

Who is eligible to receive Foreign Contribution?

Speaker: Who can receive foreign contribution? A person having a definite cultural, economic, educational, religious or social program can receive foreign contribution after getting registered with the central government or by obtaining a prior permission.

Audience: Does obtaining prior permission mean that if person does not have FCRA, he can get special exemption or special permission.

Speaker: That is a part of the registration process. There are 2 ways one can get registered. One can be registered for a particular amount from a particular source. Suppose you want to receive fifty thousand dollars from one agency, you can get a one-off permission. You can get it in instalments or at one time and you have to report what was done with the money. The other way is to get a regular registration. Then you can keep receiving contributions of any amount from any donor and report the same. Transactions excluded from the foreign contributions are movement of foreign funds in the normal course of commerce; fee paid by foreign delegates for attending a conference / seminar and any article gifted to a person for his personal use, value of which does not exceed Rs 25000. People are barred from receiving foreign contributions for fighting elections; cartoonists, publishers, printers, editors and correspondents involved in media work; a judge or a government servant or an employee of an corporation; member of legislature. These four have been present in the old law while three more have been added to the new law.

Association or company engaged in broadcasting of audio or visual news is added to the list. Panchayat and organization of political nature have also been added.