

I. Income Tax

a. Double taxation avoidance agreement with Taipei comes into force

India entered into Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement with Taipei for determining the rates of taxes applicable on transactions between residents of the two countries on July 12th, 2011. The said agreement has now been notified to come into from August 12th, 2011.

Treaties with the governments of Georgia and Uruguay have also been entered into but the same are yet to be notified.

b. Due date for filing of TDS returns by Government deductors revised

The due date for filing of returns of TDS deducted by Government offices has been revised. The revised dates as following

Qtr Ended	Due Date
June 30 th	July 31 st
Sept 30 th	Oct 31 st
Dec 31 st	Jan 31 st
Mar 31 st	May 15 th

c. New form introduced for obtaining PAN for non-residents

Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has introduced Form 49AA for obtaining PAN of non-resident individuals and companies. CBDT has also released the list of documents that are to be submitted along with the said form.

The significance of PAN has assumed importance in recent times as the Government has mandated that tax is to be deducted at higher rate if PAN is not furnished by the deductee.

II. Corporate Laws

a. Final XBRL Validation tool released

Ministry of Company Affairs released the final version of the XBRL validation tool on October 14, 2011. With the revised validation tool and new form Form 23AC and 23ACA being released, filings of financial statements in XBRL format has started.

Earlier this year, filings in XBRL format had been made mandatory for companies fulfilling the prescribed conditions.

b. Amendment to Equity, IDR and SME equity listing agreements

With a view to improve the disclosure being made, SEBI has amended the listing agreements to. Significant changes are as follows

- In addition to existing requirements, figures of immediately previous quarter are to be disclosed as well.
- Submission of Quarterly unaudited results to be accompanied by limited review of the auditors.
- Disclosure of voting results to be made within 48 hours of from conclusion of shareholders' meeting.

III. FEMA/RBI/SEBI**a. Deregulation of interest rate on Savings Bank Account**

The Reserve Bank of India has, in a popular move, deregulated the rate of interest that will be allowed on funds held in Savings Bank account. As such, the banks are free to provide higher rate of interest subject to the following conditions

- A uniform rate of interest is to be offered on savings bank deposits upto Rs. 1 Lakh
- Differential rates can only be applied to deposits over Rs. 1 Lakh, however, no discrimination is to be made on interest rate paid between deposits of similar amount made on the same date at different locations.
- Applicable only on resident Indians only. NRE & NRO accounts to continue at 4 per cent only.

b. Repo rates increased once again

In its review of the Monetary Policy, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) increased the repo rate and reverse repo rates by 25 basis points, i.e., 0.25 percent. The repo rates and reverse repo rates now stand at 8.50 percent and 7.50 percent. This is the thirteenth successive increase by the Reserve Bank. However, the Governor of RBI gave indications that this may be the last of the increase.

Repo rate is the rate at which the banks can borrow money from RBI and reverse repo rate is the rate at which interest is paid by RBI for money deposited with them.

IV. Indirect taxes**a. Foreign Trade Policy revised**

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) has amended the Foreign Trade Policy in October. Notable changes are as follows

- Introduction of 'Special Bonus Benefit Scheme' to incentivize the engineering, pharmaceutical and chemical sectors for export during the half year ended March 31, 2012. Credit shall be at 1% of the FOB value of exports
- Introduction of 'Special Focus Market Scheme' for exports made to specific countries as notified. Credit shall be at 1% of the FOB value of exports (over the normal 3% under Focus Market Scheme)
- Expansion of 'Focus Product Scheme' to include 130 additional items.
- Modification and extension under 'New Market Linked Focus Products'

b. Exemption of Work Contract Service Provider to Sub-contractors

Clarifying on previous circular, Central Board of Excise and Customs has said that where the activities of a sub-contractor providing service to a Works Contract Service Provider are classified as Work Contract Services in respect of construction of Dams, Tunnels, Road, Bridges, etc., then the sub-contractor can also avail the exemption available to such Works Contract Service Provider.



c. Changes in Service Tax Return

In line with the changes made under Point of Taxation Rules, changes have been notified in the Service tax return (Form ST-3). The notification provides that words 'received/paid' shall now be read as 'received or receivable/paid or payable'.

d. Due date for filing of Service Tax Return Extended

The due date for filing of return of service tax for the half year ended September 30, 2011 has been extended to December 26, 2011. The date has been extended since electronic filing of return has been mandatory for the said period and all assesseees have not yet received their e-login details.

V. Delhi Value Added Tax**a. Last date for filing of DVAT 51 for financial year 2010-11 extended.**

The last date for filing of Form DVAT 51 (Return of Export Sales, Inter State Sales and Branch Transfers) for any of the quarters for financial year 2010-11 has now been extended to December 31, 2011.



Relevant due dates for the month of November 2011**Income Tax**

7th November	Deposit TDS/TCS deducted/collected during the month ended October 31, 2011
30th November	Last date of filing return of Income for corporate assesses who are required to file a transfer pricing report in Form 3CEB, extended to 30th November.

Service Tax

5th/6th November	Deposit Service Tax liability of corporate assesseees for the month ended October 31, 2011
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Excise Duty

5th/6th November	Deposit Excise duty liability for the month ended October 31, 2011
10th November	Submit return of Excise Duty for liability for the month ended October 31, 2011

DVAT

11th November	Submit half-yearly return in electronic form for the half-year ended September 30, 2011.
14th November	Submit half-yearly return in manual form for the half-year ended September 30, 2011.
25th November	Deposit VAT/ CST for the month ended October 31, 2011.
25th November	Submit monthly return in electronic form for the month ended October 31, 2011.
28th November	Deposit monthly return in manual form for the month/ quarter ended October 31, 2011.

Labour Law

15th November	Deposit Employee's & Employer's contributions to provident fund for the month ended October 31, 2011 (grace of 5 days)
21st November	Deposit ESI dues for the month ended October 31, 2011
25th November	Submit return of ESIC for the half year ended October 31, 2011
26th November	Submit return of Provident Fund for the month ended October 31, 2011

