

Introduction of Two-Factor Authentication (2FA)

Kind Attention of CE/ST/HSNS CESS & SBS Taxpayers

In order to increase and safeguard taxpayer accounts and sensitive information from unauthorized access, the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) is strengthening the security framework of the ACES-GST application by introducing Two-Factor Authentication (2FA) for taxpayer logins.

The implementation of 2FA provides an additional layer of security beyond the traditional User ID and Password mechanism, thereby enhancing the protection of taxpayer accounts and ensuring secure access to online services.

1. Existing Login Process

At present, taxpayers under the following categories access the Taxpayer portal (ACES-GST Application), namely www.cbic-gst.gov.in, and log in using their registered User ID and Password through the respective login windows:

- ACES CE&ST Login (Central Excise / Legacy Service Tax / SVLDRS)
- HSNS CESS Login (Health Security Se National Security CESS)
- SBS Taxpayer Login (Scheme of Budgetary Support)

2. Introduction of Two-Factor Authentication (2FA)

From June 19th 2026 onwards, Two-Factor Authentication (2FA) will be made mandatory for every taxpayer login to the ACES-GST application.

Under the new authentication mechanism:

1. The taxpayer will continue to log in using the existing User ID and Password.
2. Upon successful validation of these credentials, an additional authentication process will be initiated.
3. A System-Generated One-Time Password (OTP) will be sent to the registered Mobile Number and registered E-mail ID mapped to the taxpayer's account in the CBIC ACES-GST application.
4. The taxpayer shall enter the OTP received either through SMS or email.
5. Upon successful validation of the OTP, the 2FA process will be completed, and access to the respective CE/ST/HSNS CESS/SBS functionalities will be granted as usual.

3. Action Required from Taxpayers

Taxpayers are advised to ensure that their registered Mobile Number and E-mail ID available in the ACES-GST application are current, active, and accessible to receive OTPs without interruption.

Failure to maintain valid contact details may result in difficulties while accessing the application after the implementation of 2FA.

4. Further Information

For detailed guidelines, benefits, and frequently asked questions relating to the new authentication process, taxpayers are requested to refer to the "2FA Advisory for ACES-GST Portal Users" being issued separately in this regard.