***FAQs On Goods & Services Tax***

1. ***Overview of Goods and Services Tax (GST)***

Q 15. What would be the role of GST Council?

Ans. A GST Council would be constituted comprising the Union Finance Minister (who will be the Chairman of the Council), the Minister of State (Revenue) and the State Finance/Taxation Ministers to make recommendations to the Union and the States on

1. the taxes, cesses and surcharges levied by the Centre, the States and the local bodies which may be subsumed under GST;
2. the goods and services that may be subjected to or exempted from the GST;
3. the date on which the GST shall be levied on petroleum crude, high speed diesel, motor sprit (commonly known as petrol), natural gas and aviation turbine fuel;
4. model GST laws, principles of levy, apportionment of IGST and the principles that govern the place of supply;
5. the threshold limit of turnover below which the goods and services may be exempted from GST;
6. the rates including floor rates with bands of GST;
7. any special rate or rates for a specified period to raise additional resources during any natural calamity or disaster;
8. special provision with respect to the NorthEast States, J&K, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand; and
9. any other matter relating to the GST, as the Council may decide.

Q 16. What is the guiding principle of GST Council?

Ans. 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 (one hundred and first 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.

*Source:http://cbec.gov.in/resources//htdocscbec/deptt\_offcr/faqongst.pdf;jsessionid=825C7C194F0FC0652FFE5A809FE81F69*

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