

E-ASSESSMENT IS NOW "FACELESS ASSESSMENT"

HOW INCOME-TAX FACELESS ASSESSMENT WORKS



Background about E-assessment

E-assessment scheme is launched by Revenue Secretary on 07-10-2019



However, even after launching the scheme, practically, many assessments were conducted in a manner which requires physical representation before the jurisdictional Assessing Officer



The E-assessment scheme is restricted to regular scrutiny proceedings u/s 143(2) of the Act and other types of assessments (viz., reassessment & best judgement assessment) were not covered



Also, few
assessment
proceedings u/s
143(2) are
conducted manually
by the jurisdictional
Assessing Officer





E-assessment v/s Faceless Assessment

E-Assessment (up to 12th August 2020)

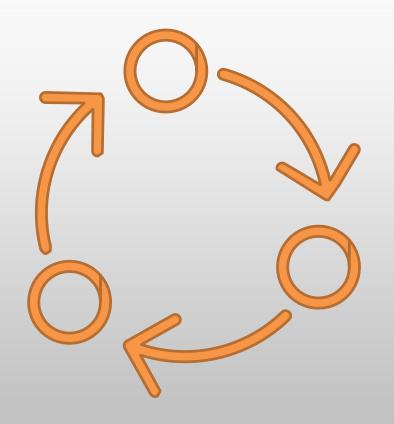
- Termed as E-assessment
- Covers only 143(2) proceedings
- Assessment approach is at the discretion of individual assessing officer
- Adjournment for filing responses not specifically covered in earlier scheme
- Exchange of information shall always be in electronic mode
- Authentication of submission by assessee shall be through digital signature only
- Assessee <u>shall be entitled</u> for personal hearing through video conferencing

Faceless Assessment (From 13th August 2020)

- Termed as 'Faceless Assessment'
- Covers almost all assessment proceedings viz., regular scrutiny, best judgement, re-assessment (other than search & seizure cases, international tax matters)
- No discretion with any individual officer, Team based assessment
- Even where Return not filed under above, it will be covered under 'Faceless assessment'
- Seeking adjournment / extension of time limit for filing response by assessee is specifically provided
- Assessee shall request for <u>personal hearing</u>, <u>which</u>
 <u>may be approved by concerned CCIT / DGIT</u>

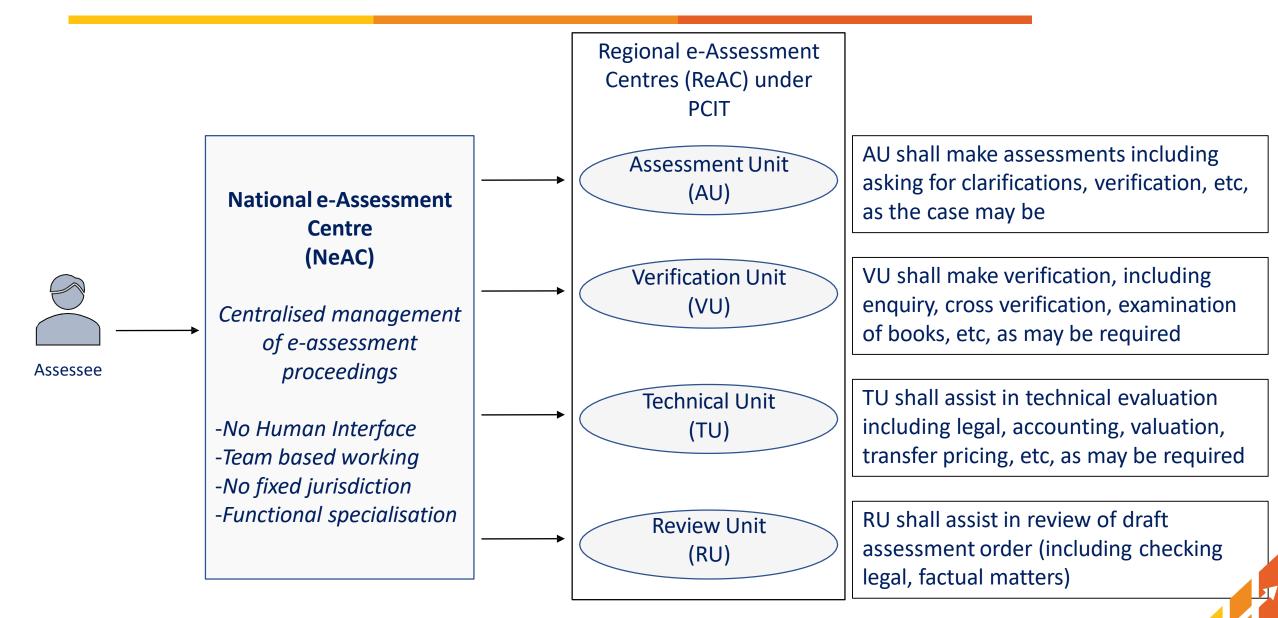


FACELESS ASSESSMENT ECOSYSTEM



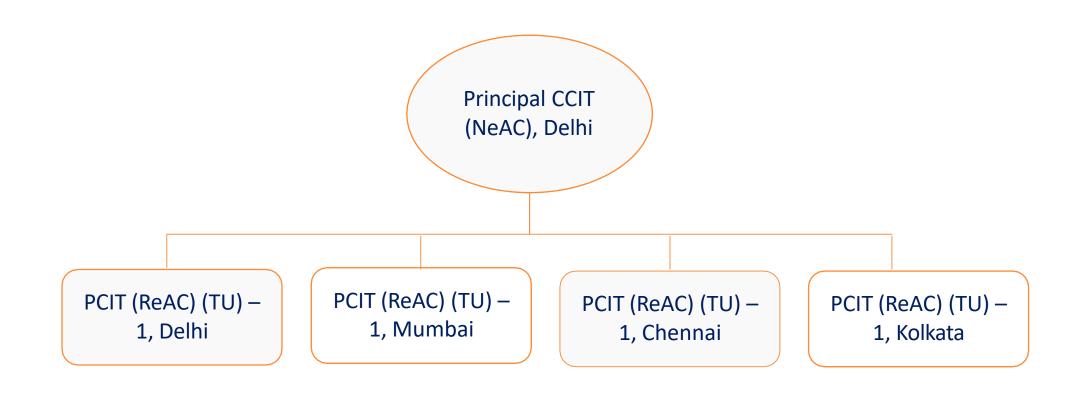
Communication under Faceless Assessment





SBC LOGAL CONNECT. GLOBAL OUTLOOK.

Technical units at Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata & Chennai



Constitution of regional e-assessment centres





Each PCIT
Assessment Unit
(AU) controls four
Range Heads,
each with One
ACIT / DCIT and
Five ITOs



Each PCIT
Verification Unit
(VU) controls 3
Range Heads each
with two ACIT /
DCIT and Five
ITOs



Each PCIT Review
Unit (RU) Controls
3 Range Heads
each with 2 ACIT /
DCIT and 3 ITOs

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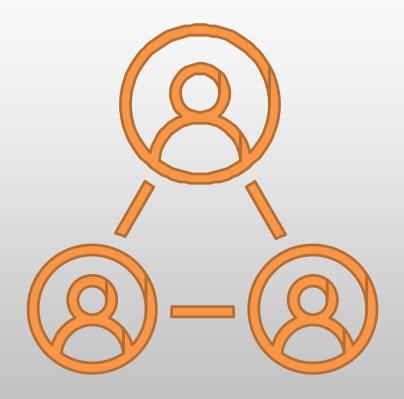


Each PCIT
Technical Unit
(TU) Controls 3
Range Heads 2
ACIT / DCIT and 3
ITOs





ASSESSMENT PROCESS
UNDER
FACELESS
ASSESSMENT

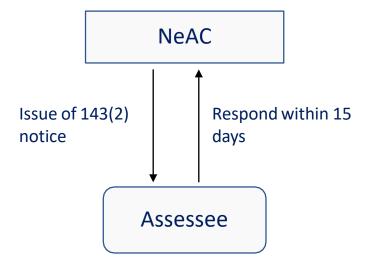






Issue of Notice & Assigning case by NeAC

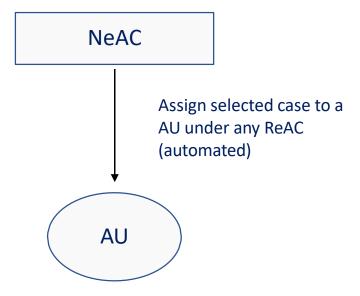
A – Issuance of initial 143(2) notice specifying issues for selection of case for assessment



B – Faceless assessment shall be completed in following cases where assessee has:

- Filed ROI u/s 139(1) / in response to 142(1) notice / 148(1) notice
 and 143(2) notice is issued; OR
- Not filed ROI in response to 142(1) notice; OR
- Not filed ROI u/s 148(1) AND Notice u/s 142(1) has been issued

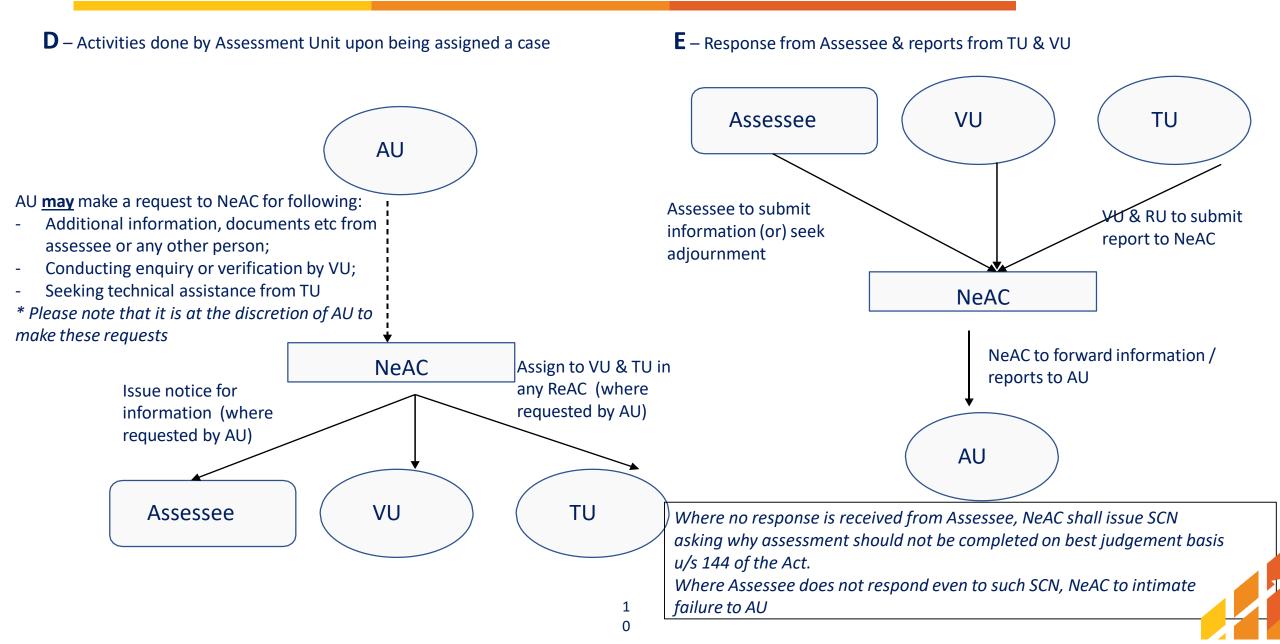
C – NeAC shall assign the case selected for e-assessment to a specific Assessment Unit (AU) under any on ReAC through automated allocation system





Information collation, scrutiny, verification



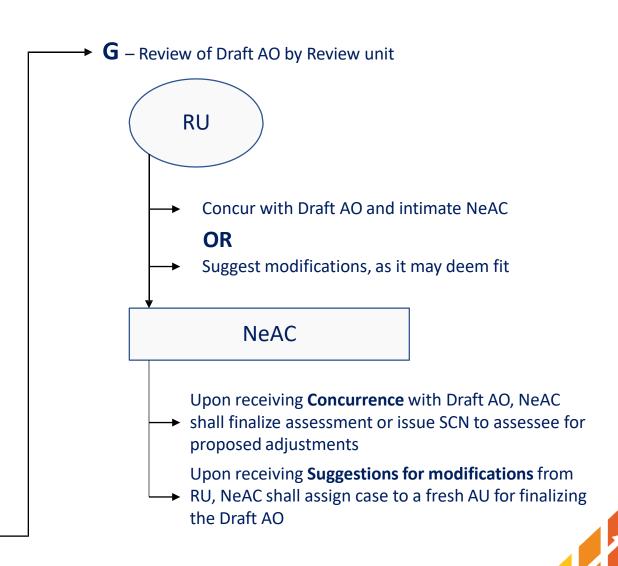


Preparation of Draft Assessment Order



F – Assessment Unit to prepare Draft Asst Order basis information available or on best judgement basis where no information is received AU AU shall also provide Prepare and share details for initiating penalty draft Assessment proceedings, if any Order with NeAC NeAC to examine Draft AO using Risk **Management Strategy** (Refer Slide 15) Finalize assessment basis Draft AO & issue order along with Penalty proceedings notice, if any o Assessee OR Issue SCN to assessee asking why assessment should not be completed as per Draft AO – refer next slide OR Assign Draft AO to Review Unit (RU) in any one of ReAC for conducting review of the

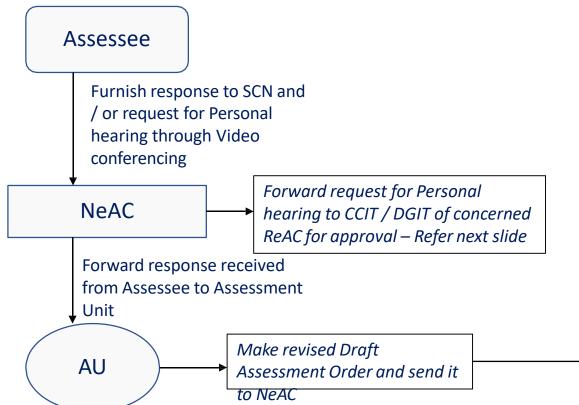
Draft AO



SCN to Assessee for Draft AO & Finalisation



H – As discussed in Step F above, NeAC, may at its discretion after receiving the Draft AO, send a SCN to assessee. Post receipt of SCN, assessee shall follow below process



Finalize assessment basis revised Draft AO,
where modification is not prejudicial to
interest of assessee

OR

NeAC

Issue SCN to assessee where modification
 is prejudicial to interest of assessee & follow procedure in Step H for finalizing assessment

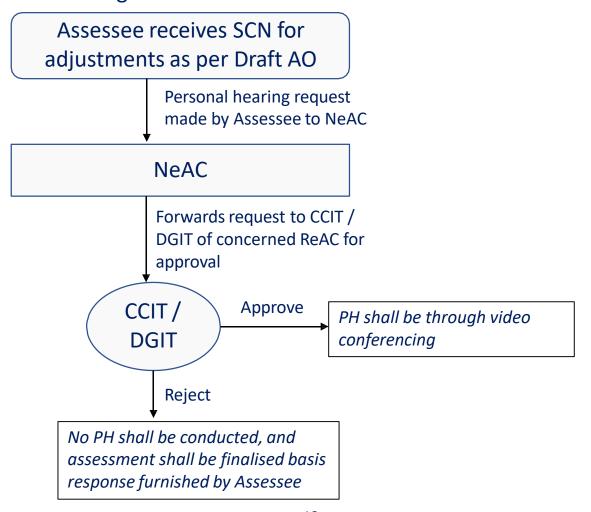
Post completion of Assessment, NeAC shall transfer all electronic records to Jurisdictional Assessing Officer for "such actions" as may be required under the Act

Where no response is received by Assessee to SCN, NeAC shall finalise assessment basis draft Assessment Order

Personal Hearing request by Assessee



Where a SCN has been issued by NeAC for proposed modifications as per Draft Assessment Order, the assessee may request NeAC for personal hearing





RISK MANAGEMENT SYSTEM & OTHER POINTS









As mentioned earlier, once the draft Assessment Order is received from AU, NeAC shall examine the same using Risk Management System (RMS)

Risk Management System (RMS)



RMS has two-fold purpose:

- To ensure Risk criteria under which cases selected are investigated
- To prevent High Pitched addition
- Whether required additions made or not



All cases flagged by RMS shall be sent by NeAC for review to RUs



Other Key points...

- Selection of assessments only through system using data analytics and AI
- No physical interface
- Team-based assessments & Team-based reviews
- Draft assessment order in one city, review in another city and finalization in a different city
- PCCIT / PDGIT in charge of national e-assessment centre may frame circumstances under which

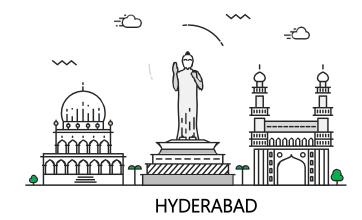
personal hearing shall be approved. What are such illustrative circumstances?

- With personal hearing being option and not mandatory, the taxpayers may face challenges in effectively communicating with tax authorities
- 2/3rd of manpower shall be utilized for faceless assessments and balance for other activities
- All pending as well as future cases are covered under faceless assessment

CONTACT US



For more details please logon to http://www.steadfastconsultants.in



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Other Locations:

Vijayawada : # 56-11-3, Sri Devi Complex, Y.V.R Street, MG Road, Patamata, Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh

Tirupathi: H. No: 6-154/1, Syamala Nilayam, Near Water Tank, Akkarampalli, Tirupathi, Andhra Pradesh

Delhi: C- 699A, 1st Floor, Sector-7, Palam Extn., Dwarka, New Delhi, Delhi 110075

Chennai: Old no 19, New no 13B, New Bangaru colony first Street, KK Nagar West, Chennai 600078

Dubai: 2103, Bayswater Tower, Business Bay, Dubai, UAE

