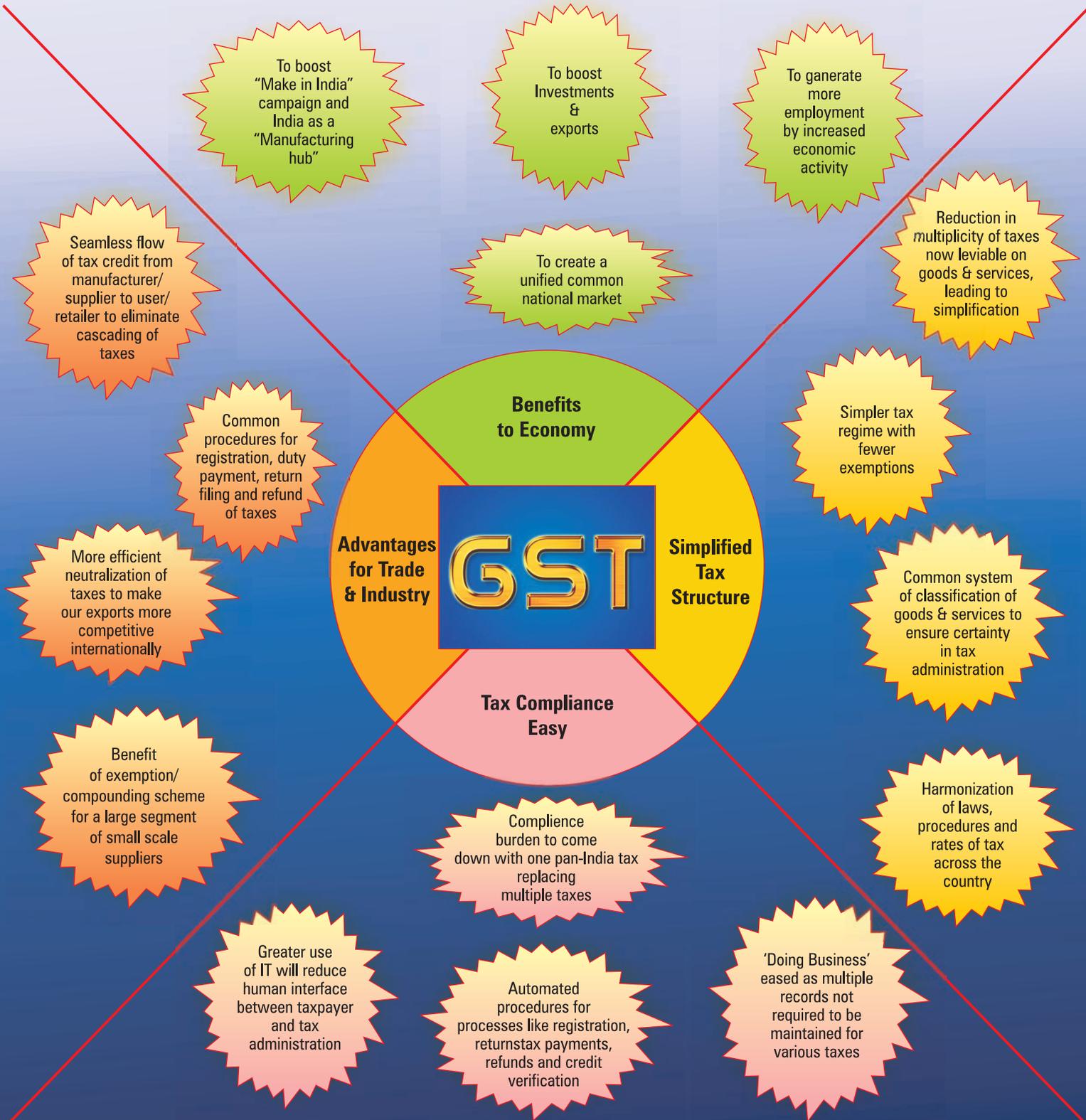




ICAI-GST

A Newsletter from The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India on GST





National Conference on GST at Bhilai



Certificate Course on GST at Visakhapatnam



Workshop on GST at Agra



Workshop on GST at Mangalore



Workshop on GST at Udupi



Certificate Course on GST at Gurgaon



Certificate Course on GST at Guwahati



Certificate Course on GST at Warangal

President's Communication



Esteemed professional colleagues,

Indian economy is all set to welcome its biggest indirect tax reform since independence in the form of Goods and Services Tax (GST) which works on the concept of "One Nation, One Tax, One Market". Implementation of GST will develop a common national market thus strengthening Indian economy's position on global scale.

The government is undertaking all possible measures to address and accommodate the concerns raised by trade and industry to ensure smoothest possible implementation of GST. At 15th meeting of GST Council held on 3rd June 2017, rates for remaining items have been fixed introducing a new rate of 3% for gold, silver and diamonds. Further, as a sign of relief, there has been an increase in proportion of deemed transitional credits from existing 40% to 60% where duty paying documents are not available with the assessee. Many recommendations from trade and industry were further taken care at 16th meeting of the GST council held on 11th June 2017 wherein rates of 66 items were revised and brought down. On the States front, it is indeed an achievement that 25 states have passed SGST Act in a short span of time to ensure GST implementation from 1st July 2017.

ICAI being a partner in Nation building has always been at the service of the nation as a part of its role in aiding better governance and has been regularly providing its inputs to the Government in the implementation of GST. Recently ICAI has submitted first part of its suggestions on GST to the government. Towards skill development of members in this emerging subject, I am proud to announce that, we have launched a Virtual Certificate Course on GST for our members

which is being conducted at over 60 locations across the country benefitting more than 1700 members at one go. We organised more than 1500 workshops and training programmes till 31st May 2017 wherein more than 1 lakh members have participated followed by estimated 346 programme in June 2017 itself with participation of 13500 members. GST publications namely Background Material on GST Act(s) and Draft Rules, 2017, FAQs and MCQs on GST, Bare Law on GST Act(s) and Draft Rules have been updated and made available to the members.

The website of Indirect Taxes Committee of ICAI, too holds offline webcasts and offers regular GST updates, articles, information on upcoming courses, programmes/ seminars, e-publication on GST, etc., to all its registered users. We request our readers to register at www.idtc.icai.org to get regular updates on GST.

ICAI is committed to provide its full support in this game changing reform and be at the forefront to provide all the support to the government, its members, stakeholders and public at large. ICAI's GST Sahayata desks are efficiently working towards this.

I urge you all to come together and support ICAI as the countdown towards GST implementation begins.

With best wishes,

N. S. Vikamsey

CA. Nilesf S. Vikamsey

President, ICAI

10 June 2017



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GST UPDATES

GST scheduled to be roll-out by 1st July 2017

The Government of India has emphasised that Goods and Services Tax (GST) is scheduled to roll-out on 1st July, 2017. The Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC) in coordination with the State Governments have increased their outreach programmes with regard to Goods and Services Tax (GST) so as to reach the last trader. The GST formations are being notified shortly. The window for migration to GSTN has re-opened to assist the remaining taxpayers. The preparations are in full swing for a smooth implementation of the landmark tax reform from 1st July, 2017.

18 Sectoral Groups formed for smooth roll-out of GST

18 Sectoral Groups representing various sectors of the economy and containing Senior Officers of the Centre and the States are being set-up to ensure smooth implementation of GST by timely responding to the issues and problems of their respective Sector(s). These sectors include:

Sector	Sector
Banking, Financial & Insurance	Services received and provided by Government
Telecom	Food Processing
Exports (incl EOU and SEZs)	E-commerce
IT & ITes	Big Infra (Airport & Sea ports including Maintenance, Repair & Overhaul, Power Sector, Housing and Construction)
Transport & Logistics	Travel & Tourism
Textiles	Handicrafts
MSMEs (incl. job work)	Media & Entertainment
Oil & Gas (upstream & downstream)	Drugs & Pharmaceuticals
Gems & Jewellery	Mining

The groups have been formed with the following objectives:

- Interact and examine representations received from trade and industry associations/bodies of their respective sector.
- Highlight specific issues for the smooth transition of the respective sector to the GST regime
- Prepare sector specific draft guidance.

The officials of these Sectoral Groups will deal with the issues and the problems of the respective sector(s) they represent. Concerned industry Groups/Associations or even individual industry representative(s) may approach the respective Sectoral Group officers with their problems, if any, relating to GST implementation who, in turn, will try to guide and help them in resolving the same. This exercise will help in dealing with most of the sectoral problems and issues at the local/regional level.

Meeting of GSPs held by GSTN

Goods & Services Tax Network (GSTN) held a Review Meeting with GST Suvidha Providers (GSPs) on 9th June 2017 to Assess Readiness for GST roll-out from 01st July 2017. GSTN also published and explained the method and manner in which the GSPs would be able to integrate with the GST System to be able to submit all the return forms on behalf of their clients and tax payers. GSPs were advised to continue to visit the GSP ecosystem webpage on the GSTN website (www.gstn.org/ecosystem) for all information, latest updates and guidelines.

GST Facilitation Cells at different Ministries/Departments and Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs)

The Cabinet Secretary, Government of India, Shri P.K. Sinha asked the Secretaries of the different Ministries/Departments to set-up a Goods and Service Tax (GST) Facilitation Cell in their respective Department/Ministry which will be in constant touch with the major industry and business associations relating to the respective Ministry/Department and provide all possible support for the smooth roll-out of GST w.e.f. 1st July 2017. The GST Facilitation Cells may serve as the first point of contact for addressing any issue being faced by any business or industrial sector related to the respective Ministry.

Abolition of various Cesses for smooth roll-out of GST

Taxation Laws Amendment Act 2017, has abolished the following cesses whose date of implementation will coincide with the date of the GST roll-out:

- The Rubber Act 1947 – Cess on Rubber
- The Industries (Development and Regulation) Act 1951 – Cess on Automobile
- The Tea Act 1953 – Cess on Tea
- The Coal Mines (Conservation and Development) Act, 1974 – Cess on Coal
- The Beedi Workers' Welfare Cess Act 1971 – Cess on Beedis
- The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act 1977 – Cess levied on Water consumed by certain industries and by local authorities.
- The Sugar Cess Act 1982, the Sugar Development Fund Act 1982 – Cess on Sugar
- The Jute Manufacturers Cess Act 1983 – Cess on Jute Goods manufactured or produced or in part of Jute.
- The Finance (2) Act 2004 – Education Cess on Excisable Goods
- The Finance Act, 2007 – Secondary and Higher Education Cess on Excisable Goods
- The Finance Act 2010 – Clean Energy Cess
- The Finance Act 2015 – Swachh Bharat Cess
- The Finance Act 2016 – Infrastructure Cess and Krishi Kalyan Cess

However, 7 cesses will continue to be levied under the GST regime since they pertain to customs or goods not covered under GST. They are:

- Education Cess on Imported Goods

- b) Secondary and Higher Education Cess on Imported Goods
- c) Cess on Crude Petroleum Oil under the Oil Industry Development Act, 1974
- d) Additional Duty of Excise on Motor Spirit (Road Cess)
- e) Additional Duty of Excise on High Speed Diesel Oil (Road Cess)
- f) Special Additional Duty of Excise on Motor Spirit
- g) NCCD on Tobacco and Tobacco Products and Crude Petroleum Oil.

15th Meeting of GST Council

The GST Council met for the 15th time on 3rd June 2017 under the chairmanship of hon'ble Finance Minister Shri Arun Jaitley and decided upon the rates of for almost all the remaining items, such as precious metals (gold and silver), diamonds, biscuits, textiles, and footwear. Final approval was provided to Return Rules and Transition Rules. For transitional credit of goods where duty payment document is missing and the tax rate exceeds 18%, traders and retailers can claim 60% credit against the CGST or SGST payable. For tax rate below 18%, it will be retained at 40% only.

16th Meeting of GST Council

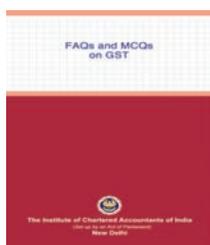
The 16th meeting of GST Council was held on 11th June 2017 wherein after considering the recommendations from trade and industry the rates of 66 items were reduced. The new reductions were based on two major principles, maintaining equivalence and the change in the utilization behaviour. Further, the turnover limit for Composition levy for CGST and SGST purposes was increased from Rs. 50 lakh to Rs. 75 lakh in respect of all eligible registered persons i.e. Manufacturer, Trading & Restaurants. Final approval was provided to Accounts and Records Rules. The next meeting of GST Council is scheduled to be held on 18th June 2017 to take up the pending matters.

SGST Act passed by 25 States

The steadily growing number of States passing the SGST Act shows that the even States are now keen to bring this unified taxation system into effect from 1st July, 2017. Till date, 25 states have passed the SGST Act wherein Meghalaya is latest to join the league. States of Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Jammu & Kashmir and West Bengal are yet to pass the State GST (SGST) Act.

PUBLICATION

The Indirect Taxes Committee of ICAI keeps the members updated with the changes through its publications. The following publication have been published by the Committee:

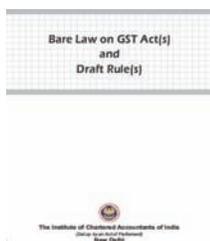
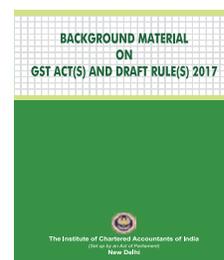


FAQs and MCQs on GST

“FAQs and MCQs on GST” which provides a comprehensive coverage of the GST Acts in question answer format as an easy & lucid way to understand the law.

Background Material on GST Act(s) and Draft Rule(s) 2017

“Background Material on GST Act(s) and Draft Rule(s) 2017” which is a comprehensive material containing a clause by clause analysis of the four Acts viz CGST Act, IGST Act, UTGST Act and GST (Compensation to the States) Act along with FAQ's, MCQ's, Flowcharts and Illustrations etc. to make the analysis and understanding of the law easier.



Bare Law on GST Act(s) and Draft Rule(s)

Bare Law on GST Act(s) and Draft Rule(s) which is a compilation of four key legislations viz. The Central GST Act, 2017, The Integrated GST Act, 2017, The GST (Compensation to States) Act, 2017, and The Union Territory GST Act, 2017 and 11 draft Rules i.e. Composition, Input Tax Credit, Determination of Value of Supply, Transitional Provisions, Registration, Tax Invoice, Credit and Debit Notes, Payment of Tax, Refund, Return, Assessment and Audit Rules and Electronic Way Bill Rules.

Ordering Information

The Publication can be purchased directly from the sales counter at the ICAI's Regional Offices / Branches or at the Head Office. Member may also download from Indirect Taxes Committee Website: <http://idtc.icai.org/publications.php>. To order by post, requisition may be sent to the Postal Sales Department of the ICAI at postalsales@icai.in or can be order online at <https://icaionlinestore.org/indirect-taxes-committee>

GST IMPACT IN MSME SECTOR

Medium Small and Minor enterprises contribute approximately 37% of our Nations GDP. Implication of GST, substantially affecting this segment, in an adverse manner, may directly knock off the player from the competitive business market. This article tries to put forth various issues that this industry could face upon passage of GST. This article also attempts to provide the possible solution for the issues highlighted as explained below.

1) Low Basic Threshold Limit for goods

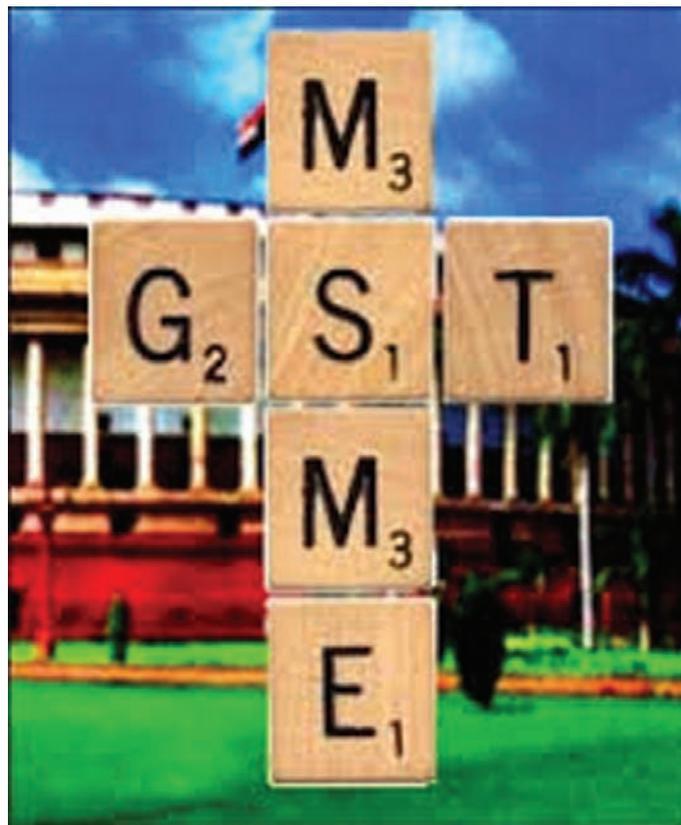
In GST regime efforts has been made to maintain the rate of tax prevailing right now. Keeping ssi exemption limit to Rs. 20 lacs is beneficial to MSME since earlier there were liable to registered with VAT department after crossing turnover of Rs. 10 Lac. Further composition scheme is also there for MSME. Further, in some cases of e-commerce, reverse charge, output inter-state supply activities etc. there is no basic threshold exemption given. The definition of the term 'aggregate turnover' also includes exports and exempt supplies meaning thereby even if major part of the supply is exempted but a mere small portion is taxable which is less than Rs.20 lakhs still the activity would require GST compliances to be adhered to.

In the present business environment, exemption of Rs.20 lakhs is very low and the same needs to be pegged at a little higher side. If the exemption threshold of Rs.20 lakhs continued then almost all small and medium enterprises would fall under the bracket of GST taxation which will be a radical change for them as compared to the existing taxation scenario. Further, a fair differentiation must be made in any taxation framework between a small or start-up's and a large and established one. The benefit of additional higher slab for small yet growing sector has to be given to keep balance and allow opportunity for small sectors to grow. Non-bifurcation of this could lead to erosion of this sector and also bring monopolistic market of large players instead of competitive market. The ramifications of bringing down the threshold limit curtails the competitive edge of small and medium scale businesses and therefore, it is suggested that Government should come up with some notification providing the relief in this regard which is in the best interest of this sector and supports its growth objective.

2) High Compliance burden

It is seen that GST law demands high compliance. Key compliance requirements are as under:

- a) Two returns and one statement to be filed in each month for every state and the details in such statements and return must be furnished HSN code wise, subject to relaxations



provided on the basis of turnover. Further, returns must be filed for TDS, ISD (if applicable). Also, one annual return with reconciliation statement is required on every registration number wise.

- b) Registration must be taken in every state and there is no concept of centralised registration, this shall have a high impact especially in case of a service sector where only two returns are filed in a year;
- c) Accounting needs to be timely updated and the same needs to be maintained state-wise to reconcile the GST taxation with accounts at state level;
- d) GST computations, liability calculation, credit availment etc. has to be done on monthly basis;
- e) Business houses has to be punctual to ensure that tax dues are timely paid and a valid return cannot be filed until tax payments are made having impact on working capital;

In a small and medium sector, the accounting and taxation would not be very strong, stable and streamlined as compared to the larger sectors. Sometimes, there is no separate division of accounting and the proprietor himself manages the additional

task of accounting and book-keeping which is very common in any start-up and growing business. Therefore, commensurate with the existing system where number of returns are lesser and also the requirement of compliance is quarterly for small & medium sector in various VAT laws and half-yearly in case of service tax law. Further, since GST demands high automation of business processes, therefore business would have to also spend enormous amount of time, money and energy on development and maintenance of IT infrastructure. Therefore, it shall be apt for government to consider if a single quarterly return is introduced for this sector so that the compliance burden would be lesser and the focus of the entrepreneur is on business development and growth instead of compliance aspects. This also promotes the Governments agenda of 'Ease of doing Business'. Non-consideration in this aspect would lead to non-compliance and harassment and would only have a negative impact on the industry in general and unorganised sector in particular and its contribution to the economy.

3) Taxation under reverse charge for un-registered purchases

As per GST Act. if any goods or services are supplied by a person who is unregistered and supplied to a registered person, then GST needs to be paid by the registered person under reverse charge as a recipient. Therefore, even if any small businesses who does not take registration and claim the basic exemption threshold then the person receiving goods or services from them need to pay GST under reverse charge. This provision shall have negative impact as businesses would not prefer to deal with unregistered persons and to take the additional burden of compliance under reverse charge. Therefore, this provision directly impacts the business of small sector negatively and virtually forces them to either register or to shut the business which was ideally not the principles guiding the existence of the GST taxation.

4) Taxation on stock Transfers and deemed supplies between distinct persons

Presently, a stock transfer of goods/services is not liable to tax except in case of central excise. However, no such system is prevalent in state VAT laws. Under GST regime, stock transfer of goods/services between distinct persons is made liable to tax. This step shall lead to blockage of working capital apart from high compliance burden. It shall also defeat the idea of GST i.e. to have a free flow of goods anywhere and to create a common national market although this mechanism is required to transfer the credits. MSME's do not have adequate capacities, technology, manpower and cash flows to comply with this complex requirement of the law. However, since GST is a destination based consumption tax, it is suggested to consider atleast postponement of the taxation on stock transfers to the point when such goods are actually sold or provide for refund of excess unutilised credit of stock transfer

similar to exports so that it will ease working capital and ease of tracking and payment of tax.

5) Time limit for the return of Goods sent on sale or return basis

Under the present taxation regime, there is no time limit for the return of goods sent on sale or return basis. However, in GST regime, the maximum time limit for the return of goods sent on sale or return basis is 6 months and if the same is not approved within the said time limit then the invoice needs to be issued and the goods shall be deemed to have been supplied since time of supply for payment of tax would arise. In various small scale industries like ready-made garment industry, the norm is to send goods to Consignment Sales Agents (CSA) and customers on a "sale or return" basis. The norm in such industries is that the CSAs / customers return the goods after the season is over. However, casting time-limit on return of goods would have negative impact on such sectors. Therefore, it is suggested to remove this provision and continue with the present practice of paying GST only once actual supply takes place.

6) Tax on Advances

Advances received against supply of goods and/or services are taxable in GST regime. Collection of GST on advances would be cumbersome and requires high compliance and tracking other than the additional cash flow of taxes which the advance recipient has to be paid if specifically taxes are not collected on the advances element. Moreover, it is possible that advance may have been received for intra-state as well as inter-state supplies of goods and services and attracting multiple rates therefore possibility of paying incorrect tax or determining incorrect place of supply or incorrect rate of tax is also an area of concern. Further, in certain business, advances would be received for multiple supplies, in such circumstances individual identification of advances and matching of the same with the corresponding supply for determining rate and place of supply shall be an additional burden. Therefore, with the limited technological advent and resources in a MSME sector, compliance with the provision of GST on advances would be difficult and lead to unnecessary non-compliances. Therefore, it is suggested if GST for MSME sector can be paid only on invoice basis as presently in case of VAT laws or if GST can be made only on receipt basis as prevalent in service tax for small individuals and partnership firms. This shall ease the compliance and cash flow burden.

7) Availability of Composition Levy

Non-availability of composition scheme to those who are supplying services or making any supply of goods which are not leviable to tax under the Act or if any inter-state supply is made seems to be harsh on such person. Small services suppliers only shall be required to comply with the normal provisions of the law which could prove

to be cumbersome for such suppliers. Further, small suppliers making few of the supplies not chargeable to tax while majority of supplies are taxable may find this provision an unnecessary burden on them.

It is suggested that eligibility for composition scheme be based on the turnover during a particular financial year and be made available uniformly to all suppliers whether supplying goods or services or both anywhere in India. Alternatively, Sector specific composition schemes may be designed to cater to need of different sectors.

The embargo placed on effecting inter-State supplies by the taxable person opting to pay tax under the composition scheme must be done away with. GST, being a destination based consumption tax and moving in the direction of being 'One India – One Tax', this embargo appears to be travelling in the opposite direction.

8) Condition for payment and filing of return for availing input tax credit

Once invoice is issued by a supplier under section 31 with applicable tax reflected on it, the recipient cannot be burdened with the responsibility of knowing if that tax has actually been credited to the Government. Here onerous burden is being cast on recipient to prove tax has been deposited by the supplier. Further, filing of Return (as in the case of registration) is procedural requirement and intimation to department. These cannot be made pre-conditions for entitlement to credit.

The condition of tax to be deposited by the supplier to the credit of appropriate Government in order to enable the purchaser to avail the input tax credit on such supply made may cause undue hardship to the assesses.

It is suggested that the pre-conditions relating to payment of tax to the credit of Government and mandatory filing of return be deleted / removed and the same must be reconsidered and liberalized to enable the small sector to avail input tax credit of tax paid by them as currently prevailing in case of CENVAT credit rules wherein credit can be taken immediately on receipt of goods/ receipt of invoice.

Alternatively, if a supplier has accepted the liability of such taxes and has also disclosed the same in his statement of outward supply, the credit must be made eligible to the recipient irrespective the payment by the supplier to the credit of government.

Or else, if the Government believes that certain taxable persons in the unorganized sector may not deposit the collected tax to Government the concept of reverse charge be made applicable to them instead of denying/ delaying the credit based on the non-compliance by other party to the contract.

9) Power to Arrest & Prosecution

A Commissioner of CGST or SGST can authorize an arrest of a person if "has reason to believe" that the person has committed any offence punishable under the GST law. The person can be arrested even if such a person has not been issued a show cause notice intimating the alleged violation and even if the investigations are yet to be concluded. It also does not make a difference whether the alleged tax-liability is on account of deliberate tax-evasion or is simply a differential tax liability in a genuine and bonafide dispute. The Service Tax law carried a simple provision for almost two decades prohibiting imposition for penalty in cases with a reasonable cause for default. Even such a simple provision does not find place in the GST law.

Provisions relating to arrest, prosecution etc. are very stringent for lapses like (e) takes and/or utilizes input tax credit without actual receipt of goods and/or Services (I) fails to supply any information which he is required to supply under this Act or the rules. Considering that law is just introduced & will be subject to a lot of interpretation in its initial stage, it will take some time for understanding and compliance by both Department & assessee.

10) Determination of Place of Supply/ type of tax

Since, GST is a destination based consumption tax, wherein taxes would accrue to the destination state. Government has provided provisions for determining the place of supply in various situations. Currently, requirement of determining place of supply was not there and taxes were simply needed to be paid to the origin state. However, in GST, small businesses have to identify place of supply for each of their transactions and accordingly GST needs to be paid to the credit of respective state government which shall be a cumbersome task as the same needs to be identified for every transaction. Further, in case the place of supply is not correctly determined then tax needs to be again paid to correct government and the taxes paid earlier needs to be claimed as refund. We suggest that law be amended so that in case tax is wrongly paid to incorrect government, then instead of again paying the tax and applying for refund, such government can itself do an inter-governmental settlement which shall ease the taxation law.

Conclusion

It shall be imperative that the sector through its associations or various representation bodies highlight these issues to the law makers so that the same can be resolved at the earliest. In fact, recently government has also formed a special committee to look after the issues faced by MSME sector in GST. It is urged to the industry that they proactively highlight the above issues and obtain the relief prior to advent of GST as once GST is implemented, the chances of respite would be very minimal for the sector.

- Contributed by Pune Study group

IMPACT OF GST ON BPO/KPO

Business Process Outsourcing (“BPO”) and Knowledge Process Outsourcing (“KPO”) are engaged in providing back end support to Technology Support and were classifiable under the category of Business Auxiliary Service or Business Support Service upto 30.06.2012 under the selective based taxation regime and effective 01.07.2012 the classification is limited only for the purpose of remittance of service tax. We have in the ensuing paragraphs attempted to provide the impact of GST on BPO / KPO which are primarily service companies.

1. Levy of tax

The implication of GST for a BPO/KPO can be best understood with an illustration wherein a call centre has operation at multiple location as given below

Illustration - ABC Limited operates call centre at Bangalore and Pune. ABC Ltd has a client PQR Limited located in Delhi who has outsourced the customer call support to ABC Limited. The contract is entered by ABC Limited, Pune with PQR Limited and the billing is done from ABC Limited, Pune. The calls from the customer of PQR Limited can be routed to the customer executive located at Bangalore Unit or Pune Unit. The tax implications on the same under GST would be as under:

The entities having operations from more than one State will have to obtain separate registration in each such State where they are operating. Each operating location in different States will be treated as distinct persons and transactions between the two, whether with consideration or without consideration, will be liable to GST. Hence, in the above illustration, to the extent of work executed by Bangalore office towards the assignment, Bangalore Unit will have to raise invoice charging IGST on Pune office. Pune office will raise an invoice on PQR Limited charging IGST. Pune office will be entitled to avail credit of taxes charged by the Bangalore office and set it off against its liability of outward supplies.

Suppose in the above illustration, the customer PQR Limited is located outside India - transaction flow is same as above i.e. Pune raises invoice on the customer and Bangalore raises invoice on Pune. In this case, Bangalore unit will charge IGST on supplies made to Pune unit. The supply of service by Bangalore unit to Pune will be under Valuation Rules where value need to be arrived at (i) open market value, (ii) value of service of like kind or quality or (iii) cost of provision of service +10%. It is to be noted that these options are sequential i.e. one need to establish that determination of value under (i) is not possible before moving to (ii) and so on. To avoid determining open market value in case of revenue neutral transactions where recipient unit (Pune) is entitled to avail the credit, Bangalore may raise invoice valuing the services at its will and value declared in the invoice shall be considered to be open market value.

One should bear in mind that raising of invoice by one unit located in State A to another unit located in State B will not have any impact on the revenue / profitability of a taxable person but these transactions will be reconciliation item between the inward supplies and outwards supplies as per GST returns and expense



and revenue as per financial statements.

IGST charged on supply of service by Bangalore to Pune shall be eligible as credit to Pune. Service provided by Pune to overseas client shall be in the nature of zero rated supply i.e. export of service in respect of which it shall have two options for export of service:

- Export on payment of IGST and claim refund of tax paid on export (which may be paid by utilising the ITC availed on input and input service including received from Bangalore)
- Export under bond/letter of undertaking without payment of IGST and claim refund of accumulated input tax credits

It is to be noted that filing and sanction of refund under GST would be easier where 90% of refund amount would be given to claimant within 7 days of filing of claim and balance 10% within 2 months from the date of making complete application, subject to post verification. The refund claim be filed online requiring no interaction with the department officers. The simplified and faster refund process is expected to reduce the accumulation of credits taking place with these industries under existing law.

2. Return filing

Presently service tax assessee are required to file two returns in a year to report the value of services rendered by them and the amount of credit availed / utilised by them. Additionally, they have an option of Centralised registration based on which they are required to file merely 2 returns during one year for all their locations across India. Under GST, service providers will not have an option of Centralised Registration and hence would be required to file monthly returns for each State from where they operate. Additionally each of these units will be assessed separately. Since majority of the BPO / KPO sector is engaged in provision of export services, unadjusted input tax credit would be available at different locations which would mean filing multiple state level refund claims for the same tax period as against under existing law where it can be filed at one centrally registered place.

3. Input service credit

BPO / KPO spend a lot of money on employees in the name of “employee experience” which includes free / subsidized food, cab facility, travel etc. A comparative table of ineligible input service credits as per the present CENVAT Rules, 2004 and as per GST Law which are relevant is provide below:

Nature of Service	Eligibility – CENVAT Provisions	Eligibility – GST Provisions
Rent-a-Cab Services	Ineligible	Generally, ineligible. But eligible if : i) obligatory for employer to provide services to employees under any law for time being in force. Eg Cab services to be provided mandatorily for women employees working at night shift ii) The inward supply of said services is used for providing outward taxable supply of same category of services
Food and Beverage	Ineligible – Primarily for personal use or consumption of employee (though view exist that when provided to all employees uniformly, not to be treated as primarily for personal use of employee and credit allowed) Eligible – Not primarily for personal use of employee. Eg Food served at Business Conference of Vendor / Customer Meeting	Ineligible
Outdoor catering, beauty treatment, health services, cosmetic and plastic surgery	Ineligible – Primarily for personal use or consumption of employee (alternate view as discussed above exists)	Ineligible
Membership of a club, health and fitness centre	Ineligible – Primarily for personal use or consumption of employee	Ineligible
Life insurance, health insurance	Ineligible – Primarily for personal use or consumption of employee	Generally ineligible. But eligible if: i) obligatory for employer to provide services to employees under any law for time being in force. ii) If the inward supply of said services is used for providing outward taxable supply of same category of services
Travel benefits extended to employees on vacation such as Leave or Home Travel Concession	Ineligible	Ineligible

This indicates that few of the services presently could possibly be claimed as credits but in GST, the restriction has been more stringent and may not be availed as ITC resulting in increased cost of export.

4. Transactions between Related Persons

a. Overseas Parent Company

Supplies between related parties are liable to GST irrespective of whether such supplies are made for a consideration or not. Hence, any support received from the parent company (not being a loan transaction) including visit of Management Team of the Overseas Parent Company to oversee the operations of the local company, assistance in decision making, Central Human Resource Team which interviews candidates to be employed by the local company, extending of corporate guarantee etc. will be liable to GST. A review of these transactions will have to be conducted and a proper valuation mechanism has to be arrived taking into account the valuation rules under GST regime and the transfer pricing laws under Income Tax Laws for recording of these transactions and discharging of GST

under reverse charge mechanism on the same.

b. Overseas Subsidiary Company

Inversely, support functions provided by a local company to its overseas subsidiary company would be treated as zero rated supply (viz. export of services) and will have to be accounted based on the valuation principals mentioned above. In the absence of consideration being realised in foreign currency (one of essential conditions of considering supply as export of service), the supply would be liable to IGST.

c. Employer and Employee Cost

Employer and Employee are treated as related persons under GST and hence supplies with or without consideration between employer and employee would also be liable to GST. A specific exclusion has been carved out here to provide that supplies by employee to employer in the course of employment will not be treated as supplies of goods and services and hence the same will not be liable to GST.

Accordingly, salary paid to employees based on the employment contract would not be liable to GST. However, supplies by employer to employee have not been excluded from the ambit of GST and hence the same will attract taxes. Sale of used laptops at nominal value to employees, subsidized food at canteen to employees etc would be liable to GST and since the transaction is between related parties, the fair market value of the supplies will have to be considered for computation of GST.

Gifts upto Rs 50,000 in a year by employer to employee would however not be liable to GST. And cash gifts will not be liable to GST since tax is applicable on goods and services and cash being money, is neither goods nor service. However, there could be Income Tax implications for cash gifts beyond Rs 5,000. Additionally, components of salary appearing under perquisite valuation could also be matter of debate and liable to GST.

5. Common Cost vs. Outward Supplies

There can be variants of transactions between Head office located in State A and Branch Office located in State B.

1. Head office located in a State can provide support services to its branch located in another State. Eg. Head Office maintaining the records of transactions of Branch office.
2. Head office incur expenses which may be common administration expenses for both Head Office and Branch. Eg. Head office outsources the accounting function to a third party.

First Scenario - As discussed supra, head office has to raise an invoice on the branch since both Head office and Branch are distinct persons.

Second Scenario - Head office to transfer credits to the extent it relates to the branch (turnover basis) using Input Service Distributor (ISD) route.

Before parting, it could be said that though there could be some increased compliance burden on the industry but it is expected that the faster disposal of refund would solve cash flow and credit accumulation problem of the industry.

6. Reverse Charge Mechanism (RCM):

The concept of reverse charge mechanism (where the recipient is liable to pay tax instead of the supplier) is already present in the service tax law and under the State VAT laws, albeit slightly on a different footing. While the State VAT laws levy such tax on all purchases from un-registered dealers, the service tax laws have notified certain categories of services that will be liable to tax under reverse charge mechanism in the hands of the recipient even if received from a registered service provider.

This is set to change under the GST law where all inward supplies, irrespective of the category of supply, would be liable to tax on RCM basis if procured from an un-registered dealer. This would mean housekeeping services, maintenance service etc. if procured from an unregistered dealer would be liable to GST in the hands of the recipient. In addition to the above, certain category of supplies would be notified as supplies liable to tax under RCM basis irrespective of the registration status of the supplier like legal services, supply of manpower etc. It is expected that the supplies

notified would be on similar lines with the notified services under the existing service tax law like legal services, supply of manpower, payments made to government authorities etc.

Notably, being a service-oriented industry, manpower is the backbone of the BPO/ KPO sector. Manpower supply services are currently liable to tax under RCM, if procured from an individual, HUF, partnership firm and AOP. BPO/ KPO entities resorting to contracting with recruitment agencies like PRC (Professional Recruitment Agency) for supply of manpower can continue to do so under the GST regime without any additional concerns as such transactions are expected to remain outside the ambit of RCM even under the GST regime, since PRC is a Company.

7. Transitional Issues:

The transitional provisions play a vital role in transiting from the existing VAT/ Excise/ Service Tax laws to the GST regime. Primarily, no transitional credit will be allowed if:

- The said credits are not eligible under the GST law; and
- The returns under the existing laws are not furnished for the last 6 months

No tax is payable under the GST regime to the extent tax is leviable on services under the existing laws. Further, all refunds pertaining to taxes paid under existing laws would be processed and disposed as per the provisions of existing laws itself. Any refund found eligible would be paid in cash and if any refund is fully or partially rejected, such amount of claim shall stand lapsed. Appeals in relation to such rejection will be disposed under the existing laws itself. Pending refund balances cannot be carried forward as credit under the GST law at any cost.

8. IT Infrastructure:

IT infrastructure is one of the basic requirements for successful implementation of Goods and Services tax and it should be well in place before the implementation of GST in India.

At present, the e-filing of returns (and forms w.r.t. State laws) under VAT, excise duty and service tax laws is a bitter experience for the taxpayers, especially around the due dates. This is despite the fact that invoice level details are not a mandatory requirement, which is a requisite under the GST law.

Further, input tax credit is available to the recipient based on pull-push mechanism only, thus requiring monitoring the details furnished by the supplier, probably on a real-time basis. Considering the volume of transactions, invoice level details that need to be uploaded, reconciliations required etc., a robust IT Infrastructure would be a basic necessity.

9. Conclusion:

There is a lot of expectation from the BPO/ KPO industry that the new indirect tax reform will iron out the issues faced in the current tax regime and a new simplified tax regime will be ushered in. While the law has come a long way from the Model GST law released in June 2016 with a promise of a simpler, uniform and efficient tax system, the concerns of the industry are primarily directed towards impact on working capital, increased compliance costs, sanction of refund claims and IT infrastructure costs.

- Contributed by Bangalore Study Group

ITS NOT EASY – TRAVAILS OF THE SECTOR

GST in India will usher in a new dawn making in the tax polity with its unprecedented political unanimity. The advantages of moving to the GST are copious. Apart from cutting back a mystifying array of taxes, it will ease the problems caused by widespread “cascading”.

Michael Keen, Deputy Director, Fiscal Affairs Department, International Monetary Fund, through his working paper, “Targeting, Cascading and Indirect Tax design” has explicated the concept of deadweight loss that vitrines taxing only the final consumption can help Government raise the equivalent amount of revenue and also leave patrons facing reduced prices. In this backdrop, the current study is an attempt to review the impact of GST on Software Industry in India. Let’s confer various concepts of the enactment with reference to the software Industry in question.

Classification:

The levy in case of GST has shifted from several points of taxation

S. No	Description	Nature of Supply	Supporting Provisions in GST Act
1	Sale of Software with Source code and exclusivity	Goods	Movable property (intangible not excluded in the goods definition)
2	Sale of software with source code and without exclusivity	Not Clear	Tata consultancy services vs State of Andhra Pradesh 2004 (178) E.L.T. 22 (S.C.) has reasonably settled view of off-the-shelf software being called as goods – however it is not clear if the same view would be adopted in GST
3	Software design, development, customisation etc	Services	Clause 5(d) of Schedule II of CGST Act, 2017 and is in line with Declared Services of the present law (Section 66E of Finance Act, 1994)
4	Licencing of software – Temporary / perpetual	Services	Either under Clause 5(c) or clause-1 (b) of Schedule II
5	Computing platform	Services	Either under Clause 5(c) of Schedule II or clause 1 (b) of Schedule II
6	IT Enabled services	Services	The basic nature of activity itself is service and there is no possibility of classifying under goods

Composite Supply: Levy of GST under Section 8 of the CGST Act, 2017 enunciates that in case of Composite Supply, Principal Supply is to be identified and the transaction shall be treated as supply of such principal supply. This has the potential to open further litigations because if an IT company is supplying their software (goods) and also doing a customization, will it be treated as supply of Goods or Services?

1. Treatment of Purchase of OS/MS office along with computer and purchase OS/MS office separately?
2. Treatment of software (games) supplied along with the play station and purchase of additional games through CD or downloadable version?
3. Which is to be taken as the Principal Supply, is it the Goods or Services. This question arises since the following scenarios are possible
 - a. Tally is packaged software, on which only a report is

like manufacture, removal, delivery, provision, sale, etc. to a single theme i.e. supply. This unification of point of taxation has led to single tax i.e. GST being levied on supply as against Value added tax, Service tax, etc.

Though not completely, the muddle that IT industry had been facing whether to classify software as a good or service has come to an end to an extent.

Explanation to Clause 5 of Schedule II of CGST Act, 2017 provides that “Development, design, programming, customization, adaptation, up gradation, enhancement, and implementation of information technology software shall be treated as Supply of Service”.

Following table is an attempt to capture the various possible supplies in IT/IT Enabled Services Industry and its treatment in GST:

customized – which is principal here?

- a. Oracle is standard database software, with which a customized ERP is developed for a client – which is principal here?
4. This question will have deeper impact if the IT Software goods and IT Services fall under different Rates of GST

Though need for classification of goods/ services is not vital considering one tax regime for all goods and / or services – the classification becomes pertinent when it comes to time of supply, place of supply, and more importantly rate applicability. Hence, though clarity has been provided to a certain extent on classification, guiding principle for taxation would have to be obtained for all software to avoid various interpretations.

Amplified compliances:

GST occasions multiple registrations for each place from where

supply is made, and consequently sequence of multiple returns, credit pools, refunds, etc. follows. Present tax regime provides for state wise registration for goods, and centralized registration for services. Government placing administrative ease as against ease of doing business has decided to follow the suit of goods for goods and services tax. National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM) president R. Chandrashekhar has already expressed his concern over companies supplying services on a PAN India basis and the number of registrations that it would have to take.

GST being not only a change in rate of tax, would require a complete change in the way of doing business – one time investment in modifying its existing ERP to suit GST would have to be made by all businesses. In terms of being the service provider / software developer for such requirements, there is definitely revenue buoyancy, but similar investment would have to be made for their own business also.

Operational snags:

1. Determination of Place of Supply

GST being a destination based consumption tax, determination of place where the goods/services are supplied is important. The location of the recipient of the services is critical to determine whether it is intra-state supply or inter-state supply. As per subsection (2) of Section 12 of IGST Act, the location of the recipient of the supply is the place of provisioning of services.

- Determining the location of recipient of services as software services are intangible
- In case services are being received at more than one establishment, the establishment that is “most directly concerned” (a highly subjective one) determines the place of supply and is extremely litigation prone.

2. Stock transfer of goods / services

- These would fall under the ambit of supply as per clause 2 of Schedule I of the CGST Act, 2017 when supplied between distinct persons in the course or furtherance of business even if it is without a consideration. This will have a significant impact on the software companies which has the flexibility to use the resources across the globe depending upon the need of client. Because of this provision, even there is no commercial value to the transaction, the shall be subject GST as long as it is in the course of business or furtherance of business.
- Proviso to clause 2 of the draft Valuation Rules determines the value as per invoice to be taxable value in such cases.
- If employees are deputed in another branch of the same office, invoice would have to be raised for the man hours deployed by the branch having the employee in rolls.
- Development centers in states, other than where the billing centers are located, are covered for the services provided to the billing address.
- Any service provided to a branch office outside India is not covered under ‘Export of Service’ under Sec 2(6) of IGST Act,

2017 and hence not zero rated. This would lead to the related input tax credit to be reversed by treating the same as Non-taxable rather than being eligible for refund.

3. Input tax credits

- Sec 16 of CGST Act, 2017 provides that every registered person shall be entitled to take credit of input tax charged on any supply of goods or services or both to him which are used or intended to be used in the course or furtherance of business, including any tax paid as Reverse charge as a recipient of supply.
- Present day taxes demand a correlation to be established between the inputs used with the existing business. However, GST provides a leeway even for inputs intended to be used not restricting to it to the existing business, but also for furtherance of business. To that extent, industry stands to benefit.
- Sec 17 (5) restricts credits that are fully / partially / conditionally disallowed on activities like Rent-a-cab service, insurance, food expenses for its employees which increases the cost and makes India less competitive in the industry already hit by US non-trade restrictions.
- Decentralized registration will lead to skewed credit accumulation that is disproportionate to the output supply leading to a huge working capital deficiencies.

4. Continuation of Export/ Special Economic Zone (SEZ) benefits?

- Any provision of supply to a branch or head office outside India will continue to remain outside Zero-rating. Hence, ITC used for such supply would be non-taxable and would not be eligible for refund, hence would have to be reversed.
- Ab-initio exemption of service tax for SEZ units would not be available anymore and would impact adversely the working capital, notwithstanding its subsequent refund.

5. Others

- As per subsection (4) of section 9, the registered person is obliged to pay GST under Reverse Charge Basis for all the transactions executed with un registered person. To the extent it will have an impact on the cashflow of the software companies and because of this provision, software companies are indirectly compelled to deal only with the registered person.
- Under the existing regime, the software companies are filing return twice a year based on the centralized registration. However, in the new regime, every branch in each state must file minimum 3 returns monthly apart from annual return. This will increase the work load and the cost of compliances.

6. Conclusion

To conclude, IT(GST) is definitely NOT EASY for IT sector. The administrative complexities along with implementation cannot be disregarded. One just hopes that the authorities make amends to ensure that the transition is as smooth as possible. A Fitting close to this article would be the words of Alan Wilson Watts, a British philosopher, “The only way to make sense out of change is to plunge into it, move with it, and join the dance”.

- Contributed by Chennai Study Group

IMPLICATIONS OF THE GST FOR THE STATES, ULBS AND THE PRIs

In analysing India's landmark GST (Goods and Services Tax) reform, it is essential that its implications for the States, the ULBs (Urban Local Bodies) and the PRIs (Panchayati Raj Institutions, including Gram Panchayat, Panchayat Samitis and Zila Parishad) be well understood by those entrusted with the GST implementation in the States and at the local levels.

This column attempts to analyse these implications and suggests how the PRIs and the ULBs, under State's overall supervision, can address them.

Selected Features of The GST Design and Structure

India's Goods and Services Tax (GST) will tax domestic goods and services under a single tax all across India uniformly. Appropriate Constitutional Amendment has been made to enable States to levy tax on services in addition to tax on goods, and for the Union Government to levy tax on supply of goods in addition to tax on services. ([http://lawmin.nic.in/Id/The%20Constitution%20\(One%20Hundred%20and%20First%20Amendment\)%20Act,%202016.pdf](http://lawmin.nic.in/Id/The%20Constitution%20(One%20Hundred%20and%20First%20Amendment)%20Act,%202016.pdf)). The GST will subsume many of the existing taxes on domestic goods and services levied by the Centre and by the States.

The GST structure which has emerged is complex, with multiple tax rates applied to different goods and services (each good or service classification will have nationally uniform tax), and in a federal structure (with 29 States and 7 Union Territories), the GST is nevertheless expected to significantly address the limitations of India's current convoluted, dysfunctional taxation on domestic goods and services which has evolved over the last seven decades. Moreover, India's large population, 1.32 billion persons in 2016 makes the GST reform among the most ambitious globally. Given the above features of the GST, it is appropriate to use the term "landmark" to India's GST reform.

The GST, expected to be implemented by 1st July 2017 (or due to Constitutional provisions, latest by 16 September 2017) has the potential to enable India to emerge as a unified market, permitting significant savings in logistics and compliance costs and in enabling economics of scale and scope in production and distribution of goods, services and in tax administration to be realized.

GST would not only change the structure of existing taxes on domestic goods and services, redefine the related taxable events, but would also transform the manner of levying the tax, e.g. from 'origin' to 'destination' basis and the manner of collection which will utilize the method of crediting taxes paid on inputs from the output tax, so that only value addition is taxed at each stage with respect to all the taxes subsumed in the GST. This manner of collection implies that those entities which are 'exempt' i.e. not registered for GST, will still need to pay applicable GST on their inputs, but will not be able claim these taxes as input tax credit. This implies that for exempt entities, only the value added by such entities is not liable to the GST.

Under the 'origin' basis arrangements, tax revenue occurs to the State in which the goods and services are produced (or originate); while under the 'destination' basis arrangement, tax revenue occurs to the State of consumption of goods and services. Globally, destination basis is the norm. Therefore, India's GST reform aligns its domestic taxes on goods and services with the global norm.

Broad Implications of the GST for the States, ULBs and PRIs

The GST will have three broad implications for the States and its ULBs (Urban and Local Bodies) and the PRIs.

First, the Centre has committed itself to providing 14% growth each year for five years, beginning from the 2015-16 base year, for agreed upon VAT and related tax collections by each State. To provide transparency and

confidence to the States, the GST (compensation to the States) Act, 2017 has been passed by the Parliament (<http://www.cbec.gov.in/resources/htdocs-cbec/gst/gst-compensation-to-states-act.pdf>)

The rationale is to ease the transition period as for the States will need to become adept at levying taxes on services and States will need to adept to the complexities of the GST design and implementing requirements.

The States will need to explicitly plan to ride on the GST 'learning curve'. Those States which focus on the 'learning curve' will gain competitive advantage over other States. Thus, the GST also shifts some of the responsibilities and accountability to the States.

As State tax revenues, of which VAT currently constitutes a large share, forms part of the revenue base for allocating SFC grants to the ULBs and to PRIs, any SFC would need to analyse this aspect carefully. The 2015-16 base year revenue will also include taxes which a State is required to subsume under the GST. This aspect will also need to be carefully analysed. This will also involve examining whether under the GST structure, additional tax revenue sources could be made applicable to the ULBs and to the PRIs.

Second, selected transactions of the ULBs and the PRIs will be subject to GST. This has implications for their tax and expenditure levels, and for the need to create capacities and capabilities for GST collections, deductions and filing of returns. The legal compliance with GST will need to be ensured. Currently, these bodies do not perform these functions. So, the State must decide how these functions will be performed by the ULBs and the PRIs.

Third, currently, the State Finance Commissions (SFCs) of several States are in the process of deliberating on their reports to the State governments. The main Constitutional responsibility of an SFC is to recommend allocation of State resources to the ULBs and the PRIs, to suggest ways to strengthen public financial management, and to suggest how public services and amenities could be better delivered to the ULBs and the PRIs. The GST arrangements, noted below, will therefore impact on the work-plan and the recommendations of the SFCs as well.

Specific Implications of the GST for the States, the ULBs and the PRIs

These implications may be broadly grouped as follows:

- (i) Tax Revenue Base of the States: GST will continue to be the single largest source of tax revenue in nearly all States. The GST (Compensation to States) Act, 2017 gives a list of taxes collected by the State or local bodies during the year for 2015-16, sum of which, will constitute base revenue of the State for the purpose of compensation to be made by the Centre to the State in case of any gap in its GST revenue collection. The list includes Value Added Tax (VAT), Central Sales Tax (CST), purchase tax, works contract, Luxury tax, Entertainment Tax, Lottery, Betting and Gambling, Advertisement Tax, Duty of excise on Medicinal and Toilet Preparation Act, 1955 (MNTP Act), Entry Tax not in lieu of Octroi, Entry Tax in Lieu of Octroi/Local bodies Tax, Cesses and Surcharges, and fee leviable under entry 66 of the State List of the Constitution read with entries, 52, 54, 55 and 62 thereof.

The SFC of each State should take into account the GST revenue base of the year 2015-16 provided by each State to the Centre, and the resulting GST revenue over next five years, in its work-plan and recommendations.

It should be noted that the 14 percent guaranteed compensation is what the Centre has promised. If a State can grow its GST revenue more than 14 percent, it will be able to generate greater fiscal space. This is what each State should aim to achieve.

- (ii) Shift in the power of local bodies to levy specific taxes: Under

the powers granted by the Constitution of India, each State has empowered the local bodies (both Municipalities and Panchayati Raj Institutions) to levy certain kind of taxes and fees through the respective State Legislations and Delegated Legislations.

For instance, municipalities in Haryana may levy property tax, advertisement fee, water charges, octroi, toll tax, tahebazari, entertainment tax etc. under the respective legislation.

In the GST regime, local bodies will not be having powers to levy some specified fees/taxes like advertisement tax and octroi. A review of the revenue configuration of some of the Municipal bodies in Haryana suggests that advertisement revenue constitutes significant portion of its own tax revenue.

The impact of this part may need to be examined in detail by the legal division of the State of Haryana as entry 55 in List II of Schedule VII to the Constitution of India empowering States to levy tax on advertisements has been omitted by the Constitution (101th) Amendment Act effective from 16th September 2016.

Similar analysis of advertisement tax will need to be conducted by each State, and its implications addressed.

- (iii) Local Bodies may start levying and collecting Entertainment Tax: In the present context, though the power to levy entertainment tax resides both with the State as well as the local bodies; in many of the States, this tax is levied and administered only at the State level, the local bodies currently do not levy this tax. During the GST regime, the States would no longer be able to levy this tax as it is subsumed under the GST. But the local bodies will continue to have the power to levy and collect entertainment tax. Accordingly, if a State wishes to let local bodies levy entertainment tax, there would be a need to realign the tax legislation, with appropriate tax design and administrative and compliance arrangements.

Under the GST, if the local bodies acquire capabilities to levy this tax, they may have an additional source of revenue available, positively impacting their potential to generate Own-Tax-Revenue(OTR). To realize this potential, willingness to tax and capacity to collect this tax will need to be effectively addressed by each State in its own context. This will not be addressed automatically, and legal, administrative, and other changes will be needed.

The GST also provides an opportunity for the local bodies of each State to earn higher revenues under this head by realigning the basic coordinates of entertainment tax keeping into account the newer electronic mediums of entertainment like cable TV etc. The need would also be to create robust tax collection mechanisms.

Implications for Selected State and Local Level Fees: This point is referring to the levies like State Rural Development Fees (SRDF) which are usually collected by the related bodies (which may be a Board or other entity) at a given percentage such as 2% of the sale proceeds of the agricultural produce bought or sold or brought for processing in the notified market area. The amount so collected is spent by such Board(s) in the Rural areas for development of roads, establishment of dispensaries, sanitation, other public facilities, and for any other purpose considered appropriate by the Board.

Such type of fees is presently levied under entry 66 of List II of the Schedule VII to the Constitution of India. The said entry is the last entry of the List II and reads as follows – “Fees in respect of any of the matters in this List, but not including fees taken in any court”. The above entry therefore empowers a State to levy a fee in respect of the subjects listed in List II of the Schedule VII to the Constitution of India.

Since the Constitution (101th) Amendment Act has omitted entry 54 from this list relating to the subject matter of ‘sale of purchase of goods’, a fee on agricultural produce bought or sold may not be allowed to be levied under entry 66 of the same List II. This aspect also requires legal analysis by the State(s) based on the specific subject matter of the levy.

If such fees are not collectible in the GST regime, this will affect the funds available for rural development. Therefore, each State needs to review arrangement for the SRDF- type and other similar levies designed to fund rural development.

- (iv) Applicability of GST on Local Bodies: As the concept of GST law is broadly based on near universal coverage of transactions and input tax credit method, most of the activities of the governments, ULBs and the PRIs are, in principle, covered under the GST.

Some specific exclusions have however, been made for the basic functions of the ULBs and the PRIs from the of GST. For instance, Services provided by a Government or local authority to individuals in discharge of its statutory powers or functions such as issuance of passport, visa, driving license, birth certificate or death certificate; and assignment of right to use natural resources to an individual farmer for the purpose of agriculture are not subject to GST.

Services provided by a local authority by way of any activity in relation to any function entrusted to a municipality under Article 243 W of the Constitution of India; or any activity in relation to any function entrusted to a Panchayat under Article 243 G of the Constitution of India; health care; and education are not subject to GST. There are also many specific activities of the ULBs and the PRIs on which GST would not be applicable.

However, there are likely to be some activities of the ULBs and the PRIs on which GST could be applicable. For instance, various local bodies are doing some income generating activities by way of auction of land for limited period or renting of property etc. These activities are likely to be subjected to GST if the taxable revenue crosses INR 20 lakh of threshold limit. Each State needs to prepare the ULBs and the PRIs to meet these requirements.

- (v) Responsibility for GST Compliance in relation to TDS and Information Returns:

The GST Law contains provisions in Section 51 of the Central GST Act to require the persons including ULBs and the PRIs to deduct and deposit taxes from the payments to be made to the suppliers of goods or services or both to them, in case the value of such procurements exceed specified threshold of ₹2.5 lac.

Further, the ULBs and the PRIs may be required to furnish Information Returns (IRs) under Section 150 of the Central GST Act wherein persons responsible for maintaining record of registration or statement of accounts, or any periodic return or document containing details of the payment of tax and other details of transaction of goods or services or transaction of purchase, sale or exchange of goods or property or right or interest in a property, under any law in force, shall be required to furnish an information return of the same in respect of such periods, within such time, in such form (including electronic form) and manner, to such authority or agency as may be prescribed.

This is a requirement which the ULBs and the PRIs have not been asked to meet in the past. Each State needs to ensure that the ULBs and the PRIs in the State are capable of meeting the above requirement in compliance with the GST regulation.

The above discussion thus leads to the three key areas of GST’s impact on the ULBs and the PRIs.

First, the functions/activities of the ULBs and the PRIs will need to be mapped to identify such activities on which GST would be leviable. Second, in case of meeting GST requirements, the ULBs and PRIs would need to create capabilities and capacities for related compliance. Third, relevant agencies in each State, particularly the Finance and Taxation Department, and Urban and Rural Departments, will need to function under a different mind-set and administrative arrangements if GST is to be effectively and competently implemented.

There is considerable scope and need for undertaking systematic study of GST’s implications on each State, its ULBs, and its PRIs, along the lines sketched above.



TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

- Q1. What are the supplies for which reverse charge mechanism could apply?
- Notified categories of goods and/or services
 - Inward supply of goods and/or services from an unregistered dealer
 - Both the above
 - None of the above
- Q2. What is the rate applicable under CGST to a registered person being a hotelier opting for composition scheme?
- 1%
 - 0.5%
 - 2.5%
 - None of the above
- Q3. The value of supply of goods and services shall be the
- Transaction value
 - MRP
 - Market Value
 - None of above
- Q4. Whether credit on capital goods can be taken immediately on receipt of the goods?
- Yes
 - No
 - After usage of such capital goods
 - After capitalizing in books of Accounts
- Q5. A bill of supply can be issued in case of inter-State and intra-State:
- Exempted supplies;
 - Supplies by composition suppliers;
 - Supplies to unregistered persons;
 - None of the above.
- Q6. The details submitted by the outward supplier in Form GSTR 1 shall be furnished to the recipient compounding dealer in form
- GSTR 4A
 - GSTR 5A
 - GSTR 2A
 - GSTR 6A
- Q7. The certificate of details of tax deducted by the deductor shall be furnished to the deductee in Form
- GSTR 7
 - GSTR 7A
 - GSTR 2A
 - GSTR 1A
- Q8. Refund shall not be paid to the applicant if the amount of refund is less than
- Rs 1000
 - Rs 5000
 - Rs 7000
 - Rs 10000
- Q9. Place of supply in case of installation of elevator is
- Where the movement of elevator commences from the supplier's place
 - Where the delivery of elevator is taken
 - Where the installation of elevator is made
 - Where address of the recipient is mentioned in the invoice
- Q10. The supply of goods to SEZ unit is treated as _____ in the hands of the supplier:
- Exempt Supply – Reversal of credit
 - Deemed Taxable Supply – No reversal of credit
 - Export of Supplies
 - Non Taxable Supply – Outside the Scope of GST

Answers

1. (c) Both the above, 2. (c) 2.5%, 3. (a) Transaction value, 4. (d) After capitalizing in books of Accounts, 5. (a) Exempted supplies, 6. (a) GSTR 4A, 7. (b) GSTR 7A, 8. (a) Rs. 1000, 9. (c) Where the installation of elevator is made, 10. (c) Export of Supplies

FORTH COMING EVENTS UNDER THE AEGIS OF INDIRECT TAXES COMMITTEE

16th and 17th June, 2017

Place : Jammu • CPE Hours : 12 Hours

Title of the Seminar : Two Days Workshop on GST

Contact Details : J & K Branch of NIRC of ICAI
Phone: 0191-2581027
Email: jammu_kashmir@icai.org

Title of the Seminar : Programme on GST

Contact Details : Goa Branch of WIRC of ICAI
Phone: 0832-2438516
Email: goa@icai.org

16th and 17th June, 2017

Place : Goa • CPE Hours : 12 Hours

16th, 17th and 18th June, 2017

Place : Hyderabad • CPE Hours : 18 Hours

Title of the Seminar : Conference on GST

Contact Details : Hyderabad Branch of SIRC of ICAI
Phone: 040-2970 7026/7024/0924
Email: hyderabad@icai.org

Title of the Seminar : Workshop on GST

Contact Details : Pondicherry Branch of SIRC of ICAI
Phone: 0413-4308081
Email: pondicherry@icai.org

16th, 17th and 18th June, 2017

Place : Pondicherry • CPE Hours : 18 Hours

17th June, 2017

Place : Kolkata • CPE Hours : 6 Hours

Title of the Seminar : GST Conclave-III

Contact Details : EIRC of ICAI
Phone: 30211104/08/33
Email: eirc@icai.in, eircevents@icai.in

Title of the Seminar : Two Days Workshop on GST

Contact Details : Bhuj Branch of WIRC of ICAI
Phone: 91 2832 258580
Email: bhujbranch.wirc@gmail.com

17th and 18th June, 2017

Place : Bhuj • CPE Hours : 12 Hours

17th and 18th June, 2017

Place : Cuttack • CPE Hours : 12 Hours

Title of the Seminar : Two Days Workshop on GST

Contact Details : Cuttack Branch of EIRC of ICAI
Phone: 0671 2505348, 2506348
Email: cuttack@icai.org

Title of the Seminar : Two Days Workshop on GST

Contact Details : Bangalore Branch of SIRC of ICAI
Phone: 080 30563513
Email: blrregistrations@icai.org

20th and 21st June, 2017

Place : Bangalore • CPE Hours : 12 Hours

24th and 25th June, 2017

Place : Sambalpur • CPE Hours : 12 Hours

Title of the Seminar : Two Days Workshop on GST

Contact Details : Sambalpur Branch of EIRC of ICAI
Phone: 0663 2403697
Email: sambalpur@icai.org



FAQs ON INPUT TAX CREDIT

Q1. What is Input Tax credit?

Ans. Input tax credit means the credit of central tax, state/ union territory tax and integrated tax available to a registered person on the inward supply of goods or services or both, made to him excluding the tax paid on supplies liable to composite tax. It further includes the integrated tax applicable on import of goods and the tax payable under reverse charge mechanism.

Q 2. What are the conditions to be fulfilled for entitlement of input tax credit?

Ans. A registered person will be entitled to claim input tax credit only upon fulfilment of the following conditions:

- He is in possession of tax invoice/ debit note issued by a registered supplier or any other tax paying documents;
- He has received the goods and /or services or both;
- The tax charged on such supply is paid to the Government (by way of cash or by utilizing input tax credit)
- He has furnished a valid return.

Q3. Whether Input tax credit on Inputs and Capital Goods is allowed in one installment?

Ans. Yes. Input tax credit will be available in full with respect to inputs and capital goods, subject to fulfilment of the prescribed conditions under Section 16(2) of the CGST Act. Even in the case of supply of goods in lots/ instalments, the credit would be available in full on the receipt of the last lot/ installment.

The existing concept of partial credit on purchase of capital goods under the CENVAT Credit Rules, 2004 (i.e. 50% in the year of receipt and 50% in subsequent years) has been done away with.

Q4. One of the conditions to claim credit is that the receiver is in possession of tax invoice or debit note or any other tax paying documents. What are the tax paying documents?

Ans. The tax paying documents have been prescribed under Rule 1 of the Input Tax Credit Rules, 2017 as under:

- An invoice issued by supplier of goods or services.
- Bill of Entry
- Invoice raised by the recipient in case of inward supplies from unregistered
- persons or reverse charge mechanism supplies
- ISD Invoice issued by an Input Service Distributor for distribution of credit
- A debit note issued by supplier of goods or services

Q5. What is the time limit within which the recipient of supply is liable to pay the value of supply with taxes to the supplier

of service to avail the input tax credit?

Ans. The time limit prescribed is one hundred and eighty days (180 days) from the date of issue of invoice by the supplier of service/goods. If the recipient fails to do pay the value of supply (with tax) within 180 days, such input tax credit would be payable by the recipient along with applicable interest.

The above time limit is not applicable to supplies that are liable to tax under reverse charge mechanism.

Q 6. In case the amount is paid partly to the supplier of service, whether full taxes can be adjusted first? If No then whether it has to be calculated proportionately?

Ans. No. there is no provision under the GST law to allocate part payment of the invoice towards the taxes first so that the input tax credit can be allowed. Second proviso to Section 16(2) of the CGST Act clearly provides that the entire value of supply (with tax) is to be paid within 180 days from the date of issue of invoice. Therefore, as long as the entire payment is made within 180 days, the recipient would be entitled to claim the credit in full.

Assuming only part payment is made within 180 days, availing of proportionate credit based on such part payment is not provided for under the CGST law and thus, would be subject to litigation.

Q7. What is the maximum time limit to claim the Input tax credit?

Ans. A registered person is not entitled to claim input tax credit in respect of any supply of goods or services after the earlier of following two events:

- (a) Filing of the monthly return under Section 39 of the Act for the month of September following the end of financial year to which such invoice or invoice relating to such debit note pertains;
- (b) Furnishing of the annual return under Section 44 of the Act.

However, in cases of credit in special circumstances like new registration, voluntary registration, etc. the credit will not be available after the expiry of one year from the date of issue of tax invoice.

Q8. If certain goods/ services are used partly for business and partly for non-business purposes, will the credits be allowed in full or proportionately?

Ans. The credit on goods/ services used partly for business and partly for non-business purposes will be allowed proportionately to the extent it is attributable for business purposes. The manner of calculation of such credit is provided in Rule 7 (1) of the Input Tax Credit Rules, 2017.

FAQS ON RETURNS UNDER GST

Q 1. What are the various returns prescribed under the GST Act?

Ans. The various returns prescribed under GST Act read with GST Returns Rules are as follows:-

Return	Particulars	Due date
GSTR-1	Furnishing details outward supplies	10th of succeeding tax period
GSTR-1A (auto-drafted)	Communication to supplier of goods and services for any addition/deletion/modification made by the recipient in GSTR-2	Accept or reject before 17th of the succeeding tax period
GSTR-2	Furnishing details of inward supplies	Before 15th of succeeding tax period
GSTR-2A (auto-drafted)	Part A: Communication to receiver of goods and services in respect of goods and services procured by it and uploaded by the supplier. Part B: Communication to the receiver of credit in case of distribution of credit by Input Service Distributor in Form GSTR-6 Part C: Communication of details of tax deducted at source from the payments to the receiver based on Form GSTR-7 of the deductor Part D: Communication of details of tax collected at source on payments received by the supplier from the e-commerce operator, based on Form GSTR-8	
GSTR-3	Monthly return after finalization of outward supplies and inward supplies	20th of succeeding tax period
GSTR-3A	Notice sent to registered taxable persons when a particular return is not filed for a tax period	
GSTR-3B	Return to be filed in lieu of GSTR-3 when the due date for filing GSTR-1 and GSTR-2 has been extended by the Commissioner	Due date shall be notified by the Commissioner
GSTR-4	Return to be furnished by a registered taxable person under composition scheme	18th of the month succeeding the quarter

GSTR-4A	Communication to the person registered under composition scheme in respect of inward supplies procured by it and uploaded by the supplier	
GSTR-5	Return to be furnished by non-resident taxable person	20th of succeeding tax period
GSTR-6	Return to be furnished by Input Service Distributor	13th of succeeding tax period
GSTR-6A	Communication to Input Service Distributor in respect of inward supplies procured by it and uploaded by the supplier	
GSTR-7	Return to be furnished by persons liable to deduct tax at source under Section 51 of the GST Act	10th of succeeding tax period
GSTR-7A	Certificate to be issued to the recipient by the person deducting tax at source	Within 5 days of remitting the amount deducted
GSTR-8	Return to be furnished by persons liable to collect tax at source under Section 52 of the GST Act	10th of succeeding tax period
GSTR-9	Annual return	31st December of subsequent year
GSTR-9A	Annual return for composition dealers	31st December of subsequent year
GSTR-9B	Reconciliation statement to be submitted along with Annual Return	31st December of subsequent year
GSTR-10	Final Return	3 months from the date of cancellation/order of cancellation, whichever later
GSTR-11	Return to be filed by persons having Unique Identity Number and claiming refund on inward supplies	To be submitted along with Refund Application

Q 2. Who is required to furnish the details of outward taxable supply? In what format should such details be furnished? What is the due date for furnishing such details?

Ans. All registered taxable persons are required to furnish the details of outward supplies of goods and services effected during the tax period, except:

- a. Input Service Distributors
- b. Composition suppliers

- c. Non-resident taxable persons
 - d. Persons liable to deduct tax at source as per Section 51
 - e. Persons liable to collect tax at source as per Section 52
- The details should be furnished electronically in the format prescribed in Form GSTR-1. Such returns should be furnished on or before 10th of the succeeding tax period.

Q 3. Whether the details uploaded by the supplier in GSTR-1 would be communicated to the receiver?

Ans. The details uploaded by the suppliers in GSTR-1 would be communicated to the recipient in Part A of Form GSTR-2A, which is an auto-drafted form

Q 4. What is the procedure to be followed if the recipient finds that the details disclosed in Form GSTR-2A are incorrect?

Ans. The recipient can verify and validate/modify/delete such details and even add details, and thereafter submit the same in Form GSTR-2 before 15th of the succeeding tax period.

Q 5. What happens when the recipient modifies/deletes the details appearing in GSTR-2A?

Ans. If the recipient modifies/deletes any details, such modification/deletion will be communicated to the supplier in Form GSTR-1A. The supplier can accept/reject such modification/deletion before 17th of the succeeding tax period. To the extent of such modifications/ deletions, Form GSTR-1 of the supplier would stand amended.

Q 6. On verification of GSTR-2A, if the recipient finds that certain inward supplies made by him are not reflected, can he add the details of such inward supplies manually?

Ans. If the recipient finds that certain inward supplies made to him in the tax period are not reflected in the Form GSTR-2A, the recipient can manually add the details of such supplies in Form GSTR-2. Such additions will be communicated to the supplier in Form GSTR-1A. The supplier can accept/reject such modifications before 17th of the succeeding period, upon which, Form GSTR-1 filed by him would stand amended.

Q 7. Supplier raises an invoice on 30.08.2017 and discloses the same in GSTR-1 for August 2017. Recipient receives the goods and records the inward supply in his books of account on 01.09.2017. How will the inward supply of the recipient and outward supply of the supplier match?

Ans. As per Section 37, details of inward supply of the recipient should match with the outward supply declared by the supplier for the current tax period or for the earlier tax period. In this case, the inward supply of the recipient is filed for the period September 2017 and will match with the outward supply of the supplier filed for the period August 2017.

Q 8. Whether an assessee under composition scheme is required to furnish details of inward supply and outward supply?

Ans. No. An assessee under the composition scheme is not required to furnish details of inward and outward supplies. Such assesses are required to file quarterly returns in Form GSTR-4 within 18 days from the end of quarter.

Q 9. I am a non-resident taxable assessee. What are the returns to be furnished by me?

Ans. A non-resident taxable assessee is liable to file Form GSTR-5 for furnishing the monthly details of inward and outward supplies, debit/credit notes, tax paid details, details of closing stock and refund claimed, if any. The return should be furnished by 20th of the month succeeding the tax period, or within 7 days from the last day of the validity of registration.

Q 10. During the course of inspection/audit/scrutiny/enforcement activity, the department has pointed out certain omissions or incorrect particulars in the returns. Whether the assessee can rectify the returns to correct the omissions or incorrect particulars in its returns?

Ans. As per Section 39(9), where the omission / incorrect particulars are pointed out by the department during audit/inspection/scrutiny/enforcement, the assessee cannot rectify such omissions/incorrect particulars in the returns. However, due tax and interest shall be payable thereon.

Q 11. I was liable to get registered from July 12, 2017. I got my registration only on August 16, 2017. How should I disclose the details of supplies effected during the period July 12, 2017 to August 16, 2017?

Ans. As per Section 40, a registered taxable person is required to file First Return to disclose the details of supplies effected during the period between the date on which he became liable to registration till the date on which registration is granted. Therefore, the assessee has to file First Return to disclose the supplies effected during the period July 12, 2017 to August 16, 2017.

Q 12. Whether returns have to be filed if the assessee has not effected any inward or outward supply during a tax period? What are the consequences if the return is filed belatedly?

Ans. Section 39(8) of the CGST Act specifies that the periodical return in Form GSTR-3 or GSTR-4 (as the case may be) shall be furnished whether or not any supplies have been effected during the tax period. Here, it is relevant to note that the term supplies include both inward and outward supplies.

However, a non-resident taxable person, an input service distributor, a person liable to deduct tax at source and person liable to collect tax at source would not be liable to furnish returns (in Forms GSTR-5, GSTR-6, GSTR-7 and GSTR-8, respectively) if they have not effected any supplies requiring them to furnish their respective forms (as mentioned above).

Q 13. I am notified under section 52 of the GST Act to collect tax at source. What are the returns to be furnished by me?

Ans. Any person liable to collect tax at source under section 52 of the GST Act is specifically liable to furnish returns in Form GSTR-8. The details in respect of tax collected at source, as well as the details relating to tax collected and tax paid shall be disclosed.

Further, the person shall be required to furnish other returns in Forms GSTR-1, GSTR-2 and GSTR-3, to the extent not covered in Form GSTR-8 above.

ICAI'S CONTRIBUTION FOR SMOOTH IMPLEMENTATION OF GST AS PARTNER IN NATION BUILDING

1. Recent Publications on GST:

The Institute has recently released the following publications which have been updated with recent changes:

- Background Material on GST Act(s) and Draft Rule(s), 2017 – June 2017
- FAQs and MCQs on GST, June 2017
- Bare Law on GST Act(s) and Draft Rule(s) – June 2017
- Simplified GST Guide for Manufacturer, Feb-2017
- Study Paper on Taxation of E-Commerce under GST, Feb-2017
- Study Paper on Unjust Enrichment, Feb-2017

These publications can be downloaded at <http://idtc.icai.org/publications.php> and can be ordered online at <https://icaionlinestore.org/indirect-taxes-committee>

2. Suggestions on GST Act

ICAI has submitted its suggestions (Part-I) on the GST Acts to the Government on 30th May, 2017, which can be downloaded from the website <http://idtc.icai.org/>. Comprehensive suggestions would be submitted by the end of June, 2017.

3. Short video on GST

Committee has recorded a short video on lectures on process of migration into GST and its benefits, which can be viewed at <https://youtu.be/Cc9UgEIKdFg>. Further, recording of short video on majority of the topics of GST based on GST Act is going on and would be hosted shortly.

4. 10 Days Certificate Course on GST

The Committee launched a Certificate Course on Goods and Services Tax (GST) at more than 36 locations all over India with a view to facilitate members in industry as well as in practice with specialized and updated knowledge of GST in a systematic manner which could enable them to take up various professional opportunities offered in this area. The course is much appreciated and well received by the members.

5. Certificate Course on GST – Virtual Classes

In order to manage the humongous demand for Certificate Course on GST, the Indirect Taxes Committee has launched Virtual Classes for Certificate Course on GST through Live Telecasts Sessions at more than 60 locations all over India benefitting over 1700 members at one go.

6. Training Programme on GST for Service tax Commissionerate

The Committee organised three training programmes on Goods and Services Tax for the officials of Hapur, Ghaziabad and Dehradun Commissionerate.

7. Interactive Programme on GST for trade associations

The committee is proactively involved in co-ordinating with the trade associations for organising open house Interactive Programme on GST. In addition to earlier organised 17 programme, 1 more programme has been organised by the committee at Pune for Maratha Chambers of Commerce on 9th June, 2017 as part of its initiatives for partner in nation

building. Further, few more interactive programmes on GST have been scheduled.

8. Outreach Programme on GST in Association with Service Tax Commissionerate

The Committee has organised 4 outreach programmes on GST as knowledge partner in association with Kolkata, Delhi Commissionerate (twice) and Ahmedabad.

9. A Study Report to enable smooth Transition from Pre-GST to Post-GST Regime:

With a view to facilitate the Government in smooth transition from Pre-GST to Post-GST Regime, the report prepared and submitted by ICAI and it can be downloaded from <http://idtc.icai.org/budget-memorandum.html>

10. A Study Report on Impact of GST on Jammu & Kashmir Taxation System:

With a view to facilitate the Government of Jammu & Kashmir in understanding the impact of GST on Jammu & Kashmir Taxation System, the ICAI submitted a Study Report to the Government of Jammu & Kashmir. The reports submitted by ICAI can be downloaded from <http://idtc.icai.org/publications.php>

11. Impact of GST Regime on Finances & Economy in Delhi

With a view to facilitate the Government of Delhi in understanding the impact of GST on Delhi Taxation System, the Indirect Taxes Committee has submitted a Study Report to the Delhi Government. The report entails the impact of GST implementation on Delhi economy, provides a comparative report on revenue under the present and GST regime etc.

12. Nomination at the Advisory Committee constituted by Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN):

Considering the expertise of members of ICAI, Goods and Services Tax Network requested ICAI to nominate its member at the Advisory Committee constituted by Goods and Services Tax Network. Accordingly, ICAI has nominated members at the said advisory Committee.

13. Support extended to Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN):

Based on the request from GSTN, following supports have been provided:

- Sharing of data of ICAI's members for online validation by GSTN.
- Nominating members for providing feedback on the software module of GST developed by GSTN.
- List of IT Firm provided to GSTN for providing training so that IT Firm may make necessary changes compatible with GST.

14. Formation of Study Group for helping State Government in smooth implementation of GST:

The Institute has already formed twenty (20) State level Study Group for extending its support to the State Government in smooth implementation of GST.

15. Identification and Training of new speakers on GST:

500 new speakers have been identified and trained in Model GST Law making the expert pool of over 700 faculties across India.

16. Workshops, Seminars and Conferences:

More than 1500 workshops, seminars and conferences on GST have been organised across the country since January, 2017.



Certificate Course on GST at Ahmedabad



Certificate Course on GST at Aurangabad



Certificate Course on GST at Bhubneshwar



Certificate Course on GST at Rewari



GST Conclave at Kolkata



Seminar on GST at Raniganj



Workshop on GST at Gandhidham



Workshop on GST at Solapur



INDIRECT TAXES COMMITTEE (IDTC) OF ICAI A ONE STOP DESTINATION FOR INDIRECT TAXES i.e. IDTC

website: www.idtc.icai.org

The Indirect Taxes Committee of ICAI has launched its website viz. www.idtc.icai.org to provide the users a well set platform for sharing and gaining knowledge on indirect taxes and easy accessibility to the Indirect taxes Committee. The Committee works relentlessly towards keeping the members abreast with the latest changes in the Indirect tax laws vide various mediums like, organising programmes, updating study materials, sending regular updates etc.

Main features:

- * Regular Indirect Taxes Updates / GST Updates
- * Knowledge Bank of Indirect Taxes/ GST – Articles, Legal Updates etc.
- * Publications on Excise, Service Tax, VAT, GST etc.- (Available for free download and online ordering)
- * Recordings of Live Webcasts / E-lectures on GST
- * E-learning on Service Tax, Excise, Customs, CST
- * Upcoming events
- * Details of Certificate Courses, Programme, Seminars etc. on GST/ Indirect Taxes
- * Links of related important website
- * Connect with Indirect Taxes as a faculty / author of the publication etc.
- * GST tab newly created on website to provide consolidated GST informa-

Your suggestions on the website are also welcome at idthc@icai.in

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for help please visit: <http://help.icai.org/>