



::आयुक्त (अपील-III) का कार्यालय,केंद्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क::
O/O THE COMMISSIONER (APPEALS-III), CENTRAL EXCISE,
द्वितीय तल, केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क, भवन / 2nd Floor, Central Excise, Bhavan,
रेस कोर्स रिंग रोड/ Race Course Ring Road,
राजकोट / Rajkot- 360001
Tele Fax No. : 0281 – 2477952/2441142 Email cexappealsrajkot@gmail.com



रजिस्टर्ड डाक ए. डी. द्वारा :-

क	अपील / फाइल संख्या / Appeal / File No.	मूल आदेश सं / O.I.O. No.	दिनांक / Date
	V2/114 /BVR/2016	11/AC/RURAL/BVR/RR/2016-17	20.06.2016,

ख अपील आदेश संख्या (Order-In-Appeal No.):

BHV-EXCUS-000-APP-002-2017-18

आदेश दिनांक / Date of Order :	25.04.2017	जारी करने की तारीख / Date of issue:	27.04.2017
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**श्री उमा शंकर, आयुक्त (अपील-III) द्वारा पारित /
Passed by Shri Uma Shanker, Commissioner (Appeals-III)**

ग अपर आयुक्त/ सयुक्त आयुक्त/ उपायुक्त/ सहायक आयुक्त, केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क/ सेवाकर, राजकोट / जामनगर / गांधीधाम। द्वारा उपरलिखित जारी मूल आदेश से सृजित :
 Arising out of above mentioned OIO issued by Additional/Joint/Deputy/Assistant Commissioner, Central Excise / Service Tax, Rajkot / Jamnagar / Gandhidham :-

घ **अपीलकर्ता/ प्रतिवादी का नाम एवं पता / Name & Address of the Appellant/ Respondent :-**
M/s. Kiran Ship Breaking Co., Plot No. 82,, Ship Breaking Yard,, Alang, Post Manar Bhavnagar

इस आदेश(अपील) से व्यथित कोई व्यक्ति निम्नलिखित तरीके में उपयुक्त प्राधिकारी / प्राधिकरण के समक्ष अपील दायर कर सकता है।/
 Any person aggrieved by this Order-in-Appeal may file an appeal to the appropriate authority in the following way.

(A) सीमा शुल्क, केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क एवं सेवाकर अपीलीय न्यायाधिकरण के प्रति अपील, केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क अधिनियम, 1944 की धारा 35B के अंतर्गत एवं वित्त अधिनियम, 1994 की धारा 86 के अंतर्गत निम्नलिखित जगह की जा सकती है।/
 Appeal to Customs, Excise & Service Tax Appellate Tribunal under Section 35B of CEA, 1944 / Under Section 86 of the Finance Act, 1994 an appeal lies to:-

- (i) वर्गीकरण मूल्यांकन से सम्बन्धित सभी मामले सीमा शुल्क, केन्द्रीय उत्पादन शुल्क एवं सेवाकर अपीलीय न्यायाधिकरण की विशेष पीठ, वेस्ट ब्लॉक नं 2, आर. के. पुरम, नई दिल्ली, को की जानी चाहिए।/
 The special bench of Customs, Excise & Service Tax Appellate Tribunal of West Block No. 2, R.K. Puram, New Delhi in all matters relating to classification and valuation.
- (ii) उपरोक्त परिच्छेद 1(a) में बताए गए अपीलों के अलावा शेष सभी अपीलों सीमा शुल्क, केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क एवं सेवाकर अपीलीय न्यायाधिकरण (सिस्टेट) की पश्चिम क्षेत्रीय पीठिका, ओ-20, न्यू मेंटल होस्पिटल कम्पाउंड, मेघानी नगर, अहमदाबाद-380016, को की जानी चाहिए।/
 To the West regional bench of Customs, Excise & Service Tax Appellate Tribunal (CESTAT) at O-20, New Mental Hospital Compound, Meghani Nagar, Ahmedabad: 380016, in case of appeals other than as mentioned in para- 1(a) above
- (iii) अपीलीय न्यायाधिकरण के समक्ष अपील प्रस्तुत करने के लिए केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क (अपील) नियमवाली, 2001, के नियम 6 के अंतर्गत निर्धारित किए गये प्रपत्र EA-3 को चार प्रतियों में दर्ज किया जाना चाहिए। इनमें से कम से कम एक प्रति के साथ, जहां उत्पाद शुल्क की मांग, ब्याज की मांग और लगाया गया जुर्माना, रुपए 5 लाख या उससे कम, 5 लाख रुपए या 50 लाख रुपए तक अथवा 50 लाख रुपए से अधिक है तो क्रमशः 1,000/- रुपये, 5,000/- रुपये अथवा 10,000/- रुपये का निर्धारित जमा शुल्क की प्रति संलग्न करें। निर्धारित शुल्क का भुगतान, संबंधित अपीलीय न्यायाधिकरण की शाखा के सहायक रजिस्टार के नाम से किसी भी सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के बैंक द्वारा जारी रेखांकित बैंक ड्राफ्ट द्वारा किया जाना चाहिए। संबंधित ड्राफ्ट का भुगतान, बैंक की उस शाखा में होना चाहिए जहां संबंधित अपीलीय न्यायाधिकरण की शाखा स्थित है। स्थगन आदेश (स्टे ऑर्डर) के लिए आवेदन-पत्र के साथ 500/- रुपए का निर्धारित शुल्क जमा करना होगा।/
 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.5000/-, Rs.10,000/- where amount of duty demand/interest/penalty/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 Asst. Registrar of branch of any nominated public sector bank of the place where the bench of any nominated public sector bank of the place where the bench of the Tribunal is situated. Application made for grant of stay shall be accompanied by a fee of Rs. 500/-.

(B) अपीलीय न्यायाधिकरण के समक्ष अपील, वित्त अधिनियम, 1994 की धारा 86(1) के अंतर्गत सेवाकर नियमवाली, 1994, के नियम 9(1) के तहत निर्धारित प्रपत्र S.T.-5 में चार प्रतियों में की जा सकेगी एवं उसके साथ जिस आदेश के विरुद्ध अपील की गयी हो, उसकी प्रति साथ में संलग्न करें (उनमें से एक प्रति प्रमाणित होनी चाहिए) और इनमें से कम से कम एक प्रति के साथ, जहां सेवाकर की मांग, ब्याज की मांग और लगाया गया जुर्माना, रुपए 5 लाख या उससे कम, 5 लाख रुपए या 50 लाख रुपए तक अथवा 50 लाख रुपए से अधिक है तो क्रमशः 1,000/- रुपये, 5,000/- रुपये अथवा 10,000/- रुपये का निर्धारित जमा शुल्क की प्रति संलग्न करें। निर्धारित शुल्क का भुगतान, संबंधित अपीलीय न्यायाधिकरण की शाखा के सहायक रजिस्टार के नाम से किसी भी सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के बैंक द्वारा जारी रेखांकित बैंक ड्राफ्ट द्वारा किया जाना चाहिए। संबंधित ड्राफ्ट का भुगतान, बैंक की उस शाखा में होना चाहिए जहां संबंधित अपीलीय न्यायाधिकरण की शाखा स्थित है। स्थगन आदेश (स्टे ऑर्डर) के लिए आवेदन-पत्र के साथ 500/- रुपए का निर्धारित शुल्क जमा करना होगा।/
 The appeal under sub section (1) of Section 86 of the Finance Act, 1994, to the Appellate Tribunal Shall be filed in quadruplicate in Form S.T.5 as prescribed under Rule 9(1) of the Service Tax Rules, 1994, and Shall be accompanied by a copy of the order appealed against (one of which shall be certified copy) and should be accompanied by a fees of Rs. 1000/- where the amount of service tax & interest demanded & penalty levied of Rs. 5 Lakhs or less, Rs.5000/- where the amount of service tax & interest demanded & penalty levied is more than five lakhs but not exceeding Rs. Fifty Lakhs, Rs.10,000/- where the amount of service tax & interest demanded & penalty levied is more than fifty Lakhs rupees, in the form of crossed bank draft in favour of the Assistant Registrar of the bench of nominated Public Sector Bank of the place where the bench of Tribunal is situated. / Application made for grant of stay shall be accompanied by a fee of Rs.500/-.

- (i) वित्त अधिनियम, 1994 की धारा 86 की उप-धाराओं (2) एवं (2A) के अंतर्गत दर्ज की गयी अपील, सेवाकर नियमवाली, 1994, के नियम 9(2) एवं 9(2A) के तहत निर्धारित प्रपत्र S.T.-7 में जो जा सकेगी एवं उसके साथ आयुक्त, केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क अथवा आयुक्त (अपील), केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क द्वारा पारित आदेश की प्रतियाँ संलग्न करें (उनमें से एक प्रति प्रमाणित होनी चाहिए) और आयुक्त द्वारा सहायक आयुक्त अथवा उपायुक्त, केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क/ सेवाकर, को अपीलीय न्यायाधिकरण को आवेदन दर्ज करने का निर्देश देने वाले आदेश की प्रति भी साथ में संलग्न करनी होगी। / The appeal under sub section (2) and (2A) of the section 86 the Finance Act 1994, shall be filed in Form ST.7 as prescribed under Rule 9 (2) & 9(2A) of the Service Tax Rules, 1994 and shall be accompanied by a copy of order of Commissioner Central Excise or Commissioner, Central Excise (Appeals) (one of which shall be a certified copy) and copy of the order passed by the Commissioner authorizing the Assistant Commissioner or Deputy Commissioner of Central Excise/ Service Tax to file the appeal before the Appellate Tribunal.
- (ii) सीमा शुल्क, केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क एवं सेवाकर अपीलीय प्राधिकरण (सेस्टेट) के प्रति अपीलों के मामले में केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क अधिनियम 1944 की धारा 35एफ के अंतर्गत, जो की वित्तीय अधिनियम, 1994 की धारा 83 के अंतर्गत सेवाकर को भी लागू की गई है, इस आदेश के प्रति अपीलीय प्राधिकरण में अपील करते समय उत्पाद शुल्क/सेवा कर मांग के 10 प्रतिशत (10%), जब मांग एवं जुर्माना विवादित है, या जुर्माना, जब केवल जुर्माना विवादित है, का भुगतान किया जाए, बशर्त कि इस धारा के अंतर्गत जमा कि जाने वाली अपेक्षित देय राशि दस करोड़ रुपए से अधिक न हो।
केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क एवं सेवाकर के अंतर्गत "मांग किए गए शुल्क" में निम्न शामिल है
(i) धारा 11 डी के अंतर्गत रकम
(ii) सेनवेट जमा की गयी गलत राशि
(iii) सेनवेट जमा नियमावली के नियम 6 के अंतर्गत देय रकम
- बशर्त यह कि इस धारा के प्रावधान वित्तीय (सं. 2) अधिनियम 2014 के आरंभ से पूर्व किसी अपीलीय प्राधिकारी के समक्ष विचाराधीन स्थगन अर्जी एवं अपील को लागू नहीं होगा। /
For an appeal to be filed before the CES
TAT, under Section 35F of the Central Excise Act, 1944 which is also made applicable to Service Tax under Section 83 of the Finance Act, 1994, 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, provided the amount of pre-deposit payable would be subject to a ceiling of Rs. 10 Crores,
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
- provided further that the provisions of this Section shall not apply to the stay application and appeals pending before any appellate authority prior to the commencement of the Finance (No.2) Act, 2014.
- (C) **भारत सरकार को पुनरीक्षण आवेदन :**
Revision application to Government of India:
इस आदेश की पुनरीक्षण याचिका निम्नलिखित मामले में, केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क अधिनियम, 1994 की धारा 35EE के प्रथम परंतुक के अंतर्गत अवर सचिव, भारत सरकार, पुनरीक्षण आवेदन इकाई, वित्त मंत्रालय, राजस्व विभाग, चौथी मंजिल, जीवन दीप भवन, संसद मार्ग, नई दिल्ली-110001, को किया जाना चाहिए। /
A revision application lies to the Under Secretary, to the Government of India, Revision Application Unit, Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue, 4th Floor, Jeevan Deep Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001, 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:
(i) यदि माल के किसी नुकसान के मामले में, जहां नुकसान किसी माल को किसी कारखाने से भंडार गृह के पारगमन के दौरान या किसी अन्य कारखाने या फिर किसी एक भंडार गृह से दूसरे भंडार गृह पारगमन के दौरान, या किसी भंडार गृह में या भंडारण में माल के प्रसंस्करण के दौरान, किसी कारखाने या किसी भंडार गृह में माल के नुकसान के मामले में। /
In case of any loss of goods, where the loss occurs 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
(ii) भारत के बाहर किसी राष्ट्र या क्षेत्र को निर्यात कर रहे माल के विनिर्माण में प्रयुक्त कच्चे माल पर भरी गई केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क के छुट (रिबेट) के मामले में, जो भारत के बाहर किसी राष्ट्र या क्षेत्र को निर्यात की गयी 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.
(iii) यदि उत्पाद शुल्क का भुगतान किए बिना भारत के बाहर, नेपाल या भूटान को माल निर्यात किया गया है। /
In case of goods exported outside India export to Nepal or Bhutan, without payment of duty.
(iv) सुनिश्चित उत्पाद के उत्पादन शुल्क के भुगतान के लिए जो इयूटी क्रेडिट इस अधिनियम एवं इसके विभिन्न प्रावधानों के तहत मान्य की गई है और ऐसे आदेश जो आयुक्त (अपील) के द्वारा वित्त अधिनियम (नं. 2), 1998 की धारा 109 के द्वारा नियत की गई तारीख अथवा समयावधि पर या बाद में पारित किए गए हैं। /
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 such order is passed by the Commissioner (Appeals) on or after, the date appointed under Sec. 109 of the Finance (No.2) Act, 1998.
(v) उपरोक्त आवेदन की दो प्रतियां प्रपत्र संख्या EA-8 में, जो की केन्द्रीय उत्पादन शुल्क (अपील) नियमावली, 2001, के नियम 9 के अंतर्गत विनिर्दिष्ट है, इस आदेश के संश्लेषण के 3 माह के अंतर्गत की जानी चाहिए। उपरोक्त आवेदन के साथ मूल आदेश व अपील आदेश की दो प्रतियां संलग्न की जानी चाहिए। साथ ही केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क अधिनियम, 1944 की धारा 35-EE के तहत निर्धारित शुल्क की अदायगी के साक्ष्य के तौर पर TR-6 की प्रति संलग्न की जानी 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.
(vi) पुनरीक्षण आवेदन के साथ निम्नलिखित निर्धारित शुल्क की अदायगी की जानी चाहिए।
जहाँ संलग्न रकम एक लाख रुपये या उससे कम हो तो रुपये 200/- का भुगतान किया जाए और यदि संलग्न रकम एक लाख रुपये से ज्यादा हो तो रुपये 1000 -/ का भुगतान किया जाए।
The revision application shall be accompanied by a fee of Rs. 200/- where the amount involved in Rupees One Lac or less and Rs. 1000/- where the amount involved is more than Rupees One Lac.
(D) यदि इस आदेश में कई मूल आदेशों का समावेश है तो प्रत्येक मूल आदेश के लिए शुल्क का भुगतान, उपर्युक्त ढंग से किया जाना चाहिये। इस तथ्य के होते हुए भी की लिखा पढ़ी कार्य से बचने के लिए यथास्थिति अपीलीय न्यायाधिकरण को एक अपील या केन्द्रीय सरकार को एक आवेदन किया जाता है। /
In case, if the order covers various numbers 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 lakh fee of Rs. 100/- for each.
(E) यथासंशोधित न्यायालय शुल्क अधिनियम, 1975, के अनुसूची-I के अनुसार मूल आदेश एवं स्थगन आदेश की प्रति पर निर्धारित 6.50 रुपये का न्यायालय शुल्क टिकिट लगा होना चाहिए। /
One copy of application or O.I.O. as the case may be, and the order of the adjudicating authority shall bear a court fee stamp of Rs. 6.50 as prescribed under Schedule-I in terms of the Court Fee Act, 1975, as amended.
(F) सीमा शुल्क, केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क एवं सेवाकर अपीलीय न्यायाधिकरण (कार्य विधि) नियमावली, 1982 में वर्णित एवं अन्य संबन्धित मामलों को सम्मिलित करने वाले नियमों की और भी ध्यान आकर्षित किया जाता है। /
Attention is also invited to the rules covering these and other related matters contained in the Customs, Excise and Service Appellate Tribunal (Procedure) Rules, 1982.
(G) उच्च अपीलीय प्राधिकारी को अपील दाखिल करने से संबंधित व्यापक, विस्तृत और नवीनतम प्रावधानों के लिए, अपीलार्थी विभागीय वेबसाइट www.cbec.gov.in को देख सकते हैं। /
For the elaborate, detailed and latest provisions relating to filing of appeal to the higher appellate authority, the appellant may refer to the Departmental website www.cbec.gov.in

:: ORDER IN APPEAL ::

The present appeal has been filed by M/s. Kiran Ship Breaking Co., Plot No. 82, Ship Breaking Yard, Alang, Post : Manar, Dist.: Bhavnagar (hereinafter referred to as "the appellant") against Order-in-Original No: 11/AC/Rural/BVR/RR/2016-17 dated 20.06.2016 (hereinafter referred to as the "the impugned order") passed by the Assistant Commissioner, Central Excise, Rural Division, Bhavnagar (hereinafter referred to as the "the adjudicating authority").

2.1 The facts of the case are that the appellant was engaged in the activity of manufacturing of goods and materials obtained by breaking up of ships, boats and other floating structures falling under the chapter heading 8908 to the First Schedule of the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985. During the course of audit for the period from January – 2013 to December – 2013, it was revealed that the appellant had cleared the goods, "Lead Acid Battery", from the old ships without payment of Central Excise duty under non-excisable invoices, by treating them as 'non-excisable goods'.

2.2. The appellant was issued a Show Cause Notice No. V.73/03-18/D/Rural/2015-16 dated 04.11.2015, which was adjudicated vide the impugned order under which the adjudicating authority had confirmed Central Excise duty amounting to Rs.9,631/- under Section 11A(4) of the Central Excise Act, 1944 (hereinafter referred to as 'the Act') alongwith the interest thereon under Section 11AA of the Act; appropriated the amount of Rs.9,631/- already paid by the appellant against the confirmed demand; and imposed penalty under Sections 11AC(1)(a) of the Act.

3. Being aggrieved with the impugned order, the appellant has preferred the present appeal contending interalia that:

(i) It is undisputed fact that they had correctly and legally cleared the disputed goods under cover of bills / invoices as mentioned above as "non excisable goods" as the same was out of purview of Section XV of the tariff read with Chapter Note 9 of the tariff. The goods under reference were not classifiable under tariff heading 78020010 / 78020090 of the tariff. The goods had not been obtained by breaking up of the ships. There was no process carried out to obtain the disputed goods but only taken out from the board of the ship. This practice has already been settled by the Department and being followed since 1983 from which ship breaking activities have been undertaken at Ship Breaking Yard, Alang / Sosiya, Dist.: Bhavnagar.

(ii) In Cir. No.345/61/97-CX dated 23.10.1997, it has been specifically mentioned that "whether the items emerging during the course of ship breaking falling outside the

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ambit section XV of the Schedule to the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985 would be treated as excisable and chargeable to Central Excise duty” and further mentioned that Director General of Inspection has conducted a study on this issue and a view has been taken that the goods and materials recovered during the course of ship breaking which are outside the ambit of Section XV of the Schedule to the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985 are non excisable goods as there is no entry in the tariff which describes the act of obtaining these items as an activity of manufacture. This circular is squarely applicable in the present case.

4. The personal hearing in the matter was held on 09.12.2016 which was attended by Shri N. K. Maru and Shri U. H. Qureshi, both Consultants, on behalf of the appellant, who reiterated the grounds of appeal.

5. I have gone through the impugned order, appeal memorandum and submissions made during the personal hearing.

6. I observe that the dispute is regarding excisability or otherwise of the impugned goods, i.e. “Lead Acid Battery”, emerging from ship breaking activity, cleared as “non-excisable goods” by the appellant, in context of Chapter XV of the schedule to the tariff. The overview of the statutory provisions governing the matter is of utmost importance. Section XV of the first schedule to the tariff covers ‘Base metals and articles of Base metals’, i.e. chapters 72 to 83; Note 9 of that Chapter reads “9. *In relation to the products of this Section, the process of obtaining goods and materials by breaking up of ships, boats and other floating structures shall amount to manufacture.*” Further classification heading “8908 00 00” is for “vessels and other floating structures for breaking up”.

7. Circular No.345/61/97-CX dated 23.10.97, is a clarificatory circular on subject ‘Reversal of Modvat credit on non-excisable items removed from the ship in the process of ship breaking’, wherein a view is conveyed that “..... *the goods and materials recovered during the course of ship breaking, which are outside the ambit of Section XV of the Schedule to the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985, are non-excisable goods as there is no entry in the Tariff which describes the act of obtaining these items as an activity of manufacture. Moreover, entire ship except ship stores are classifiable under 8908 is an input taking part in the activity of ship breaking under Rule 57A of the Central Excise Rules, 1944.*”

8. The classifications/chapter headings covering the impugned goods, viz. Lead Acid Batteries, as described by the impugned order, and the tariff description against each of them is as follows:

①

Sr	Chapter heading	Description per tariff	Chapter heading
1	78020010	Lead Scrap, namely the following... scrap wet whole intact lead batteries consisting of SLI (starting, lighting and ignition), automotive, truck, 8-D and commercial golf cart and marine type batteries covered by ISRI code word 'Rink'...'Rono'	Lead and articles thereof
2	78020090	-Other (Lead Scrap)	Lead and articles thereof

From the Budget 2012-13, the tariff was aligned with the ISRI (Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries) Standards. Hence, after the Finance Act 2012, effective since 1st April 2012, the classifications under the Chapters 74 to 79, covering the scraps of Copper, Brass, Zinc, and Lead underwent changes as the descriptions of goods falling in tariff item Nos. 74040012, 74040022, 75030010, 76020010 and 78020010 had been aligned with the revised ISRI codes [Clause 141 read with the Seventh schedule]. Thus, the Central Excise Tariff Act's chapter heading 7802 0010, which covered Lead Scrap covered by the ISRI code words 'Racks', 'Radio', 'Relay', 'Ropes' and 'Roses' till March 2012, was aligned with the international codes from 1st April 2012 onwards, so that 'scrap Lead-acid batteries (intact or otherwise)' were covered under classification description of chapter sub-heading 7802 00 10 of the tariff. In context to this statutory provision, the adjudicating authority has categorically discussed the respective classification of the impugned goods and the applicability of Note 9 of Section XV of schedule to the tariff. The detailed discussion on the item 'Lead Acid Battery', removed from the ships being governed under the pollution control norms and the procedures prescribed under Hazardous Waste Management being mandatory on handling thereof, have not been challenged by the appellant. On the contrary, I find that the appellant have stressed specifically the word "*process of obtaining goods...*" and the fact that the impugned goods had not undergone any other processes than removal thereof from the ships and their having been sold in 'their original forms' to propound the absence of "manufacturing" activity. In fact, once the products fall under Section XV, the removal thereof would naturally fall within the criteria of "manufactured goods" out of ship breaking and will attract duty. Hence, for the items classifiable under Chapters under Section XV, if emerging from breaking up of ship, it would be their classification which will be the deciding factor rather than "the process of breaking up" as misconstrued.

9. As regards the claim that since the beginning of SBY-Alang/Sosiya, the ship breaking industry has been clearing the batteries as non-excisable goods, and that the regular audits have been conducted and statutory reports have been filed by the ship breaking units, including the appellants. I find that, it was "from the budget of 1995 that the Ship Breaking activity was defined as an activity of manufacture, by virtue of insertion of Note 7 to Section XV of the Schedule to the tariff" as reported in the

clarificatory circular dated 23.10.97. Secondly, the whole intact batteries of Lead (cleared to licensed recyclers), would be covered under the classification of "Lead Scrap", has been incorporated from the Finance Bill, 2012, hence it is true that prior to that, even "the scrap batteries" were fulfilling the criteria of Note 9 to Section XV of the Schedule to the tariff. Further, it is also a fact that once the items are cleared as "non-excisable" and no duty was paid thereon, their clearance details are not reflected in the statutory reports-returns as claimed. I also find that the appellant has not challenged the fact that the batteries they removed from the ships (i) were cleared on weight basis, (ii) to the recyclers registered under the pollution control authorities and (iii) were rechargeable Lead-acid batteries, from their premises, thus these items would qualify under chapter XV of the Schedule to the tariff. The adjudicating authority in his findings at para 13.1 to 19 of the impugned order, while confirming the demand of duty, interest and penalty, has also discussed the issue of classification of the impugned goods in details and I am in agreement with the same.

10. In view of the above facts and circumstances, I uphold impugned order confirming duty, interest and penalty and reject the appeal filed by the appellant.

11. अपीलकर्ता द्वारा दर्ज की गई अपील का निपटारा उपरोक्त तरीके से किया जाता है।

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



(उमा शंकर)

आयुक्त (अपील्स - III)

By Speed Post / R.P.A.D.

To,
M/s. Kiran Ship Breaking Co.,
Plot No. 82, Ship Breaking Yard,
Alang, Post : Manar,
Dist.: Bhavnagar

Copy to:

- 1) The Chief Commissioner, Central Excise, Ahmedabad.
- 2) The Commissioner, Central Excise, Bhavnagar.
- 3) The Assistant Commissioner, Central Excise, Rural Division, Bhavnagar.
- 4) The Dy. / Asst. Commissioner (Sys.), H.Q., Bhavnagar – for uploading on website.
- 5) The Superintendent, Central Excise, AR – I / II, Alang.
- 6) PA to Commissioner (Appeals-III), Central Excise, Ahmedabad.
- 7) Guard File.