

Income Tax - Reduction in verification time of ITR

The income tax filing season is on, and 31 July 2022 was the last day of filing the income tax returns (ITR) for non-tax-audit individuals. Others like corporate entities and tax-audit assesseees will also file the returns as per the time limits specified under the Income-tax Act, 1961 (Act). Most of the assesseees file the ITR electronically and the income tax department allows a time limit to verify the uploaded returns. Such verification can be made by the assessee electronically (e-verification) or physically (by sending the acknowledgement form ITR-V to CPC, Bengaluru by post.)

Following is the departmental clarification which becomes applicable from today, i.e., 1 August 2022.

1. For the returns filed through electronic transmission, the time limit for e-verification or submission of ITR-V manually to CPC, Bengaluru, shall now be 30 days from the date of transmitting/uploading the ITR data electronically.
 - a. In case the e-verification or the submission of ITR-V is done within 30 days of the transmission, the ITR will be assumed to be filed on the day of transmission itself.
 - b. Where the e-verification or the submission of ITR-V is done beyond 30 days of the transmission, it will be considered a late filing. The date of such e-verification/ITR-V submission will be considered as the date of furnishing the return. The consequences of late filing will apply under the Act.
2. An assessee must send ITR-V to CPC, Bengaluru through Speed Post only.
3. The date of dispatch of the Speed Post will be considered for calculating the time limit of 30 days mentioned above. E.g. for the ITR transmitted electronically on 1 August 2022, the assessee can dispatch the ITR-V latest by 31 August 2022 by Speed Post. However, all ITR transmitted electronically before 31 July 2022, the assessee can still dispatch the ITR-V within 120 days from date of transmission.

Weblink <https://www.incometax.gov.in/iec/foportal/sites/default/files/2022-08/Click%20Here.pdf>

Therefore

For the last 2 years, due to COVID-19, the IT department extended the due dates of ITR filings. However, for the current assessment year, there was no such extension and hence there was a need to clarify the exact dates of filings and the modes available for verification of the ITRs. For the individual non-tax-audit assesseees, the due date of filing the ITR for AY 2022-23 was 31 July 2022. For others, the due dates will fall in the coming months. Hence this clarification would help them to comply with the verification process.