जस्टिस प्रदीप पी. भट्ट

(पूर्व न्यायाधीश गुजरात एवं झारखंड उच्च न्यायलय)

अध्यक्ष

आय-कर अपीलीय अधिकरण

Justice Pradeep P. Bhatt (Former Judge, Hon'ble Gujarat

High Court and Jharkhand High Court)

President

Income Tax Appellate Tribunal



भारत सरकार विधि एवं न्याय मंत्रालय

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ANNOUNCEMENT OF E-FILING PORTAL

In the current times of unique challenges on account of Covid-19 Pandemic, invoking digital strategies have become the most effective way forward for judicial / quasi-judicial institutions all over the world. Our Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji has been leading the campaign of Digital India and has emphasized that "We must ensure that technology is accessible, affordable and adds value". While launching the E-filing facility in the Supreme Court recently, the Hon'ble Chief Justice Mr. Justice S.A. Bobde said "Technology must be simple to use, and does not exclude any citizen anywhere. The rule of law must survive irrespective of virus."

- 2. Thus, in keeping with the above, I am delighted to share with all the stakeholders that the E-Filing Portal developed in the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal is ready for launch post compliance of mandatory security audit in accordance with the Guidelines issued by the Government of India. The security audit is presently underway.
- 3. We, at ITAT, consider the E-Filing a norm and a standard expectation of our stakeholders today, and in line with the e-Governance policy of the Government of India. The facility of E-filing shall enable an economical and seamless filing of appeals and applications by the parties before the Tribunal, without being affected by the scourge of corona virus and maintaining social distancing.
- 4. It has been our constant endeavour to optimise the use of technology in the justice delivery system at ITAT, in keeping with our motto of निष्पक्ष, सुलभ, सत्वर न्याय. The development of E-filing Portal is yet another milestone in the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal's transition to digitization.
- 5. The Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and detailed guidelines for use of facility of E-Filing Portal are under consideration and shall be announced once the E-filing Portal is hosted on the NIC server after completion of formalities, very soon.
- 6. It is expected that this initiative of development of portal and facility of E-Filing of appeals, etc. shall be of immense use to the taxpayers, tax consultants and other stakeholders.

(Justice P.P. Bhatt)
President