

## IMPACT OF GST ON INDIAN ECONOMY

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### Abstract

Goods and Services Tax (GST) was launched on 1st of July 2017. It is an indirect tax applicable throughout India. Now single tax would be levied on all goods and services. Around 160 countries have implemented GST. GST will ensure a comprehensive tax base with minimum exemptions, which will help the industry. GST will help the economy to grow in more efficient manner by ameliorating the tax accumulation as it will disrupt all the tax barriers between states and integrate country via single tax rate. It will benefit the Indian economy in many ways- help in reducing the price for consumers, rate of tax will be uniform, reduce multiple taxes. GST will affect many sectors in positive or negative manner. GST, as per government estimates, will boost India's GDP by around 2 per cent. Under GST, goods and services are taxed at the following rates, 0%, 5%, 12% and 18%. ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Goods\\_and\\_Services\\_Tax\\_\(India\),\\_2017](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Goods_and_Services_Tax_(India),_2017)). After GST implementation certain products prices will reduce like branded goods, hotels, personal hair products, soap etc. Few products price will increase like mobile bills, aerated drinks, internet, air tickets. At the consumer level, GST would reduce the overall tax burden, which is currently estimated at 25-30%. Under this system, the consumer pays the final tax but an efficient input tax credit system ensures that there is no cascading of taxes- tax on tax paid on inputs that go into manufacture of goods. In order to avoid the payment of multiple taxes such as excise duty and service tax at Central level and VAT at the State level, GST would unify these taxes and create a uniform market throughout the country. Integration of various taxes into a GST system will bring about an effective cross utilization of credits. The current system taxes production, whereas the GST will aim to tax consumption. Goods and Services Taxes would be collected in three ways: CGST: where the revenue will be collected by the central government, SGST: where the revenue will be collected by the state governments for intra-state sales, IGST: where the revenue will be collected by the central government for inter-state sales. This paper focuses on the benefits, challenges and impact of GST on Indian economy.

**Keywords:** [GST, Tax, Products, India]

### Introduction

GST was first introduced during 2007-08 budget session. On 17th December 2014, the ahead of its time Union Cabinet ministry approved the proposal for inauguration of GST Constitutional Amendment Bill. On 19th of December 2014, the bill was presented on GST in Lok Sabha. The Bill was absorbed for discussion far and wide for the coming Budget session. The President of India canonical the Constitution Amendment Bill for Goods and Services Tax (GST) on 8 September 2016, consequently the bill's article in the Indian chamber and its ratification by greater than 50% of the size of it legislatures (President gives assent to GST Bill, 2016). GST has replaced the current indirect taxes. The implementation of GST will have a far-reaching strength on at the point of all the aspects of the engagement in activity application operations in India. With greater than 140 countries soon adopting some comprise of GST, India has daydream been a stand-out exception. Origin of Tax is from the Latin word "taxare" which means "to estimate". A tax is a government imposed contribution under various names like (subsidy, custom, duty, impost, excise, tribute, supply) etc. The first well recognized taxation system was introduced in the Ancient Egypt (3000 BC- 2800 BC) in the empire of the old territory and at that time tax was collected from the people in the

form of pharaoh. Presently in India tax is collected in two forms as direct and indirect tax. Direct tax (income tax, corporation tax and wealth tax) is directly collected by the government from the tax payers. Indirect tax (goods and service) is not directly collected from the taxpayer but it is collected from intermediaries such as retailers and from the people or consumers who ultimately bear the burden of tax. Good and Service Tax is an indirect tax which is also called the cover of all indirect state and federal taxes. GST is a single tax which is levied on several product and services. Multiple taxes cover all CENVAT, central sales tax, states sales tax, octroi etc. will be included in GST. GST is applied in India with effect from 1st July 2017 in the central hall of parliament.

### Features of GST

- Registration of taxpayers: Every person with a turnover exceeding Rs 20 lakhs will have to register in every state in which he conducts business. This threshold will be Rs 10 lakhs for special category states (i.e. Himalayan and North-Eastern states).
- Returns: Every taxpayer is required to file tax returns on a monthly basis by submitting: (i) details of supplies provided, (ii) details of supplies received, and (iii) payment of tax. In addition to the monthly returns,

an annual return will have to be filed by each taxpayer.

- Exemptions from GST: There are certain goods and services which are exempted from GST.
- Taxable amount (value of supply): The GST would be applicable on the supply of goods and services, whose value will include: (i) price paid on the supply, (ii) taxes and duties levied under other tax laws, (iii) interest, late fee, penalties for delayed payments, among others.
- Payment of GST: The CGST and SGST needs to be paid in the accounts of the central and states government.
- Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN): It is a non-profit, Non-Government Company called Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN). It will manage the entire IT system of GST portal.
- Input Tax Credit (ITC) Set Off : ITC for CGST & SGST will be taken for taxes allowed against central and state respectively.
- GST on Imports: Centre will levy IGST on inter-State supply of goods and services.
- Maintenance of Records: An exporter needs to maintain separate details of utilization or refund of Input Tax Credit of CGST, SGST and IGST. (<https://gst.ca-knowledge.in/key-features-gst-benefits-gst/>, 2017)

### Literature Review

Kumar (2014) studied, "Goods and Service Tax- A Way Forward" that implementing GST in India would help in removing current indirect tax system and expected to encourage unbiased tax structure which is indifferent to geographical locations. Guptha (2014) in her study stated that by implementing GST would give many benefits to our country which is not given by current tax structure and will benefit the economy. Hence GST would benefit the industry, trade, consumers and Government. Vasanthagopal (2011) studied, "GST in India: A Big Leap in the Indirect Taxation System" and concluded that GST is a broad based, single, comprehensive tax levied on goods and services in which, the seller may claim the input credit of tax which he has paid while purchasing the goods, the final consumer will bear only the GST charged by the last dealer in the supply chain.

### Objectives of the Study

- To understand the concept of GST
- To know the benefits and challenges of GST
- To study the impact of GST on different sectors in India

### Research Methodology

The study is based on exploratory research and based on

secondary data of journals, articles, newspapers and magazines. Secondary data was extensively used for the study.

### Benefits of GST

- It will help in lowering the cost of goods and services.
- Uniformity of tax rates.
- It will help in economic development.
- It will help in making the products and services competitive.
- It may improve liquidity of the businesses.
- It will reduce the human efforts and will lead to expeditious decisions.
- It will also help boosting Indian exports in the international market, improving the balance of payments position.

### Categories of GST

Under GST, goods and services are taxed at the following rates, 0%, 5%, 12% and 18%. Certain items such as alcohol, petrol, diesel and natural gas will be exempt under the GST.

#### 0 percent

Wheat, rice, milk, eggs, fresh vegetables, meat, fish, sindoor, bindi, stamps, judicial papers, printed books, newspapers, bangles, handloom, children's picture, hotels and lodges below Rs.1000.

#### 5 percent

Sugar, tea, roasted coffee beans, edible oils, cream, skimmed milk powder, milk food for babies, cashew nuts, spices, packaged food items, railway freight, life saving drugs, footwear up to Rs 500.

#### 12 percent

Ayurvedic and homeopathic medicines, readymade garments, mobile phone, non AC hotels, business class air ticket, fertilisers, Butter, preparations of vegetables, fruits, nuts or other parts of plants.

#### 18 percent

Footwear above Rs 500, hair oil, soap, toothpaste, LPG stove, military weapons, ice cream, AC hotel that serve liquor, branded garments, financial services, room tariffs between Rs 2500 and Rs 7500, biscuits (all categories).

#### 28 percent

Chewing gum, molasses, chocolate not containing cocoa, waffles and wafers coated with chocolate. (<http://www.indiatvnews.com/business/india-goods-and-services-tax-complete-list-of-items-and-their-gst-rates-388359>, 2017)

### Challenges of GST

- Robust IT Network: Government has already incorporated Goods and service tax network (GSTN). It has to develop the entire IT system of GST portal which will ensure technology support for GST Registration, GST

return filing, tax payments etc.

- Extensive Training to Tax Administration Staff: As GST is quite different from existing system so it requires extensive training to tax administration staff regarding the legislation procedure.
- Understanding GST intricacies is not easy: The wholesaler would be required to deposit the CGST into a central government account and the SGST into the account of the state government. Every docket from buyers and sellers intend to comprise the GST system suitably to ensure that benefits accrue the full chain. (<https://gst.caknowledge.in/gst-india-challenges-success-india/>, 2017)

### **Impact of GST on Indian Economy**

- It may increase the flow of FDI.
- GST will increase the government's revenue in the long.
- A single tax would help in lowering the final selling price for the consumer.
- GST will facilitate ease of doing business in India.
- It will reduce the cost of tax compliance and transaction cost.
- It will create more employment opportunities.
- GST would append to government revenues by widening the tax base.
- Uniformity in tax laws will lead to single point taxation for supply of goods or services all over India.
- It will also reduce litigation and waste of time of the judiciary and the assessee due to frivolous proceedings at various levels of adjudication and appellate authorities.
- Reduce tax burden on producers and build a fire under growth at the hand of more production. This replicate taxation prevents manufacturers from producing to their optimum capacity and retards growth.
- There will be more transparency in the system as the customers would know exactly how much taxes they are being charged and on what base.
- GST would also help in removing the custom duties on exports. Our competitiveness in foreign markets would increase on account of lower cost of transaction.

### **GST Impact Across Sectors**

#### **Tech**

GST will eliminate multiple levies. It will also allow deeper penetration of digital services.

Duty on manufactured goods will increase from 14-15% to 18%, so electronic products would be expensive.

#### **FMCG**

Companies could stir substantial savings in logistics and distribution costs as requirement for countless sales depots will be eliminated. FMCG companies have to pay around 24-25% tax and GST would help in reduction of tax. Reduction of overall tax rates, is expected to generate saving.

#### **E-commerce**

GST will help create a single unified market across India and allow free movement and supply of goods in every part of the country. It will also eliminate the cascading effect of taxes on customers which will bring efficiency in product costs. It may increase the workload for e-commerce firms and push up costs.

#### **Telecom**

Handset prices likely to come down/even out across states. Manufacturers are further likely to come through with flying colours on to consumers charge benefits they will earn from consolidating their warehouses and efficiently managing inventory. For handset makers, GST will require ease of doing job as they take care of no longer require to strengthen state adamant entities and relinquish stocks to them and invest heavily into logistics of creating warehouses in each state across the country.

Call charges, data rates will go up if tax rate in the GST regime exceeds 15%. Tower firms won't be able to set off their input duty liabilities if petro-products continue to stay outside GST framework.

#### **Automobiles**

On road price of vehicles could drop by 8%. Lower price can be construed as indirect stimulus to boost the volume. The demand for commercial vehicles may increase. GST will help in reducing the time at check-posts, and will ease logistics hurdles. With fleet productivity increasing, operators may not feel the need to expand the midterm.

#### **Media**

Service tax and entertainment tax are levied on DTH, film producers and multiplex players. GST will captivate major critical point and dreariness in businesses. Taxes could go down by 2-4%.

Multiplex chains will amass on revenues as there will be in a superior way uniform load, unlike current high outlay of entertainment thorn in one side levied by different states. It may lower the average ticket price and increase the footfalls in multiplex. GST will be a carrying a lot of weight boon to silver screen producers and studios that currently conclude service tax on most of their charge, but cannot charge input credit on creative services as they fall under the negative list. Under GST, they will be able to claim

credit of these services also, which will help in lowering the overall cost.

#### **Insurance**

Insurance policies: life, health and motor will begin to cost more from April 2017 as taxes will increase.

#### **Airlines**

Airlines may become expensive, as service tax will be replaced by GST. Earlier service tax on air tickets were 5.6% on economy class and 8.4% on business class. Now rate of GST on economy class would be 5% and 12% on business class.

#### **Cement**

Currently tax rates on cement are 27% - 32% but GST will bring down the rate to 18-20%. It will help in reduction in logistics costs. India is second largest producer of cement in the world.

#### **Conclusion**

GST will be a very noteworthy step in the field of indirect tax reforms in India. Multiple taxes are eliminated and there is only a single tax. GST will make taxation easy for the industries. Customer will also be benefitted as the overall tax burden on goods and services are reduced. GST will also make Indian products competitive in the global markets. GST will be easier to administer. Once implemented, the proposed taxation system holds great promise in terms

of sustaining growth for the Indian economy.

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