



Setting up >> business presence in india

www.asa.in

CORPORATE TAX RATE REMAINS UNCHANGED I.E.

| COMPANY | RATE (%) | | |
|---|-----------------|--|--|
| Domestic1 | | | |
| MSME / New enterprise | 25 ² | | |
| ✤ Others | 30 | | |
| Foreign | 40 ³ | | |

¹ Surcharge at 7% and 12% where income exceeds ₹10 mn and ₹100 mn respectively

² Benefit of lower tax rate is applicable to companies with turnover up to \neq 4 bn during FY 2018-19

³ Surcharge at 2% and 5% where income exceeds ₹10 mn and ₹100 mn respectively

CONCESSIONAL TAX SCHEME

| | COMPANY | RATE (%) | | |
|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------|--|--|
| Domestic ¹ | | | | |
| * | New enterprise | 15 ² | | |
| * | Others | 22 ³ | | |

¹ Surcharge at 10% and education cess at 4% is applicable

² Benefit applicable to companies registered on or after October 1, 2019 and commencing manufacturing (including electricity generation) on or before March 31, 2023 with certain conditions

³ Deductions under Chapter VIA restricted for availing concessional tax rates

CORPORATE TAX

Businesses need to determine their annual tax payment and ensure deposit under an installment plan referred as Advance Tax by June 15th (15%), September 15th (45%), December 15th (75%) and March 15th (100%).

TRANSFER PRICING

Businesses having cross border dealing with related concerns fall within the ambit of Indian TP regulations, which requires maintenance of prescribed documentation and certification by an Indian firm of Chartered Accountants.

DOUBLE TAXATION AVOIDANCE AGREEMENT ('DTAA')

India has a network of DTAA with over 80 countries.

WITHHOLDING TAX

Businesses, including Liaison Office, need to withhold tax on specified payments viz. contractual, professional, rental, etc.

TAX AUDIT

Threshold of tax audit for business is ₹100 million, where aggregate cash receipts / payments do not exceed 5 per cent of such gross receipts / payments.

PAYROLL TAX >>

EMPLOYER NEED TO WITHHOLD TAXES ON EMPLOYEE EARNINGS

| INCOME RANGE (₹) | EXISTING ¹ (%) | OPTIONAL² (%) |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Upto 250,000 ¹ | Nil | Nil |
| 250,001 – 500,000 | 5 | 5 |
| 500,001 – 750,000 | 20 | 10 |
| 750,001 – 1,000,000 | 20 | 15 |
| 1,000,001 – 1,250,000 | | 20 |
| 1,250,001 – 1,500,000 | 30 | 25 |
| 1,500,001 and above ³ | | 30 |

¹ Exemption limit for individuals reaching 60 and 80 years remains unchanged at ₹300,000 and ₹500,000 respectively

² Deductions, exemptions and carried forward losses restricted, with certain conditions

³ Surcharge at 10% on income > ₹5 mn to ₹10 mn; at 15% on income > ₹10 mn to ₹20 mn; at 25% on income > ₹20 mn to ₹50 mn; at 37% on income > ₹50 mn. However, surcharge on STT paid capital gains shall not exceed 15%

INDIRECT TAX >>

An employer is required to contribute and comply with a social security tax namely Provident Fund. There is also an Employee State Insurance cost. Both of these primarily focus on blue collared staff. Foreign nationals deputed to work in India will be taxed on the basis of tax residential status, which is linked to the number of days stayed in India. An employment/business visa is necessary, as is registration with the Foreigners Regional Registration Officer ('FRRO'). There are certain state specific regulations e.g. Professional Tax and Shop and Establishment Act, which prevail in Indian states like Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu etc.

TAX ON GOODS AND SERVICES

Goods & Service Tax is an indirect tax, applicable throughout India, which replaced multiple cascading taxes levied by Central and State Goverment. GST is applicable from July 1, 2017 with taxes being 0%, 5%, 12%, 18% and 28%.

COMPANIES & LLP

Two main forms - Private Limited ('PVT') and Public Limited ('LTD'). PVT is the most common form for an international subsidiary. Entrepreneurs and professionals intending to organise a formal structure with defined limited exposure also prefer Limited Liability Partnership ('LLP').

Audited accounts are filed annually, on public record, with the Registrar of Companies ('RoC'), in a format set out under the Indian law and Indian Accounting Standards, within a set time scale. Companies also file an Annual Return which gives detail of shareholders and directors. Businesses are required to follow fiscal year i.e. April 1st to March 31st, for compliance under the Indian Income tax laws.

| REGULATORY MATTER | DUE DATE | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| Corporate Law | | | | | |
| Board Meeting | Four meetings every year with a gap not exceeding 120 days between two such meetings | | | | |
| Annual General Meeting ('AGM') (adoption of financials) | Within 6 months of end of the financial year | | | | |
| Annual Return with the ROC | Within 60 days from conclusion of AGM | | | | |
| ТАХ | | | | | |
| Corporate Tax Return | October 31st/ November 30th | | | | |
| Tax Audit Report | September 30th/ October 31st | | | | |
| Transfer Pricing Report | October 31st | | | | |
| TDS Returns (Tax Withholding) | Quarterly | | | | |
| Individual Tax Return | July 31st | | | | |
| GST Return* - Turnover > ₹ 50 million - Turnover < ₹ 50 million | Monthly Quarterly/Monthly | | | | |
| COMPLIANCE | | | | | |
| Deposit of TDS | 7th of every month | | | | |
| Deposit of GST | | | | | |
| - Turnover > ₹50 million) | 20th of every month | | | | |
| - Turnover > ₹50 million) | 22nd/ 24th/ 25th of every month/ Quarter** | | | | |

*It includes GSTR 1 and GSTR 3B **Differs according to State

REGULATORY COMPLIANCE >>

Restricted Sectors (FDI disallowed)

- Gambling and Betting
- Lottery Business
- Chit funds
- Nidhi Company
- Trading in Transferable Development Rights (TDRs)
- Real Estate Business or construction of farm house
- Manufacture of cigars, cigarettes etc.
- Railways
- Atomic Energy
- Activities/sectors not open to private sector investment

Sectoral Caps on FDI in certain industries (illustrative list)

| Defence Production (100%) Govt approval needed beyond 49% Insurance (Govt approval needed beyond 74%) Telecommunication (Govt approval needed beyond 49%) Airlines (Govt approval needed beyond 49%) | Agriculture (100%) Single brand retail trading (Govt approval needed beyond 49%) Multibrand retail trading (Govt approval required) Print Media (Govt approval required) |
|---|---|
|---|---|

In case of a LTD company, where paid up capital exceeds INR 100 million (USD 1,600,000 approx)

Appointment of a Key Managerial Personnel (i) Managing Director, or Chief Executive Officer or manager and in their absence, a whole-time director; (ii) Company secretary; and (iii) Chief Financial Officer)mandatory

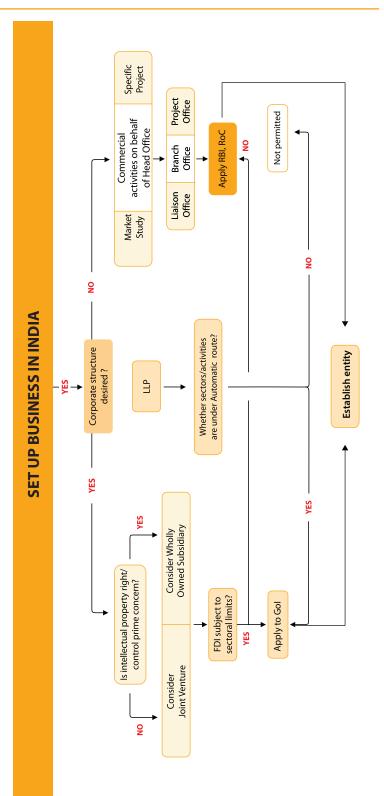
• Labour laws

29 central labour laws merged into 4 comprehensive yet simplified labour codes namely Code on Wages 2019, Industrial Relations Code 2020, Social Security Code and The Occupation Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code 2020.

| PARTICULARS | CODE ON WAGES 2019 | THE OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY, HEALTH & WORKING CONDITIONS CODE 2020 | INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS CODE 2020 | SOCIAL SECURITY CODE 2020 |
|---|--------------------------|--|---|--|
| Old Laws subsumed | 4 laws | 13 laws | 3 laws | 9 laws |
| Payment of Wages, Bonus, Minimum Wage | | Provision for Safety and Health measures, working conditions | Industrial Disputes and Trade Union, Lay-off, Lock- out, Closure, Retrenchment | Insurance, Gratuity, Provident Fund |

Dual criteria of investment and turnover introduced for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises ('MSMEs'). Enterprises crossing the ceiling limit either in investment or turnover, shall automatically be placed in higher classification.

INDIA ENTRY STRATEGY >>



INDIA SUBSIDIARY... >>

OR BRANCH OFFICE OR...

| | WHOLLY OWNED SUBSIDIARY | JOINT VENTURE COMPANY | LIAISON OFFICE | PROJECT OFFICE | BRANCH OFFICE | Limited Liability partnership |
|----------------------------|---|---|--|--|--|---|
| Characteristic | Company with entire share capital owned by the foreign investor | Company where two or more parties jointly hold the share capital | Representative office with no right to undertake commercial activites in India | Temporary site office for specific project only | Commercial activities on behalf of the Head Office | Corporate structure with benefits of Limited Liability & flexibility of partnership |
| Ownership | Ownership Foreign company directly or through holding company structures | | ls part of overseas company | ls part of overseas company | Is part of overseas company | Foreign owned LLP are permitted with prior government approval |
| Control | Controlled by its Board of Directors | Joint Control determined as per shareholders agreement | Controlled by Parent | Controlled by Parent | Controlled by Parent | Controlled by Partners |
| Corporate Liability | Parent not generally liable. Liability is limited to share capital of subsidiary unless Permanent Establishment is determined | Liability of investors limited to share holding | Parent is fully liable | Parent is fully liable | Parent is fully liable | Liability of each Partner is limited to agreed contribution |
| Set-up Requirements | Prior Approval/ auto- matic route | Prior Approval/ auto- matic route | Prior Approval from RBI / AD Bank | Automatic route/ Prior approval from RBI / AD Bank | Prior Approval from RBI / AD Bank | Approval / Automatic Route |
| | | | Indian Offi | ice Address | | |
| | Appoint Directors (1 di in India) | rector to be resident | Intimate RoC | | LLP Agreement | |
| | Filing of incorporation | documents | | | Filling of incorporation | documents |
| | Issue shares to parent | Issue of fresh shares | | | 2 Persons nominated (1 India) | partner to be resident in |
| On-going legal obligations | Maintain books of acco records | unts & secretarial | Maintain books of accounts Maintain books of accounts | | unts | |
| | Register changes to constitution/ directors/ shareholders | | | | | |
| | Annual Audit | | | | | |
| | Annual Return to RoC, I-T | | Annual Return to Roc, I-T and Police | | | Annual Return to RoC, I-T |
| | Not required | | Annual accounts of parent company | | | Not required |
| Closure | Application to RoC & NCLT | | Application to RBI, ROC & I-T | | | Application to RoC & NCLT |
| Repatriation of money | After NCLT order | | After RBI permission subject to tax clearance | | | After NCLT order |

* NCLT - National Company Law Tribunal I * RBI - Reserve Bank of India I * I-T - Income Tax Authorities * RoC - Registrar of Companies * AD Bank - Authorised Dealer Bank



New Delhi +91 11 4100 9999 Ahmedabad +91 79 4891 5409 Bengaluru +91 80 4151 0751 Chennai +91 44 4904 8200 Gurgaon +91 124 4333 100 Hyderabad +91 40 2776 0423 Kochi +91 484 410 9999 Mumbai +91 22 4921 4000 Contact: info@asa.in

Prepared by ASA Corporate Catalyst India

National Affiliates Chandigarh, Kolkata, Pune and Vishakhapatnam

International Affiliates

Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Denmark, Egypt, France, Finland, Germany, Hong Kong, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, New Zealand, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Sweden, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, UAE, UK, USA, Vietnam

www.asa.in

* This document has been prepared as a service to the clients. We recommend that you seek professional advise prior to initiating action on specific issues.

updated as on April 2021