

Guidance Note on Form 6

Form 6 is an Income-tax form used by an assessee claiming deduction under Section 44 or Section 51 of the Income-tax Act, 2025, and is required to be furnished as an audit report certified by an accountant, as mandated under section 44(6) or section 51(7).

Purpose of Form 6: The primary purpose of filing Form 6 is to:

- Furnish an audit report after examination of accounts
- Support claims of deduction under Section 44 (preliminary/project expenditure)
- Support claims of deduction under Section 51 (mineral prospecting and development expenditure)
- Ensure audit-based verification of project costs and expenditure
- Strengthen compliance, transparency, and revenue safeguards

Filing Requirements

- (i) Who can file:** Any assessee claiming deduction under Section 44 or Section 51 of the Income-tax Act, 2025, other than a company or a co-operative society
- (ii) Who must certify the Form:** Form 6 must be certified by an accountant as defined under Section 515(3)(b) of the Income-tax Act, 2025 (i.e., a Chartered Accountant in practice with some exceptions).
- (iii) When to file:** Form 6 must be filed one month prior to the due date for furnishing the return of income for the relevant Tax Year under Section 263(1) of the Income-tax Act, 2025.
- (iv) How to file:** The Form must be filed electronically through the Income-tax e-Filing Portal and verified using a Digital Signature Certificate (DSC).

Information Required in Form 6

The Form requires the following key information:

(i) Audit Report Section

- Examination of Accounts, Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss Account
- Declaration of true and fair view
- Accountant's Membership Number
- Unique Document Identification Number (UDIN)
- Firm Registration Number (FRN)

(ii) Section A — Deduction under Section 44

Part A — Particulars of the Assessee

- Name
- PAN
- Address
- Status
- Email ID
- Contact number
- Tax Year

Part B — Business and Deduction Details

- Date of commencement of business
- Nature of deduction (extension or new unit)
- Date of commencement of production/operation
- Qualifying expenditure (feasibility report, project report, market survey, engineering services)
- Legal charges
- Project cost details
- Computation of eligible deduction
- Confirmation of filing Form 5 under Rule 27, if applicable

(iii) Section B — Deduction under Section 51

Part A — Particulars of the Assessee

- Name
- PAN
- Address
- Contact details
- Tax Year

Part B — Mineral and Expenditure Details

- Name of mineral(s)
- Tax Year of commercial production
- Year-wise qualifying expenditure
- Audit date
- Amount of expenditure eligible under Section 51(3) and Section 51(4)

Frequency and Due Date

- **Frequency:** Form 6 is required to be filed for the first tax year in which the deduction under this section is claimed, under Section 44 or Section 51.
- **Due Date:** The Form must be furnished one month prior to the due date of filing the return of income for the relevant Tax Year under Section 263(1) of the Income-tax Act, 2025.

Documents Required

- Audited financial statements
- Project / feasibility / engineering reports
- Bills and invoices for qualifying expenditure
- Asset and project cost records
- Mineral prospecting and development records (where applicable)
- Supporting audit working papers
- Proof of PAN and taxpayer identity

Process Flow of Filing

- Assessee compiles financial statements and expenditure records
- Assessee appoints the Accountant on the e-Filing portal for Form 6.
- Accountant certifies the expenditure and the claim as per FN 006
- Accountant uploads Form 6 via their CA login.
- Assessee reviews the uploaded form under the 'Pending Actions' worklist.
- Assessee accepts and verifies the Form using DSC/EVC to complete the filing.
- Electronic acknowledgement is generated upon successful verification by the Assessee.
- UDIN has to be generated and updated on the filing portal by the CA

Key Points to Note

- Filing of Form 6 is mandatory for claiming deduction under Section 44 or Section 51
- UDIN is mandatory for audit authentication
- DSC verification is required for valid submission
- Non-filing or incorrect filing may result in disallowance of deduction
- Year-wise expenditure details must be accurately reported where expenses span multiple Tax Years

Outcome Details

- **Allowability of Deduction:** Form 6 serves as the statutory basis for allowing deductions under Sections 44 and 51.
- **System-Based Verification:** The filed Form is subject to automated risk checks and backend verification.
- **Revenue Assurance:** Audit certification strengthens the integrity of deduction claims and minimizes litigation risk.

Challenges and Solutions

The revised Form 6 is designed as a smart e-Form aimed at enhancing compliance through:

- Auto-population of taxpayer details
- Real-time validations and structured data fields
- Standardization of address and identity information
- Integration with audit and deduction workflows

Common Changes across Forms:

- Use of "Tax Year" replacing earlier year references
- Updated section references under the Income-tax Act, 2025
- Strengthened digital verification and audit traceability