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## Tax Trends

Top Tax News This  
Week

## Book on GST reforms released

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman released a book 'GST Reforms – Towards Social Justice, Economic Equity and Inclusive Growth' authored by BC leader Vakulabharanam Krishna Mohan Rao in the presence of Union Minister of Coal & Mines G. Kishan Reddy and Rajya Sabha MP K. Laxman in New Delhi on Tuesday. The finance minister underlined that GST reforms were introduced with the objective of building a discrimination-free economic framework, strengthening national integration and ensuring fairness in taxation. She commended the author for presenting a comprehensive and principled assessment of the reforms and expressed hope that more such research-based works would emerge in the public domain, said a press release.





## I-T department clarifies on 'transaction' communication sent to taxpayers, says it aims to help taxpayers correct return

The Income Tax department has clarified that the recent SMS and email communications sent to taxpayers regarding certain transactions are meant to help them voluntarily review and correct their income tax filings, and should not be seen as punitive notices. The department said the messages are intended to make taxpayers aware of the transaction-related information already available to the tax authorities. The clarification comes days after the department began sending alerts urging taxpayers to update their income tax returns and withdraw any incorrect claims, following a crackdown on intermediaries involved in filing fraudulent claims linked to donations to unrecognised political parties or charitable organisations, with the intention to reduce their tax obligation.

## Extension of deadline for GST annual return is needed because of many changes, says Bombay Chartered Accountant Society

The Bombay Chartered Accountants' Society (BCAS) has requested for at least a three-month deadline extension of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) annual return using GSTR-9 and GSTR-9C form for FY 2024-25. BCAS in its representation dated December 11, 2025 said that such an extension is crucial to allow taxpayers and professionals sufficient time to absorb these significant procedural changes, ensure data accuracy, undertake necessary system upgrades, and fulfill their compliance obligations correctly. BCAS said that many professionals, chartered accountants and taxpayers are facing significant practical and technical challenges with the annual return requirements for the Financial Year 2024-25. These challenges stem directly from the numerous and substantial amendments recently introduced in FORM GSTR-9 (Annual Return) and FORM GSTR-9C (Reconciliation Statement), primarily through recent notifications (12/2024-CT and 13/2025-CT).



**The Economic Times**



## GST audit calls for staffing boost

The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) on Thursday said that the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) faces a sizeable staffing shortage in its audit formations, with 38 percent of positions vacant as of July 1, 2024, leading to gaps between planned and completed audits. The CAG's report on the Department of Revenue for the period ending March 2023 emphasized the critical role of internal audits in ensuring taxpayer compliance under the self-assessed tax regime.

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