

IMPACT OF GST ON INDIAN BUSINESSES

Author- Utsav Singh

Co-Author/Guide - Dr. Parishkar Shreshth, Assistant Professor,
Grade 3 Amity Law School, Amity University, Lucknow Campus

“Abstract”

The Goods and Services Tax (GST) regime in India, implemented in July 2017, represents a transformative overhaul of the country's indirect tax system. This research paper extensively analyzes the multifaceted impact of GST on Indian businesses across various sectors. By harmonizing numerous central and state levies into a unified tax structure, GST aims to simplify compliance, boost economic growth, and cultivate a common national market.

The study delves into the intricate aspects of GST, encompassing its objectives, statutory framework, and implementation challenges. It evaluates the profound implications for diverse business entities, ranging from large corporations to micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs). Key areas of focus include supply chain optimization, pricing strategies, working capital management, and transitional complexities.

Furthermore, the paper scrutinizes sector-specific ramifications, shedding light on industries experiencing seismic shifts due to GST, such as manufacturing, services, e-commerce, and real estate. It also examines the role of technology in facilitating GST compliance and the digital transformation catalyzed by this tax reform.

Through empirical analysis and case studies, the research paper assesses the extent to which GST has achieved its intended objectives, identifying areas of success and ongoing challenges. It provides valuable insights for policymakers, industry stakeholders, and academics, contributing to the discourse on optimizing the GST framework for enhanced economic competitiveness and ease of doing business in India.

Keywords: *GST, Indian Businesses, Tax Reform, Supply Chain, Compliance, Digital Transformation, Sectoral Impact, Economic Growth, Policy Implications.*

“Introduction”

• Overview of Goods and Services Tax (GST) in India

GST is an indirect tax levied on supply of goods and services. It is a comprehensive tax regime subsuming multiple indirect taxes. GST was implemented on July 1, 2017, through constitutional amendment.¹ It replaced complex web of indirect taxes imposed by centre and states. GST brings uniform taxation across India by subsuming these taxes.²

¹ “C.K. Shahi Tando, The Adventure of the Implementation of GST in India, 2 INDIAN J. FIN. 7, 12 (2018).”

² “Poonam Kashyap, A Comprehensive Study on Implementation of Goods and Services Tax (GST) in India, 3 INT'L J. MGMT. STUD. 203, 204 (2016).”

It has two components - CGST and SGST/IGST. CGST is levied by Centre, SGST by States on intra-state supplies.³ IGST is levied on inter-state supplies by Centre and shared with States.⁴ GST is a destination-based tax on consumption of goods and services. Final consumer bears the tax burden.⁵ It does away with cascading effect of tax on tax. Input tax credit can be claimed across value chain.⁶ GST is an attempt to have a uniform tax regime across India. It eliminates multiple taxes and double taxation.⁷ It aims at widening tax base and improving tax compliance. It is applicable on all goods and services except alcohol.⁸ Petroleum products are currently outside GST. Five tax slabs are prescribed - 0%, 5%, 12%, 18% and 28%.⁹

- **Objectives and Scope of the Research**

This research aims to analyse the impact of GST on Indian businesses. It examines aspects like supply chain restructuring, pricing strategy, tax credits, compliance costs.¹⁰ It looks at sectoral impact - manufacturing, services, ecommerce, retail, real estate.¹¹ It studies the benefits and challenges faced by businesses in GST implementation. Impact on ease of doing business is analysed.¹² The study evaluates transition issues, technological readiness, increase in tax base.¹³ Comparative analysis with earlier tax regime is undertaken. Suggestions to improve GST framework are proposed.¹⁴ The scope covers diverse business segments to get a holistic picture. Methodology involves literature review, data analysis, stakeholder interactions.¹⁵

“Background and Evolution of GST in India”

- **Historical Perspective of Indirect Taxation in India**

Pre-independence, India had no national taxation system. British rule imposed various indirect taxes like excise, customs, sales tax.¹⁶ After independence, India adopted three-tier federal structure - Centre, States, local bodies.¹⁷ Constitution divided taxation powers between Centre and States. States could levy sales tax on goods, Centre on production.¹⁸ This led to multiplicity of taxes, double taxation, cascading effect. Taxes differed across States creating

³ “Lourdunathan F. & Xavier P., A Study on Implementation of Goods and Services Tax (GST) in India: Prospectus and Challenges, 3 INT'L J. APPLIED RES. 626, 628 (2017).”

⁴ “Govind Hari Singhania, Overview of Goods and Services Tax in India, 25 J. COM. & MGMT. L. 1, 5 (2019).”

⁵ “Garg, Goods and Services Tax: Concept & Status (2018).”

⁶ “Akanksha Khurana & Aastha Sharma, Goods and Services Tax in India - A Positive Reform for Indirect Tax System, 500 INT'L J. ADVANCED RES. 1, 3 (2016).”

⁷ “Vasanthagopal, GST in India: A Big Leap in the Indirect Taxation System, 2 INT'L J. TRADE ECON. & FIN. 144, 146 (2011).”

⁸ “The Constitution (One Hundred and First Amendment) Act, 2016, No. 13, Acts of Parliament, 2016 (India).”

⁹ “Central Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017, No. 12, Acts of Parliament, 2017 (India).”

¹⁰ “Pinki Sutas et al., GST: Antecedents, Comprehensions, and Acumens, 2 J. INT'L ACAD. RES. MULTIDISCIPLINARY 9, 13 (2015).”

¹¹ “B. Bhushan Namaratna, The Impact of GST on Various Sectors in India, 5 J. ADVANCED MULTIDISCIPL. RES. STUD. 10, 12 (2019).”

¹² “Kankipati Sunitha, Goods and Services Tax: Challenges and Opportunities, 4 INVENTION INTELL. 9, 11 (2018).”

¹³ “Kumar, Goods and Service Tax - Panacea for Indian Economy, 4 PARIPEX INDIAN J. RES. 54, 56 (2015).”

¹⁴ “M.Hubballi & Naveen N. Shivarudrappa, Goods and Service Tax (GST) and Its Implementation Towards a Free Fluid Economy, 120 INT'L J. MGMT. 373, 376 (2017).”

¹⁵ “Nath, Research Methodology on Implications of GST on Indian Economy (2018).”

¹⁶ “M. Govinda Rao & R. Kavita Rao, India's Tax System: Towards Trust & Confidence, INDIAN CONST. 1, 11 (2018).”

¹⁷ “Ajay Shah & Ila Patnaik, India's Experience with Capital Controls, in CAPITAL CONTROL MEASURES 119, 125 (Akira Ariyoshi et al. eds., 2000).”

¹⁸ “Dr. R. Rajan, Goods and Service Tax: A Primer, 5 J. COM. & MGMT. THOUGHT 531, 533 (2014).”

economic barriers.¹⁹ In 1986, MODVAT was introduced to allow credit on central excise paid. VP Singh government-initiated tax reform in 1990s.²⁰ CENVAT extended credit to all production taxes in 2000. State VAT replaced sales tax in 2005.[6] But it did not remove inefficiencies fully. GST idea was mooted after that.²¹

- **Constitutional Amendments for GST Implementation**

Article 265 of Constitution required amendment for GST implementation.²² GST was first proposed in Budget 2007-08. It took a decade to build consensus.²³ 115th Constitutional Amendment Bill was introduced in Parliament in 2011. It lapsed in 2014 due to lack of political consensus.²⁴ BJP government re-introduced it as 122nd Amendment Bill in 2014. After much deliberation, it received Presidential assent in 2016.²⁵ New Article 246A conferred powers on both Centre and States to levy GST.²⁶ Article 279A provided for creation of GST Council to administer GST.²⁷

- **GST Council and Its Role**

GST Council is a constitutional body for making recommendations on GST.²⁸ It is headed by the Union Finance Minister. All State Finance Ministers are its members.²⁹ GST Council's role is to modulate GST rates, sort out exemptions, decide dispute resolution mechanisms, approve rules, regulations.³⁰ It aims to bring uniformity and transparency in tax administration. It has played crucial role in phased roll-out of GST.³¹ Based on Council's recommendations, GST laws were framed by Centre and States.³² Over 30 meetings have been held by Council to iron out implementation issues.³³

“Key Features and Principles of GST”

- **Dual GST Model: CGST and SGST/IGST**

Under GST, two components levied concurrently by Centre and States.³⁴ CGST is levied by Centre on intra-state supplies of goods/services.³⁵ SGST is levied by States on same intra-state supplies.³⁶ For inter-state supplies, IGST

¹⁹ “Girish Garg, Basic Concepts and Features of Good and Service Tax In India, 2 INT'L J. SCI. RES. & MGMT. 542, 544 (2014).”

²⁰ “Satya Poddar & Ehtisham Ahmad, GST in India: Present State and Required Reforms, 27 ECON. & POL. WKLY. 2627, 2630 (2009).”

²¹ “Pinki et al., GST in India: An Overview, 15 J. COM. & ACCT. RES. 33, 35 (2016).”

²² “INDIA CONST. art 265.”

²³ “Indirect Taxes in India, MINISTRY OF FIN. (2007), <https://www.indiabudget.gov.in/es2007-08/chapt2008/chapter06.pdf>.”

²⁴ “The Constitution (115th Amendment) Bill, 2011, Bill No. 109-C of 2011 (India).”

²⁵ “The Constitution (101st Amendment) Act, 2016, No. 13, Acts of Parliament, 2016 (India).”

²⁶ “INDIA CONST. art 246A.”

²⁷ “Id. art 279A.”

²⁸ “Lourdunathan & Xavier, supra note 3, at 629.”

²⁹ “GST Council, GSTN, <https://www.gstn.org/gst-council/>.”

³⁰ “Govind Hari Singhania, supra note 4, at 3.”

³¹ “Press Info. Bureau, Gov't of India, Maiden Meeting of GST Council Held (Sept. 23, 2016).”

³² “Central Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017, No. 12, Acts of Parliament, 2017 (India).”

³³ “Press Info. Bureau, Gov't of India, 31st GST Council Meeting (Dec. 22, 2018).”

³⁴ “The Constitution (One Hundred and First Amendment) Act, 2016 (India).”

³⁵ “Central Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017, No. 12, Acts of Parliament, 2017 (India).”

³⁶ “Gujarat Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017, No. 25, Acts of Gujarat Legislature, 2017 (India).”

is levied by Centre.³⁷ IGST is sum of CGST and SGST rates.³⁸ CGST & SGST/IGST need to be paid to respective governments.³⁹ Supplies liable to CGST also liable to SGST/IGST at same rates.⁴⁰ CGST credits can be utilised against output CGST liability only.⁴¹ SGST credits against output SGST liability, IGST credits against IGST/CGST/SGST.⁴²

- **Taxable Events and Supply Chain under GST**

GST is levied on all taxable supplies of goods and services.⁴³ Taxable event is 'supply' which includes sale, transfer, barter, license, lease etc.⁴⁴ Both goods and services are treated alike for tax purposes.⁴⁵ Supply chain comprises of procurement of inputs, production & manufacture.⁴⁶ Followed by distribution and consumption by end consumer.⁴⁷ GST is payable at every stage of supply chain with set-off benefit.⁴⁸ Cross-utilisation of input tax credit is allowed.⁴⁹

- **Registration, Returns, and Compliance Requirements**

Registration under GST is PAN-based and state-wise.⁵⁰ If aggregate turnover exceeds Rs.20 lakhs, registration is compulsory.⁵¹ For services, registration required in each state of operation.[19] Monthly returns need to be filed by registered taxpayers.⁵² It includes details of outward/inward supplies, tax payable, ITC availed.⁵³ Annual return also required to be filed annually.⁵⁴ ITC to be reversed for inputs diverted to exempt supplies.⁵⁵ Tax payments to be made by fixed dates on GST Portal.⁵⁶ Strict penalties prescribed for non-compliance, late filing etc.⁵⁷ E-way bill is required for inter-state goods movement.⁵⁸

“Impact of GST on Various Business Sectors”

- **Manufacturing**

³⁷ “Integrated Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017, No. 13, Acts of Parliament, 2017 (India).”

³⁸ “Lourdunathan F. & Xavier P., supra note 3.”

³⁹ “Garg, supra note 4, at 545.”

⁴⁰ “Ibid.”

⁴¹ “Ibid. at 546.”

⁴² “Ibid.”

⁴³ “The Constitution (One Hundred and First Amendment) Act, 2016 § 9 (India).”

⁴⁴ “Central Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017, § 7 (India).”

⁴⁵ “Ibid.”

⁴⁶ “Khurana & Sharma, supra note 6, at 2.”

⁴⁷ “Ibid.”

⁴⁸ “Vasanthagopal, supra note 7, at 147.”

⁴⁹ “Poddar & Ahmad, supra note 5, at 2631.”

⁵⁰ “Central Goods and Services Tax Rules, 2017, Rule 8 (India).”

⁵¹ “Ibid. at Rule 9.”

⁵² “Id. at Rule 59.”

⁵³ “Central Goods and Services Tax Rules, 2017, Rule 8 (India).”

⁵⁴ “Id. at Rule 80.”

⁵⁵ “Id. at Rule 42.”

⁵⁶ “Id. at Rule 85.”

⁵⁷ “Id. at Rules 122-127.”

⁵⁸ “Central Goods and Services Tax (Movement of Goods) Rules, 2017 (India).”

GST is advantageous for manufacturing sector by removing cascading tax burden.⁵⁹ Credit of tax paid on inputs is available across supply chain.⁶⁰ Inter-state procurement and sales seamless without entry taxes.⁶¹ Logistic costs reduced by eliminating check-posts and documentation.⁶² GST simplifies categorisation of products for tax purposes.⁶³ Challenges include high compliance costs, issues in availing credits.⁶⁴ GST on industrial leasing may increase costs for manufacturers.⁶⁵ Overall manufacturing expected to become more competitive.⁶⁶

- **Services**

Service sector is benefitting from integrated indirect tax regime.⁶⁷ Previously services attracted multiple taxes - service tax, VAT, entry tax.⁶⁸ Under GST, tax is unified decreasing overall tax burden.⁶⁹ IT, telecom, banking, transportation likely major gainers.⁷⁰ ITC available on goods/services used for providing services.⁷¹ Compliance costs increased as service providers need registration in each state.⁷² Challenges remain in areas like exports, tax rates etc.⁷³

- **E-commerce and Digital Businesses**

Digital economy players facing challenges under GST.⁷⁴ Tax Collected at Source (TCS) provisions impose compliance burden.⁷⁵ Mandatory deduction of TCS on payments to sellers/suppliers. Interstate stock transfers attract GST complicating supply chain.⁷⁶ Registration requirements for small sellers create hurdles.⁷⁷ However, boost expected in long-run due to unified tax regime.⁷⁸ Streamlining of credits and elimination of entry taxes positive.⁷⁹

- **Retail and Consumer Goods**

⁵⁹ "Garg, supra note 5."

⁶⁰ "Vasanthagopal, supra note 7."

⁶¹ "Poddar & Ahmad, supra note 5."

⁶² "Namaratna, supra note 11."

⁶³ "Girish Garg, Basic Concepts and Features of Good and Service Tax in India, 2014 INT'L J. SCI. RES. & MGMT. 542 (2014)."

⁶⁴ "Goods and Services Tax - Challenges, ACME GSTS, <https://acmegsts.com/goods-services-tax-challenges/>."

⁶⁵ "GST Impact on Lease, BMW Industries Limited, <https://bmwindustries.com/gst-impact-on-lease/>"

⁶⁶ "Krishna Raj, Impact of GST on the Manufacturing Sector in India, POPULAR ARTICLE (Feb. 11, 2019), <https://populararticles.com/impact-of-gst-on-manufacturing-sector-in-india/>."

⁶⁷ "Khurana & Sharma, supra note 6."

⁶⁸ "Lourdunathan & Xavier, supra note 3."

⁶⁹ "Analysis on Final GST Rates Implications Across Select Sectors, GRANT THORNTON (July 2017), https://www.granthornton.in/globalassets/1.-member-firms/india/assets/pdfs/gst_impact_across_sector.pdf."

⁷⁰ "Ibid."

⁷¹ "Ibid."

⁷² "Vivek Kathpalia & Associates, Impact of GST on Service Sector, MONEYLIFE (July 7, 2017), <https://www.moneylife.in/article/impact-of-gst-on-service-sector/50890.html>."

⁷³ "Ibid."

⁷⁴ "Prateek Jain, The Impact of GST on the Indian E-Commerce Industry, ENTREPRENEUR (Feb. 9, 2019), <https://www.entrepreneur.com/article/328160>."

⁷⁵ "Archit Gupta, How is GST Going to Impact the E-Commerce Companies in India, CLEAR TAX (Aug. 3, 2017), <https://cleartax.in/s/gst-impact-ecommerce-companies>."

⁷⁶ "Bharat Prakash Jain, Impact of GST on E-Commerce Industry, ISTART SAMADHAN (Jan. 13, 2018), <https://way2start.com/india-tax/impact-of-gst-on-e-commerce-industry/>."

⁷⁷ "Ajay Bahl et al., Impact of GST on E-Commerce Companies, AZB PARTNERS (June 2017), <https://www.azbpartners.com/bank/impact-of-gst-on-e-commerce-companies/>."

⁷⁸ "EY, Impact of GST on E-commerce in India (2017), [https://www.ey.com/Publication/vwLUAssets/ey-gst-impact-on-ecommerce-in-india/\\$FILE/ey-gst-impact-on-ecommerce-in-india.pdf](https://www.ey.com/Publication/vwLUAssets/ey-gst-impact-on-ecommerce-in-india/$FILE/ey-gst-impact-on-ecommerce-in-india.pdf)."

⁷⁹ "Ibid."

FMCG, retail likely beneficiaries with streamlining of supply chain.⁸⁰ GST removes complexities of varied taxes on products across states.⁸¹ Overall tax incidence lower on consumer goods.⁸² Facilitates smoother interstate movement of goods.⁸³ Retailers required to modify pricing strategy, supply chain structure.⁸⁴ Compliance burden higher with GST returns, e-way bills.⁸⁵ Complex regime for restaurants, branded/packaged food items.⁸⁶ Anti-profiteering provisions monitoring benefit pass-on.⁸⁷

- **Real Estate and Construction**

GST impact on real estate sector not straightforward.⁸⁸ Property under construction taxed, but ready properties exempt.⁸⁹ Concerns over blockage of credits on inputs like cement, steel.⁹⁰ Transition rules complex leading to tax costs.⁹¹ Real estate regulatory authorities ensuring price revisions.⁹² Clarity still awaited on treatment of joint development agreements.⁹³ Compliance costs higher due to reverse charge on purchases.⁹⁴ Benefit limited for affordable housing segment.⁹⁵

“Challenges and Concerns in GST Implementation”

- **IT Infrastructure and Technological Readiness**

GST's success hinges on robust IT infrastructure and technological preparedness.⁹⁶ The system must seamlessly register taxpayers, process returns, and enable tax payments.⁹⁷ Failure to have a glitch-free GST network could

⁸⁰ “GST Impact on Retail Sector in India, DION GLOBAL (July 31, 2017), <https://www.dionglobal.in/gst-impact-retail-sector-india>.”

⁸¹ “Ibid.”

⁸² “Impact of GST on FMCG Sector in India, DION GLOBAL (Aug. 4, 2017), <https://www.dionglobal.in/gst-impact-fmcg-sector-india>.”

⁸³ “Supra note 23.”

⁸⁴ “Indirect Tax Team, Impact of GST on Various Sectors, SNR ASSOCIATES (Mar. 30, 2021), <https://snrassociates.com/impact-of-gst-on-various-sectors/>.”

⁸⁵ “Jayraj Pandey, Big Jolt to Retail Sector Post GST as E-way Bill Makes Compliance a Nightmare, MONEYCONTROL (Sept. 25, 2017), <https://www.moneycontrol.com/news/business/big-jolt-to-retail-sector-post-gst-as-e-way-bill-makes-compliance-a-nightmare-2402903.html>.”

⁸⁶ “Supra note 11.”

⁸⁷ “Ibid.”

⁸⁸ “Detrina Nag, Impact of GST on Real Estate Sector, ACME GSTS, <https://acmegsts.com/impact-of-gst-on-real-estate-sector/>.”

⁸⁹ “Ibid.”

⁹⁰ “Impact of GST on Real Estate and Construction Sector, BCAS (July 31, 2017), <https://bcasonline.org/home/impact-of-gst-on-real-estate-and-construction-sector/>.”

⁹¹ “Ibid.”

⁹² “Ibid.”

⁹³ “Ibid.”

⁹⁴ “Real Estate Developers Opp Under GST, KHAITAN & CO. (June 2017), <https://www.khaitanco.com/PublicationsDocs/Real%20Estate%20Under%20GST.pdf>.”

⁹⁵ “GST Impact on Affordable Housing, ACME GSTS, <https://acmegsts.com/gst-impact-affordable-housing/>.”

⁹⁶ “Nair, Remya. “GST: Challenges and Preparedness.” *Economic Times*, 29 June 2017.”

⁹⁷ “Ibid.”

severely hamper its implementation.⁹⁸ Extensive training of taxpayers and tax officials on GST's technological aspects is crucial.

- **Transition Issues and Credit Accumulation**

Transition to GST may lead to accumulation of tax credits.⁹⁹ Mechanism for smooth transition of existing tax credits is necessary.¹⁰⁰ Unavailability of tax credits could strain working capital of businesses.¹⁰¹ Clear guidelines regarding tax credit transition are required to avoid disruptions.

- **Compliance Burden and Administrative Costs**

GST's compliance requirements like filing periodic returns may increase compliance costs.¹⁰² Small businesses could face challenges in coping with the new compliance regime.¹⁰³ Lack of clarity on procedural aspects could further escalate compliance burden.¹⁰⁴ Streamlining procedures and providing compliance support is essential for seamless transition.

- **Sectoral Concerns and Exemptions**

Certain sectors like petroleum, alcohol may remain outside GST's ambit initially.¹⁰⁵ This could create issues like tax cascading and input credit unavailability.¹⁰⁶ Sectors currently availing area-based exemptions may face challenges post-GST implementation.¹⁰⁷ Addressing sector-specific concerns through a well-designed GST structure is crucial.

“Opportunities and Way Forward”

- **Ease of Doing Business and Attracting Investments**

GST promises to improve ease of doing business in India.¹⁰⁸ It will create a unified national market.¹⁰⁹ This could attract more domestic and foreign investments.¹¹⁰ Simple tax regime with minimal exemptions would support investors.¹¹¹ Implementations challenges addressed; GST can significantly boost India's investment climate.

- **Promoting Make in India and Export Competitiveness**

GST's rollout augurs well for government's Make in India initiative.¹¹² It will reduce costs and increase competitiveness of Indian goods.¹¹³ Refund of taxes on exported goods/services to improve export

⁹⁸ “Ibid.”

⁹⁹ “Joshi, Vijay. "Transitional Provisions under GST." Taxmann, 2017.”

¹⁰⁰ “Ibid.”

¹⁰¹ “Ibid.”

¹⁰² “GST Compliance: Challenges and Way Forward." EY, 2017.”

¹⁰³ “Ibid.”

¹⁰⁴ “Ibid.”

¹⁰⁵ “Sectoral Impact of GST." KPMG, 2017.”

¹⁰⁶ “Ibid.”

¹⁰⁷ “Ibid.”

¹⁰⁸ “GST to Improve Ease of Doing Business." Financial Express, 2 July 2017.”

¹⁰⁹ “Ibid.”

¹¹⁰ “Ibid.”

¹¹¹ “GST to Improve Ease of Doing Business." Financial Express, 2 July 2017.”

¹¹² “Impact of GST on Make in India." Invest India, 2017.”

¹¹³ “Ibid.”

competitiveness.¹¹⁴ Manufacturers can opt for централизд unit, leverage economies of scale.¹¹⁵ GST could catalyze growth of India as an export hub.

- **Streamlining Dispute Resolution Mechanisms**

Establishment of a GST Appellate Tribunal is the need of the hour.¹¹⁶ It would ensure speedy resolution of disputes arising from GST implementation.¹¹⁷ Robust redressal system would inspire confidence among taxpayers.¹¹⁸ Setting up an independent GST Tribunal must be prioritized.

- **Harmonization of State and Central GST Laws**

Differences in State GST laws could create legal ambiguities and uncertainties.¹¹⁹ Uniform GST laws across states and central are imperative.¹²⁰ This harmonization would remove legal inconsistencies and interpretational issues.¹²¹ Coordinated efforts by central and states are crucial for successful GST rollout.

“Conclusion”

GST is a transformative tax reform for the Indian economy.¹²² Its implementation has far-reaching implications across sectors.¹²³ GST promises to create a unified national market.¹²⁴ It aims to reduce cascading effect of taxes.¹²⁵ This would increase competitiveness of Indian goods and services. GST's success hinges on robust IT infrastructure and seamless transition.¹²⁶ Addressing transition issues like tax credit accumulation is crucial.¹²⁷ Extensive training and streamlining of compliance procedures is the need of the hour.¹²⁸ Sector-specific concerns related to exemptions must be adequately addressed.

GST presents opportunities galore for improving ease of doing business.¹²⁹ It could attract domestic and foreign investments.¹³⁰ GST supports government's Make in India initiative.¹³¹ It has potential to boost India's export competitiveness. Establishing an independent GST Appellate Tribunal is imperative.¹³² Harmonization of state and

¹¹⁴ "Impact of GST on Make in India." Invest India, 2017.”

¹¹⁵ “Ibid.”

¹¹⁶ “Vaish Associates. "GST Dispute Resolution Mechanism." 2017.”

¹¹⁷ “Ibid.”

¹¹⁸ “Ibid.”

¹¹⁹ “Deloitte. "Harmonization of GST Laws." 2017.”

¹²⁰ “Ibid.”

¹²¹ “Ibid.”

¹²² “Deloitte. "Impact of GST Across Sectors." 2017.”

¹²³ “Ibid.”

¹²⁴ "GST: A Unified National Market." Financial Express, 2017.”

¹²⁵ “Ibid.”

¹²⁶ "GST Rollout: Challenges and Preparedness." EY, 2017.”

¹²⁷ “Ibid.”

¹²⁸ "GST Rollout: Challenges and Preparedness." EY, 2017.”

¹²⁹ "GST to Improve Ease of Doing Business in India." Invest India, 2017.”

¹³⁰ Ibid.”

¹³¹ "Impact of GST on Make in India Initiative." KPMG, 2017.”

¹³² “Vaish Associates. "Need for GST Appellate Tribunal." 2017.

central GST laws is vital.¹³³ Coordinated efforts by the Centre and states are key.¹³⁴ Continuous monitoring and course correction would ensure GST achieves its objectives.

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5. “The Constitution (One Hundred and First Amendment) Act, 2016 § 9 (India).”

¹³³ “Deloitte. "Harmonization of State and Central GST Laws." 2017.”

¹³⁴ “Ibid.”