QUESTIONNAIRE
Dear sir/ Madam

I am a research scholar pursuing the research work leading to Ph.D in Commerce in the Department of Commerce, Bangalore University Bangalore. The title of research study is “An impact of recent income tax provisions on public finance – An analytical study”. In the process of conducting this research work, I need information/data relating to recent changes in income tax provisions, effects of these provisions on your tax liability, your expectations through budgets and other related information. The information you provide is anonymous and confidential. It will be used only for the academic purpose and will not be revealed to any other person, organization or government department. Please spare some of your valuable time to furnish the relevant information.

Please complete and return the questionnaire in the pre-paid envelope provided. I request you kindly cooperate with me in this endeavor.

Thanking you

Yours Faithfully

G.H. Nagaraj

To,
Schedule for individuals/corporate executives
Identification Data

1. Code of informants/ Name and Address: ( )

2. Age/Sex ( )

3. Martial Status ( )

4. No. of children ( )

5. Residential Status
   (a) Own house ( )
   (b) Rented house ( )
   (c) Own house but staying in rented house ( )

6. Qualification
   (a) PUC or less ( )
   (b) Degree ( )
   (c) Post graduation ( )
   (d) Professional ( )
   (e) Others ( )

7. Occupation
   (a) Salaried ( )
   (b) Profession ( )
   (c) Business ( )
   (d) Others ( )

8. Annual Income:
   (a) up to Rs.100000 ( )
   (b) Rs.100000-500000 ( )
   (c) Rs.500000-1000000 ( )
   (d) Above Rs.1000000 ( )

9. Income of the spouse if employed ( )

10. Are you Tax assessee (yes/ ) (No/ )
Questionnaire

I To improve the elasticity of tax revenue, the recent tax reforms committee has suggested.

1. Exemption limit to be Rs.200000

   (a) Do you consider this amount is sufficient
   
   (b) If not, what is the limit you suggest
   
   (i) Rs. 250000
   
   (ii) Rs. 300000
   
   (iii) Rs. 500000

2. Three slabs system of collecting the tax to be replaced by two slabs. Incomes between Rs.100000-400000@20% and all incomes above Rs.400000 to be taxed at 30%

   (a) Do you accept the slab system in force
   
   (b) Do you agree for flat rate of 10%
   
   (c) What is your suggestion up to certain amount single rate, then slab system
   
   (a) Rs.200000
   
   (b) Rs.400000
   
   (c) Rs.500000

3. To provide separate exemption limit to senior citizens, women’s and widows:

   (a) Do you agree with this suggestion? (yes/ ) (No/ )
   
   (b) if not what is your suggestion?
   
   (i)
   
   (ii)
   
   (iii)
4. To abolish tax rebate schemes under section 88 for savings.
   (a) Do you agree with this suggestion? (yes/ ) (No/ )
   (b) Do you advocate for rebate
      (i) 10% of total savings ( )
      (ii) 20% of total savings ( )
      (iii) Continue the existing system ( )

5. To abolish the deduction, given to the interest from investments (i.e., Investment in public sector bonds debentures, bonds Government and 80L)
   (a) Do you accept this suggestion? (yes/ ) (No/ )
   (b) What is your suggestion?
      Exemption amount to be:
      (i) Rs.20000 ( )
      (ii) Rs.30000 ( )
      (iii) Rs.50000 ( )
      Percentage of the receipt
      (i) 10% ( )
      (ii) 20% ( )
      (iii) 30% ( )
   (c) Do you feel people will divert their investment because of abolition of this concession? (yes/ ) (No/ )

1. Tax rebate should be restricted to contribution to PF, LIC repayment of Housing Loan etc and the maximum amount deductible under tax rebate is Rs.1,00,000
   (a) Do you agree with this suggestion? (yes/ ) (No/ )
   (b) Does restriction on rebate lead to decrease in savings? (yes/ ) (No/ )
   (c) Divert the other modes of savings ( )
(d) What is the exemption limit do you suggest?

(i) Rs. 150000
(ii) Rs. 200000
(iv) Rs. 250000

2. The standard deduction for salaried tax payers will be reduced to nil. However, Exemption for conveyance allowance subject to a ceiling of Rs. 9600 will continue.

(a) Do you accept this suggestion? (yes/ ) (No/ )
(b) if not what is your suggestion

(i) Fixed amount to be allowed
(ii) Fixed % of salary
(iii) To continue old system

(i) Your specific suggestion

8. To reduce the ceiling on the amount of mortgage interest on house property to be reduced from Rs. 150000 to Rs. 50000.

(a) Do you agree with this suggestion? (yes/ ) (No/ )
(b) If not what is the limit you suggest

(i) Rs. 200000
(ii) Rs. 225000
(iii) Rs. 250000
(iv) Rs. 300000

9. To aggregate the long term capital gains with other incomes and subjected to tax at normal rates (At present LTCG are taxable at 20%)

(a) what is the rate do you suggest?

(i) 15%
(ii) 17.5%
(iv) 25%
(iv) 30%
10. To increase the minimum alternate tax (MAT) payable by companies from 10% to 15%
   (a) Do you agree with this suggestion? (yes/ ) (No/ )
   (b) Do you consider that the tax should be increased to
       (i) 20% ( )
       (ii) 25% ( )
       (iii) 30% ( )
   (c) Do you feel that the tax could be levied on organizations whose book profit and net profit is above.
       (i) Rs. 5,00,000 ( )
       (ii) Rs. 10,00,000 ( )
       (iii) Rs. 20,00,000 ( )
       (iv) Rs. 50,00,000 ( )

11. To extend the scope of presumptive taxation to all businesses with turnover up to Rs.40lakh @ 8% and exempted from maintaining the books of accounts
   (a) what is your opinion about these suggestion? ( )
   (b) what is your suggestion? Do you suggest
       (i) Fixed amount ( )
       (ii) Slab system ( )
       (iii) Average rate ( )
   (c) Do you suggest a lower rate to avoid evasion of tax. Say
       (i) 3% ( )
       (ii) 4% ( )
       (iii) 5% ( )

12. To bring agricultural income within the tax preview and amend the article 252 of the constitution and exemption limit to be Rs. 1,00,000 per individual.
   (a) Do you agree with this suggestion? (yes/ ) (No/ )
   (b) Limit of Rs.1,00,000 to be increased (yes/ ) (No/ )
(c) Do you feel people show less income than the exemption limit (yes/ ) (No/ )

(d) Agricultural income to be charged or taxed separately. (yes/ ) (No/ )

II To make the tax system fairer and broad based. The committees has suggested:

1. To tax certain fringe benefits provided by employees to their employees:
   (a) Do you agree with this suggestion? ( )
   (b) If not, what is your suggestion? (yes/ ) (No/ )
      (i) To be fully exempted ( )
      (ii) Concession in rate of tax at
           (a) 10% ( )
           (b) 15% ( )
           (c) 20% ( )

2. To increase exemption ceiling from 10000 to 15000 and 15000 to 20000 for senior citizens towards medical insurance premium
   (a) Do you consider this amount is sufficient? ( )
   (b) If not, what is the amount you are suggesting
       (i) Rs.30,000 ( )
       (ii) Rs.40,000 ( )
       (iii) Rs.50,000 ( )

3. To take perquisite value of the rent free or concessional accommodation equal to 15% of salary or actual rent paid by employer which over is lower based on the population of 25 lakhs.
   (a) Do you agree with this suggestion? (yes/ ) (No/ )
   (b) If not, what is your suggestion?
       (i) 5% of salary ( )
       (ii) 6% of salary ( )
       (iii) 7% of salary ( )
4. To tax at least certain percentage of LTC, home travel allowance, retirement benefits etc.,

(a) what is your opinion about this suggestion? ( )

(b) Then, what is your suggestion

(i) To be fully exempted ( )

(ii) Block of years to be 4 or 2 ( )

(iii) At the rate of

(a) 30% ( )

(b) 40% ( )

(c) 50% ( )

5. To restrict the exemption to a specified amount for special allowances like children education, Hostel, Tribal allowance etc.

(a) Do you agree with this suggestion? (yes/ ) (No/ )

(b) Do you consider, it restricts motivation ( )

(c) Do you suggest a specific amount of Exemption?

(i) Rs. 1000PM ( )

(ii) Rs. 2000PM ( )

(iii) Rs. 5000PM ( )

6. To restrict statutory deduction for repairs and collection charges to 30% of the annual value of the property.

(a) Do you agree with this suggestion? (yes/ ) (No/ )

(b) Do you suggest to give full amount of repairs as deduction. ( )

(c) Do you suggest a separate for collection charges ( )

(d) Any specific amount of exemption do you suggest

(i) Rs.25000 ( )

(ii) Rs.30000 ( )

(iii) Rs.50000 ( )
7. To abolish surcharge on various direct taxes by eliminating the surcharge of 10%
   (a) Do you agree with this suggestion?  (yes/ ) (No/ )
   (b) If not, what is your suggestion?
      (i) To continue the existing 10% of surcharge (  )
      (ii) Fixed amount of surcharge (  )
      (iii) To be charged at 5% (  )

8. To continue New Pension System (NPS) subject to Exempt—Exempt—Exempt method (income, dividend, investment are Exempted from tax)
   (a) Do you agree with this suggestion?  (yes/ ) (No/ )
   (b) If not, what is your suggestion?
      (i) To be allowed at 50% (  )
      (ii) To be allowed at 70% (  )
      (iii) To be allowed at 80% (  )

9. To allow 100% deduction for donations to political parties and Donation to charitable institutions at 5% of their total income or Rs.1lakh whichever is higher.
   (a) Do you agree with this suggestion?  (yes/ ) (No/ )
   (b) If not, what is your suggestion?
      (i) To be allowed at 60% (  )
      (ii) To be allowed at 80% (  )
      (iii) To be allowed at 75% (  )
   (c) Do you feel people are not motivated to contribute to the charitable organizations because of restrictions?  (yes/ ) (No/ )
10. To take Fair Market Value (FMV) on 1.4.1981 as cost of acquisition for assets acquired before to that date.

(a) Do you agree with this suggestion? (yes/ ) (No/ )

(b) What is your suggestion?
   (i) FMV as on 1.4.2001 (   )
   (ii) Indexed value on the date of purchase (   )
   (iii) Market value of the asset (   )

III To rationalise the system of direct taxes the budget’s has Suggested:

1. To abolish the Commodity Transaction Tax (CTT)  (yes/ ) (No/ )

   (a) Do you agree with suggestion?
   (b) If not, what is your suggestion?
      (i)
      (ii)
      (iii)

2. To extend deduction in respect of exports under section 10A and 10B by one more year

   (a) what is your opinion about this suggestion? (yes/ ) (No/ )
   (b) Do you suggest any other monetary limit
      (i) Rs.50000 (   )
      (ii) Rs.100000 (   )
      (iii) Based on turnover (   )
      (iv) To abolish the deduction (   )
3. How does the Indian tax system is different from other countries
   (a) method of computation (   )
   (b) rates of taxes (   )
   (c) exemptions and deductions (   )
   (d) tax payers behavior (   )

4. Does the Indian tax rules are changing frequently and how does it affect the tax collection.
   (a) Amount to be collected (   )
   (b) No of tax assesses (   )
   (c) Tax compliance (   )
   (d) Tax administration (   )

5. To provide weighted deduction of 150% on expenditure incurred on in house R&D to all manufacturing business.
   (a) Do you agree with this suggestion? (yes/   ) (No/   )
   (b) If not, what is your suggestion?
      (i) To allow deduction at 100% (   )
      (ii) To allow deduction at 50% (   )
      (iii) To deduct in number of installments (   )
      (iv) To abolish the deduction (   )

IV Identifying the new areas of taxation:
1. Please state the new areas of tax to increase the revenue to the Government
   (a)
   (b)
   (c)
V To improve the compliance of direct taxes and strengthening the enforcement the budgets have suggested:

1. To replace permanent account number (PAN) by the unique identification number and to make Mandatory for all transactions.

   (a) Do you agree with this suggestion? (yes/ ) (No/ )
   (b) If yes, please state the reasons
       (i)
       (ii)
       (iii)
   (c.) if not, please state the reasons
       (i)
       (ii)
       (iii)
   (d.) Otherwise, what is your suggestion?

2. To extend the range of tax department services to the tax payers like introduction of voice message, reminders of important dates, sending mails, etc

   (a) what is your opinion to this suggestion? (yes/ ) (No/ )
   (b) If it is a good system, please state the reasons
       (i)
       (ii)
       (iii)

3. To select cases randomly for scrutiny only 2 percent of the returns through computer system

   (a) Do you agree with the suggestion of random selection? (yes/ ) (No/ )
(b) if yes, please state the reasons?
   (i) 
   (ii) 
   (iii) 

(c) if not, please state the reasons?
   (i) 
   (ii) 
   (iii) 

4. To make availability of forms readily and to restrict the persons whose total income exceeds exemption limit for filing the returns
   (a) Have you faced any problems in getting the forms (yes/ ) (No/ )
   (b) Do you suggest all persons should file returns
      1. if yes please state the reasons
         (a) 
         (b) 
      (c) E-filing to make mandatory to avoid provisions ( )

5. To outsourcing of non-core activities of IT Department like allotment of PAN, etc
   (a) Do you agree with this suggestions (yes/ ) (No/ )
   (b) if yes, please state the reasons?
      (i) 
      (ii) 

6. To introduce one page return for individual, Abolition of tax clearance certificate for leaving India and directly crediting all refunds to the bank account through ECS.
   (a) what is your opinion to this suggestion? ( )
(b) Do you suggest any other method of improvement in tax administration
   (i)  
   (ii)  
   (iii)  

7. To authorize only commissioner and Deputy or Assistant Commissioner to conduct search and seizure
   (a) Do you agree with this suggestion? (yes/ ) (No/ )
   (b) if yes, please state the reasons?
      (i)  
      (ii)  
      (iii)  
   (c) Have you faced any problem from income tax officer, Assessing officer etc
      1. if yes, what are the problems
         (a)  
         (b)  

8. To set up special court for speedy of prosecution of cases in case of tax evasion.
   (a) Do you requisite special court? If so what are reasons
      (i)  
      (ii)  
   (b) Do you consider the existing legal system is not Suitable (yes/ ) (No/ )
   (c) Do you suggest limit of evasion should be increased to;
      (i) Rs.10crore  
      (ii) Rs.20crore  

9. To improve additional interest and penalty for non-filing returns and payment of tax with in prescribed time (Failure to comply with a notice Rs.10000, concealment of income—up to 300% of tax evaded etc)

   (a) What is your opinion to this suggestion? (   )
   (b) Do you consider amount of penalty is high/low then what is your Suggestion

      a. Rs.20000 (   )
      b. Rs.25000 (   )
      c. Rs.50000 (   )
      d. Percentage basis (   )

10. To impose of penalty of Rs.5000 for failure to furnish return of income, failure to furnish information @ 2% of the value of transaction failure to quote PAN No—a sum of ten thousand etc.

    (a) Do you agree with this suggestion?
    (b) Do you consider amount of penalty is high or low then what is your suggestion?

        (i) Rs.10000 (   )
        (ii) Rs.15000 (   )
        (iii) Rs.20000 (   )

    (c) Do you suggest any other method of enforcement

        (i) Imprisonment (   )
        (ii) Heavy penalty (   )
        (iii) Cancellation of certain benefits. (   )
SUGGESTIONS

1. Please give your suggestion to improve elasticity of tax revenue to the Government
   (a)
   (b)
   (c)
   (d)

2. Please give your suggestion(s) to make the tax system fairer and broad based
   (a)
   (b)
   (c)
   (d)

3. Please give your suggestion (s) to rationalize the system of direct taxes
   (a)
   (b)
   (c)
   (d)

4. Please give you suggestion (s) to improve the compliance of direct taxes and strengthening its enforcement
   (a)
   (b)
   (c)
   (d)

Thank you for completing the questionnaire and helping me to suggest reforms to reduce taxpayer cost of compliance and cumbersome procedure to the government and enhancing the tax revenue.