

## **Packaged Food without trademark may face 5% GST**

Packaged food items sold under a brand name without a registered trademark may face five percent goods and services tax (GST). This is among the issues likely to be taken up at the GST Council meeting.

The registered trademark players, especially rice companies, which face a five per cent GST, have protested against the misuse of provision by certain companies, putting them at a disadvantage. The crux of the solution lies in widening the definition of a brand. It will need to be expanded to include all players who sell packaged products, irrespective of whether they have a registered trademark or not.