

## Chapter 5: GST Council

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### 5.0 GST Council

As per Article 279A of the Constitution of India, the President of India is empowered to constitute Goods and Services Tax Council. The President of India constituted the GST Council on 15th September 2016.

The GST Council shall consist of Union Finance Minister as a Chairperson, Union Minister of State in charge of Finance as a member, the State Finance Minister or State Revenue Minister or any other Minister nominated by each State as a member of the Council. The GST Council shall select one of them as Vice Chairperson of Council.

### 5.1 Guiding principle of the GST Council

The mechanism of GST Council would ensure harmonization on different aspects of GST between the Centre and the States as well as among States. It has been provided in the Constitution (101st Amendment) Act, 2016 that the GST Council, in its discharge of various functions, shall be guided by the need for a harmonized structure of GST and for the development of a harmonized national market for goods and services.

### 5.2 Functions of the GST Council

GST Council is to make recommendations to the Central Government and the State Governments on—

- tax rates,
- exemptions,
- threshold limits,
- dispute resolution,
- GST legislations including rules and notifications etc.

