

Study Guidelines for May 2026 examination

Intermediate Paper 3B - Goods and Services Tax

Applicability of the GST law

- (i) The provisions of the CGST Act, 2017 and the IGST Act, 2017 as amended by the Finance Act, 2025 including significant notifications and circulars issued and other legislative amendments made, which have become effective up to 31.10.2025, are applicable for May 2026 examination.

The amendments made by the Annual Union Finance Acts in the CGST Act, 2017 and IGST Act, 2017 are made effective from a date notified subsequently. Thus, those amendments made by the relevant Finance Acts which have become effective till 31.10.2025 are applicable for May 2026 examination. Accordingly, all the amendments made by the Finance Act, 2025 are applicable for May 2026 examination since they have become effective till 31.10.2025.

- (ii) The Study Guidelines given below specify the exclusions from the syllabus for May 2026 examination.

List of topic-wise exclusions from the syllabus

(1)	(2)	(3)
S. No. in the syllabus	Topics of the syllabus	Exclusions (Provisions which are excluded from the corresponding topic of the syllabus)
2(iii)	Charge of tax including reverse charge	<p>CGST Act, 2017</p> <p>(i) Rate of tax prescribed for supply of goods*</p> <p>(ii) Rate of tax prescribed for supply of services*</p> <p>(iii) Categories of supply of goods, tax on which is payable on reverse charge basis under section 9(3)</p> <p>IGST Act, 2017</p> <p>(iii) Rate of tax prescribed for supply of goods</p> <p>(iv) Rate of tax prescribed for supply of services</p> <p>(v) Categories of supply of goods, tax on which is payable on reverse charge basis under section 5(3)</p>
2(iv)	Exemption from tax	<p>CGST Act, 2017 & IGST Act, 2017</p> <p>Exemptions for supply of goods</p>
3(ii)	Basic concepts of place of supply	<p>IGST Act, 2017 & IGST Rules, 2017</p> <p>(i) Place of supply of goods imported into, or exported from India</p>

		<p>(ii) Place of supply of services where location of supplier or location of recipient is outside India</p> <p>(iii) Special provision for payment of tax by a supplier of online information and database access or retrieval [OIDAR] services</p> <p>(iv) Refund of integrated tax paid on supply of goods to tourist leaving India</p> <p>(v) Special provision for specified actionable claims supplied by a person located outside taxable territory</p>
3(iii)	Basic concepts of time of supply	<p>CGST Act, 2017 & CGST Rules, 2017</p> <p>Provisions relating to change in rate of tax in respect of supply of goods or services</p>
3(iv)	Basic concepts of value of supply	<p>CGST Act, 2017 & CGST Rules, 2017</p> <p>Chapter IV: Determination of Value of Supply [Rules 27-35] of CGST Rules, 2017</p>
3(v)	Basic concepts of input tax credit	<p>CGST Act, 2017 read with CGST Rules, 2017</p> <p>(i) Claim of credit by a banking company or a financial institution [Rule 38]</p> <p>(ii) Manner of determination of input tax credit in respect of inputs or input services and reversal thereof [Rule 42]</p> <p>(iii) Manner of determination of input tax credit in respect of capital goods and reversal thereof in certain cases [Rule 43]</p> <p>(iv) Input tax credit provisions in respect of inputs and capital goods sent for job work.</p> <p>(v) Input tax credit provisions relating to distribution of credit by Input Service Distributor [ISD]</p> <p>(vi) Manner of recovery of credit distributed in excess</p> <p>(vii) Manner of reversal of credit of additional duty of customs in respect of Gold dore bar</p>

***Rates specified for computing the tax payable under composition levy are included in the syllabus.**

Note: The syllabus includes select provisions of the CGST Act, 2017 and IGST Act, 2017 and not the entire CGST Act, 2017 and the IGST Act, 2017. The provisions covered in any topic(s) of the syllabus which are related to or correspond to the topics not covered in the syllabus shall also be excluded.

In the above table, in respect of the topics of the syllabus specified in column (2) the related exclusion is given in column (3). Where an exclusion has been so specified in any topic of the syllabus, the provisions corresponding to such exclusions, covered in other topic(s) forming part of the syllabus, shall also be excluded. For example, since provisions relating to ISD are excluded from the topics "Input tax credit", the provisions relating to (i) registration of ISD and (ii) filing of returns by an ISD are also excluded from the topics "Registration" and "Returns" respectively.

The entire content included in the July 2025 edition of the Study Material (*except where it is expressly mentioned that the content is not relevant for the examination*) and the Statutory Update for May 2026 examination shall ALONE be relevant for the said examination. The amendments in the GST law made after the issuance of the Study Material - to the extent covered in the Statutory Update for May 2026 examination shall only be relevant for the said examination.