



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

By SPEED POST

DIN:- 20240164SW000000A978

(क)	फाइल संख्या / File No.	GAPPL/COM/STP/4498/2023 / 1081 - 86
(ख)	अपील आदेश संख्या और दिनांक / Order-In -Appeal and date	AHM-EXCUS-001-APP-240/23-24 and 25.01.2024
(ग)	पारित किया गया / Passed By	श्री ज्ञानचंद जैन, आयुक्त (अपील) Shri Gyan Chand Jain, Commissioner (Appeals)
(घ)	जारी करने की दिनांक / Date of Issue	31.01.2024
(ङ)	Arising out of Order-In-Original No. 543/AC/Div-1/HKB/2022-23 dated 27.03.2023 passed by The Assistant Commissioner, Central GST, Division I, Ahmedabad South.	
(च)	अपीलकर्ता का नाम और पता / Name and Address of the Appellant	M/s. Kanjibhai Kodabhai Makwana, 13, Shital Nagar, Behind Ramnagar Bus Stop, Amraiwadi, Ahmedabad-380026.

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 उपयोगित माल पर या उत्पादन शुल्क के रिबेट के मामलों में जो भारत के बाहर किसी राष्ट्र या प्रदेश में निर्यातित है।



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 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.

(3) रिविजन आवेदन के साथ जहाँ संलग्न रकम एक लाख रुपये या उससे कम होतो रुपये 200/- फीस भुगतान की जाए और जहाँ संलग्नरकम 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 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 Appellant 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 मूलआदेश यथास्थिति निर्णयन प्राधिकारी के आदेश में से प्रत्येक की एक प्रतिपर रू 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 और 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) एके प्रति अपीलो 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)।

- (1) खंड (Section) 11D के तहत निर्धारित राशि;
- (2) लिया गलत सेनवैट क्रेडिट की राशि;
- (3) 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.

(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. Kanjibhai Kodabhai Makwana, 13, Shital Nagar, Behind Ramnagar Bus Stop, Amraiwadi, Ahmedabad-380026 (hereinafter referred to as the "appellant") against Order-in-Original No. 543/AC/Div-I/HKB/2022-23 dated 27.03.2023 (hereinafter referred to as "the impugned order") passed by the Assistant Commissioner, Central GST, Division I, 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. CGSPM2491R. On scrutiny of the data received from the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) for the Financial Year 2015-16, it was noticed that the appellant had earned an income of Rs. 12,03,870/- during the F.Y. 2015-16, 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 had neither obtained Service Tax Registration nor paid the applicable service tax thereon. The appellant were called upon to submit required documents 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. V/15-183/Div-I/Kangibhai Khodabhai Makwana/21-22 wherein:

- a) Demand and recover an amount of Rs. 1,80,580/- under proviso to Sub Section (1) of Section 73 of the Act along with interest under section 75 of the Finance Act 1994 (hereinafter referred to as 'the Act').



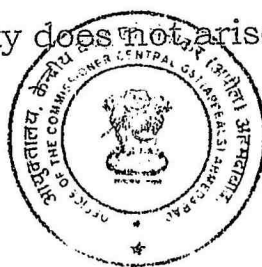
- b) Impose penalty under the provisions of Section 77(1) and 78 of the Act.

2.2 The Show Cause Notice was adjudicated ex-parte vide the impugned order by the adjudicating authority wherein:

- a) The demand of service tax amounting to Rs. 1,80,580/- was confirmed under section 73(1) of the Act by invoking extended period along with interest under section 75 of the Act.
- b) Penalty amounting to Rs. 10,000/- was imposed under section 77(1) of the Act as they failed to obtain service tax registration.
- c) Penalty amounting to Rs. 1,80,580/- was imposed under 78 of the Act.

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:-

- That the appellant is engaged in the business of manufacturing of door mats.
- Since the appellant are engaged in manufacturing activity they are not liable to pay service tax.
- They are exempted from paying service tax under Section 66D of the Finance Act, 1994 which stipulates negative list of services.
- That the appellant's income is below the threshold limit of 10 lakhs.
- That service tax cannot be demanded merely based on Income tax returns or Form 26AS.
- Extended period of limitation cannot be invoked in the absence of fulfilment of the conditions under 73(1).
- As the demand itself is not sustainable and hence the question of imposing interest and penalty does not arise.



4. Personal hearing in the case was held on 09.01.2024. Shri Amrin Alwani and Foram Dhruv, Chartered Accountants appeared on behalf of the appellant for personal hearing and reiterated the written submission. They stated that their client is manufacturer of textile, carpets, handicrafts etc. hence they are not liable to pay service tax. The appellant have submitted during filing of Appeal Memorandum following documents for the F.Y. 2015-16 and 2014-15 (1) copy of Form 26AS (TDS Certificate), (2) copy of P & L Account and Balance Sheet, and (3) copy of Income Tax Returns (4) copy of MSME Certificate.

5. On going through the appeal memorandum, it is noticed that the impugned order was issued on 03.04.2023. The present appeal, in terms of Section 85 of the Finance Act, 1994 was filed on 13.06.2023, i.e. after a delay of 11 days from the last date of filing of appeal. The appellant have along with appeal memorandum also filed an Application seeking condonation of delay of 10 days in filing appeal which was required to be filed on or before 02.06.2023.

6. Before taking up the issue on merits, I proceed to decide 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 were prevented by sufficient cause from presenting the appeal within the period of two months. Considering the cause of delay given in application as genuine, I condone the delay of 11 days and take up the appeal for decision on merits.

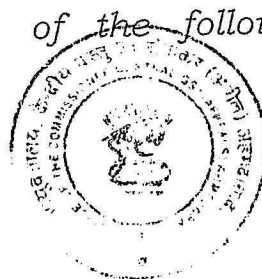


7. Coming to the merit of the case, I have carefully gone through the facts of the case, grounds of appeal, submissions made in the Appeal Memorandum and documents available on record. The issue to be decided in the present appeal is whether the impugned order passed by the adjudicating authority, confirming 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 F.Y. 2015-16.

8. Accordingly, I find that the following issues are required to be decided by me (1) whether the Service Tax demand has been confirmed correctly vide the impugned order, (2) whether the contention of the appellant that the services provided by them are exempted as per Section 66D of the Act which stipulates Negative List of services is sustainable or not, (3) whether the contention of the appellant that they are covered under Mega exemption Notification 33/2012-ST dated 20.06.2012 as their turnover does not exceed Rs. 10 lakhs in F.Y. 2015-16 and 2014-15 is sustainable or not.

9. I find that the contention of the appellant is that they are engaged in activity of manufacturing of goods and therefore the service in relation to manufacturing of goods provided by them shall not be covered under the Act for levy of Service tax and therefore they are exempted from service tax as per as per Section 66D of the Act which stipulates Negative List of services; that accordingly, they were not liable to pay service tax on provision of such services. For ease of reference, I reproduce the relevant extract of Section 66D of the Finance Act, 1994, which reads as under:

The negative list shall comprise of the following services, namely:



.....
(f) *Services by way of carrying out any process amounting to manufacture or production of goods excluding alcoholic liquor for human consumption*

10. Further, I find that the appellant, in support of the contention have submitted records (1) Profit and Loss Account & Balance Sheet (2) MSME certificate. On analysis of the documents submitted by the appellant, it is observed that the appellant were engaged in the activity of manufacturing of goods. As per Section 66D (f) and also as per the entry no. 30 (i) of Notification No. 25/2012-ST dated 20th June 2012, which states that "*Services by way of carrying out any process amounting to manufacture or production of goods excluding alcoholic liquor for human consumption*" is exempt from Service Tax. Therefore I hold that the services rendered by the appellant is exempted in terms of Section 66D(f) of the Act and as per the entry No. 30 (i) of Notification No. 25/2012-ST dated 20th June 2012. Due to the above finding, I am of the considered opinion that the appellant are not liable for service tax. Consequently the question of interest and penalties also does not arise.

11. Accordingly, the impugned order is set aside and the appeal is allowed.

12. 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.



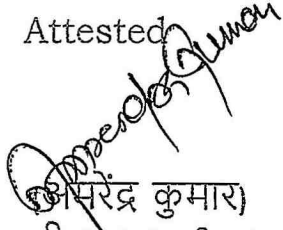
ज्ञानचंद जैन

आयुक्त (अपील्स)

Date : 25.01.2024



Attested



अनंद कुमार
अधीक्षक (अपील्स)

सी. जी. एस. टी, अहमदाबाद

BY RPAD/ SPEED POST

To

M/s. Kanjibhai Kodabhai Makwana,
13, Shital Nagar, Behind Ramnagar Bus Stop,
Amraiwadi, Ahmedabad-380026

Copy to :

1. The Principal Chief Commissioner, Central GST, Ahmedabad Zone.
2. The Principal Commissioner Central GST, Ahmedabad South.
3. The Deputy/Assistant Commissioner, CGST, Division IV, Ahmedabad South
4. The Deputy/Assistant Commissioner (RRA), Ahmedabad South
5. The Asstt. Commissioner (HQ System) Central GST, Ahmedabad South (for uploading the OIA).
6. Guard File.
7. P.A. File.



