd/-
(DEEPIKA MITTAL)
Under Secretary to the Government of India

**Dr. Ashok Lahiri resigned subsequently, consequent upon his appointment as Chief Economic Advisor, Government of India.