



Thinking Beyond

Monthly Newsletter

A knowledge sharing initiative

January 2025



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"GST Applicability on SEZ Transactions"

Applicability of CGST Act 2017 and IGST Act 2017: • Section 1 of CGST Act 2017 states that CGST Act 2017 extends to whole of India. • Section 2(22) of IGST Act- “taxable territory” – “Taxable territory” means the territory to which the provisions of this Act apply i.e., whole of India.



Shashank Tellakula Anand

Definition of India as per CGST Act 2017: • In terms of section 2(56) of CGST Act 2017, "India" means the territory of India as referred to in article 1 of the Constitution, its territorial waters(12 nautical miles), seabed and sub-soil underlying such waters, continental shelf, exclusive economic zone or any other maritime zone as referred to in the Territorial Waters, Continental Shelf, Exclusive Economic Zone (200 nautical miles) and other Maritime Zones Act, 1976 (80 of 1976), and the air space above its territory and territorial waters. • Article 1 of constitution:(1) India, that is Bharat, shall be a Union of States. 1 [(2) The States and the territories thereof shall be as specified in the First Schedule.] (3) The territory of India shall comprise— (a) the territories of the States; 2 [(b) the Union territories specified in the First Schedule; and] (c) such other territories as may be acquired.

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"Slump Sale Under GST: A Critical Analysis"

I) Introduction

Businesses often undergo structural changes such as mergers, acquisitions, and sales of entire business units. One such transaction is a **slump sale**, where an undertaking is transferred as a whole, without assigning specific values to individual assets and liabilities. While slump sales are well-defined under the **Income Tax Act**, their treatment under GST raises important questions. Since GST does not explicitly define slump sales, it becomes crucial to analyze their classification, taxability, and applicable GST rates.



Raj Verma

II) GST and the Concept of Supply

For any transaction to be taxed under GST, it must first qualify as a **supply** under **Section 7 of the CGST Act**. The Act defines supply as: “All forms of supply of goods or services or both such as sale, transfer, barter, exchange, license, rental, lease, or disposal made for consideration in the course or furtherance of business.”

For a transaction to be considered as "supply" under GST, it must fulfil three conditions:

1. It must involve the supply of goods or services.
2. It must be made for consideration.
3. It must be in the course or furtherance of business.

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Special Legal Update on ‘SAFARI RETREATS JUDGEMENT’

- Developers and infrastructure gain hope from the Supreme Court's Safari Retreats ruling.
- If it is held that the explanation does not apply to “plant or machinery”, what is the meaning of the word “plant”?
- Whether clauses (c) and (d) of Section 17(5) and Section 16(4) of the CGST Act are unconstitutional.

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HNA Updates – January 2025 – Analysis of Indirect tax proposals in Union Budget 2025-26

- Changes proposed under Goods and Service Tax
- Changes proposed under the Customs Act
- Changes proposed under the Customs Tariff Act
- Changes proposed under the Central Excise
- Changes proposed under Service Tax

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Sl. No	Date	Functionality	Particulars
1	1-01-2025	Gross and Net GST revenue collections for the month of Dec, 2024	The Gross and net revenue for the month of Dec-24 was declared. The same can be checked by clicking on the link – https://tutorial.gst.gov.in/downloads/news/approved_monthly_gst_data_for_publishing_dec_2024.pdf
2	01-01-2025	Advisory to Taxpayers on Extension of E-Way Bills Expired on 31st December, 2024	<p>1. Extension of Expired E-Way Bills:</p> <p>(a). As per the existing procedure, e-way bills that expired at midnight on 31st December 2024, could be extended either within 8 hours prior to the expiry or 8 hours after the expiry.</p> <p>(b). Due to the technical glitch, this process was disrupted. To mitigate the impact, the window period for extending the e-way bills expiring on 31st December 2024, has been extended up to 1st January 2025, midnight. Taxpayers and transporters are advised to utilize the "Extend EWB" facility on the portal to extend these e-way bills, if required.</p> <p>2. Generation of E-Way Bills for Goods Moved During the Glitch:</p> <p>payers and transporters who moved goods on 31st December 2024 without generating e-way bills due to the technical issues are hereby advised to generate the necessary e-way bills on 1st January 2025 using the existing facility on the portal.</p>

3	07-01-2025	<p><u>Enabling filing of Application for Rectification as per Notn. 22/2024-CT, dtd. 08/10/24, 2024</u></p>	<p>The Central Government, on the recommendations of the 54th GST Council, had issued Notification No. 22/2024 – CT dated 08.10.2024 and notified that any registered person against whom any order confirming demand for wrong availment of ITC, on account of contravention of provisions of sub-section (4) of section 16 of the said Act had been issued, but where such ITC is now available as per the recently inserted sub-sections (5) and/or (6) of section 16 of the Act, would now be able to file an application for rectification of such demand orders.</p> <p>A functionality has now been made available on the Portal for taxpayers to file an application for rectification of such orders issued under section 73/74. They can file it, post login, by navigating Services > User Services > My Applications, selecting "Application for rectification of order" in the Application Type field, and clicking on the NEW APPLICATION button. A hyperlink has also been provided on the Portal to download the proforma in Annexure A in word format, required to be uploaded after entering details of the demand order of the ITC wrongly availed on account of contravention of sub-section (4) of section 16 of the CGST Act, now eligible as per sub-section (5) and/or (6) of section 16 of the CGST Act, while filing the application for rectification.</p> <p>Please click on: https://tutorial.gst.gov.in/downloads/news/step_by_step_process_filing_rectification_application.pdf to view detailed step by step process on filing of rectification application.</p>
4	08-01-2025	<p><u>Advisory for Biometric-Based Aadhaar Authentication and</u></p>	<p>It is advised to keep the following key points in mind during the registration process.</p>

		<p><u>Document Verification for GST Registration Applicants of Rajasthan</u></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rule 8 of the CGST Rules, 2017 has been amended to provide that an applicant can be identified on the common portal, based on data analysis and risk parameters for Biometric-based Aadhaar Authentication and taking a photograph of the applicant along with the verification of the original copy of the documents uploaded with the application. 2. The above-said functionality has been developed by GSTN. It has been rolled out in Rajasthan on 7th January 2025. 3. The said functionality also provides for the document verification and appointment booking process. After the submission of the application in Form GST REG-01, the applicant will receive either of the following links in the e-mail, <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a). A Link for OTP-based Aadhaar Authentication OR (b). A link for booking an appointment with a message to visit a GST Suvidha Kendra (GSK) along with the details of the GSK and jurisdiction, for Biometric-based Aadhaar Authentication and document verification (the intimation e-mail) 4. If the applicant receives the link for OTP-based Aadhaar Authentication as mentioned in point 3(a), she/he can proceed with the application as per the existing process. 5. However, if the applicant receives the link as mentioned in point 3(b), she/he will be required to book the appointment to visit the designated GSK, using the link provided in the e-mail. 6. The feature of booking an appointment to visit a designated GSK is now available for the applicants of Rajasthan.
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			<p>7. After booking the appointment, the applicant gets the confirmation of appointment through e-mail (the appointment confirmation e-mail), she/he will be able to visit the designated GSK as per the chosen schedule.</p> <p>8. At the time of the visit of GSK, the applicant is required to carry the following details/documents.</p> <p>(a). a copy (hard/soft) of the appointment confirmation e-mail</p> <p>(b). the details of jurisdiction as mentioned in the intimation e-mail</p> <p>(c). Aadhaar Card and PAN Card (Original Copies)</p> <p>(d). the original documents that were uploaded with the application, as communicated by the intimation e-mail.</p> <p>9. The biometric authentication and document verification will be done at the GSK, for all the required individuals as per the GST application Form REG-01.</p> <p>10. The applicant is required to choose an appointment for the biometric verification during the maximum permissible period for the application as indicated in the intimation e-mail. In such cases, ARNs will be generated once the Biometric-based Aadhaar Authentication process and document verification are completed.</p> <p>11. The operation days and hours of GSKs will be as per the guidelines provided by the administration in your state.</p>
5	10-01-2025	<u>Advisory on Extension of Due Date w.r.t GSTR 1 and GSTR 3B</u>	Due Date for filing of GSTR-1 and GSTR-3B have been extended by two days. For details refer to <u>Notification No. 01/2025 – (CT)</u> dt. 10th January, 2025 and <u>Notification No. 02/2025 – (CT)</u> dt. 10th January, 2025 issued by CBIC.
6	14-01-2025	<u>Generation Date for Draft GSTR 2B for December 2024</u>	In light of the extended due dates for filing GSTR-1 and GSTR-3B returns for the month of December 2024 (Quarter Oct-Dec 2024) as per Notifications No. 01/2025 and 02/2025

			<p>dated 10th January 2025, the Draft GSTR-2B for the month of December 2024 (Quarter Oct-Dec 2024) will now be generated on 16th January 2025 in accordance with the rule 60 of CGST Rules, 2017.</p> <p>It is reminded that you can recompute your Draft GSTR-2B if any action is taken in IMS after the generation of the same GSTR-2B on or after 16th Jan 2025.</p>
7	14-01-2025	<p><u>Advisory for Waiver Scheme under Section 128A</u></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Taxpayer's attention is invited to the advisory on the above subject issued by GSTN on 29.12.2024. The link for the said advisory is given here: https://services.gst.gov.in/services/advisoryandreleases/read/564 2. It is to inform that both <u>Forms GST SPL 01 and GST SPL 02 are available in the GST portal</u> and the taxpayers are advised to file applications under waiver scheme. 3. One of the eligible conditions for filing application under waiver scheme is to withdraw the appeal applications filed against the demand order/notice/statement for which waiver application is to be submitted. In this regard, it is to inform that for the appeal applications (APL 01) filed before First Appellate authority, withdrawal option is already available in the GST portal. However, for the appeal applications (APL 01) filed before 21.03.2023, withdrawal option is not available in GST portal. For such cases, the taxpayers are advised to submit their request for withdrawal of appeal applications to the concerned Appellate Authority. The Appellate authority will forward such requests to GSTN through State Nodal officer for withdrawal of such appeal applications (i.e.

			<p>filed before 21.03.2023 and not disposed off) from backend.</p> <p>4. Difficulty if any faced by the taxpayers may be reported to https://selfservice.gstsystem.in by raising a ticket under category <i>“Issues related to Waiver Scheme”</i>.</p>
8	22-01-2025	<u>Implementation of mandatory mentioning of HSN codes in GSTR-1 & GSTR 1A</u>	<p>After successful implementation of <u>Phase-I</u> & <u>Phase-II</u> now Phase-III regarding Table 12 of GSTR-1 & 1A is being implemented, from return period February 2025. In this phase manual entry of HSN has been replaced by choosing correct HSN from given Drop down. Also, Table-12 has been bifurcated into two tabs namely B2B and B2C, to report these supplies separately. Further, validation regarding values of the supplies and tax amounts involved in the same, have also been introduced for both the tabs of Table-12. However in initial period these validations have been kept in warning mode only, which means failing the validation will not be a blocker for filling of GSTR-1& 1A. To view the detailed advisory please click here.</p>
9	24-01-2025	<u>Advisory on Business Continuity for e-Invoice and e-Waybill Systems</u>	<p>This advisory is issued to highlight the alternate mechanisms and business continuity plans available for both the e-Invoice and e-Waybill systems.</p> <p>If you have not integrated these alternate mechanisms into your existing systems or are not currently utilising them, GSTN suggest coordinating with your system integrators, IRPs, ERPs, GSPs, or ASPs to enable these redundancies. This would ensure that these mechanisms are fully operational and accessible when needed.</p> <p>Multi IRPs for e-Invoice Reporting</p> <p>To provide redundancy and ensure continuity, six Invoice Registration Portals (IRPs) are operational:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NIC-IRP 1: https://www.einvoice1.gst.gov.in 2. NIC-IRP 2: https://www.einvoice2.gst.gov.in

3. Cygnet IRP: <https://einvoice3.gst.gov.in>

4. Clear IRP: <https://einvoice4.gst.gov.in>

5. EY IRP: <https://einvoice5.gst.gov.in>

6. IRIS IRP: <https://einvoice6.gst.gov.in>

Both NIC-IRP 1 & 2 portals are interoperable, allowing seamless switch-over between them during service disruptions. These features may be tested in the NIC sandbox environment that can be accessed at <https://einv-apisandbox.nic.in/>. Additionally, if NIC-IRP is down any of the other e-Invoice IRPs listed above could also be used.

Dual Portals for e-Waybill Services

Similar redundancy is provided for e-Waybill operations with two portals:

1. **eWaybill1** (<https://ewaybillgst.gov.in>)
2. **eWaybill2** (<https://ewaybill2.gst.gov.in>)

Unified Authentication Token at NIC-IRP & e-Waybill Portal

A single authentication token can be generated from any of the NIC-IRP e-Invoice1 & e-Invoice2 and NIC: e-Waybill1 & e-Waybill2.

Once generated, this token is valid across all NIC portals, eliminating the need for separate tokens for each platform.

API Interoperability for Seamless Operations

Taxpayers using APIs can take advantage of cross-portal operations by configuring their systems or ensuring this with respective solution provider accordingly:

- i. **Accessing NIC1 e-Invoice Services via NIC2 APIs:** By passing "NIC1" value in "irp" API header for APIs at <https://api.einvoice2.gst.gov.in>

			<p>ii. Accessing NIC2 e-Invoice Services via NIC1 APIs: By passing "NIC2" value in "irp" API header for APIs at https://api.einvoice1.gst.gov.in</p> <p>iii. Supported e-Invoice APIs for cross operation-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Get IRN Details b. Cancel IRN c. Get IRN Details by Doc. Details d. Generate e-Waybill by IRN e. Get e-Waybill details by IRN <p>iv. For e-way bill cross operation, currently 1) Get e-way bill details & 2) Part B update APIs are available to be used interoperable via https://api.ewaybillgst.gov.in & https://api.ewaybill2.gst.gov.in/</p> <p>Actions Recommended for Taxpayer</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Direct API Access: Verify that your systems support cross-portal interoperability for seamless service access. 2. Coordination with Service Providers: Engage with your IRP, ERPs, GSPs, or ASPs to ensure alternate mechanisms are enabled and fully integrated into your systems. 3. Explore Additional IRPs: In addition to NIC-IRP 1 & 2, other IRPs are also available for use. <p>This advisory is issued to ensure that taxpayers are connected with the necessary backup to maintain seamless operations during any service disruptions. For further assistance, please contact your system integrators, service providers, or the GST helpdesk. More details available at respective IRPs and e-waybill portal.</p>
10	27-01-2025	<u>Advisory on the Introduction of E-Way Bill (EWB)</u>	It is hereby informed that a new option for generating E-Way Bills (EWB) for gold has been introduced in the EWB

		<u>for Gold in Kerala State</u>	<p>system, effective from January 20, 2025. This feature has been made available to facilitate taxpayers in Kerala State to generate EWB for goods classified under Chapter 71, excluding Imitation Jewellery, for intrastate movement, in compliance with the notification issued by the Government of Kerala.</p> <p>Key Points for Taxpayers:</p> <p>1. Scope of Coverage:</p> <p>a) The EWB can be generated for goods covered under Chapter 71, excluding HSN 7117 (Imitation Jewellery) under the “EWB for gold” option only.</p> <p>b) This feature is applicable only for intrastate movement of such goods within Kerala.</p> <p>2. Generation of EWB for Imitation Jewellery (HSN 7117):</p> <p>Taxpayers can continue to generate EWB for goods under HSN 7117 (Imitation Jewellery) using the usual option in the EWB system.</p>
11	27-01-2025	<u>Attention – Hard - Locking of auto-populated liability in GSTR-3B</u>	<p>1. Please refer to the <u>advisory dated October 17, 2024</u>, regarding the restricting the editing of auto-populated liability in GSTR-3B from the January 2025 tax period.</p> <p>2. However, various requests have been received from the trade seeking time for the same. Therefore, the decision of making non-editable of auto-populated liability in GSTR-3B is currently not being implemented from January tax period, on the GST Portal.</p> <p>3. It may be noted that the above change will be introduced soon, and trade will be informed accordingly. Taxpayers are encouraged to prepare for the said change.</p>
12	28-01-2025	<u>Advisory for Biometric-Based Aadhaar</u>	<p>This is to inform taxpayers about recent developments concerning the application process for GST registration. It is</p>

[Authentication and Document Verification for GST Registration Applicants of Tamil Nadu and Himachal Pradesh](#)

advised to keep the following key points in mind during the registration process.

1. Rule 8 of the CGST Rules, 2017 has been amended to provide that an applicant can be identified on the common portal, based on data analysis and risk parameters for Biometric-based Aadhaar Authentication and taking a photograph of the applicant along with the verification of the original copy of the documents uploaded with the application.
2. The above-said functionality has been developed by GSTN. It has been rolled out in Tamil Nadu and Himachal Pradesh on **28th January 2025**.
3. The said functionality also provides for the document verification and appointment booking process. After the submission of the application in Form GST REG-01, the applicant will receive either of the following links in the e-mail,
 - (a). A Link for OTP-based Aadhaar Authentication **OR**
 - (b). A link for booking an appointment with a message to visit a GST Suvidha Kendra (GSK) along with the details of the GSK and jurisdiction, for Biometric-based Aadhaar Authentication and document verification (the intimation e-mail)
4. If the applicant receives the link for OTP-based Aadhaar Authentication as mentioned in point 3(a), she/he can proceed with the application as per the existing process.
5. However, if the applicant receives the link as mentioned in point 3(b), she/he will be required to book the appointment to visit the designated GSK, using the link provided in the e-mail.

		<p>6. The feature of booking an appointment to visit a designated GSK is now available for the applicants of Tamil Nadu and Himachal Pradesh.</p> <p>7. After booking the appointment, the applicant gets the confirmation of appointment through e-mail (the appointment confirmation e-mail), she/he will be able to visit the designated GSK as per the chosen schedule.</p> <p>8. At the time of the visit of GSK, the applicant is required to carry the following details/documents.</p> <p>(a). a copy (hard/soft) of the appointment confirmation e-mail</p> <p>(b). the details of jurisdiction as mentioned in the intimation e-mail</p> <p>(c). Aadhaar Card and PAN Card (Original Copies)</p> <p>(d). the original documents that were uploaded with the application, as communicated by the intimation e-mail.</p> <p>9. The biometric authentication and document verification will be done at the GSK, for all the required individuals as per the GST application Form REG-01.</p> <p>10. The applicant is required to choose an appointment for the biometric verification during the maximum permissible period for the application as indicated in the intimation e-mail. In such cases, ARNs will be generated once the Biometric-based Aadhaar Authentication process and document verification are completed.</p> <p>11. The operation days and hours of GSKs will be as per the guidelines provided by the administration in your state.</p>
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GST	
Notification-Central Tax	
Notification No. and Date of issue	Subject
01/2025-Central Tax Dated: 10/01/2025	Seeks to extend the due date for furnishing FORM GSTR-1 for the month of December, 2024 and the quarter of October to December, 2024, as the case may be. <u>HNA Comments:</u> This notification Seeks to extend the due date for furnishing FORM GSTR-1 for the month of December 2024 and the quarter of October to December 2024, from 13th Jan 2025 to 15th Jan 2025. Read more.
02/2025-Central Tax Dated: 10/01/2025	Seeks to extend the due date for furnishing FORM GSTR-3B for the month of December, 2024 and the quarter of October to December, 2024, as the case may be. <u>HNA Comments:</u> Seeks to extend the due date for furnishing FORM GSTR-3B for the month of December 2024 and the quarter of October to December 2024, from 20th Jan 2025 to 24th Jan 2025 & 26th Jan 2025 respectively for the registered person whose principal place of business in the specified states in accordance with the notification. Read more.
03/2025-Central Tax dated 10/01/2025	Seeks to extend the due date for furnishing FORM GSTR-5 for the month of December, 2024. <u>HNA Comments:</u> Seeks to extend the due date for furnishing FORM GSTR-5 for the month of December, 2024. Read More.
04/2025-Central Tax dated 10/01/2025	Seeks to extend the due date for furnishing FORM GSTR-6 for the month of December, 2024. <u>HNA Comments:</u>

	<p>Seeks to extend the due date for furnishing FORM GSTR-6 (for Input Service Distributor) for the month of December 2024, till the date of Jan 15th, 2025. Read more.</p>
05/2025-Central Tax dated 10/01/2025	<p>Seeks to extend the due date for furnishing FORM GSTR-7 for the month of December, 2024.</p> <p><u>HNA Comments:</u></p> <p>Seeks to extend the due date for furnishing FORM GSTR-7(for TDS deductor) for the month of December 2024, till the date of Jan 12th, 2025. Read more.</p>
06/2025-Central Tax dated 10/01/2025	<p>Seeks to extend the due date for furnishing FORM GSTR-8 for the month of December, 2024.</p> <p><u>HNA Comments:</u></p> <p>Seeks to extend the due date for furnishing FORM GSTR-8 (for TCS) for the month of December 2024, till Jan 12th, 2025. Read more.</p>
07/2025-Central Tax dated 23/01/2025	<p>Central Tax Notification to amend CGST Rules, Central Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Rules, 2025.</p> <p><u>HNA Comments:</u></p> <p>Through this notification the CGST(Amendment) Rules, 2025, insertion of Rule 16A, which allows the issuance of a temporary identification number to individuals not liable for registration but required to make payments under the Act. Further, changes to Rule 19 and Rule 87 to include provisions for composition taxpayers and the integration of Rule 16A. Form GST REG-12 is updated to accommodate temporary registration and identification details with effect from 23.01.2025. Read more</p>
08/2025-Central Tax dated 23/01/2025	<p>Central Tax Notification for waiver of the late fee</p> <p><u>HNA Comments:</u></p> <p>This notification addresses the waiver of the late fee for registered persons who failed to submit the reconciliation statement in FORM GSTR-9C along with the annual return in FORM GSTR-9 for the financial years 2017-18 to 2022-23. This waiver applies to the excess late fee payable under section 47 of the Act, provided the reconciliation statement is furnished by March 31, 2025. However, no refunds will be issued for late fees already paid for these financial years. Read more</p>

GST

Notifications-Central Tax (Rate)

Notification No. and Date of issue	Subject
<p>01/2025-Central Tax (Rate) dated 16/01/2025</p>	<p>Seeks to amend Notification no. 01/2017- Central Tax (Rate)</p> <p><u>HNA Comments:</u></p> <p>11. This notification amends the principal notification 01/2017 CT(R), effective from 16.01.2025.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Fortified Rice Kernel (FRK)” is now classified under S. No 98B of Schedule-I with a 5% GST rate. • FRK is also added to Schedule-III after "commonly known as Murki". • The explanation under Clause (ii) of Schedule-VII is substituted as “<i>The expression ‘pre-packaged and labelled’ means all commodities that are intended for retail sale and containing not more than 25 kg or 25 litre, which are ‘pre-packed’ as defined in clause (l) of section 2 of the Legal Metrology Act, 2009 (1 of 2010) where, the package in which the commodity is pre-packed or a label securely affixed thereto is required to bear the declarations under the provisions of the Legal Metrology Act, 2009 (1 of 2010) and the rules made thereunder.</i>” Read more.
<p>02/2025-Central Tax (Rate) dated 16/01/2025</p>	<p>Seeks to amend Notification no. 02/2017- Central Tax (Rate)</p> <p><u>HNA Comments:</u></p> <p>This notification amends principal notification No. 02/2017 under the CGST Act. Specifically, Gene Therapy has been inserted as entry 105A after entry no. 105 under the relevant schedule. Consequently, Gene Therapy, which was previously subject to a 12% GST rate, is now fully exempted from GST effective from 16.01.2025. This exemption is expected to significantly lighten the financial burden on cancer patients by reducing the cost of gene therapy treatments, thereby enhancing their accessibility and affordability. Read more.</p>

<p>03/2025-Central Tax (Rate) dated 16/01/2025</p>	<p>Seeks to amend Notification no. 39/2017- Central Tax (Rate)</p> <p><u>HNA Comments:</u></p> <p>Through this notification after the (b) of the description of goods the following words and symbols shall be inserted “(c) food inputs for (a) above”. Consequently, This change led to reduce the cost of inputs procured for the food distribution programs. Read more.</p>
<p>04/2025-Central Tax (Rate) dated 16/01/2025</p>	<p>Seeks to amend Notification no. 08/2018- Central Tax (Rate)</p> <p><u>HNA Comments:</u></p> <p>Through this notification the concessional rate at 6% for “<i>All Old and used Vehicles other than those mentioned from S. No. 1 to S.No.3</i>” as provided in the notification no. 08/2017 is substituted to a higher rate of 9% which is classifiable under chapter no. 87 of customs tariff. Read more.</p>
<p>05/2025-Central Tax (Rate) dated 16/01/2025</p>	<p>Seeks to amend Notification No 11/2017 - Central Tax (Rate) dated 28th June, 2017 to implement the recommendations of the 55th GST Council.</p> <p><u>HNA Comments:</u></p> <p>Through this notification the Central Government amends the principal Notification No. 11/2017-State Tax (Rate) under the CGST Act, 2017, effective from April 1, 2025. The revision modifies the definition of "specified premises" for hotel accommodation services, introducing criteria based on the value of supply and requiring formal declarations for premises to be classified as such. Annexures VII, VIII, and IX outline the procedural requirements for registered persons and new applicants to either declare or opt out of having their premises recognized as "specified" These declarations must be submitted within prescribed timelines for each financial year. Read more.</p>
<p>06/2025-Central Tax (Rate) dated 16/01/2025</p>	<p>Seeks to amend Notification No 12/2017-Central Tax (Rate dated 28th June, 2017 to implement the recommendations of the 55th GST Council.</p> <p><u>HNA Comments:</u></p> <p>The Gujarat Government has issued amendments to Principal Notification No. 12/2017-State Tax (Rate) under the Gujarat Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017. The amendments are as follows:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The phrase "transmission and distribution" shall be substituted with "transmission or distribution" in column 3 of serial number 25A. • A new entry, serial number 36B, has been incorporated, specifying that insurance services provided by the Motor Vehicle Accident Fund are exempt from tax covered under SAC heading 9971 or 9991. • The training partners approved by the National Skill Development Corporation have been inserted under serial number 69. • Item (w) of para 2 of the principal notification, has been omitted, and a revised definition of "insurer" has been inserted "as specified in section 2(9) of the Insurance Act, 1938(4 of 1938). These amendments will come into effect from April 1, 2025. Read more.
<p>07/2025-Central Tax (Rate) dated 16/01/2025</p>	<p>Seeks to amend Notification No 13/2017-Central Tax (Rate), dated 28th June, 2017 to implement the recommendations of the 55th GST Council.</p> <p><u>HNA Comments:</u></p> <p>This notification amends Principal Notification No. 13/2017-CT(R) through the following modifications:</p> <p>a) Substitution in Column 3 of Serial No. 4:</p> <p>The phrase "Any person" is replaced with "Any person other than a body corporate".</p> <p>As a result, services provided by a body corporate will now be subject to the forward charge mechanism (FCM), meaning the supplier (body corporate) will be responsible for discharging the GST liability.</p> <p>b) Substitution in Column 4 of Serial No. 5AB:</p> <p>The phrase "Any registered person" is replaced with "Any registered person other than a person who has opted to pay tax under composition levy".</p> <p>Consequently, if the registered composition dealer avails the services by way of renting of any immovable property other than residential from an unregistered</p>

	person then he is not required to discharge tax under RCM as per entry no. 5AB of notification no. 13/2017-CT(R). Read more
08/2025-Central Tax (Rate) dated 16/01/2025	<p>Seeks to amend Notification No 17/2017- Central Tax (Rate), dated 28th June, 2017 to implement the recommendations of the 55th GST Council.</p> <p><u>HNA Comments:</u></p> <p>This notification substitutes the explanation for the item (c) in Notification No. 17/2017-CT(R) with the meaning assigned under clause (xxxvi) – Specified premises of paragraph 4 of Notification No. 11/2017-Central Tax (Rate), dated 28.06.2017. This change will take effect from 1st April 2025. Read more</p>

GST

Circular-Central Tax

Circular No. and Date of issue	Subject
Circular no. 244/01/2025-GST dated 28/01/2025	<p>Regularizing payment of GST on co-insurance premium apportioned by the lead insurer to the co-insurer and on ceding /re-insurance commission deducted from the reinsurance premium paid by the insurer to the reinsurer.</p> <p><u>Summary:</u> clarifying the following aspects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • co-insurance premium apportionment by lead insurers to co-insurers is not a supply, provided the lead insurer pays taxes on the full premium, and • ceding/reinsurance commission deducted from reinsurance premium is excluded, conditional on the reinsurer paying taxes on the gross premium, including commission effective from 1st November 2024. Read more.
Circular no. 245/01/2025-GST dated 28/01/2025	<p>Clarifications regarding applicability of GST on certain services.</p> <p><u>Summary:</u></p>

	<p>The CBIC, based on the 55th GST Council recommendations, clarified several GST applicability issues: no GST on penal charges for loan breaches by regulated entities; GST exemption for RBI-regulated Payment Aggregators on settlements up to ₹2,000 per transaction; regularization of R&D services by government entities against grants for July 2017-October 2024; exclusion of DDA as a local authority; GST applicability on facility management services to MCD headquarters; GST exemption for NSDC-approved training services from January 2025, with past regularization; and regularization of GST payments for Goethe Institute services from July 2017-March 2023. Read more.</p>
<p>Circular no. 246/01/2025-GST dated 30/01/2025</p>	<p>Clarification on applicability of late fee for delay in furnishing of FORM GSTR-9C.</p> <p><u>Summary:</u></p> <p>The CBIC issued this circular to provide clarification on the applicability of late fees for delay in submitting FORM GSTR-9C under the CGST Act stipulates that both FORM GSTR-9 (annual return) and FORM GSTR-9C (reconciliation statement) must be filed together to complete the annual return. If FORM GSTR-9C is required but not filed alongside FORM GSTR-9, the annual return is considered incomplete, and late fees will be applicable. These late fees are levied from the due date of the annual return until the date both forms are submitted. However, a waiver on excess late fees is available for delayed filings of FORM GSTR-9C for financial years up to 2022-23, provided the form is filed by 31st March 2025, and no refunds will be issued for late fees already paid. Read more.</p>

GST

Instruction/Guidelines

Instruction No. and Date of issue	Subject
Instruction No. 01/2025-GSTdated 13/01/2025	<p>Guidelines for arrest and bail in relation to offences punishable under the cgst act, 2017.</p> <p><u>Summary:</u></p> <p>The circular issued by the Ministry of Finance's GST-Investigation Wing amends previous guidelines regarding arrest and bail under the CGST Act, 2017. Following a Delhi High Court ruling, it mandates that the grounds for arrest must be communicated in writing to the arrested individual. This distinction between 'reasons for arrest' and 'grounds of arrest' is emphasized, with the latter being specific to the accused and necessary for their defense. The amendment requires that these grounds be included as an annexure to the arrest memo, with acknowledgment from the arrested person. Read more.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">•

Customs- Tariff	
Notifications	
Notification No. and Date of issue	Subject
01/2025-Customs Dated- 16-Jan-2025	(T) Seeks to exempt imports by the inspection team of IAEA. Summary: This notification exempts all equipment and consumable samples under the Customs Tariff Act, 1975, from the whole customs duty and integrated tax when imported by the IAEA Inspection Team, subject to the submission of a certificate from the Department of Atomic Energy regarding verification/inspections under the safeguard's agreement, and an undertaking from the Department to export the equipment within six months and account for consumables. This exemption is effective immediately (dated: 16/01/2025). Read more.
02/2025-Customs Dated- 16-01-2025	(T) Seeks to amend Notification no. 19/2019- customs. Summary: This notification amends the exemption for the import of specified defence equipment and parts, including systems, sub-systems, equipment, parts, sub-parts, tools, test equipment, and software for the Long Range Surface to Air Missile System (LRSAM) imported by the Ministry of Defence or the defence forces. Read more.

Customs- Tariff

Circulars

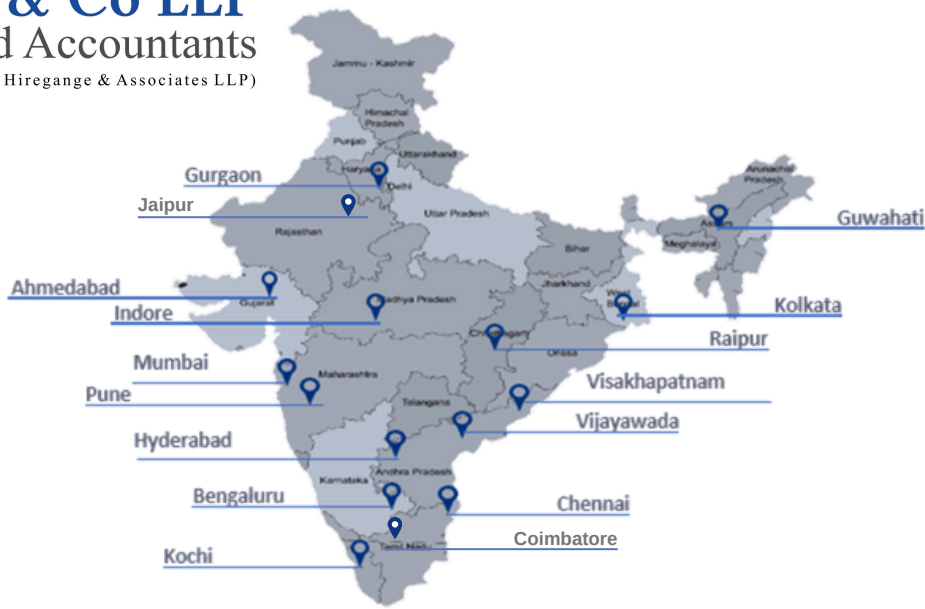
Circular No. and Date of issue	Subject
01/2025-Customs Dated- 01-Jan-2025	<p>Roll out of Automated Out of Charge for AEO T2 and T3 Clients.</p> <p><u>Summary:</u></p> <p>The CBIC is implementing an Automated Out of Charge (Auto-OOC) system for Authorized Economic Operators (AEO) T2 and T3 clients starting January 1, 2025. This initiative aims to enhance trade efficiency and reduce administrative burdens by allowing eligible Bills of Entry (BEs) to bypass manual checks if they meet specific criteria, such as no examination requirement and completed assessment. The Auto-OOC will be risk-based, with an option for customs officers to override it if necessary. Stakeholders will be informed through advisories and public notices. Read more.</p>
02/2025-Customs Dated- 17-01-2025	<p>Sea Cargo Manifest and Transshipment Regulations.</p> <p><u>Summary:</u></p> <p>The CBIC extended the implementation date for the Sea Cargo Manifest and Transshipment Regulations (SCMTR) at certain ports as an interim measure due to issues faced by the trade in filing certain SCMTR messages. The extension aims to ensure smooth export-import operations without penalizing the trade during the initial implementation phase. Chief Commissioners were advised to conduct fortnightly outreach programs to facilitate stakeholders' smooth transition to SCMTR during the extended timeframe. Electronic filing of messages in the prescribed SCMTR format should continue during this period. Read more.</p>
03/2025-Customs Dated- 29-01-2025	<p>Mandatory additional qualifiers in import/export declarations in respect of Synthetic or Reconstructed Diamonds.</p> <p><u>Summary:</u></p> <p>The circular addresses the mandatory additional qualifiers in import/export declarations for synthetic or reconstructed diamonds, specifically Lab Grown Diamonds (LGDs). Due to challenges faced by exporters, particularly with diamonds weighing less than one carat, the requirement for additional qualifiers in</p>

such cases will now be voluntary. For other cases, the mandatory qualifiers remain as per the previous Circular 21/2024-Customs. The circular advises issuing a public notice for trade guidance and requests that any implementation difficulties be reported to the Board. [Read more.](#)

**Congratulations CA Vineey Patni, Partner Designate of HNA & Co LLP
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Ms. CA Vineey Patni was invited to UNION BUDGET 2025 VIEWING & ANALYSIS SESSION on 1st FEB 2025 as a panelist in Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) Madhya Pradesh budget analysis event to present budget updates. She presented updates on GST and Customs in budget. Recorded updates for press including DD News, Peoples Samachar, Patrika & Dainik Bhaskar newspapers.



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