

GST Council slashes GST rates on COVID-19 relief material, including oxygen concentrator for personal imports – home page and then policy updates GST

The 44th meeting of Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council was held on 12 June 2021. The Council has decided to reduce GST rates on the following items being used in Covid-19 relief and management. The said reduction shall remain in force till 30 September 2021. Please access the relevant notification [here](#).

Particulars	Earlier rate	Revised rate
Tocilizumab and Amphotericin B	5%	Nil
Anti-Coagulants like Heparin and Remdesivir	12%	5%
Any other drug recommended by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Dept. of Pharma for Covid treatment	Applicable rate	5%
Oxygen, Oxygen generation equipment and related medical devices	12%	5%
Testing Kits and Machines	12%	5%
Pulse Oximeters, incl personal imports thereof	12%	5%
Hand Sanitizer, Temperature check equipment, Gas/Electric/other furnaces for crematorium, including their installation, etc.	18%	5%
Ambulances	28%	12%

Forum's engagement with state GST officers on GST issues across sectors – home page and the events GST

In continuation to our advocacy efforts on GST legislative and procedural issues, USISPF is planning to engage with few important state tax departments. The idea is apprise and also to get guidance on some of the key long standing GST policy issues. While we continue to engage with the GST council secretariate and also the GST policy wing at Ministry of Finance, we felt it's also important to engage with states which have an important representation at the GST council meetings. To start with, we did a close door virtual session with Punjab tax department and next will be with the State of Gujarat.