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Shri Arun Jaitley, Hon'b'le Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs, South Block, New Delhi 110 021

GST and internal market reforms

Greetings and once again, heartiest congratulations!

It is great to read that you will be pushing for adoption of the Goods & Service Tax in the country, which is overdue. This will usher in a reformed internal market and easily add substantially to our growth.

Simultaneously, it would be good to pursue implementation of Article 307 of the Constitution of India which calls for setting up an Interstate Trade & Commerce Commission. Such a proposal has been pending for long and several bodies have recommended its implementation. With such a body, we will add traction to integration of our national market. This by itself can usher in higher growth. Enclosed please find a Note on Need of an Authority for Ensuring Single National Market dated 12th December, 2012 done by us about this for your kind perusal.

This Note was prepared by us as an input to the Committee on National Competition Policy and allied matters, on which I served as a Member. The Committee has finalised the draft Policy statement which is awaiting Cabinet approval. The Department of Corporate Affairs are in charge of this and would have also briefed you about it.

The National Competition Policy, when adopted and implemented, will usher in the 2nd big wave of economic reforms in our country. It also resonates strongly with the 10 point Priority Agenda of the Government announced yesterday, which we support wholeheartedly.

Looking forward to your valued response, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

Pradeep S Mehta

Cc: Smt Nirmala Sitharaman, Hon'b'le Minister of State for Commerce & Industry (I/C), and Minister of State, Finance and Corporate Affairs, Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi 110 001