





# **PART: 2**

Presumptive Tax Regulations Implementation

# GEMS 3 TAX TOOLKIT

IMPROVING STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT TAX REVENUE PROCESSES

# **Tax Toolkit:**

Presumptive Tax Regulations Implementation June 2016

## **Abstract**

This guide should be used to supplement state tax team work plans. It gives a detailed step-by-step guide to assisting with the implementation at State government level of the Presumptive Tax Regulations that were promulgated by the Federal Government in 2015.

# LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AGM Annual General Meeting
BIR Board of Internal Revenue

**BMO** Business Membership Organisation

CATU Council and Traders Union
CBN Central Bank of Nigeria
CRSG Cross River State Government
CSO Civil Society Organisation

**DFID** UK Department for International Development

**DPM** Director of Personnel Management

**ENABLE2** Enhancing Nigerian Advocacy for a Better Business

**EXCO** Executive Council

FIRS Federal Inland Revenue Service

**GBP** Great British Pounds

**GEMS3** Growth and Employment in States 3

GIZ Gesellschaft fur Internationale Zusammenarbeit

IGR Internally Generated Revenue
IMO Interim Management Officer

JTB Joint Tax Board

KACCIMA Kano Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Agriculture

**KASTU** Kano State Traders Union

**LASAA** Lagos State Signage & Advertisement Agency

LCDA Local Council Development Areas

LG Local Government

**LG&CA** Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs

LGALocal Government AreaLGCLocal Government CouncilsLIRSLagos State Internal Revenue ServiceLRCLand Records Company, LagosM&EMonitoring and Evaluation

MANManufacturers' Association of NigeriaMDAMinistries, Departments and Agencies

MOA Memorandum of Agreement

MoJ Ministry of Justice

MoLGMinistry of Local GovernmentMOU/MoUMemorandum of Understanding

NASSI Nigerian Association of Small Scale Industrialists

**NGN** Nigerian Naira

NGO Non-Governmental Organisation
NIBSS Nigerian Inter-Bank Settlement System
NURTW National Union of Road Transport Workers

OPS Organised Private Sector
PAYE Pay-As-You-Earn

PIN Personal Identification Number

PIT Personal Income Tax

POS Point of Sales/Point of Service
PPD Public Private Dialogue

**PPEM** Public Private Engagement Mechanism

**PT** Presumptive Tax

RCIU Revenue Complaints and Information Unit
SAVI State Accountability and Voice Initiative

SHOA State House of Assembly
SME Small and Medium Enterprise
SMS Short Message Service
SOP Standard Operating Procedures

**SPARC** State Partnership for Accountability, Responsiveness and Capability

**SWOT** Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats

**TAT** Tax Appeal Tribunal

TIN Taxpayer Identification Number
TNA Training Needs Analysis
ToT Training of Trainers
UK United Kingdom

WEE Women Economic Empowerment



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LGC Local Government Area Local Government Councils

LIRS
Lagos State Internal Revenue Service
Land Records Company, Lagos
M&E
Monitoring and Evaluation

MAN Manufacturers' Association of NigeriaMDA Ministries, Departments and Agencies

MOA Memorandum of Agreement

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**OPS** Organised Private Sector

Pay-As-You-Earn

PIN Personal Identification Number

PIT Personal Income Tax

POS Point of Sales/Point of Service
PDD Public Private Dialogue

**PPEM** Public Private Engagement Mechanism

PT Presumptive Tax



# CONTENT

1. PRESUMPTIVE TAX - INTRODUCTION	44
1.1 What is Presumptive Tax?	44
1.2 Reasons for the Presumptive Tax	44
1.3 Implementation of the Presumptive Tax at State government level	45
2 PRESUMPTIVE TAX ACTIVITIES	46
2.1 Establishment of Technical Working Committee at BIR	46
2.2 Agreement reached on Presumptive Tax rates in the State	46
2.3 Training of BIR staff	46
2.4 Presumptive Tax registration and database development	46
2.5 Presumptive tax sensitisation	46
2.6 Completion of presumptive tax activities	46
APPENDIX 1: THE PRESUMPTIVE TAX POLICY FRAMEWORK 2015	47
APPENDIX 2: PRESUMPTIVE TAX REGISTRATION FORM	48
APPENDIX 3: PRESUMPTIVE TAX RETURNS FORM	49
APPENDIX 4: PRESUMPTIVE TAX RATE TABLE	50
APPENDIX 5: PRESUMPTIVE TAX REGULATIONS 2015	52



# 1. PRESUMPTIVE TAX - INTRODUCTION

# 1.1 What is Presumptive Tax?

Presumptive Tax is personal income tax on individuals who are in business that is chargeable under the Personal Income Tax Act. Presumptive Tax is not another type of tax but a method of assessment of Personal Income Tax (PIT) supported by section 36(6) of the Personal Income Tax (Amendment) Act 2011 which states as follows:

"Notwithstanding any of the provisions of this Act, where for all practical purposes the income of the taxpayer cannot be ascertained or records are not kept in such a manner as would enable proper assessment of income, then such a taxpayer shall be assessed on such terms and conditions as would be prescribed by the Minister in regulations by order of gazette under a presumptive tax regime."

It is a tax regime/system of assessing taxpayers to tax where, for all practical reasons/ purposes, their income cannot be ascertained or records are not kept in such manner as would enable proper assessment of their income.

# 1.2 Reasons for the Presumptive Tax

Presumptive taxes are a way of taxing income in the absence of an accurate way to assess income.

The benefits of presumptive tax are envisaged to be as follows:

#### To the Government

- 1. Reduced assessment objections that free-up resources/time to other functional areas of revenue management.
- 2. Reduces the tendency and ability of BIRs to make multiple, subjective and inaccurate assessments; fraud is minimised/eliminated.
- 3. Reduces the possibility of leakages as the BIRs have a centralised database of taxpayers and therefore have a more accurate idea of the tax that should be collected
- 4. Better understanding between the BIRs and the taxpayers increases voluntary compliance.
- 5. It expands the tax net by widening the tax base and hence increases IGR.
- 6. It allows the government to tax its citizens in a more equitable fashion.

# **To Taxpayers**

- 1. It provides taxpayers with a simplified option for tax compliance and removes the administrative burden otherwise required for compliance.
- 2. The tax burden is more evenly spread among the taxpayers.
- 3. Discourages tax evasion and tax avoidance; increases financial transparency.
- 4. Recognises record-keeping limitations that exist in practice.
- 5. It gives a sense of patriotism and responsibility.
- 6. Incentive: bonus of 1% on tax payable for prompt filling of tax returns.







#### 1.3 Implementation of the Presumptive Tax at State government level

GEMS3 is supporting the domestication and implementation of the Federal Government Presumptive Tax Policy 2015 in three selected states - Kano, Kaduna and Cross River. This is to assist tax compliance by taxpayers (individuals including any corporation sole, trustees or executors with income chargeable to tax) in a hassle-free manner while helping states expand their tax net.

In domesticating and implementing the presumptive tax regime, GEMS3's approach has been through the implementation of the following suite of activities:

# **Establishment of Technical Working Committee at BIR**

The Ministry of Finance in conjunction with the State Board of Internal Revenue Service set up a Technical Working Committee at the BIRs to champion and facilitate the implementation of the Presumptive Tax system in the state. Its functions included:

- a. Producing tax rates in consultation with all relevant stakeholders;
- b. Organising PPDs with the various trade unions, associations, and professions to sensitise, agree on the rates and secure their cooperation;
- c. Building and/or improving the database of taxpayers in the informal sector including administering presumptive tax registration forms and assisting taxpayers with their completion.

## **Public Private Dialogue**

Several PPD workshops were conducted in order to bring together public and private sectors to:

- a. Agree precise rates and application of rules in a state;
- b. Get buy-in and sensitise organised private sector;
- c. Agree state level "tax for service" activities that will benefit informal sector; and execute MOU (where possible) on application of presumptive tax in state;
- d. Introduce better payment techniques: customised teller, POS.

#### **Training of BIR Staff**

GEMS3 conducted training for staff of BIRs to understand the provisions of the Presumptive Tax regulations and to enhance their capacity to implement presumptive tax.

#### **Developing Data Base of Taxpayers Through Registration**

The effectiveness of the implementation of presumptive tax substantially depends on the quality of a state's data on the informal sector; hence the need to undertake comprehensive registration of all businesses in the informal sector. This is achieved through identification of all the various trades, vocations and professions and registering them accordingly. GEMS3 has supported selected state revenue agencies to improve their taxpayers' database.

#### Sensitisation

An intensive campaign awareness was carried out to sensitise and educate the general public on the new presumptive tax system especially the agreed rates so that taxpayers are aware of what, how, when and where to pay.

GEMS3 has prepared a report on its implementation activities in the three states and has shared this with FIRs/JTB to help improve the rules and to aid other states with presumptive tax implementation.



# 2 PRESUMPTIVE TAX ACTIVITIES

# 2.1 Establishment of Technical Working Committee at BIR

- Discuss need to implement Presumptive Tax Regulations with relevant State Government stakeholders and make a case for a technical working committee and outline its role
- b. Establish Technical Working Committee

# 2.2 Agreement reached on Presumptive Tax rates in the State

- a. Produce first draft of potential rates with Technical Working Committee
- b. Facilitate presentation and discussion on draft with relevant stakeholders via meetings and PPDs
- c. Document agreement on rates for the State
- d. Obtain endorsement by working committee and relevant stakeholder management
- e. Record "agreement reached on presumptive tax rates" milestone as having been met

# 2.3 Training of BIR staff

- a. Agree plans with BIR management for training of staff on presumptive tax regime
- b. Conduct training

# 2.4 Presumptive Tax registration and database development

- a. Review state of existing database at BIR
- b. Identify best approach for presumptive tax registration
- c. Oversee issue and initial completion of presumptive tax registration forms
- d. Ensure registration information recorded in database

# 2.5 Presumptive tax sensitisation

- a. Plan presumptive tax sensitisation with working committee
- b. Agree resourcing and financing responsibilities
- c. Conduct sensitisation activities

#### 2.6 Completion of presumptive tax activities

- a. Prepare report on presumptive tax activities conducted
- b. Agree report with working committee and obtain approval to share with FIRS/JTB
- c. Share report with FIRS/JTB
- d. Record "presumptive tax activities completed" milestone as having been met







## **APPENDIX 1: THE PRESUMPTIVE TAX POLICY FRAMEWORK 2015**

The Federal Government in 2015 through the Federal Ministry of Finance introduced a policy on Presumptive Tax (PT) to facilitate tax compliance by taxpayers whose income for all practical purposes cannot be ascertained or where records are not readily available for proper assessment of income. The Minister of Finance signed the "Presumptive Tax Regulations 2015" in June 2015 (see Appendix 5). The regulations set out as follows:

# 1.1 Categories of Taxpayers under the Presumptive Tax Regime

Taxpayers are to be categorised into Micro, Small and Medium business, based on their levels of business activities for the purpose of determining the rate band for each category.

# 1.2 Process/Procedures

# 1. Registration

PT is to be administered by tax authority (Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS) or State Boards of Internal Revenue (BIRs) using Tax Registration Form (Appendix 2) and Tax Returns Forms (Appendix 3)

Taxpayers are expected to file returns on or before 90 days from the commencement of every year.

# 2. Payment

Payments would be made in accordance with the category of business, vocation, and profession contained in the Administrative Tax Table (Appendix 4). The rates payable by taxpayers under the PT system would largely depend on the details of their businesses. However, the mode and procedures for payment shall be as prescribed by the relevant tax authority.

#### 3. Tax Clearance Certificate

The taxpayer is entitled to and shall be issued with Tax Clearance Certificate by the relevant tax authority.

# 4. Exit Rule

A taxpayer under the presumptive tax regulations may voluntarily exit and file the requisite tax returns and be assessed under the Personal Income Tax Act in any tax year. On the other hand, the relevant tax authority can opt to assess a taxpayer under the Personal Income Tax Act where it is discovered that a taxpayer has valid records or information.

#### 1.3 Rate Guides

The regulations provide rate bands in the administrative document (see Appendix 4) for all categories of the informal sector (trades, vocation or profession) as a guide for states. The rates are classified into minimum, medium and maximum based on which tax rate can be determined for the taxpayer. The states are however allowed to negotiate and agree rates with trade associations.

# **APPENDIX 2: PRESUMPTIVE TAX REGISTRATION FORM**

SCHEDULE 1
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS), State Boards of Internal Revenue (SBIRs) PRESUMPTIVE TAX REGISTRATION FORM Made Pursuant to Section 6 of the Personal Income Tax (Amendment) Act, 2011 Instructions: All information should be filled in ink and capital letters, no abbreviation is allowed. Entries should not spill to neighbouring
block
Name of Taxpayer/Registered Name
2) Nationality
3) Residential Address
4) GSM Number
5) Business Type
6) Business Name
7) Registered Business Name
8) Commencement Date
9) Means of Identification
10) Business Registration No
11) Taxpayer Identification No. (TIN)
Signature/Thumbprint Date of Registration
7





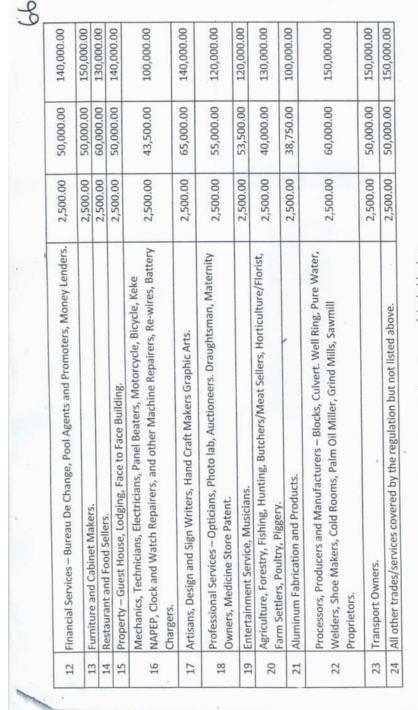
# **APPENDIX 3: PRESUMPTIVE TAX RETURNS FORM**

Forset	Federal Inland Revenue Service PRESUMPTIVE T Made Pursuant to Section 6 of 1 Employed Individuals, Enterprises and the	UBLIC OF NIGER  (FIRS), State Boards of Internal Reve  AX RETURNS FORM  the Personal Income Tax (Amendment  ne engaged in trades (To be submitted at the rele  pital letters, no abbreviation is allowed. Entries sho	t) Act, 2011
Name of Taxpa	yer/Registered Name -		
2. Nationality	-		
3. Residential Add	dress		
4. GSM Number.	***************************************		
5. Assessment Ye	ar		
6. Presumptive Ta	ax Payable	/	
7. Presumptive T	ax Paid		***************************************
	tification Number (TIN)	***************************************	***************************************
9. Nature of Busi	ness		•
Signature/Thumbp	rint	-	Date
PERIOD OF FILING	DUE DATE	DATE FILED	REMARKS
AV AUTHORITY.	-	SIGNATURE	DATE:
AX AUTHORIT:		SIGNATURE:	UNIT.
		8	

# **APPENDIX 4: PRESUMPTIVE TAX RATE TABLE**

	PRESUMPTIVE TAX TABLE	Missa	Const	Madium
NO	TRADE/BUSINESS	Micro Business	Small Business	Medium Business
1	Boutiques and other cloth sellers – Adult and Children wear.	2,500.00	32,500.00	100,000.00
2	Fabricating, Welding, Bench Milling, Black Smith, Gold Smith.	2,500.00	27,500.00	100,000.00
3	Confectioneries and Bakeries.	2,500.00	67,500.00	150,000.00
4	Barbers and Hair Dressing Saloon.	2,500.00	37,500.00	100,000.00
5	Service Providers – Business Centres and Typing Studio, Printers, Thrift Collector, Video Clubs, Car Wash and Owners, Casino Operators, Cyber Café Operators, Drama Group, Laundries, Dry Cleaners, Cinemas, Commercial Mobile Calls, Photographers/Photo Developers, Recreational Centre, Refuse Collections, Rentals, Travel Agency.	2,500.00	60,000.00	150,000.00
6	Artisans – Masons, Vulcanizes, Iron Benders, Carpenters, Cobblers, Painters and Decorators, Plumbers.	2,500.00	45,000.00	100,000.00
7	Petrol, Kerosene and Lubricant Sellers.	2,500.00	32,500.00	120,000.00
9	Tailoring, Interior Decoration, Fashion Designers and Garment Makers, Curtain Makers, Seamstress.	2,500.00	82,500.00	150,000.00
10	Transport Workers – Taxi, Bus, Lorry, etc.	2,500.00	45,000.00	120,000.00
11	General Trading/Enterprises - Retail and Wholesale, Land Speculators, Raw Food, Bookshops/Stationery Stores, Building Materials, Cement, Cooking Gas, Airconditioners, Mattress/Foams, Doors, Electrical Parts and Fittings, Furniture/Furnishing Material, Gas Refilling, General Contractor, General Merchants and Distributors, Gift Shop, Entrepreneurs, Imitation Jewel, Jewel, Land Speculators, Leather Carpets, Licensed Merchants, Mobile Phone, Motor Cycle, Spare Parts, Patent Medicine, Photographic Materials, Plank, Plastic Rubbers, Plumbing Materials, Poultry Feeds, Raw Food, Rugs and Carpets, Sewing Machine, Timber Dealers, Tire, Wine and Beer License Operators, Yoghurt.	2,500.00	60,000.00	140,000.00





MICRO BUSINESSES: The tax levied on traders at the lowest rung of the ladder in a

particular presumptive tax trade/business.

**SMALL BUSINESSES:** The tax levied on traders that will not ordinarily be regarded as very small and very big, and not formally registered, in a particular presumptive tax/business.

MEDIUM BUSINESSES: The tax levied on traders that are very big but not formally registered, in a particular presumptive tax trade/business.

# **APPENDIX 5: PRESUMPTIVE TAX REGULATIONS 2015**

PRESUMPTIVE TAX REGULATIONS, 2015

ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS

Regulation:

PART I OBJECTIVE AND SCOPE

1. Objective 2. Scope

PART II THOSE TO BE ADMINISTERED UNDER THE

PRESUMPTIVE TAX REGIME

Those to be administered under the presumptive tax regime

PART III TAX REGISTRATION AND TAX RETURNS

Tax registration
 Tax returns

PART IV TAX PAYMENT UNDER PRESUMPTIVE TAX REGIME

Tax Payment

Tax Clearance Certificate

PART V ADMINISTRATION OF PRESUMPTIVE TAX REGIME

8. Administration of Presumptive Tax Regime

9. Administrative settlement 10. Objection And Appeal 11. Bonus for prompt filing

PART VI EXIT RULE
12. Exit rules

DADT VII SANCTIONS AND

PART VII SANCTIONS AND PENALTIES
13. Penalty for Non-Payment

PART VIII INTERPRETATION AND CITATION

14. Interpretation
15. Citation

LIST OF SCHEDULES

1. PRESUMPTIVE TAX REGISTRATION FORM Schedule 1

2. PRESUMPTIVE TAX RETURNS FORM Schedule 2





#### PRESUMPTIVE TAX REGULATIONS, 2015

	[]	Commencement
- 1		

In exercise of the powers conferred on me, Dr (Mrs) Okonjo Iweala, Hon. Coordinating Minister of the Economy and Minister of Finance by Section 36 (6) of Personal Income Tax (Amendment) Act, 2011 and all other powers enabling me in that behalf, hereby make the following Regulations-

#### PART I - OBJECTIVE AND SCOPE

#### 1. Objective

The objective of these Regulations is to set out processes and procedures and provide standard guidelines for the implementation of the Presumptive Tax Regime in Nigeria.

#### 2. Scope

These Regulations shall apply to taxpayers where for all practical purposes their income cannot be ascertained or records are not kept in such manner as would enable proper assessment of income.

# PART II - THOSE TO BE ADMINISTERED UNDER THE PRESUMPTIVE TAX REGIME

# 3. Those to be administered under the presumptive tax regime

Categories of Taxpayers to be administered under these Regulations shall include taxpayers, where for all practical purposes their income cannot be ascertained or records are not kept in such manner as would enable proper assessment of income. These taxpayers are to be categorised according to the following bands; Micro, Small, and Medium Businesses based on their level of activities

# PART III - TAX REGISTRATION AND TAX RETURNS

#### 4. Tax registration

The presumptive tax regime shall be administered by the tax authority using Tax Registration Form in Schedule 1 and Tax Returns Form in Schedule 2 of these Regulations on respective taxpayers within their jurisdiction on annual basis.



#### Tax returns

Tax payer operating under the Presumptive Tax Regime are to file returns on or before 90 days from the commencement of every year.

#### PART IV - TAX PAYMENT UNDER PRESUMPTIVE TAX REGIME

#### 6. PAYMENT

- (1) The Tax payable shall be in accordance with the category of Trade, Businesses, Vocation and Professions as contained in an administrative tax table to be administered by the relevant tax authority.
- (2) The mode and the procedures for payment of the tax shall be in the manner prescribed by the relevant Tax Authorities.

## 7. TAX CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE

Upon payment of all tax assessments, the tax payer shall be entitled to be issued a tax clearance certificate.

#### PART V - ADMINISTRATION OF PRESUMPTIVE TAX REGIME

#### 8. Administration of Presumptive Tax Regime

- (1) It shall be the duty of the tax payer to file his returns annually, but the tax authorities shall engage the taxpayer with a view to obtaining relevant information on the nature and level of business carried out.
- (2) Pursuant to the outcome of (1) above, the tax authority shall determine the band the taxpayer should belong to.
- (3) Taxpayers shall be encouraged to keep records of their transactions.

#### 9. Administrative Settlement

Any taxpayer that contends the band/assessment arrived at in Regulation 8(2) may file an objection to the tax authority stating clearly the grounds of Claim within 15 days of the receipt of the assessment.

# 10. Judicial Review

Where the taxpayer is not satisfied with the decision of the relevant tax Authority, such person may appeal to the Tax Appeal Tribunal (TAT) or a Court of Competent Jurisdiction within 30 days of the receipt of the decision of the tax authority.

4



61

- (d) "Presumptive Tax" means personal income tax on individuals, chargeable under the Personal Income Tax Act where it is not possible or impracticable to keep accounting records.
- (e) "Tax Authority" means Federal Inland Revenue Service and States Internal Revenue Service.
- (f) "Returns" means documents used for purpose of assessing a taxpayer under these Regulation by the relevant tax authority for an assessment period;
- (g) "Taxpayer" means any individual or body of individuals (including any corporation sole, trustee or executors) having any income which is chargeable to tax under the presumptive tax regime.

#### 15. Citation

These Regulations may be cited as the "Nigeria Presumptive Tax Regulations, 2015"

Made at Abuja this ......day of ......2015

Minister of Finance

#### EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

(This note does not form part of the above Regulations but is intended to explain its purport)

These Regulations seek to administer persons under the presumptive tax regime in such terms and conditions as prescribed in these Regulations, where for all practical purposes the income of the taxpayer cannot be ascertained or records are not kept in such manner as would enable proper assessment of income.

60

#### 11. Bonus for prompt filing

A taxpayer who keeps up to date records and files a return under these Regulations within the specified period shall be granted a bonus of 1% of the tax payable.

#### PART VI - EXIT RULE

#### 12. Exit rules

- (1) Except where it is almost impossible, tax payers are to be encouraged to keep some form of records in order to exit from the Presumptive Tax Regime and be assessed on Pay-As-You-Earn/Direct Assessment Principle.
- (2) A taxpayer under these Regulations may voluntarily exit and file the requisite tax returns and be assessed under the Personal Income Tax Act in any tax year.
- (3) Where the tax authority discovers, based on available taxpayer record or any other valid record or information that the taxpayer ought to be assessed under the Personal Income Tax Act, such taxpayer shall be assessed as appropriate under the Act.

## PART VII - SANCTIONS AND PENALTIES

#### 13. Sanctions and Penalties.

#### (1) Failure for non-payment of Presumptive Tax

A taxpayers under these Regulations who fails or neglects to make payment of the tax due shall be liable pursuant to section 76 of the Personal Income Tax Act (as amended)

#### PART VIII - INTERPRETATION AND CITATION

## 14. Interpretation

For the purpose of these regulations:

- (a) "Assessment Period" means a period of one calendar year.
- (b) "Informal Sector businesses" means where for all practical purposes the income of a taxpayer cannot be ascertained or records are not kept in such manner as would enable proper assessment of income.
- (c) "Person" means individuals engaged in businesses, trades, vocation and professional services that are taxable under these Regulations





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