# Issue of fake Invoicing under GST and Arrest provisions

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# Media Limelight





NEWS / CITY NEWS / AGRA NEWS / UP GST OFFICIALS DETECT RS 3 CRORE TAX FRAUD BY HAPUR RESIDENT IN ALIGARH

# UP GST officials detect Rs 3 crore tax fraud by Hapur resident in Aligarh

Anuja Jaiswal | TNN | Updated: Jul 11, 2019, 14:29 IST

UP GST officials detect Rs 3 crore

tax fraud by Hapur resident in...



AGRA: GST officials in Uttar Pradesh (UP) have unearthed an alleged tax fraud of nearly Rs 3 crore and detected fake invoices worth Rs 16 crore by

UPSRTC flouts 10-year p norm, many old buses st



Fake invoice fraud: Case studies presented to PM Narendra Modi U Sudhakar Reddy i TNN i Updated: Jul 15, 2019, 10:52 IST













HYDERABAD: The Director General of GST Intelligence (DGGI) made a presentation to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the modus operandi and the severity of the fake invoices fraud in Hyderabad, where several top infrastructure companies







HOME > STATE EDITIONS > BHUBANESWAR

#### Rs 12.84-crore GST evasion: Bizman held

Friday, 09 August 2019 | PNS | BALANGIR



SHARE





of Balangir district for allegedly evading Goods and Services Tax (GST) amounting to Rs 12.84

G.

Acting on a directive of the State GST Commission, a joint enforcement team raided Patel's residence and arrested him at around 11 am. He was produced in the Court of SDJM, Titilagarh and sent to judicial custody after rejection of his bail plea.

crore.

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The accused has allegedly evaded the tax through fake bills of purchase of items worth Rs 84.6 crore and sale of items costing Rs 84.71 crore without buying or selling anything, official source said.

Sai International Mines & Minerals owner Tirthankar Patel was on Thursday arrested in Titilagarh



NEWS / CITY NEWS / SURAT NEWS / SURAT: DGGI UNEARTHS YET ANOTHER FAKE BILLING RACKET OF RS 42 CRORE

### Surat: DGGI unearths yet another fake billing racket of Rs 42 crore

Melvyn Thomas | TNN | Updated: Aug 7, 2019, 21:14 IST





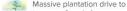


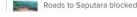




SURAT: The Surat zonal unit of the Directorate General of GST Intelligence (DGGI) on Wednesday arrested a person involved in the issuance of fake invoices to fraudulently claim Input Tay Credit (ITC) to

Surat: DGGI unearths yet another





#### **TOP STORIES** HOME **NEWS UPDATES** COLUMNS INTERVIEWS INCOME TAX SERVICE TAX HEADLINES puts, But Not Discharged Any Output VAT Liability Amounts to Profiteering: NAA [Read Order] • No Juris

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#### **Chartered Accountant and Four Others held for creating Fake GST Invoices**

June 7, 2019 1:15 pm | By: Tax Scan Team











#### Chartered accountant arrested for GST fraud

| Thursday | 21st February, 2019



Chartered accountant Gaurav Jindal, 27, has been arrested for allegedly running the racket. One such exporting firm involved in the said racket is GJA Industries ltd, Delhi, which is being controlled and managed by Jindal. He was sent to Meerut jail for the offence on Tuesday. Elaborating on the matter, senior intelligence officer Devender Kumar said, "These offenders created multiple companies/firms using

# करोड़ों की जीएसटी चोरी करने वाली जयपुर की सीए गिरफ्तार, जेल भेजा

• 26 फर्जी फर्म बनाई, फर्जी बिलिंग से 20

करोड़ रुपए हड़पे

• जोधपुर स्टेट टैक्स डिपार्टमेंट की कार्रवाई

जोधपुर | परिचित, अनजान या साथी कर्मचारियों के पैन कार्ड, आधार और अन्य दस्तावेजों से फर्जी फर्में

बनाकर डमी बिलिंग करने और करोडों रु. की जीएसटी चोरी के मामले में जयपुर की सीए परिधि जैन को जोधपुर स्टेंट टैक्स डिपार्टमेंट ने

गिरफ्तार कर लिया। विभाग ने उन्हें कोर्ट में पेश किया। जहां से जेल भेज दी गई। जीएसटी लागू होने के साथ ही मिली शक्तियों का जोधपुर में

पहली बार प्रयोग करते हुए विभाग ने के विभिन्न थानों में अब तक 7 यह कार्रवाई की है। परिधि ने जोधपुर मामले दर्ज हो चुके हैं। इसके के शंकर नगर निवासी सीए गौरव माहेश्वरी के साथ मिलकर करीब 26 फर्जी फर्म बनाई थी और इनमें

करीब 90 करोड़ की बोगस बिलिंग



सीए परिधि जैन मुंह ढंके हुए।

सीए गौरव है गिरोह का मास्टरमाइंड, दोनों पर जयपर

सहित कई जिलों में मामले

इस गिरोह के मास्टरमाइंड सीए गौरव माहेश्वरी के खिलाफ जोधपुर अलावा जयपर के वैशाली नगर थाने में भी परिधि और गौरव के

खिलाफ केस दर्ज कराने के लिए **जयपुर से** जोधपुर लाई और कर पीड़ित थानों के चक्कर लगा रहे 

# पत्रिका सिटीजन

### जीएसटी चोरी: जयपुर की महिला सीए को किया गिरपतार ट्रीम ने उमे न्यायाधीश के आवास पर का फर्जीवाडा पत्रिका न्यूज नेटवर्क

जयपुर/जोधपुर, राज्य जीएमटी विभाग की एंटी इवेजन विर ने

सोमबार को बड़ी कार्रवाई करते हुए दस्तावेजों में हेराफेरी कर फर्जी फर्में बनाने और करोड़ों रूपए की जीएसटी चोरी मामले में शामिल जयपर की

महिला चार्टर्ड एकाउटेट (सीप) परिधि जैन को गिरफ्टार कर लिया। राज्य कर आयुक्त डॉ. प्रीनम बी यशवंत के आदश के बाद संयक्त आयुक्त (जोधपुर) केके व्यास के निर्देश पर एंटी इवेजन टीम परिधि को उसे प्रोडक्शन वारंट पर तलब कर

में गिरफ्तार

पेश किया. जहां से उसे 24 दिसम्बर परिधि ने कर धोरी की मंशा से तक न्यायिक हिरासत में भंजने के आदेश दिए गए। महिला सीए की अन्य आरोपी गोरद माहेश्वरी के गिरफ्तारी का यह सभवतः पहला

साथ मिलकर रंगिज़ रथी। इसके तहत रिश्तेदारों परिचितों के त्यम मामला है। अन्य आरोपी जेल मैं: इस भामक लुभावने विद्यापनी की आह मामले में अन्य आरोपी जीधपुर का में दस्तार्वेज हासिल किए। जीएसटी सीए गौरव माहेश्वरी धोखाधडी के मामले में न्यायिक हिसमत में हैं।

स्टेट जीएसटी विभाग की और मे जीएसटी में अपगध के नहत धारा 132 के मामले में आरोपी गौरत्र माहेश्वरी की गिरफ्तारी वाकी हैं।

नियमानुसार कार्यवाही की जाएगी:

में फर्जी तथ्य द अंग्रहे देश कर फर्मों का पंजीयन कराया व फार्नी आइटीसी बनाकर रिटर्न में डिना माल व सेवाओं को प्रोगस दिलों में दर्शायः। जिनसे १०.९७ करोड प्रेटन में दतकर कुल 16.75 जरोड़ की जीएसटी चोरी की

इधर, आरोपी सीए को नहीं मिली राहत

दस्तावेज में हेराफेरी कर फर्जी फर्म बनाने और करोड़ों रुपए की जीएसटी चोरी के आरोपी चार्टर्ड ्काउंटेंट गौरव माहेश्वरी के जमानत प्रार्थना पत्र पर सोमवार को सुनवाई हुई। कोर्ट ने केस डायरी

तलब करते हुए अगली सु**नवाई 6** जनवरी को तय की है। न्यायाधीश संदीप मेहता की एकलपीठ ने <sub>सनि</sub>रेक महाधिवक्ता **फरजंद अली** 

हो अगली सुनवाई पर जीएसटी

हिमान के अधिवक्ता को भी उपस्थित रखने को कहा है।



### **Data on Prosecution**

The government has detected Goods and Services Tax (GST) evasion of over Rs 45,000 crore during the financial year 2018-19. Of this, tax sleuths have recovered an amount of Rs 25,000 crore during this period, as per the data available with the finance ministry. The revenue department of the ministry has registered around 37,000cases in the last fiscal. The cases registered by the tax authorities range from misuse of Input Tax Credit (ITC), misdeclaration to non-filing of GST returns. The most common modus operandi of evasion is the use of fake invoices. Close to 2,000 cases of fake invoices involving Rs 8,000 crore were registered during 2018-19. Tax sleuths recovered Rs 736 crore of the total tax evaded on account of fake invoices.

Source: DNA India

# ARREST UNDER GST



# ARREST VS PROSECUTION

# **Statutory Provisions** -



### **CONSTITUTION OF INDIA**

No person shall be deprived of his life or personal liberty except according to the procedure specified by the law

### **POWER TO ARREST**

Where the Commissioner has **reasons to believe** that a person has committed any offence specified in clause (a) or clause (b) or clause (c) or clause (d) of sub-section (1) of section 132 which is punishable under clause (i) or (ii) of sub-section (1), or sub-section (2) of the said section, he may, by order, authorise any officer of central tax to arrest such person:

### Whoever commits any of the following offences, namely

- (a) Supplies any goods or services or both Without issue of any invoice, in violation of the provisions of this Act or the rules made thereunder, with the intention to evade tax;
- (b) issues any invoice or bill without supply of goods or services or both in violation of the provisions of this Act, or the rules made thereunder leading to wrongful availment or utilization of input tax credit or refund of tax;
- (c) avails input tax credit using such invoice or bill referred to in clause (b);
- (d) collects any amount as tax but fails to pay the same to the Government beyond a period of three months from the date on which such payment becomes due

# **Undisclosed Sales**



## **Points of discussion**

- Falling u/s 132 (a)
- Most common way of evasion of tax
- Normally the information comes from records seized during search under GST or other laws

# Issuing Fake Invoices by making Bogus Firms



### **SECTION 132**

### Whoever commits any of the following offences, namely

- (a) Supplies any goods or services or both Without issue of any invoice, in violation of the provisions of this Act or the rules made thereunder, with the intention to evade tax;
- (b) issues any invoice or bill without supply of goods or services or both in violation of the provisions of this Act, or the rules made thereunder leading to wrongful availment or utilization of input tax credit or refund of tax;
- (c) avails input tax credit using such invoice or bill referred to in clause (b);
- (d) collects any amount as tax but fails to pay the same to the Government beyond a period of three months from the date on which such payment becomes due

# **Points of discussion**

- Falling u/s 132 (b) and (c)
- Creation of bogus firms by using personal details with or without information
- Raising bogus claims of credit
- Possible on account of technical incompetency of the system
- Layering of entities to hide the actual beneficiary
- Credit is passed to the business in lieu of commission
- Refund is taken of the credit

# **Discounting of Accumulated Credit**



### FLOW DIAGRAM

Layers are made by exchanging the bills for transferring the Credit and cover the fraud

Dealer X wants taxable invoices to cover its purchases without Bills eg: excess production from textile factory, Marble Industry.

Consumer purchase goods without a Tax Invoice

Masters of Network approach Trader A/Wholesaler B to issue invoices in the name of identified GSTIN Dealer Y can take refund of such tax credit by showing bogus Exports

Trader A
(Accumulation of Tax
Credit) He will either
use this to generate
fake invoice or will
start buying without
Tax Invoice



## **Points of discussion**

- Indirect loss of revenue
- Section 132(1)(b) and (c) of the CGST Act is triggered
- Can be understand with the flow diagram
- Can be duly taken care with E-invoice or digital payment

### **SECTION 132**

# Whoever commits any of the following offences, namely

- (a) Supplies any goods or services or both Without issue of any invoice, in violation of the provisions of this Act or the rules made thereunder, with the intention to evade tax;
- (b) issues any invoice or bill without supply of goods or services or both in violation of the provisions of this Act, or the rules made thereunder leading to wrongful availment or utilization of input tax credit or refund of tax;
- (c) avails input tax credit using such invoice or bill referred to in clause (b);
- (d) collects any amount as tax but fails to pay the same to the Government beyond a period of three months from the date on which such payment becomes due

# **Circular Trading**



### **Points of discussion**

- No loss of revenue
- Falls in the four corner of section 132(1)(b) and (c) of the CGST Act
- Only to inflate the turnover
- Repercussion under other statues
- Lack of transportation document

### **SECTION 132**

### Whoever commits any of the following offences, namely

- (a) Supplies any goods or services or both Without issue of any invoice, in violation of the provisions of this Act or the rules made thereunder, with the intention to evade tax;
- (b) issues any invoice or bill without supply of goods or services or both in violation of the provisions of this Act, or the rules made thereunder leading to wrongful availment or utilization of input tax credit or refund of tax;
- (c) avails input tax credit using such invoice or bill referred to in clause (b);
- (d) collects any amount as tax but fails to pay the same to the Government beyond a period of three months from the date on which such payment becomes due

# Using tax collected



### Whoever commits any of the following offences, namely

- (a) Supplies any goods or services or both Without issue of any invoice, in violation of the provisions of this Act or the rules made thereunder, with the intention to evade tax;
- (b) issues any invoice or bill without supply of goods or services or both in violation of the provisions of this Act, or the rules made thereunder leading to wrongful availment or utilization of input tax credit or refund of tax;
- (c) avails input tax credit using such invoice or bill referred to in clause (b);
- (d) collects any amount as tax but fails to pay the same to the Government beyond a period of three months from the date on which such payment becomes due

### **Points of discussion**

- section 132(1)(d) of the CGST Act
- To cover the persons who collect the taxes and do not deposit
- Language covers genuine cases also
- Interest is very well a compensation for delay payment but can not extend beyond the specified limit

# **Monetary Limits**



Clause	Amount of evasion	Cases	Term of Imprisonment
(i)	> 5 Cr.	Tax evasion/Wrong availment/ utilization of Input tax credit/ Refund	Upto 5 Years with fine
(ii)	Duty evasion > 2 Cr < 5 C	Tax evasion/ Wrong availment/ utilization of Input tax credit/ Refund	Upto 3 Years with fine
(iii)	Duty evasion > 1 Cr < 2 Cr	Tax evasion/ Wrong availment/ utilization of Input tax credit/ Refund	Upto 1 Year with fine
(iv)		Where one commits or abets the commission of offence specified in clause (f) or (g) or (j) (Falsifies/Obstructs/Tampers)	Upto 6 months or with fine

### **SECTION 132 (2)**

### REPEAT OFFENCES

Where any person convicted of an offence under this section is again convicted of an offence under this section, then, he shall be punishable for the second and for every subsequent offence with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years and with fine.

# Reason to Believe is pre requisite



### **'REASON TO BELIEVE' UNDER S. 69**

Opinion may be subjective but must be based on material evidence on record

Reason must appear on the face of the notice or available in materials on record

Reason must have rational basis for forming the belief

Must be something which a reasonable person would believe on the basis of facts before him

Cannot be a mere 'reason to suspect'

### **'REASON TO BELIEVE' UNDER S. 69**

# Examples:

- Information from previous investigations conducted by another authority
- Statements against accused corroborated by Evidence
- Inference based on previous searches conducted in other premises of the Assessee
- Documents and business account-related information
- Information from FIU

# **Basics of CrPC**



### COGNIZABLE AND NON-COGNIZABLE OFFENCES

#### Cognizable

 Authority to make an arrest without a warrant and to start an investigation with or without the permission of a court

### Non-Cognizable

- an investigation cannot be initiated without a court order
- Other offences under the Act are non-cognizable and bailable
- all arrested persons shall be released on bail by Deputy/ Assistant Commissioner.

#### Non Bailable

- Bail has to be taken from Economic Offences Court u/s 437 of CrPC Or from High Court or Court of Session
- Offences where the amount of tax evaded or the amount of ITC wrongly availed or the amount of refund wrongly taken exceeds 5 crore.

### Bailable

 DC/Ac has power to grant bail by way of a bail bond

### **Types of Bail**

438

Anticipatory Bail 437/439

• Regular Bail.

482/Writ

 Quashing of FIR along with interim protection application 167(2)

Default Bail

## **Judgements on Default Bail**

Application u/s 439 of Cr.P.C for grant of bail was filed before the <u>High Court of Judicature of Madhya Pradesh at Gwalior by Nitin Nikhra [2019 (28) G.S.T.L 199].</u>

Section 167(2) of Cr.P.C has not been complied which requires that Charge Sheet is to be filed within a period of 60 days. Applicant has already suffered confinement of 63 days. Held that right of "default bail" has accrued to assessee after the completion of 60 days following the principle reiterated by Apex Court in case of Achpal alia Ramswaroop. Applicant was released on bail with certain conditions.

# IN THE HIGH COURT OF GUJARAT AT AHMEDABAD in <u>case SANDEEP MAGANBHAI</u> CHANIYARA Vs COMMISSIONER, CENTRAL EXCISE AND CGST, RAJKOT reported in TOG-673-HC-GUJ-GST-2019.

Application is filed u/s 439 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 for regular bail. The applicant is arrested on 08.07.2019 and the fact that till date even after passage of 60 days, neither any complaint nor chargesheet is filed and, therefore, the applicant would be entitled for default bail with other terms and conditions.

## SAFEGUARDS FOR A PERSON WHO IS PLACED UNDER ARREST – SECTION 69

If a person is arrested for a cognizable offence, he must be informed in writing of the grounds of arrest and he must be produced before a magistrate within 24 hours of his arrest

If a person is arrested for a non- cognizable and bailable offence, the Deputy/ Assistant Commissioner can release him on bail and he will be subject to the same provisions as an officer in charge of a police station under section 436 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973

All arrest must be in accordance with the provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 relating to arrest





### Summon

- Section 70 empower the proper officer to issue 'summon
- 'Enquiry shall be deemed to be 'judicial proceedings' under IPC
- Statements will be taken as admissible evidences
- A person can be imprisoned in case of non-compliance
- Used to collect evidences from the person who have taken the bills
- 'Sec. 136 corresponding to section 9D of the Excise Act

# Retraction of statement



# Bannalal Jat Constructions Pvt Ltd vs ACIT, Jaipur DB IT Appeal 140/2018 Raj HC

This court in CIT, Bikaner Vs. Ravi Mathur, supra, which was relied by the ITAT in the present case, after considering catena of previous decisions, held that the statements recorded under Section 132(4) of the IT Act have great evidentiary value and it cannot be discarded in a summary and cryptic manner, by simply observing that the assessee retracted from his statement. One has to come to a definite finding as to the manner in which the (11 of 19) [ITA-140/2018] retraction takes place. Such retraction should be made as soon as possible and immediately after such statement has been recorded by filing a complaint to the higher officials or otherwise brought to the notice of the higher officials by way of duly sworn affidavit or statement supported by convincing evidence, stating that the earlier statement was recorded under pressure, coercion or compulsion.

# No arrest before completion of Adjudication



### **Important Judgments**

- Make My Trip Pvt Ltd Vs UOI :2016 44STR 481 (Del HC)
  - (vi) In the case of MMT, without even an SCN being issued and without there being any determination of the amount of service tax arrears, the resort to the extreme coercive measure of arrest followed by the detention of Mr. Pallai was impermissible in law.
- Jayachandran Alloys (P) Ltd vs Superintendent of GST 2019 25 GSTL 321 (Mad)
  - When recovery is made subject to 'determination' in an assessment, the argument of the department that punishment for the offence alleged can be imposed even prior to such assessment, is clearly incorrect and amounts to **putting the cart before the horse**.
- VIMAL YASHWANTGIRI GOSWAMI Vs STATE OF GUJARAT 2019-TIOL-1746-HC-AHM-GST
  - To put it in other words, the powers of arrest under Section 69 of the Act, 2017 are to be exercised with lot of care and circumspection. Prosecution should normally be launched only after the adjudication is completed. To put it in other words, there must be in the first place a determination that a person is "liable to a penalty". Till that point of time, the entire case proceeds on the basis that there must be an apprehended evasion of tax by the assessee.

## Relief in case of predeposit



### Points of discussion

- Hon'ble Supreme Court in the case of C. PRADEEP Petitioner(s) VERSUS THE COMMISSIONER OF GST AND CENTRAL EXCISE SELAM & ANR. Special Leave to Appeal (Crl.) No(s). 6834/2019
  - Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that indisputably assessment for the relevant period has not been completed by the Department so far. In which case, invoking Section 132 of the Central Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017 does not arise. He further submits that, even if, the alleged liability of Rs. 19 crores as is assumed by the Department is accepted, it is open to the petitioner to file appeal after the assessment order is passed; and as per the statutory stipulation, such appeal could be filed upon deposit of only 10% of the disputed liability. In that event, the deposit amount may not exceed Rs. 2,00,00,000/- (Rupees Two Crores), which the petitioner is willing to deposit within one week from today without prejudice to his rights and contentions in the assessment proceedings and the appeal to be filed thereafter, if required.

# POSITION of PROFESSIOANLS

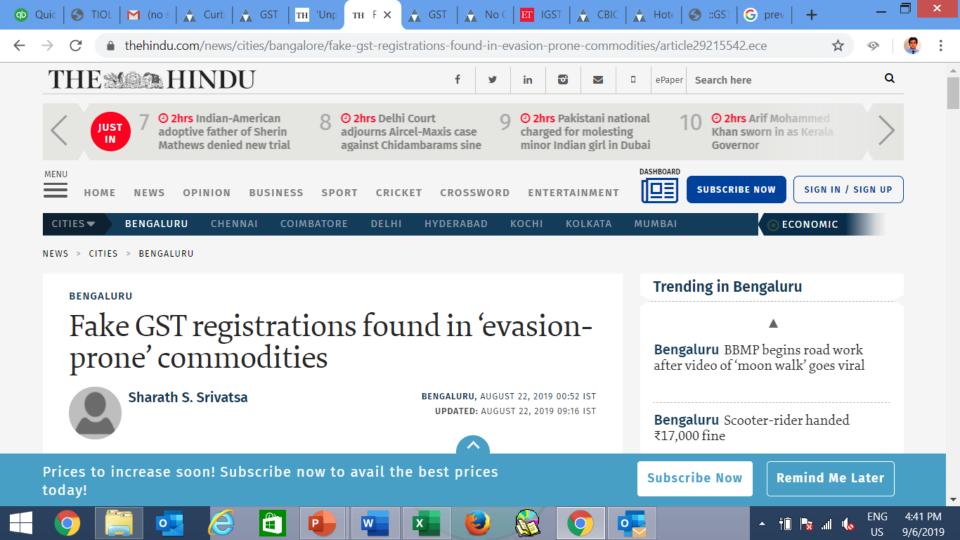


# NO ARREST OF CA OR ADVOCATES WHO ARE NOT BENEFICIARY OR PART OF FRAUD: P&H HC Akhil Krishna Maggu & Anr. vsDGGI CWP No 24195 of 2019

Chartered Accountant or Advocates who had filed returns or otherwise assisted in business <u>but are not beneficiary or part of fraud</u> merely on the basis of the statement without any corroborative evidence linking the professional with an alleged offence should be avoided

## New Measure introduced by the Revenue Authorities





### **Points of discussion**

- Adhar authentication based registration
- Rule 36(4) to block credit which can not be verified from GSTR 2A
- Rule 86(A) for blocking credit if the officer has reason to believe
- Scrutiny of refunds in cases where SION are breached

# Power to inspect goods \_ in movement



## E- Way Bill

- Section 69 provides power of inspection
- For goods no tax evasion is possible without transportation
- Advance information of every movement to the department
- Link between E way Bill portal and GST Bill Portal

Inspection by means of \_\_\_\_ dummy purchases



## **Dummy Purchases**

- Section 69 (12) provides power of making dummy purchases
- Authorize officer may purchase goods or services from any dealer from his business premises
- To ensure issuance of Invoice/Bill of Supply
- On return of goods by said officer the dealer shall cancel the Tax Invoice/Bill of Supply and shall return the money

# Prevention of Money Laundering Act



### **PMLA and GST**

- Amendment is to be brought in PMLA act to include GST frauds under the list of schedule crimes
- Infrastructure projects using fake invoices for withdrawing funds and managing profits
- Conversion of funds generated from crimes into legal tender
- Taking out public money by making fictitious service transactions
- Involvement of shell companies to take bank loans

## **GST Audit**



### Points of consideration for GST Audit

- Scope of GST audit
- Verification of stock instead of blindly relying on management representation
- Accounts and Records rules
- Analyzing the corroborative records to identify the receipt of goods
- Avoid audit in case the entity is under investigation or making required disclosures

# Rule 36(4) Requirement \_ of claiming credit



### Reconciliation of credit taken with GSTR 2A

- GSTR 1 credit to be matched with GSTR 3B credit
- To put obligation on the receiver as well
- Effective in tracing where credit is taken only based on Invoice
- However creates a bottle neck in implementation in case of genuine assesses.

# Rule 86A Condition for using the amount available in ECL



## Condition for using the amount available in ECL

- Officer has reason to believe:
  - the credit has been availed on documents:
  - issued by a RP who has been found non-existent or not to be conducting any business from any place for which registration has been obtained;
  - without receipt of goods or services or both; or
- the RP availing the credit has been found nonexistent or not to be conducting any business from any place for which registration has been obtained; not allow debit of an amount equivalent to such credit in electronic credit ledger for discharge of any liability under section 49 or for claim of any refund of any unutilised amount

## THANKS!

