## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF FINANCE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE **RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-549** ANSWERED ON – 25.07.2023

### WITHDRAWAL OF THE GST ON KENDU LEAVES

### 549. DR. SASMIT PATRA:

Will the Minister of **FINANCE** be pleased to state:-

- (a) the details of discussions and interventions/demands/submissions made in the GST Council relating to the withdrawal of the GST on Kendu Leaves over the past four years;
- (b) the stand of Government on the withdrawal of the GST on Kendu Leaves; and
- (c) whether the Central Government would be willing to place a proposal before the GST council for the withdrawal of the GST on Kendu Leaves irrespective of the stands of the States?

#### **ANSWER**

# THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (c): The issue was discussed in the 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Council held on 18.05.2017-19.05.2017, 15<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 3.06.2017 and the 37<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 20.09.2019 and the GST Council recommended to maintain the rate at 18%.

The issue of withdrawal/reduction of GST on kendu leaves was again discussed in the 49<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the GST Council held on 18.02.2023. The Council agreed with the recommendation of the Fitment Committee for retaining the GST rate on kendu leaves.

GST rates are prescribed on the recommendation of the GST Council, which is a constitutional body comprising of representatives from States/UTs and Centre.

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