

# *Niti*

*Developments in Tax Laws*  
*May, 2026*



*"Krishna controls the Finite and the Infinite with inconceivable supernatural transcendental force.  
This is the power of inner energy."*

*.....Bhagavad Gita*



## **1. Supreme Court Brings Clarity to the Regulatory and GST Framework for Online Gaming**

[https://www.scobserver.in/wp-content/uploads/2026/06/SCOLR\\_Judgement\\_State-of-Tamil-Nadu-v.-Junglee-Games.pdf](https://www.scobserver.in/wp-content/uploads/2026/06/SCOLR_Judgement_State-of-Tamil-Nadu-v.-Junglee-Games.pdf)

[https://api.sci.gov.in/supremecourt/2023/30797/30797\\_2023\\_7\\_1505\\_71652\\_Judgement\\_27-May-2026.pdf](https://api.sci.gov.in/supremecourt/2023/30797/30797_2023_7_1505_71652_Judgement_27-May-2026.pdf)

In two landmark judgments delivered on May 27, 2026, the Supreme Court has significantly reshaped the legal and tax landscape governing India's online gaming industry. Through its decisions in *State of Tamil Nadu v. Junglee Games India Pvt. Ltd. [Civil Appeal Nos. 6124 - 6131 Of 2023]* and *Directorate General of GST Intelligence v. Gameskraft Technologies Pvt. Ltd. [2026] 186 taxmann.com 1232 (SC)*, the Court has provided long-awaited clarity on the regulatory treatment and GST implications of online gaming activities involving monetary stakes.

The *Junglee Games* ruling addressed the constitutional validity of the State laws regulating online gaming. The Supreme Court held that where participants stake money on an uncertain outcome, the activity assumes the character of betting irrespective of whether the underlying game is one of skill or chance. Consequently, States possess the legislative competence to regulate or prohibit such activities under Entry 34 of List II of the Constitution. The Court further observed that while games of skill played without stakes may qualify as legitimate business activities, wagering on such games does not enjoy the same constitutional protection and may be subjected to regulatory restrictions in the public interest.

Building upon this principle, the Supreme Court in *Gameskraft* examined the GST implications of online gaming transactions. The Court held that online gaming platforms facilitating games played for stakes create actionable claims in the nature of betting and gambling. As a result, such transactions are liable to GST on the entire amount staked by participants rather than merely on the platform fee or commission retained by the operator. The Court also upheld the constitutional validity of the relevant GST provisions, valuation rules and the 2023 legislative amendments governing online gaming, casinos and related activities, while holding that these amendments are clarificatory and retrospective in nature.

Taken together, these judgments establish a comprehensive framework for the online gaming industry by affirming the States' regulatory powers and clarifying the GST treatment of gaming transactions involving stakes. The decisions are expected to have far-reaching implications for gaming operators, fantasy sports platforms, casinos and other digital business models involving pooled funds and outcome-based returns. More importantly, the Supreme Court has reaffirmed that for both regulatory and taxation purposes, the substance of a transaction prevails over its form, thereby reducing the ambiguity that has surrounded the sector for several years.

**Some Reminders for June, 2026**

<b>Particulars</b>		<b>Due Date</b>
<b>Payment of</b>	Tax Deducted at Source for the month of May, 2026	7 <sup>th</sup> June, 2026
	Provident Fund (includes EDLI) for the month of May, 2026	15 <sup>th</sup> June, 2026
	ESIC for the month of May, 2026	15 <sup>th</sup> June, 2026
	First instalment of advance tax for the Tax Year 2026-27	15 <sup>th</sup> June, 2026
<b>Filing of</b>	GSTR-1 for May, 2026 (turnover of more than Rs. 5 crores)	11 <sup>th</sup> June, 2026
	GSTR-8 for May, 2026 [return to be filed by the e-commerce operators who are required to deduct TCS (Tax collected at source) under GST]	10 <sup>th</sup> June, 2026
	GSTR-7 for May, 2026 [return to be filed by the persons who is required to deduct TDS (Tax deducted at source) under GST]	10 <sup>th</sup> June, 2026
	GSTR - 3B for May, 2026 (turnover of more than Rs. 5 crores)	20 <sup>th</sup> June, 2026
	Filing of challan-cum-statement of Tax deducted at source under Section 393(1) of the Income-tax Act, 2025 ('ITA 2025') corresponding to Section 194-IA, 194-IB, 194M, 194S of the Income-tax Act, 1961 ('ITA 1961') for the month of May, 2026	30 <sup>th</sup> June, 2026
<b>Issuance of Certificates</b>	TDS Certificates (April 2026) [Section 393(1) of the ITA 2025 corresponding to Section 194-IA, 194-IB, 194M, 194S of the ITA 1961]	14 <sup>th</sup> June, 2026
	TDS Certificates (Q4 FY 25-26) – tax deducted for payments other than salary	15 <sup>th</sup> June, 2026
	TDS Certificates FY 25-26 – tax deducted in respect of salary	15 <sup>th</sup> June, 2026
<b>Companies/LLP Act Compliances</b>	DPT-3 (Return of Deposits / Exempted Deposits outstanding as on March 31, 2026)	30 <sup>th</sup> June, 2026
	DIR-3 KYC (applicable, if there are any changes in their KYC details)	30 <sup>th</sup> June, 2026



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