



आयुक्त (अपील्स) का कार्यालय, वस्तु एवं सेवा कर और केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क:
O/O THE COMMISSIONER (APPEALS), GST & CENTRAL EXCISE,

द्वितीय तल, जी एस टी भवन / 2nd Floor, GST Bhavan,
रेस कोर्स रिंग रोड, / Race Course Ring Road,

राजकोट / Rajkot - 360 001

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सत्यमेव जयते

रजिस्टर्ड डाक ए. डी. द्वारा :-

क	अपील / फाइल संख्या / Appeal / File No.	मूल आदेश सं / O.I.O. No.	दिनांक / Date
	V2/149,151,153/GDM/2017	ST/297,298,296/2017-18	22.06.2017
	V2/150/GDM/2017	ST/268/2017-18	15.06.2017
	V2/152,154,160/GDM/2017	ST/333,334,335/2017-18	30.06.2017
	V2/159/GDM/2017	ST/287/2017-18	16.06.2017

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

KCH-EXCUS-000-APP-159-TO-166-2017-18

आदेश का दिनांक /
Date of Order: **01.02.2018** जारी करने की तारीख /
Date of issue: **02.02.2018**

कुमार संतोष, आयुक्त (अपील्स), राजकोट द्वारा पारित /
Passed by **Shri Kumar Santosh, Commissioner (Appeals), Rajkot**

ग अगर आयुक्त/संयुक्त आयुक्त/उपायुक्त/सहायक आयुक्त, केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क/सेवा कर, राजकोट / जामनगर / गान्धिधम द्वारा उपरलिखित जारी मूल आदेश से सूचित /

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. Rankers International Pvt. Ltd."Rankers House", Plot No. 12 Sector-1, Gandhidham Kutch -370201

इस आदेश(अपील) से व्यथित कोई व्यक्ति निम्नलिखित तरीके में उपयुक्त प्राधिकारी / प्राधिकरण के समक्ष अपील दाखल 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) विशेषकरण शुल्कांकन से सम्बन्धित सभी मामलों में सीमा शुल्क, केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क एवं सेवाकर अपीलीय न्यायाधिकरण की विशेष पीठ, वेस्ट ब्लॉक नं 2, आर. के. पुरम, नई दिल्ली, को भी 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 बलाए गए अपीलों के अलावा ही सभी अपीलों में सीमा शुल्क, केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क एवं सेवाकर अपीलीय न्यायाधिकरण (सिस्टेट) की पश्चिम क्षेत्रीय पीठिका, द्वितीय तल, बहामली भवन असावा अहमदाबाद- 380016 को भी जानी चाहिए। /

To the West regional bench of Customs, Excise & Service Tax Appellate Tribunal (CESTAT) at. 2nd Floor, Bhaumali Bhawan, Asawa 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) नियमवली, 2001, के नियम 6 के अंतर्गत निर्धारित किए गये फॉर्म EA-3 को चार प्रतियों में दर्ज किया जाना चाहिए। इनमें से कम से कम एक प्रति के साथ, जहां उत्पाद शुल्क की रॉग, प्रयाज की रॉग और जमाया 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 सलगन करे। निर्धारित शुल्क का भुगतान, संबंधित अपीलीय न्यायाधिकरण की शाखा के सहायक रजिस्ट्रार के नाम से किसी भी सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के बैंक द्वारा जारी रेकॉम्बिड 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 आवंटन-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/-.

(iv) अपीलीय न्यायाधिकरण के समक्ष अपील, वित्त अधिनियम, 1994 की धारा 86(1) के अंतर्गत सेवाकर नियमवली, 1994, के नियम 9(1) के तहत निर्धारित फॉर्म S.T.-5 में चार प्रतियों में की जा सकती है एवं उसके साथ जिस आदेश के विरुद्ध अपील की गयी हो, उसकी प्रति साथ में सलगन करे (जुर्मा में एक प्रति प्रामाणित होनी चाहिए) और इनमें से कम से कम एक प्रति के साथ, जहां सेवाकर की रॉग, प्रयाज की रॉग और जमाया 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 सलगन करे। निर्धारित शुल्क का भुगतान, संबंधित अपीलीय न्यायाधिकरण की शाखा के सहायक रजिस्ट्रार के नाम से किसी भी सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के बैंक द्वारा जारी रेकॉम्बिड 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 आवंटन-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 fee of Rs. 1000/- where the amount of service tax & interest demanded & penalty levied is 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-धारा (2) एवं (2A) के अंतर्गत दर्ज की गयी अपील, सेवाकर नियमावली, 1994, के नियम 9(2) एवं 9(2A) के तहत निर्धारित प्रथम S.T.-7 में की जा सकती एवं उसके साथ आयुक्त, केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क अथवा आयुक्त (अपील), केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क द्वारा पारित आदेश की प्रतियाँ संलग्न करे (जिसमें से एक प्रति प्रसारित होती चाहिए) और आयुक्त द्वारा लघुचक्र आयुक्त अथवा आयुक्त, केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क/सेवाकर, को अपील 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 (सेस्टैट) के प्रति अपील के मामले में केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क अधिनियम 1944 की धारा 35एक 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, बशर्ते 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 "मूल किराया शुल्क" में निम्न शामिल है
(i) धारा 11 डी के अंतर्गत रकम
(ii) सेनवैट जमा की गयी गई राशि
(iii) सेनवैट जमा नियमावली के नियम 6 के अंतर्गत देय रकम
- बशर्ते यह कि इस धारा के प्राधान वित्तीय (सं. 2) अधिनियम 2014 के आरंभ से पूर्व किसी अपीलीय प्राधिकारी के समक्ष विचारार्थ संलग्न नहीं एवं अपील को लागू नहीं होनी।
For an appeal to be filed before the CESTAT, 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 मामलों में, केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क अधिनियम, 1994 की धारा 35EE के प्रथम पराग के अंतर्गत अर्जत सविन, भारत सरकार, पुनरीक्षण आवेदन इकाई, वित्त मंत्रालय, राजस्व विभाग, चौथी मंजिल, जीवन दीप भवन, लसद 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-35E ibid:
- (i) यदि माल के किसी नुकसान के मामले में, जहां नुकसान किसी माल को किसी कारखाने से भंडार गृह के परिवहन के दौरान या किसी अन्य कारखाने या फिर किसी एक भंडार गृह से दूसरे भंडार गृह परिवहन के दौरान, या किसी भंडार गृह में या भंडारण में माल के परिवहन 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 an 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) सन्निहित उत्पाद के उत्पादन शुल्क के भुगतान के लिए जो ह्यूटी क्रेडिट इस अधिनियम एवं इसके विभिन्न प्रावधानों के तहत मजबूत की गई है और ऐसे आदेश जो आयुक्त (अपील) के द्वारा वित्त अधिनियम (सं. 2), 1998 की धारा 109 के द्वारा नियत की गई तरीक़ अथवा समावृत्ति पर या बट 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 प्रथम संख्या EA-8 में, जो की केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क (अपील) नियमावली, 2001, के नियम 9 के अंतर्गत विनिर्दिष्ट है, इस आदेश के संप्रेषण 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 साथ-साथ 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 O.I.O 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 कोई मूल आदेशों का समावेश है तो प्रत्येक मूल आदेश के लिए शुल्क का भुगतान, उपरोक्त ढंग से किया जाना चाहिए। इस तथ्य के होते हुए भी की लिखा पढ़ी रुपये से रुपये 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 Appellate Tribunal or the one application to the Central Govt. As the case may be, is filed to avoid scriptoria work if excising Rs. 1 lakh fee of Rs. 100/- for each.
- (E) यथास्थिति न्यायालय शुल्क अधिनियम, 1975, के अनुसूची-1 के अनुसार मूल आदेश एवं उच्चतर आदेश की प्रति पर निर्धारित 6.50 रुपये 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 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 संबंधित मामलों को शामिल करने वाले निर्देशों 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 दायित्व करने से संबंधित व्यापक, विस्तृत और नवीनतम प्रावधानों के लिए, अपीलकर्ता 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 appeals detailed below have been filed by M/s. Rankers International Pvt. Ltd., "Ranker House", Plot No. 12, Sector No. 1, Gandhidham (Kutch) – 370 201 (*hereinafter referred to as "Appellant"*) against Orders-In-Original number shown against each appeal no. (*hereinafter referred to as "the impugned order"*) passed by the Assistant Commissioner, Service Tax Division, Gandhidham-Kutch (*hereinafter referred to as "the lower adjudicating authority"*).

Sr. No.	Appeal File No.	Order-In-Original No. & Date	Period for which Refund claimed	Amount of claim rejected (in Rs.)
01.	V2/149/GDM/2017	ST/297/2017-18 dated 27.06.2017	Feb-2017	69,400/-
02	V2/150/GDM /2017	ST/268/2017-18 dated 15.06.2017	Nov & Dec, 2017	1,09,759/-
03	V2/151/GDM /2017	ST/298/2017-18 dated 22.06.2017	Feb-2017	74,166/-
04	V2/152/GDM /2017	ST/333/2017-18 dated 30.06.2017	Sept, 15 to Mar, 2017	58,924/-
05	V2/153/GDM /2017	ST/296/2017-18 dated 22.06.2017	Mar - 2017	1,76,996/-
06	V2/154/GDM /2017	ST/334/2017-18 dated 30.06.2017	Jan - 2017	52,252/-
07	V2/159/GDM /2017	ST/287/2017-18 dated 16.06.2017	Nov - 2016 2017	26,174/-
08	V2/160/GDM /2017	ST/335/2017-18 dated 30.06.2017	APR – 2017 & May -2017	2,29,996/-

2. Since the issue involved is common in nature and connected with each other, the same are taken up together for disposal.

3. The brief facts of the case are that the appellant filed claims under Notification No. 41/2012-ST dated 29.06.2012 for refund of Service Tax paid to service providers for rendering taxable services in relation to export of goods for the period specified in the claims. The lower adjudicating authority vide impugned order rejected the rebate claims for the amount as shown in the above Table.

4. Being aggrieved with the impugned orders, the appellant preferred the appeals, *inter-alia*, on the grounds that the lower adjudicating authority has erred in rejecting the refund of Krishi Kalyan Cess (*hereinafter referred to as "KKC"*) and Swachh Bharat Cess (*hereinafter referred to as "SBC"*);

5. Shri Abhishek P. Doshi, Chartered Accountant appeared in personal hearing and reiterated grounds of appeal; that the goods have been exported under Notification No. 41/2012-ST dated 29.06.2012; that refund/rebate should be granted to them as per detailed written submission made by them; that SBC and KKC both have been treated as Service Tax in the Finance Act, 2015 and Finance Act, 2016; that Government / legislation never intended to export taxes/ Cess and

hence, rebate / refund needs to be sanctioned when there is no dispute regarding export of goods under Notification No. 41/2002-ST; that SBC and KKC is demanded under Section 73 of the Finance Act, 1994 giving it treatment as Service Tax only then non granting of rebate / refund is unfair and not legal and proper.

5.1 In the written submissions filed during personal hearing the appellant, *inter alia*, submitted that SBC and KKC are part and parcel of Service Tax and it cannot be separated from Service Tax; that there cannot be any transaction where only SBC and KKC are levied but no Service Tax is levied; that as per Notification No. 41/2012-ST refund of Service Tax on services utilized for export of goods is available; that term 'Service Tax' includes Cess if any leviable; that they referred to Section 119 of Chapter VI of the Finance Act, 2015 which states the provisions of Chapter V of the Finance Act, 1994 and the rules made thereunder, including those relating to refunds and exemptions from tax, interest and imposition of penalty shall be applicable in relation to levy and collection of SBC; that they referred to Section 161 of Chapter VI of the Finance Act, 2016 which also states that provisions of the Finance Act, 1994 and rules made thereunder, including those relating to refunds and exemptions from tax, interest and imposition of penalty shall be applicable in relation to the levy and collection of KKC on taxable services; that refund of KKC and SBC is eligible to them and if refund is not allowed it would adversely affect export of the country; that they have also got refund of Education Cess and Secondary and Higher Secondary Education Cess leviable to Service Tax; that there are many judgments wherein it has been held that cess is tax and it cannot be separated from tax; that they placed reliance on the decision in the case of M/s. SRK Chemicals passed by this office vide Order-in-Appeal No. KCH-EXCUS-000-APPELLANT-128-TO-135-2017-18 dated 11/14.12.2017.

FINDINGS:-

6. I have carefully gone through the facts of the case, the impugned orders, appeal memoranda as well as oral and written submissions made by the appellant. The issue to be decided in the present case is as to whether the appellant is entitled for rebate of SBC and KKC paid on services used for export of goods under Notification No. 41/2012-ST dated 29.06.2012 or not.

7. The appellant has contended that the refund claims were rejected without considering the facts of the case and material available on record as well as the various details/contentions/arguments provided by the appellant; that the nature of SBC and KKC are nothing but a levy under Service Tax and the

provisions of Finance Act, 1994 related to refund applicable to Service Tax would also apply to SBC.

7.1 I find that the lower adjudicating authority has rejected refund of SBC & KKC on the ground that there is no clarification regarding refund of SBC & KKC in Notification No. 41/2012-ST, whereas, the appellant has submitted that Notification No. 41/2012-ST is clearly stating to grant rebate of service tax paid on the services used for export of goods and also sub-section (2) of Section 119 of the Finance Act, 2015 and sub-section (2) of Section 161 of the Finance Act, 2016 clearly stipulate SBC and KKC as service tax respectively; that sub-section (5) of Section 119 of the Finance Act, and sub-section (5) of the Section 161 of the Finance Act, 2016 also stipulate that all provisions related to refund of service tax under Finance Act, 1994 (*hereinafter referred to as "the Act"*) shall be applicable to refund of SBC & KKC. I find that above provisions were not taken into consideration by the lower adjudicating authority in the impugned orders and hence, I find that the impugned orders are not correct, legal and proper.

7.2 I also find it relevant to refer to Notification No. 41/2012-ST dated 29.06.2012 which allows refund of Service Tax, and opening Paragraph reads as under: -

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 93A of the Finance Act, 1994 (32 of 1994) (hereinafter referred to as the said Act) and in supersession of the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) number 52/2011-Service Tax, dated the 30th December, 2011, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i) vide number G.S.R. 945(E), dated the 30th December, 2011, except as respects things done or omitted to be done before such supersession, the Central Government, on being satisfied that it is necessary in the public interest so to do, hereby grants rebate of service tax paid (hereinafter referred to as rebate) on the taxable services which are received by an exporter of goods (hereinafter referred to as the exporter) and used for export of goods, subject to the extent and manner specified herein below, namely:-

(Emphasis supplied)

7.3 In view of above, I find that Notification No. 41/2012-ST dated 29.06.2012 grants rebate of service tax paid on the taxable services received by an exporter of goods and used for export of goods. I find that SBC is leviable by virtue of insertion of Section 119 of Finance Act, 2015, as service tax on the value of taxable services at the rates notified by the Central Government. I would like to reproduce Chapter VI inserted vide Section 119 of the Finance Act, 2015, which are is as under:-

Chapter VI

Swachh Bharat Cess

119. Swachh Bharat Cess. —

(1) *This Chapter shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.*

(2) *There shall be levied and collected in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter, a cess to be called the Swachh Bharat Cess, as service tax on all or any of the taxable services at the rate of two per cent. on the value of such services for the purposes of financing and promoting Swachh Bharat initiatives or for any other purpose relating thereto.*

(3) *The Swachh Bharat Cess leviable under sub-section (2) shall be in addition to any cess or service tax leviable on such taxable services under Chapter V of the Finance Act, 1994 (32 of 1994), or under any other law for the time being in force.*

(4) *The proceeds of the Swachh Bharat Cess levied under sub-section (2) shall first be credited to the Consolidated Fund of India and the Central Government may, after due appropriation made by Parliament by law in this behalf, utilise such sums of money of the Swachh Bharat Cess for such purposes specified in sub-section (2), as it may consider necessary.*

(5) *The provisions of Chapter V of the Finance Act, 1994 and the rules made thereunder, including those relating to refunds and exemptions from tax, interest and imposition of penalty shall, as far as may be, apply in relation to the levy and collection of the Swachh Bharat Cess on taxable services, as they apply in relation to the levy and collection of tax on such taxable services under Chapter V of the Finance Act, 1994 or the rules made thereunder, as the case may be.*

(Emphasis supplied)

7.4 I also find that KKC is leviable by virtue of insertion of Section 161 of Finance Act, 2016, as service tax on the value of taxable services at the rates notified by the Central Government. I would like to reproduce Chapter VI inserted vide Section 161 of the Finance Act, 2016, which is as under:-

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CHAPTER VI

KRISHI KALYAN CESS

SECTION 161. *Krishi Kalyan Cess.* — (1) *This Chapter shall come into force on the 1st day of June, 2016.*

(2) *There shall be levied and collected in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter, a cess to be called the Krishi Kalyan Cess, as service tax on all or any of the taxable services at the rate of 0.5 per cent. on the value of such services for the purposes of financing and promoting initiatives to improve agriculture or for any other purpose relating thereto.*

(3) *The Krishi Kalyan Cess leviable under sub-section (2) shall be in addition to any cess or service tax leviable on such taxable services under Chapter V of the Finance Act, 1994 (32 of 1944), or under any other law for the time being in force.*

(4) *The proceeds of the Krishi Kalyan Cess levied under sub-section (2) shall first be credited to the Consolidated Fund of India and the Central Government may, after due appropriation made by Parliament by law in this behalf, utilise such sums of money of the Krishi Kalyan Cess for such purposes specified in sub-section (2), as it may consider necessary.*

(5) *The provisions of Chapter V of the Finance Act, 1994 (32 of 1944) and the rules made thereunder, including those relating to refunds and exemptions from tax, interest and imposition of penalty shall, as far as may be, apply in relation to the levy and collection of the Krishi Kalyan Cess on taxable services, as they apply in relation to the levy and collection of tax on such taxable services under the said Chapter or the rules made thereunder, as the case may be.*

(Emphasis supplied)

7.5 I find that Section 119 of Finance Act, 2015 levied SBC on taxable services and Section 119(2) of the said Act specifies SBC as Service Tax and Section 119(5) of the said Act specifies that the provisions of refund of Service Tax under Finance Act, 1994 (hereinafter referred to as "the Act") shall apply to refund of SBC; and Section 161 of Finance Act, 2016 levied KKC on taxable services and Section 161(2) specifies KKC as Service Tax and Section 161(5) specifies that the provisions of refund of Service Tax under Finance Act, 1994 (hereinafter referred

to as "the Act") shall apply to refund of KKC. I also find that Section 119(1) of the Finance Act, 2015 stipulated that SBC shall be levied from the date as notified by the Central Government and the Central Government issued Notification No. 22/2015-ST dated 06.11.2015 under Section 93(1) of the Act and fixed rate of SBC @ 0.5% of the value of taxable services.

7.6 It is very clear that SBC has been levied as service tax only as has been stated to in Section 119(2) of the Finance Act, 2015 and the rate of SBC @ 2% of value of taxable services proposed under the Finance Act, 2015 has been reduced to @ 0.5% of value of taxable services vide notification issued under Section 93(1) of the Finance Act, 1994 which enables central government to grant exemption from service tax. Therefore, I am of the considered view that SBC has been given status of service tax levied under the Finance Act, 1994 for the purpose of refund/rebate. In view of discussions held above, I also find ample force in the arguments of the appellant that SBC & KKC though called cess but have been given status of service tax as is evident from Section 119(2) & Section 119(5) of Finance Act, 2015 and Section 161(2) & 161(5) of Finance Act, 2016 respectively.

7.7 I find that it is settled position that the Government of India has consistently adopted policy not to export taxes. If the contention of the lower adjudicating authority is accepted then refund of SBC & KKC, even if imposed as Service Tax vide Section 119(2) of Finance Act, 2015 and vide Section 161(5) of Finance Act, 2016, shall not be allowed, which will mean that intention of legislation is to export taxes and the stated policy of the Government shall be reversed by such an interpretation. It is settled position of law that any provision of law can't be interpreted in such a way to make other provisions of law meaningless or to reverse the intention of the legislation.

8. I find that Notification No. 41/2012-ST dated 29.06.2012 has been issued under Section 93A of the Act which gives Central Government power to grant rebate. The said Notification No. 41/2012-ST grants rebate of service tax paid on the taxable services used for export of goods by an exporter. Since SBC & KKC, both have been treated as service tax, as detailed in Para 7 to Para 7.5, the rebate of SBC & KKC is allowable under Notification *ibid*.

8.1 I also find that Notification No. 39/2012-ST dated 20.12.2012 granting rebate of service tax paid on services used in providing export of services has been amended vide Notification No. 3/2016-ST dated 03.02.2016 and Notification No. 29/2016-ST dated 26.05.2016, so as to allow refund of SBC and KKC; similarly, Notification No. 12/2013-ST dated 01.07.2013 allowing refund of service tax paid on specified services used in SEZ has also been amended vide Notification No. 2/2016-ST dated 03.02.2016 and Notification No. 30/2016-ST

dated 26.05.2016, so as to allow refund of SBC & KKC, however no such amendment has been made in Notification No. 41/2012-ST dated 29.06.2012 because no amendment is required as explained below:-

8.2 I also find that Notification No. 39/2012-ST dated 20.12.2012 has allowed refund of service tax and cess and Explanation 1 reads as under –

Explanation-1

(a) service tax means service tax leviable under Section 66 or Section 66B of the Finance Act, 1994;

(b) education cess means education cess on taxable service levied under section 91 read with section 95 of the Finance (No.2) Act, 2004 (23 of 2004);

(c) Secondary & Higher Education Cess means Secondary & Higher Education Cess on taxable services levied under section 136 read with section 140 of the Finance Act, 2007 (22 of 2007).

(Emphasis supplied)

8.3 Therefore, there was need to add SBC & KKC as clause (d) and clause (e) vide Notification No. 3/2016-ST dated 03.02.2016 and Notification No. 29/2016-ST dated 26.05.2016 to get it added as because only Service Tax leviable under Section 66 or Section 66B of the Finance Act, 1994 had been covered under clause (a) and not Service Tax imposed under Section 119 of the Finance Act, 2015 and Service Tax imposed under Section 161 of Finance Act, 2016.

8.4 Notification No. 12/2013-ST dated 01.07.2013 also has specifically provided refund of service tax leviable under Section 66B of the Finance Act, 1994 whereas SBC & KKC have been levied under Section 119 of the Act inserted vide Finance Act, 2015 and Section 161 of the Act inserted vide Finance Act, 2016, respectively, hence there was legal requirement to amend Notification No. 12/2013-ST vide Notification No. 2/2016-ST and Notification No. 30/2016-ST dated 26.05.2016 to include SBC & KKC for refund under Notification No. 12/2013-ST as SBC & KKC are not leviable under Section 66B of the Finance Act, 1994; whereas Notification No. 41/2012-ST dated 29.06.2016 has provided for refund of service tax without specifying leviable under Section 66 or Section 66B of the Finance Act, 1994 and hence, no amendment in Notification No. 41/2012-ST was/is legally required to be undertaken.

9. In view of above factual & legal position, I set aside the impugned orders and allow the appeals filed by the appellant.

Prasad

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- ९.१. अपीलकर्ता द्वारा दर्ज की गई अपील का निपटारा उपरोक्त तरीके से किया जाता है।
- 9.1. The appeals filed by the appellant stands disposed off in above terms.

(कुमार संतोष)
 (कुमार संतोष) 12/2018
 आयुक्त (अपील्स)

By Regd. Post AD

To,

M/s. Rankers International Pvt. Ltd., "Ranker House", Plot No. 12, Sector No. 1, Gandhidham (Kutch) – 370 201	मे. रङ्केर्स इंटरनेशनल , "रङ्केर्स हाउस, सेक्टर - 01 Plot No. 12, गांधीधाम (कच्छ) - ३७० २०१
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Copy to for information and necessary action :

- 1) The Chief Commissioner, GST & Central Excise, Ahmedabad Zone, Ahmedabad for his kind information .
- 2) The Commissioner, GST & Central Excise, Kutch Commissionerate, Gandhidham
- 3) The Assistant Commissioner, GST & Central Excise Division, Gandhidham.
- 4) The Range Superintendent, GST & Central Excise, Gandhidham Division
- 5) Guard File.