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Directorate General of Taxpayer Services

CENTRAL BOARD OF INDIRECT TAXES & CUSTOMS

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The GST Council in its recent meeting held on 22nd June,2024, has recommended a large number of measures for facilitation of trade such as:

- Insertion of Section 128 Ain CGST Act, to provide for conditional waiver of interest or penalty or both relating to demands raised under Section 73, for FY 2017-18 to FY 2019-20: Considering the difficulties faced by the taxpayers, during the initial years of implementation of GST, the GST Council has recommended, waiving interest and penalties for demand notices issued under Section 73 of the CGST Act for the fiscal years 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20, in cases where the taxpayer pays the full amount of tax demanded in the notice upto 31.03.2025. The waiver does not cover demand of erroneous refunds. To implement this, the GST Council has recommended insertion of Section 128A in CGST Act, 2017.
- Reduction of Government Litigation by fixing monetary limits for filing appeals under GST: The Council has recommended to prescribe monetary limits, subject to certain exclusions, for filing of appeals in GST by the department before GST Appellate Tribunal, High Court, and Supreme Court, to reduce government litigation
- Amendment in Section 107 and Section 112 of CGST Act for reducing the amount of predeposit required to be paid for filing of appeals under GST: The GST Council has recommended

reducing the amount of pre- deposit for filing of appeals under GST to ease cash flow and working capital blockage for the taxpayers

- Reduction in rate of TCS to be collected by the ECOs for supplies being made through them: Electronic Commerce Operators (ECOs) are required to collect Tax Collected at Source (TCS) on net taxable supplies under Section 52(1) of the CGST Act. The GST Council has recommended to reduce the TCS rate from present 1% (0.5% CGST + 0.5% SGST/ UTGST, or 1% IGST) to 0.5 % (0.25% CGST + 0.25% SGST/UTGST, or 0.5% IGST), to ease the financial burden on the suppliers making supplies through such ECOs.
- Change in due date for filing of return in FORM GSTR-4 for composition taxpayers from 30th April to 30th June: The GST Council has recommended an amendment in clause (ii) of sub-rule (1) of Rule 62 of CGST Rules, 2017 and FORM GSTR-4 to extend the due date for filing of return in FORM GSTR-4 for composition taxpayers from 30th April to 30th June following the end of the financial year. This will apply for returns for the financial year 2024-25 onwards. The same would give more time to the taxpayers who opt to pay tax under composition levy to furnish the said return.

- Relaxation in condition of section 16(4) of the CGST Act:
 - (a) In respect of initial years of implementation of GST, i.e. financial years 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21:

The GST Council has recommended that the time limit to avail input tax credit in respect of any invoice or debit note under Section 16(4) of CGST Act, through any return in FORM GSTR 3B filed upto 30.11.2021 for the financial years 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21, may be deemed to be 30.11.2021. For the same, requisite amendment in section 16(4) of CGST Act, retrospectively, w.e.f. 01.07.2017, has been recommended by the Council.

(b) with respect to cases where returns have been filed after revocation:

The GST Council has recommended retrospective amendment in Section 16(4) of CGST Act, to be made effective from July 1st, 2017, to conditionally relax the provisions of section 16(4) of CGST Act in cases where returns for the period from the date of cancellation of registration/ effective date of cancellation of registration till the date of revocation of cancellation of the registration, are filed by the registered person within thirty days of the order of revocation.

- Amendment of Rule 88B of CGST Rules, 2017 in respect of interest under Section 50 of CGST Act on delayed filing of returns, in cases where the credit is available in Electronic Cash Ledger (ECL) on the due date of filing the said return: The GST Council has recommended amendment in rule 88B of CGST Rules to provide that an amount, which is available in the Electronic Cash Ledger on the due date of filing of return in FORM GSTR-3B, and is debited while filing the said return, shall not be included while calculating interest under section 50 of the CGST Act in respect of delayed filing of the said return.
- The Council has recommended that filing of annual return in FORM GSTR-9/9A for the FY 2023-24 may be exempted for taxpayers having aggregate annual turnover upto two crore rupees.