



President's Communique

CA S. Venkataramani

Warm Greetings from the National President for the Golden Jubilee Year Celebrations!

Dear Members and Colleagues,

Union Budget 2026

The month of February, 2026 is the month when the Finance Minister of India presents the Union Budget 2026-2027. This year's Budget lays out the Government's fiscal and economic priorities for the year ahead with great emphasis on infrastructure led growth, expansion of the manufacturing sector, fiscal discipline and inclusive development: The Budget proposes an expenditure of approximately 53.5 lakh crores with capital expenditure enhanced to 12.25 lakh crores. The emphasis is on roads, railways, high speed corridors and waterways. The Budget targets a fiscal deficit of approximately 4.6% of GDP and supports strategic sectors like semi-conductors, bio-pharma, electronics and MSMEs while it includes tax measures (such as TCS cuts on overseas spends and other relieves) alongside spanning rural development, tourism and services – all aimed at sustaining high levels of growth, job creation and positioning India strongly in the Global Economy.

Contents of the Journal

This month's journal, provides well researched articles providing critical analysis as also an overview of the Budget 2026 – covering the changes in Excise Law, GST Laws and also provides a deep insight and analysis of some of the provisions under the Income Tax Laws (Finance Bill, 2026). These articles are written by eminent tax professionals and is a worthy read – I suggest the entire tax fraternity reads these articles and provide feedback to the Journal Committee.

Golden Jubilee – From Reflection to Action

As we step into the month of February 2026, the Golden Jubilee Year of our Federation gathers meaningful momentum. The initial phase of reflection and transition is now behind us, and the Federation stands poised to translate vision into action, guided by the collective strength and wisdom of its members.

The Golden Jubilee is not merely a commemorative milestone; it is an opportunity to re-energise our commitment to the profession. While the past couple of months set the tone by honouring our rich legacy, February marks the beginning of purposeful engagement through academic initiatives, professional interaction, and institutional strengthening across the country. This year must be remembered not only for celebration, but for consolidation and constructive progress.

Nationwide Academic and Professional Activities

The month of January has witnessed a series of academic and professional programmes conducted across various Zones and Regions of the Federation, reflecting the vibrancy and commitment of AIFTP units nationwide. Seminars, conferences, workshops, webinars and interactive sessions organised by different Zones have enabled meaningful deliberation on contemporary tax issues and professional challenges. The month of January, 2026 witnessed a One-Day Tax Conference at Balangir after almost 2 decades. This Conference was unique in many aspects.

Among these, the National Tax Conference held at Patna on 17th and 18th January 2026 stood out as a significant academic event, drawing participation from members across the country. The quality of deliberations, scholarly presentations, and engaging discussions truly exemplified the intellectual strength of the Federation. I place on record my appreciation for all Zonal and Regional teams whose collective efforts made these programmes a success and strengthened the spirit of learning and collaboration within AIFTP.

The Budget Month – A Defining Phase for the Profession

February is traditionally a significant month for tax professionals, with the Union and State Budgets shaping the economic and fiscal roadmap of the Nation. These policy announcements will once again test our analytical skills, interpretative acumen, and advisory responsibilities. By the time this journal reaches its readers, I am confident that AIFTP, through its seminars, study circles, and deliberative platforms, will have provided the members with insightful and practical perspectives on the evolving tax and regulatory framework.

I encourage members, especially younger professionals, to actively participate in post-Budget discussions and contribute articles, analyses, and viewpoints to our forums and the AIFTP Journal, thereby enriching collective understanding.

Strengthening ‘Sangha Shakti’ Through Participation

The true strength of AIFTP lies in member participation at every level National, Zonal, and Regional. As committees commence their work and programmes roll out across the country, I urge members to engage proactively. Knowledge shared multiplies in value, and collective effort reinforces the spirit of Sangha Shakti that defines our Federation.

Election of Deputy President

I am pleased to place on record my heartfelt congratulations to **Advocate Shri Sanjay Kumar of Prayagraj**, who has been elected as the **Deputy President** of the Federation at the **National Executive Committee Meeting held at Patna on 17th January 2026**. His long-standing association with AIFTP, professional acumen, and commitment to the ideals of the Federation will undoubtedly strengthen the National team. I look forward to working closely with him in furthering the objectives of AIFTP during this Golden Jubilee Year and beyond.

The Journal – Voice of Experience and Vision

The AIFTP Journal continues to be our intellectual backbone and a credible voice of the profession. In this Golden Jubilee Year, the Journal assumes even greater importance in chronicling contemporary developments while preserving institutional memory. I request members and seniors

of the profession to mentor young contributors, ensuring continuity of scholarship and depth of thought.

Looking Ahead

I call upon each one of us to focus on technology changes, innovation, to take informed decisions while attending to the requirement of client needs. I urge the members to learn and specialize in artificial intelligence, data analytics and global compliance matters. Such learnings will empower the members to deliver strategic technology driven solutions. The members must remember that the governance environment is becoming more and more transparent while the laws are evolving. I firmly believe that the future of tax practice is not just serving clients, but it must shape the future ready India while bearing in mind the ease of doing business. The members must reflect upon the vibrant tax eco-system, the economic momentum and the paradigm shift in the mindset of businesses. It implies that we must continuously upskill, unlearn what we have learnt and relearn what is required to be learned.

As we move forward in this landmark year, our focus remains clear:


- academic excellence,
- ethical practice,
- professional unity, and
- preparedness for change.

With rapid shifts in tax laws, technology-driven compliance, and evolving dispute resolution mechanisms, AIFTP must remain a beacon of balanced thought progressive yet principled.

Conclusion

I once again call upon all members to walk together in this Golden Jubilee journey with commitment, cooperation, and clarity of purpose. Let us honour the vision of our founders not merely in words, but through meaningful action that strengthens the profession and serves the Nation.

With warm regards and best wishes,



CA S. Venkataramani

National President

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