



सत्यमेव जयते

आयुक्त का कार्यालय

Office of the Commissioner

केंद्रीय जीएसटी, अपील अहमदाबाद आयुक्तालय

Central GST, Appeals Ahmedabad Commissionerate
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आजादी का
अमृत महोत्सव

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(क)	फाइल संख्या / File No.	GAPPL/COM/STP/3843/2023 / 571 - 25
(ख)	अपील आदेश संख्या और दिनांक / Order-In -Appeal and date	AHM-EXCUS-002-APP-177/23-24 and 28.12.2023
(ग)	पारित किया गया / Passed By	श्री ग्यानचंद जैन, आयुक्त (अपील) Shri Gyan Chand Jain, Commissioner (Appeals)
(घ)	जारी करने की दिनांक / Date of Issue	04.01.2024
(ङ)	Arising out of Order-In-Original No. 471/AC/DEMAND/22-23 dated 27.1.2023 passed by The The Assistant Commissioner, CGST Division-I, Ahmedabad North	
(च)	अपीलकर्ता का नाम और पता / Name and Address of the Appellant	Dharamdas Hariram Rangwani 204, Satkar Avenue Near Railway Crossing, Naroda Road Ahmedabad - 382330

कोई व्यक्ति इस अपील-आदेश से असंतोष अनुभव करता है तो वह इस आदेश के प्रति यथास्थिति नीचे बताए गए सक्षम अधिकारी को अपील अथवा पुनरीक्षण आवेदन प्रस्तुत कर सकता है, जैसा कि ऐसे आदेश के विरुद्ध हो सकता है।

Any person 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) केन्द्रीय उत्पादन शुल्क अधिनियम, 1994 की धारा अतत नीचे बताए गए मामलों के बारे में पूर्वोक्त धारा को उप-धारा के प्रथम परन्तुक 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 Govt. of India, Revision Application Unit Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue, 4th Floor, Jeevan Deep Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi - 110 001 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 :-

(क) यदि माल की हानि के मामले में जब ऐसी हानिकार खाने से किसी भण्डागार या अन्य कारखाने में या किसी भण्डागार से दूसरे भण्डागार में माल ले जाते हुए मार्ग में, या किसी भण्डागार या भण्डार में चाहे वह किसी कारखाने में या किसी भण्डागार में हो माल की प्रक्रिया 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 मामलों में जो भारत के बाहर किसी राष्ट्र या प्रदेश में निर्यातित है।

In case of rebate of duty of excise on goods exported to any country or territory outside India of on excisable material used in the manufacture of the goods which are exported to any country or territory outside India.

(ग) यदि शुल्क का भुगतान किए बिना भारत के बाहर (नेपाल या भूटान को) निर्यात किया गया माल हो।

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

(घ) 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।

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.

(2) केन्द्रीय उत्पादन शुल्क (अपील) नियमावली, 2001 के नियम 9 के अंतर्गत विनिर्दिष्ट प्रपत्र संख्या ईए-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 ई का मुख्य शीर्ष 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.

(3) रिविजन आवेदन के साथ जहाँ संलग्न रकम एक लाख रुपये या उससे कम होतो 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 सेवा कर 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 :-

(2) उक्तलिखित परिच्छेद 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 2nd माला, बहुमाली भवन, असरवा, गिरधरनागर, अहमदाबाद-380004।

To the west regional bench of Customs, Excise & Service Tax Appellate Tribunal (CESTAT) at 2nd floor, Bahumali Bhawan, Asarwa, Girdhar Nagar, Ahmedabad: 380004.
In case of appeals other than as mentioned above para.

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 पढ़ी 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 filed 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 मूलआदेश यथास्थिति निर्णयन प्राधिकारी के आदेश में से प्रत्येक की एक प्रतिपर 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) एक प्रति अपील के मामले में कर्तव्यमांग (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 सेवाकर के अंतर्गत, शामिल होगा कर्तव्य की मांग (Duty Demanded)।

- (28) खंड (Section) 11D के तहत निर्धारित राशि;
- (29) लिया गलत सेनवैट क्रेडिट की राशि;
- (30) 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।

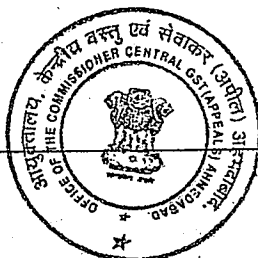
For an appeal to be filed before the CESTAT, 10% of the Duty & Penalty confirmed by the Appellate Commissioner would have to be pre-deposited, provided that the pre-deposit amount shall not exceed Rs.10 Crores. It may be noted that the pre-deposit is a mandatory condition for filing appeal before CESTAT. (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:

- (xxviii) amount determined under Section 11 D;
- (xxix) amount of erroneous Cenvat Credit taken;
- (xxx) amount payable under Rule 6 of the Cenvat Credit Rules.

(6) (i) इस आदेश के प्रति अपील प्राधिकरण के समक्ष जहाँ शुल्क अथवा शुल्क या दण्ड विवादित हो तो माँग 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

The present appeal has been filed by M/s. Dharamdas Hariram Rangwani, 204, Satkar Avenue, Near Railway Crossing, Naroda Road, Ahmedabad-382330, (hereinafter referred to as "the appellant") against Order-in-Original No. 471/AC/Demand/22-23 dated 27.01.2023 (hereinafter referred to as "the impugned order") passed by the Assistant Commissioner, Central GST, Division I, Ahmedabad North (hereinafter referred to as "the adjudicating authority").

2. Briefly stated, the facts of the case are that the appellant are holding PAN No. ABLPR4799R. On scrutiny of the data received from the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) for the FY 2015-16, it was noticed that the appellant had earned an income of Rs. 13,33,037/- during the above period, which was reflected under the heads "sales of services (Value from ITR)" filed with Income Tax department. Accordingly, it appeared that the appellant had earned the said substantial income by way of providing taxable services but had neither obtained Service Tax registration nor paid the applicable service tax thereon. The appellant were called upon to submit copies of required documents for assessment for the said period. However, the appellant had not responded to the letters issued by the department.

2.1 Subsequently, the appellant were issued Show Cause Notice No. IV/TPD/SCN/Dharamdas/2021 dated 24.03.2021 demanding Service Tax amounting to Rs. 1,93,291/- for the period FY 2015-16 under proviso to Section 73 of the Finance Act, 1994. The SCN also proposed recovery of interest under Section 75 of the Finance Act, 1994; and imposition of penalties (i) under Section 77 and (ii) Section 78 of the Finance Act, 1994.

2.2 As the appellant neither replied the SCN nor attended the PH held on dated 05.07.2022, 17.11.202 & 28.11.2022, the Show Cause Notice was adjudicated on merits, vide the impugned order by the adjudicating authority wherein the demand of Service Tax amounting to Rs. 1,93,291/- was confirmed under proviso to Sub-Section (1) of Section 73 of the Finance Act, 1994 along with Interest under Section 75 of the Finance Act, 1994 for the period FY 2015-16. Further (i) Penalty of Rs. 1,93,291/- was imposed on the appellant under Section 78 of the Finance Act, 1994; (ii) Penalty of Rs. 10,000/- was imposed on the appellant under Section 77(10(a) of the Finance Act, 1994.

3. Being aggrieved with the impugned order passed by the adjudicating authority, the appellant have preferred the present appeal, inter alia, on the following grounds:

- The appellant submitted that they have earned income Rs. 13,33,037/- from the service provided as a grain broker (Commission agent of agriculture produce) and the same falls/covered in negative list of services as per section 66D of service tax (Sr. No. d(vii)). therefore they have not registered with the service tax department.



- Further they submitted that they have filed their reply of SCN on dated 28.05.2021 through email but the adjudicating authority decided the matter without considering the same. Further they stated that the income tax return was available with the income tax department and service tax department and the active element of intent to evade duty is not present in this case therefore extended period can't be invoked. They made reference to the case of M/s Cosmic Dye Chemical Vs Collector of cen. Excise, Bombay[1995(75) E.L.T. 721(SC).
 - Further appellant submitted that the SCN issued is vague and unclear to the extent it does not specify any new information available with the department due to which extended period of time is invoked and considering which specific nature of services and service accounting code, the service tax is being demanded on the services provided by the appellant. There is no allegation in the SCN based on which demand is raised and the demand is merely raised on the basis of income shown in income tax return and without considering the fact that such income reflected / leviable under income tax can be exempted under the provisions of service tax. It is a settled law that the SC which is not clear and specific cannot be the justified basis for raising a demand and such SCN takes away the opportunity of natural justice from a taxpayer. The impugned order has been issued merely presuming that taxable services have been provided. Reliance is placed in this regard in the case of Deltax Enterprises vs. CCE, Delhi 2018 (10) GSTL 392 (Tri - Del), wherein Hon. Tribunal has observed that "No service tax liability can be fastened on an unidentified service".
 - The appellant states that the SCN has been issued by the authority merely on the basis of income tax return data and it is a settled legal position that SCN cannot be issued only on the basis of the difference between the ITR or 26AS with the service tax data. They have made reference of the CBIC instruction dated 26.10.2021 in this regard. As the SCN has been issued contravening the above instructions and case laws, the same is bad in law. Further, the OIO was also issued without considering the submission made by the appellant on dated 28.05.2021. They prayed to set aside the impugned OIO.
4. Personal hearing in the case was held on 12.12.2023. Shri Punit Jhamtani, Chartered Accountant, appeared on behalf of the appellant for personal hearing. He reiterated the written submission and also submitted additional documents and requested to allow the appeal.
5. I have carefully gone through the facts of the case, grounds of appeal, submissions made in the Appeal Memorandum and documents available on record. The issue to be decided in the present appeal is whether the impugned order passed by the adjudicating authority, confirming the demand of service tax against the appellant along with interest and penalty, in the facts and



circumstance of the case, is legal and proper or otherwise. The demand pertains to the period FY 2015-16.

6. It is observed that the main contention of the appellant they are engaged in the business of providing service as a grain broker (Commission agent of agriculture produce) and the same falls/covered in negative list of services as per section 66D of service tax (Sr. No. d(vii). Therefore the same are not taxable. They have furnished the sales ledger, Gen. Expense ledger & party wise statement etc from which it can be seen that the appellant is engaged in the sale/purchase activity of agriculture produces which falls under the activity mentioned at Sr. No. d(vii) of Section 66D inserted in Finance Act, 1994 by Finance Act, 2012 vide Noti. No 19/2012-ST dated 05.06.2012. For reference, the same is reproduced as under:

a.....;

b.....;

c.....;

d. Service relating to agriculture or agricultural produce by way of

(i) to (vi).....;

(vii) service by an agriculture produce marketing committee or board or service provided by a commission agent for sale or purchase of agriculture produce.

From the above, it appears that they are engaged in providing service as a commission agent of agriculture produce. Hence the activity carried out during the F.Y 2015-16 doesn't attract service tax liability and the contention made by the appellant appears to be sustainable.

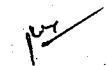
7. In view of the above discussion, I am of the considered view that the activity carried out by the appellant during the F.Y 2015-16 is outside of the purview of service tax. Since the demand of Service Tax is not sustainable on merits, there does not arise any question of charging interest or imposing penalties in the case.

8. In view of above, the impugned order is set aside and the appeal is allowed.

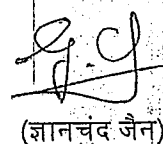
9. अपील कर्ता द्वारा दर्ज की गई अपील का निपटारा उपरोक्त तरीके से किया जाता है।

The appeal filed by the appellant stands disposed of in above terms.

Attested



Manish Kumar
Superintendent(Appeals),
CGST, Ahmedabad


(ज्ञानचंद जैन)

आयुक्त (अपील्स)

Date : 28.12.23



By RPAD / SPEED POST

To,
M/s. Dharamdas Hariram Rangwani,
204, Satkar Avenue, Near Railway Crossing,
Naroda Road, Ahmedabad-382330

Appellant

Respondent

The Assistant Commissioner,
CGST, Division-I,
Ahmedabad North

Copy to :

- 1) The Principal Chief Commissioner, Central GST, Ahmedabad Zone
- 2) The Commissioner, CGST, Ahmedabad North
- 3) The Assistant Commissioner, CGST, Division I, Ahmedabad North
- 4) The Assistant Commissioner (HQ System), CGST, Ahmedabad North
(for uploading the OIA)

- 5) Guard File
- 6) PA file



