THE FINANCE ACT, 2015

No. 20 OF 2015

[14th May, 2015.]

An Act to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 2015-2016.

Be it enacted by Parliament in the Sixty-sixth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

CHAPTER I
PRELIMINARY

1. (1) This Act may be called the Finance Act, 2015.

(2) Save as otherwise provided in this Act, sections 2 to 81 shall be deemed to have come into force on the 1st day of April, 2015.

CHAPTER II
RATES OF INCOME-TAX

2. (1) Subject to the provisions of sub-sections (2) and (3), for the assessment year commencing on the 1st day of April, 2015, income-tax shall be charged at the rates specified in Part I of the First Schedule and such tax shall be increased by a surcharge, for purposes of the Union, calculated in each case in the manner provided therein.
143. In section 46 of the Foreign Exchange Act, in sub-section (2),—

(i) after clause (a), the following clauses shall be inserted, namely:

"(aa) the instruments which are determined to be debt instruments under sub-section (7) of section 6;

(ab) the permissible classes of capital account transactions in accordance with sub-section (2A) of section 6, the limits of admissibility of foreign exchange, and the prohibition, restriction or regulation of such transactions;";

(ii) after clause (g), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:

"(gg) the aggregate value of foreign exchange referred to in sub-section (1) of section 37A;".

144. In section 47 of the Foreign Exchange Act,—

(A) in sub-section (2),—

(i) for clause (a), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:

"(a) the permissible classes of capital account transactions involving debt instruments determined under sub-section (7) of section 6, the limits of admissibility of foreign exchange for such transactions, and the prohibition, restriction or regulation of such capital account transactions under section 6;";

(ii) after clause (g), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:

"(ga) export, import or holding of currency or currency notes;";

(B) after sub-section (2), the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:

"(3) All regulations made by the Reserve Bank before the date on which the provisions of this section are notified under section 6 and section 47 of this Act on capital account transactions, the regulation making power in respect of which now vests with the Central Government, shall continue to be valid, until amended or rescinded by the Central Government.".

PART VI

AMENDMENTS TO THE PREVENTION OF MONEY-LAUNDERING ACT, 2002

145. In the Prevention of Money-laundering Act, 2002 (herein referred to as the Money-laundering Act), in section 2, in sub-section (1),—

(i) in clause (u), after the words "or the value of any such property", the words "or where such property is taken or held outside the country, then the property equivalent in value held within the country" shall be inserted;

(ii) in clause (y), in sub-clause (ii), for the words "thirty lakh rupees", the words "one crore rupees" shall be substituted.

146. In section 5 of the Money-laundering Act, in sub-section (1), in the second proviso, for the word, brackets and letter "clause (b)", the words "first proviso" shall be substituted.

147. In section 8 of the Money-laundering Act,—

(i) in sub-section (3), in clause (b), for the words "Adjudicating Authority", the words "Special Court" shall be substituted;
(ii) after sub-section (7), the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:—

"(8) Where a property stands confiscated to the Central Government under sub-section (5), the Special Court, in such manner as may be prescribed, may also direct the Central Government to restore such confiscated property or part thereof of a claimant with a legitimate interest in the property, who may have suffered a quantifiable loss as a result of the offence of money laundering:

Provided that the Special Court shall not consider such claim unless it is satisfied that the claimant has acted in good faith and has suffered the loss despite having taken all reasonable precautions and is not involved in the offence of money laundering."

Amendment of section 20.

148. In section 20 of the Money-laundering Act,—

(i) in sub-section (5), for the words "the Court or the Adjudicating Authority, as the case may be", the words "Special Court" shall be substituted;

(ii) in sub-section (6),—

(a) for the word "Court", the words "Special Court" shall be substituted;

(b) after the words "ninety days from the date of", the words "receipt of" shall be inserted.

Amendment of section 21.

149. In section 21 of the Money-laundering Act,—

(i) in sub-section (5), for the words, brackets and figures "under sub-section (5) or sub-section (7) of section 8", the words, brackets, figures and letters "or release under sub-section (5) or sub-section (6) or sub-section (7) of section 8 or section 58B or sub-section (2A) of section 60" shall be substituted;

(ii) in sub-section (6),—

(a) for the words, brackets, figures and letters "under sub-section (6) of section 8 or by the Adjudicating Authority under section 58B or sub-section (2A) of section 60", the words, brackets and figures "Adjudicating Authority under sub-section (5) of section 21" shall be substituted;

(b) after the words "ninety days from the date of", the words "receipt of" shall be inserted.

Amendment of section 60.

150. In section 60 of the Money-laundering Act, in sub-section (2A), for the words "Adjudicating Authority", the words "Special Court" shall be substituted.

Amendment of Schedule.

151. In the Schedule to the Money-laundering Act, after Part A, the following Part shall be inserted, namely:—

"PART B

OFFENCE UNDER THE CUSTOMS ACT, 1962

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Description of offence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>132</td>
<td>False declaration, false documents, etc.&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PART VII

AMENDMENT TO THE FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY AND BUDGET MANAGEMENT ACT, 2003

152. In the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act, 2003, in section 4, for the figures, letters and word "31st March, 2015", wherever they occur, the figures, letters and word "31st March, 2018" shall be substituted.