

Advisory for Introduction of Invoice Management System

(IMS) on GST Portal

Introduction

The GST Network has issued an advisory on 3rd September 2024 to introduce a new functionality called Invoice Management System (IMS) on GST Portal from 1st October 2024 onwards. FAQs in this regard are published on 22nd September 2024. IMS is aimed at establishing a communication mechanism between suppliers and recipients by creating an additional layer of document verification and reconciliation.

Detailed Analysis

The features including the flow of the new functionality are enumerated below:

<u>Sr. No</u>	Supplier	Recipient
1.	Invoices or records saved in Forms GSTR-1/GSTR-1A/Invoice Furnishing Facility (IFF) by the supplier	Same invoices or records would be reflected on IMS dashboard of the recipient for taking respective actions: Accepted Rejected Pending No Action Taken
2.	 Any amendment in invoices or records done: Before filing of Form GSTR-1 After filing of Form GSTR-1 through GSTR-1A 	Effect of amendment done: Before filing of Form GSTR1 – In such a case the amended invoice will replace the original

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		<i>Right advice at right time</i>	
		invoice, irrespective of the action taken on the original invoice	
		\odot After filing of Form GSTR-1	
		through GSTR-1A –	
		Amended invoice would flow to	
		IMS but corresponding ITC would	
		be reflected in GSTR-2B of the	
		subsequent month	
3.	Filing of Statements/Returns i.e.	A draft GSTR-2B would be made available	
	GSTR-1/GSTR-1A/IFF	to recipient on 14 th of every month	
		where records/invoices can be accepted,	
		rejected or kept pending upto the date of	
		filing of GSTR-3B. Draft GSTR-2B would	
		be finalized/recomputed once GSTR-3B	
		is filed based on action taken by	
		recipient. Note:	
		No action can be taken by recipient once	
		GSTR-3B is filed	
		Only invoices/records kept pending by	
		recipient will remain on IMS dashboard	
		once GSTR-3B is filed	



Important points

- \odot If no action is taken by the recipient on any invoice/record appearing on IMS dashboard, then it will be considered as deemed acceptance
- \odot The supplier will be able to see the action taken by the recipient on the saved record or invoices
- ◎ If the taxpayer has not filed Form GSTR-3B of any month, GSTR-2B for subsequent month will not be generated

Based on the actions taken by the recipient, invoices or records can be categorized as follows:

Action taken by the	Outcome in recipient's Form	Outcome in recipient's
recipient	GSTR-2B	Form GSTR-3B
Accept	Reflect in ITC Available section	Auto populated in Form GSTR-
	of Form GSTR-2B	3B as Eligible ITC
Reject	Reflect in ITC Rejected section of	Will not be auto populated in
	Form GSTR-2B	Form GSTR-3B
Pending	⊖ Carried forward in IMS	Will not be auto populated in
	dashboard till they are	Form GSTR-3B
	accepted or rejected	
	igodoldoldoldoldoldoldoldoldoldoldoldoldol	
	should be taken within	
	the timeline prescribed	
	as per section 16(4) of	
	the CGST Act, 2017	
No action	Deemed Acceptance	Auto populate in Form GSTR-
		3B as <i>Eligible ITC</i>

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- ◎ In the following situations, *Pending* actions will not be allowed:
 - ஂ Original Credit note
 - Upward amendment of the credit note irrespective of the action taken by recipient on the original credit note
 - Downward amendment of the credit note if original credit note was rejected by recipient
 - Downward amendment of Invoice/Debit note where original Invoice/ Debit note was accepted by recipient and respective GSTR-3B has also been filed.

GSC Comments

The above restriction on actions impacting ITC eligibility of recipient is nowhere prescribed in GST Law. Further, this will increase the difficulty in maintaining and carrying out reconciliation for the taxpayers. However, intention of the IMS functionality makes it amply clear that recipient is not permitted to keep any invoice/records "pending" in cases of reduction of liability of supplier. Needless to state that when recipient rejects the record in aforesaid situations in IMS, supplier's liability will be increased in Form GSTR-3B for the respective period.

Exclusions from IMS Dashboard:

Following supplies will not go to IMS and will be directly populated in the GSTR-3B:

➢ Inward RCM (reverse charge mechanism) supplies where supplier has reported transactions in Table 4B of IFF / GSTR-1 or GSTR-1A and

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Supplies where ITC is not eligible due to section 16(4) of CGST Act or on account of POS

Amendments in Records:

- When original and amended transactions are reflected in two different GSTR-2B periods, it will be mandatory to take action on the original record and file the corresponding Form GSTR-3B before taking action on the amended record
- If original as well as amended transactions are reported in the same GSTR-2B period, action on only the amended record will be required in Form GSTR-2B

IMS action under QRMP Scheme:

Taxpayers following QRMP Scheme would be required to take action on IMS dashboard in the third month of quarter when GSTR-2B is generated and made available to them.

GSC Comments:

- In the proposed IMS (without corresponding provisions in GST Law), the recipient is dependent on supplier to a great extent
- One of the most crucial aspect would be to keep a tab on amendments done by suppliers from time to time
- Though it is mentioned in Press Release dated 09.09.2024 that IMS is optional, it is advisable to follow IMS since the actions of suppliers and recipients would require tracking and further actions
- ➢ Now, GSTR-2B would not be constant and therefore, the role of GST compliance manager is of higher significance since the return filer has to reconcile not only books with GSTR-3B but also with changes made by suppliers on GSTN portal right before filing GSTR-3B

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West Region

6th Level, HDIL Kaledonia-A, Sahar Road, Andheri (East), Mumbai – 400 069.

North Region

A-36, 1st Floor, Ring Road, Rajouri Garden, New Delhi – 110 027.

East Region

Unit No. 7, 2nd Floor, Vasundhara, Sarat Bose Road, Kolkata – 700 020.

South Region

64, Thirumalai Pillai Road, T. Nagar, Chennai – 600 017.



www.gscintime.com



+91 22 4612 5600 +91 98210 12151



jayeshgogri@gscintime.com info@gscintime.com



Address: 6th Level, HDIL Kaledonia-A, Sahar Road, Andheri East, Mumbai 400 069, India. Website: <u>www.gscintime.com</u> Tel: +91 22 4612 5600; Email: <u>info@gscintime.com</u>

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