



सत्यमेव जयते

आयुक्त(अपील)का कार्यालय,
Office of the Commissioner (Appeal),

केंद्रीय जीएसटी, अपील आयुक्तालय, अहमदाबाद
Central GST, Appeal Commissionerate, Ahmedabad
जीएसटी भवन, राजस्वमार्ग, अम्बावाड़ी अहमदाबाद ३८००१५.
CGST Bhavan, Revenue Marg, Ambawadi, Ahmedabad 380015
07926305065 - टेलिफैक्स 07926305136



DIN: 20230964SW0000333DA1

स्पीड पोस्ट

- क फाइल संख्या : File No : GAPPL/COM/STP/1345/2023 / 6331 - 25
- ख अपील आदेश संख्या Order-In-Appeal No. AHM-EXCUS-001-APP-134/2023-24
दिनांक Date : 15-09-2023 जारी करने की तारीख Date of Issue 25.09.2023
आयुक्त (अपील) द्वारा पारित
Passed by Shri Shiv Pratap Singh, Commissioner (Appeals)
- ग Arising out of OIO No. 16/WSO3/AC/CSM/2022-23 दिनांक: 22.11.2022 passed by The Assistant Commissioner, CGST, Division-III, Ahmedabad South.
- घ अपीलकर्ता का नाम एवं पता Name & Address

Appellant

M/s. Rakeshkumar Dineshbhai Patel,
Opp. Rabari Vas na Nake,
At. Hathijan, Tal: Diskoi,
Ahmedabad-382445.

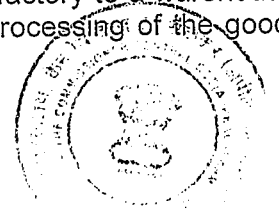
कोई व्यक्ति इस अपील आदेश से असंतोष अनुभव करता है तो वह इस आदेश के प्रति यथास्थिति नीचे बताए गए सक्षम अधिकारी को अपील या पुनरीक्षण आवेदन प्रस्तुत कर सकता है।

Any person 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) केंद्रीय 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।
- (i) 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 :
- (ii) 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।
- (ii) 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.



(क) 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।

(A) 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.

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

(B) 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।

(c) 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 भीतरमूल-आदेश एवं अपील आदेश की दो-दो प्रतियों के साथ उचित आवेदन किया जाना चाहिए। उसके साथ खाता इ.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.

(2) रिविजन आवेदन के साथ जहाँ संलग्न रकम एक लाख रुपये या उससे कम होतो रूपये 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.

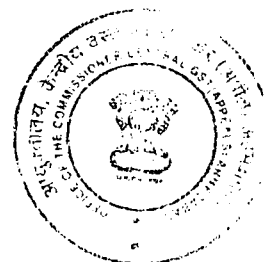
सीमा शुल्क, केन्द्रीय उत्पादन शुल्क एवं सेवा कर अपीलीय न्यायाधिकरण के प्रति अपील:-
Appeal to Custom, Excise, & Service Tax Appellate Tribunal.

(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 :-

(क) 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 2nd माला, बहुमाली भवन, असरवा, गिरधरनागर, अहमदाबाद-380004

(a) 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 in para-2(i) (a) above.



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 शुल्कअधिनियम 1970 यथासंशोधित की अनुसूची-1 के अंतर्गत निर्धारित किए अनुसार उक्त आवेदन या मूलआदेश यथास्थिति निर्णयन प्राधिकारी के आदेश में से प्रत्येक की एक प्रतिपर रू.6.50 पैसे कान्यायालय 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.

10 सीमा शुल्क, केन्द्रीय उत्पादन शुल्क एवं सेवाकर अपीलीय न्यायाधिकरण(सिस्टेट),के प्रतिअपीलो 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)-

- a. (Section) खंड 11D के तहत निर्धारित राशि;
- इण लिया गलत सेनवैट क्रेडिट की राशि;
- बण 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.

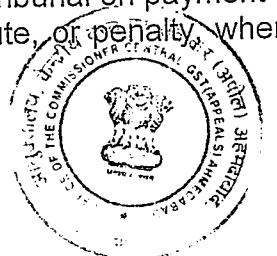
For an appeal to be filed before the CESTAT, 10% of the Duty & Penalty confirmed by the Appellate Commissioner would have to be pre-deposited, provided that the pre-deposit amount shall not exceed Rs.10 Crores. It may be noted that the pre-deposit is a mandatory condition for filing appeal before CESTAT.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

- (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 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."



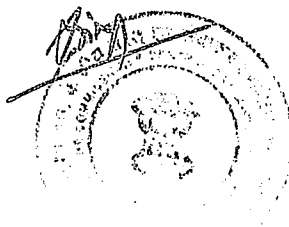
ORDER-IN-APPEAL

The present appeal has been filed by M/s. Rakeshkumar Dineshbhai Patel, Opp. Rabari Vas na Nake, At: Hathijan, Tal: Diskoi, Dist: Ahmedabad – 382445 (hereinafter referred to as “the appellant”) against Order-in-Original No. 16/WS03/AC/CSM/2022-23 dated 22.11.2022 (hereinafter referred to as “the impugned order”) passed by the Assistant Commissioner, Central GST, Division-III, Ahmedabad South (hereinafter referred to as “the adjudicating authority”).

2. Briefly stated, the facts of the case are that the appellant are holding PAN No. AMXPP0601R. On scrutiny of the data received from the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) for the FY 2016-17, it was noticed that the appellant had earned an income of Rs. 11,40,687/- during the FY 2016-17, which was reflected under the heads “Sales / Gross Receipts from Services (Value from ITR)” filed with the Income Tax department. Accordingly, it appeared that the appellant had earned the said substantial income by way of providing taxable services but has neither obtained Service Tax registration nor paid the applicable service tax thereon. The appellant were called upon to submit copies of relevant 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. AR-II/Div-III/ST/M/s. Rakeshkumar Dineshbhai Patel/2016-17 dated 12.10.2021 demanding Service Tax amounting to Rs. 1,71,103/- for the period FY 2016-17, under proviso to Sub-Section (1) of Section 73 of the Finance Act, 1994. The SCN also proposed recovery of interest under Section 75 of the Finance Act, 1994; recovery of late fees under Rule 7C of the Service Tax Rules, 1994 read with Section 70 of the Finance Act, 1994; and imposition of penalties under Section 77 and Section 78 of the Finance Act, 1994.

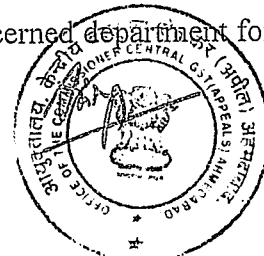
2.2 The Show Cause Notice was adjudicated, ex-parte, vide the impugned order by the adjudicating authority wherein the demand of Service Tax amounting to Rs. 1,71,103/- was confirmed under proviso to Sub-Section (1) of Section 73 of the Finance Act, 1994 along with Interest under Section 75 of the Finance Act, 1994 for the period from FY 2016-17. Further (i) Penalty of Rs. 1,71,103/- 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(1) of the Finance Act, 1994; (iii) Penalty of Rs. 5,000/- was imposed on the appellant under Section 77(2) of the Finance Act, 1994; and (iv) Penalty of Rs. 20,000/- was imposed on the appellant under Section 70 of the Finance Act, 1994 read with Rule 7C of the Service Tax Rules, 1994.



3. Being aggrieved with the impugned order passed by the adjudicating authority, the appellant have preferred the present appeal along with an application for condonation of delay, inter alia, on the following grounds:

- The appellant engaged in part time accounting job. The appellant has not availed any opportunity of hearing because they had not received any hearing notice. In absence of any reply to the show cause notice and explaining the case without hearing, the impugned order confirming the duty is not proper and legal.
- The cum duty benefit is not extended by the adjudicating authority.
- The department has not taken care to investigate the matter whether, in fact, the amount as per ITR is liable to service tax and also in the impugned order not mentioned ground on which the income considered as taxable income. In the show cause notice there is no classification of service has been mentioned that under which the appellant is covered and liable to pay service tax.
- Assuming but not admitted, if the appellant is liable to pay service tax, exemption under Notification No. 33/2012-ST dated 20.06.2012 has not been given in addition to cum duty value.
- There is no suppression of facts as alleged in the notice as the appellant have filed so called IT return on the basis of department has issued notice. Therefore, the invocation of extended period is baseless and vague.
- The penalty is proposed to be imposed under Section 70, 77 in addition to Section 78 is not proper and legal in as much as the appellant is not liable to pay service tax as explained above and till issuance of above SCN, no letter or no notice is issued for any contravention of Provisions of Section or Rule of Finance Act, 1994. Therefore, the Penalty is proposed to be imposed is unwarranted. The interest is also not leivable.

4. On going through the appeal memorandum, it is noticed that the impugned order was issued on 22.11.2022 and received by the appellant on 18.12.2022. However, the present appeal, in terms of Section 85 of the Finance Act, 1994 was filed on 24.02.2023, i.e. after a delay of 6 days from the last date of filing of appeal. The appellant have also filed an Application seeking condonation of delay along with appeal memorandum stating that the appellant being a salary person and doing part time accounting job, facing financial problem to make pre-deposit of amount as required under Section 35F of the Central Excise Act, 1944. Moreover, the appellant at material time has not registered with Service Tax department but for making pre-deposit, they have approached to concerned department for getting user id and



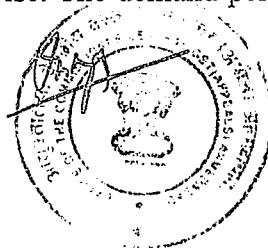
password. Therefore the delay is occurred in filing the appeal. They requested to condone the delay.

4.1 Before taking up the issue on merits, I have decided the Application filed seeking condonation of delay. As per Section 85 of the Finance Act, 1994, an appeal should be filed within a period of 2 months from the date of receipt of the decision or order passed by the adjudicating authority. Under the proviso appended to sub-section (3A) of Section 85 of the Finance Act, 1994, the Commissioner (Appeals) is empowered to condone the delay or to allow the filing of an appeal within a further period of one month thereafter if, he is satisfied that the appellant was prevented by sufficient cause from presenting the appeal within the period of two months. Considering the cause of delay as genuine, I condoned the delay of 6 days and ordered for taken up the appeal for decision on merits.

5. Personal hearing in the case was held on 01.09.2023. Shri Naimesh K. Oza, Advocate, appeared on behalf of the appellant for personal hearing and handed over additional submission dated 01.09.2023. He reiterated the contents thereof, and the submissions made in appeal memorandum. He submitted that the adjudicating authority has not allowed benefit of cum-duty price and the threshold exemption. Since the income in the previous year was less than Rs. 10,00,000/-. All the supporting documents in this regard are attached. Accordingly, he requested to set aside/modify the impugned order.

5.1 The appellant in their additional written submission dated 01.09.2023, inter alia, submitted that their total income for the FY 2015-16 is Rs. 12,06,869/- and out of the same, the income of Rs. 1,74,496/- from Salary on which the TDS under Section 192 of the Income Tax Act, 1961 has been deducted as reflected in Form 26AS and Rs. 3,85,887/- is from Scrap Sale. Both the said amount is required to be deducted from total income and thus their service income is Rs. 6,44,486/- during the FY 2015-16 and they are eligible for threshold exemption of upto Rs. 10 lakh in the FY 2016-17 along with cum duty price benefit. The appellant submitted copies of ITR along with computation of income for the FY 2015-16, Form 26AS for the FY 2015-16, Invoice issued by them for sale of scrap during the FY 2015-16, ledger for scrap sale for the FY 2015-16 along with their submission.

6. I have carefully gone through the facts of the case, grounds of appeal, submissions made in the Appeal Memorandum, additional written submission and during the course of personal hearing 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 2016-17.



7. I find that in the SCN in question, the demand has been raised for the period FY 2015-16 based on the Income Tax Returns filed by the appellant. Except for the value of "Sales of Services under Sales / Gross Receipts from Services" provided by the Income Tax Department, no other cogent reason or justification is forthcoming from the SCN for raising the demand against the appellant. It is also not specified as to under which category of service the non-levy of service tax is alleged against the appellant. Merely because the appellant had reported receipts from services, the same cannot form the basis for arriving at the conclusion that the respondent was liable to pay service tax, which was not paid by them. In this regard, I find that CBIC had, vide Instruction dated 26.10.2021, directed that:

"It was further reiterated that demand notices may not be issued indiscriminately based on the difference between the ITR-TDS taxable value and the taxable value in Service Tax Returns.

3. It is once again reiterated that instructions of the Board to issue show cause notices based on the difference in ITR-TDS data and service tax returns only after proper verification of facts, may be followed diligently. Pr. Chief Commissioner /Chief Commissioner (s) may devise a suitable mechanism to monitor and prevent issue of indiscriminate show cause notices. Needless to mention that in all such cases where the notices have already been issued, adjudicating authorities are expected to pass a judicious order after proper appreciation of facts and submission of the noticee."

7.1 In the present case, I find that letters were issued to the appellant seeking details and documents, which were allegedly not submitted by them. However, without any further inquiry or investigation, the SCN has been issued only on the basis of details received from the Income Tax department, without even specifying the category of service in respect of which service tax is sought to be levied and collected. This, in my considered view, is not a valid ground for raising of demand of service tax.

8. It is observed that the main contentions of the appellant is that (i) they are eligible for cum duty benefit as they have not charged service tax at the material time; and (ii) they are also eligible for threshold limit of exemption as per Notification No. 33/2012-ST dated 20.06.2012. It is also observed that the adjudicating authority has passed the impugned order ex-parte.

9. On scrutiny of the documents viz. Profit & Loss Account for the FY 2015-16; invoices issued by the appellant during the FY 2015-16; and Form 26AS for the FY 2015-16, I find that the total service income of the appellant during the FY 2015-16 was Rs. 6,44,486/- i.e.



below Rs. 10 lakhs, therefore, the appellant are eligible for threshold exemption benefit upto Rs. 10 lakhs in the FY 2016-17 as per Notification No. 33/2012-ST dated 20.06.2012. I also find that as the appellant have not charged and collected service tax, they are also eligible for cum tax benefit as per Section 67(2) of the Finance Act, 1994.

9.1 Total income of the appellant for the FY 2016-17 is Rs. 11,40,687/- and after extending threshold exemption benefit the taxable service income remains Rs. 1,40,687/- and the applicable Service Tax comes to Rs. 18,351/-, after extending cum tax benefit as per Section 67(2) of the Finance Act, 1994, which is required to be recovered from the appellant along with interest.

10. In view of the above discussion, I uphold the order passed by the adjudicating authority for demanding Service Tax of Rs. 18,351/- along with interest for the FY 2016-17 and set aside the order for demanding remaining Service Tax amount. Needless to say that the penalty under Section 78 of the Finance Act, 1994 is required to be reduced equal to the Service Tax demanded and uphold in this order, i.e. Rs. 18,351/-.

11. 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

Superintendent(Appeals),
CGST, Ahmedabad
By RPAD / SPEED POST

To,
M/s. Rakeshkumar Dineshbhai Patel,
Opp. Rabari Vas na Nake,
At: Hathijan, Tal: Diskoi,
Dist: Ahmedabad – 382445

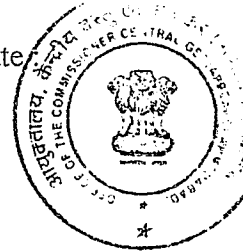
The Assistant Commissioner,
CGST, Division-III,
Ahmedabad South

Copy to :

- 1) The Principal Chief Commissioner, Central GST, Ahmedabad Zone
- 2) The Commissioner, CGST, Ahmedabad South
- 3) The Assistant Commissioner, CGST, Division III, Ahmedabad South
- 4) The Assistant Commissioner (HQ System), CGST, Ahmedabad South
(for uploading the OIA)
- 5) Guard File
- 6) PA file

(Shiv Pratap Singh)
Commissioner (Appeals)

Date



Appellant

Respondent