



Date: 4th June, 2020/6216

To
Shri Ajai Das Mehrotraji,
PCCIT, Gujarat
Aayakar Bhavan,
Ashram Road,
Ahmedabad

Sub: Request to extend the Public Grievance Redressal till 30th June, 2020

Respected Sir,

At the outset, we appreciate and applaud the efforts of the Income Tax Department, Gujarat for envisaging the implementation of a non-adversarial and effective tax administration, with progressive tax policy and improved tax compliance. Under your able leadership, the critical steps taken by the department such as proper litigation management, frequent interaction with the taxpayers, issuing prompt clarifications and strengthening compliance and enforcement functions have enhanced the trust in tax authorities and are very well taken note of by the members of trade and industry.

The announcement of “**Public Grievance Fortnight**” from June 1 to June 15, 2020 is really praiseworthy and complements your commitment to settle taxpayers’ grievances at the earliest. However, we humbly but urgently request you to extend the Public Grievance Redressal till June 30th, 2020 due the below mentioned reasons.

1. Majority of the businessmen and professionals got to know about the Public Grievance Redressal fortnight only when they read the newspaper today morning wherein the necessary details were published. The scheme is with effect from 1st June however, the announcement was made on 4th June, 2020, i.e. after 4 days, making the time period to submit the redressal even shorter. Taxpayers should be given more time to compile and submit their grievances.
2. Further as the lockdown has been relaxed since 1st June, 2020 and most of us are getting used to the “**new normal**”, the strength of workforce at the department and also at the offices of taxpayers and their consultants is less and nowhere close to its full capacity. Taxpayers’ offices are working with 30-50% capacity and they expect their workforce to resume work physically next week, making it strenuous for them to address and submit grievances in time. COVID-19 has had a huge impact psychologically and it will take some time for people to leave behind the fear and anxiety caused due to this pandemic.

Durgesh V. Buch
President

Natubhai Patel
Sr. Vice President

Bhargav Thakkar
Vice President

Sanjeev Chhajjer
Secretary

Dilip M. Padhya
Secretary (R)

Pathik S. Patwari
Treasurer



: 2 :

As, this is a measure to give relief to taxpayers and address their long standing grievances, an extension in the date will be beneficial for them as well as the department.

3. There are cases where taxpayers have received demand notices for period relating to A.Y. 2011-12 and even earlier years without proper communication from the Assessing Officer. The recovery / adjustment of demand notices were issued by CPC directly. In such cases, the taxpayers would apply for online intimation and once they receive the same, they can come to know about the veracity of demand raised. This evaluation requires time and proper checking of documents at the taxpayers end.

We also request your good self that the public grievance initiative should be under direct monitoring and strict supervision of Additional CITs.

We all are facing this unprecedented situation and we require your co-operation and patient hearing to our concerns. We would be very grateful if your goodself would take an early action in this regard and have a positive consideration of our requests. This will be very useful for the taxation fraternity and also for the trade and industry. **In conclusion, we request that suitable orders for extension of this grievance refressal initiative to 30th June, 2020 may be issued at the earliest.**

With warm regards,

Durgesh Buch
President

Jainik Vakil
Chairman
Direct Tax Committee

Durgesh V. Buch
President

Natubhai Patel
Sr. Vice President

Bhargav Thakkar
Vice President

Sanjeev Chhajer
Secretary

Dilip M. Padhya
Secretary (R)

Pathik S. Patwari
Treasurer