

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

कंद्रीय जीएसटी, अपील आयुक्तालय,अहमदाबाद Central GST, Appeal Commissionerate, Ahmedabad जीएसटी भवन, राजस्वमार्ग, अम्बावाड़ीअहमदाबाद३८००१५ CGST Bhavan, Revenue Marg, Ambawadi, Ahmedabad 380015 - टेलेफैक्स07926305136



DIN: 20230564SW000000ADAE

# स्पीड पोस्ट

ख अपील आदेश संख्या Order-In-Appeal No. AHM-EXCUS-001-APP-35/2023-24 दिनाँक Date: 15-05-2023 जारी करने की तारीख Date of Issue 17.05.2023 आयुक्त (अपील) द्वारापारित Passed by Shri Akhilesh Kumar, Commissioner (Appeals)

ग Arising out of OIO No. 15/WS03/AC/CSM/2022-23 दिनॉक: 21.11.2022 passed by Assistant Commissioner, Division III, CGST, Ahmedabad South

ध अपीलकर्ता का नाम एवं पता Name & Address

#### Appellant

M/s Jignesh Ratilal Jaiswal 424, Jantanagar, Ramol Road, Ahmedabad - 384244

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) 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।
- (i) A revision application lies to the Under Secretary, to the Govt. of India, Revision Application Unit Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue, 4<sup>th</sup> 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 प्रकिया 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 कच्चें माल पर उत्पादन शुल्क के रिबेट के मानलें 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.
- (ড) 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 डयूटी केडिट 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 दिनाँक 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 रूपये या उससे कम होतो रूपये 200/-फीस भूगतान 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 :-
- (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 2<sup>nd</sup> माला, बहुमाली भवन , असरवा , गिरधरनागर, अहमदाबाद-380004
- (a) To the west regional bench of Customs, Excise & Service Tax Appellate Tribunal (CESTAT) at 2<sup>nd</sup> 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. Registar 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 ओदश 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 हैं।

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 not withstanding 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 शुल्कअधिनियम 1970 यथासंशोधित की अनुसूचि—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.

26ण सीमा शुल्क, केन्द्रीय उत्पादन शुल्क एवं सेवाकर अपीलीय न्यायाधिकरण(सिस्टेट), के प्रतिअपीलों 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:

(clxxxvii) amount determined under Section 11 D; (clxxxviii) amount of erroneous Cenvat Credit taken;

(clxxxix) 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 माँग किए गए शुल्क के 10% भगतान पर और जहाँ केवल दण्ड विवादित हो तब दण्ड के 10% भगतान 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 are is in dispute."

### ORDER-IN-APPEAL

The present appeal has been filed by M/s. Jignesh Ratilal Jaiswal, 424, Jantanagar, Ramol Road, Ahmedabad – 384244 (hereinafter referred to as "the appellant") against Order-in-Original No. 15/WS03/AC/CSM/2022-23 dated 21.11.2022 (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. AFXPJ8458H. 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. 10,68,870/- during the FY 2016-17, which was reflected under the heads "Sales / Gross Receipts from Services (Value from ITR)" or "Total amount paid / credited under Section 194C, 194I, 194I, 194J (Value from Form 26AS)" 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 copies of Balance Sheet, Profit & Loss Account, Income Tax Return, Form 26AS, 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/JIGNESH RATILAL JAISWAL/2016-17 dated 12.10.2021 demanding Service Tax amounting to Rs. 1,60,331/- 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; 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. 1,60,331/- 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. 1,60,331/- was also 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 Service Tax Rules, 1994.



- 3. Being aggrieved with the impugned order passed by the adjudicating authority, the appellant have preferred the present appeal on the following grounds:
  - The appellant are engaged in providing 'Health Care Service' and are running Matru Pathology Laboratory at 79, Bhartinagar, Opp. Bharat Party Plot, Highway Road, Amraiwadi, Ahmedabad - 380026 for carrying various diagnostic tests.
  - They have vide their letter dated 30.08.2022 filed the reply to the show cause notice to the adjudicating authority, inter-alia, submitted that he was running his pathology laboratory in the trade name of 'Matru Pathology Laboratory' in which various testing services in relation to diagnostic testing to Humans were provided. The services were provided by him is covered under the definition of 'Health Care Service' and 'Clinical Establishment'. Therefore he was not liable to collect Service tax as his service is exempted from payment of service tax under Notification No. 25/2012-ST dated 20 June, 2012. However, with out any cognizance of the submission of the appellant the adjudicating authority has passed the impugned order ex-parte. In this regard, the appellant have submitted the copy of their letter dated 30.08.2022 duly acknowledged by the office of the Assistant Commissioner on 30.08.2022 along with appeal memorandum.
  - The appellant is engaged in diagnosis tests for human illness and is running Pathology Laboratory in the name and style of Matru Pathology Laboratory and is also having Certificate of registration as Life member of "ASEOPPLOG" with Life Member No. SPZ/Ahm/010 issued by Association of Self Employed Owner (Paramedical) of Private Pathology Laboratory Of Gujarat. Association of Self Employed Owner (Paramedical) of Private Pathology Laboratory of Gujarat is a trust registered under Bombay Public Trust Act, 1950 F.459/Junagadh. The appellant have submitted the copy of the said certificate along with appeal memorandum.
  - The service rendered by the appellant is specifically covered within four corner of Health care services by a clinical establishment, an authorized medical practitioner or para-medics and exempted as per Notification No. 25/2012-ST dated 20.06.2012. The appellant is not liable to discharge Service tax as provided in Section 68 (1) of the Finance Act,1994 read with Rule 6 of the Service Tax Rules, 1994 on the consideration received by them towards the rendering the said service.



- As submitted above, the appellant is not liable to pay service tax, therefore, they are also not required to obtain Service Tax Registration as provided under Section 69 of the Finance Act, 1994 read with Rule 4 of the Service tax Rules, 1994. This being the case they are not entitled to file ST-3 periodical return as required under Section 70 of the Finance Act, 1994 read with Rule 7 of the Service Tax Rules, 1994. Further, the appellant have not committed any offence of the nature prescribed in section 77 of the Finance Act, 1994 and hence no penalty is imposable upon them under the said section. As submitted above, the appellant is not require to submit ST-3 Returns, no late fee is chargeable from the appellant.
- In view of above there exist no ground of invoking suppression of fact on the part of the appellant and hence penalty of Rs.1,60,031/- imposed under Section 78 of the Finance Act, 1994 is not legal and correct.
- 4. Personal hearing in the case was held on 19.04.2023. Shri Vijay N. Thakkar, Authorized person, appeared on behalf of the appellant for personal hearing. He reiterated submissions made in appeal memorandum.
- 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 2016-17.
- I find that in the SCN in question, the demand has been raised for the period FY 2016-17 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."
- 6.1 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.
- The appellant also contended that they have filed a reply to the SCN with all the required documents on 30.08.2022, which was not taken in to cognizance by the adjudicating authority. On verification of the copy of the letter dated 30.08.2022, which was received by the adjudicating authority on 30.08.2022, I find that the appellant submitted the reply to the SCN. However, the adjudicating authority had not taken the same into consideration and passed impugned order ex-parte. Thus, I find that the adjudicating authority has passed the impugned order violating the principles of natural justice.
- 7. It is observed from the case records that the appellant is running a pathology laboratory in the trade name of 'Matru Pathology Laboratory' in which various testing services in relation to diagnostic testing to Humans are provided. The appellant have also submitted his Certificate of Registration as member of Association of Self Employed Owner (Paramedical) of Private Pathology Laboratory of Gujarat (ASWOPPLOG) having Life Member No. SPZ/Ahm/010.
- 8. As regards the exemption claimed by the appellant, it is observed that as per Sr. No. 2 of the Notification No. 25/2012-ST dated 20.06.2012, Health Care Services provided by a clinical establishment or an authorized medical practitioner or para-medics, are exempted taxable services from the whole of the service tax leviable thereon under section 66B of the said Act.



- 8.1 As per definition of Health Care Services given in Para 2(t) of the Notification No. 25/2012-ST dated 20.06.2012, "Health Care Services" means any service by way of diagnosis or treatment or care for illness, injury, deformity, abnormality or pregnancy in any recognized system of medicines in India and includes services by way of transportation of the patient to and from a clinical establishment, but does not include hair transplant or cosmetic or plastic surgery, except when undertaken to restore or to reconstruct anatomy or functions of body affected due to congenital defects, developmental abnormalities, injury or trauma.
- 8.2 Further, as per definition of Authorised Medical Practitioner given in Para 2(d) of the Notification No. 25/2012-ST dated 20.06.2012, "Authorised Medical Practitioner" means a medical practitioner registered with any of the councils of the recognized system of medicines established or recognized by law in India and includes a medical professional having the requisite qualification to practice in any recognized system of medicines in India as per any law for the time being in force.
- 8.3 Further, as per definition of Clinical Establishment given in per Para 2(j) of the Notification No. 25/2012-ST dated 20 06.2012, "Clinical Establishment" means a hospital, nursing home, clinic, sanatorium or any other institution by, whatever name called, that offers services or facilities requiring diagnosis or treatment or care for illness, injury, deformity, abnormality or pregnancy in any recognized system of medicines in India, or a place established as an independent entity or a part of an establishment to carry out diagnostic or investigative services of diseases.
- 8.4 In view of the above, I find that the Health Care Services provided by a clinical establishment, an authorized medical practitioner or para-medics, are exempted from the whole of the service tax leviable thereon under section 66B of the said Act. In the present case, the appellant has submitted his Certificate of Registration as member of Association of Self Employed Owner (Paramedical) of Private Pathology Laboratory of Gujarat (ASWOPPLOG) having Life Member No. SPZ/Ahm/010. I also find that as per the Income Tax Return filed by the appellant, he has shown the nature of business as "0604-Medical Professional" and Trade Name shown as "Matruchhaya Petho Lab" in the same. Thus, I find that during the FY 2016-17, the appellant had received total income of Rs. 10,68,870/- from providing services of in relation to diagnostic testing to Humans in their "Matruchhaya Pethology Laboratory", which is covered under the definition of Clinical Establishment as defined under Para 2(j) of the Notification No. 25/2012-ST dated 20.06.2012.
- 8.5 In view of the above, I am of considered opinion that the appellant during the FY 2016-17 were engaged in providing Health Care Services, which are exempted from levy of



the service tax thereon under Section 66B of the Finance Act, 1994 in terms of Sr. No. 2 of Notification No. 25/2012-ST dated 20.06.2012. Thus, the income received by them during the FY 2016-17 is not liable for Service Tax as demanded under the instant Show Cause Notice. The impugned order is not legally sustainable on merits and is liable to be set aside.

- 9. Since the demand of service tax is not sustainable on merits, I am not delving into the aspect of natural justice raised by the appellant. When the demand fails, there does not arise any question of charging interest or imposing penalty in the case.
- 10. Accordingly, I set aside the impugned order and allow the appeal filed by the appellant.
- 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.

(Akhilesh Kumar)
Commissioner (Appeals)

Attested

(R. C. Maniyar)
Superintendent(Appeals),
CGST, Ahmedabad

### By RPAD / SPEED POST

To, M/s. Jignesh Ratilal Jaiswal, 424, Jantanagar, Ramol Road, Ahmedabad – 384244

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

Date: 15.05.2023



Appellant

Respondent

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)
- 25) Guard File
  - 6) PA file

