## Net GST mopup rises 11% in Nov amid drop in refunds

## Gross collection grows 8.5% to ₹1.8 trillion

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et goods and services tax (GST) collections rose by 11.1 per cent year-on-year (Y-o-Y) to ₹1.63 trillion in November amid a sharp drop in refunds, according to provisional data released by the government on Sunday.

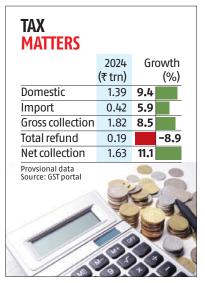
However, sequentially net GST collections were below the October level of ₹1.68 trillion with 7.9 per cent growth.

The latest GST data comes ahead of the all-powerful GST Council meeting on December 21. The Council is expected to take up rationalisation of indirect tax rates among other issues.

The gross GST collection, which is the amount before adjusting for refunds, grew by 8.5 per cent in November to ₹1.8 trillion. November marks the ninth consecutive month in which collections exceeded ₹1.7 trillion.

In November, domestic refunds contracted 19.6 per cent while total refunds including import refunds (6.8 per cent) led to an 8.9 per cent dip to ₹19,259 crore. However, total refunds during the April-November period rose 10.2 per cent to ₹1.7 trillion.

Cumulatively, from April through



November, the growth in total gross GST collection remained in single digit of 9.3 per cent, down from the 10.1 per cent growth recorded until April-August period. To be sure, the November figures reflect goods and services transactions related to October.

Experts anticipate a slowdown in tax collections over the next four months considering the recent seven quarter low GDP growth at 5.4 per cent for the July-September period. The global geopolitical

scenario and potential consumer spending cuts are also expected to further exacerbate short-term economic pain.

"While the recent surge in tax collections, especially in states like Delhi, Maharashtra, and Karnataka, can be linked to the festival season, it is too early to celebrate this as a broader economic trend. In fact, month-on-month collections have declined, even after the festive boost," said Saurabh Agarwal, Tax Partner, FY India.

Net GST collections came in at ₹1.68 trillion in October, marginally higher than November print.

The double digit GST collections in states like Maharashtra (17 per cent), Karnataka (15 per cent), Bihar (12 per cent), Uttarakhand (14 per cent) and Jharkhand (12 per cent) indicate the robust consumption in these states accompanied by the measures undertaken by tax authorities to improve compliance and crack down on evasion.

However, the single digit growth in some large states like Haryana (2 per cent), Punjab (3 per cent), Uttar Pradesh (5 per cent) and Madhya Pradesh (5per cent), West Bengal (6 per cent), Tamil Nadu (8 per cent), Telangana (3 per cent) as well the negative growth in Rajasthan (-1 per cent), Andhra Pradesh (-10 per cent), Chhattisgarh (-1 per cent) would be an area of concern as these states have considerable economic impact.