

# 84% of initial GST returns mismatch with final returns

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With only 16 per cent of the summary sales returns under GST matching with the final returns, the revenue department has started to analyse major gaps with a view to check any possible tax evasion.

According to the GST returns data, 34 per cent of businesses paid Rs 34,400 crore less tax between July and December while filing initial summary return (GSTR-3B).

These 34 per cent of the businesses have paid Rs 8.16 lakh crore to the exchequer by filing GSTR-3B, whereas analysis of their GSTR-1 data show that their tax liability should have been Rs 8.50 lakh crore.

As per the analysis by the revenue department, initial returns filed and taxes paid by 16.36 per cent of the businesses

have matched with their final returns and tax liability. They paid a total tax of Rs 22,014 crore. However, the data also showed that there was excess tax payment of Rs 91,072 crore by 49.36 per cent of businesses registered under GST between July and December. While they have paid Rs 6.50 lakh crore as GST, the GSTR-1 filed by them shows that their liability should have been Rs 5.59 lakh crore.

The revenue department has analysed the Goods and Services Tax (GST) returns data filed by over 51.96 lakh businesses during July-December 2017. The indirect tax reform GST was rolled out from 1 July 2017.

EY partner Abhishek Jain said: "While the differences in the liabilities reported in GSTR-1 vis-a-vis that in GSTR-3B would need to be analysed

in detail by the government, one of the contributor to the difference could be non-consideration of credit/debit notes in the GSTR-1 data which would have been considered for GSTR-3B numbers". The GST Council, headed by finance minister Arun Jaitley and comprising state counterparts, had on 10 March decided to further analyse data gaps between self-declared liability in GSTR-1 and the taxes actually paid while filing GSTR-3B.

AMRG & Associates partner Rajat Mohan said: "84 per cent of taxpayers reporting incorrect revenue statements, is a matter of concern. Triumph of GST depends on self-assessment mechanism for which we have to adopt completely bias-free, independent, automated, and digital tax regime."