
	केंद्रीय कर आयुक्त (अपील)	
O/O THE COMMISSIONER (APPEALS), CENTRAL TAX,	केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क भवन	7 th Floor, Central Excise Building,
सातवीं मांजिल, पॉलिटेक्निक के पास,	आम्बावाडी, अहमदाबाद-380015	Near Polytechnic,
आम्बावाडी, अहमदाबाद-380015	079-26305065	दलेफेक्स : 079 - 26305136

रजिस्टर डाक ए .डी .द्वारा

क फाइल संख्या (File No.): V2(ST)191 & 192/A-II/2016-17 / 10061 to 10065
स्थगन आवेदन संख्या(Stay App. No.):

ख अपील आदेश संख्या (Order-In-Appeal No.): AHM-EXCUS-002-APP-136-137-17-18
दिनांक (Date): 25/10/2017, जारी करने की तारीख (Date of issue): 22-11-17

श्री उमा शंकर, आयुक्त (अपील-II) द्वारा पारित
Passed by Shri Uma Shanker, Commissioner (Appeals)

ग _____ आयुक्त, केंद्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क, (मंडल-II), अहमदाबाद, आयुक्तालय द्वारा जारी
मूल आदेश सं----- दिनांक -----से सृजित
Arising out of Order-In-Original No. SD-02/10 & 11/AC/2016-17 Dated: 29.08.2016
issued by: Assistant Commr STC(Div-II), Ahmedabad.

घ अपीलकर्ता/प्रतिवादी का नाम एवम पता (Name & Address of the Appellant/Respondent)

M/s Escape

कोई व्यक्ति इस अपील आदेश से असंतोष अनुभव करता है तो वह इस आदेश के प्रति यथास्थिति नीचे बताए गए सक्षम अधिकारी को अपील या पुनरीक्षण आवेदन प्रस्तुत कर सकता है।

Any person an aggrieved by this Order-in-Appeal may file an appeal or revision application, as the one may be against such order, to the appropriate authority in the following way:

भारत सरकार का पुनरीक्षण आवेदन :
Revision application to Government of India:

(1) (क) (i) केंद्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क अधिनियम 1994 की धरा अतत नीचे बताए गए मामलों के बारे में पूर्वोक्त धारा को उप-धारा के प्रथम परंतुक के अंतर्गत पुनरीक्षण आवेदन अधीन सचिव, भारत सरकार, वित्त मंत्रालय, राजस्व विभाग, चौथी मंजिल, जीवन दीप भवन, संसद मार्ग, नई दिल्ली-110001 को की जानी चाहिए।

A revision application lies to the Under Secretary, to the Government of India, Revision Application Unit, Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue, 4th Floor, Jeevan Deep Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001, under Section 35EE of the CEA 1944 in respect of the following case, governed by first proviso to sub-section (1) of Section-35 ibid:

(ii) यदि माल की हानि के मामले में जब हानि कारखाने से किसी भंडारगार या अन्य कारखाने में या किसी भंडारगार से दूसरे भंडारगार में माल ले जाते हुए मार्ग में, या किसी भंडारगार या भंडार में चाहे वह किसी कारखाने में या किसी भंडारगार में हो माल की प्रकिया के दौरान हुई हो।

In case of any loss of goods where the loss occur in transit from a factory to a warehouse or to another factory or from one warehouse to another during the course of processing of the goods in a warehouse or in storage whether in a factory or in a warehouse

(ख) भारत के बाहर किसी राष्ट्र या प्रदेश में निर्यातित माल पर या माल के विनिर्माण में उपयोग शुल्क कच्चे माल पर उत्पादन शुल्क के रिबेट के मामले में जो भारत के बाहर किसी राष्ट्र या प्रदेश में निर्यातित हैं।



- (c) In case of goods exported outside India export to Nepal or Bhutan, without payment of duty.

अंतिम उत्पादन की उत्पादन शुल्क के भुगतान के लिए जो ड्यूटी क्रेडिट मान्य की गई है और ऐसे आदेश जो इस धारा एवं नियम के मुताबिक आयुक्त, अपील के द्वारा पारित वो समय पर या बाद में वित्त अधिनियम (नं.2) 1998 धारा 109 द्वारा नियुक्त किए गए हो।

- (d) Credit of any duty allowed to be utilized towards payment of excise duty on final products under the provisions of this Act or the Rules made there under and such order is passed by the Commissioner (Appeals) on or after, the date appointed under Sec.109 of the Finance (No.2) Act, 1998.

- (1) केन्द्रीय उत्पादन शुल्क (अपील) नियमावली, 2001 के नियम 9 के अंतर्गत विनिर्दिष्ट प्रपत्र संख्या इए-8 में दो प्रतियों में, प्रेषित आदेश के प्रति आदेश प्रेषित दिनांक से तीन मास के भीतर मूल-आदेश एवं अपील आदेश की दो-दो प्रतियों के साथ उचित आवेदन किया जाना चाहिए। उसके साथ खाता इ. का मुख्यशीर्ष के अंतर्गत धारा 35-इ में निर्धारित फी के भुगतान के सबूत के साथ टीआर-6 चालान की प्रति भी होनी चाहिए।

The above application shall be made in duplicate in Form No. EA-8 as specified under Rule, 9 of Central Excise (Appeals) Rules, 2001 within 3 months from the date on which the order sought to be appealed against is communicated and shall be accompanied by two copies each of the OIO and Order-In-Appeal. It should also be accompanied by a copy of TR-6 Challan evidencing payment of prescribed fee as prescribed under Section 35-EE of CEA, 1944, under Major Head of Account.

- (2) रिविजन आवेदन के साथ जहाँ संलग्न रकम एक लाख रुपये या उससे कम हो तो रुपये 200/- फीस भुगतान की जाए और जहाँ संलग्न रकम एक लाख से ज्यादा हो तो 1000/- की फीस भुगतान की जाए।

The revision application shall be accompanied by a fee of Rs.200/- where the amount involved is Rupees One Lac or less and Rs.1,000/- where the amount involved is more than Rupees One Lac.

सीमा शुल्क, केन्द्रीय उत्पादन शुल्क एवं सेवाकर अपीलीय न्यायाधिकरण के प्रति अपील:-
Appeal to Custom, Excise, & Service Tax Appellate Tribunal.

- (1) केन्द्रीय उत्पादन शुल्क अधिनियम, 1944 की धारा 35-बी/35-इ के अंतर्गत:-

Under Section 35B/ 35E of CEA, 1944 an appeal lies to :-

- (क) वर्गीकरण मूल्यांकन से संबंधित सभी मामले सीमा शुल्क, केन्द्रीय उत्पादन शुल्क एवं सेवाकर अपीलीय न्यायाधिकरण की विशेष पीठिका वेस्ट ब्लॉक नं. 3. आर. के. पुरम, नई दिल्ली को एवं

- (a) the special bench of Custom, Excise & Service Tax Appellate Tribunal of West Block No.2, R.K. Puram, New Delhi-1 in all matters relating to classification valuation and.

- (ख) उक्तलिखित परिच्छेद 2 (1) क में बताए अनुसार के अलावा की अपील, अपीलो के मामले में सीमा शुल्क, केन्द्रीय उत्पादन शुल्क एवं सेवाकर अपीलीय न्यायाधिकरण (सिस्टेट) की पश्चिम क्षेत्रीय पीठिका, अहमदाबाद में ओ-20, न्यू मैटल हॉस्पिटल कम्पाउण्ड, मेघानी नगर, अहमदाबाद-380016.

- (b) To the west regional bench of Customs, Excise & Service Tax Appellate Tribunal (CESTAT) at O-20, New Metal Hospital Compound, Meghani Nagar, Ahmedabad : 380 016. in case of appeals other than as mentioned in para-2(i) (a) above.

- (2) केन्द्रीय उत्पादन शुल्क (अपील) नियमावली, 2001 की धारा 6 के अंतर्गत प्रपत्र इ.ए-3 में निर्धारित किए अनुसार अपीलीय न्यायाधिकरण की गई अपील के विरुद्ध अपील किए गए आदेश की चार प्रतियाँ सहित जहाँ उत्पाद शुल्क की मांग, ब्याज की मांग और लगाया गया जुर्माना रूपए 5 लाख या उससे कम है वहां रूपए 1000/- फीस भेजनी होगी। जहाँ उत्पाद शुल्क की मांग, ब्याज की मांग और लगाया गया जुर्माना रूपए 5 लाख या 50 लाख तक हो तो रूपए 5000/- फीस भेजनी होगी। जहाँ उत्पाद शुल्क की मांग, ब्याज की मांग और लगाया गया जुर्माना रूपए 50 लाख या उससे ज्यादा है वहां रूपए 10000/- फीस भेजनी होगी। की फीस सहायक रजिस्टार के नाम से

रेखांकित बैंक ड्राफ्ट के रूप में संबंध की जाये। यह ड्राफ्ट उस स्थान के किसी नामित सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के बैंक की शाखा का हो जहाँ उक्त न्यायाधिकरण की पीठ स्थित है।

The appeal to the Appellate Tribunal shall be filed in quadruplicate in form EA-3 as prescribed under Rule 6 of Central Excise(Appeal) Rules, 2001 and shall be accompanied against (one which at least should be accompanied by a fee of Rs.1,000/-, Rs.5,000/- and Rs.10,000/- where amount of duty / penalty / demand / refund is upto 5 Lac, 5 Lac to 50 Lac and above 50 Lac respectively in the form of crossed bank draft in favour of Asstt. Registrar of a branch of any nominate public sector bank of the place where the bench of any nominate public sector bank of the place where the bench of the Tribunal is situated.

- (3) यदि इस आदेश में कई मूल आदेशों का समावेश होता है तो प्रत्येक मूल आदेश के लिए फीस का भुगतान उपर्युक्त ढंग से किया जाना चाहिए इस तथ्य के होते हुए भी कि लिखा पढी कार्य से बचने के लिए यथास्थिति अपीलीय न्यायाधिकरण को एक अपील या केन्द्रीय सरकार को एक आवेदन किया जाता है।

In case of the order covers a number of order-in-Original, fee for each O.I.O. should be paid in the aforesaid manner notwithstanding the fact that the one appeal to the Appellate Tribunal or the one application to the Central Govt. As the case may be, is filled to avoid scriptoria work if excising Rs. 1 lacs fee of Rs.100/- for each.

- (4) न्यायालय शुल्क अधिनियम 1970 यथा संशोधित की अनुसूची-1 के अंतर्गत निर्धारित किए अनुसार उक्त आवेदन या मूल आदेश यथास्थिति निर्णयन प्राधिकारी के आदेश में से प्रत्येक की एक प्रति पर रु.6.50 पैसे का न्यायालय शुल्क टिकट लगा होना चाहिए।

One copy of application or O.I.O. as the case may be, and the order of the adjournment authority shall a court fee stamp of Rs.6.50 paise as prescribed under scheduled-I item of the court fee Act, 1975 as amended.

- (5) इन ओर संबंधित मामलों को नियंत्रण करने वाले नियमों की ओर भी ध्यान आकर्षित किया जाता है जो सीमा शुल्क, केन्द्रीय उत्पादन शुल्क एवं सेवाकर अपीलीय न्यायाधिकरण (कार्याविधि) नियम, 1982 में निहित है।

Attention is invited to the rules covering these and other related matter contended in the Customs, Excise & Service Tax Appellate Tribunal (Procedure) Rules, 1982.

- (6) सीमा शुल्क, केन्द्रीय उत्पादन शुल्क एवं सेवाकर अपीलीय न्यायाधिकरण (सिस्टेट), के प्रति अपील के मामले में कर्तव्य मांग (Demand) एवं दंड (Penalty) का 10% पूर्व जमा करना अनिवार्य है। हालांकि, अधिकतम पूर्व जमा 10 करोड़ रुपए है। (Section 35 F of the Central Excise Act, 1944, Section 83 & Section 86 of the Finance Act, 1994)

केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क और सेवा कर के अंतर्गत, शामिल होगा "कर्तव्य की मांग" (Duty Demanded) -

- (i) (Section) खंड 11D के तहत निर्धारित राशि;
- (ii) लिया गलत सेनवैट क्रेडिट की राशि;
- (iii) सेनवैट क्रेडिट नियमों के नियम 6 के तहत देय राशि.

⇒ यह पूर्व जमा 'लंबित अपील' में पहले पूर्व जमा की तुलना में, अपील दाखिल करने के लिए पूर्व शर्त बना दिया गया है।

For an appeal to be filed before the CESTAT, 10% of the Duty & Penalty confirmed by the Appellate Commissioner would have to be pre-deposited. It may be noted that the pre-deposit is a mandatory condition for filing appeal before CESTAT. (Section 35 C (2A) and 35 F of the Central Excise Act, 1944, Section 83 & Section 86 of the Finance Act, 1994)

Under Central Excise and Service Tax, "Duty demanded" shall include:

- (i) amount determined under Section 11 D;
- (ii) amount of erroneous Cenvat Credit taken;
- (iii) amount payable under Rule 6 of the Cenvat Credit Rules.

इस सन्दर्भ में इस आदेश के प्रति अपील प्राधिकरण के समक्ष जहाँ शुल्क अथवा शुल्क या दण्ड विवादित हो तो मांग किए गए शुल्क के 10% भुगतान पर और जहाँ केवल दण्ड विवादित हो तब दण्ड के 10% भुगतान पर की जा सकती है।

In view of above, an appeal against this order shall lie before the Tribunal on payment of 10% of the duty demanded where duty or duty and penalty are in dispute, or penalty, where penalty alone is in dispute."

:: ORDER-IN- APPEAL ::

M/s. Escape, 201, Subh House, 77 Swastik Society, B/h. St. Xavier's Ladies Hostel, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad (*hereinafter referred to as 'appellants'*) have filed the present appeal against the following Orders-in-Original (*hereinafter referred to as 'impugned orders'*) passed by the then Assistant Commissioner, Service Tax, Division-II, Ahmedabad (*hereinafter referred to as 'adjudicating authority'*);

Sr. No.	OIO No.	OIO date	Amount of Service Tax confirmed (₹)	Period for which Service Tax demanded
1	SD-02/10/AC/2016-17	29.08.2016	64,266	2014-15
2	SD-02/11/AC/2016-17	29.08.2016	49,918	2013-14

2. The facts of the case, in brief, are that the appellants are engaged in providing services under the category of 'Air Travel Agent' and holding Service Tax Registration No. AERPD1995CST001. They also carry out the business of booking/ selling airline tickets through Computer Reservation System (CRS) software. On examination of the functions of the CRS companies, viz. (i) M/s. ABACUS Distribution Systems (I) Ltd., (ii) M/s. Galileo India Pvt. Ltd. and (iii) M/s. Amadeus India Pvt. Ltd., it was observed that these companies were designated as the National Marketing Companies with a view to establish system for conducting the business of marketing and distribution of the CRS company through the system. These CRS companies have entered into agreement with the Air Travel Agents in marketing and promoting the services rendered by foreign based CRS companies in India in exchange for a support fee. The support fee represents usage based transaction fee paid by the CRS companies to Air Travel Agents. The Air Travel Agents use the CRS to book tickets and serve their customers who purchase air tickets. The entire system and nature of service is specified in consideration or support fee, marketing and promoting business as CRS companies.

3. The jurisdictional Range Superintendent of Service tax issued letter to M/s. Amadeus India Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi and called for details of incentives paid to various travel agents in Ahmedabad for the year 2011-12. M/s. Amadeus India Pvt. Ltd. provided the details of the commission/ incentives paid to various travel agents. According to M/s. Amadeus India Pvt. Ltd., they had paid ₹3,05,540/- as commission to the respondents, which was held as taxable under the category of 'Business Auxiliary Service'. Thus, a show cause notice was issued to the respondents which was confirmed by the then adjudicating authority demanding an amount of ₹31,470/- as Service Tax. The appellants had continued with the same practice of non-payment of Service

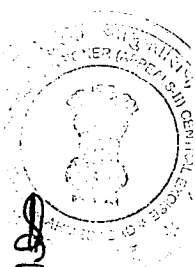
Tax on the commission amount received under Business Auxiliary Service. Periodical show cause notices were regularly issued to the appellants. On scrutiny of their relevant documents, it was observed that the appellants had not paid Service tax for the periods 2013-14 and 2014-15 amounting to ₹49,918/- and ₹64,266/- respectively and as the facts, circumstances and contraventions of the provisions of Finance Act, 1994 are similar to those mentioned in the show cause notice issued earlier, show cause notices, dated 23.03.2015 and 30.11.2015 respectively, were issued to them. The adjudicating authority, vide the impugned orders, confirmed the demand of Service Tax, as mentioned in the table above in paragraph 1, under Section 73 of the Finance Act, 1994. He also ordered interest under Section 75 and imposed penalty under Sections 76 and 77 of the Finance Act, 1994.

4. Being aggrieved with the impugned orders the appellants have preferred the present appeals. The appellants have submitted that the amount received by them was not for the provision of service but it was for utilizing the services provided by M/s. Amadeus India Pvt. Ltd. They argued that to provide output service of air ticket booking, software is essential and the software service is consumed by the appellants during the provision of output service. The appellants had used CRS service as a support service and not promoted or marketed CRS company's software. The air travel agent uses CRS software to book tickets for its clients. They further argued that the amount received from client is taxable and not the amount received from the supplier.

5. Personal hearing in the matter was granted and held on 19.07.2017. Shri Bishan Shah, Chartered Accountant, represented the appellants, appeared before me and reiterated the contents of their grounds of appeal.

6. I have carefully gone through the facts of the case on records, grounds of appeal in the Appeal Memorandum and written submissions made by the respondents at the time of personal hearing.

7. In this regard, the main issue before me is that whether the service offered by the respondents is taxable or otherwise. I find that M/s. Amadeus India Pvt. Ltd. is involved in the business of CRS and they are functioning as the national Marketing Company for conducting the business of marketing and distribution of the CRS Company through the system. They have further entered into agreement with other agencies for marketing and promotion of the services rendered by foreign based CRS companies in India in exchange for a support fee. The support fee represents usage based transaction fee paid by the CRS companies to Air Travel Agents. The Air Travel Agents use the CRS to book tickets and serve their customers who purchase air tickets. The entire system and nature of service is specified in consideration or support fee,



marketing and promoting business as CRS companies. I find that in the instant case, the respondents have received certain amount which is nothing but incentive/ commission received from M/s. Amadeus India Pvt. Ltd for the services rendered by the former to the latter which falls in the ambit of the definition of Business Auxiliary Service. Thus, I find that the commission received by the respondents is a taxable service and the amount charged by them for providing the said service is the taxable value liable to Service Tax as per the provisions laid down in the Finance Act, 1994 under the category of Business Auxiliary Service. In conclusion, I would like to quote the contents as mentioned in para 15 of the Board's letter number 334/8/2016-TRU dated 29.02.2016, as below;

"15.1 Incentives received by air travel agents from computer reservation system companies (CCRS)

15.1.1 High Level Committee (HLC) in their Second Half early Report in December 2015 have stated that Air Travel Agents (ATA) reportedly have been representing to CBEC since 2012 for a clarification about levy of service tax on the incentives received by them from the Companies providing Computer Reservation System (CCRS) like Galileo, Amadeus, etc. The CCRS do not charge any amount for providing access to their internet system for booking of air tickets by the ATAs. Rather, the CCRS are providing certain incentives either for achieving the targeted booking of air tickets or for loyalty for booking of air tickets using their software system.

15.1.2 It is clarified that incentives received by the Air Travel Agents (ATAs) from the Companies providing Computer Reservation System (CCRS) are for using the software and platform provided by the CCRS like Galileo, Amadeus, etc. The CCRS are providing these incentives either for achieving the targeted booking of air tickets or for loyalty for booking of air tickets using their software system. Thus, the service provided by CCRS is to the Airlines and Air Travel Agent is promoting the service provided by CCRS to Airlines. Thus, the service provided by the ATAs to CCRS is neither covered in the negative list (Section 66D of the Finance Act, 1994) nor exempt by a notification. Therefore, service tax is leviable on the same".

8. In view of the facts and discussions hereinabove, I up held the impugned orders passed by the adjudicating authority and reject the appeals filed by the appellants.

BT

9. अपीलकर्ता द्वारा दर्ज की गई अपील का निपटारा उपरोक्त तरीके से किया जाता है।
9. The appeals filed by the appellant stand disposed off in above terms.

उमा शंकर

(उमा शंकर)

CENTRAL TAX (Appeals),
AHMEDABAD.

ATTESTED

S. Dutta
(S. DUTTA)

SUPERINTENDENT,
CENTRAL TAX (APPEALS),
AHMEDABAD.

To,
M/s. Escape,
201, Subh House, 77 Swastik Society,
B/h. St. Xavier's Ladies Hostel, Navrangpura,
Ahmedabad

Copy to:

1. The Chief Commissioner, Central Tax, Ahmedabad Zone.
2. The Commissioner, Central Tax, Ahmedabad (South).
3. The Dy./Asst. Commissioner, Central Tax, Division-VI (Vastrapur), Ahmedabad (South).
4. The Asst. Commissioner (System), Central Tax Hq, Ahmedabad (South).
5. Guard File.
6. P.A. File



