



INDIAN JOURNAL OF
LEGAL REVIEW

VOLUME 5 AND ISSUE 9 OF 2025

INSTITUTE OF LEGAL EDUCATION



INDIAN JOURNAL OF LEGAL REVIEW

APIS – 3920 – 0001 | ISSN – 2583-2344

(Open Access Journal)

Journal's Home Page – <https://ijlr.iledu.in/>

Journal's Editorial Page – <https://ijlr.iledu.in/editorial-board/>

Volume 5 and Issue 9 of 2025 (Access Full Issue on – <https://ijlr.iledu.in/volume-5-and-issue-10-of-2025/>)

Publisher

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LOOPHOLES IN TAXATION LAW LEGAL

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BEST CITATION – FURQAAN HAMEED, LOOPHOLES IN TAXATION LAW LEGAL, *INDIAN JOURNAL OF LEGAL REVIEW (IJLR)*, 5 (9) OF 2025, PG. 110-118, APIS – 3920 – 0001 & ISSN – 2583-2344.

This article is published in the collaborated special issue of Amity Law School, Amity University, Mumbai and the Institute of Legal Education (ILE), titled “Emerging Trends in Law: Exploring Recent Developments and Reforms” (ISBN: 978-81-986345-1-1).

Abstract

The paper deals with the taxation law explores the structure, impact, and fairness of taxation systems and the loopholes present in it, it states how the loopholes are exploited by the major copration and wealthy individuals for their own benefit. it focus on how tax laws are applied, avoided, and perceived by different socioeconomic groups. The policies that are made which contains certain gray areas that are identified by high ranking tax advisors which are hidden from the general public and is not easily accessible. It highlights the growing disparity caused by tax avoidance strategies employed by wealthy individuals and corporations. The different strategies used for tax avoidance which is technically not illegal but raises the question of ethics and morality involved in the system of taxation which also have a political aspect to it.

The paper urges the importance of financial education so that the general public could be benifitted by it. it also states as why it is important to close the loopholes present in our legal system along with The affect of these loopholes on the economic stability and social justice and equality.

The research emphasizes the broader implications of this imbalance, including underfunded public services, increased economic inequality which are not good for the overall development of the country. The paper sates the urgent need for a tax reform as a tool for promoting social equity, and sustainable development, along with the public trust in the government.

Introduction

A tax is a monetary charge that is compulsory in nature. it is impose on an individual on the basis of his /her income, in other words tax is a compulsory contribution levied on corporations and individuals so that the government could finance that money for the welfare of the general public and defence etc. To help fund public works and services—and to build and maintain the infrastructure used in a country—a government usually taxes its individual and corporate residents. The tax collected is used for the betterment of the economy and all who are living in it. There are many types of taxes like sales tax, corporations

tax, income tax, property tax etc. In the us and many other countries in the world, the income taxes are applied to some form of money received by a taxpayer. The money could be income earned from salary, capital gains from investment appreciation, dividends or interest received as additional income, payments made for goods and services, and so on.

Tax law is a body of regulations under which a public authority has a claim on the taxpayers, making it mandatory for them to transfer a part of their income or property to the government. The government has the right to use its power to impose taxes on the general public. Different nations have different tax laws according to

their government even though there are some similarities in the laws of the various countries.

Tax law only deals with the with the legal aspects of the taxation, and not the aspects of the finance and economics .

Tax law falls within the domain of public law whereas the International tax law is more concerned with the problems which arises when an individual or a corporation is taxed in several countries. The development of tax law as a general system is a of a recent phenomenon. A reason for this is that there was no general system for taxation existed in any country before the 19th century. In traditional sense , essentially societies of agrarian nature ,the revenues for the government were drawn either from the nontax sources (such as tribute, land rent) or, from a lesser extent,that is from taxes on the various objects (land taxes, tolls, customs, an). Levies on income or capital were not considered to be an ordinary means for financing the government.It appeared first as an emergency measures from the british system of income taxation, as one of the oldest in the world, originated at the time of of 1799 as a temporary means for meeting of the increasing financial burden of the Napoleonic Wars.

Now with the tax law there are various loopholes present Loopholes in general terms is an ambiguity in the law ,this arises due to the vast set of rules in the law. When it comes to tax law there are lot of legal loopholes present in it allowing corporations and wealthy individuals to reduce their taxes .along with the practices of tax loopholes there are also practices of tax evasion , the difference between tax loopholes and evasion is that evasions are illegal and intentional deceit to remove tax obligations whereas loopholes are using different strategies for reducing tax within the bounds of laws .

Literature review

(Field, 2017) has discussed

That the term tax loopholes does not have a clear definition as people in general have a

very different understanding of it and therefore it leads to the debates. The author instead of defining it proposes as a taxanomy which aims at understanding it in two dimensions

The first one is of the The tax policy objection-What is specifically wrong or undesirable about the perceived loophole?

The second one is of The target of the criticism - What specific provision or practice is being criticized?

(Bittker, 1974) has discussed

Income tax reform surprisingly became a very significant political issue. This article tells it quickly faded from the forefront due to other events, the charges that the tax code is full of "loopholes" and that rich individuals sometimes pay less in taxes than than others remained relevant. Pointing out that the criticism of tax loopholes came from diverse groups with varying motivations:

"New Populists" aimed to close loopholes to strengthen the income tax as a tool for income redistribution.

Essentially, this introduction establishes the context of the article by highlighting the political salience of the "tax loophole" issue, the diverse motivations behind the criticism of loopholes, and the author's intention to explore the topic further.

(McKenna, 1963)has discussed

Tax loopholes, which is a poorly defined term often used to criticize disliked tax code parts it classifying deductions to better identify loopholes.

1) Technical Deductions (business expenses), arguing excess claims are evasion, not loopholes.

2) Equity Deductions (ability to pay, like medical expenses), lacking objective loophole criteria.

3) Social Policy Deductions (charitable giving), distinct from equity deductions, encouraging specific spending. The goal is a more precise loophole identification framework.

(Bernal, Fellows and Jewell, 2014) has discussed

This passage introduces an article clarifying the difference between the tax expenditures and the loopholes. It argues the word "loophole" is being misused, implying legal tax incentive use is cheating, while many are government-approved. It notes some ambiguity requires judgment to spot exploitation, and avoids political debate on tax law merits, focusing on objective classification.

(Verbit, 1981) has discussed

The article focuses on the concept that is of the of tax loopholes and their impact on economy. The author notes that while that the ideal tax system should raise revenue equitably, and should focus here is on the equity aspect rather than the government financial needs.

Tax loopholes violate the horizontal equity: They allow some taxpayers to pay less than others who are in similar financial situations.

Loophole plugging is a major focus of tax legislation: The article mentions the Tax Reform Act of 1976 as an example of legislation aimed at closing loopholes.

Two Categories of Loopholes:

Intentionally created loopholes:

Loopholes without social purpose:

(Katz, 2010) has discussed

Laws are known to be have the loopholes. Lawyers who exploit loopholes are thought to be taking advantage of that over- This essay offers a different perspective. Most loopholes have nothing to do with the over- or underinclusiveness of rules.

(Mitchell, 2015) Has discussed

That one of the reason the tax code is so vast is for the creations of the ,exemptions ,preferences deductions and other loopholes which are basically done by the the politicians , it is more like a scam Which benefits the wealthy and not the general public and the economy .Achieving genuine tax system which is neutral and fair is

very much hard because of the political obstacles present in the current tax system.

Without a loopholes in tax code the economy performs better , he thing is that the majority of the people have an understanding that the high tax rates have negative impact on the growth because they penalize income earning people But that is not a nearly enough appreciation to the fact that loopholes in the code are bad for growth because they are a back door form of the industrial policy which exist for the goal of inducing the general public to make the decisions on the basis of tax and not on the basis of what is best for economic sense. A transparent and fair tax system results in the less damage of the economy.

(Raskolnikov, 2025). Law for the Rich. Minn. L. Rev., 109, 1399. Due to the huge amount of income inequality in today's world it has been proposed that there should be new tax system aiming to lessen the income inequality ,by taxing rich more than the general public yet while the rich gets more taxed there appears to little to no effect on the income inequality .more over there is no change in the property law , labour law etc.

The problem that arises is that a separate law for the rich would appear to be unfair as it causes burdens that are of obvious nature ranging from different aspects and it will be contrary to the fundamentals nature and the elements of the law.

(Finér, 2021) Who generated the loopholes? A case study of corporate tax advisors' regulatory capture over anti-tax avoidance legislation in Finland. Nordic Tax Journal, 2022(1), 1-26.

The economists and the scholars have repeatedly discussed how major corporations have made profit from corroding different policies to their own advantage without having consideration for the general public and the public interest. By analysing the various statements of different stakeholders During the interest deduction rule that challenge the capital arrangements enabled to a nuanced

analysis . the evidence suggests that the corporation and the tax advisory firms has influenced the rule in which tax loopholes are present.

(Kiser, E., & Karceski, S. M. 2017)

It involves the theory of the political economies to provide the history of the system of taxation focusing on the revenue of it along with the administration and structure the tax structures the history of it began with the pre modern tax systems turn to the rise of the progressive tax system in the 20th century it also discusses the difficulties involving with the current tax system of the modern world , taxing the wealth of an individual is much harder in the modern era of the 21st century .

(Morgan and prasad 2009)

This article digs into the the origins of the tax systems in France and in the United States, digs deep as to know why the U.S. has taken in the favour of progressive income taxes while France has done it differently and favored regressive sales taxes. It also states that the differences comes from history and political contexts in each country. In the U.S., the centralization of the economic power in the late 19th century has led to the political push for progressive taxation rather than regressive taxation to regive the wealth and aim at counterbalancing of the corporate control. Where as in , France's the resistance to mass state power and of the fears of government defeat led to a preference for consumption taxes rather than income taxes. These are the early 20th-century movements that has shaped the tax systems in both countries and had continue to affct their modern political economies.

(Browning, E. K. 1978).

It examines the applied tax incidence have concluded that the burden of the tax system tends to be roughly equivalent to income. In conclusion, it, is heavily based on the assuming that sales and excise taxes are of regressive

Under this revised approach, the entire tax system is of progressive nature , contrary to the conclusions of earlier studies. Overall, the results states the importance of taking full scope of transfers of government and the interaction of taxes within a general system framework in order for it to more accurately judge the progressivity of the tax system.

(Ravallion, M. 2014). It deals with the question that weather the rising income inequality should e of concern or not

In the developing counries , the data reveals that the income inequality has slowly been rising since the 2000 one of the reason for that could be the invrease in number of the major corporations High inequality also threatens to stall the future progress of a nation against the poverty by in terms of growth prospects. The Perceptions of rising absolute gaps in the living standards between the rich and the poor in the growing economies and nations are also consistent with the new evidence.

(Besley, T., & Persson, T. 2013)

The important question in the study of the taxation and development is: How does the government keeps on increasing in collection of taxes This question is critical because of the ability to generate sustainable tax revenue—which is also known as fiscal capacity—The understanding of the processes and factors thatcause a state to expand its tax base and increase the tax compliance is vital for the economic growth

This research paper delves deep into the economic and political forces that influence the creation of the fiscal capacity. Economical and political factors, issues such as state legitimacy, trust in government,etc

this paper also proposes an overarching analytical framework for policymakers, and practitioners which incorporates multiple dimensions, ranging from historical experiences, to administrative capabilities.

Ultimately, the paper states that building of fiscal capacity is not just about increasing the

tax rate or introducing new taxes—it is also about establishing a transparent relationship between the state and its citizens.

Research methodology

The author has adopted a qualitative legal research methodology to lean onto the structure of taxation law and to find the legal loopholes within it. The research aims to analyze how tax laws are analysed and applied, and occasionally exploited for one's benefit, and to identify areas where ambiguity or legal gaps have enabled the tax reduction ways and strategies. It aims to explore the effectiveness of the current taxation policies, the equity and efficiency of tax systems, and the factors that contribute to tax avoidance, evasion, and compliance. The study aims at a holistic understanding of taxation within a national and global context.

The research is mostly doctrinal in its nature, by involving the systematic analysis of the legal statutes, and the academic commentary which is related to the tax law.

The data collected is of the secondary nature. These secondary sources of data include Academic journal and articles related to taxation, tax systems and tax loopholes, along with Legal commentaries and textbooks.

The study employs statutory interpretation methods, including the purposive and literal approaches, to identify the ambiguities or inconsistencies in the tax laws. The analysis also considers a legislative intent, a judicial interpretation trends, and how these affect the practical application of the tax provisions. It also ensures that all of the legal documents and the data that are used in the paper is taken responsibly and is cited appropriately.

There are also some limitations involved –

Given the fact that the tax laws are of complex nature and technicality of tax law, the research may be limited when it comes to access to the proprietary or confidential information, such as the private tax rulings or undisclosed contracts and settlements. Moreover, the fast-evolving

nature of the tax reform initiatives means that some of the findings may become outdated in nature rapidly.

Objective

The objective of this research papers are as follows

1 -to target the current tax system and the loopholes present in and to analyze the equity and fairness of the Tax System

2 -To target the income inequality in the modern world of digital economy, To analyze the socio-economic impacts of taxation on different income groups.

3 -how the major corporations and rich individuals exploit the legal loopholes and the policies for their own benefit

4 -how the general public is affected by the tax system

5-awareness regarding the fair and transparent tax system

Analysis and interpretation

Taxes are a financial portion of one's individual or revenue which is given to the government. To run a nation judiciously, the government collects tax from the eligible citizens paying taxes to the central or the local government. Taxation has become an integral part of every body's life, irrespective of where we live in the world today. Now, these taxes can be collected in any form such as, direct taxes, central government taxes, indirect taxes, state taxes, and much more. The types of taxation in India can be divided into two categories, direct taxes and indirect taxes. This differentiation is based on how the tax is being paid to the government.

Now the Tax law is an area of legal study or law in which the general public and the authorities, such as federal, state, central etc. use a body of rules, regulations and procedures to assess and to collect the taxes in a legal aspect. The rates and merits of the various taxes, imposed by the government are taken through the

process of political nature which are present in these bodies of status and power.

Tax law is also a part of public law. It also deals with the application of existing tax laws of the respective country on the individuals, corporations, companies etc in areas where the tax revenue is derived or levied, for example the income tax, the estate tax, the business tax, employment tax, property tax, gift tax and exports and imports tax.

Major problems in Developed countries for tax law is Taxes can be insufficient in revenue to cover the government spending.

Taxes are complex in nature generally speaking and this can result in to be viewed as beneficial in high income earners or wealthy individuals compare to the lower income earners Tax evasion and corruption occur, leading to reduced government revenue. Taxes may produced poor desired outcomes due to inefficiency the Taxes can curb economic growth through, e.g. corporate taxes/hurdles that could be major issue for the smaller entities to grow.

In the Developing countries

Taxes in the developing economies can be hard to standardize since most of the workers work in small, corporations

there is no sound establishments for tax systems Due to unreliable data tax systems are hard to regulate and change.

Tax loopholes

A tax loophole usually arises when there is an omission, or ambiguity, of a certain aspect of the tax law, and there set of rules that dictate how much money you are due to pay the government each year.

It is not illegal to Exploite the tax loopholes. But, because loopholes tend to be quirks resulting from the unintended consequences of legislation, they do not have the guaranty to exist forever. Meaning that the loopholes can always be fixed or closed,

The reality is that the Wealthy individuals often avoid taxes through a large number of variety of legal strategy methods, this is done primarily by exploiting the tax laws and loopholes that are often hard or not easily accessible for general public. One of the most common strategies is of recognizing the income to take advantage of the lower tax rates. For example, business ceo or wealthy individual instead of receiving a high salary which is taxed at an ordinary income rate, many of the wealthy individuals receive compensation not through salary but by stock options or by capital gains, which have a lower tax rate. Another favored tool is Real estate, as it offers significant advantages in terms of tax through deductions such as mortgage interest and depreciation, which can reduce taxable income even though while the property increases in the value..

Internationally, some of the ultra-wealthy individuals go as far as change their tax residency or obtain citizenship in the countries with more favorable tax laws. These are also known as “citizenship-by-investment” programs which offer a legal route to reduce tax liabilities. On top of that, the wealthy people employ top tax advisors and legal experts in taxation to devise strategies that exploit loopholes in the law.

Another one of the most smooth but an effective ways the rich avoid taxes is by political influence. Wealthy individuals and major corporations often fund the lobbying campaigns to shape the tax laws in their favor. many of these practices are technically legal, they emphasize deep systemic issues in tax policy and further increases the growing inequality.

Impact on General public

The taxation system has a deep impact on the general public, effecting the quality of life and to access to essential services in todays modern era. In general sense, taxation is a powerful tool that a government has to redistribute wealth, and to finace the public services, and promote socio economic stability.

When justly designed and implemented effectively, a tax system can help to reduce inequality in income, and to support the vulnerable, and to build frame work that benefits everyone such as schools, hospitals, roads, defence and public safety etc. These are some of the positive effects of taxation. A progressive tax system, where the ones who earn more pay a higher percentage of their income in taxes, can ensure that the wealthiest contribute fairly to the operating of the society. Taxes also enable the governments to respond to the emergencies, fund welfare programs, and to stimulate economic stability and growth through public investment.

But there are also, the negative effects of an imbalanced or poorly structured tax system and policies that can be not fare to the general public.

When rich individuals and major corporations takes advantage of the loopholes and avoid paying their fair share of tax, the burden of taxation falls on the middle and lower-income classes of society. These groups often end up paying more by means of indirect taxes such as sales tax, value-added tax (VAT), or fuel tax, which is of a larger portion of their income compared to the rich. This nature of regressive tax can impact can worsen the income inequality, reduce the disposable income, and could result in limitation in access to basic opportunities like the education and healthcare.

Moreover, there is an unfair vast and complex tax system can erode the public trust in government institutions. When public see the rich getting richer by avoiding taxes through loopholes while average workers struggle to meet their end meet s, it creates a sense of injustice and disillusionment. This unfairness can lead in to lower tax compliance, as the people may feel less obligated to follow the rules and policy they view as biased or unjust and not fair. From the economic point of view, high tax rates or the complicated tax compliance nature procedures can discourage business and

investment, potentially resulting in slowing of the economic activity.

On the other hand, when the tax system is fair and transparent, and efficiently administered, it can grow a stronger sense of civic responsibility and helps to contribute to economic and social stability. People are more willing to pay the taxes when they see a tangible results in the form of quality public services, and a fair and transparent legal system. Taxation, when used right, is also an essential form the in addressing long-term societal goals such as the change climate change, education reform, income inequality and reduction in poverty

To conclude, the taxation is of necessary nature and is a powerful instrument of government, but the effectiveness of it depends largely on the fact of its design and implementation in the society. A fair and transparent tax system can promote justice, economic growth, and the social development, on another hand an unfair one can increase inequality, weaken public trust, and lessen progress. Therefore, a continuous reforms, transparency, and the equitable enforcement are of critical nature when it comes to to ensuring that the general public can get advantage and benefits from the current tax system, rather than being disproportionately burdened by it.

Transparent tax system

Aiming at Creating a transparent tax system is of important nature and it is the fundamental goal for any government when it comes to economic stability and justice, by ensure social equity, and by generating enough revenue so as to fund the public services, defence and infrastructure etc. A fair and transparent tax system does not only imply collecting money efficiently, but it also ensures that the burden of the taxation is shared through equal measures among all the sections of society. In order to Achieving this balance involves several elements like progressive nature of taxation, by the elimination of tax loopholes, by increasing in transparency, , simplification of the tax laws,

In order to aim for a fair tax system, the governments in charge must approach tax design with the keeping focus of equity and efficiency, ensuring that the both the richest and the poorest of the society are treated fairly in relation to their ability to contribute.

A critical aspect for aiming for a fair tax system is the termination of tax loopholes and aggressive tax avoidance mechanisms. Many rich individuals and major corporations exploit the gaps and inconsistencies present in the tax laws to reduce their over all liabilities, often through complex arrangements involving offshore entities or redistribution of income. These practices are technically legal but ethically and morally questionable, as they result in an unfair tax burden on those without the access to a sophisticated financial planning basically middle and low income peoples. To counteract this, tax laws need to be continually updated to close known loopholes and prevent new ones from emerging.

Transparency and accountability are also essential to fostering public trust in the tax system. When the citizens believe that the taxes are being collected fairly and spent responsibly, they are more likely to comply voluntarily. Governments should ensure Public access to information, Enforcement and compliance are equally important in establishing a fair tax system.. In many developing countries, tax systems are afflicted by low collection rates, it is mainly due to the poor enforcement.

Simplification of tax laws is another important factor. Complicated and complex tax codes disproportionately effectthe small businesses and individuals who cannot afford professional tax advice..

An overall approach should be there to tax policy-making as it is essential to ensuring fairness. This means engaging in a vast spectrum of different aspects like stakeholders, including civil society, businesses, , and the general public, in the formulation of tax policies. Public consultations and feedback mechanisms

are also important as it create a sense of ownership

Lastly, a fair tax system should be there change the economic environment. As the digital economies grow and wealth becomes increasingly unequal in nature, the existing tax systems may become less effective in nature. The Governments must adapt by introducing a digital taxes, improving the international cooperation, and by also updating assessment methods to deal with modern economic realities.

Aiming for a fair tax system is a form of continuous, and not a single dimensional process it requires a legal reform, and administrative efficiency, the political will, and the public engagement.

It also must be grounded in equity, transparency, accountability, and adaptability. a fair tax system not only provides the resources but also strengthens democracy .

Conclusion

To conclude taxation is important for a nation's economic and social framework, serving as both a source for government revenue and a also a tool for promoting, development. However, as illustrated through the analysis above, the current structure of modern tax system across many countries often result in the disparities and inefficiencies that mainly affect the general public and in turns helps the wealthy and powerful to exploit legal loopholes. Wealthy individuals and corporations frequently use complex tax avoidance strategies The impact of an unfair tax system on the general public is deep. Regressive tax mechanisms, lack of fairness and transparency, and weak enforcement often result in lack of basic public services like healthcare, education, and infrastructure etc . on the other hand , a fair and progressive tax system—the one that ensures those with greater financial means contribute more—can play a pivotal and huge role in reducing inequality, , and driving sustainable economic growth.

Aiming for a fair tax system requires a multifaceted approach: implementing progressive taxation, closing legal loopholes, ensuring transparency and , strengthening enforcement, simplifying tax laws, and involving all stakeholders in policy-making.

To conclude, the pursuit of tax system is not merely a fiscal issue but a moral one too. A fair, transparent, tax system reinforces the foundations of the democracy, and it make sure that all citizens, regardless of income, contribute their fair share for the good of public. Continued research and , reform, and are necessary to transform taxation in the modern world from a source of inequality and injustice into a powerful instrument national development and economic stability.

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