

**GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
COMMERCIAL TAXES DEPARTMENT**

**OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF COMMERCIAL TAXES
EZHILAGAM, CHENNAI-600 005**

**PRESENT: DR. T.V. SOMANATHAN, I.A.S.,
COMMISSIONER OF STATE TAX**

Circular No. 5(2017)/2019-TNGST
(RC No. 085/2017/A1/Taxation)

Dated:28.03.2019

<u>Sub:</u>	Clarification on taxability of printing contracts – regarding.
<u>Ref:</u>	CBEC, Department of Revenue, Tax Research Unit Circular No.11/11/2017-GST dated 20.10.2017.

Requests have been received to clarify whether supply of books, pamphlets, brochures, envelopes, annual reports, leaflets, cartons, boxes etc., printed with design, logo, name, address or other contents supplied by the recipient of such supplies, would constitute supply of goods falling under Chapter 48 or 49 of the First Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 (51 of 1975) or supply of services falling under heading 9989 of the scheme of classification of services annexed to notification No.II(2)/CTR/532 (d-14)/2017 dated 29.06.2017.

2. In the above context, it is clarified that supply of books, pamphlets, brochures, envelopes, annual reports, leaflets, cartons, boxes etc. printed with logo, design, name, address or other contents supplied by the recipient of such printed goods, are composite supplies and the question, whether such supplies constitute supply of goods or services would be determined on the basis of what constitutes the principal supply.

3. Principal supply has been defined in Section 2(90) of the Tamil Nadu Goods and Services Tax Act as supply of goods or services which constitutes the predominant element of a composite supply and to which any other

supply forming part of that composite supply is ancillary.

4. In the case of printing of books, pamphlets, brochures, annual reports, and the like, where only content is supplied by the publisher or the person who owns the usage rights to the intangible inputs while the physical inputs including paper used for printing belong to the printer, supply of printing [of the content supplied by the recipient of supply] is the principal supply and therefore such supplies would constitute supply of service falling under heading 9989 of the scheme of classification of services.

5. In case of supply of printed envelopes, letter cards, printed boxes, tissues, napkins, wall paper etc. falling under Chapter 48 or 49, printed with design, logo etc. supplied by the recipient of goods but made using physical inputs including paper belonging to the printer, predominant supply is that of goods and the supply of printing of the content [supplied by the recipient of supply] is ancillary to the principal supply of goods and therefore such supplies would constitute supply of goods falling under respective headings of Chapter 48 or 49 of the Customs Tariff.

6. This pari materia circular is issued with reference to the circular issued by the Government of India on the recommendation of the GST Council in the reference cited.

Sd/-T.V.Somanathan
Commissioner of State Tax

To

All the Joint Commissioners (ST) Territorial and Enforcement in the State.

Copy to: (1) Principal Secretary to CT& Regn. Department.
(2) All Additional Commissioners of State Tax in the Commissionerate.
(3) Joint Commissioner (CS) for hosting in Departmental site.
(4) All Deputy Commissioners (ST) in the State.
(5) All Heads of Assessment Circle in the State.