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Tax Trends

Top Tax News This Week

Centre, states to work on widening GST base

With GST rate rationalisation and procedural simplification out of the way, the Centre has offered to help the states in widening the base using data analytics, with changes in the return filing system and invoice matching also likely to plug leakages.

"We have had discussions on improving the base and also quality of disclosure... We can leverage technology to increase the base without the exercise being intrusive. We can improve the analytics and work with GST Network (the back-end data arm) on the identified gaps," an official said, adding that some analysis has also been shared with the states. Currently, there are 1.7 crore registered taxpayers and officials indicated that this number can be increased.



Times of India



Finance ministry sets reform deadline for GSTN; Amendment Bill to be tabled before April 27

The Ministry of Finance has set a deadline for GST Network to ensure that necessary measures are taken to implement the process reforms introduced in the 57th GST Council meeting last week, sources aware of the matter told TNIE. Meanwhile, the GST Amendment Act, incorporating the changes introduced in the last Council meeting, will be introduced in the Parliament before April, 2027.

The New Indian Express

GST 2.0: How next phase of reforms can simplify compliance and unlock growth for MSMEs

The success of next-generation GST reforms will ultimately be measured on the basis of their ability to lower compliance costs, enhance refund timelines, and provide increased consistency in tax administration. For nearly nine years, the GST (Goods and Services Tax) debate has largely revolved around one question: how much tax should businesses pay? The next phase of reform shifts the focus to an equally consequential question: how easily can they comply, access refunds, and run their businesses without getting trapped in procedural delays? The recommendations emerging from the 57th GST Council meeting, held on October 8, 2026, signal a shift from changing the tax structure to fixing the machinery of tax administration. From faster refunds and faceless proceedings to more proportionate penalties and safeguards for genuine buyers, the proposed changes address some of the most persistent friction points for India's micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs).



The Economic Times



Income Tax Act, 2025: NRI tax residency in India—182-day stay rule, ₹15 lakh threshold and ITR exemption condition

Living abroad does not automatically make you a non-resident for Indian tax purposes. Residency depends on the number of days spent in India, income and other conditions. Know about the 182-day and 120-day tests, deemed residency, ITR exemptions and the transition to the Income Tax Act, 2025. Living overseas does not automatically make an Indian citizen a non-resident for income-tax purposes. The determination depends on the number of days spent in India, the nature of income earned, and the individual's residential history.Under Section 115G of the Income-tax Act, 1961, non-resident Indians (NRIs) are exempt from filing an income-tax return (ITR) if their total income consists only of investment income, long-term capital gains, or both (subject to TDS).

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Contact Information



Gurugram Office:

1st Floor, AIHP Palms

242 & 243, Udyog Vihar IV, Gurugram-122015

+91-124-4309062

info@reinalegal.com

www.reinalegal.com