

GST BULLETIN

Bhasin Sethi & Associates

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[GST council clears compensation bill](#)

The GST council cleared has finally cleared the compensation bill which would guarantee compensation to the states in case of revenue losses arising from a transition to GST.

However, the council did not give its final nod to the other three supporting legislations crucial for the implementation of this new indirect tax regime—the central GST (C-GST), the state GST (S-GST) and the integrated GST (I-GST) bills. These bills will now be taken up in the next

meeting of the GST council on 4-5 March in New Delhi.

“The legal vetting of these bills threw up these issues. The council has given its opinion on all these issues and these will now be incorporated into the laws. These will be brought to the GST council and hopefully the GST council will approve these laws in the 4-5 March meeting,” said finance minister Arun Jaitley.

COMMENT: while it is encouraging that GST council

has finally given its nod for the compensation. However .

[GST help desk for traders in shimla](#)

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The Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh, Virbhadra Singh today said that a help desk would be set up to facilitate traders to make them aware of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) and those businessmen who were under the fold of service tax would also come under the GST. The Chief Minister said that camps and workshops would be organized for the traders and business community separately for making them understand the intricacies of the GST.T.

Comment: This would be helpful traders and business men to make a smooth transition into new tax regime

[GST Council objects CAG demand for power to seek any information for audits](#)

As the Centre is trying to implement the GST by July 1st, the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India, currently Shashi Kant Sharma, could pose the biggest hurdle

In the report of the GST council on how the council discussed the ‘power of CAG’ to call for information for audit during its sixth meeting in December last year.

The CAG’s office wants the GST council to empower the auditor to call for ‘any information’ for auditing GST receipts. The constitutional functionary has contended that section 16 of CAG’s DPC (Duties, Powers & Conditions of Service) act mandates the auditor to conduct audits of receipts of governments, giving it no discretion in the matter.

COMMENT: It is highly unlikely that government

would give absolute power to CAG on audits. It may not be possible in future also.

Film and television industry seeks lower rate under GST

The film and Television producers guilds of has urged for GST rate of 5% for making the film industry.

Under GST, on the other hand, taxable goods and services would not be distinguished from one another and taxed at a single rate by a sole authority in a supply chain till they reach the consumer. The Guild believes 5% is an adequate benchmark.

Comment: This would be helpful for Film industry and television industry as the increase in budget for

Tally solutions open an online forum for CAs and Industry experts

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Tally Solutions Private Limited announced the launch of an online forum for Chartered accountants in the country. The portal will host threads of discussion on the fundamentals of GST, its implications on different stakeholders and opinions shared by eminent CAs in the form of articles and interviews. Tax practitioners and business people will be able to view and follow these and prepare themselves for the transition to GST. Tally partnering with associations like CAIT, ASSOCHAM, FAIDA, has been running GST awareness sessions across the country to help businesses prepare for the new tax regime. The company has also launched an exclusive blog on GST and a mobile app (Tally for GST) available on the Appstore & Playstore to drive this objective.

COMMENT: This is a great initiative by tally solutions. This would be a great learning experience for CAs and industry experts.

making a lucrative film would not be a problem.

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