

F.No.201/65/2002- CX 6
Government of India
Ministry of Finance & Company Affairs
Department of Revenue
Central Board of Excise & Customs

New Delhi, dated 3rd September 2002

ORDER

Subject : Task Force on Indirect Taxes – Constitution Reg.

Ministry of Finance and Company Affairs has decided to set up a Task Force on Indirect Taxes. The objective is to take advantage of information technology and bring the indirect tax systems and procedures at par with the best international practices and thus, encourage compliance and reduce transaction costs. Accordingly, the Task Force on Indirect Taxes is constituted as under:

1.	Dr. V.L. Kelkar, Adviser to Minister of Finance and Company Affairs	Chairman
2.	Dr. Ashok Lahiri, Delhi.**	Member
3.	Prof. Jayanta Roy, Indian Institute of Management, Kolkata.	-do-
4.	Shri Sunil Kant Munjal, Hero Cycles, Ludhiana, representing CII.	-do-
5.	Shri Sanjay Bhatia, Hindustan Tin Works, Ghaziabad, representing PHD Chambers of Commerce and Industry.	-do-
6.	Shri K.S. Suresh, ITC Limited, Kolkata, representing FICCI.	-do-
7.	Shri Nihal Kothari, Hindustan Lever Limited, Mumbai, representing ASSOCHAM.	-do-
8.	Shri Y.P.Suri, Rex Enterprises, Delhi, representing FASSI.	-do-
9.	Shri K.S. Ravishankar, Bangalore, representing NASSCOM.	-do-
10.	Shri Deepak Puri, Moser Baer, Delhi, representing Electronics and Software Export Promotion Council.	-do-
11.	Shri Gautam Ray, Joint Secretary, C.B.E.C., New Delhi.	-do-
12.	Shri S.M.Bhatnagar, Director, C.B.E.C., New Delhi.	Member-Secretary

2. The Terms of Reference of the Task Force are as follows :

- (i) The review of the Customs and Central Excise law and procedures and recommendations on their simplification, reducing cost of compliance and facilitating voluntary compliance.

- (ii) Recommendations relating to increased use of automation for a user friendly and transparent tax administration.
- (iii) The review of the statutorily prescribed records, documents and returns (including periodicity) and suggestions on their utility and simplification.
- (iv) Recommendations to provide for in-built mechanism in the procedures for time bound disposal of matters.
- (v) Any other recommendation on different aspects of legal provisions and administration to facilitate the tax payers and improve compliance.

3. The terms and conditions of the Task Force will be as follows :

- (i) The Task Force should furnish to the Government a Draft Consultation Paper containing its recommendations in 45 days i.e. by 21.10.2002. The same will be made available to the public for feedback and comments by 1.11.2002 which shall be considered by the Task Force and a Final Report submitted to Government by 30.11.2002.
- (ii) The Task Force is empowered to interact with departmental officials, trade interests and individuals and visit field formations as it may choose.
- (iii) The non-official Task Force members would be entitled to TA/DA as per norms.

Sd/-
(Nisha Malhotra)
Joint Secretary (Admn.)

Chairman and Members of Task Force

Copy to

1. Director (FMO)
2. PS to Adviser to F&CAM
3. PS to MOS (Revenue)
4. PS to Secretary (Revenue)
5. PS to Chairman, CBEC
6. PS to Members, CBEC
7. Financial Adviser, Ministry of Finance & Company Affairs
8. All Directors General/Chief Commissioners of Customs & Central Excise
9. All Commissioners of Customs & Central Excise

(Nisha Malhotra)
Joint Secretary (Admn.)

**Dr. Ashok Lahiri resigned subsequently from the Task Force consequent upon his appointment as Chief Economic Advisor, Government of India