

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
FINANCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2898  
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2010  
CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT IN GST  
Panda Shri Prabodh

**Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether in a fresh proposal, Chairman of the Empowered Committee of the State Finance Ministers has urged the Union Government to drop plans to create a joint council of the State and the Centre and a dispute settlement body;
- (b) whether States have asked the Centre to drop two key provisions from the constitutional amendments suggested to facilitate the proposed goods and services tax;
- (c) if so, whether Finance Ministry has agreed to the suggestions; and
- (d) if so, the time by when final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE(SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM)

(a) No, Madam.

(b), (c) & (d): The draft of the Constitutional amendment bill has been prepared and sent to the Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers (EC) for obtaining the views of the States. EC has not reverted back with any clear collective response from all the States so far. It is not possible to indicate any time limit by which final decision in the matter will be taken as developing consensus on such issues generally takes time.