

## Greetings!!!

Amidst economic crisis across the globe, India has posed as a beacon of hope with ambitious growth targets, supported by slew of strategic missions like 'Make in India', 'Digital India', etc. Goods and Services Tax (GST) is expected to provide the much needed stimulant for economic growth in India by transforming the existing basis of indirect taxation towards free flow of goods and services within the economy and also eliminating the cascading effect of tax on tax. In view of the important role that India is expected to play in the world economy in the years to come, the expectation of GST being introduced is high not only within the country, but also in neighboring countries and in developed economies of the world.

### Impact of GST in Indian Economy:

- Reduce tax burden on producers and foster growth

- GST would add to government revenues by widening the tax base.
- GST provides credits for the taxes paid by producers earlier in the goods/services chain. This would encourage these producers to buy raw material from different registered dealers and would bring in more and more vendors and suppliers under the purview of taxation.
- GST also removes the custom duties applicable on exports. Our competitiveness in foreign markets would increase on account of lower cost of transaction.
- The proposed GST regime, which will subsume most central and state-level taxes, is expected to have a single unified list of concessions/exemptions as against the current mammoth exemptions and concessions available across goods and services.

The introduction of Goods and Services Tax would be a very



through more production. This double taxation prevents manufacturers from producing to their optimum capacity and retards growth. GST would take care of this problem by providing tax credit to the manufacturer.

- Various tax barriers such as check posts and toll plazas lead to a lot of wastage for perishable items being transported, a loss that translated into major costs through higher need of buffer stocks and warehousing costs as well. A single taxation system could eliminate this roadblock for them.
- A single taxation on producers would also translate into a lower final selling price for the consumer.
- Also, there will be more transparency in the system as the customers would know exactly how much taxes they are being charged and on what base.

noteworthy step in the field of indirect tax reforms in India. By amalgamating a large number of Central and State taxes into a single tax, it would alleviate cascading or double taxation in a major way and pave the way for a common national market. From the consumer point of view, the biggest advantage would be in terms of reduction in the overall tax burden on goods and services. Introduction of GST would also make Indian products competitive in the domestic and international markets. Last but not the least, this tax, because of its transparent character, would be easier to administer. However, once implemented, the system holds great promise in terms of sustaining growth for the Indian economy.

This issue presents a good number of articles on the cover story theme '**GST in India**' by distinguished experts and authors. We look forward to constructive feedback from our readers on the articles and overall development of the journal. Please send your mails at [editor@icmai.in](mailto:editor@icmai.in). We thank all the contributors to this important issue and hope our readers enjoy the articles.