

SERVICE TAX

Rules relating to Access to Registered Premises (Rule 5A) of Service Tax Rules, 1994 amended

Notification No. 23/2014-ST, Dated: December 05, 2014 amends Rule 5A(2) of Service Tax Rules 1994 to provide that every assessee, shall, on demand make available to the officer empowered under sub-rule (1) or the audit party deputed by the Commissioner or the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, or a cost accountant or chartered accountant nominated under section 72A of the Finance Act, 1994,-

- i. the records maintained or prepared by him in terms of rule 5(2);
- ii. the cost audit reports, if any, under section 148 of the Companies Act, 2013; and
- iii. the income-tax audit report, if any, under section 44AB of the Income-tax Act, 1961,

for the scrutiny of the officer or the audit party, or the cost accountant or chartered accountant, within the time limit specified by the said officer or the audit party or the cost accountant or chartered accountant, as the case may be.

It may also be noted that, prior to this amendment:

- Words “cost accountant or chartered accountant nominated under section 72A of the Finance Act, 1994” were not specifically mentioned in this rule.
- Time limit with the assessee for providing the requisite documents was 15 days from the date of demand of the documents.
- Words “the cost audit reports, under section 148 of the Companies Act, 2013,” were not specifically mentioned in this rule

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