TDS provisions for payment to nonresident under Section 195 of the Income-tax Act

Seminar on Tax Planning of NRI ICAI, Mumbai

CA Shailendra S. Sharma 9 January 2016

Agenda



Brief overview of TDS provisions

Concept of withholding tax (WHT) provisions for nonresident

An overview of WHT under Section 195

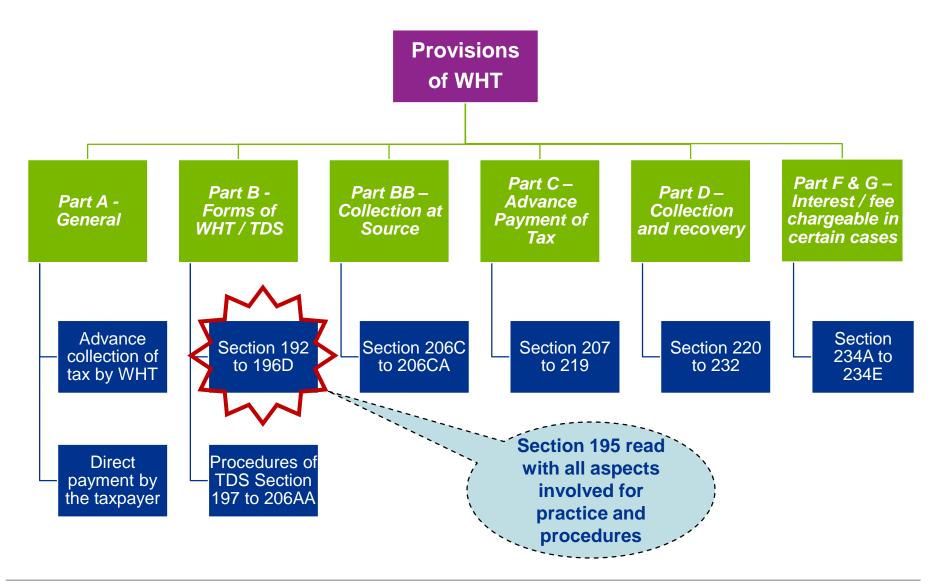
Operational rules

Case study

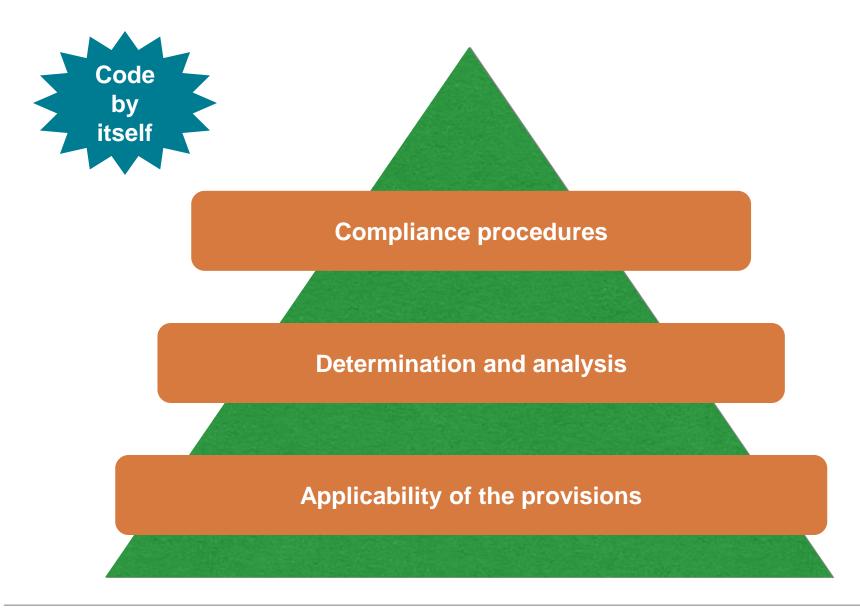
Key takeaways

Questions

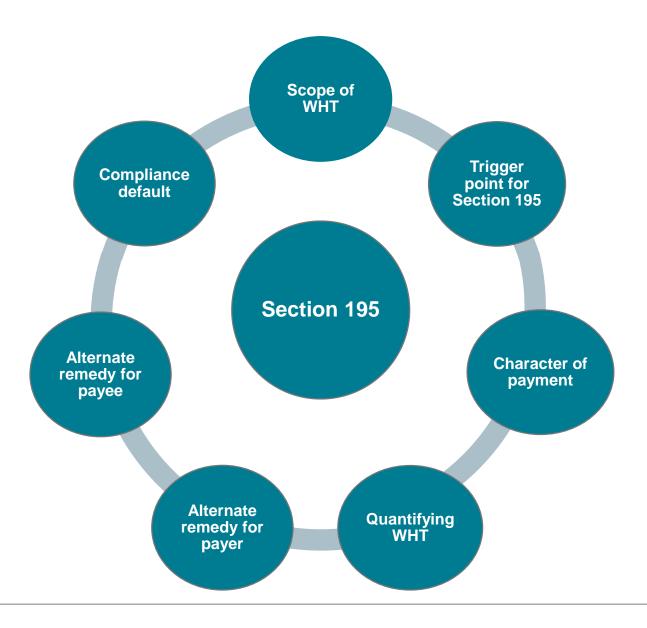
Overview of TDS provisions - Chapter XVII, Collection & Recovery of Tax – Deduction at source

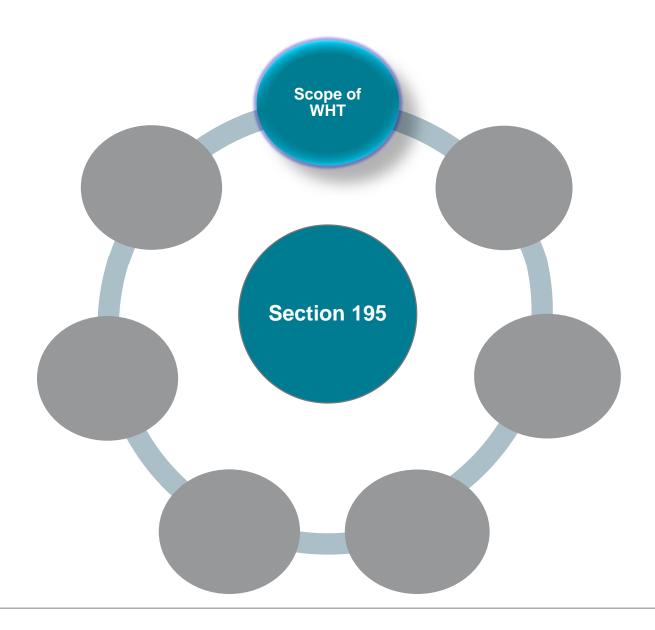


Concept of WHT provisions for nonresident



An overview of WHT under Section 195





Scope of WHT (1/2)

Operative provision of Section 195 of the Income-tax Act, 1961 (IT Act)

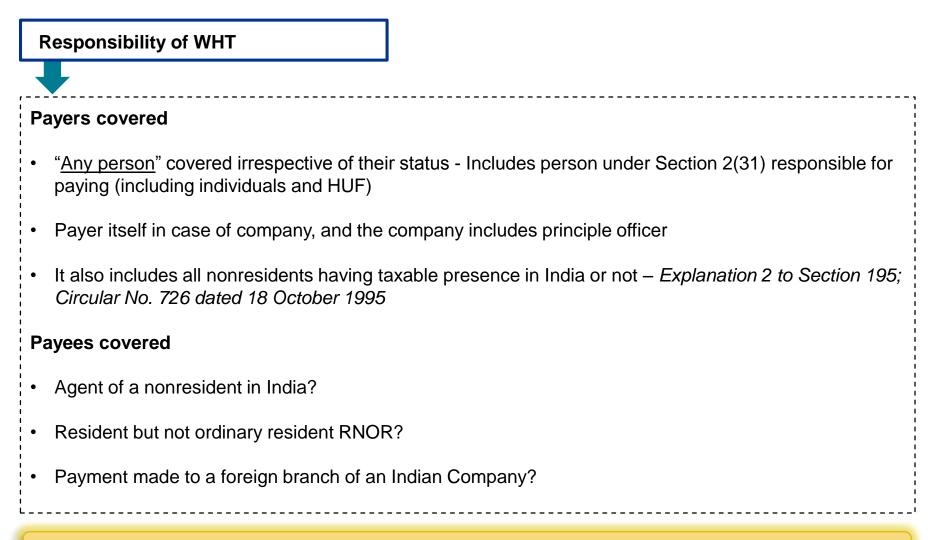
"Other sums.

195. [(1) Any person responsible for paying to a non-resident, not being a company, or to a foreign company, any interest [(not being interest referred to in section 194LB or section 194LC)] [or section 194LD] or any other sum chargeable under the provisions of this Act (not being income chargeable under the head "Salaries") shall, at the time of credit of such income to the account of the payee or at the time of payment thereof in cash or by the issue of a cheque or draft or by any other mode, whichever is earlier, deduct income-tax thereon at the rates in force..."

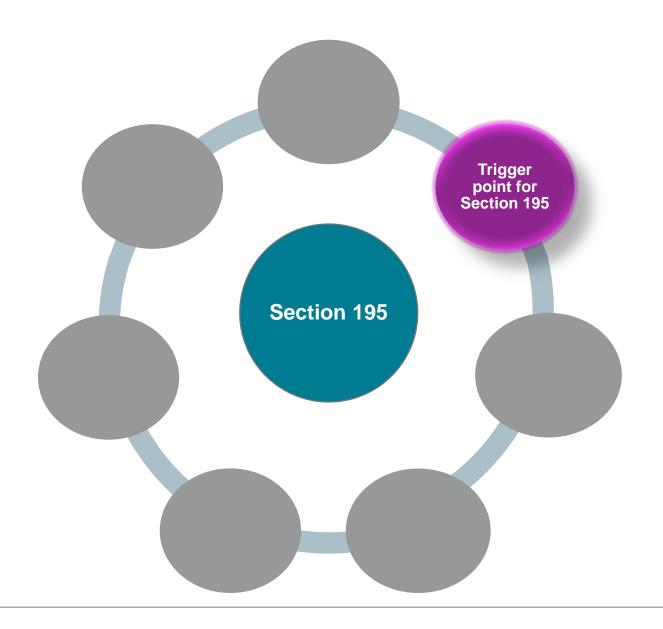
Clauses	Other provisions applicable for Section 195 of IT Act
195(2)	Application by "Payer" to Tax Authorities (AO) to determine appropriate proportion of income chargeable to tax
195(3)	Application by "Payee" to AO for NIL WHT certificate
195(4)	Validity of certificate issued by AO
195(5)	Powers of CBDT to issue Notifications
195(6)	Furnishing of information relating to payments
195(7)	Authority of board to specify class of person or cases to make application under Section 195(2)
195A	Income payable "net of tax" Grossing-up

Other clauses of Section 195

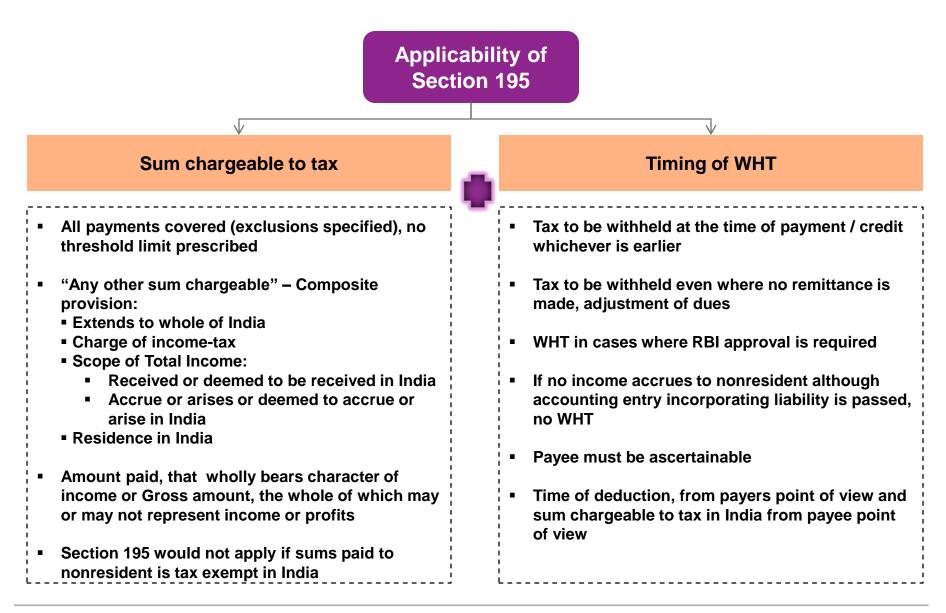
Scope of WHT (2/2)



Virtually includes EVERYONE



Trigger point for Section 195 (1/3)



Trigger point for Section 195 (2/3)

Sum chargeable to tax..brief insight

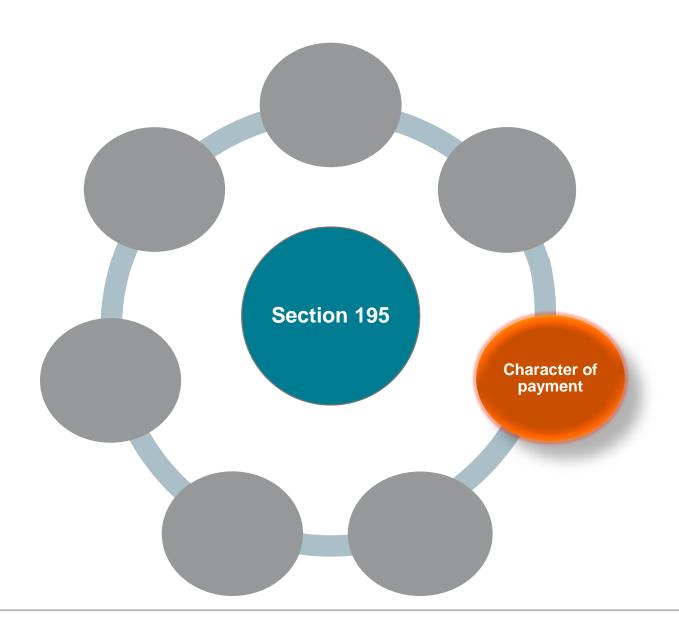
 Where, payment made by resident to non-resident, was an amount not chargeable to tax in India, no tax is deductible at source

- Assessee liable to deduct TDS under Section 195 on payment made to non-resident even though payment is not made in cash but made in kind
- Payer obligated to WHT, even if the receipt is not taxable in the hands of the payee in the country of residence
- Sums not liable to tax in India on satisfaction of conditions, the principles are enunciated under Circular 23/1969 and 786/2000 (now withdrawn) like (P to P, nonresident operates outside India, contract signed outside India, title of goods passed outside India, payment is directly remitted abroad, etc.). Payments to:
 - Agency commission payable to foreign agents;
 - Off-shore supply of goods and equipments; and
 - Consideration paid for outright purchase of designs and drawings is not royalty
- No significant impact of withdrawal of the Circulars

Does amount paid as penalty to the regulators chargeable to tax under Section 195?

Trigger point for Section 195 (3/3)

Specific exclusion	ions for WHT
Sections	Particulars
115-O	Tax on distributed profits of domestic companies
192	Income from Salaries
194LB	Income by way of interest from infrastructure debt fund
194LC	Income by way of interest from Indian company
194LD	Income by way of interest on certain bonds and Government securities
Other specific	sections
196B	Income from units
196C	Income from FCCBs or GDRs of Indian companies
196D	Income from FIIs now FPI except Capital Gains

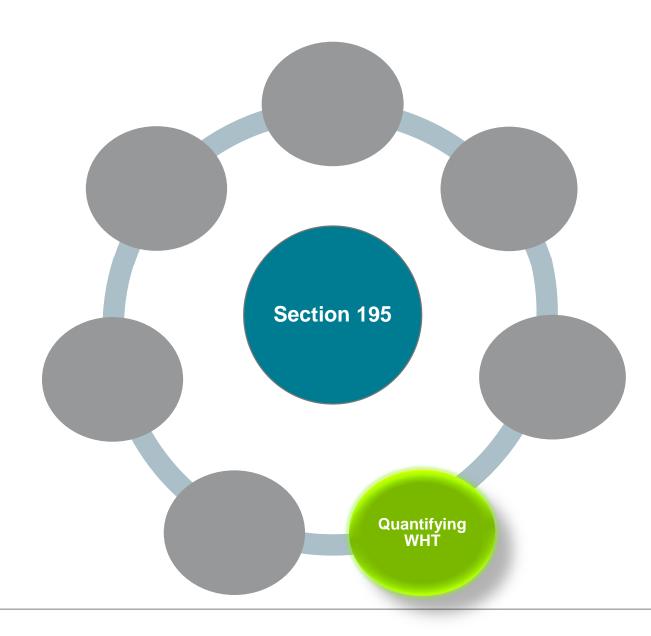


Character of payment

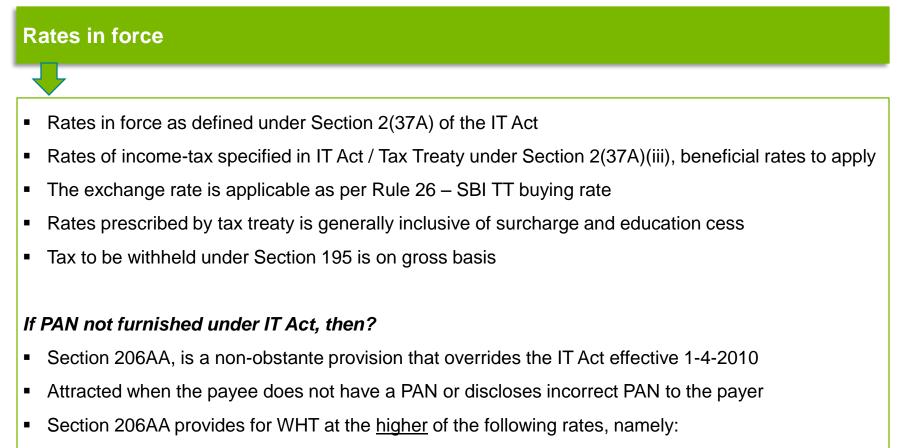
Determining the nature of payment

Nature of Income	Basis of tax	Income chargeable under		
(payee perspective)		IT Act	Tax Treaty	
Business / Profession income	Taxable if Business Connection in India or property or asset or source of income in India or transfer of a capital asset situate in India	Section 9(1)(i)	Article 5, 7 and 14	
Capital Gain	Taxable if situs of shares/ property is in India	Section 9(1)(i)	Article 13	
Dividends	Taxable if paid by an Indian company	Section 9(1)(iv) (subject to DDT)	Article 10	
Interest		Section 9(1)(v)	Article 11	
Royalties	Taxable if sourced in India	Section 9(1)(vi)		
Fees for Technical Services (FTS)		Section 9(1)(vii)	Article 12	
Salaries	Taxable if services are rendered in India	Section 9(1)(ii)	Article 15	

Provisions of the IT Act or Tax Treaty, to the extent more beneficial to the taxpayer to apply



Quantifying WHT (1/3)



- Specified rate in the relevant provisions of the IT Act; or
- Rate / rates in force; or
- 20%

Quantifying WHT (2/3)

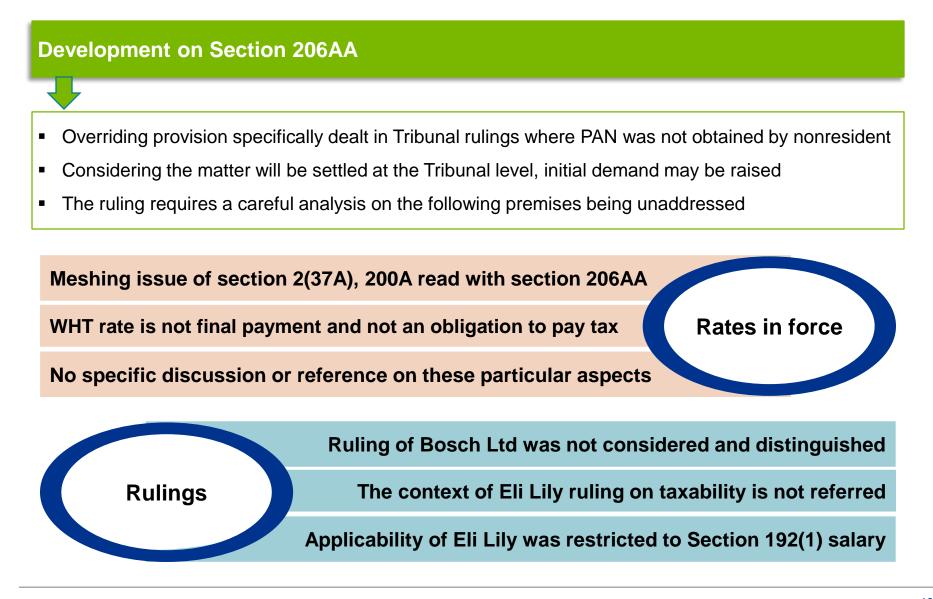
Section 195A – Income payable "net of tax" (Grossing-up)

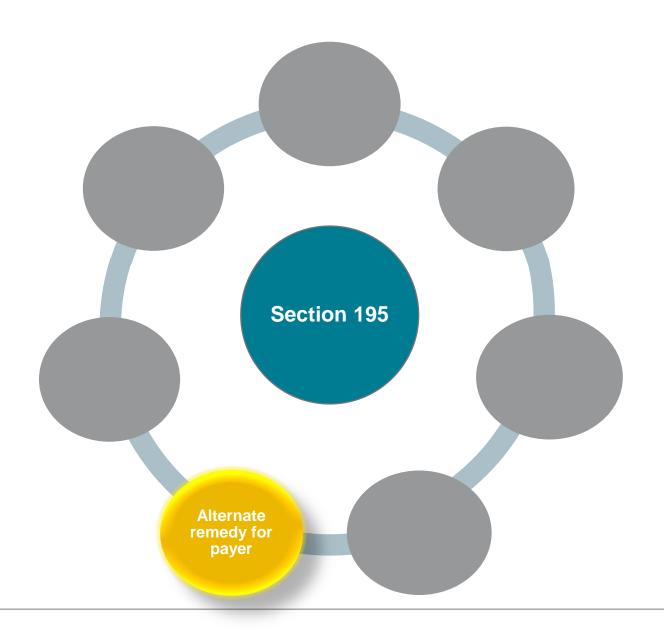
- In the event of tax chargeable on any income is borne by the payer
- For the purposes of WHT under Section 195, income should be increased to such amount as would, after WHT thereon at the rates in force, be equal to the net amount payable to the payee
- Section 195A does not apply on notional income under Section 44BB
- Friction between Section 206AA and 195A Section 206AA applicable or not for grossing-up under Section 195A of IT Act?
- Tax credit claimed by the payee to be restricted commercially Compliance under Section 203?

Illustration of Section 195A

Particulars	Amount in INR
Amount payable to nonresident	100
Add: WHT (assumed to be 10% as per the tax treaty) grossed-up (10*100/90)	11.11
Total income	111.11
Less: WHT applicable at 10%	11.11
Net amount payable to the nonresident (Recipient)	100

Quantifying WHT (3/3)



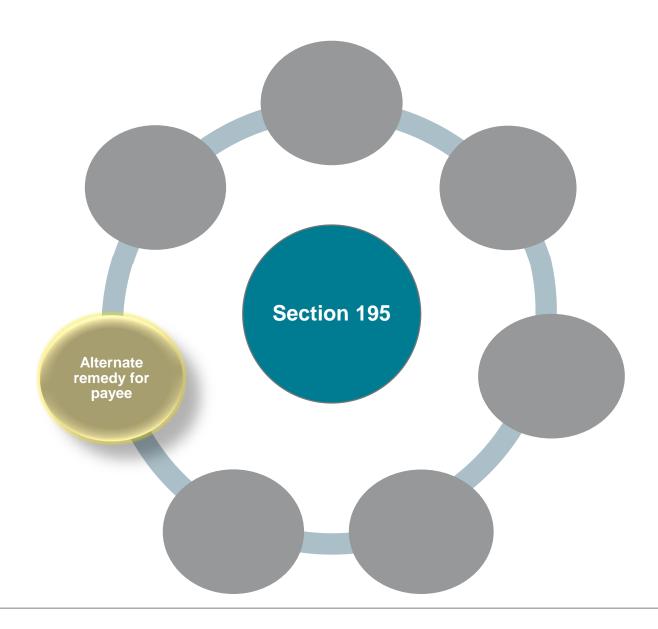


Alternate remedy for payer

Application by payer to the AO under Section 195(2)			
+			
Application by whom?	The application to be made by the payer before the jurisdictional tax authority		
When to apply?	When the payer is in doubt and believes that the whole of sum payable is not chargeable to tax in India		
Process	The payer may approach the tax authority to determine the portion of income chargeable to tax in India		
Consequence	 AO may issue a certificate, determining the portion of income chargeable to tax The permission is valid for the period specified No specified time limit available to pass the order under Section 195(2) 		

Order under Section 195(2) is:

- appealable after payment of tax
- amenable to revision under Section 263
- Decision under Section 195(2) is inconclusive in determination of income in case of foreign entity



Alternate remedy for payee

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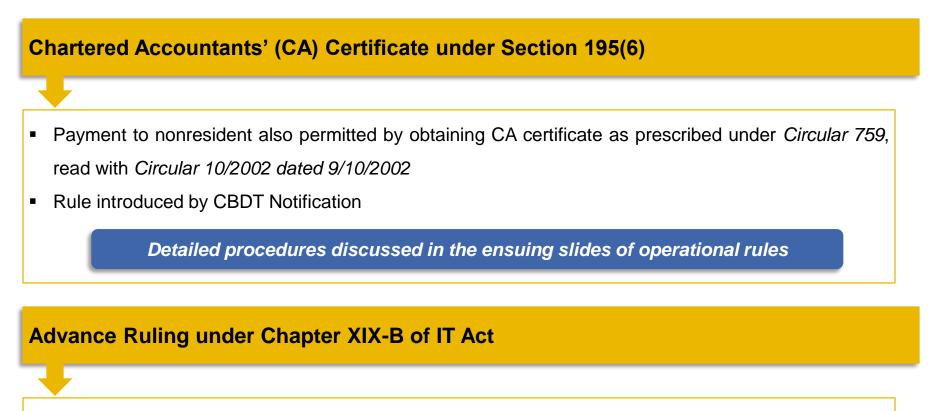
Application by payee to the AO under Section 195(3),(4) and (5)

- Payee to make application in the prescribed form (Form 15C or form 15D) for no WHT
- Prescribed conditions under Rule 29B:
 - carries on business / profession in India for 5 years and has prescribed value of assets in India;
 - been regularly assessed to Income-tax;
 - not defaulted in tax, interest, penalty, fine or any other sum payable; and
 - not been subjected to penalty under Section 271(1)
- AO may issue provisional Nil WHT certificate
- Certificate issued by the AO valid for the Financial Year mentioned therein or until cancelled
- Renewal after the expiry or within 3 months before expiry of the certificate
- Certificate issued by AO can be prospective only
- Application after the payment of tax not entertained -Circular 774 dated 17 March 1999

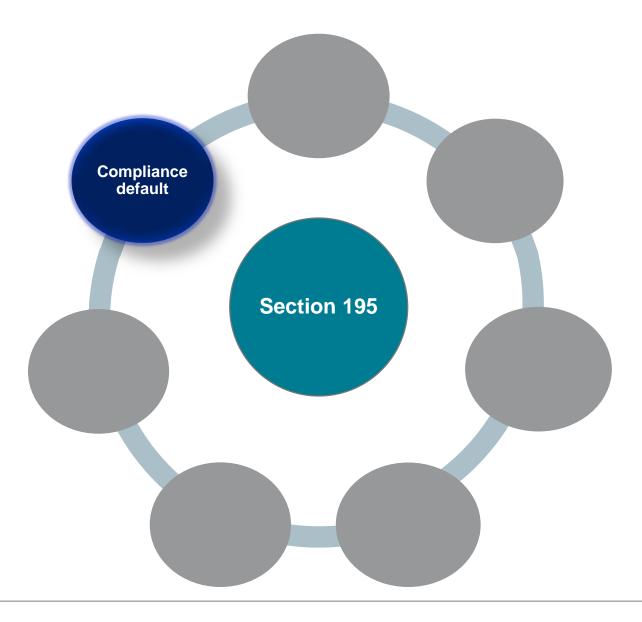
Application by payee to the AO under Section 197(1)

- Application to be made by the payee under Section 197(1) for lower / no WHT in prescribed form (Form 13)
- Prescribed conditions under Rule 28AA:
 - Tax payable on estimated or existing income;
 - Tax paid of last 3 previous years; and
 - Details of advance tax, TDS & TCS
- AO to issue certificate indicating rate / rates of tax whichever is higher of the following:
 - Average rate determined on the basis of advance tax; or
 - Average of average rates of tax paid in last 3 years
- AO to issue certificate for lower / Nil WHT
- Certificate issued by the AO valid for such period mentioned therein or until cancelled
- Application to be made before the payment / credit whichever is earlier

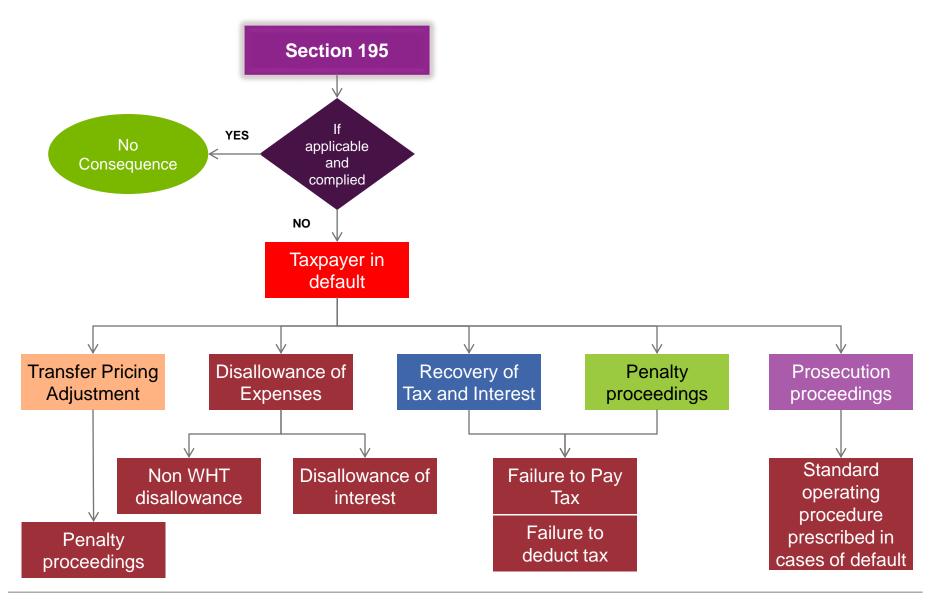
Alternate remedy for payer and payee



- Ruling by quasi-judicial authority on reference by payer / payee
- Binding ruling on applicant as well as tax authorities unless change in facts / law (diluted)
- Upfront determination of taxability of transactions undertaken by nonresidents
- Fast track mechanism, protracted litigation may be avoided with certainty in tax treatment
- Ruling is appealable before the High Court



Compliance default



Operational rules (1/9)

Provisions for CA Certificate

- Circular 10/2002 authorizes remittance of money through a CA Certificate
- CA Certificate required also for trade payments RBI Circular No. 32 dated 19 July 2007
- Provision under Section 195(6) introduced by Finance Act, 2008 for CA certificate
- Rule 37BB introduced by CBDT vide Notification 30/2009 dated 25/03/2009:
 - Forms 15CA and 15CB to intimate payments to nonresidents and manner of disclosing amount:
 - Form 15CA, prescribes information to be furnished online by the payer; and
 - Form 15CB, prescribes format of CA Certificate to be obtained
- Taxpayer not absolved from penalty / prosecution if found that WHT was lower than required
- CA certificate merely acts as a guidance and is not a substitute adjudication by the AO
- Procedure for remittance was amended from 01 October 2013, with significant change in the procedure, being more technological robust and detailed
 - Specified list of 28 payments like outbound investments, gifts, etc. exempt from the procedures
- Notification issued on 16 December 2015 to amend Rule 37BB for new forms and compliances

Operational rules (2/9)

Furnish information pertaining to foreign payment in the prescribed form and manner

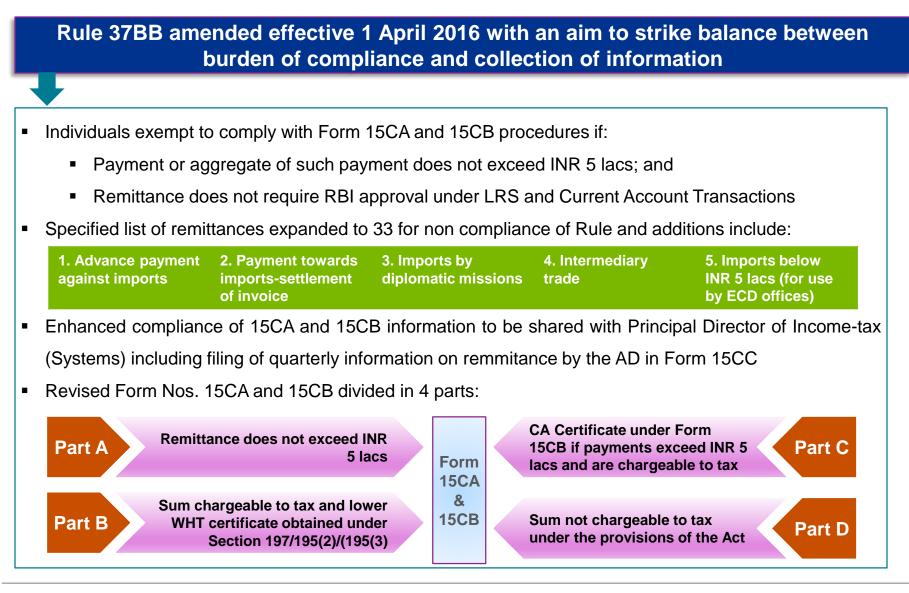
Prescribed form and manner is as per Rule 37BB and Form Nos. 15CA and 15CB

Disclosure provision prescribed under Section 195(6) (effective 1-6-2015)

Applicable to any person responsible of making payment to non-resident under section 195(1) <u>any</u> <u>sum, whether or not</u> <u>chargeable to tax</u>

Penalty for nonfurnishing or inaccurate filing of information – INR 100,000

Operational rules (3/9)



Operational rules (4/9)

Suggested method for CA Certificate

Steps	Action plan
Payment covered under Section 195	Payment from resident or from non resident to nonresident
Verify factual documents	Invoice, Contracts, Legal Status, obtain declaration, PAN, etc.
Determine character	Classification of payment, Business, Royalty, FTS, etc.
Evaluate taxability	
Under IT Act	Income-tax rates, Grossing-up, Section 206AA , Case law update
 Under tax treaty 	No PE, TP analysis, beneficial owner, entity characterization, Article, LOB clause, <u>Obtain TRC,</u> MFN, Protocol to the tax treaty, Technical explanation to the tax treaty, Model commentaries
Specific orders	Verify specific orders received from tax authorities, 195(2), etc.
Follow compliance	Complete the Form comply with WHT deadlines for deposit

Tax Residency Certificate (TRC)

- TRC requirement for all nonresidents to claim tax treaty benefits
- Furnishing of TRC mandatory to avail tax treaty benefits:
 - SC in the case of UOI v. Azadi Bachao Andolan
 [2003] 263 ITR 706 (SC)
 - Circular 789 dated 13 April 2000
 - Shome Committee report on GAAR recommends that Circular 789 of 2000 should be retained
- Prescribed additional information to be furnished along with TRC
- CBDT clarified that the additional information prescribed may not be required if it already forms part of the TRC

Notification No. 57/2013 dated 1/08/2013 [F.No.142/16/2013-TPL] revised the Rule 21AB

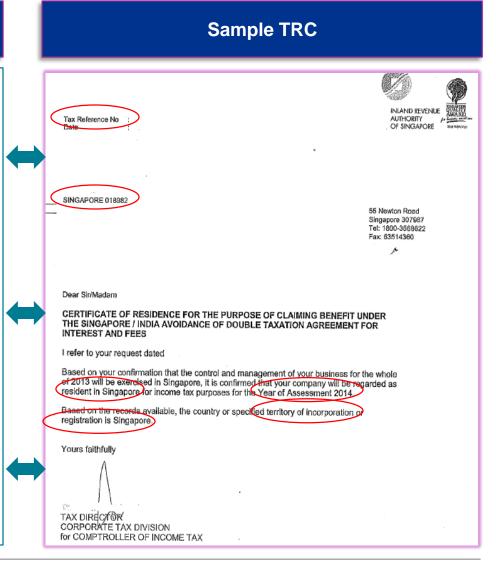
Operational rules (5/9)

Prescribed Form 10F

The additional details required to be furnished in Form 10F under Rule 21AB:

- 1. Status (Individual, Company, Firm, etc.) of the taxpayer
- 2. PAN of the taxpayer, if allotted
- Nationality (in case of an individual) or country or specified territory of incorporation or registration (in case of others)
- 4. Taxpayer's tax identification number or a unique number, as the case may be
- 5. Period for which the residential status, as mentioned in the TRC, is applicable and
- 6. Address of the taxpayer during the period for which the certificate is applicable

CBDT clarified that declaration may not be required if TRC contains above particulars



Operational rules (6/9)

	Form 15CA	Form 15CB
	Part B if the remittance is chargeable to tax and exceeds fifty thousand rupees and the aggregate of s made during the financial year exceeds two lakh fifty thousand rupees) GENERAL INFORMATION Name of the remitter PAN of remitter PAN of remitter PAN of remitter PAN of remitter PAN of remitter PAN of remitter Complete address, email and phone number of the remitter	Form No. 15CB (See rule 37BB) Certificate of an accountant ¹ I/We* have examined the agreement (wherever applicable) between Mr./Ms./M/s*
REMITEE	Status " In case of company - If domestic, write 'I' and if other than domestic,write '2' Name of recipient of remittance PAN of recipient of remittance iii Status "V Country to wish remittance is made: Principal place of business Email address (ISD code) -Phone Number (ISD code) -Phone Number	required for ascertaining the nature of remittance and for determining the rate of deduction of tax at source as per provisions of Charter- XVII-B. We hereby certify the following :- AName and address of the beneficiary of the remittance B 1. Country to which remittance is made Country: 2. Amount payable In foreign currency : In Indian
ACCOUNTANT	(a) Name of the Accountant ^v signing the certificate (b) Name of the proprietorship/firm of the accountant (c) Address (d) Registration no. of the accountant (e) Date of certificate (DD/MM/YYYY) Certificate No. (a) Whether any order/ certificate u/s 195(2)/ (Tick) Yes	3. Name of the bank Branch of the bank 4. BSR Code of the bank branch (7 digit) 5. Proposed date of remittance
A.O. ORDER	195(3)/197 of Income-tax Act has been obtained from the Assessing Officer. 105 105 (b) Section under which order/certificate has been obtained 105 (c) Name and designation of the Assessing Officer who issued the order/certificate 105 (d) Date of order/certificate 105 (e) Order/certificate number 105	 (DD/MM/YYYY) Nature of remittance as per agreement/ document In case the remittance is net of taxes, whether tax payable has been grossed up?

Operational rules (7/9)

Form 15CB

Form 15CA

Section	ı B	PARTICULARS OF REMITTANCE AND	TDS (as per certificate of the accour	ntant	1	Π	8	. Taxability under the provisions of the		
	1.	Country to which remittance is made	Country :	Currency :				Income-tax Act without considering		
	2.	Amount payable	In foreign currency	In Indian Rs.			\uparrow	DTAA)		
	3.	Name of the Bank	Branch of the Bank					(a) the relevant section of the Act under		
NCE		BSR Code of the bank branch (7 digit)						which the remittance is covered		
REMITTANCE	5.	Proposed date of remittance	(DD/MM/YYYY)					(b) the amount of income chargeable to tax		
REN	6.	Nature of remittance as per agreement/document						 (c) the tax liability (d) basis of determining taxable income and 		
	7.	In case the remittance is net of taxes, whether tax payable has been grossed up?	(Tick) Yes No					tax liability		
	8.	Taxability under the provisions of the Income-tax Act (without considering DTAA)					9	. If any relief is claimed under DTAA - (i) whether tax residency certificate is obtained from the recipient of remittance	(Tick) Yes No	
ACT		(a) the relevant section of the Act under which the remittance is covered						(ii) please specify relevant DTAA		
E		(b) the amount of income chargeable to tax						(iii) please specify relevant article of	Nature of payment as	
		(c) the tax liability						DTAA	per DTAÂ	
		(d) basis of determining taxable income and tax liability						(iv) taxable income as per DTAA	In Indian Rs.	
	9.	If any relief is claimed under DTAA- (i) Whether tax residency certificate is obtained from the recipient of remittance	(Tick) Yes No					(v) tax liability as per DTAA A. If the remittance is for royalties, fee for	In Indian Rs.	
		(ii) Please specify relevant DTAA						technical services, interest, dividend, etc.	(Tick) Yes No	
		(iii) Please specify relevant article of DTAA	Nature of payment as per DTAA					(not connected with permanent establishment) please indicate:-		
		(iv) Taxable income as per DTAA	In Indian Rs.					- -		
		(v) Tax liability as per DTAA	In Indian Rs					(a) Article of DTAA		
DTAA		A. If the remittance is for royalties, fee for technical services, interest, dividend. etc. (not connected with permanent establishment) please indicate :-	(Tick) Yes No					(b) Rate of TDS required to be deducted in terms of such article of the applicable DTAA	As per DTAA(%)	
		(a) Article of DTAA						B. In case the remittance is on account of	(Tick) Yes No	
		(b) Rate of TDS required to be deducted in terms of such article of the applicable DTAA						business income, please indicate (a) The amount of income liable to tax in		
		B. In case the remittance is on account of business income, please indicate:-	(Tick) Yes No					India		
		(a) The amount of income liable to tax in India						(b) The basis of arriving at the rate of deduction of tax		

Operational rules (8/9)

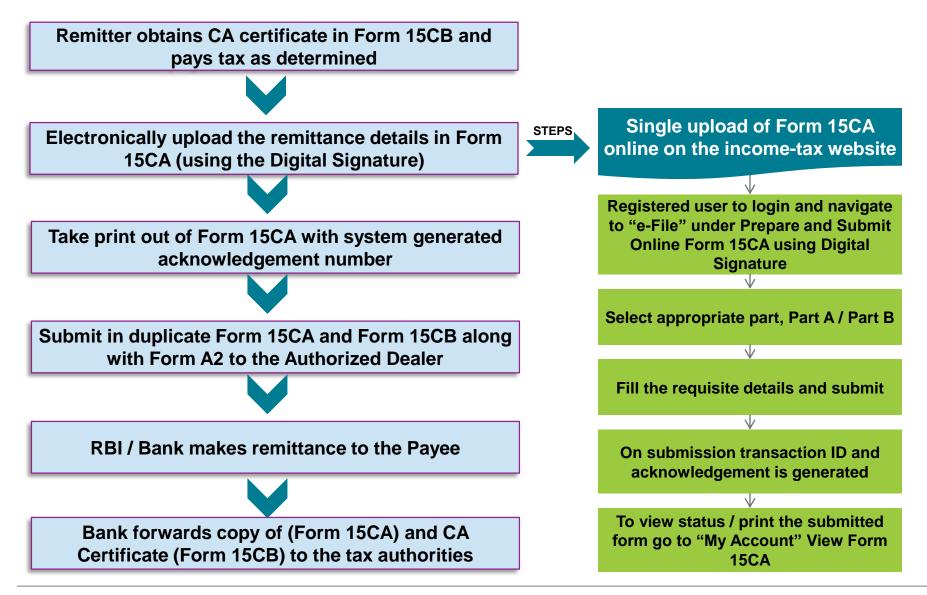
Form 15CA

					-	
		(b) The basis of arriving at the rate of deduction of tax.				
		C. In case the remittance is on account of capital gains, please indicate:-	(Tick) Yes No			
		(a) amount of long term capital gains				
		(b) amount of short-term capital gains				
		(c) basis of arriving at taxable income				
		D. In case of other remittance not covered by sub-items A, B and C	(Tick) Yes No			
		(a) Please specify nature of remittance				
		(b) Whether taxable in India as per DTAA				
		(c) If yes, rate of TDS required to be deducted in terms of such article of the applicable DTAA				
		(d) if not, please furnish brief reasons thereof specifying relevant article of DTAA				
	10.	Amount of tax deducted at source	In foreign currency			
			In Indian Rs.			
	11.	Rate of TDS	As per Income-tax Act (%)			
S			or			
TDS			As per DTAA (%)			
	12.	Actual amount of remittance after TDS	In foreign currency			
	13.	Date of deduction of tax at source, if any	(DD/MM/YYYY)			
		VERIFICATI	ON			
1. I/W	e*	(full name in block lette	ers), son/daughter of	in		
	pacity of		mnly declare that the information s	given above is true		
		our* knowledge and belief and no relevant Inf		in this Tama		
certify	2. I/We* certify that a certificate has been obtained from an accountant, particulars of which are given in this Form, certifying the amount, nature and correctness of deduction of tax at source. I/We* certify that certificate/order under section 195(2)/195(3)/197 of the Income-tax Act, 1961, particulars of which are given in this Form*.					
		it is found that the tax actually deductible or				
after deduction has not been paid or not paid in full, I/We* undertake to pay the amount of tax not deducted or not paid, as the case may be along with interest due. I/We* shall also be subject to the provisions of penalty for the said default as per the provisions of the Income-tax Act, 1961.						
	-	undertake to submit the requisite documents	for enabling the Income-tax Autho	rities to determine		
the nature and amount of income of the recipient of the above remittance as well as documents required for determining my/our liability under the Income-tax Act, 1961 as a person responsible for deduction of tax at source.						
5. I/We* further declare that I/we* am/are* furnishing this information in my/our* capacity as and I/we* am/are* also competent to sign the return of income as per provisions of section 140 of the Income-tax Act, 1961 and verify						
also co it.	ompetent to	o sign the return of income as per provisions o	f section 140 of the Income-tax Ac	et, 1961 and verify		

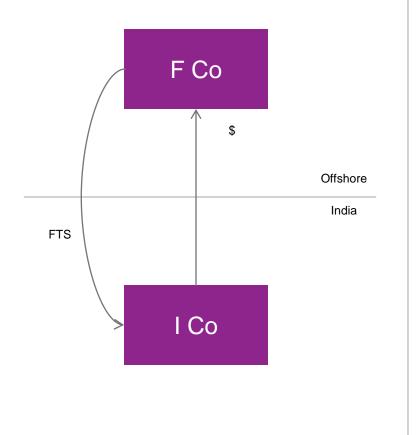
Form 15CB

C. In case the remittance is on account of capital gains, please indicate:-	(Tick) Yes No	
(a) amount of long term capital gains		
(b) amount of short-term capital gains		
(c) basis of arriving at taxable income		
D. In case of other remittance not covered by sub-items A, B and C	(Tick) Yes No	
(a) Please specific nature of remittance		
(b) Whether taxable in India as per DTAA		
(c) If yes, rate of TDS required to be deducted in terms of such article of the applicable DTAA		
(d) if not, the please turnish brief reasons thereof specifying relevant article of DTAA		
10.Amount of TDS	In foreign currency	
	In Indian Rs.	
11.Rate of TDS	As per Income-tax Act (%)	
	or	
	As per DTAA (%)	
12.Actual amount of remittance after TDS	In foreign currency	
13.Date of deduction of tax at source, if any	(DD/MM/YYYY)	

Operational rules (9/9)



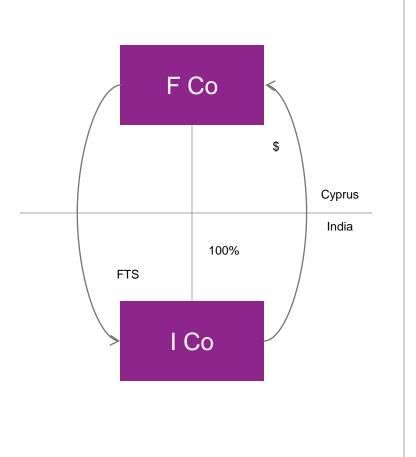
Case Study



Applicable WHT rate for F Co in absence of PAN

- Section 206AA provides for WHT at the higher of the following rates, namely:
 - Specified rate in the relevant provisions of the IT Act; or
 - Rate / rates in force; or
 - **20%**
- F Co has a valid TRC
- What should be the WHT rate for Section 195?

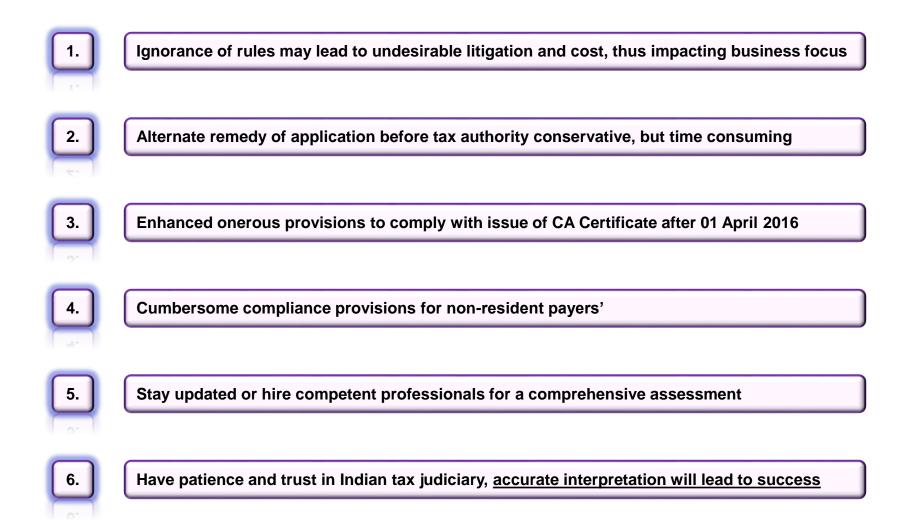
Case Study (Variation)



Applicable WHT rate for F Co in absence of PAN

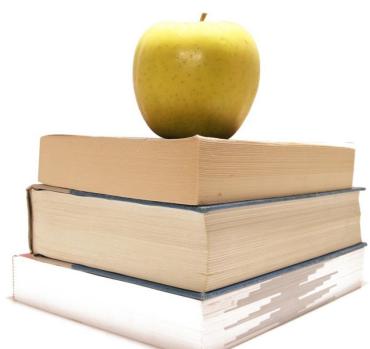
- Implications when payment made to AE?
- If payment made to Cyprus?

Key takeaways





Thank you!



Your feedback is valuable and will help me improvise my skill-sets

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