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## Our alumnus *N K Singhas* Chairman XV Finance Commission 2017-2020



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**Fifteenth Finance Commission Chairman NK Singhas** on Friday 22.11.2019 called for major changes in the GST structure, including reducing the cumbersome compliance procedures and also doing away with frequent rate changes, to improve collection.

The comments from the chief of the Commission that decides on the revenue distribution between the Centre and the states, come amidst concerns about the continuous fall in GST collection which has not touched the targeted Rs 1 laccrore every month barring one month.

"The cumbersomeness of compliance is one of the important factors why I believe that there is a huge scope for improving the revenue realisation from GST," he added.

"Equally, I do believe the frequency with which the rates have been changed is unbelievable. You are playing with the rates of taxation, these are serious issues and these are not rates of mutual accommodation," he said.

However, he noted that despite all these issues, we have seen one of the fastest GST adoption rates and credited this to the Prime Minister and the then Finance Minister **ArunJaitley**, but *stressed on the need to go back to the drawing board urgently.*

"I think the GST Council needs a restructuring in terms of what is good, not only in terms of the negotiating strengths of one state versus the other, it needs to function in a manner so that the rims of India are not really seriously compromised," Singh said.

Millennium Post 23.11.2019 *adapted*

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