INDIRECT TAX NEWSFLASH



The Ministry of Finance, Government of India, has issued several circulars clarifying the applicability of GST on various services and related matters.

• Key Highlights from Circular No. 234/28/2024-GST dated 11.10.2024:

| S.N o. | Service/Issue | GST Applicability | Exemption / Regularization |
|-----------|---|--|---|
| 1 | Affiliation services (Universities to Colleges) | 18% GST on affiliation services | No exemption |
| 2 | Affiliation services (Boards/Councils to Schools) | 18% GST on affiliation services | Exemption for government schools from 10.10.2024. Past liabilities from 01.07.2017 to 17.06.2021 regularized |
| 3 | DGCA-approved flying training courses | Exempt under certain conditions (curriculum approved by DGCA and issuance of completion certificate) | Exemption under SI. No. 66 of Notification No. 12/2017 |



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| 4 | Passenger transportation by helicopter (seat-share basis) | 5% GST on seat-share basis transportation | Regularized from 01.07.2017 to 09.10.2024 |
|---|--|--|---|
| 5 | Passenger transportation by helicopter (charter operations) | 18% GST on charter operations | No exemption |
| 6 | Ancillary services (Goods Transport) | Treated as composite supply with primary service (no additional GST if part of transportation) | No exemption for separately invoiced services |
| 7 | Import of services (Foreign airlines) | Exempt when services are from a related person or establishment outside India and made without consideration | Exemption from 10.10.2024; Past liabilities from 01.07.2017 to 09.10.2024 regularized |
| 8 | Preferential Location Charges (PLC) | PLC charged with construction services is treated as part of composite supply, attracting the same rate as construction | No exemption |



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| 9 | Ancillary services (Electricity supply) | Exempt services related to electricity distribution (e.g., meter rent, testing, connection release, etc.) | Exemption from 10.10.2024; Past liabilities from 01.07.2017 to 09.10.2024 regularized |
|----|--|--|---|
| 10 | Film distribution services | 18% GST on transaction between distributors and exhibitors (granting theatrical rights) | Regularized from 01.07.2017 to 30.09.2021 |

Source: GST Circular

• Key Highlights from Circular No.235/29/2024-GST dated 11.10.2024:

| Sr. No. | Service/Issue | GST Classification | GST Applicability/Rate | Remarks |
|------------|---|---|------------------------------|---|
| 1 | Extruded/Expa nded Savory Food Products | HS 19059030 (extruded/expande d savory or salted products) | 12% GST w.e.f. 10.10.2024 | 18% GST prior to 10.10.2024 |
| | | HS 210690 (Namkeens, Bhujia, mixtures, etc.) | 12% GST | No change in GST rate for pre-packaged and labeled ready-to-eat products |
| | | Un-fried/Un-cooked snack pellets (by extrusion) | 5% GST | No change in rate for these products |



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| 2 | Roof Mounted Package Unit (RMPU) Air Conditioning Machines for Railways | HS 8415 (Air conditioning machines) | 28% GST | Not classified under HS 8607 (parts of railways) |
|---|--|--|---|---|
| 3 | Seats for Cars and Motorcycles | HS 9401 (Seats for four-wheeled vehicles) | 28% GST w.e.f. 10.10.2024 for parity with two- wheeler seats | 18% GST prior to 10.10.2024 |
| | | HS 8714 (Seats for motorcycles and two-wheelers) | 28% GST | No change in GST rate for motorcycle seats |

Source: GST Circular

- CBIC has issued Circular No.236/30/2024-GST dated 11.10.2024 clarifying the scope of "as is / as is, where is basis" mentioned in the GST Circulars issued on the basis of recommendation of the GST Council in its meetings as under:
- The term "as is where is" means accepting the condition of a property or situation as it currently stands. Under this principle, lower rates or exemptions where applicable, claimed by taxpayers will be treated as full discharge of tax liability. No refunds for higher payments.
- 2. Suppliers who paid a higher GST ratewill not be eligible for refunds even if others paid a lower or nil rate due to exemptions.
- 3. However, if no tax was paid where applicable, the higher rate will be recovered.

Source: GST Circular



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