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One-time relaxation up to Feb 28, 2022 for verification of ITRs AY 2020-21

An e-filed Income-tax Return (ITR) is required to be verified using any of the following modes within the time limit of 120 days from date of uploading the ITR:

- Through Aadhaar OTP
- Net banking in E-filing account
- EVC through:
 - Bank Account Number
 - Demat Account Number
 - Bank ATM
- By sending a duly signed physical copy of ITR-V through post to the CPC.

CBDT has provided a one-time relaxation for submission of ITR-V/ e-Verification for resolving the grievances of the taxpayers associated with nonverification of ITRs for the Assessment Year 2020-21 and to regularize such ITRs which have either become non-est or have remained pending with Income-tax Department for want verification. Therefore, in respect of all ITRs for Assessment Year 2020-21 which were uploaded electronically by the taxpayers within the time allowed under section 139 of the Act and which have remained incomplete due to verification, such returns may be verified either by sending a duly signed physical copy of ITR-V to CPC, Bengaluru through speed post or through EVC/ OTP modes as listed by 28.02.2022. This relaxation shall not apply in those cases, where during the intervening period, Income-tax Department has already taken recourse to any other measure as specified in the Act for ensuring filing of tax return by the taxpayer concerned after declaring the return as non-est.

Further, the time-frame for issuing the intimation as provided in second proviso to sub-section (1) of Section 143 of the Act has also been relaxed. CBDT having directed such returns to be processed by June 30, 2022 and intimation of processing of such returns shall be sent to the taxpayer concerned as per the laid down procedure. In refund cases, while determining the interest, provision of section 244A (2) of the Act would apply. It is clarified that this relaxation would be applicable to all such returns which are verified during the extended period. In case the taxpayer concerned does not get her/his return regularized by furnishing a valid verification (either ITR-V or EVC/OTP) by February 28, 2022, necessary consequences as provided in law for nonfiling the return may follow.

Source: Notification No. 21/2021 dt. Dec 28, 2021, ***

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