

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
DIRECTORATE OF COMMERCIAL TAXES
14, BELIAGHATA ROAD, KOLKATA-700015**

TRADE CIRCULAR No. 09/2021

(Corresponding Central Circular No. 149/05/2021-GST)

DATED: 30.06.2021

Sub– Clarification regarding applicability of GST on supply of food in Anganwadis and Schools.

Representations have been received seeking clarification regarding applicability of GST on the issues as to whether serving of food in schools under Mid-Day Meals Scheme would be exempt if such supplies are funded by government grants and/or corporate donations. The issue was examined by GST Council in its 43rd meeting held on 28th May, 2021.

2. Entry 66 clause (b)(ii) of notification No. 1136-F.T. dated 28th June, 2017, exempts *Services provided to an educational institution, by way of catering, including any mid-day meals scheme sponsored by the Central Government, State Government or Union territory.* This entry applies to pre-school and schools.

3. Accordingly, as per said entry 66, any catering service provided to an educational institution is exempt from GST. The entry further mention that such exempt service includes mid- day meal service as specified in the entry. The scope of this entry is thus wide enough to cover any serving of any food to a school, including pre-school. Further, an Anganwadi *interalia* provides pre-school non-formal education. Hence, aganwadi is covered by the definition of educational institution (as pre-school).

4. Accordingly, as per recommendation of the GST Council, it is clarified that services provided to an educational institution by way of serving of food (catering including mid-day meals) is exempt from levy of GST irrespective of its funding from government grants or corporate donations [under said entry 66 (b)(ii)]. Educational institutions as defined in the notification include aganwadi. Hence, serving of food to anganwadi shall also be covered by said exemption, whether sponsored by government or through donation from corporates.

5. Difficulty if any, in the implementation of this Trade Circular may be brought to the notice of the Commissioner.

6. This Trade Circular shall be deemed to have come into force with effect from 17.06.2021.

Sd/-
(Khalid Aizaz Anwar)
Commissioner, State Tax,
West Bengal

Memo. - 143 CT/PRO
3C/PRO/2021

Date: 30.06.2021

Copy forwarded to the Additional CST/ISD for information and for uploading it on the official website of the Directorate for information of all concerned.

Sd/-
(Nabanita Pal)
Additional CST & PRO