



::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
	V2/481-482/RAJ/2010	45/2010-11 & 46/2010-11	14.05.2010 14.05.2010

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

KCH-EXCUS-000-APP-233-TO-234-2018-19

आदेश का दिनांक /
Date of Order: **27.12.2018** जारी करने की तारीख /
Date of issue: **31.12.2018**

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

- ग अपर आयुक्त/ संयुक्त आयुक्त/ उपायुक्त/ सहायक आयुक्त, केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क/ सेवाकर, राजकोट / जामनगर / गांधीधामा 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 Meena Agency Ltd., Survey No. 548-552/2,N. H. No. 15, Samakhiyali,Village: Lakadiya, Dist. Kutch.Fax:02836-231790.

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, आर० के० 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 अपीलें सीमा शुल्क, केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क एवं सेवाकर अपीलीय न्यायाधिकरण (सिस्टेट) की पश्चिम क्षेत्रीय पीठिका, , द्वितीय तल, बहुमाली भवन असावा अहमदाबाद- ३८००१६ को की जानी चाहिए।/
To the West regional bench of Customs, Excise & Service Tax Appellate Tribunal (CESTAT) at, 2nd Floor, Bhaumali Bhawan, Asarwa 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 माँग, ब्याज की माँग 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 रजिस्ट्रार 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।/
Application made for grant of stay shall be accompanied by a fee of Rs. 500/-.

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 माँग, ब्याज की माँग 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 रजिस्ट्रार 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।/
Application made for grant of stay shall be accompanied by a fee of Rs.500/-.

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 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-धाराओं (2) एवं (2A) के अंतर्गत दर्ज की गयी अपील, सेवाकर नियमावली, 1994, के नियम 9(2) एवं 9(2A) के तहत निर्धारित प्रपत्र S.T.-7 में की 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 For 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, 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 "मांग किए गए शुल्क" में निम्न शामिल है
(i) धारा 11 डी के अंतर्गत रकम
(ii) सेनवेट जमा की ली गई गलत राशि
(iii) सेनवेट जमा नियमावली के नियम 6 के अंतर्गत देय रकम
- बशर्ते यह कि इस धारा के प्रावधान वित्तीय (सं 2) अधिनियम 2014 के आरंभ से पूर्व किसी अपीलीय प्राधिकारी के समक्ष विचाराधीन स्थगन अर्ज़ी एवं अपील को लागू नहीं होंगे।
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 परंतुक के अंतर्गत अवर सचिव, भारत सरकार, पुनरीक्षण आवेदन ईकाई, 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-35B 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 छूट (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 ड्यूटी 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 समायाविधि 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 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 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 OI/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 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 पट्टी कार्य से बचने के लिए यथास्थिति अपीलीय नयाधिकरण 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 filed 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 संबंधित मामलों को सम्मिलित करने वाले नियमों की ओर 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 ::

M/s Meena Agency Ltd, Survey No. 548-552/2, NH No. 15, Samakhiyali, Village-Lakadiya, District Kutch (hereinafter referred to as "Appellant") has filed appeal Nos. V2/481-482/RAJ/2010 against Refund Orders as detailed below (hereinafter referred to as "impugned order") passed by the Deputy Commissioner, Central Excise Division, Gandhidham (hereinafter referred to as "sanctioning authority").

(Amount in Rs.)

Sl. No.	Appeal No.	Period of Refund claim	Refund Order No. & Date	Education Cess/ S.H.E Cess involved
1.	V2/481/RAJ/2010	Sept,2007 to February,2008	45/2010-11 dated 14.5.2010	56,512/-
2.	V2/482/RAJ/2010	March, 2008	46/2010-11 dated 14.5.2010	25,460/-

2. The brief facts of the case are that the Appellant having Registration No. AABCM4325QXM004 was engaged in the manufacture of excisable goods falling under Chapter Nos. 69,38 and 26 of the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985 and was availing benefits of Notification No. 39/2001-CE dated 31.07.2001, as amended (hereinafter referred to as 'said notification'), by availing the facility of refund/credit, as per the scheme envisaged in the said notification. The appellant had filed claims for refund of Central Excise Duty, Education Cess and Secondary and Higher Education Cess paid on manufactured goods through PLA by them. The sanctioning authority vide impugned orders had sanctioned the amount, pertaining to Basic Excise Duty but did not sanction amount pertaining to Education Cess and Secondary & Higher Education Cess on the ground that exemption under the said notification was available only to Central Excise Duty or additional excise duty and the said notification did not cover Education Cess and Secondary & Higher Education Cess and hence the appellant was not entitled for refund of Education Cess and S.H.E. Cess.

3. Being aggrieved, the appellant has preferred these appeals, *inter-alia*, on the grounds that the sanctioning authority has erred in calculating refund amount by taking into consideration only Basic Excise Duty and ignored Education Cess and SHE Cess; that as per Section 93(3) of the Finance Act, 2004, all provision of Central Excise Act, including those relating to refund, exemption will also apply to Education Cess. Hence, exemption relating to Central Excise duty will automatically apply to Education Cess also and relied

upon caselaw of TTK LIG Ltd-2006 (193) ELT 169 and case law of Bharat Box Factory-2007 -(214) ELT 534 (Tri. Delhi).

Findings:

4. I have carefully gone through the facts of the case, impugned orders and submissions made by the appellant in grounds of appeals. The issue to be decided in the present appeals is whether the appellant is eligible for refund of Education Cess and Secondary & Higher Education Cess under the provisions of the Notification No. 39/2001-CE dated 31.07.2001, as amended, or not.

5. I find that the sanctioning authority sanctioned refund of Central Excise duty under Notification No. 39/2001-CE dated 31.7.2001, as amended, but did not sanction refund of Education Cess and Secondary & Higher Education Cess on the ground that exemption under the said notification was available only to Central Excise Duty and the said notification did not cover Education Cess and Secondary & Higher Education Cess and hence the appellant was not entitled for refund of Education Cess. The Appellant has submitted that as per Section 93(3) of the Finance Act, 2004, all provisions of Central Excise Act, 1944 including those relating to refund, exemption will also apply to Education Cess and that exemption relating to Central Excise duty will automatically apply to Education Cess also.

6. I find that the appellant, a manufacturing unit situated in District of Kutch, had availed benefit of exemption under Notification No. 39/2001-CE dated 31.07.2001, as amended by availing the facility of refund/re-credit of duties paid. The said notification is reproduced as under:

"Kutch (Gujarat) — Exemption to excisable goods (except those specified in Annexure) and cleared from Units in Kutch District of Gujarat

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 5A of the Central Excise Act, 1944 (1 of 1944), read with sub-section (3) of section 3 of the Additional Duties of Excise (Goods of Special Importance) Act, 1957 (58 of 1957) and sub-section (3) of section 3 of the Additional Duties of Excise (Textiles and Textile Articles) Act, 1978 (40 of 1978), the Central Government being satisfied that it is necessary in the public interest so to do, hereby exempts the goods specified in the First Schedule to the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985 (5 of 1986) other than goods specified in the Annexure appended to this notification and cleared from a unit located in Kutch district of Gujarat from so much of the duty of excise or the additional duty of excise, as the case may be, leviable thereon under any of the said Acts as is equivalent to the amount of duty paid by the manufacturer of goods other than the amount of duty paid by utilization of CENVAT credit under the CENVAT Credit Rules, 2001 :

Provided that in the case of a unit having an original value of investment in plant and machinery installed in the factory below rupees twenty crore on the date of commencement of commercial production in that unit, the exemption contained herein shall apply only for the first clearances up to an aggregate value not exceeding twice the value of such investment from the date of commencement of commercial production, in each year.

2. *The exemption contained in this notification shall be given effect to in the following manner, namely :-*

(a) *The manufacturer shall submit a statement of the duty paid other than the amount of duty paid by utilization of CENVAT credit under the CENVAT Credit Rules, 2001, to the Assistant Commissioner or the Deputy Commissioner of Central Excise, as the case may be, by the 7th day of the next month in which the duty has been so paid.*

(b) *The Assistant Commissioner or Deputy Commissioner of Central Excise, as the case may be, after such verification, as he may deem necessary, shall refund the amount of duty paid other than the amount of duty paid by utilization of CENVAT credit during the month under consideration to the manufacturer by the 15th day of the next month.*

(c) *If there is likely to be any delay in such verification, the Assistant Commissioner or the Deputy Commissioner of Central Excise, as the case may be, shall refund the amount on provisional basis by the 15th day of the next month to the month under consideration, and thereafter may adjust the amount of refund by such amount as may be necessary in the subsequent refunds admissible to the manufacturer."*

7. The Education Cess was levied vide of Sections 91 to 93 of Chapter VI of the Finance (No.2) Act, 2004, which read as under:

"91. Education Cess. - (1) Without prejudice to the provisions of sub-section (11) of section 2, there shall be levied and collected, in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter as surcharge for purposes of the Union, a cess to be called the Education Cess, to fulfil the commitment of the Government to provide and finance universalised quality basic education.

(2) The Central Government may, after due appropriation made by Parliament by law in this behalf, utilise, such sums of money of the Education Cess levied under sub-section (11) of section 2 and this Chapter for the purposes specified in sub-section (1), as it may consider necessary.

92. Definition. - The words and expressions used in this Chapter and defined in the Central Excise Act, 1944 (1 of 1944), the Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962) or Chapter V of the Finance Act, 1994 (32 of 1994), shall have the meanings respectively assigned to them in those Acts or Chapter, as the case may be.

93. Education Cess on excisable goods. - (1) The Education Cess levied under section 91, in the case of goods specified in the First Schedule to the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985 (5 of 1986), being goods manufactured or produced, shall be a duty of excise (in this section referred to as the Education Cess on excisable goods), at the rate of two per cent, calculated on the aggregate of all duties of excise (including special duty of excise or any other duty of excise but excluding Education Cess on excisable goods) which are levied and collected by the Central Government in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), under

the provisions of the Central Excise Act, 1944 (1 of 1944) or under any other law for the time being in force.

(2) The Education Cess on excisable goods shall be in addition to any other duties of excise chargeable on such goods, under the Central Excise Act, 1944 (1 of 1944) or any other law for the time being in force.

(3) The provisions of the Central Excise Act, 1944 (1 of 1944) and the rules made thereunder, including those relating to refunds and exemptions from duties and imposition of penalty shall, as far as may be, apply in relation to the levy and collection of the Education Cess on excisable goods as they apply in relation to the levy and collection of the duties of excise on such goods under the Central Excise Act, 1944 or the rules, as the case may be."

7.1 The Secondary and Higher Education Cess was levied vide Sections 136 to 138 of Chapter VI of the Finance Act, 2007, which read as under:

"136. Secondary and Higher Education Cess. — (1) Without prejudice to the provisions of sub-section (12) of section 2, there shall be levied and collected, in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter as surcharge for purposes of the Union, a cess to be called the Secondary and Higher Education Cess, to fulfil the commitment of the Government to provide and finance secondary and higher education.

(2) The Central Government may, after due appropriation made by Parliament by law in this behalf, utilise, such sums of money of the Secondary and Higher Education Cess levied under sub-section (12) of section 2 and this Chapter for the purposes specified in sub-section (1) as it may consider necessary.

137. Definition. — The words and expressions used in this Chapter and defined in the Central Excise Act, 1944 (1 of 1944), the Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962) or Chapter V of the Finance Act, 1994 (32 of 1994), shall have the meanings respectively assigned to them in those Acts or Chapter, as the case may be.

138. Secondary and Higher Education Cess on excisable goods. — (1) The Secondary and Higher Education Cess levied under section 136, in the case of goods specified in the First Schedule to the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985 (5 of 1985), being goods manufactured or produced, shall be a duty of excise (in this section referred to as the Secondary and Higher Education Cess on excisable goods), at the rate of one per cent., calculated on the aggregate of all duties of excise [including special duty of excise or any other duty of excise but excluding Education Cess chargeable under section 93 of the Finance (No. 2) Act, 2004 (23 of 2004) and Secondary and Higher Education Cess on excisable goods] which are levied and collected by the Central Government in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), under the provisions of the Central Excise Act, 1944 (1 of 1944) or under any other law for the time being in force.

(2) The Secondary and Higher Education Cess on excisable goods shall be in addition to any other duties of excise chargeable on such goods, under the Central Excise Act, 1944 (1 of 1944) or any other law for the time being in force and the Education Cess chargeable under section 93 of the Finance (No. 2) Act, 2004 (23 of 2004).

(3) The provisions of the Central Excise Act, 1944 (1 of 1944) and the rules made thereunder, including those relating to refunds and

exemptions from duties and imposition of penalty shall, as far as may be, apply in relation to the levy and collection of the Secondary and Higher Education Cess on excisable goods as they apply in relation to the levy and collection of the duties of excise on such goods under the Central Excise Act, 1944 (1 of 1944) or the rules made thereunder, as the case may be."

7.2 Hence, Education Cess and Secondary & Higher Education Cess, were levied under Section 91 of the Finance (No. 2) Act, 2004 and Section 136 of the Finance Act, 2007 respectively, as percentage of duty of excise @2% and @1% respectively to be calculated on the aggregate of all duties of excise, which are levied and collected by the Central Government. The provisions of the Act and the rules made thereunder, including those relating to refunds and exemptions from duties and imposition of penalty were made applicable to the levy and collection of the Education Cess and Secondary & Higher Education Cess on excisable goods as they apply in relation to the levy and collection of the duties of excise on such goods under the Act.

8. I find that Notification No. 39/2001-CE dated 31.07.2001 had granted total (100%) exemption from levy of excise duty by way of refund/recredit of excise duty paid through PLA. Education Cess and Secondary and Higher Education Cess were levied on excise duty at the rate of certain percentage of CE duty and when the levy of Central Excise duty itself was exempted by way of refund/recredit, then the Education Cess and Secondary and Higher Education Cess also got exempted automatically. In absence of primary tax i.e. Central Excise duty, the question of levy of these cess would not arise. CBEC vide Letter F. No. 345/2/2004-TRI(Pt.) dated 10.08.2004 also clarified that the Education Cess is percentage of excise duty, the relevant portion is as under:

"Letter F. No. 345/2/2004-TRU (Pt.) dated 10-8-2004

The undersigned is directed to state that subsequent to Budget, 2004 announcements, a number of representations/references have been received from the trade as well as from the field formations pertaining to imposition of Education Cess on excisable goods and on imported goods. The points raised and the clarifications thereon are as follows.

Issue No. (1) : Whether Education Cess on excisable goods is leviable on goods manufactured prior to imposition of Cess but cleared after imposition of such cess?

Clarification : Education Cess on Excisable goods is a new levy. In similar cases, it has been held by the Supreme Court that if a levy is not there at the time the goods are manufactured or produced in India, it cannot be levied at the stage of removal of the said goods. Thus, Education Cess is not leviable on excisable goods manufactured prior to imposition of cess but cleared after imposition of such cess.

Issue No. (2) : Whether goods that are fully exempted from excise duty/customs duty or are cleared without payment of excise duty/customs duty (such as clearance under bond or fulfilment of certain conditions) would be subjected to Cess.

Clarification :The Education Cess is leviable at the rate of two per cent of the aggregate of all duties of excise/customs (excluding certain duties of customs like anti-dumping duty, safe guard duty etc.), levied and collected. If goods are fully exempted from excise duty or customs duty, are chargeable to NIL duty or are cleared without payment of duty under specified procedure such as clearance under bond, there is no collection of duty. Thus, no education cess would be leviable on such clearances. In this regard, letter D.O. No. 605/54/2004-DBK, dated 21st July, 2004 issued by Member (Customs) may also be referred to.

Issue No. (3) : Whether goods (like alcoholic beverages) that do not fall under the Central Excise Tariff be subjected to levy of Education Cess on excisable goods (as part of CVD), when they are imported into India?

Clarification : As the Education Cess on excisable goods is leviable on goods specified in the First schedule to the Central Excise Tariff Act, goods like alcoholic beverages that are not specified are not subjected to the said Cess.

Issue No. (4) : Whether duties/cesses which either not collected as duty of excise/customs or are collected so but by a Department other than Department of Revenue, should be included for the purposes of calculation of Education Cess?

Clarification :As the Education Cess is calculated on the aggregate duties of excise/customs (excluding certain duties of customs like anti-dumping duty, safe guard duty etc.) levied and collected by the Department of Revenue, only such duties, which are (a) levied and collected as duties of excise/customs and (b) are both levied and collected by the Department of Revenue should be taken into account for calculating Education Cess."

(Emphasis supplied)

8.1 CBEC vide Circular No. 134/3/2011/ST dated 08.04.2011 clarified that since Education Cess and Secondary & Higher Education Cess were levied and collected as percentage of service tax, no Education Cess and Secondary & Higher Education Cess would be payable when and wherever service tax is nil by virtue of exemption. The said circular though was issued in context of service tax matter but the principle was accepted therein by the Board and hence, would apply in the present case of Central Excise duty also. Circular No. 134/3/2011/ST dated 08.04.2011 is reproduced as under:

"Subject:Education Cess and Secondary and Higher Education Cess - Reg.

Representations have been received from the field formations, seeking clarification regarding the applicability of service tax exemption to Education Cess (refers to both Education Cess leviable under Finance (No. 2) Act, 2004 and Secondary and Higher Education Cess leviable under Finance Act, 2007), under notifications where 'whole of service tax' stands exempted. Apparently the doubt arises in the context of Tribunal's Order in the matter of M/s. Balasore Alloys Ltd. v. CCE, Customs and

Service Tax, BBSR-I (2010-TIOL-1659-CESTAT-KOL) = 2010 (20) S.T.R. 506 (Tribunal).

2. The issue has been examined. Though Tribunal's Order referred above is in favor of revenue, it is inconsistent with the policy intention of the Government to exempt education cess in addition to service tax, where 'whole of service tax' stands exempted. According to section 95(1) of Finance (No. 2) Act, 2004 and section 140(1) of Finance Act, 2007, Education Cess and Secondary and Higher Education Cess are leviable and collected as service tax, and when whole of service tax is exempt, the same applies to education cess as well. Since Education Cess is levied and collected as percentage of service tax, when and wherever service tax is NIL by virtue of exemption. Education Cess would also be NIL.

3. This being the principle, field formations are directed not to initiate proceedings to recover the education cess, where 'whole of service tax' stands exempted under the notification. Extending the same principle, where education cess has been refunded to exporters along with service tax, by virtue of exemption notifications where 'whole of service tax' is exempt, the same need not be recovered."

8.2 I find that Education Cess and Secondary & Higher Education Cess were imposed as percentage of Central Excise duty and since the central excise duty was itself exempted by way of refund, then Education Cess and Secondary & Higher Education Cess also got exempted. This view finds support from the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court passed in case of SRD Nutrients Pvt. Ltd. reported as 2017 (355) ELT 481 (SC), wherein it has been held that:

"20. One aspect that clearly emerges from the reading of these two circulars is that the Government itself has taken the position that where whole of excise duty or Service Tax is exempted, even the Education Cess as well as Secondary and Higher Education Cess would not be payable. These circulars are binding on the Department.

21. Even otherwise, we are of the opinion that it is more rational to accept the aforesaid position as clarified by the Ministry of Finance in the aforesaid circulars. Education Cess is on excise duty. It means that those assesseees who are required to pay excise duty have to shell out Education Cess as well. This Education Cess is introduced by Sections 91 to 93 of the Finance (No. 2) Act, 2004. As per Section 91 thereof, Education Cess is the surcharge which the assessee is to pay. Section 93 makes it clear that this Education Cess is payable on 'excisable goods' i.e. in respect of goods specified in the first Schedule to the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985. Further, this Education Cess is to be levied @ 2% and calculated on the aggregate of all duties of excise which are levied and collected by the Central Government under the provisions of Central Excise Act, 1944 or under any other law for the time being in force. Sub-section (3) of Section 93 provides that the provisions of the Central Excise Act, 1944 and the rules made thereunder, including those related to refunds and duties, etc., shall as far as may be applied in relation to levy and collection of Education Cess on excisable goods. A conjoint reading of these provisions would amply demonstrate that Education Cess as a surcharge, is levied @ 2% on the duties of excise which are payable under the Act. It can, therefore, be clearly inferred that when there is no excise duty payable, as it is exempted, there would not be any Education Cess as well, inasmuch as Education Cess @ 2% is to be calculated on the aggregate of duties of excise. There cannot be any surcharge when basic duty itself is Nil.


.....
 24. For the aforesaid reasons, we allow these appeals and hold that the appellants were entitled to refund of Education Cess and Higher Education Cess which was paid along with excise duty once the excise duty itself was exempted from levy. There shall, however, be no order as to cost."

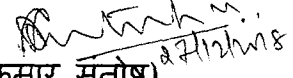
(Emphasis supplied)

9. In view of the above facts and legal position, I hold that the appellant is eligible for refund of Education Cess and Secondary & Higher Education Cess. Accordingly, I allow the appeals filed by the appellant and set aside the impugned orders to the extent of not sanctioning refund of Education Cess and Secondary & Higher Education Cess.

10. अपीलकर्ताओ द्वारा दर्ज की गई अपीलो का निपटारा उपरोक्त तरीके से किया जाता है।

10. The appeals filed by the Appellant are disposed off as above.

सत्यापित,

 विकुल शाह
 अधीक्षक (अपील्स)


 (कुमार सतोष) अधीक्षक
 आयुक्त(अपील्स)

By Regd. Post AD.

To,
 M/s Meena Agency Ltd,
 Survey No. 548-552/2,
 NH No. 15, Samakhiyali,
 Village-Lakadiya,
 District Kutch.

Copy to:-

- 1) The Chief Commissioner, GST & Central Excise, Ahmedabad Zone Ahmedabad for kind information please.
- 2) The Commissioner, GST & Central Excise, Gandhidham Commissionerate, Gandhidham- for necessary action in the matter.
- 3) The Dy. Commissioner, Central Excise, Gandhidham Division for necessary action in the matter within time.
- 4) Guard File.

