



Newsletter

February 2026 – Volume 102

GST



**THE INSTITUTE OF
Company Secretaries of India**

भारतीय कम्पनी सचिव संस्थान

IN PURSUIT OF PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Statutory body under an Act of Parliament

(Under the jurisdiction of Ministry of Corporate Affairs)



C O N T E N T S

GST Collection Updates	1
Trends in GST Collection and E-way Bills Generated	2
GST Portal Updates	3
Compliance Calendar	5
GST in News	6
GST Quiz	7



Disclaimer: Although due care has been taken in preparation of this Newsletter, the Institute shall not be responsible for any loss or damage, resulting from any action taken on the basis of the contents of this Newsletter. Anyone wishing to act on the basis of the material contained herein should do so after cross checking with the original source.

GST COLLECTION UPDATES

**₹1,93,384 crore gross GST revenue collected during January 2026;
records Year on Year growth of 8.3%**

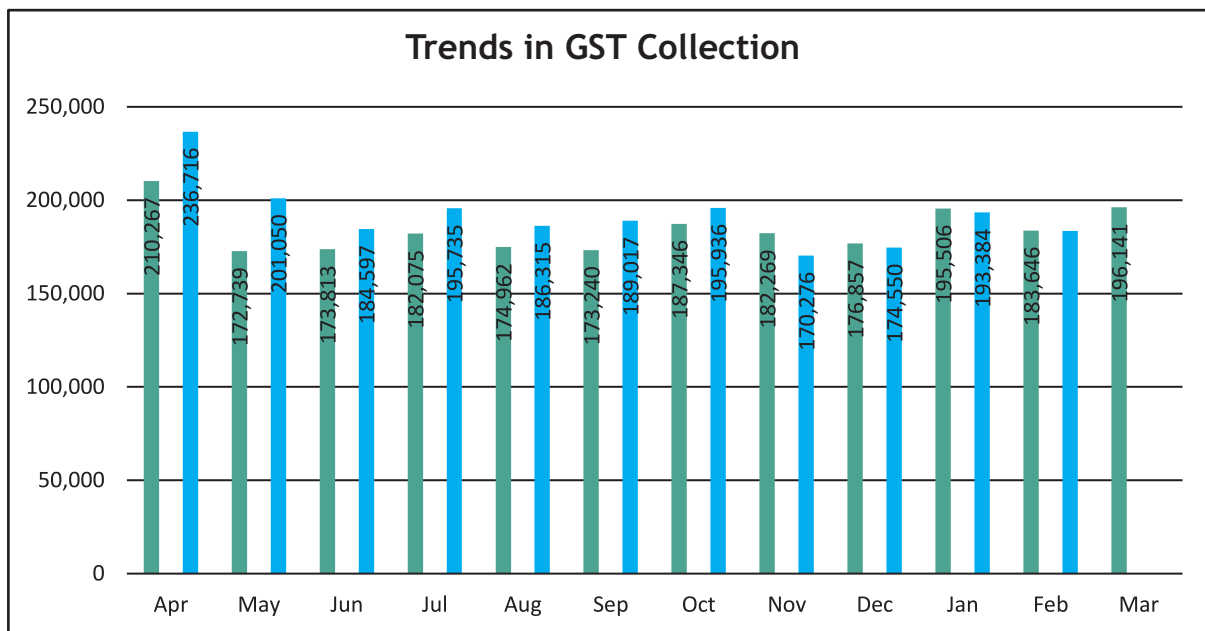
Net revenue at ₹1.71 lakh crore is up by 7.6% for the month and up by 6.8% for the year

Gross Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenue collected for January 2026 is ₹1,93,384 crore, a 6.2% increase compared to that in the same month in 2025. This growth was driven by a 4.8% rise in GST from domestic transactions. GST revenue net of refunds for January 2026 is ₹1.71 lakh crore which is a growth of 6.8% over that for the same period last year.

Breakdown of January 2026 Collections:

- ❖ Central Goods and Services Tax (CGST): ₹38,792 crore
- ❖ State Goods and Services Tax (SGST): ₹47,817 crore
- ❖ Integrated Goods and Services Tax (IGST): ₹1,06,775 crore, including ₹52,253 crore collected on imported goods
- ❖ Cess: ₹5,848 crore, including ₹92 crore collected on imported goods

The chart below shows trends in monthly gross GST revenues during the current financial year.

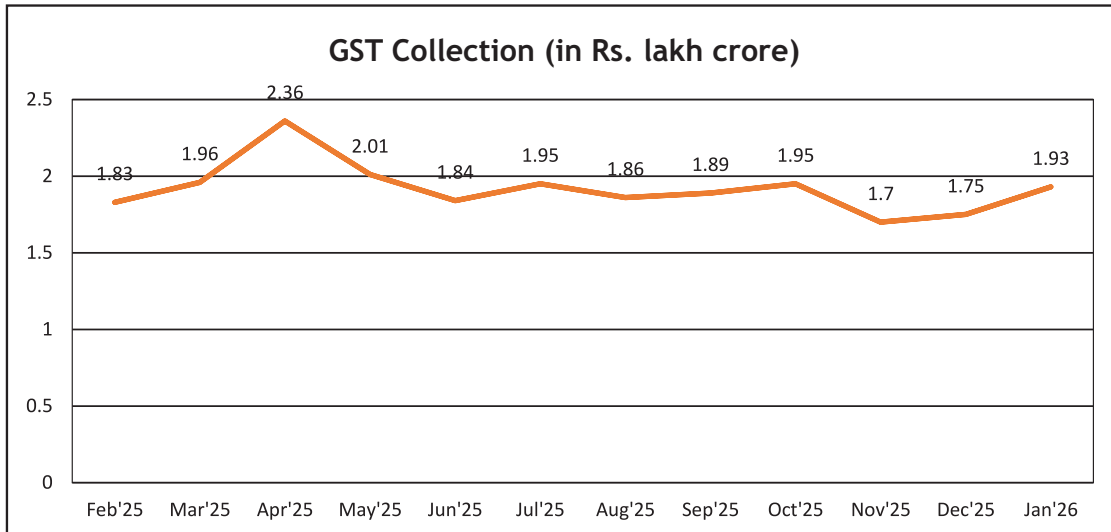


Comparison for FY 2024-25 & FY 2025-26

Source: https://tutorial.gst.gov.in/downloads/news/final_approved_monthly_gst_data_for_publishing_jan_2026_01022026.pdf

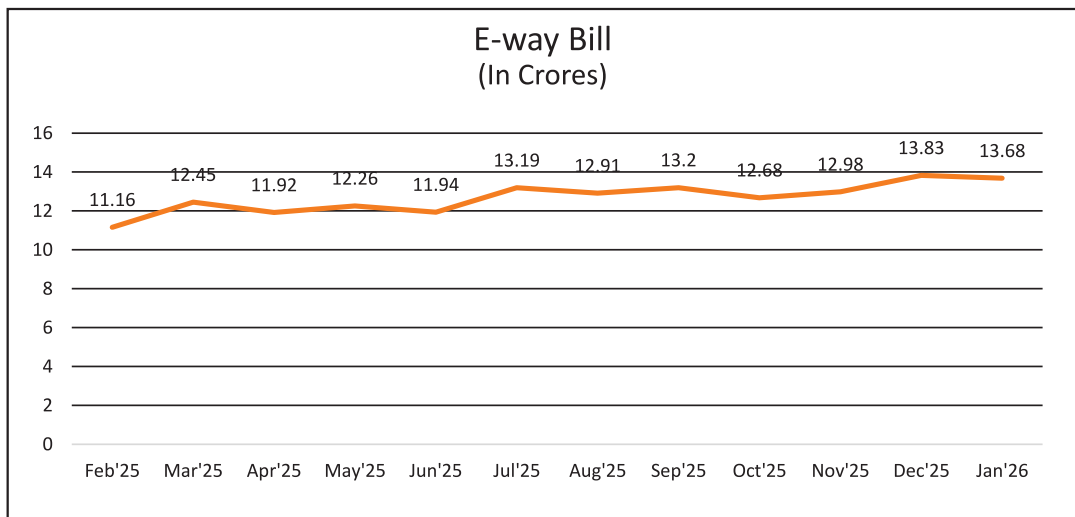
TRENDS IN GST COLLECTION AND E-WAY BILLS GENERATED

The chart below shows trends in monthly gross GST revenues during the last one year



Source: <https://gstn.org.in/>

E-WAY BILL STATISTICS



Source: <https://gstn.org.in/>

Note: The revenue collections in the current month pertain to the transactions conducted in the previous month. For example: Revenue collections for the month of Jan'26 (as per GST Website data release) reflect the transactions conducted in Dec'25. Therefore, in the above charts e-way bills generated in Dec'25 is shown corresponding to the GST Revenue collection for Jan'26 and so on.

GST PORTAL UPDATES

Advisory on Interest Collection and Related Enhancements in GSTR-3B January 30, 2026

From January 2026, GSTR-3B filing is enhanced with auto-computed, non-editable interest in Table 5.1, factoring in Electronic Cash Ledger balances per Rule 88B(1). Interest is calculated on net cash liability from the due date to payment. Taxpayers must ensure accurate self-assessment, amending upward if necessary. Additionally, a “Tax Liability Breakup Table” will auto-populate to report previous period liabilities.

Effective Date: Applies to the January 2026 tax period and onwards.

Interest Computation Method: The portal will use the formula:

Interest = (Net Tax Liability - Minimum Cash Balance in ECL from due date to date of debit) × (No. of days delayed / 365) × Applicable Interest Rate

Non-Editable Interest: The system-computed interest in Table 5.1 is non-editable downward, representing the minimum interest liability.

Upward Amendment: Taxpayers are responsible for calculating the correct interest and can amend the auto-populated value upward if the system-calculated figure is lower.

Tax Liability Breakup Table: The portal will auto-populate this table in GSTR-3B, capturing previous period liabilities (from GSTR-1/IFF) being discharged in the current period.

Delayed Filing Impact: Interest for January 2026 delays will be reflected in the February 2026 GSTR-3B filing.

Taxpayers should review their cash ledger balance and ensure the accuracy of their tax liability reporting in GSTR-1 before filing GSTR-3B.

Source: https://tutorial.gst.gov.in/downloads/news/advisory_on_interest_calculator.pdf

Advisory on Filing Opt-In Declaration for Specified Premises, 2025 dated January 04, 2026

Based on Notification No. 05/2025 - Central Tax (Rate), dated 16th January 2025, the GST portal now enables electronic filing of Annexure VII and VIII for hotels to declare “specified premises” to comply with updated tax rates. Eligible regular/newly registering taxpayers, excluding composition or special category taxpayers, must file these forms to opt-in for the 18% tax rate structure.

Key Details for Filing

Who Must File: Active/suspended regular taxpayers and new registration applicants supplying hotel accommodation.

Excluded Entities: Composition taxpayers, TDS/TCS registrants, SEZ units/developers, and casual taxable persons cannot use this facility.

Types of Declarations:

Annexure VII (Opt-In): Existing registered taxpayers for the next financial year (1 January - 31 March).

Annexure VIII (New Registration): For applicants declaring premises within 15 days of ARN generation.

Action Required: For FY 2026-27, eligible taxpayers must file Annexure VII between 01.01.2026 and 31.03.2026.

Procedure: Log in to the GST Portal -> Services -> Registration -> Declaration for Specified Premises -> Select the appropriate option.

Confirmation: A success message with a generated ARN will be sent via email/SMS.

Source: <https://services.gst.gov.in/services/advisoryandreleased/645>

Facility for Withdrawal from Rule 14A dated February 21, 2026

GSTN has enabled a new online facility for eligible taxpayers to apply for withdrawal from the option availed under Rule 14A of the CGST Rules by filing Form GST REG-32 on the GST Portal.

Who can apply: Active Taxpayers who are registered under Rule 14A, may apply for OPT OUT in accordance with the provisions of the law.

How to apply on the GST Portal:

- ❖ After login, navigate to: Services -> Registration -> Application for Withdrawal from Rule 14A
The link will be visible only if the taxpayer is registered under Rule 14A and is active.
- ❖ The field “Option for registration under Rule 14A” will be selected as “No” by default.
- ❖ Enter “Reason for withdrawal from Rule 14A”.
- ❖ Proceed to Aadhaar Authentication tab for Aadhaar Authentication of Primary Authorised Signatory and one Promoter/Partner.

Important timelines:

- ❖ Draft application must be submitted within 15 days of creation.
- ❖ Aadhaar/Biometric authentication must be completed within 15 days from submission.
- ❖ If authentication is not completed within the prescribed time, ARN will not be generated.

Source: <https://services.gst.gov.in/services/advisoryandreleased/650>

COMPLIANCE CALENDAR

Important dates		
GSTR-3B (Jan, 2026) *	February 20, 2026	Turnover exceeding ₹5 Crore or opted to file monthly return
GSTR-3B (Jan -Mar, 2026) #	April 22, 24, 2026	Turnover less than or equal to ₹5 Crore
GSTR-1 (Jan, 2026)	February 11, 2026	Turnover exceeding ₹5 Crore or opted to file monthly return
GSTR-1 (Jan -Mar, 2026) #	April 13, 2026	Turnover less than or equal to ₹5 Crore
IFF (Optional) (Jan, 2026)	February 13, 2026	IFF is a facility where quarterly GSTR-1 filers can choose to upload their B2B invoices every month, currently under the QRMP Scheme
GSTR-5 (Jan, 2026)	February 13, 2026	Monthly return for Non-resident taxable persons
GSTR-6 (Jan, 2026)	February 13, 2026	Monthly return for Input Service Distributors
GSTR-8 (Jan, 2026)	February 10, 2026	Monthly return for e-Commerce Operators liable to collect tax at source (TCS)
CMP-08 (Jan -Mar, 2026)	April 18, 2026	Quarterly statement-cum-challan to make tax payment by taxpayers registered under the composition scheme
GSTR-5A (Jan, 2026)	February 20, 2026	Monthly return for Non-resident OIDAR services providers
GSTR-7 (Jan, 2026)	February 10, 2026	Monthly return for authorities liable to deduct tax at source (TDS)

*GSTR-3B 20th of next month for taxpayers with an aggregate turnover in the previous financial year more than ₹5 crore or otherwise eligible but still opting out of the QRMP scheme

#GSTR-3B For the taxpayers with aggregate turnover equal to or below ₹5 crore, eligible and remaining opted into the QRMP scheme, 22nd of month next to the quarter for taxpayers in category X States/UTs and 24th of month next to the quarter for taxpayers in category Y States/UTs

Category X: Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Goa, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, the Union territories of Daman and Diu and Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Puducherry, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep.

Category Y: Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Meghalaya, Assam, West Bengal, Jharkhand and Odisha, the Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh, Chandigarh and Delhi.

Source: <https://www.gst.gov.in/>

GST IN NEWS

The Finance Bill, 2026

The Finance Bill, 2026 proposes significant CGST Act amendments to simplify post-sale discounts by removing strict invoice-linking requirements (Clauses 137, 138), extending provisional refunds to inverted duty structures and removing export refund thresholds (Clause 139), and enabling existing authorities/tribunals to handle appeals until the National Appellate Authority is formed (Clause 140).

Post-Sale Discounts (Clauses 137 & 138): Amends Section 15(3) and 34 to allow post-supply discounts without the need to specifically link them to original invoices, provided the supplier issues a credit note and the recipient reverses the corresponding input tax credit (ITC).

Refunds (Clause 139): Amends Section 54(6) to extend provisional refunds to situations involving an inverted duty structure (where input tax rate is higher than output tax rate). It also removes the minimum threshold for refund claims regarding goods exported with payment of tax.

Appellate Authority (Clause 140): Inserts Section 101A(1A) to allow the Government, on Council recommendation, to empower an existing Authority (including a Tribunal) to hear appeals under Section 101B until the National Appellate Authority is constituted.

Effective Date: These changes (Sections 137-139) will come into force upon notification in the Official Gazette.

Source: https://www.indiabudget.gov.in/doc/Finance_Bill.pdf

GST QUIZ

1. Under the Finance Bill 2026 proposals, post-supply discounts (Section 15) can be deducted from the taxable value without a pre-existing agreement, provided the recipient does what?

- A) Pays the tax via cash ledger.
- B) Reverses the proportionate Input Tax Credit (ITC) attributable to the discount.
- C) Files a Nil GSTR-3B.
- D) Issues a Debit Note.

2. Following the Union Budget 2026 proposals, the minimum refund threshold of ₹1,000 has been removed for which of the following?

- A) All pending GST refunds.
- B) Refunds arising from the Composition Scheme.
- C) Refund of tax on goods exported out of India with payment of tax.
- D) Refunds for ITC accumulated due to an inverted duty structure.

3. The Finance Bill 2026 proposes to delete Section 13(8)(b) of the IGST Act, 2017. As a result, the place of supply for intermediary services will now be:

- A) The location of the supplier.
- B) The location of the recipient of services (as per Section 13(2)).
- C) The location of the goods.
- D) The location of the registered office of the supplier.

4. Effective from January 2026, what new restriction has been implemented on the GST portal regarding GSTR-3B filing?

- A) Returns older than 1 year cannot be filed.
- B) Filing is blocked if the taxpayer has not filed income tax returns.
- C) Returns older than 3 years cannot be filed (time-barred).
- D) Only 50% ITC can be claimed.

5. Following the 56th GST Council meeting (implemented Sep 2025, continuing into 2026), what is the new simplified GST rate structure?

- A) 0%, 5%, 12%, 18%, 28%
- B) 0%, 5%, 18%, 40% (with 12% and 28% removed)
- C) 0%, 10%, 20%, 30%
- D) 5%, 15%, 25%, 35%

Answers: 1. (B), 2. (C), 3. (B), 4. (C), 5. (B)



Motto

सत्यं वद। धर्मं चर।

इष्टाकरे तेह त्रुते, परइएह गेहोहठएइएइइ

Vision

"To be a global leader in promoting good corporate governance"

Mission

"To develop high calibre professionals facilitating good corporate governance"



**THE INSTITUTE OF
Company Secretaries of India**

भारतीय कम्पनी सचिव संस्थान

IN PURSUIT OF PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Statutory body under an Act of Parliament

(Under the jurisdiction of Ministry of Corporate Affairs)

ICSI House, 22, Institutional Area, Lodi Road, New Delhi 110 003

tel 011-4534 1000 email info@icsi.edu website www.icsi.edu

Connect with ICSI

www.icsi.edu |       | Online helpdesk : <http://support.icsi.edu>