

# आयुक्त (अपील) का कार्यालय,

Office of the Commissioner (Appeal),

## केंद्रीय जीएसटी, अपील आयुक्तालय, अहमदाबाद

Central GST, Appeal Commissionerate, Ahmedabad जीएसटी भवन, राजस्व मार्ग, अम्बावाडी अहमदाबाद ३८००१५.

CGST Bhavan, Revenue Marg, Ambawadi, Ahmedabad 380015





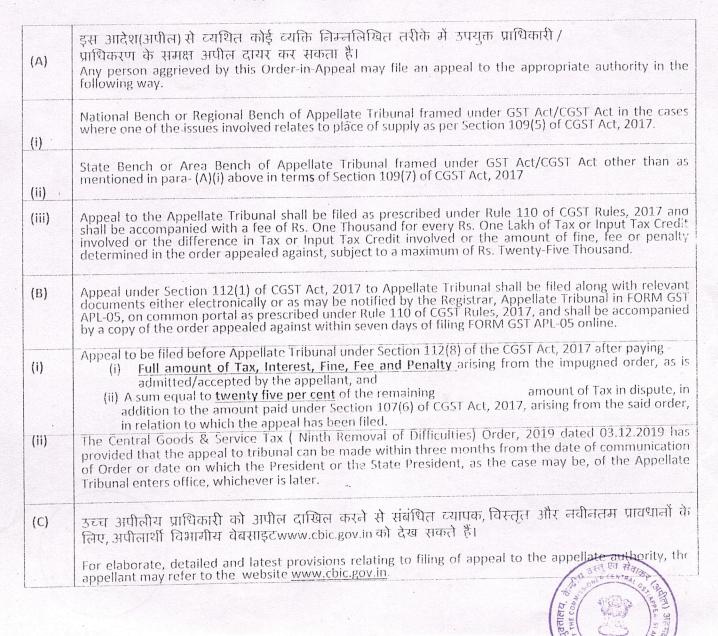
### DIN-20210964SW000002070C

रजिस्टर्ड डाक ए.डी. द्वारा

- क फाइल संख्या : File No : GAPPL/ADC/GSTP/1278/2021-APPEAL / 3063 76 3068
- ख अपील आदेश संख्या Order-In-Appeal Nos. AHM-CGST-001-APP-JC-20/2021-22 दिनाँक Date : 17-09-2021 जारी करने की तारीख Date of Issue : 20-09-2021

श्री मिहिर रायका\_संयुक्त आयुक्त (अपील) द्वारा पारित Passed by Shri. Mihir Rayka, Joint.Commissioner (Appeals)

- ग Arising out of Order-in-Original No ZA240919066707W दिनाँक: 23.09.2019 issued by Superintendent, CGST, Range-1, Division-VIII-Vejalpur, Ahmedabad South
- ध अपीलकर्ता का नाम एवं पता Name & Address of the Appellant / Respondent M/s. Shree Ganesh Allied Services Private Limited, 5, Hans Residency, B/H Venus Atlantis Mall, Opp. Prahladnagar Garden, Ahmedabad-380015



#### :: ORDER-IN-APPEAL ::

M/s. Shree Ganesh Allied Services Private Limited, 5, Hans Residency, B/H Venus Atlantis Mall, Opp. Prahladnagar Garden, Ahmedabad-380015 (hereinafter referred to as 'Appellant') has filed present appeal against order no. ZA240919066707W dated 23.09.2019 (hereinafter referred to as 'impugned order') passed by the Superintendent, CGST Range-I, Division-VIII-Vejalpur, Commissionerate-Ahmedabad South (hereinafter referred to as 'adjudicating authority').

- 2. The brief facts of the case are that the appellant was registered under the GST holding registration no. 24AAVCS3841F2Z3. The registration of the appellant was Suo-moto cancelled vide the impugned order w.e.f. 23.09.2019 under Section 29(2) of the CGST Act, 2017 due to non-filing of GST returns for a continuous period of more than six months.
- 3. Being aggrieved, the Appellant has preferred the present appeal on following grounds, *inter-alia*, contending:-
- (i) That due to unfortunate circumstances they could not pay GST liability and file returns in due time which led to cancellation of their GST registration.
- (ii) Now, all the pending returns till the month of cancellation have been filed and tax liability, interest and late fee have also been paid.
- 3.1 Personal hearing in the matter was held on 27.08.2021 through virtual mode. Shri Dheeraj Varndani, Company Secretary, attended the hearing as an authorized representative of the appellant. He reiterated the grounds of appeal memorandum and requested to consider the same.
- 4. I have gone through the records of the case, the impugned order and the grounds of appeal as well as oral submission of the appellant. I find that the impugned order was issued on 23.09.2019 by the adjudicating authority. As submitted by the Appellant, the said order was also communicated to them on the same day of 23.09.2019. It is further observed that the Appellant has filed this present appeal on 02.07.2021.
- 4.1 I further find it relevant to go through the statutory provisions of Section 107 of the CGST Act, 2017 which is reproduced herebelow:

"Sec. 107. Appeals to Appellate Authority.—(1) Any person aggrieved by any decision or order passed under this Act or the State Goods and Services Tax Act or the Union Territory Goods and Services Tax Act by an adjudicating authority may appeal to such Appellate Authority as may be prescribed within three months from the date on which the said decision or order is communicated to such person.

(4) The Appellate Authority may, if he is satisfied that the appellant was prevented by sufficient cause from presenting the appeal within the aforesaid period of three months or six months, as the case may be, allow it to be presented within a further period of one month."

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- 4.2 Accordingly, it is observed that the Appellant was required to file appeal within 3 months from the receipt of the said order i.e. on or before 23.12.2019, as stipulated under Section 107(1) of the Act. However, the Appellant has filed the present appeal on 02.07.2021, i.e. after a period of more than one and half year from the due date. Further, I also find that in terms of the provisions of Section 107(4) *ibid*, the appellate authority has powers to condone delay of one month in filing of appeal, over and above the prescribed period of three months as mentioned above, if sufficient cause is shown. Accordingly, I find that there is a delay of one and half year in filing the appeal over and above the normal period of 3 months. Thus, appeal filed beyond the time limit prescribed under Section 107(1) *ibid* cannot be entertained.
- 4.3 Further, I also find that in terms of the Hon'ble Supreme Court judgment dated 23.03.2020, wherein the Apex Court taking suo-moto cognizance of the situation arising due to COVID-19 pandemic has extended the period of limitation prescribed under the law with effect from 15.03.2020 till further orders. Further, the Hon'ble Supreme Court vide order dated 27.04.2021 has restored the order dated 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020 thereby directing that the period(s) of limitations, as prescribed under any General or Special Laws in respect of all judicial or quasi-judicial proceedings, whether condonable or not, shall stand extended till further orders from 15.03.2020. The CBIC, New Delhi also vide Circular No. 157/13/2021-GST dated 20.07.2021, has clarified at para-5 that "In other words, the extension of timelines granted by Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its Order dated 27.04.2021 is applicable in respect of any appeal which is required to be filed before Joint/ Additional Commissioner (Appeals), Commissioner (Appeals), Appellate Authority for Advance Ruling, Tribunal and various courts against any quasi-judicial order or where proceeding for revision or rectification of any order is required to be undertaken, and is not applicable to any other proceedings under GST Laws."

However, I find in the present case that the period of limitation of total 4 months (including condonable period of 1 month) for filing of appeal from the date of issuance of impugned order, as prescribed under Section 107 of the CGST Act, 2017 was already completed on 23.01.2020 and hence, the present case would not be eligible for the relaxation/extention granted by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in respect of period(s) of limitation as mentioned above. Accordingly, I find that the

further proceedings in case of present appeal can be taken up for consideration strictly as per the provisions contained in the CGST Act, 2017.

- 5. It is also observed that the appellant has not filed any application for condonation of delay. Even otherwise, filing of a COD application is not going to change the factual position in the present case. I find that this appellate authority is a creature of the statute and has to act as per the provisions contained in the CGST Act. This appellate authority, therefore, cannot condone delay beyond the period permissible under the CGST Act. When the legislature has intended the appellate authority to entertain the appeal by condoning further delay of only one month, this appellate authority cannot go beyond the power vested by the legislature. My views are supported by the following case laws:
- (i) The Hon'ble Supreme Court in the case of Singh Enterprises reported as 2008 (221) E.L.T.163 (S.C.) has held as under:
  - "8. ...The proviso to sub-section (1) of Section 35 makes the position crystal clear that the appellate authority has no power to allow the appeal to be presented beyond the period of 30 days. The language used makes the position clear that the legislature intended the appellate authority to entertain the appeal by condoning delay only upto 30 days after the expiry of 60 days which is the normal period for preferring appeal. Therefore, there is complete exclusion of Section 5 of the Limitation Act. The Commissioner and the High Court were therefore justified in holding that there was no power to condone the delay after the expiry of 30 days period."
- (ii) In the case of Makjai Laboratories Pvt Ltd reported as 2011 (274) E.L.T. 48 (Bom.), the Hon'ble Bombay High Court held that the Commissioner (Appeals) cannot condone delay beyond further period of 30 days from initial period of 60 days and that provisions of Limitation Act, 1963 is not applicable in such cases as Commissioner (Appeals) is not a Court.
- (iii) The Hon'ble High Court of Delhi in the case of Delta Impex reported as 2004 (173) E.L.T. 449 (Del) held that the Appellate authority has no jurisdiction to extend limitation even in a "suitable" case for a further period of more than thirty days.
- 6. I find that the provisions of Section 107 of the Central Goods and Services Act, 2017 are *pari materia* with the provisions of Section 85 of the Finance Act, 1994 and Section 35 of the Central Excise Act, 1944 and hence, the above judgements would be squarely applicable to the present appeal also.

- 7. By respectfully following the above judgements, I hold that this appellate authority cannot condone delay beyond further period of one month as prescribed under proviso to Section 107(4) of the Act. Thus, the appeal filed by the appellant is required to be dismissed on the grounds of limitation as not filed within the prescribed time limit in terms of the provisions of Section 107 of the CGST Act, 2017. I, accordingly, dismiss the present appeal.
- 8 अपीलकर्ता द्वारा दर्ज की गई अपील का निपटारा उपरोक्त तरीके से किया जाता है।
  The appeal filed by the appellant are disposed of as above.

(Mihir Rayka)
Joint Commissioner
CGST(Appeals)

Date:

.09.2021

Attested

(M.P.Sisodiya)

Superintendent
Central Tax (Appeals)
Ahmedabad

#### By R.P.A.D.

To, M/s. Shree Ganesh Allied Services Private Limited, 5, Hans Residency, B/H Venus Atlantis Mall, Opp. Prahladnagar Garden, Ahmedabad-380015

#### Copy to:

- 1. The Principal Chief Commissioner of Central Tax, Ahmedabad Zone.
- 2. The Commissioner, CGST & C.Excise, Appeals, Ahmedabad
- 3. The Principal Commissioner, Central GST & C.Ex, Ahmedabad-South.
- 4. The Deputy/Assistant Commissioner, CGST & C.Ex, Division-VIII-Vejalpur, Commissionerate-Ahmedabad South
- 5. The Additional Commissioner, Central Tax (System), Ahmedabad South.
- 26. Guard File.
  - 7. P.A. File