

From The Editor's Desk

"Be thankful for what you have; you'll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don't have, you will never, ever have enough." - Oprah Winfrey

Hello JVRites!

Let us take a swift flight into the 33rd edition of Echo.

We JVRites successfully completed the filing of Income Tax Returns & Tax audits with the effective use of time under the guidance of our astute partners more efficiently without any late sitting. Now, let us gear up for the ROC filing season.

As work and enjoyment goes hand in hand at JVR, we conducted our Onam celebrations, Bike Trip and Wonderla Trip as well.

JVR has also successfully produced 5 Chartered Accountants during the quarter - CA Ann Gemma John, CA Abraham Thomas, CA Gregory Sam Wilson, CA Melda Ann George and CA Pantu Jose. A special round of applause to CA Pantu Jose for clearing CA Final in the first attempt with 2nd position in Ernakulam district. Hats off to all these young Chartered Accountants for their determination and hard work which is an inspirational factor for all of us.

In this 33rd edition, we discuss the changes in the Income Tax Act, 1961, The Companies Act, 2013 and updates in GST.

Bon Voyage & enjoy the flight to the fullest!

Alan Wilson

CONGRATULATIONS



CA ANN GEMMA JOHN



CA PANTU JOSE



CA GREGORY SAM WILSON



CA ABRAHAM THOMAS



CA MELDA ANN GEORGE

RECENT UPDATES IN GST AT A GLANCE

1. Waiver of GSTR - 9A for Composition Taxpayers for FY 2017-18 & FY 2018-19

Composition dealers have been granted exemption from filing of annual returns in GSTR - 9A for the fiscal years 2017-18 and 2018-19.

2. GSTR - 9 for small taxpayers now not compulsory for FY 2017-18 & FY 2018-19

Those taxpayers having an annual turnover of up to Rs. 2 crore in FY 2017-18 or FY 2018-19, may choose to not file GSTR - 9.

3. Circular on Post Sale Discount Withdrawn

The GST Council decided to withdraw the Central Tax Circular number 105, dated 28 June 2019 which is regarding post-sale discount for promotional activities by the dealer, secondary discounts, and reversal of ITC on post-sale discount.

List of GST Rate changes

Notification No. 14/2019- Integrated Tax (Rate), dt. 30-09-2019

Item	Current Rate	New Rate
Outdoor Catering (without ITC)	18%	5%
Diamond Job work	5%	1.50%
Other Job work	18%	12%
Hotels (Room Tariff of Rs.7501 or above)	28%	18%
Hotels (Room Tariff from Rs.1,001 to Rs.7,500)	18%	12%

Notification No. 15/2019- Integrated Tax (Rate), dt. 30-09-2019

Item	Current Rate	New Rate
Plates and cups made of flowers, leaves and bark, Dried Tamarind	5%	Nil

Notification No. 19/2019- Integrated Tax (Rate), dt. 30-09-2019

Item	Current Rate	New Rate
Caffeinated Beverages	18%	28%+12% cess
Woven/ Non-woven Polyethylene Packaging bags	18%	12%
Marine fuel	18%	5%
Wet grinders (consisting of stone as a grinder)	12%	5%
Semi-precious stones- cut & polished	3%	0.25%

Blocking and Unblocking of E-Way Bill generation facility

The blocking of E Way Bill generation facility means disabling taxpayer from generating E Way Bill (EWB), in case of non-filing of 2 or more consecutive GSTR 3B Return on GST Portal. For GSTINs whose EWB generation facility is blocked, EWB can't be generated either by the taxpayer or by their counter party (whether as supplier or recipient) or the transporter

Unblocking of EWB generation facility: The EWB generation facility would be automatically unblocked in the event of filing of their GSTR 3B return for the default period(s). The blocking will be automatically lifted on the EWB system next day.

Effect on Transporter registered on EWB Portal: The transporters registered on GST Portal, if blocked on non-filing of two or more GSTR 3B returns, cannot use their GSTIN as Consignor, Consignee or transporter to generate EWB and update transporter details.

INCOME TAX- UPDATES

The Taxation Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 2019

The key amendments made by the ordinance are as follows:

Particulars	Amendments
Reduction in tax rates for domestic companies	An option has been given to domestic companies to pay tax at the rate of 22 per cent (effective tax rate is 25.17 per cent including surcharge and cess) subject to the condition that no exemption/incentive under the IT Act has been taken by them. Also, such companies are not required to pay Minimum Alternate Tax(MAT).
Tax rate for newly incorporated domestic companies	Any domestic company which has been incorporated on or after 1 October 2019 and makes fresh investment in manufacturing can choose to pay income tax at the rate of 15 per cent (effective tax rate is 17.01 per cent including surcharge and cess). The benefit is subject to the condition that such companies will not claim any exemption/incentive and should commence their production on or before 31 March 2023. Also, such companies are not required to pay Minimum Alternate Tax(MAT).
Buy-back of shares by listed companies	Listed companies which have announced buy-back of shares before 5 July 2019 are not required to pay tax on buy-back of shares.
Minimum Alternate Tax (MAT)	With effect from 1 April 2020 (financial year 2019-20): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MAT rate has been reduced to 15 per cent from 18 percent. • MAT provisions will not apply to a person who has exercised the option to avail the concessional tax rate of 22 per cent or concessional tax rate of 15 per cent to new manufacturing companies.

COMPANIES ACT

The Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) has issued notification dt.22 October 2019 relating to the creation and maintenance of the data bank of independent directors

Compliances required by the independent directors: The MCA has amended Rule 6 of the Companies (Appointment and Qualifications of Directors) Rules. As per the amendment, following individuals should apply online to the Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs at Manesar (Haryana) for inclusion of their names in the databank for a period of one year or five years or for their life - time:

- I. Every individual who has been appointed as an independent director in a company as on 1 December 2019: Within a period of three months from 1 December 2019 i.e. up to 29 February 2020 and
- ii. Every individual who intends to get appointed as an independent director in a company after 1 December 2019: Before such appointment.

Every individual whose name is included in the data bank is required to pass an online proficiency self-assessment test (with 60 per cent score in aggregate) conducted by the institute within a period of one year from the date of inclusion of his/her name in the data bank, failing which, his/her name shall stand removed from the data bank of the institute.

AARAVAM 2k19

Just as sweetness cannot be separated from honey...

Just as beauty cannot be separated from a rainbow...

Onam cannot be separated from a Malayali's heart.

It was a day of happiness as we spent a marvelous time and had unforgettable moments.

We JVR named our 2019 Onam celebration as Aaravam.

The celebrations got a fabulous start with a beautiful Pookalam by all the junior articles. A lamp was lighted as a symbol of brightness and prosperity as sunlight expelled the darkness of night.

Then we moved to Cochin Gymkhana Club for our cultural programs like Onapattu & Thiruvathira which showcased the hidden talent of JVRites. The whole JVR was divided into 5 and each partner was given their team mates. Then started our most awaited part of Onam celebration which flagged off with Kuppilvellam Nirakkal followed by lemon & spoon race and tug of war. Apart from gaming everyone participated with a healthy competitive spirit.

For the final touch we had a delicious Onasadhya.

And at the end, all the beautiful memories of the day were captured in a single frame.

