

Budget 2013-2014

Speech of
P. Chidambaram

Minister of Finance

February 28, 2013

Excerpts :

PART B VIII. TAX PROPOSALS

183. While there are nearly 17,00,000 registered assesseees under service tax, only about 7,00,000 file returns. Many have simply stopped filing returns. We cannot go after each of them. I have to motivate them to file returns and pay the tax dues. Hence, I propose to introduce a one-time scheme called 'Voluntary Compliance Encouragement Scheme'. A defaulter may avail of the scheme on condition that he files a truthful declaration of service tax dues since 1.10.2007 and makes the payment in one or two instalments before prescribed dates. In such a case, interest, penalty and other consequences will be waived. I hope to entice a large number of assesseees to return to the tax fold. I also hope to collect a reasonable sum of money.