

**Hon'ble Minister of Finance, Electricity and Human Resources Management
Thiru. Thangam Thennarasu attended the 50th Goods and Services Tax
(GST) Council meeting held in New Delhi and emphasized the views of
Tamil Nadu Government.**

In the 50th Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council meeting held today (11.7.2023) at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi under the chairmanship of the Hon'ble Union Finance Minister Tmt. Nirmala Sitharaman, on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu, the Hon'ble Minister of Finance, Electricity and Human Resources Management Thiru. Thangam Thennarasu participated.

In this meeting, on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu, the Hon'ble Minister of Finance, Electricity and Human Resources Management Thiru. Thangam Thennarasu insisted that The Government of Tamil Nadu has enacted an Act to Prohibit Online Gambling and Regulate Online Games and therefore the recommendations for taxation of online games under the Goods and Services Tax Act should be in accordance with the Tamil Nadu Prohibition of Online Gambling and Regulation of Online Games Act.

And, He further states that The Union Government issued a notification on 7 July 2023 to include goods and services online under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002. This is against the interest of traders and against the basic objective of decriminalizing violations under the Goods and Services Tax Act. Therefore, The Tamil Nadu government is opposed to this considering that it will affect traders across the country, especially small traders.

Further, local bodies and Union/State Governments are currently exempt under the Goods and Services Tax Act when they receive services related to the activities of Panchayat and Municipal bodies and joint supply services not exceeding 25 percent of goods in the 11th and 12th Schedules of the Constitution. The Tamil Nadu government continues to oppose the proposed amendment to define certain tax-exempt species as it will create an additional financial burden on the local bodies and the state government. Therefore, the Honorable Minister urged them to abandon it completely.

He also mentioned in the meeting that the Government of Tamil Nadu has been insisting that the State Level Selection Committee should be empowered to

select the judicial and technical members to be appointed to the State Benches of the Appellate Tribunal to be constituted under the Goods and Services Tax Act.

Following this, Hon'ble Minister of Finance, Electricity and Human Resources Management Thiru. Thangam Thennarasu mentioned that the Government of Tamil Nadu expressed its support for the proposed tax exemption to reduce the additional cost of Integrated Goods and Services Tax (GST) payable on import of expensive cancer drugs for personal use. The Government of Tamil Nadu expresses its support for the proposed exemption of Integrated Goods and Services Tax payable on import of drugs and food for personal use for the treatment of certain rare diseases.

In this meeting, the Principal Secretary of Finance, Thiru. T. Udayachandran, IAS., and Commissioner of Commercial Tax Department Thiru. Dheerajkumar, IAS., participated on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu.

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