Presentation at SRRF TAXATION & FCRA for NGOs Workshop

20 November 2013

FCRA - Recent Dvelopments

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ISSUES TO BE COVERED

- □ Rule 6A : Articles for personal consumption
- □ Rule 24(3 & 4): Transfer of funds from registered to another registered entity.
- □ Rule 24(1 & 2): Transfer of funds from registered to non-registered entity.
- Opening of more than one bank account.
- Penalties on account of delay in filing of return
- □ Preparation of Annual Return-cash/accrual basis
- □ Auditor's signature –are these required on FC6?
- Renewal of Registration
- Compounding Penalties

Rule 6A: Articles

- □ Any article received from a foreign source with a market value upto Rs 25000/- are covered under the above exemption.
- □ Earlier this was upto Rs 1000/-.
- For this exemption the article has to be given to a person for his personal use. (Thus for safety purpose one could treat it as only applicable to individuals). Possibly not applicable to NGOs.
- Could apply to persons receiving foreign hospitality.

Transfer of Funds to Other organisations

- □ Rule 24 (1 & 2): Unregistered Organisations
 - Transferor organisation has to apply in Form FC10.
 - Give a declaration that amount proposed to be transferred to unregistered organisations will not exceed 10% plus that funds will not be transferred without receiving the permission.
 - Earlier requirement of DM permission dropped.

Transfer of funds.....cont'd

- Rule 24 (3): Registered Organisations
 - No permission needed as required earlier.
 - However organisation is not being proceeded against.
 - Safety steps: Check online database available on FCRA website. (Penal Action, FC-6 returns not filed, List of NGOs who have not filed returns for 2009-10, 2010-11.)
- Rule 24 (4): Compliance requirement
 - Transferor and Recipient both responsible for filing FC-6, it is applicable only for registered organisations.

Penalties on account of delay in filing of Annual Return

- Advised vide Notification No. SO 1070 (E) dt 26th April 2013.
- Delay of 90 days : 2% of the amount rec'd or Rs 10000 whichever is higher.
- Delay of 91-180 days: 3% -ditto- or Rs 20,000 whichever is higher.
- Delay beyond 180 days: 5% -ditto- or
 Rs 50,000 whichever is higher plus Rs 500 per day for delay beyond 180 days.
- While penalties are hefty, earlier it always created a fear that it could result in suspension / cancellation of FCRA itself.

Filing of Annual Return (FC6)

- Preparation of FC6 How to ensure this is in agreement with accompanying Financial Statements
- Challenge is alignment with accompanying financial statements
- □ FC6 Details of location
- □ If incorrect return filed not possible to amend
- Auditor has to issue only CA certificate re FC6
- Online filing nowhere covered by law, but more a practice followed by Dept
- Hardcopy of signed return alongwith financial statements, certified bank statements, etc. to be filed within 30 days.

Compounding Rule

- Section 41 (1) allows compounding of offences which are not punishable by <u>imprisonment only</u>.
- Make Application to Secretary

 Funds accepted without permission though not yet deposited in bank account Contribution in kind without permission 	2% Min. Rs 10K
Funds accepted without permission deposited in bank though not yet utilised	3% Min. Rs 25K
Funds accepted and utilised even though as per the terms	5% Min. Rs 100K

Thank You.