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EDITORIAL

SUBSTANTIAL INTEREST RATE REDUCTION: MANDATORY TO SUSTAIN GROWTH



CA VINOD JAIN*

The Finance Ministry, Government of India as well as Reserve Bank of India have been following a policy aggressively working on containing money supply (M³) through increasing CRR, increasing rates of fixed deposits as well as REPO rates whereby clearly signaling an upward journey of interest rates. This policy has been adopted to contain inflationary pressure. These policies measures have

not yielded positive results and inflation is mounting due to increase in international prices of commodities as well as profiteering, hoarding and monopolistic and restrictive trade practices being adopted by a certain section with deep pockets and ulterior motive of making money at any cost.

The successive increase in rate of interest has severely impacted the growth rate prospects in industry as well as in the services sector. The housing sector, the real estate sector and the infrastructure sector will get the hit most. A substantial

DERIVATIVE & FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS WORKSHOP

Understand the nitty-gritty of AS - 30 (Financial Instruments: Recognition & Measurement), AS - 31 (Financial Instruments: Presentation) and

AS - 32 (Financial Instruments : Disclosure)

coupled with Introduction to IFRS

On 21st June 2008 from 9:00 AM to 1.30 PM (followed by lunch) at Auditorium, India International Centre, Lodhi Estate, New Delhi Special module at a fee of Rs. 1100 limited to 140 participants only on first come first served basis.

SPEAKERS:

CA. P.R. Ramesh, National Head, Deloitte Haskins & Sells
CA. Amarjit Chopra, Chairman Accounting Standard Board, ICAI
CA. Vinod Jain, Chairman, INMACS Global
CA. Rahul Chattopadhyay, Asstt. Director, PWC

No additional charge for 6 days' Accounting Standards Workshop participants.

*Registration Form on Page 5

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CA BHUVNESH KHANNA HEAD - SME

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All India Chartered Accountants' Society

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WORKSHOP ON SERVICE TAX

from concept to practice....
India International Centre, Annexe Building, Lecture Hall,
40 Max Mueller Marg, New Delhi

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

DATE

From 8th August to 23rd August 2008 (8th, 9th, 22nd, 23rd August 2008)

TIMING

2.00 pm to 9.00 pm (Friday and Saturday)

For Details Please see Page No. 5

^{*} Mr. Vinod Jain, FCA, FCS, FICWA, LL.B., DISA (ICA), Chairman, INMACS Management Services Limited and Convenor, National Economic Forum (NEF). vinodjain@inmascindia.com, vinodjain@gmail.com, 9811040004



LATEST IN FINANCE

contd pg 1

SUBSTANTIAL INTEREST RATE REDUCTION....

interest rate is a must for propelling growth. The Government of United States has reduced the federal interest rate by more than 60% bringing it down to 2% per annum, with a view to arrest the recessionary tendency. The Govt. of India needs to take a lesson. A lower interest rate regime will also ensure better sentiments and prospects for the capital market, thereby further fuelling channelisation of resources for the growth of industry and business.

The inflationary tendency, has a positive side. The Govt, must ensure that out of the increase in commodity prices, the resultant benefit must reach substantially to the poor agriculturist. It is he who and the others being part of the peasant community, who are actually helping grow most of the commodities. It this happens the poor man of this country can be helped the most. The Govt. needs to act strongly against restrictive trade practices and stop the lip services by openly threatening certain business houses. The threats are being viewed by the public as an attempt to increase corruption and fleece a part of the booty from the profiteers.

India is set to move to double digit growth leading to overall economic development of the poorest of poor. The Govt. needs to courageously ensure adequate money supply and resources at a very reasonable cost. A substantial reduction in the interest cost and increased money supply through reduction of CRR and SLR are a must.

We need to plan to get rid of the onslaught of oil rampage by a united action internationally forcing oil producing countries to come under a regulation of reasonable prices. G7 countries, Brazil, India and China need to act together and force OPEC nations through persuasion and pressure to reduce the prices to a

reasonable level. America should be convinced to take a lead inspite of their own interest arising out of large US oil reserve.

contd ... pg 1

HSBC - COMMERCIAL ...

across the globe. In order to do so, we give utmost importance to our relationships with professionals like you who aid and advise business firms on various financial matters that play a vital role in planning future.

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We look forward to an opportunity in providing banking support to build your client's business. In addition, we expect advice and guidance from you in providing banking service to the SME sector.

It would be my pleasure to interact with you at the ongoing Direct Taxes Workshop at India International Centre.

Warm Regards

CA. Bhuvnesh Khanna Head - SME

LATEST IN FINANCE

1.0 EXTERNAL COMMERCIAL BORROWINGS POLICY: LIBERALISATION

At present, borrowers proposing to avail ECB up to USD 20 million for Rupee expenditure for permissible end-uses require prior approval of the Reserve Bank under the Approval Route. It has been decided that, henceforth,

- (i) borrowers in infrastructure sector may avail ECB up to USD 100 million for Rupee expenditure for permissible enduses under the Approval Route.
- (ii) In the case of other borrowers, the existing limit of USE 20 million for Rupee expenditure for permissible end-uses under the Approval Route has been enhanced to USD 50 million.

The all-in-cost ceilings in respect of ECB are modified as follows:

Maturity Period	All-in cost ceiling over 6-month LIBOR*		
	Existing	Revised	
Three years and up to five years	150 bps	200 bps	
More than five years	250 bps	300 bps	

* for the respective currency of credit or applicable benchmark.

This amendment to ECB guidelines will come into force with immediate effect. All other aspects of ECB policy such as USD 500 million limit per company per year under the Automatic Route, eligible borrower, recognized lender, end-use of foreign currency expenditure for import of capital goods and overseas investments, average maturity period, prepayment, refinancing of existing ECB and reporting arrangements remain unchanged.

The above changes will apply to ECB both under the automatic route and the approval route.

(RBI/2007-08/339 A.P. (DIR Series) Cir. No. 43 dtd. 29/05/08)





36 HOURS of an intensive professional learing WORKSHOP ON DIRECT TAXES & ACCOUNTING STANDARDS From concepts to expertise



DATES:

From 31 May to 21 June 2008 (31st May, 7th, 13th, 14th, 20th, 21st June, 2008)

TIME:

9.00 a.m. to 9.00 p.m. (Lunch: 1.30 p.m. to 2.00 p.m.) (High Tea: 5.00 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.)

VENUE:

India International Centre, Annexe Building, Lecture Hall, 40 Max Mueller Marg, New Delhi

ACCOUNTING STANDARDS WORKSHOP

DAY $5 - 20^{TH}$ JUNE 2008 (FRIDAY)

Session-XIII

9.00 am to 10.00 am

- AS 22 (Accounting for Taxes on Income)
- · Whether creation of Deferred Tax Liability is mandatory in every case
- · Creation of Deferred Tax Asset/Liability in case of entities/companies enjoying tax holiday period.
- AS 17 (Segment Reporting)

- Session-XV 11.30 am to 12.15 pm

12.30 pm to 1.30 pm

- Session-XVI 12.15 pm to 1.00 pm
- AS 18 (Related Party Disclosures.)

• AS – 28 (Impairment of Assets)

- · Whether Related Party definition needs more elaboration/clarification
- · Controversies, issues and practical aspects

Session-XIV 10.00 am to 11.00 am

Session-XVII

9.00 am to 12.30 pm

• Deliberations on

SPECIAL MODULE FOR DAY 6 – 21THJUNE 2008

- AS 30 (Financial Instruments: Recognition & Measurement) - AS 31 (Financial Instruments Presentation)
- AS 32 (Financial Instruments: Disclosures)

Session-XVIII · Introduction to IFRS:

• Compatibility of IFRS to AS of ICAI.

P.R. Ramesh, National Head, Risk Partner, Deloitte Haskins & Sells

Rahul Chattopadhyay, Associate Director, Price Waterhouse Coopers

Compatibility of IFRS and Schedule VI (Fair Value Vs. Historical Cost)

SPEAKERS - ACCOUNTING STANDARD WORKSHOP

CA

CA

CA

- Kaushal Kishore, Partner, B S R & Co.
- CA Sanjiv Agarwal, Jaipur
- CA Munish Saraogi, Associate Director, Price Waterhouse Coopers Akhil Bansal, Partner, B S R & Co.
- CA

Vinod Jain, Chairman, Inmacs Global

(SATURDAY)

HSBC (X) The world's local bank

presents

DIRECT TAXES WORKSHOP

DAY $5 - 20^{TH}$ JUNE 2008 (FRIDAY)

Session-XIII

- Tax Deduction at Source • TDS on payment for printing of Labels, boxes, packaging
- Service Tax portion of payment
- Commission/Discount Lease of car.
- Tax on interest portion in an EMI, hiring charges
- · Division / Sharing of expense.
- Reimbursement of Expense.
- · Hiring of exhibition Space in hotels & exhibition ground
- Hiring of hotels Room resulting in Payment of Rs 120000/ - Or more
- Payment for leasedlink /data link / VPN
- Repair & maintenance Of Plant & Machinery Whether 194 C or 194J.

Session-XIV

5.30 pm to 6.15 pm

Session-XV

6.15 pm to 8.30 pm

- · Discount on air tickets or prepaid calling cards issued by telecom companies TDS on Deemed Dividend Royalty and Know how
- Topic :- Mat & Books Profits

Whether qualification by Auditors can be used

- foradjusting the Book Profit • Treatment of FBT/STT/CTT
- Treatment of profits of exempted undertaking
- · Tax Planning
- Charging of interest under 234A, 234 B and 234 C

Penalties and prosecutions including

- · Late/Non Filing of return
- Concealment of Income

· Mock Search operation

Mock Tribunal Proceedings

- Failure to deduct/pay TDS
- Infringement of Sec.269 SS,269 T

DAY 6- 21STJUNE 2008 (SATURDAY)

Session-XVI 2.15 pm to 4.30 pm

- Practical Aspect of handling assessment, Reassessment preparation of replies, responding to queries, matters to be recorded, submission of documents etc.
- Mock assessment
- Preparation of appeal to CIT and ITAT & handling appellate proceedings
- · Stay of Demand

Session-XVIII 6.30 pm to 8.00 pm

- · Rights and Duties of assessee, I T Officials and CAs Practical Tips of Handling Search, Seizure and post search proceeding
- Session-XIX

8.00 pm to 8.30 pm

Validictory session

Session-XVII 5.00 pm to 6.30 pm

Surveys& Searches

• Pre Search/survey precautions

SPEAKERS - DIRECT TAXES WORKSHOP

- · CA Ved Jain, ICAI
- CA Amarpal S. Chadha, Sr. Manager, Ernst & Young
- CA Pramod Batra, Sr Manager, Ernst & Young
- Dr. Rakesh Gupta, Sr. Advocate
 CA Ajay Wadhwa, S R Wadhwa & Co.
- Shri K. Sampath, Sr. Advocate

- CA Adesh Jain
- Sh. CL Sethi, Hon'ble Judicial Member, ITAT Delhi
- · CA Rohit Jain, Vaish Associates
- CA Ajay Wadhwa
- Sh. V.P. Gupta, Sr. Advocate

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For contact details see page 8





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All India Chartered Accountants' Society Announces an Intensive 3rd Workshop on Service Tax

from concepts to expertise.....

From 8^{th} August 2008 to 23^{rd} August 2008 $(8^{th}, 9^{th}, 22^{nd} & 23^{rd} August 2008)$

TIME:

2.00 p.m. to 9.00 p.m. (Lunch: 1.00 p.m. to 2.00 p.m.) (High Tea: 5.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.) **VENUE:**

India International Centre, Annexe Building, Lecture Hall, 40 Max Mueller Marg, New Delhi

THE COMPREHENSIVE REFERESHER COURSE ON SERVICE TAX

A Comprehensive Refresher Course/ Workshop on Service Tax is being conducted spread over 4 days with the active participation of eminent speakers and professionals. The MAIN THRUST is to carry out an indepth study of the basic concepts, critical issues and their practical applications including tax planning of the laws, rules and regulations and recent case laws relating to Service Tax.

	DAY $1 - 8^{TH}$ AUGUST 2008 (FRIDAY)		D	AY 3 – 22 ND AUGU	JST 2008 (FRIDAY)		
Session-I 2.15 pm to 3.45 pm	 Applicability- Person/Geographical (J & K) ● General Exemptions Special Economic Zones related Issues ● Issues related to Minimum Threshold Limit ● Abatements from Service Tax ● Service Tax vis-à-vis Other Tax Laws ● Latest Important Amendments in service tax 	a 2.00	sion-X pm to 3.30 pm		lit (Cenvat) • Operational issues of Cenvat credit tifications, procedures & rules and case laws rvice Distributor		
Session-II 3.45 pm to 5.30 pm Session-III 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm	●Business Auxiliary Services ●Business Support Services Financial Services ●Banking & Other Financial Services ●Foreign Exchange Broker's Services ●Portfolio Management Services ●Management of Investment under ULIPServices	3.30 s	sion-XI pm to 5.30 pm	Real Estate & Infrastructure Services • Commercial or Industrial Construction Services • Construction of Complex Services • Erection, Commissioning & Instalation Services • Services in execution of Works Contract • Site formation and Clearance, excavation and earthmoving and demolition Services • Interior Decorator's Services • Renting of Immovable Property Services			
Session-IV 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm	Intellectual Property Services •Franchise Services •Intellectual Property Services		sion-XII pm to 7.00 pm		uditing issues in Service Tax • Service Tax Iandling Departmental Audit		
Session-V 8.00 pm to 9.00 pm	Valuation of Services ●Service Tax (Determination of Value) Rules, 2006		7.00 pm to 7.45 pm • Broadcasting Services		tion Services • Advertisement Services rvices • Space or Time Selling Services		
Γ	DAY 2 – 9 TH AUGUST 2008 (SATURDAY)			Sponsorship Services			
Session-VI 2.00 pm to 3.30 pm	Transport of Goods Services ●Goods Transport Agency's Services ●Courier and Mailing Services	7.45 s	sion-XIV pm to 8.15 pm		s Business Exhibition Services Event Mana- andap Keeper Services Shamiana Services vices		
	◆Transport of Goods by Air Services ◆Clearing and Forwarding ◆Cargo Handling Services ◆Airport / Port Services ◆Customs House Agent Services ◆Storage and ware-housing Services ◆ Transport of Goods through Pipeline, Rail Services		sion-XV pm to 9.00 pm	Maintenance or Repair	 Commercial Training or Coaching Services ● Management Maintenance or Repair Services ● Authorised Service Station Services Maintenance of Software Services 		
Session-VII	Professional Services		DA	$Y 4 - 23^{RD}$ AUGUS	T 2008 (SATURDAY)		
3.30 pm to 5.30 pm		s 2.00	sion-XVI pm to 2.45 pm	Manpower Recruitment or Supply Agency's Services Clubs Association Services			
	Practicing Chartered Accountants Services		pm to 3.15 pm	Tour Operator's Services			
Session-VIII 6.00 pm to 7.30 pm	Procedures, Abatements and Filing ●Registration procedure—Centralized/Decentralized ● PAN based code (STC) ●Payment of Service Tax including e payment ●Refund. Adjustment of Service Tax ● Filing/Revision of returns ● Interest/Penalties ● Assessments & Reply to Show Cause Notices ● Advance Rulings	e 3.15 / S Sess	• Design Services • Development & Supply of Contents Service • Telecommunication Services • Internet Telecommunication service (New) • Export of Services Rules, 2005 • Taxation of Services (Provided fror Outside India and received in India) Rules, 2006				
Session-IX 7.30 pm to 9.00 pm	 Critical & Practical Issues in Service Tax		Session-XX 6.00 pm to 6.45 pm • Supply of tangible Goods Services (New)		Goods Services (New)		
* Fax form to	REGISTRATION FORM : 91-11-26223014		pm to 7.30 pm	or Registered Associati • Processing and Clear	xchange Services (New) • Recognised Association ion Services (Goods or Forward Contract) (New) ring House Services (Goods or Forward Contract)		
* E-mail form	o : aicas.cfo@gmail.com All India Chartered Accountants' Society 503-504, Chiranjiv Tower, 43, Nehru Place, New Delhi-19	Sess	(New) • Panel of Experts • Practical issues in various aspects of ser including specific case studies				
k		i	FEE DETAILS				
Registration for	Service Tax Special Session on Derivatives	. —	on CAs/Corporate		Rs. 4000/-		
Name · Mr/Ms		' -	As/CA Firm		Rs. 3700/-		
	No.:	_	AICAS Members		Rs. 3500/-		
1			CFO World Members Rs. 3500/-				
: 1	l i		RESTRICTED TO ONLY 100 PARTICIPANTS ON FIRST COME FIRST SERVE BASIS NOTE:				
1 1 1	:	ı					
		• 5	Sending of cheques doesn't confirm registration				
	Pin	, ·	 Participation fees covers background material to the participants, lunch and high tea A voluntary Appraisal Questionnaire to judge the understanding of the workshop is proposed 				
1 1	(R)						
E-mail: Payable to "All India Chartered Accountants' Society" Via DD/Cheque (Delhi only) No :		• <u> </u> • 1	A Certificate of satisfactory completion of workshop will be issued Participants are expected to share their own practical experience and raised queries during interactive session				
	· • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		Alternative nominee for specific session(s) or day(s) could be permitted.				
11	Bank:		For further details please contact : Ms. Chhaya (9873230416) aicas.cfo@gmail.com, cfoworld@gmail.com				



LATEST IN FINANCE / TAXATION / EXIM / FEMA

2.0 RBI ENHANCES THE ALL-IN-COST CEILING FOR TRADE CREDIT

RBI has been decided to enhance the all-in-cost ceiling for trade credits as under:

Maturity Period	All-in cost ceiling over 6-month LIBOR*		
	Existing	Revised	
Upto one year	50 basis points	75 basis points	
More than one year upto three year	125 basis points	125 basis points	

^{*} for the respective currency of credit or applicable benchmark.

(RBI/2007-08/337 A.P.(DIR Series) Cir. No. 42 dt. 28/5/08)

3.0 EXTERNAL COMMERCIAL BORROWINGS (ECB) BY SERVICES SECTOR – FURTHER LIBERALIZATION

Under the extent ECB guidelines, borrowers in the services sector are not eligible to avail ECB under the Automatic Route. It has been decided, in consultation with the Govt. of India, to allow entities in the service sector viz. hotels, hospitals and software companies to avail ECB up to USD 100 million, per financial year, for the purpose of import of capital goods under the Approval Route. All other aspects of ECB policy shall remain unchanged. It is also clarified that the existing guidelines on trade credit, allowing companies including those in the services sector, to avail trade credit up to 20 million per import transaction, for a period less than 3 years, for import of capital goods, shall continue.

(RBI/2007008/348 A.P.(DIR Series) Cir. No.48 dt. 02/06/08)

4.0 RBI TIGHTENS NBFC CAP ADEQUACYNORMS

In a bid to prevent any financial irregularities and make the Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) safer, the Reserve Bank of India asked non-deposit taking NBFCs to raise the minimum capital to risk-weighted assets ratio (CRAR) from 10% now to 12% with immediate effect and further to 15% with effect from April 1, 2009.

TAXATION

1.0 EXHIBITION COST IS BIZ EXPENSES, RULES ITAT

Companies can treat expenditure incurred on participation in exhibitions as business expense and claim tax benefits, the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal has said in a recent decision pertaining to the Indian subsidiary of Austrian auto component maker Styler Daimler Puch.

2.0 DONATIONS NOT BUSINESS EXPENDITURE, RULES ITAT

Donations to trusts cannot be treated as business expenditure, a tax tribunal has ruled. The Income Tax Appellate Tribunal gave this ruling in a case pertaining to an advocate from Indore who claimed tax benefit on donation made to a charitable trust with instructions to use the money for buying books for the court library.

3.0 LUXEMBOURG AND INDIA SIGN DTAA

India inked a Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) with the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. The treaty will help in the avoidance of double taxation and in prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income and on capital besides stimulating the flow of capital, technology and personnel between the two countries.

4.0 SC RIDERS ON TAX REBATE FOR FOREIGN INSTITUTES

The Supreme Court has said that 'non-profit' foreign educational institutions having branch offices in India can claim tax exemption only if they impart education in India. The 'non-profit' tag of such institutions has to be tested against India activities and not the calculation of income over expenditure to decide whether they are qualified to be such organization for tax exemption, the apex court said in a ruling.

The bench decided that "If the applicant wants exemption under Section 10(23C)(vi) (Income Tax Act, 1961) it has to impart education in India and only then it would be entitled to claim initial approval under that section."

EXIM / FEMA

1.0 REPORTING PROCEDURE UNDER FDI SCHEME REVISED

Indian companies are required to report the details of receipt of the amount of consideration for issue of shares/convertible debentures in Annex II, together with a copy/ies of the FIRC/s evidencing the receipt of the remittance along with the KYC report on the non-resident investor in Annex III, through an AD Category - 1 bank, not later than 30 days from the date of receipt of the amount of consideration. The report would be acknowledged by the Regional Office concerned, which would allot a Unique Identification Number (UIN) for the amount reported.

The details of the issue of shares / convertible debentures should, henceforth, be reported in the revised form FC-GPR (Annex I). While forwarding form FC-GPR to the Regional Office concerned, the AD Category 1 bank should ensure that the UIN is correctly indicated in the form. It is also clarified that the annual report of all investments which is to be filed in Part B of the revised form FC-GPR, which is hitherto to be submitted by June 30 every year, would now have to be submitted by July 31 every year.

(RBI/2007-2008/342 A.P. (DIR Series) Cir. No. 44 dtd. 30/05/08)

2.0 EXPORT OF GOODS AND SERVICES – REALISATION AND REPATRIATION OF EXPORT PROCEEDS – LIBERALISATION.

RBI has enhanced the present period of realization and repatriation to India



EXIM / FEMA / CAPITAL MARKET / ACCOUNTING / COMMODITY

of the amount representing the full export value of goods or software exported, from Six Months to Twelve Months from the date of export, subject to review after one year. The provisions in regard to period of realization and repatriation to India of the full export value of goods or software exported by a unit situated in Special Economic Zone (SEZ) as well as exports made to warehouses established outside India with the permission of Reserve Bank remain unchanged.

(RBI/2007-08/354 A.P. (DIR Series) Cir.No. 50 dtd. 03/06/08.)

CAPITAL MARKET

1.0 SEBIENHANCES MINIMUM NET WORTH FOR PORTFOLIOMANAGERS

SEBI said in a statement that the board, in a meeting held, decided to enhance the minimum networth requirement for registration as portfolio manager from the existing Rs. 50 lakh to Rs. 2 crore. It has been decided to give effect to the requirement of maintaining continuous networth separately for portfolio management activities.

2.0 APPELLATETRIBUNALSETS ASIDE SEBI ORDER ON KARVY

The Securities Appellate Tribunal has set aside SEBI's disgorgement order on Karvy Stock Broking Ltd. in the IPO allotment case.

This is in line with SAT's November 2007 order setting aside the same disgorgement order on nine other entities, including National Securities Depositories Ltd.

3.0 SEBI EASES STREET PLAY FOR FOREIGNERS

Listed foreign companies with an asset base of not less than \$2 billion and a profitability record, and foreign individuals with a minimum net worth of \$50 million can now trade in local stocks. They can operate as sub-

accounts, where FIIs registered in India manage the investments.

The changes introduced by capital market regulator Sebi would also enable more overseas entities to invest as sub-accounts of FIIs, foreign portfolio managers take exposure to collective investment schemes like art funds, and FIIs to issue participatory notes (PNs) to entities like some hedge funds. PNs are derivative instruments issued by FIIs to overseas investors who have no access to the Indian market.

4.0 SEBI NOD FOR CROSS-MARGINING

In a move that will help stock market investors and brokers use their margin funds efficiently, the Securities & Exchange Board of India has approved cross-margining across cash and derivatives segments. What it means is that if an investor is buying a stock in which he already has a short position in the futures segment, he will not have to pay margin twice over.

ACCOUNTING

1.0 CONVERGENCE OF USGAAP AND IFRS

The International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) and US Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) has published consultative documents that seek public comment on two of the eight phases of their joint project to develop an improved conceptual framework.

The objective of the project is to develop an improved conceptual framework that provides a sound foundation for developing future accounting standards.

2.0 GOVT. DECIDES TO ADOPT INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNTING GUIDELINES

In a major step to avoid any hardship to nearly 200 Indian firms listed on European bourses due to 'differences' in Indian and EU accounting norms, the government has announced its decision to adopt international accounting norms.

3.0 ICAI TIGHTENS DISC-LOSURE NORMS FOR DERIVATIVES-AS-32 ON DISCLOSURE OF FIN-ANCIAL INSTRUMENTS APPROVEDBYICAI

Companies will soon need to disclose the nature and extent of risks arising from the financial instruments they hold and the steps taken to manage such risks.

In a step which is likely to give shareholders a clearer picture of the health of the company they own, accounting regulator Institute of Chartered Accountants of India has approved a new accounting standard on disclosure of all sorts of financial instruments. It would also keep investors abreast of the steps taken by the companies to guard against potential financial losses.

COMMODITIES

1.0 HEDGING OF DOMESTIC PURCHASES OF CRUDE OIL AND SALES OF PETRO-PRODUCTSALLOWED

As per the prevailing trade practices, indigenously produced crude oil is purchased at international prices by the refineries. However, hedging of price risk on domestic purchases of crude oil is not permitted. In order to enable domestic crude oil refining companies to hedge their risk exposures, it has been decided to permit them to hedge their commodity price risk on domestic purchase of crude oil and sale of petroleum products on the basis of underlying contracts linked to international prices on overseas exchanges / markets. The hedging will be allowed strictly on the basis of underlying contracts.

> (RBI/2007-08/351 A.P. (DIR Series) Cir. No. 47 dtd 3/06/08)

Posting Date 14/15 JUNE. 2008

SPEAKERS - SERVICE TAX WORKSHOP

- Ms. Anita Rastogi, PWC
- Mr. Ashok Batra, FCA
- Mr. Atul Gupta, Deloitte Haskins & Sells
- Mr. J.K. Mittal, FCA, LLB
- Mr. Manmohan Khemka, SAMYANK & Co.
- Mr. Nilamber Marawah
- Mr N Mathiyanan Advocate
- Mr. P.K. Sahu, Advocate
- Mr. Sanjiv Agarwal, FCA
- Mr. S. Vasudevan, ACA
- Mr. Tapas Misra, RSM & Co.
- Mr. V. Lakshmi Kumaran, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India

* Speakers are being confirmed.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT:

Ms. Chhaya (9873230416)

aicascfo@gmail.com, cfoworld@gmailcom

Convenor: CA Manmohan Khemka (9810064427)

Co-convenors:

CA Deepak Bahl (9810084888)

CA Manoj Pahwa (9811066276)

CA Rajesh Gosain (9810618348)

Advisor: CA Rajiv Kohli (9873430075)

Founder President: CA Vinod Jain (9811040004) Vice President: CA Pramod Kapoor (9810730568)

President: CA Avineesh Matta (9811052264)

DUMMY TRAINING - TOUGH ACTION

Tough action has already been taken against CA trainees undertaking dummy article-ship. Vigilance, surveillance and also measures have been beefed up to take action against coaching institutions undertaking coaching activities between 9.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. besides serious action against students attending classes during office hours including cancellation of their training and / or suspending their appearance in the examinations. A self regulation is obligatory.

AUDIT

1.0 ONLY CAS CAN AUDIT, CERTIFY SALES TAX RETURNS: SC

The Supreme Court upheld the order which had said that only chartered or cost accountants will be eligible to audit and certify sales tax returns.

A bench comprising Justice HK Sema and Justice Markenday Katju dismissed the petitions filed by the Sales Tax Practitioners Association of Maharashtra and the Bar Council of Maharashtra. It upheld Bombay High Court order which had said that only chartered accountants or cost accountants would be eligible to certify sales tax returns.

The high court while upholding an amendment to Maharashtra Value Added Tax Act had observed that "the objective is to facilitate prevention of evasion of tax." The Act makes it mandatory for traders- with annual sales of over Rs. 40 lakh to file sales tax returns verified only by chartered or cost accountants.



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