

## Form 80 – Frequently Asked Questions

### Application for exercising/renewing option for the tonnage tax scheme under section 231(1) or 231(10) of the Act

Name of form as per I.T. Rules, 1962	Form 65	Name of form as per I.T. Rules, 2026	80
Corresponding section of I.T. Act, 1961	115VP/115VR	Corresponding section of I.T. Act, 2025	231
Corresponding Rule of I.T. Rules, 1962	11P	Corresponding Rule of I.T. Rules, 2026	146

#### 1. What is Form 80?

**Answer:**

Form 80 is prescribed for making an application by an eligible company for exercising or renewing the option for taxation under the Tonnage Tax Scheme, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter XII-G of the Income-tax Act, 2025.

#### 2. Who is required to file Form 80?

**Answer:**

Form 80 is required to be filed by an Indian company which:

- Is engaged in the business of operation of ships or inland vessels, and
  - (i) Wishes to exercise the option for the Tonnage Tax Scheme under section 231(1), or
  - (ii) Seeks to renew an earlier option under section 231(10) of the Act.

#### 3. Is filing of Form 80 mandatory?

**Answer:**

Yes. Filing of Form 80 is mandatory for a company that intends to be governed by the Tonnage Tax Scheme or to continue under the scheme by renewal of option.

#### **4. When should Form 80 be filed for exercising the option for the first time?**

**Answer:**

Form 80 should be filed within the prescribed time period after the company becomes a qualifying company, as provided under section 231(1) of the Income-tax Act, 2025.

#### **5. When should Form 80 be filed for renewal of option?**

**Answer:**

An option for tonnage tax scheme, after it has been approved under section 231(4), shall remain in force for ten years from the date on which such option has been exercised and shall be taken into account from the tax year in which such option is exercised. Form 80 for renewal should be filed within one year from the end of the tax year in which the option ceases to have effect as per section 231(10) of the Act.

#### **6. What are the different parts of Form 80?**

**Answer:**

Form 80 consists of:

- Part A – General particulars of the applicant company and details of ships or inland vessels
- Part B – Statement of particulars to be furnished only in case of renewal of option
- Declaration – Verification by the authorised signatory
- Annexures – Supporting documents as specified in the Notes

#### **7. Is Part A required to be filled in all cases?**

**Answer:**

Yes. Part A is required to be filled both for exercising and renewing the option for the Tonnage Tax Scheme.

#### **8. Is Part B required to be filled in all cases?**

**Answer:**

No. Part B is required to be filled only where Form 80 is filed for renewal of the option under section 231(10).

**9. What particulars of ships or inland vessels are required to be furnished in Form 80?**

**Answer:**

The applicant is required to furnish detailed information regarding:

- Owned ships or inland vessels,
- Ships or inland vessels chartered in, including classification based on:
  - Bareboat charter-cum-demise,
  - Bareboat charter for more than three years,
  - Bareboat charter for less than three years,
  - Other charter arrangements, and
- Ships or inland vessels chartered out, along with details such as net tonnage, flag, type, charter period, approval reference number, and qualifying status.

**10. What is meant by a “qualifying company” for the purpose of Form 80?**

**Answer:**

A qualifying company means a company that satisfies the conditions specified under Chapter XII-G of the Income-tax Act, 2025, including conditions relating to incorporation, management, business activity, and ownership or chartering of qualifying ships or inland vessels, claim of deduction under section 147 of the Act.

**11. What documents are required to be enclosed with Form 80?**

**Answer:**

The applicant is required to enclose relevant supporting documents as annexures, including:

- Certificates of registration and tonnage measurement of ships,
- International tonnage certificates, where applicable,
- Permissions from the Director General of Shipping for chartered ships registered outside India,
- Certificates issued under the Inland Vessels Act, 2021, and

- Copies of earlier approval orders in case of renewal.

**12. What are Annexures A-1 to A-3 referred to in Form 80?**

**Answer:**

Annexures A-1 to A-3 contain ship-wise documentary evidence and copies of approval orders, as specified in Note 6 of Form 80, corresponding to the relevant serial numbers of Part A or Part B.

**13. With which authority should Form 80 be filed?**

**Answer:**

Form 80 should be filed with the Joint Commissioner of Income-tax having jurisdiction over the applicant company.

**14. Who is authorised to sign and verify Form 80?**

**Answer:**

Form 80 shall be signed and verified by:

- The Managing Director, or
- Any Director, where the Managing Director is unable to sign or where there is no Managing Director.

In special circumstances, it shall be signed by:

- The liquidator, where the company is under winding up, or
- The principal officer, where management has been taken over by the Government.

**15. Can Form 80 be treated as valid if some columns or annexures are not furnished?**

**Answer:**

No. All columns in Form 80, including applicable annexures, must be completely filled and furnished. Incomplete applications are liable to be treated as invalid.

**16. Is any information in Form 80 pre-filled?**

**Answer:**

Yes. Certain information may be pre-filled based on data available with the Income-tax Department. However, the applicant is responsible for ensuring the correctness of all particulars furnished.

**17. What are the consequences of furnishing incorrect or false information in Form 80?**

**Answer:**

Any person making a false statement in Form 80 or its annexures shall be liable for prosecution under section 482 of the Income-tax Act, 2025, in addition to other consequences under the Act.

**18. Is a separate Form 80 required for each option or renewal period?**

**Answer:**

Yes. A separate Form 80 is required:

- For exercising the option initially, and
- For each subsequent renewal of the option under the Tonnage Tax Scheme.