

India's growth strategy must focus on boosting consumption

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Context

- India's Goods and Services Tax collection in April, since the indirect taxation framework was implemented in 2017, has consistently hit record highs.
- The gross GST collected this time was about ?2.37 lakh crore, marking an on-year growth of 12.6% from last April. After refunds, the central government netted over ?2.09 lakh crore, an on-year rise of 9.1%.
- This also signifies a marked **rise in GST compliance**, **also aided by faster refunds**, which are crucial for small businesses as they work with thin working capital, and the mass adoption of fintech.

GST

- With an intention to do away with multiple indirect taxes and to have a 'One Nation One Tax' system
- The Constitution (122nd Amendment) Bill was passed as the Constitution (101st Amendment) Act in 2016.
- Finally, the Goods and Services Tax was introduced and enforced across the country on 1st July 2017.
- The 101st Constitutional Amendment Act added Article 279A, which empowers the President to constitute the GST Council for administering & governing the Goods and Services Tax Framework.
- It is this council which makes recommendations on everything related to Goods and Services Tax, including laws, rules, rates, etc.