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Education Not Expensive Under GST: Government

Education will not become expensive under Goods and Services Tax (GST) regime as schooling up to higher secondary and most of the services provided to educational institutions are exempt from taxation, the government said.



Also, services relating to admission and examination up to higher secondary are also exempt from GST.

"There is no change made in any subject relating to education in the GST era, except to reduce tax rate on certain items of education such as school bags etc," a finance ministry statement said. Services provided by an educational institution to students, faculty and staff are exempt.

Finally, services relating to admission to, or conducting of examination by, such institutions, up to higher secondary, too are exempt from GST.

"Thus, education up to Higher Secondary School level does not suffer GST on output services and also on most of the important input services. Some of the input services like transport, canteen etc provided by private players to educational institutions were subject to service tax in pre-GST era and the same is continued in GST regime," it said.

HRD plan to replace UGC, AICTE with single regulator in limbo

The government's plan to replace



the University Grants Commission (UGC) and the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) with a single higher education regulator seems to have hit a roadblock with the HRD ministry putting

the idea on hold.

The plan to introduce Higher Education Empowerment Regulation Agency or HEERA with an aim to eliminate overlaps in jurisdiction and remove irrelevant regulatory provisions is in limbo.

The issue was raised in Parliament last week where Minister of State for HRD Upendra Kushwaha said "No such proposal is under consideration at present, to merge the University Grants Commission (UGC) and the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) into a single higher education regulator," Kushwaha had informed the Rajya Sabha.

While the National Knowledge Commission (2006) had recommended an independent regulatory authority for higher education, the Committee on Renovation and Rejuvenation of Higher Education (2009) had also advocated an apex regulatory body by converging multiple agencies in the field of higher education.

The UGC Review Committee in 2014 had also recommended the commission be replaced with an apex institution named National Higher Education Authority.



Higher education to play pivotal role in bridging



Converge all skill development schemes

skill gap: IBM Study

A majority of Indian executives believe quality and quantity of skills in the Indian workforce are comparable to those of other countries, with many reporting them to be superior.

In a study conducted by the IBM Institute for Business Value (IBV) in cooperation with the Economist Intelligence Unit, to evaluate India's growing skills challenge and proposed recommendations to bridge the gap, 40% indicated new employees recruited in local labour markets have the requisite job skills..

"Skill is emerging as the new currency across businesses globally and in India. Today's rapidly evolving economic environment makes up-skilling an imperative across job profiles and sectors. Between 2010 and 2030, India's working population is expected to expand from 750 million to almost one billion.

The study recommends developing more practical, applied, experience-based

under one ministry

Various skill development schemes under the administrative control of different ministries should be handed over to the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship for better outcome, a report has suggested.

"The NDA government has established a separate ministry for skill development. It is desirable that this central ministry takes the core elements from various ministries and pools them under one minister and under one budget, which could be around Rs 25,000 crore", a joint study by Assocham and Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) said.

Currently, different skill development schemes still remain with various ministries and the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship is the coordinator.

"The country is facing a paradoxical situation where on the one hand young men and women with higher education

education, rethinking higher education curricula by identifying opportunities to infuse experience-based and real-world learning experiences and embracing new teaching technologies and techniques.

It said higher education institutions should build alliances with industry partners, share learning and refine strategies.



'India's higher education is at cross-roads': C Rangarajan stresses on modernisation of syllabus

The former Chairman of Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister recently gave a speech at the sixth convocation of the ICFAI Foundation of Higher education, Hyderabad, where he spoke on what India needs in the field of education.

India needs quality education

While giving a speech on the occasion, he said that higher education in India is at "cross-roads", and needs radical changes. He also said that agricultural, industrial and scientific growth of the country depends on creating a "corps" of well-trained professionals in these areas, and it would happen only with good quality higher education.

Syllabus should be updated

entering the labour market are looking for jobs, and on the other, industries are complaining of the unavailability of appropriately skilled manpower," said the report.

Keeping in view the heterogeneity of the labour market and preponderance of the unorganized sector, designing a model that benefits key players of the ecosystem, including employers, training providers, trainees and the government, is a challenging task, the report stated.

"The excellent quality of the best students of our universities and colleges is well recognised at home and abroad and is not in doubt. Modernisation of syllabus or curriculum is imperative in today's world."

The former chairman of Hindustan Unilever Limited, S M Datta also highlighted the importance of various qualities which a manager should possess in order to be successful in a dynamic environment.

He further said, "It is cliché to say that higher education in India is at crossroads. But this hackneyed and overused phrase still contains an element of truth. We have reached a point where the need for bringing about some radical changes in higher education has become urgent.

Deshpande Foundation and Deshpande Educational Trust (DET) Set-Up India's Largest Training Facility

In a landmark achievement, the Deshpande Foundation and the Deshpande Educational Trust (DET) have set up the country's largest skill development center in Hubballi. The 300,000 sq. ft. state-of-the-art residential facility will have the capacity to train 5,000 youth in employment oriented skills. Replete with digital learning classrooms, training labs, workshops, amphitheater, living and recreational spaces, DET's new premises offers rural youth a holistic, vibrant learning ecosystem.

Dr. Gururaj 'Desh' Deshpande inspired the 1,500 youth who have now started training, to become problem-solvers and changemakers. Dr. Sushil Vachani, Professor of Strategy and Innovation at Boston University's School of Management and one of the Directors of the Deshpande Foundation, mentored DET leaders on effective scaling strategies, given the pan India need for skilled youth.

Deshpande Foundation India Appointed Knowledge

Partner to the Government of Karnataka's ELEVATE Entrepreneurship Program

With its remarkable record of nurturing innovation and entrepreneurship, the Deshpande Foundation's Sandbox Startups was appointed as a Knowledge Partner to the state Government's ambitious ELEVATE program. Under the program, 100 technology based startups will be selected to tap into a massive Government fund of Rs. 400 Cr among other benefits.

Sandbox Startups also initiated Startup Safari - an outreach journey to identify entrepreneurs in North Karnataka and to create awareness about the enabling ecosystem available to them. The Safari traveled to 7 districts and interacted with 95 entrepreneurs, some of whom were engaged in incredible work like inspecting the Paddy crop using image processing, detecting machine snags using IoT. Agri-tech, edu-tech and software application startups dominated the entrepreneurial landscape.

IonIdea new wins in Education space



One Tier 1 college from Karnataka and One tier 2 College from Maharashtra have become our customers for OBE Solution.



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