

Govt to roll out DTC, GST in 6 months

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NEW DELHI: The government has set itself a deadline of six months to implement Direct Tax Code (DTC) and Goods and Services Tax (GST) as part of its action plan to ease doing business in India.

Besides rolling out the DTC and GST as part of simplifying tax regime in country to push Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'Make in India' initiative, the government has drawn an ambitious action plan to improve India's ranking in 'Doing Business Report' of the World Bank and it includes measures like providing electricity connections within two weeks of applying.

The department of industrial policy and promotion (DIPP) on Tuesday held an interactive



■ PM Narendra Modi at the launch of the 'Make In India' project in New Delhi on September 25.

AFP PHOTO

session with babus of the all stakeholder ministries to have a better understanding of the issues involved.

In its 'Doing Business in India' report of 2014, the World Bank has ranked India at 134th

place. At the inauguration of Make in India' campaign, PM Modi called for substantially improving India's rank. At the moment India lags behind China (96), Nepal (105), Pakistan (110) and Bangladesh (130) in the

ranking. Modi wants to bring the country in top 50 rankings.

The DIPP after a detailed exercise identified the sectors, specific activities and ministries and departments where reforms are required.

The DIPP in its action plan has flagged issues like reduction of number of taxes, online payment of taxes to expedite implementation of direct tax code and goods and services tax for the finance ministry. The plan has set a deadline of six months for rolling the DTC and GST regime.

According to the DIPP, at the moment, firms make 33 tax payments in a year and spend 243 hours a year filing preparing and paying taxes.

The government also wants to introduce payment of VAT refund directly in the account of firm and in a time-bound manner.

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