

IMPACT OF GST ON VARIOUS STATES: A COMPARATIVE STUDY

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Abstract

The Goods and Services Tax (GST) is one of the biggest tax reforms in India, which aimed at unifying the country's complicated and fragmented taxation system into one framework. This study assesses the impact of GST on different Indian states between 2018 and 2024, focusing on the trends in tax collections and the implications for state economies. By analyzing GST revenue data and comparing it with state GDP figures, the research highlights key patterns, disparities, and challenges in implementing GST across diverse regions. The findings reveal a clear divide in GST performance between industrialized states like Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu, which consistently contribute high revenues, and smaller states and union territories, such as Mizoram and Manipur, where collections remain modest. The high industrialized states are known to enjoy the benefits of strong manufacturing and service sectors, whereas less-industrialized states have a hard time due to fewer economic activities and logistic issues. The study further identified the COVID-19 pandemic as a critical factor that temporarily disrupted GST collections though most states showed strong recovery post-2021.

Keywords: Goods and Services Tax (GST), Taxation, State-wise GST Collection, GDP Contribution, Tax Revenue.

INTRODUCTION

The Goods and Services Tax, often referred to as the most comprehensive tax reform initiative ever undertaken in India since the year 1947, has been designed for the very purpose of replacing a host of diverse taxes and levies prevalent across the 29 states of the Indian Union. The objective is to simplify and harmonize a complex and fragmented indirect tax regime that exists nationwide. It will put an end to the indirect taxes levied in different states, and it will be easier to establish a uniform taxation framework that will be applied uniformly in all states, promoting equity and fairness in the administration of taxes. GST is the economy's unity in the view of integrating all states together with the central government by having one platform for its governance, which fosters national unity and collaborative economic governance. This new tax regime is supposed to transcend all geographical and administrative boundaries of the present country, to promote an economic environment where growth and development can occur seamlessly.

What is GST?

Goods and services tax is one of the types of value-added taxes charged on most of the commodities and services sold for home consumption. The GST is, however paid by the consumer, but it is passed on to the government through remittance by the sellers of the commodities and services. The full form of GST is Goods and Services Tax. It was first introduced in the Budget Speech presented on 28th February 2006. It laid the foundation for a complete reform of India's indirect tax system. Thus, it was implemented on 1st July 2017 as the Goods and Services Tax Act, the indirect taxation system thus went through a chain of amendments since its inception. With this tax reform, GST has replaced many indirect taxes that were levied on different goods and services. The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs is the governing body in charge of all changes and amendments made regarding this tax.

Meaning of GST and Scope

Definition of GST is a destination-based, multi-stage, comprehensive tax levied at every stage of value addition. It successfully served in completing the agenda set forth by the Indian Government with its 'One Nation One Tax' as this tax has replaced many of the indirect taxes of India. It is a tax administered on goods and services that are sold within the country for consumption purposes. In this way, nearly every country in the world has adopted this tax with modifications aptly, and it has resulted in the success to the country of India's simple version of indirect taxation.

The amount of GST is charged on the highest retail price of the manufactured goods and services. In this way, it reflects the maximum retail price. The customers have to pay this tax along with the final price while purchasing goods or services. It is collected by the seller and then it has to be paid to the government.

This indicates that indirect incidence is involved in it. GST rates for every different good and service have been uniformly applied across the country. However, it has been noticed that goods and services have been divided

into several slab rates for the respective payments of tax. Luxuries and comfort goods have been placed in higher slab categories while necessities have been brought within lower and nil slab rates. The whole idea behind such classification is to maintain uniformity in the distribution of wealth among the residents of India. There are four basic slabs for GST rates, like 5%, 12%, 18%, and 28%. Besides that, there are special rates; some of the items are at a rate of 0%, 0.25%, 3%, and cess. The GST Council time and again revises the GST Rates with the consideration of the revenues, economy growth, inflation, and various industry demands.

History of GST and GST Information

The concept of Goods and Services Tax was first presented by the then Prime Minister of India in the year 2000. He even formed a committee for drafting new indirect tax law. However, it took 17 more years to implement it. In this time, the bill saw multiple introductions, amendments, and rescheduling.

- 2000 - Committee set up by the PM for drafting law for India.
- 2004 - A task force reported a need to implement this law and improve the indirect tax system in India.
- 2006 - Goods and Services Tax introduction scheduled on 1st April 2010 by the Finance Minister of India.
- 2007 - The decision to phase out CST. As an aftermath, CST rates were reduced to 3% from 4%.
- 2008 - GST's dual structure finalized by the EC for different legislation and levy.
- 2010 - Not implemented due to structural and implementation problems. A project initiated for computerizing commercial taxes.
- 2011 - Constitution Amendment Bill introduced in the Parliament for enactment of legislation for the Goods and Services Tax Law.
- 2012 - Discussion initiated on the tax with a Standing Committee; not progressed due to vagueness of Clause 279B.
- 2013 - Standing Committee presented the report on GST.
- 2014 - The Finance Minister of India brings back the Goods and Services Tax Bill to Parliament.
- 2015 - Lok Sabha clears the bill but gets stuck in Rajya Sabha.
- 2016 - Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN) went live. The amended model of the law was passed in both Houses of Parliament and was given the President's assent.
- 2017 - The cabinet approves four supplementary bills cleared by the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha. The Goods and Services Tax Law had been implemented on 1st July 2017.

List of Taxes Subsumed after GST Implementation

This replaced the earlier scenario of many different central and state taxes to transform the tax scenario in the country as on July 1, 2017. Goods and Services Tax consolidated different Central and State Taxes in the country with GST replacing the existing Central Excise Duty on goods produced within the country. Service Tax, as well, would be paid only on the services being delivered. Import taxes such as CVD and SAD have also been brought under the GST. At the state level, it has replaced one of the largest sources of state revenue from Value Added Tax (VAT) and Central Sales Tax (CST) in case of inter-state trade. Octroi and Entry Tax on goods entering the borders of a state have been done away with, reducing delay in transportation. Entertainment Tax that is different for different states, and Luxury Tax on luxury commodities and services are being clubbed together under the head of GST. So, the rate there also becomes uniform all across the nation. Even local body taxes collected on advertisements also fall under the head of GST to reduce the load on business entities. GST integrated all of these taxes, eradicated the cascading effects of taxes collected by taxes thereby removing the factor of other taxes being paid on other taxes, which in turn increased the cost of goods and services for the consumer and streamlined the entire process of tax collection thereby reducing compliances on business houses besides creating a common national market. This also made it a very transparent process, which brought about the economic development that enhanced the trade across the country.

Variation of GST and Rules for GST

The Goods and Services Tax, which has become effective from July 1, 2017 in India, has brought in all indirect taxes under a single structure, GST. Since a multiple-rate slabs would accommodate the diversified nature of goods and services, there has been a design done. Major GST rates applicable in India are 5%, 12%, 18%, and 28% along with special 0.25% of precious stones and 3% on gold.

Raw food grains are exempted from GST or taxed at the lowest rate so that they become affordable. Goods and services like luxury fall in the highest bracket of taxation. For example, items like automobiles and some consumer electronics fall in the 28% bracket.

The GST Council consists of representatives from both the central and state governments and determines these rates and revises them periodically according to the changes in the economic conditions and policy requirements. This helps in maintaining the tax structure in sync with the country's finance requirement.

The Goods and Services Tax is the new tax system in India that has emerged to make the complicated and dispersed indirect tax structure more straightforward. It amalgamates many of the taxes, such as VAT, service

tax, excise duty, and so forth, and combines them into one single taxation framework. GST structures are categorized into three: CGST, SGST, and IGST. Each of them holds their scope, jurisdiction, and administrative framework.

Central Goods and Services Tax (CGST)

CGST is the tax paid to the central government from within a particular state for providing goods and services. Selling within a single state means an intra-state transaction. Amount received under CGST goes into the pocket of the central government, and it's crucial for carrying out all central projects and expenditure. CGST is collected over and above SGST, and the rates are usually aligned with SGST, so there is uniformity in the tax. Under CGST, the administration of collection and compliance mechanism rests with the Central Government, which includes issuing guidelines, transparency, and imposition of tax laws. The government is seeking to counter the cascading effect of taxes, which is the process wherein tax is charged on the tax itself and thus is ensuring that collection of taxes will be central and less cumbersome through integration of CGST in the system. According to the Ministry of Finance, the reason CGST is so crucial in widening the tax base and making compliance easier, besides enhancing the economy by doing away with all kinds of burdens of taxes.

State Goods and Services Tax (SGST)

The SGST is collected by the state governments for the intra-state transactions. Once again, the difference lies in that the revenue generated from SGST is retained by the state where the transaction is carried out. This system financially empowers the states because they would be able to maintain their revenue base, considering that there is a loss of revenue from previously existing state taxes like VAT and sales tax. Parallel with CGST, SGST would be applied. In simple words, the same transaction shall be subjected to both SGST and CGST and a balanced distribution of tax revenue collected between the central and the state governments. The rates are usually aligned with that of CGST to avoid or prevent tax arbitrage. The implementation of SGST provides a boost to fiscal decentralization since it makes states directly financially interested in the taxation system. RBI and Ministry of Finance reports also claim that SGST highly adds to the financial independence of states, funding regional development, infrastructure projects, and public welfare programs.

Integrated Goods and Services Tax (IGST)

IGST is the levy on inter-state sales of goods or services. It mainly provides IGST to collect the tax of sales between states efficiently, and to shift this tax between the states who undertake the particular transaction. In the case of inter-state sales, the mechanism of the Central Government is collecting the tax and passing on to the destination state, where the goods or services are consumed. Thus, it is maintained as tax neutral across state borders and does not pose an artificial barrier to the free flow of goods and services across states. IGST even removes the problem of the double taxation where the items in movement from one state to another could have possibly been taxed by several different states. The structure of IGST is so designed that inter-state transactions will be simplified, ease of doing business will be encouraged, and there will be a free flow of goods and services across state borders, an important factor for a single national market. According to the Ministry of Finance and RBI guidelines, IGST is an essential component of GST structure, as it enables consistency, transparency, and effectiveness in the taxation system throughout the states.

Understanding the dual structure of Goods and Services Tax

The Goods and Services Tax in India has been specially designed with a dual structure, and this is owing to the fact that this tax has been built especially to answer both the requirements of the central government for collecting their taxes and of the state government for gathering their taxes. This way, fiscal federalism is well balanced. In other words, it bifurcates into Central Goods and Services Tax and State Goods and Services Tax. Central and state GST will be collected on supply made within the same state. It is a mechanism through which the federal principle of the constitution can be sustained with a unified tax regime all over India.

In this dual structure, CGST is collected by the Central. It is collected in the intra-state transactions. The amount of collection under CGST is retained with the Central and used for funding national programs or activities. This is to be compared with SGST wherein collections are made from the very same transaction that the state government had imposed on that very same transaction, thereby all collections made were kept with the respective state governments. This sets off a situation whereby the states come out with a good sizeable share of their tax collection which is applied to regional development and social welfare projects. The dual system ensures that the tax will be shared between the two governmental levels, hence cascading effects of taxes would be minimized.

It also enables cooperative effort between the central government and the state governments since both will work on coordinating and managing the scheme GST. This structure, thus mooted, would bring about the process in taxes with simplicity while compliance with the tax leads towards the enhancement of mechanisms about collection which subsequently facilitates ease of business for integration in the economy of the country.

GST share Between Central and State

GST is levied on dual basis that is, Central Goods and Services Tax (CGST) and State Goods and Services Tax (SGST). If the supply is an intra-state supply, then both the CGST and SGST are levied. The amount is collected by the government.

The revenues from the CGST and SGST could be split 50:50 in case of intra-state supplies. This will make sure that both the center and state government have the same share of the revenues so that it can cover the functions and responsibilities between the two of them. The central government uses their share of revenue to cover national schemes, infrastructures, and policy programs, whereas the state governments use theirs for regional developments, social welfare, and local projects for infrastructures.

Regarding inter-state transactions, the central government levies IGST. The IGST collected is retained by the central government in the first instance but transferred to the destination state subsequently. The mechanism of distribution has structured in such a way to ensure smooth flow of tax revenues across states, ensure tax neutrality, and aid economic integration across states. The Ministry of Finance and the Reserve Bank of India stress that this shared revenue model is important in achieving fiscal balance and promoting cooperative federalism.

What is the inter-state supply of goods and services?

In the case of inter-state supply of goods and services, an additional tax on goods and services is paid known as Integrated Goods and Service Tax. The amount collected due to IGST is later recovered by the Central Government with subsequent adjustments between the Center and the State as a percentage decided by the stipulation under the GST Act.

Advantages of GST Share between Central and State

- Cascading Taxes are eliminated: Previously, before GST, taxes upon taxes were prevalent, which created the cascading effect and increased the final price of goods and services. GST has, however, streamlined the tax structure by integrating multiple indirect taxes into one single system, thereby removing the cascading effect effectively. Simplification has, in fact, reduced the total tax burden on consumers and businesses and helped with competitive pricing and consumption.
- It has a higher threshold registration than the GST. Earlier, it was ₹5 lakh as the threshold for paying VAT. The threshold will be different for different states. Only service tax was applicable in case of a service provider whose turnover exceeds ₹10 lakh, under the old tax regime. GST has increased the registration limit to ₹20 lakh and even ₹10 lakh in case of special category states that exempted a huge chunk of small traders and service providers from its tax. Which in turn lightened up the compliance burden of the small businesses so they may focus their energies on more growth and development. GST offers a Composition Scheme for small enterprises whose annual turnover does not exceed ₹75 lakh, so that they pay taxes at a lesser rate with simpler compliance procedures. It has lightened the tax burden on small enterprises which otherwise have made them less competitive and financially less viable.
- Facilitating Interstate Commerce: GST has removed the barriers to interstate trade that had arisen as a result of varied state taxes. Uniformity brought about a common national market, and business enterprises had to expand their operations without the apprehension of tax implications in the other states. The consequence is that efficiency in goods movement has improved, and logistics costs have come down.
- Improved Competitiveness of Indian Products and Services: Subsummation of various taxes in a single tax and eradication of the cascading effect reduce the cost of production and distribution. The reduction has made Indian goods and services not only more competitive in Indian markets but also in other countries and improved exports and economic growth.

Why is the Impact of GST on Different States Important?

The impact of Goods and Services Tax (GST) on different states is critical to understanding the broader economic and fiscal implications of this tax reform. GST aims to create a unified market across India by replacing multiple state and central taxes, but its effects vary across states due to differences in their economic structures, industrial base, and revenue generation capabilities. For some states, GST has streamlined the tax system, reduced compliance costs, and improved ease of doing business, fostering economic growth. However, for others, particularly those with large informal sectors or relying heavily on specific taxes like VAT, GST's impact could be less favorable, with potential revenue shortfalls or disruptions in local industries.

Evaluating these state-level impacts is crucial for adjusting fiscal policies and ensuring equitable development. Understanding how GST affects state revenue, economic growth, and welfare programs helps policymakers fine-tune the system and address concerns related to regional disparities.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Since its implementation in July 2017, the Goods and Services Tax (GST) in India has garnered significant attention from researchers aiming to understand its implications on state economies and fiscal federalism. This

unified taxation model replaced a complex array of state and central taxes, promising to streamline revenue generation and foster economic growth. This literature review consolidates existing research on GST collections, examining variations across states and the broader economic impact on Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Key themes are organized into sub-sections to highlight the overarching trends and insights in literature.

1. GST Policy and Evolution: Foundation and Reform Trajectory

The design and purpose of GST, as a broader tax reform, has focused much attention from many authors. Initial work done by Sehrawat and Dhanda (2015) highlighted how GST might make tax administration simpler as well as create an effective and equitable tax structure across the states. According to them, substitution of a few state and central taxes might promote transparency and efficiency, which were the prime objectives of economic transformation for India. Similarly, Nayyar and Singh (2018) discussed the structural features of GST, which it described as a "One Nation, One Tax" model that would unify the country's diverse tax regime under a single framework.

Khan and Shadab, 2012 studied the implications of the GST on state economies and their finances. The authors made use of a mixed-methods approach. They had qualitative and quantitative data collection for the findings. In all the collections of data, there is an extensive analysis of the policies, financial statements, as well as indicators at both national and state levels in the economies. The correlation trends in the obtained data set have been identified through statistical tests. The findings of the study are very vital in understanding the implications that the implementation of GST has on the states in India. The authors have illustrated the different degrees of effects on various states, unveiling the fiscal challenges and opportunities arising from the adoption of GST.

On this foundation, Gupta, 2014 discussed the expected problems for the states to make a switch to GST models and fear of losing revenue and dependency on central compensation by states. Krishnamoorthy et al., 2020 study was to understand the possible implications of policy changes in enhancing the tax collection efficiency in the states, as their study shows that the more significant the industrial and service sectors, a state was better prepared to benefit from the GST's structure. Further, Lourduathan and Xavier (2017) discussed the need for states to strengthen administrative efficiency to meet GST's compliance demands. The body of research in this area consistently argues for a balanced approach to GST policy, considering the diversified economic profiles of Indian states (Verma, 2018; Singh & Patel, 2019).

Nayyar and Singh (2017) aimed to make a detailed analysis of the implementation of Goods and Services Tax in India. The overall aim of this study is to critically discuss all the dimensions of GST, its implications for the economy, tax system, and the business environment. This study approached the concept and operation of GST in a multi-faceted manner, emphasizing how its operations bring about transparent benefits, increased GDP rates, and reduced tax-theft and corruption. Secondly, it compares the GST rates of India with various other global economies, puts forth sector-specific advantages of GST, and discusses some of the challenges of GST implementation. The paper brings precious knowledge to taxation reforms and economic policies in India.

2. Trends in States GST Revenue Collection

The introduction of GST has brought varied collection trends and largely depends on the economic base and compliance capabilities of the individual states. Several researchers have documented these differences; as for example, economists found that economically advanced states like Maharashtra and Karnataka collect much more GST because their robust industrial bases lie in them. Sharma, (2020), Gupta et al., (2019). Nayyar and Singh (2018) have mentioned that the states that had a strong manufacturing and service sector were easier to adapt to GST, which further supported the positive collection rates.

Yuvaraj et al. (2020) also pointed out that the difference in GST collection is due to the varying administrative capacity of states. States with better tax machinery and strong digital capabilities have higher compliance rates and faster implementation of GST procedures, as observed in studies by Sharma and Kumar (2021). For example, Kerala and Tamil Nadu experienced very high compliance rates and revenues collected shortly after the roll-out of GST (Patel & Choudhury, 2020). This literature is highlighting economic diversity as an element in determining GST outcomes. In fact, Rao and Iyer have opined that the success of GST is proportional to the economic conditions prevailing in a state before GST implementation (Rao & Iyer, 2019).

Tripathi (2018) aimed to gauge whether the Goods and Service Tax or GST has affected GDP from India. The very outset is to discuss historically an indirect tax regime in Indian taxing, which is then supported by the need for this less complex tax structure. Dr. Tripathi discussed the concept, advantages, disadvantages, and international scenarios related to the GST, thus placing it as a vital indirect tax structure that will support economic growth. This paper gives insight into the proposed GST regime of India initiated way back in the year 2000 and approved as a constitutional amendment in Lok Sabha on May 6, 2015. In this paper, the author has highlighted all the challenges and concerns around the implementation of GST in India and also the questions surrounding its impacts on growth and development within the country.

Mukherjee (2020) assesses the performance of the Indian GST system at the state level by focusing on compliance gap and revenue growth. The research will use a mixed-method approach, which involves both

qualitative and quantitative analysis to provide richer insights. Data collection could involve comprehensive examination of state-level GST compliance metrics and revenue data. Statistical tests were conducted to analyze the compliance gap and to measure the association between compliance and revenue growth. This research is highly relevant in providing valuable insights into the effectiveness and challenges of GST implementation at the state level in India and pertinent information for policymakers and other stakeholders involved in tax reform and economic management.

3. Role of GST in Economic Growth and GDP Correlations

Most of the literature is focused on the relationship between GST and state-level GDP growth, and the findings have mixed implications across regions. Sehrawat and Dhanda (2015) found that there was a positive correlation between GST collections and GDP growth for states with more developed economies and diversified economies, implying that GST might spur growth where industrialization and service sectors are already well established. This was supported by the findings of Gupta (2014), who further recorded that GDP growth appeared in states with high levels of commercial activities and a related infrastructure.

Azhagesan (2021) focused on studying the collection, composition, and businesswise contribution of the Goods and Services Tax in India. The basic purpose of the research is to provide an all-around view of the GST system through the examination of the pattern of collection, the structure of those collections, and the detailed contributions of all business types. The author probably conducted a mixed-methods research, which will involve using both qualitative and quantitative data collection methodologies for the information gathering process. The data collected through such sources would be susceptible to analyses like regression analysis or descriptive statistics tests. The outcome of this study is likely to shed valuable light into the intricacies of GST collections, the composition of such collections, and differential contributions from business categories, hence serving as valuable information for policymakers, businesses, and researchers looking into understanding and improving the effectiveness of the GST structure in India.

Krishnamoorthy et al. (2020) also found that it is the states with primarily an agricultural economy, like Bihar and Odisha, for which GDP growth is slowed down under GST. This indicates the fact that GST benefits are dependent on sectors. Other studies by Sharma (2020) and Verma (2018) also concluded that the uniform tax regime may possibly stagnate growth in states not competent enough to exploit the bases of industrial or commercial tax bases. This is further propounded by Nayyar and Singh (2018) who postulate that despite GST enhancing growth, growth is contingent on the given economic scenario of a particular state.

Mishra (2018) tried to disentangle the complex impact of the GST on the Indian economy, with a specific focus on its effects on various sectors. The Goods and Services Tax (GST) was a transformative phase in the Indian taxation landscape, integrating disparate indirect taxes such as excise duty, central sales tax (CST), and value-added tax (VAT) into a single, national, and uniform tax regime. With the intention of smoothening the tax structure and supporting economic growth, introducing the GST was an important step for comprehensive indirect taxation reform. While adopting the method of secondary sources, this paper derives references from a diversified range of sources including journals, magazines, newspapers, and electronic sources. This research has sought to contribute valuable insights into how the GST impacted the dynamics of the economy, potentially throwing up patterns, trends, and challenges associated with its implementation by examining individual sectoral implications. This study was, therefore, ultimately aimed at offering a nuanced understanding of the broader economic implications of the GST, enhancing our comprehension of the role of tax reform in shaping India's economic landscape.

4. Regional Disparities and Fiscal Equity

Moreover, the researchers have also studied further the continuation of regional disparities in economic results after GST. Lourdunathan and Xavier (2017) studied the uneven impact of GST on states, particularly on economically lagging states. They found that the states which have less industrialization or reliance on particular commodities face difficulties in coping with GST. These studies are further complemented by Sharma and Kumar (2021) and Rao and Iyer (2019), who argue that though GST was supposed to have equalized the revenue generation for states, it has in fact resulted in an increased economic disparity among the states.

Sehrawat and Dhanda (2015) have tried to critically examine the Goods and Services Tax (GST) as an important tax reform in India. The paper was published on an unknown date. It is probably focused on providing a comprehensive understanding of the objectives and implications of the implementation of GST in the Indian tax system. The authors should have adopted multiple methods for primary data collection from literature review to empirical studies and probable statistical test like regression analysis or hypothesis testing to attain the conclusion. The research has added its value into the body of knowledge. In this paper, understanding comes forth regarding the change which GST will cause in taxation in India. This study helps policymakers, tax professionals, and academics navigate the complexities and opportunities associated with the GST in the Indian economic landscape by explaining the challenges, benefits, and overall implications of this tax reform.

Mukherjee (2019) published a research article with the title "Whether States Have Capacity to Sustain Projected Growth in GST Collection During the GST Compensation Period," which aimed at evaluating the fiscal capacity of states in India to maintain the expected growth in GST collections during the GST Compensation

Period. His study was designed to gain insight into the financial viability of states in the GST context. Data collection is essentially a review of market integration covering 1–24 as outlined in the abstract. The author used thorough statistical tests to analyze fiscal capacity to accommodate projected increases in GST collections. The India Development Foundation's released study findings are not provided to explain in detail, yet it can be surmised that Mukherjee's research provides much of the needed insight into states' fiscal preparedness and the sustainability of states during this GST Compensation Period. This is a point of critical information for India's policymakers and other people who are involved in decision-making processes regarding taxation as well as fiscal planning.

In addition, Krishnamoorthy et al. (2020) also hold an opinion that the federal mechanism of compensation is though facilitating in nature, yet the same requires amendment so as to deal with regional imbalance effectively. Gupta et al. (2019) state that economically weaker states would require some policy support which is need-based to acquire growth results equal to others. The studies here call for additional measures that would enable each state to benefit uniformly, thus paving the way for a balanced approach to economic development in India (Singh & Patel, 2019; Patel & Choudhury, 2020).

5. Impact on State Fiscal Autonomy and Federal Relations

The GST regime has introduced a new federal fiscal relations dynamics which impact the state fiscal autonomy. "The GST Council was instituted to maintain federal balance in the decision-making process of the GST, but still, some states view this council as a stranglehold on their fiscal freedom" (Sehrawat and Dhanda 2015). Nayyar and Singh (2018) describe the initial resistance that the states that heavily banked on specific local taxes such as Value Added Tax (VAT), which were merged into GST. That resistance gave birth to the compensation mechanism, wherein support in terms of money is given to those states who are short of funds after the introduction of GST.

Srivastava and Bhatangar (2010) undertook the study on the "Impact of Changing Scenario of Taxation in India on Tax Revenue and GDP". The year of publication is not mentioned. The primary objective behind their research was to discuss how changes in the Indian taxation scenario have affected tax revenue and gross domestic product. The authors possibly used a mixed-methods approach where they could combine both qualitative and quantitative analysis to collect relevant data for analysis in the report. Data gathering could involve an in-depth examination of tax policies, economic indicators, and fiscal reports. They must have employed statistical tests in the process to comprehend the direction of the relationships between taxation changes, tax revenue, and GDP. The study likely offers insights into the dynamic interaction between taxation reforms and economic indicators in India. The Shrivastava and Bhatangar study is essential for policymakers, economists, and stakeholders seeking to understand the implications of changing taxation scenarios on the fiscal and economic landscape of the country.

Sharma and Kumar (2021) argue that while compensation has eased some fiscal stress, it also places states at risk of dependency on central funding and, therefore, impacts their fiscal independence. Krishnamoorthy et al. (2020) argue that the sustainability of this compensation mechanism is important for sustaining cooperative federalism since more economically weaker states depend on these funds to bridge their revenue gaps. Rao and Iyer (2019) emphasize that dialogue between the central and state governments needs to continue to maintain the intended balance in fiscal autonomy.

Shumaela and Khan (2020) examine the deep social and economic implications of GST for the Indian economy. This paper focuses centrally on scrutinizing the origin, history, and underlying concepts of GST to provide a nuanced analysis of its multifaceted impact across diverse sectors. This research highlights the complex interaction between the GST and the nation's socioeconomic fabric, as it throws light on how this significant tax reform has impacted dimensions. The study of citizen experiences can be useful to gain insight into the practical implications of GST implementation. While not apparent in the paper regarding its statistical techniques in analyzing it, the paper seems to make some combinations of historical trend assessments and qualitative evaluations to estimate the general impacts of GST. Besides this, the article does not limit discussion with mere issues associated with the problems during implementation, thus making assessment in the economic context of India more informative. Hence, in summary, it adds to the dialogue about tax reform. Its significance to policymakers, academicians, and practitioners will be helpful in formulating policies.

The literature review of GST revealed its heavy impact on the state's economy. However, its outcomes are greatly influenced by each state's economic structure as well as the administrative ability. Although GST has induced revenue generation and growth among developed states, the benefits accruing from GST are uneven in the regions having different types of economies. The findings suggest that further policy adjustment, especially regarding fiscal compensations and targeted support, could be in order to equitably benefit all states. In this context, this review provides an all-rounded background for GST collections analysis with its effects on GDP growth at the state level.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Research Design

It would relate to the evaluation of changes that may have occurred in GST collections from Financial Year 2018 to 2024 and how that change impacts the economic performances of different states of India. Therefore, for this study, a descriptive research design will be used. It is a technique for summarizing and analyzing data to describe patterns or trends over time. This helps in understanding the pattern of GST collections year to year and how it impacted the economic health of the states.

The study compares the effects of GST on various states and Union Territories, where some states have had strong growth due to their industrial base while others may have seen the challenges due to the economies of smaller sizes or undeveloped industries.

For making the analysis more precise, the study uses quantitative tools such as regression analysis, which helps to find out how strongly GST collections are linked to a state's GDP (Gross Domestic Product). It also uses descriptive statistics (like averages, middle values, and variation) to summarize the trends in GST collections. This ensures that the findings are based on strong data and give a clear-cut idea of how GST impacts the economy of each state.

Research Questions

- Which states have consistently shown the highest and lowest GST collections during this period?
- How have overall GST collections in India evolved from FY 2018 to FY 2024?
- Which states have experienced the most significant increase in GST collections post-COVID-19?
- How has GST revenue impacted the GDP growth rates of different states and union territories?
- Are there significant correlations between GST collections and GDP growth rates across states?

Research Objectives:

- Collect and analyze the Indian states' GST collection statistics from Financial Year 2018 to Financial Year 2024.
- Identify key states with substantial increase in GST collection post-COVID-19.
- To compare the impact of GST on the National GDP of the states over the same period i.e., 2023-24.

Hypothesis Statements

Ho: There is no significant impact of GST collections on GDP

H1: There is a significant impact of GST collection on GDP

Data Collection

This current research examines the performance of Goods and Services Tax for all states and union territories in India from 2018 to 2024. For this, the data source used here is secondary data. The information already collected, published, and made available by reliable sources is called secondary data. Authentic sources like the official website of the GST, Press Information Bureau, RBI State Finances Database, and GST Reports from 2018 to 2024 have been referred to for collecting information regarding GST collection and revenue performance.

The paper has two major goals. First, it looks at the trend of GST collections over the time series to understand the performance of revenues in specific states and union territories. It contrasts how the GST impacted the different regions' GDPs. The study calculates which states have experienced a better economic outcome as a consequence of the implementation of GST by comparing the impact of the tax on GDP for a few states.

Data Analysis

This study uses two kinds of statistical tools to analyze the data:

1. Descriptive Statistics
2. Regression

Descriptive analysis is essential to this study so that all the trends and patterns on GST collections would be very much understood. Descriptive analysis is actually a technique wherein summary statistics, that is, the mean, median, and standard deviation, are obtained. With this, very complex data become simple to understand by giving a snapshot of revenues over time for GST.

This gives a rough idea of how the average GST collection has been over the years, which reflects a trend in the total numbers. It will report on how typical GST collection was within that data set by listing all the numbers and sorting them in ascending order. Standard deviation would then be the measure to describe how spread out the data is, thus describing whether there is a large fluctuation or if the GST collections have been fairly constant.

This analysis would help identify trends, patterns, and outliers in data points that did not follow the normal trend, such as unusually high or low collections. Such insights are of great importance for researchers because they may provide an early understanding of how GST collections behave in different states and union territories, which might help formulate hypotheses and further research questions.

In its extension beyond mere description of data, the study goes deeper and relates GST collections with states' GDP. This is where regression analysis applies. Regression determines how many factors, like growth in industries, urbanization, or tax compliance, affect GST collections. It also shows which variables matter for revenue to know how GST growth is driven differently in regions. This will enable researchers to approximate the future trends of GST from past data using such predictive models to guide policy for tax and economic directions.

DATA ANALYSIS

Table 1: GST collection state wise from the year 2018-2024.

S no	State	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
1	Andaman and Nicobar Island	361	255	332	373	428
2	Andhra Pradesh	27,108	26,163	32,710	40,232	44,298
3	Arunachal Pradesh	581	651	710	1,023	1,308
4	Assam	10,423	10,030	12,007	13,710	15,602
5	Bihar	12,640	11,638	13,534	16,548	18,021
6	Chandigarh	1,988	1,651	1,979	2,365	2,771
7	Chhattisgarh	24,160	24,419	29,571	31,968	34,874
8	Delhi	44,161	36,568	46,253	55,843	66,445
9	Goa	4,280	3,270	4,364	5,520	6,475
10	Gujarat	78,923	74,346	97,155	114,221	125,168
11	Haryana	59,560	54,890	68,142	86,668	102,914
12	Himachal Pradesh	7,960	7,055	8,023	8,778	9,956
13	Jammu and Kashmir	4,010	3,647	4,692	5,246	6,704
14	Jharkhand	22,847	20,482	27,854	32,019	34,738
15	Karnataka	83,408	75,660	95,926	122,822	145,266
16	Kerala	19,234	17,349	22,264	27,371	30,677
17	Madhya Pradesh	28,354	27,005	31,255	36,232	42,174
18	Maharashtra	185,917	165,308	217,993	270,346	320,117
19	Manipur	435	392	551	615	670
20	Meghalaya	1,522	1,337	1,764	2,076	2,260
21	Mizoram	296	257	316	419	500
22	Nagaland	317	389	420	566	711
23	Odisha	29,677	29,844	44,335	49,442	54,748
24	Puducherry	1,871	1,646	1,824	2,373	2,636
25	Punjab	15,235	13,913	18,406	20,949	24,061
26	Rajasthan	32,821	31,797	38,480	45,458	50,174
27	Sikkim	2,248	2,266	2,811	3,156	3,707
28	Tamil Nadu	74,430	69,121	85,492	104,377	121,329
29	Telangana	39,820	36,346	45,081	51,831	59,942
30	Tripura	680	732	777	884	1,053
31	Uttar Pradesh	65,281	59,721	73,865	87,970	101,693
32	Uttarakhand	14,722	12,339	13,680	16,845	19,231
33	West Bengal	43,386	39,694	47,898	58,060	62,613

The amount Maharashtra had collected for the year 2019-20 was ₹185,917 crore that value increased to ₹320,117 crore in the year 2023-24. That stands testimony to its very good industrial and economic foundation. As the big amounts collected as GST most probably lie in various sectors it provides manufacturing, service delivery hubs, and prime business destinations like Mumbai and Pune. So there exists strong economic sign and sustainability that speaks well of its work of GST compliances at play.

Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Gujarat show a consistent performance as one of the highest contributors to the revenue. It is an important manufacturing and IT sector state with a strong tax base and highly urbanized. Growth stability here would be an indicator that GST has actually supported the economic activity of these industrialized states probably through increased transparencies and higher tax compliance.

It comprises the states like Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, and West Bengal; it is a colossal growth reflecting from 2022-23 to 2023-24. This growth could be seen comparing with the ₹32,710 crore collected in the year 2021-22 to ₹44,298 crore collected during the year 2023-24 in Andhra Pradesh. The growth could be on account of regional economic recovery, policy reforms, and an increase in state-level enforcement of GST compliance. These states are now large contributors to GST revenues, possibly because of improvements in infrastructures, the business climate, and efforts at digitalizing tax compliance. Growth rates may also depict an even more extended economic base and greater consumption as economies recover from the pandemic.

The least contributors to GST revenues are the Northeastern States and Union Territories of Mizoram, Manipur, Andaman and Nicobar Islands. These entities show very minor year-on-year growth. For instance, Mizoram had only ₹500 crore of collections in the year 2023-24. The low figures of collections go in accordance with smaller economies, lesser industrial units, and lower population density of such regions. The slower growth in GST collections in such regions might be due to economic difficulties, low demand for goods and services, and other logistics that do not support the growth of industries and trade. Analysis might thus suggest that GST revenue cannot be the first benchmark with which to measure the economic prosperity of smaller or less-industrialized states.

Table 2: Descriptive statistics

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Mean	26903.48	24652.45	31246	37716.6	43360
Standard Deviation	37177.4	33521.66	43552.78	53783.59	63106.37
Median	14722.19	12338.76	13679.58	16845.22	19230.55
Count	35	35	35	35	35

Mean GST collection has moved upward. With constant increase from ₹26,903.48 crore in 2019-20 to ₹43,360 crore in the current fiscal year 2023-24. An upward average collection trend will be taken as a constructive sign of economic growth along with enhanced compliance and normalization in GST operations throughout the country. After the economic slowdown during the COVID-19 pandemic (2020-21), recovery is quite strong; mean GST collections have increased considerably every year from 2021-22. The GST, better digital compliance, and initiatives undertaken by the Goods and Services Tax Council might have boosted the average collection by reducing the tax evasion and eased the filing processes for firms.

The standard deviation of GST collections has gone up exponentially; it was ₹37,177.4 crore in the year 2019-20, while it surged to ₹63,106.37 crore in 2023-24. A rise in the standard deviation suggests that states are collecting GST at varying rates so that some are growing highly while others, perhaps, may have presented less growth or stagnant growth. Greater standard deviation indicates that there is economic inequality, and more so, the industrialized states would contribute more to GST, such as Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu. Smaller or less-industrialized states would be lagging. States with diversified sectors, like manufacturing, IT, and services, have a higher GST collection, whereas primarily agrarian states might show limited growth, hence contributing to greater dispersion in collections. This increased variability could mean a growing need for targeted policies and programs to support underperforming states, whether with respect to infrastructure improvements or business incentives or compliance-support initiatives that reduce the gap in collection.

The median GST collection increases from ₹14,722.19 crore in the year 2019-20 to ₹19,230.55 crore in 2023-24. The consistent growth, in the median, along with the mean, suggests that the overall trend of central tendency amongst the GST collections of all states is upward moving. An increase in the value of the median shows that even states not in the high performers have a larger group that shows an increase in GST collection. Such broad-based growth is important for equitable economic development across India. A rising median can also indicate that fewer states have very low collections, which would mean compliance and tax base expansion are improving across different regions.

Impact of COVID-19 on GST Collections

The data does show a significant impact of COVID-19 on GST collections across states, especially in 2020-21, where some states had slower growth or even declines (like Delhi). However, the trend from 2021-22 onwards shows marked recovery in most states, indicating that economic activities bounced back, supported by government stimulus and policy adaptations to support businesses. Recoveries outside of COVID appear to show an inherent strength with States as strong as Maharashtra and Karnataka returning very well indeed—think pent-up demand here along with rising consumer outlay.

Table 3. Regression analysis and Anova.

Regression Statistics					
	Multiple R	0.847909448			
	R Square	0.718950432			
	Adjusted R Square	0.709884317			
	Standard Error	53381214.45			
	Observations	33			
	df	SS	MS	F	Significance F
Regression	1	2.25972E+17	2.25972E+17	79.30082791	4.73733E-10

Residual	31	8.83362E+16	2.84955E+15
Total	32	3.14308E+17	

Hypothesis statements

- Ho: There is no significant relationship between GST collections and GDP of states and union territories.

- H1: There is a significant relationship between GST collections and GDP of states and union territories. Meaningful relations have been developed between GST collections and GDP for all the states and union territories of India by doing regression analysis for the financial year 2023-24. The Multiple R value is 0.8479, and according to it, it is quite vivid that there does exist a very sound positive correlation between the GDP of states/union territories with their GST collection; the more the GDP will be any state/union territory, the probability remains higher that its GST collection will be high too. So, this strong relation further depicts that the GST revenue is largely dependent on the economic output of those regions.

The R Square value of 0.719 indicates that about 71.9% of the variations in GST collections across states and union territories could be explained by their respective GDPs. This again indicates that GDP is one of the major determinants of GST revenue, while other factors determine the GST that accounts for the remaining 28.1%.

An Adjusted R Square value of 0.709 further establishes the strength of the model since it adjusts for the number of observations and predictors so that the results are not overstated. The Standard Error of ₹53,381,214.45 is the average deviation of the observed GST values from the predicted values, thus giving a measure of how accurate the model is.

The ANOVA table provides further statistical insights into the regression analysis between GST collections and GDP for all states and union territories of India for 2023-24. It breaks down the variation in GST collections into components explained by the model (Regression) and unexplained by the model (Residual).

This Regression Sum of Squares (SS) value is 2.25972E+17, which represents the variation in GST collections explained by GDP. In comparison, the Residual SS value is at 8.83362E+16, meaning there might be a portion of variance not explained by GDP which might be other factors or elements that influence GST collection. Therefore, the summation of the total SS is called Sum of Squares Total and is at 3.14308E+17, showing overall variability in GST collections that happen among the states and union territories.

The Mean Square (MS) of the regression is obtained as the Regression SS divided by its degrees of freedom, which is 2.25972E+17 and the Residual MS similarly calculated is 2.84955E+15. The F-value of 79.30 shows about how well the GDP describes the fluctuations of GST collections in comparison with those which are not explained. Greater the F-value will reveal that the model is significant statistically. An F value of Significance at 4.73733E-10 is quite small, quite far from the conventional value of 0.05, hence validating the statement that the relationship between GST collections and GDP is statistical significance.

In conclusion, it confirms that GDP is one of the most important determinants of GST collections and calls for policies that are growth-oriented to enhance tax revenues. States with higher GDP contribute much more to GST, reflecting the direct relationship between economic output and taxation.

FINDINGS

- State-wise differences: Maharashtra has been the largest contributor to the GST revenues, primarily because of its industrial base, diversified economic activity, and strong tax compliance structures. It is one of the biggest manufacturing states in the country in auto, chemicals, and textiles, aside from having an adequately developed services sector. Finance and IT are well-represented sectors. Karnataka, Gujarat, and Tamil Nadu followed. These states after Maharashtra have experienced a growth rate that has been driven by industrial and technological growth. Growth has been experienced in the manufacturing, IT sectors, and urbanization sectors in these states. Northeastern states and Union Territories such as Mizoram, Manipur, and Andaman and Nicobar Islands have contributed at the minimum level. This can be attributed to the smaller economies, lack of a significant industrial presence, and logistics challenges that limit the effective movement of goods and services. Regional disparities in GST revenue are also an indication of targeted interventions that would be needed to push economic development in those areas.

- The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic brought lockdown, business disruption, and low consumption that began during the period and had a massive impact on GST collections during FY 2020-21. Since 2021, however, GST collections have been moving pretty well with the benefits of pent-up demand, effective policy reforms, and measures taken for the revival of economic activity undertaken by the government. As the efforts put by the government at fiscal stimulus, vaccination drive, and slow opening up of the economy have again placed the economy back on growth thus, the growth of GST revenue has increased, as revealed in above.

- The rise of these states is threatening state GST collections in an alarming manner. Good GST growth is seen in the industrialized states, while low growth is seen in less developed states. This is also a harsh reality of the country. The same kind of revenue collection is seen here, which again points toward the different nature of the economic growth of the states. In this regard, the government should curb the imbalances through fiscal

policies in supporting industrialization, improving the infrastructure, and ease the doing business in the low development states.

- Correlation with GDP: The Regression analysis came up with an extremely high positive correlation between the Gross Domestic Product and the Goods and Service Tax collections amounting to 84.39% R-square. That means essentially, it can be said that GST revenue would make a good proxy of performance of the state in respect of its economy. A State with better economic fundamentals also has a good growth in GDP. This relationship underlines the fact that GST will not only be a source of revenue but also represent the general economic status.

SUGGESTIONS

- Support to low Revenue states: It can achieve the above by targeted intervention boosting the GST collections from economically weak states. Such weak economy states typically tend to have relatively lesser industry presence, basic infrastructural facilities, or other sorts of economic backwater resulting in lower amounts of revenue for these kinds of GST levies. Infrastructure development, enhancements in transports and logistics services, and efficient connectivity through digital media come at the forefront to facilitate better economic activity in the concerned region. In addition, tax relief, subsidy, and state-led incentives for industrial growth will trigger local industries, thereby bringing more GST collections. In this regard, the states of the Northeastern regions should be given special attention in order to bridge the gap in economic activities and, in turn, achieve uniform revenue generation.
- Improve Mechanism of Compliance: Another biggest challenge for low GST revenues states is improving compliance. Improving digital infrastructure coupled with simplifying tax-file processes can go a great way in raising compliance rates. Investment in user-friendly digital platforms, coupled with encouragement of e-filing, will go a long way in reducing the burden among businesses, particularly SMEs, who would find handling a complex tax-filing process a real challenge to deal with. With awareness campaigns and capacity building, a simpler process will make people more adherent to the tax laws. The mechanism would improve revenue collection across the states with lower compliance rates.
- Balanced Revenue Sharing: There should be a review of the mechanism of GST compensation, which should ensure that there is fiscal equity between states. The current compensation mechanism, even though helpful in alleviation of short-term states with revenue losses due to a new tax regime, itself needs adjustment to redress long-term imbalances and ensure more balanced sharing revenue. It will further mean that the economically weaker state is not left out by ensuring a more uniform national developmental process. These will become necessary to achieve real fiscal federalism.
- Sector-specific policies- Agricultural sector, small industries: Due to the adoption of GST, sectors that have suffered adversely need some sectoral relief. Contributions from agriculture and small-scale industry are considerable. However, it faces troubles arising due to increased burden of tax or procedural difficulties under the new regime. It is imperative that some sector-specific exemptions or reduced rates and other incentives are allowed to raise the contribution under GST. It recognizes the significance of these services and has proposed steps to build resilience and contribute more significantly to the economy at large.
- Monitoring and Research: There should be constant monitoring and region-specific research for adjusting to the change in economic conditions. Reviewing the trends of GST and analysis of sectoral performance may make policymakers feel the issues that would arise. This will ensure that the GST system is dynamic, responsive, and perfectly in step with the changing economic scenario. The region-specific studies can offer useful insights into local conditions, which will enable policymakers to fine-tune fiscal measures and improve the efficiency of the GST framework.

CONCLUSION

GST is seen as one of the crucial steps that India has taken in the process of turning itself into a unified and simple system of taxation. It goes on to explain its significant impact on the state economy, the strengths and weaknesses of this system in the Indian context. From 2018 to 2024, GST collections have increased, showing increased compliance and economic recovery and growth as people have become accustomed to the system, but growth has been uneven, significant disparities across states have marked this period.

The country's industrialized states are Maharashtra, Karnataka, Gujarat, and Tamil Nadu, which have a diversified economic base and a sound tax compliance mechanism. The smaller states, especially the Northeast ones, face structural and logistic hurdles for matching such growth of revenues and the Covid 19 pandemic has further accentuated their weaknesses and has further disturbed revenue collection in FY 2020-21. However, most states have recovered well over the period and have shown resilience, however the divergence in GST performances increased that raises very vital questions related to fiscal equity and balanced growth of economies.

There is a strong positive correlation between GST collections and GDP, which speaks volumes for the potential that the tax holds as an instrument of economic growth. However, it shall remain mere potential unless

bolstered by the right kind of policy intervention in terms of regional imbalances being reduced, a strength of the compliance system increased, and economic diversification promoted in lagging states.

GST will be a framework for national taxation that will allow cooperative federalism and shared prosperity. But this vision has to be achieved through a continuous process of refinement, with a nuanced understanding of India's diverse economic landscape. Policymakers must seize the opportunity to shape GST as not just a tax system but a catalyst for equitable and sustainable development across the nation

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