

3rd National GST Conference held on 6th March, 2020

Press Release by GST Council Secretariat

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The 3rd National GST Conference of Commissioners of State Tax and Zonal Chief Commissioners of Central Tax was held on 6.3.2020 at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi under the chairmanship of Dr. Ajay Bhushan Pandey, Union Finance Secretary. Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Hon'ble Union Finance Minister also joined the Conference and intensively discussed the status of GST Portal to address grievances of taxpayers. This Conference deliberated various measures for streamlining the GST return filing process, enhancing revenue and focused compliance management as well as to create synergy among Central and State tax administrations.

A presentation was made in the Conference by Pr. DG, DGGI on tax evasion and enforcement measures followed by them and discussed some case studies. The States, namely Rajasthan, West Bengal, Odisha, Gujarat and Punjab made presentations on best practices followed by them in compliance management and revenue augmentation in their tax administration. They informed the participants about various modus operandi detected by them in the State and various measures taken by them to curb tax evasion. GST policy Wing, CBIC presented different measures in the pipeline for increased compliance management and for revenue augmentation as well as on Consumer Incentivization Scheme for promoting behavior of seeking invoices.

Infosys presented the status on business statistics, trend of filing return, preparedness of the system vis-à-vis the facilities required to be launched and measures taken to address GST Portal's capacity and to resolve difficulties being faced by taxpayers. It was stressed that ownership for delivery and satisfactory performance of GST Portal lies specifically upon the Infosys and they should meet to the expectation. The grievances of taxpayers are utmost priority and onus of its resolving lies on the Infosys. CEO, GSTN also presented system issues and initiatives by GSTN for further strengthening and streamlining GST.

As an outcome of in-depth deliberation, following measures were proposed for further examination:

- i. Immediate steps to curb passing on ITC by new taxpayers
- ii. Measures to check export valuation including capping of value for calculating export benefits/incentives
- iii. Standard Operating Procedure (SoP) for physical spot verification of risky taxpayers
- iv. Standard Operating Procedure (SoP) for blocking and unblocking of ITC

The Chief Commissioners of Central Tax Zones, Commissioners of State Taxes, Directors General of Revenue Intelligence, GST Intelligence, Analytics and Risk Management, Audit, System and Data Management, Taxpayer Services, NACIN, Chairman & Members of CBIC, Senior officers of the CBIC, Senior officers of Department of Revenue, team of GSTN, technical team of Infosys and officers from the GST Council Secretariat participated in the Conference.
