

Interactive Session with Mr. N.P. Singh, Chief Commissioner of Income Tax, Bangalore held on September 2, 2009



From L to R: Mr. N P Singh, Chief Commissioner of Income Tax, Bangalore; Mr. K R Sekar, Chairman, Direct Taxes Expert Committee, BCIC; Mr. K R Girish, President, BCIC; Mr. Shekar Viswanathan, Vice President, BCIC; Mr. T S Sampath Kumar, Secretary General, BCIC

The Chamber organized an Interactive Session with Mr. N.P. Singh, Chief Commissioner of Income Tax, Bangalore on 2nd September, 2009.

Welcoming the Chief Commissioner, Mr. K.R. Girish, President, said that the Chamber has been regularly interacting with the Chief Commissioners of both Income Tax, Customs and Central Excise Commissionerate, Bangalore and BCIC has always been acting as the facilitator between the Industry/Trade and the Government to sort out issues amicably.

Mr. K.R. Sekar, Chairman, Direct Taxes Expert Committee, BCIC in his address said that BCIC in association with ASSOCHAM is organizing a seminar on 'Direct Tax Code' and are also planning a half-day Interactive Session on 'Safe Harbour' issues. He also brought to the attention of the Chief Commissioner on the following issues which were sent to the Chamber by the Members seeking clarifications:-

- a) Rectification Petitions
- b) Order giving effect to the order of the Appellate Authorities
- c) Disposal of Appeals by CIT(A)
- d) Certificates issued under Section 281
- e) New procedures for international tax remittances
- f) Processing of returns and granting of refunds including individual refunds
- g) PAN – change in jurisdiction.

He said that BCIC will always adopt a corroborative approach with the Commissionerate and strive to solve the problems/issues of its members through dialogue and interaction. He then requested Mr. N.P. Singh to address the gathering.

In his Address, Mr. N.P. Singh, Chief Commissioner of Income Tax, thanked the Secretariat for organizing this Interactive Session and said that Bangalore region has collected Rs.30,000 crores

towards Income Tax for the year 2008-09 and it holds the 3rd position in the country in revenue collection after Mumbai and New Delhi respectively. The Commissionerate has set a target of Rs.40,000 crores in the ensuing financial year 2009-10, he further added.

Refunds

On the issue of disbursement of refunds, Mr. Singh said that since Bangalore is the only Central Processing Centre in the country, there has been delay in processing of Refunds and the Department is putting more Officials to ensure speedy disposal of Refunds.

Grievance Mechanism

Regarding grievances mechanism, the Chief Commissioner said that once the grievances petition is filed action will be taken within 3 months. If it exceeds beyond 3 months, then the matter will be automatically brought to the notice of the Chief Commissioner and the Chief Commissioner ensures that the case is disposed instantly.

Appellate Order

The Chief Commissioner said that each Appellate Order has to be followed by the Report submitted by the Commissioner and each order has to be given effect before the issue of the Report. It has been the practice of the Commissionerate to ensure that this is being followed rigorously. He also informed the participants that appeals filed two years ago are being disposed off by 31st March, 2010. Mr. Singh also informed that the Alternate Dispute Mechanism will come into effect from 1st October, 2009 and Rules are being formulated for the purpose.

TDS

With regard to TDS, he said that effective mechanism has been made to download TDS Certificate from Website of the Commissionerate and if it is not available, a bonafide certificate is being made available to the Assessee.

LTU

With regard to LTU, the present LTU office in Bangalore is functioning admirably well and it has got a Special Commissioner to look after Transfer Pricing issues. So far, LTU has disposed 56 cases. He said that the issue of a Separate Commissioner for Transfer Pricing for LTU is under active consideration. The Finance Ministry has ensured that sufficient training is being given to Officers in the area of Transfer Pricing and every year 30-40 Officers are being trained so that the issues relating to Transfer Pricing are handled properly and effectively.

Besides above, the Chief Commissioner responded to all the queries raised by the Participants.

Mr. Shekar Viswanathan, Vice President, BCIC expressed his gratitude to the Chief Commissioner for having spared his invaluable time to address the Members of the Chamber and assured that the Chamber will be working with the Commissionerate in tandem for smoother implementation of policies and procedures.