

TAX BULLETIN - January 2026

1. Guidance on PIT calculation for overtime wages

(Official Letter No. 226/GLA-QLDN1 dated 20 January 2026 of Gia Tax Department)

Pursuant to the provisions of Clause 8 Article 4 and Article 29 of the Law on Personal Income Tax 2025, night-shift wages, overtime wages, and wages/salaries paid for unused statutory leave days arising during the 2026 tax year (from 01 January 2026 to 31 December 2026) are classified as **PIT-exempt income**.

2. Non-cash payment vouchers when paying wages and salaries to employees

(Official Letter No. 218/CST-TN dated 27 January 2026 of the Ministry of Finance)

According to guidance from the Ministry of Finance, where an enterprise incurs wage or salary payments to employees that meet the conditions prescribed in Clause 1 Article 9 of Decree No. 320/2025/NĐ-CP and are not among the non-deductible expenses specified in Clause 8 Article 10 of Decree No. 320/2025/NĐ-CP, such wage and salary payments shall be treated as deductible expenses for CIT purposes in the relevant tax period. For wage or salary payments of **VND 5 million or more per payment** made to employees from the effective date of Decree No. 320/2025/NĐ-CP (15 December 2025), enterprises must have **non-cash payment vouchers** for such payments in order to include them in deductible expenses.

The determination of non-cash payment vouchers shall be made in accordance with the provisions of Article 26 of Decree No. 181/2025/NĐ-CP dated 01 July 2025.

3. VAT rate applied to goods and services provided to enterprises located in non-tariff zones

(Official Letter No. 6008/CT-CS dated 15 December 2025 of the Department of Taxation)

According to the Department of Taxation's official guidance, banking, insurance, consulting, and security services that are supplied directly to an organization located within a non-tariff zone, consumed within the non-tariff zone, and directly serving export-production activities and not serving any other activities, are **eligible for the 0% VAT rate**.

(Official Letter No. 4323/HEY-QLDN1 dated 14 November 2025 of Hung Yen Tax Department)

Where a company consumes certain goods and services that are used **jointly** for both export-processing enterprise operations and commercial business activities — including security services, industrial cleaning services, legal consulting services, and goods such as electricity and water — such goods and services **are not eligible for the 0% VAT rate** because they do not directly serve export-production activities and are also used for other activities unrelated to export production.

4. VAT refund for new investment project under 2024 VAT Law

(Official letter No 5938/CT-CS dated 12 December 2025 of the Department of Taxation)

Based on current regulations, as a principle, where a business establishment has an investment project that commenced **before 01 July 2025** and remains **under the investment stage** from the effective date of Decree No. 181/2025/NĐ-CP (01 July 2025), **the project is eligible for VAT refund policies applicable to investment projects as prescribed in Article 30 of Decree No. 181/2025/NĐ-CP.**

5. Guidance on VAT refund for uncredited input VAT related to exported goods and services under the 2024 VAT Law

(Official Letter No. 5094/CT-CS dated 11 November 2025 of the Department of Taxation)

According to current regulations, if, in a month or quarter, a business establishment has exported goods or services and has uncredited input VAT of VND 300 million or more, it is eligible for a monthly or quarterly VAT refund. The refundable VAT amount for exported goods and services must not exceed 10% of export revenue for the refund period. **Any input VAT already attributed to exported goods and services but not refunded due to exceeding the 10% export-revenue cap for the previous refund period shall be carried forward to the subsequent tax period** to determine the refundable VAT amount for exported goods and services for the next refund period.

6. VAT declaration in case a non-cash payment receipt is not available at the contractual payment time

(Official letter no 5487/CT-CS dated 25 November 2025 of Department of Taxation)

Pursuant to current regulations, the Department of Taxation provides guidance to Khanh Hoa Tax Department and Bac Ninh Tax Department as follows:

For deferred-payment or installment-payment transactions involving goods or services valued at VND 5 million or more, if, at the payment due date under the contract or contract addendum, enterprises do not have non-cash payment vouchers, they are required to adjust and declare the reduction of the creditible input VAT corresponding to the value of goods or services lacking non-cash payment vouchers in the tax period in which the payment obligation arises.

If, after having declared and adjusted downward the creditible input VAT, enterprises subsequently obtain non-cash payment vouchers, **they are allowed to declare and claim for credit of the input VAT corresponding to the value of goods or services supported by such non-cash payment vouchers, in accordance with regulations.**