

GST Council creates 18 sectoral groups

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, 9 JUNE

As the government gears up for implementation of the Goods and Service tax regime from 1 July, the GST Council has created 18 sectoral groups to ensure smooth transition to the new regime.

The Council constituted sectoral groups like telecom, banking, technology, transport, textiles, gems and jewellery, e-commerce, mining among others that will constitute officers from both the Centre and states to address sector-specific issues and assist in smooth rollout. The decision to form different sectoral groups was taken in the 14th meeting of the GST Council held on 18-19 May in Srinagar.

These groups will interact and examine representations received from trade and industry associations/bodies of their respective sector, highlight specific issues for the smooth tran-

sition to the GST regime and prepare sector-specific draft guidance.

"Concerned industry groups/associations or even individual industry representatives may approach the respective sectoral group officers with their problems relating to GST implementation who, in turn, will try to guide and help them in resolving the same," a finance ministry statement issued here said.

This exercise will help in dealing with most of the sectoral problems and issues at the local/regional level, it added.

While the Council has already decided on the fitment of rates on most goods and services, in the next meeting on 11 June, the Council will reconsider the rates as many industry representatives had cited concerns. Also, the "account and record rules and e-way rules" will be discussed at the next meeting.