



## Govt asks AHAR to inform it on international practice on direct taxes

### Forever News reporter

Government has asked AHAR to inform it about the international practices on direct taxes. It has happened at a time when the state and union government departments were yet to file their reply against AHAR petition; efforts are being made by AHAR to address this issue through representation to the new government at the Centre.

“In response to our petition to the ministry of finance and commerce, we have received a letter from the ministry asking us for details of international practices being followed during implementation of direct taxes,” AHAR president Arvind Shetty said while addressing 9th managing committee of the Association on Thursday 11th September 2014 at Hotel Ivy Banquets, Amar Mahal, Chembur, Mumbai.

An AHAR team has studied various reports compiled by consultancy firms like E&Y and KPMG on the issue and have come to the conclusion that double taxation is not prevalent in any of the countries mentioned in the report. Moreover, according to the report, many countries were offering reduced rates of taxation to the hospitality industry in order to promote tourism and generate employment.

“The above findings will be forwarded to the ministry by the Association,” he informed.

### Minimum Wages

Interim relief has been granted on the condition that members abide by the court’s directive of paying 70% of the revised minimum wages until the matter was resolved. Advocate Vivek Thakur



Welcome address by Host Shri Ravindranath Nire VP-Zone-V

has clarified that in case the case is pending, the court may revise the minimum wages after five years. However, it is the precedence that whenever any court matter is pending the government will not revise the minimum wages.

Meanwhile, the ministry of Labour, Govt of India vide its notification has enhanced the statutory wage ceiling for employment under EPF Act from Rs 6,500 to Rs 15,000. This means any establishment employing 20 and more employers are bound by this enactment with effect from 1.09.2014.

### FSSAI

AHAR’s petition against certain clauses in the FSSAI Act is pending. In the Bombay high court, various industry associations have requested the new government to review the impractical conditions in the Act.

“We have sent a detailed presentation to Union Health Minister, Harshvardan about the difficulties our members may face during implementation of

the FSSAI in its present form,” he said.

### Meeting with HRD Minister

On a personal request from AHAR sub-committee chairman, Niranjan Shetty, the Association was able to meet the HRD minister, Smriti Irani, in Delhi in which she was urged to assist AHAR in its endeavor to put forward its issues in FSSAI and service tax to the respective ministries.

“The minister has assured us of forwarding the same on a personal request from Mr Niranjan Shetty”, he informed.

### Excise

Due to the efforts of AHAR, a committee under the chairmanship of Mr Amit Deshmukh was constituted to study the impact of the excise licence fee hike. AHAR members were recently invited by the committee to express its views about



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## Appointments



In the recently concluded Monthly Managing Committee Meeting Shri. Sudhakar T Shetty has been appointed as the Chairman, AGM. to be held on December 16, 2014 at Buntara Bhavana Kurla.



Adv. D.K. Shetty has been appointed as the Returning Officer for the election of Managing Committee for the year 2014-15. Details of the election will be intimated in due course.

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## Best Performing VP of the month



Shri Sudhakar T Shetty, VP, Zone-IX receiving Best Performing VP of the month award from President Shri Arvind Shetty and Advisors in the presence of the Committee Members of Zone-IX.

the exorbitant hike wherein AHAR provided them details of the implications to its business due to the unjustified hike.

“We also met the state excise minister Ganesh Nayak and the Chief Minister for their intervention in resolving issues like fee hike and simplification of licence conditions,” he said.

### Hawkers

The recent drive by the BMC for registration of hawkers compelled the Association to seek clarification from the DMC in charge of the above process.

When it was brought to his notice that registering food hawkers will amount to contempt of the Supreme Court's directive which banks on cooking on the street, he informed the Association that the corporation was contemplating issuing 500 licences per ward to promote food plazas. On seeking clarifications through the RTI, it was informed that no such policy was drafted for the benefit of food hawkers.

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“We have forwarded the minutes of the meeting with the DMC to the Mayor, BMC commissioner and the additional commissioner to seek clarification on whether the statements made

by the DMC were the avowed policy of the corporation,” he said.

### Tata Power Licence Renewal

The Tata Power Co Ltd is granted licence to supply electricity for next 25 years. The approval is subject to submitting the revised plan ensuring enough provisions are made for sub-stations, especially in South Mumbai, which was AHAR petition. The revised plan is to be submitted by TPC to MERC by 30 September, 2014.

### Enhance in wage ceiling

The ministry of labour, Govt. of India vide its notification has enhanced the statutory wage ceiling for enrolment under EPF act from Rs. 6500/ to Rs. 15000/. This means any establishment employing 20 and more employees are bound by this enactment with effect from 1.9.2014.

### Best Performing Zone of the month

The Hon. Gen. Secretary Mr. Sukesh Shetty read out in detail the points earned by each Vice Presidents and declared that Zone-IX as the Best Performing Zone. Shri Sudhakar T Shetty, VP, Zone-IX received the Memento and floral bouquets on behalf of the Zone.

Advisor Shri Narayana M Alva and Shri Arvind Shetty, President along with host Vice President

honored the team.

### Speech by advisors

#### Shri Narayana M Alva

The Managing Committee is doing good job. Our efforts are being noticed by the Central Government, which is good for the industry. We should concentrate on Policy matters rather than fighting the authorities. The Members should come forward and donate to the legal fund of AHAR, so that it can fight against the injustice to the industry more vigorously. He offered his service for any work of the Association.

### HON. GEN. SECRETARY

- Read out the letter of Shri Navin Shetty, Sannidhi Bar, Chembur for AHAR and Shri P. S. Jains help in sorting out the Police harassment matter.

- Read out the appreciation letter of Ganesh Bhavan to VP Shri Sunil Patil for removing the illegal food joints belonging to a powerful local MLA.

- Appreciated the Medical Camps, through which we can touch the employees and industry's pulse and being noticed for the Social work.

### Shri Guruprasad Shetty

The conditional renewal of license to Tata

Power by MERC based on our demand of having a concrete roll out plan to ensure continuous power supply to consumers is a great achievement. Filed the case in Consumer Court against the imposition of electricity Duty of 17% on all components including TDLR, while as per Electricity Act Rules should be only on electricity charges. He said he is confident of winning the case, which may result in refund of almost Rs. 250 crores by Best to its consumers. He also said in case we won the case and the excess recovered electricity duty is refunded, each member should contribute at least Rs. 5000/- to AHARs Corpus Fund.

### Stall Support

The following vendors exhibited their products through the stalls at the Venue.

Tiny Owl : Mobile Order System

Royal Uniforms : Uniforms

Kushi Sales & Distribution : Crockery

Grain Mart : Online Supply of Grains

All the Participating Vendors made presentation of their products and offered discounts to AHAR members.

### Condolence

The House paid its condolence to the departed soul of Shri Prithviraj Shetty, VP-Zone-IV who expired on 31.7.2014

The host VP, Shri Ravindranath Nire honoured his team for their support with flower bouquets.

### Vote of Thanks

The meeting was concluded with vote of thanks by the Hon. Gen. Secretary Shri Sukesh Shetty.

## Medical Camps



A free health check up camp for Hotel Employees was organized on 10th September, 2014 at Akarshan Restaurant & Bar, Vikhroli (West) by Shri Sunil Patil, VP Zone-VI and his Team.



A free health check up camp for Hotel Employees held on 26th August 2014, at Adarsh Restaurant & Bar, Chembur the event was organized by Shri Ravindra Nire, VP Zone-V and his Team.



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