



Notice for the PhD Viva Voce Examination

Ms Chennathur Guna (Registration Number: 1710071), PhD scholar at the School of Commerce, Finance and Accountancy, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bangalore will defend her PhD thesis at the public viva-voce examination on Tuesday, 11 June 2024 at 3.00 pm in Room No. 044, Ground Floor, R & D Block, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bengaluru - 560029.

Title of the Thesis : **Implications of Goods and Services Tax on Indian Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises**

Discipline : **Commerce**

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The members of the Research Advisory Committee of the Scholar, the faculty members of the Department and the School, interested experts and research scholars of all the branches of research are cordially invited to attend this open viva-voce examination.

Place: Bengaluru
Date: 07 June 2024



Registrar

ABSTRACT

This research explores the impact and provides implications of “Goods and Services Tax”, a comprehensive indirect tax reform on the growth of Indian MSMEs, the fundamental drivers of economic progress and employment in India. The purpose is to assess the relationships and impact of the knowledge of GST, Input tax credit (ITC), Revenue neutral rate (RNR), and GST compliance on the growth of Indian MSMEs. Also, the research focuses on the interceding role of GST compliance in the relationship between GST knowledge, ITC, RNR and MSMEs growth, as well as to discover facets that impede the implementation of effective tax policies, particularly in the context of MSMEs. This study is based on a Cross sectional Survey with 531 MSME participants who are registered under Regular scheme. “Structural Equation Modelling - Partial Least Squares (SEM-PLS)” in Smart PLS4 was utilized to examine the relationships amongst the variables, assess the impact of each variable on the outcome variable, either directly or indirectly and to test the research hypotheses. The results show, GST knowledge, ITC, and RNR have significant positive effects on GST compliance and on perceived growth of MSMEs. Also, the study found, GST compliance has a complementary partial mediating role in the relation between these factors and perceived growth of MSMEs. Furthermore, GST knowledge, ITC, and RNR have positive effect on perceived MSMEs satisfaction with the GST system. But, the effect of GST knowledge and ITC on perceived satisfaction of MSMEs through GST Compliance was not significant. This hints that, while knowledge of GST and ITC are important, complications in claiming ITC and burdensome compliance requisites can unpleasantly impact compliance and satisfaction with GST.

The study also observed significant variations in perceptions of GST knowledge, ITC, RNR, GST Compliance, MSMEs’ satisfaction, and MSMEs’ growth across different demographic variables. Interestingly, manufacturing businesses tend to have lower perceptions on GST knowledge and GST compliance when compared with manufacturing cum service enterprises. This recommends, there is a need for targeted education and support for manufacturing businesses to make better their understanding and compliance with the GST system. It is as well acknowledged that, the study’s caveats are the size of the sample and the restricted scope and coverage of the diverse MSME sector.

Keywords: India, GST, MSMEs, Knowledge of GST, Input tax credit (ITC), Revenue neutral rate (RNR), GST Compliance, MSME growth, MSME satisfaction

Publications:

1. Guna, C., & Anuradha, P.S. (2021). Dimensions of GST on Small and Moderate Business Units: A Systematic Review, *Vision*, SAGE. 25(3), 275-284.
2. Guna, C., & Anuradha, P.S. ‘The Synergy of GST factors in fostering MSMEs Growth: A PLS-SEM Approach’ is submitted to a Scopus Indexed Journal. Awaiting their decision.