

Ashok Gehlot
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Dear Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman Ji,

I would like to draw your kind attention towards the revised GST structure notified on 13th July, 2022 pertaining to items consumed by all segments of the society, more specifically people from even lower income bracket has increased hardship for large percentage of population. The upward revision of GST tax rates on the prepackaged and labeled products such as curd, lassi, butter milk, jaggery and cereals, leguminous vegetables and flour etc. is going to hit the people hard.

You will recall that Government of Rajasthan in all meetings of Group of Ministers (GoM) constituted for the deliberations on rate rationalization had vehemently opposed any upward revision of tax rates (Minutes of the Meeting of GoM held on 12.11.2021, 20.11.2021 and 17.6.2022 may kindly be referred). We had also requested the Council as well as GoMs that in aftermath of Covid, it is not the right time for increase in tax burden and the deliberations should be deferred at least for one year.

We had even re-iterated our stand in the 47th Meeting of GST Council held in Chandigarh on 28/29th June, 2022. Despite this, the Central Government had issued notifications on 13th July, 2022 for upward revision (basis the recommendations of the Council). Though the State had to issue commensurate notifications to give effect to the unified rate structure, we still are not in favour of this upward revision.

Therefore, I would like to urge you to reconsider this revision and agenda for deliberations may again be taken up in GoMs/GST Council meeting for restoration of the tax structure that was prevailing prior to 18th July, 2022.

Yours sincerely,

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(Ashok Gehlot)

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