



::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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रजिस्टर्ड डाक ए.डी.द्वारा :-

क	अपील / फाइल संख्या/ Appeal / File No.	मूल आदेश सं / O.I.O. No.	दिनांक/ Date
	V2/25/GDM/2019	09/AC/Anjar-Bhachau/2018-19	17-12-2018

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

KCH-EXCUS-000-APP-096-2019

आदेश का दिनांक / Date of Order:	31.10.2019	जारी करने की तारीख / Date of issue:	06.11.2019
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श्रीगोपी नाथ, आयुक्त (अपील्स), राजकोट द्वारा पारित /
Passed by Shri. Gopi Nath, Commissioner (Appeals), Rajkot

ग अपर आयुक्त/ संयुक्त आयुक्त/ उपायुक्त/ सहायक आयुक्त, केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क/ सेवाकर/ वस्तु एवं 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/ST / GST,
Rajkot / Jamnagar / Gandhidham :

घ अपीलकर्ता & प्रतिवादी का नाम एवं पता / Name & Address of the Appellant & Respondent :-

Gujarat NRE Coke Ltd (Steel Division), At Village, Lunava, Taluka Bhachau, Kutch-370140

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, द्वितीय तल, बहुमाली भवन असावा अहमदाबाद- 380016 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) नियमवली, 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, रुपये 5 लाख या उससे कम, 5 लाख रुपये या 50 लाख रुपये तक अथवा 50 लाख रुपये 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/- रुपये 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. 5,000/-, 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 नियमवली, 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, रुपये 5 लाख या उससे कम, 5 लाख रुपये या 50 लाख रुपये तक अथवा 50 लाख रुपये से अधिक है तो क्रमशः 1,000/- रुपये, 5,000/- 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/- रुपये 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 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 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 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 ली गई 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 लया नहीं होये। /

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 कोपुनरीक्षण आवेदन :

Revision application to Government of India:

इस आदेश की पुनरीक्षणयाचिका निम्नलिखित मामलों में, केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क अधिनियम, 1994 की धारा 35EE के प्रथमपरंतुक 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-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 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 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 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 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 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। /
जहां 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 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, not withstanding the fact that the one appeal to the Appellant Tribunal or the one application to the Central Govt. As the case may be, is filled to avoid scriptoria work if excising Rs. 1 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 ::

M/s. Gujarat NRE Coke Ltd. (Steel Division), Village Lunava, Tal Bhachau, Kutch (hereinafter referred to as 'Appellant') has filed the present appeal against Order-In-Original No. 09/AC/Anjar-Bhachau/2018-19 dated 17.12.2018 (hereinafter referred to as 'the impugned order'), passed by the Assistant Commissioner, CGST Division-Anjar Bhachau. (hereinafter referred to as "the adjudicating authority").

2. The facts of the case in brief, are that investigation carried out by the Officers of Hq Preventive Section, Central Excise, Gandhidham revealed that the Appellant had paid "Education Cess" and "Higher Education Cess" by utilizing Cenvat Credit of Central Excise Duty during the period from December – 2013 to February – 2015. It appeared that as per Rule 3(4) and Rule 3(7)(b) of the Cenvat Credit Rules, 2004, Cenvat credit of Central Excise duty cannot be utilized for payment of Education Cess and Higher Education Cess.

2.1 Hence, the SCN was issued to the appellant on 29.08.2018 for recovery of wrongly utilized cenvat credit to the tune of Rs. 10,49,905/- (Rs. 7,00,028/- for Education Cess and Rs. 3,49,877/- for Secondary and Higher Education Cess) along with interest under Section 11AA of the Central Excise Act, 1944 (hereinafter referred to as "the CEA, 1944) and to impose penalty under Section 11 AC of the Central Excise Act, 1944. The adjudicating authority adjudicated the show cause notices vide impugned order wherein he confirmed demand of Rs 10,49,905/- under Section 11A of the Act; ordered recovery of interest under Section 11AA of the Act and also imposed penalty of Rs. 10,49,905/- under Section 11AC of CEA,1944.

3. Being aggrieved with the impugned order, the appellant preferred the present appeal, interalia, on the following grounds:

- (i) The impugned order passed by the lower adjudicating authority is illegal and should be quashed and set aside. Appellant submitted that they have not wrongly diverted basic central excise duty to their education cess and higher education cess liability account as they have submitted all details in their monthly return ER-1 and also shown in their cenvat account.
- (ii) The appellant has been undergoing insolvency and bankruptcy code (IBC 2016) and that the Hon'ble NCLT have ordered the appellant "that no suits or other legal proceedings shall be instituted by or against the corporate debtor"

(iii) That their case falls under sub-rule (4) of Rule 3 of Cenvat Credit Rules,



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2004, not as per proviso of Rule 3(7) of Cenvat Credit Rules, 2004 under which there is a restriction regarding use of Cenvat Credit of Education Cess & Secondary and Higher Education Cess for payment of only Education Cess & Secondary and Higher Education Cess; that the adjudicating authority has referred the case of M/s. Paras Petrofils Ltd V/s. Commissioner of Central Excise & Service Tax Surat – II [2018 (10) GSTL 264 (Tri-Abd)] is also related to utilization of Education Cess and Secondary and Higher Education Cess for payment of Basic Duty.

The appellant has relied on following case-laws: -

- 2009 (233) ELT 0221 (Tri.Ahd) CCE, Vapi V/s. Donear Industries Ltd.
- 2008 (232) ELT 693 (Tri.Ahd) CCE, Vapi V/s. Balaji Industries
- 2007-TIOL-1174-Cestat Kolkata, CCE, Shilong V/s. Godrej Consumer Products Ltd.
- 2006-TIOL-1444-Cestat Delhi, CCE Jammu V/s. Sun Pharmaceutical Ind.
- 2008-TIOL-2629-Cestat Ahm, CCE, Vapi V/s. Balaji Industries

4. Personal hearing in the matter was attended to by Shri Pradyot K Chatopadhyay, General Manager Commercial and Shri Amit Agarwal, AGM Commercial, who reiterated Grounds of Appeal and submitted that their appeal may be decided on the basis of facts and legal position.

5. I have carefully gone through the facts of the case, the impugned order, grounds of appeal and submissions made by the appellant. The issue to be decided in the present appeal is whether the impugned order passed by the adjudicating authority disallowing Central Excise duty paid "Education Cess" and "Higher Education Cess" by way of utilizing Cenvat Credit of Basic Central Excise Duty for the period from December – 2013 to February – 2015 is correct, proper and legal or otherwise.

6. I find that as per sub-rule (4) of Rule 3 of Cenvat Credit Rules, 2004, the Cenvat Credit may be utilized for payment of:

(iv) the Cenvat credit may be utilized for payment of:

a) any duty of excise on any final product; or

b) an amount equal to CENVAT credit taken on inputs if such inputs are removed as such or after being partially processed; or

c) an amount equal to the CENVAT credit taken on capital goods if such capital goods are removed as such; or

d) an amount under sub rule (2) of rule 16 of Central Excise Rules, 2002; or



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e) service tax on any output service:

Provided that while paying duty of excise or service tax, as the case may be, the CENVAT credit shall be utilized only to the extent such credit is available on the last day of the month or quarter, as the case may be, for payment of duty or tax relating to that month or the quarter, as the case may be:

Provided further that the CENVAT credit of the duty, or service tax, paid on the inputs, or input services, used in the manufacture of final products cleared after availing of the exemption under the following notifications of Government of India in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue),-

- (i) No. 32/99-Central Excise, dated the 8th July, 1999 [G.S.R. 508(E), dated 8th July, 1999];
- (ii) No. 33/99-Central Excise, dated the 8th July, 1999 [G.S.R. 509(E), dated 8th July, 1999];
- (iii) No. 39/2001-Central Excise, dated the 31st July, 2001 [G.S.R. 565 (E), dated the 31st July, 2001];
- (iv) No. 56/2002-Central Excise, dated 14th November, 2002 [G.S.R. 764(E), dated the 14th November, 2002];
- (v) No. 57/2002-Central Excise, dated 14th November, 2002 [G.S.R. 765(E), dated the 14th November, 2002];
- (vi) No. 56/2003-Central Excise, dated the 25th June, 2003 [G.S.R. 513 (E), dated the 25th June, 2003]; and
- (vii) No. 71/2003-Central Excise, dated the 9th September, 2003 [G.S.R. 717 (E), dated the 9th Sep, 2003]

shall, respectively, be utilized only for payment of duty on final products, in respect of which exemption under the said respective notifications is availed of :

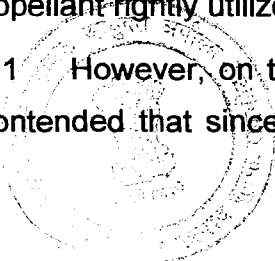
Provided also that no credit of the additional duty leviable under sub-section (5) of section 3 of the Customs Tariff Act, shall be utilized for payment of service tax on any output service:

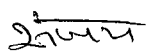
Provided also that the CENVAT credit of any duty specified in sub-rule (1), except the National Calamity Contingent duty in item (v) thereof, shall not be utilized for payment of the said National Calamity Contingent duty on goods falling under tariff items 8517 12 10 and 8517 12 90 respectively of the First Schedule of the Central Excise Tariff:

Provided also that the CENVAT credit of any duty mentioned in sub-rule (1), other than credit of additional duty of excise leviable under section 85 of Finance Act, 2005 (18 of 2005), shall not be utilised for payment of said additional duty of excise on final products.

Upon perusal of above clauses, it appears that since the Education Cess and Secondary & H. S. Education Cess are nothing but duties of excise, therefore the appellant rightly utilized the Cenvat credit of Basic Excise duty for its payment.

6.1 However, on the other hand, the Adjudicating Authority in the Order in Original contended that since the Edu. Cess and S. & H. S. Edu. Cess do not appear in the



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above clauses, the Cenvat Credit of Basic Excise duty cannot be utilized for payment of Education Cess and S. & H. S. Edu. Cess. I also find that sub-clause (iii) clause (b) of sub-rule (7) of Rule 3 of Cenvat Credit Rules, 2004 stipulates that Cenvat Credit of Education Cess on excisable goods leviable under Section 91 read with Section 93 of Finance Act, 2004 shall be utilized only for payment of Edu. Cess on excisable goods leviable under Section 91 read with Section 93 of Finance Act, 2004. In the backdrop of the above provisions, I find the first point that needs to be decided is whether the Edu. Cess and Secondary & Higher Education Cess can be considered as duties of excise as stipulated in clause (a) of sub-rule (4) of Rule 3 of Cenvat Credit Rules, 2004.

7. Further, I also find that the Education Cess is leviable under Section 93 of Finance Act, 2004, which reads as under:

Section 93 of Finance Act, 2004

93.(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, 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 percent., 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 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 or any other law for the time being in force.*

(3) *The provisions of the Central Excise Act, 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.*

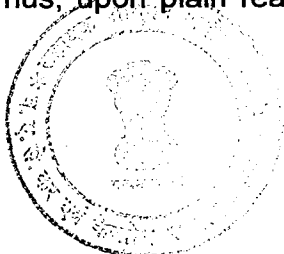
8. Likewise, I find that Secondary & Higher Education Cess is leviable under Section 128 of the Finance Act, 2007, which reads as under:

(1) *The Secondary and Higher Education Cess levied under section 126, in the case of goods specified in the First Schedule to the Central Excise Tariff Act, 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 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 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 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.*

(3) *The provisions of the Central Excise Act, 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 or the rules made thereunder, as the case may be.*

9. Thus, upon plain reading of sub-section (1) of Section 93 of Finance Act, 2004

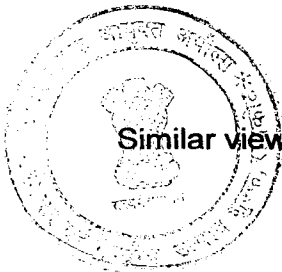


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and sub-section (1) of Section 128 of the Finance Act, 2007, I find that Education Cess and the Secondary & Higher Education Cess are termed as duties of excise. Consequently, in terms of Rule 3(4) of the Cenvat Credit Rules, 2004, the Cenvat credit of Basic Excise duty can be used for payment of Education Cess and Secondary & Higher Education Cess. However, before penning down the final decision, I would also like to discuss the various case laws pertaining to this issue.

10. I find that the adjudicating authority has confirmed the short-payment of education cess and S&H Education cess since the appellant has paid the amount towards payment of cesses by utilizing cenvat credit balance lying in basic excise duty account, in terms of provisions contained in Rule 3(7)(b) of the CCR. I find that Rule 3(7)(b) of the Cenvat Credit Rules provides that cenvat credit in respect of education cess and the Secondary and Higher Education cess on excisable goods shall be utilized towards payment of education cess and the Secondary and Higher Education cess respectively on any final product manufactured by the manufacturer. Thus, the said provisions restricts the utilization of credit of education cesses towards payment of education cesses only. However, I find that the said provisions do not restrict the utilization of credit of excise duty towards payment of education cesses payable on any final product. Further, the provisions of Rule 3(4) states that the cenvat credit may be utilized for payment of any duty of excise on any final product. Since the Education Cess and Secondary & Higher Education cess are also the 'duty of excise', the cenvat credit of basic excise duty can be utilized towards payment of education cess and secondary & higher education cess. In support of my view, I rely on the decision of High Court of Gauhati in the case of Kamakhya Cosmetics & Pharmaceuticals Private Limited – 2015 (323) ELT 33 (Gau.) wherein it has been held as under:-

Cenvat credit - Utilisation of - Credit of Basic Excise Duty for payment of Education Cess - Cenvat credit of Basic Excise Duty was allowed by Gauhati High Court in Prag Bosimi Synthetics Ltd., to be utilised for payment of NCCD but not vice-versa - In view of ratio of impugned judgment, utilisation of Cenvat credit of Basic Excise Duty allowed by Tribunal for paying Education Cess - No infirmity in Tribunal's order, it being in conformity with views taken by High Court - Appeal of Department dismissed - Rule 3 of Cenvat Credit Rules, 2004.



Similar view has been paraphrased in the following case laws

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- (i) Balaji Industries – 2008 (232) ELT 693 (Tri-Ahmd.)
- (ii) Godrej Consumer Products Limited – 2007 (219) ELT 585 (Tri-Kolkata)
- (iii) Sun Pharmaceutical Industries – 2007 (207) ELT 673 (Tri.-Del.)

11. In view of the discussions and findings as above, I set aside the impugned order and allow the appeal filed by the appellant.

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

12. The appeals filed by the appellant stand disposed off in above terms.

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(Gopi Nath)
 Commissioner (Appeals)

By R.P.A.D.

To,
 M/s. Gujarat NRE Coke Ltd. (Steel Division),
 Village Lunava, Tal Bhachau,
 Kutch

Copy to:

1. The Chief Commissioner, GST & Central Excise, Ahmedabad Zone, Ahmedabad.
2. The Commissioner, GST & Central Excise, Kutch Commissionerate, Gandhidham.
3. The Assistant Commissioner, GST & Central Excise Division-, Anjar-Bhachau.
4. Guard File.

