

3. ORDER-IN-APPEAL :-

M/s. Marineines Ship Breaking Pvt. Ltd., Plot No. 47, Aeng Ship Breaking Yard, Mang. Dist: Bhavnagar (hereinafter referred to as 'Appellant No. 1') and Shri. Kamal Kumar Kheruka, Director of Appellant No. 1 (hereinafter referred to as 'Appellant No.2'), files appeals against the summon Order-Original No. 43W/2014/CPV/BEH/198-17 dated 27.02.2017 (hereinafter referred to as 'the impugned order') passed by the Assistant Commissioner, Central Excise & Service Tax, Bhavnagar (hereinafter referred to as 'the lower adjudicating authority'). Since, the issue involved in both the appeals are similar, the said appeals are being taken up commonly in this single order.

2. Briefly stated, the facts are that :-

(i) On the basis of information it is noticed that the appellant no. 1 had availed CENVAT credit of Rs. 2,82,16,342/- on 31.03.2014 on 85% of the CVD of Rs. 3,31,67,868/- as per restriction contained vide Notification No. 30/2014-CE(M) dated 01.03.2014 in respect of Bill of Entry No. SBY/130/2014-15 dated 26.09.2014 filed on the import of vessel namely MV 'CITY OF BERUT' and the same was reflected in the Central credit account in their monthly return. However, the appellant no.1 again availed Central credit of Rs. 15,50,834/- of CVD on 31.03.2015 and Central Credit of Rs. 41,46,291/- on 31.01.2015 on the basis of worksheet prepared by them in respect of aforesaid referred Bill of Entry and had taken credit of duty assessed considering bunker (fuel & oil) contained in the tanks engine room as classified under Chapter 27100000. The appellant no.1, reversed the Central Credit of Rs. 41,46,291/- on 28.02.2015; however after initiation of enquiry against the appellant no. 1 they reversed the Central Credit of Rs. 15,50,834/- vide Central Account Entry no. 12 dated 30.03.2016 under protest. The Appellant has taken such credit keeping reliance upon the High Court judgment (2011) 117 Tax 552- Gujarat High Court, 2012 (200) E.L.T.347(Supp)-CE-Customs Gold Control Reference No. 14 of 2004) dated 05.07.2012 in the case of M/s. Pitya Holding (P) Ltd. wherein the bunkers containing oil were to be treated as part of the vessel's machinery and were classifiable under Heading No. 85.08 of the schedule to the Customs & Tariff Act, 1975. The appellant no.1 has availed Central credit of additional duty of Customs (CVD) amounting to Rs. 15,50,834/- paid on Bunkers (Fuel Oil, M.C.O. (H.S.D. Oil) & Lube Oil etc. classifying under Chapter 27100000 and also utilized amounting of Rs. 88,745/- out of it.

(ii) In the said Central credit availed by the Appellant no.1 on the basis of a 'worksheet showing details of differential duties' prepared by themselves attached to the Bill of Entry No.SBY/130/2014-15 filed on the import of vessel namely 'MV CITY OF BERUT' and it was alleged that the appellant no.1 had availed central credit under dispute on the basis of improper verifiable documents by contravening the provisions of Rule 6(i)(c) read with Rule 3(a) and Rule 210 of the Central Credit Rules, 2004 and accordingly the appellant no.1 had been issued show cause notice dated 26.04.2016 by the Joint Commissioner, Central Excise & Service Tax, Bhavnagar.



(ii) Subsequently, on the basis of information that the appellant no.1 had wrongly availed Central credit of the additional duty of customs (AD 3) paid on Fuel oil MCC (HSD Oil) & Lub oil etc. contained in the ship manifest for breaking purpose, an inquiry conducted and statement of Shri. Kunal Kumar Khemka, Director of the appellant No.1 (appellant No.2) recorded on 14.08.2016. On scrutiny of the documents produced by the appellant no.2, it was noted that in ER-1 return for the month of January 2015 an amount of Rs.141,87,123/- was declared against than. Details of Central credit : taken on inputs or imported inputs on of value Rs. 41,46,291 reversed by the appellant on 28.02.2015 and remaining amount of Rs. 13,50,824/- reversed under protest on 10.03.2015 after initiation of enquiry against them. The appellant No.2 in his statement clearly admit that immediately after reaching of a vessel at their ship breaking plant, all the fuels & oils were removed from the vessel and sold out without storing the same and the same were not used in the process of obtaining goods and materials by breaking up of ship, but were directly sold in the open market.

(iv) On the basis of investigation carried out including statement of appellant no.2 dated 14.08.2015 it was noticed that the appellant no.1 had wrongly availed Central credit of Rs.15,50,824/- in violation of provisions of Rule 5(i) and Rule 2 read with Rule 2(i) of the Central Credit Rules, 2004 and wrongly utilised the Central credit of Rs. 89,74,755/- per the provision of Rule 14(2) of CGR etc. at total wrong availment of Central credit of Rs.15,50,824/- . accordingly show cause notice No.WT15-07/Delh42/2015-17 dated 28.04.2015 was issued by the Joint Commissioner, Central Excise, I C., Dhamnegar.

(v) With reference to the above mentioned show cause notice, the lower adjudicating authority with the impugned order confirmed the demand of Central credit of Rs.15,50,824/- and Rs.89,74,755/- under the provisions of Rule 14 of Central Credit Rules, 2004 read with Section 11A(4) of the Central Excise Act, 1944. He ordered to recover the amount of Central credit of Rs. 89,74,755/- wrongly utilised by appellant no.1 out of Rs. 15,50,824/- wrongly availed Central credit. He also ordered to appropriate the Central credit of Rs. 15,50,824/- already debited by the appellant no.1. He imposed equivalent amount of demand as penalty upon the appellant no.1 under the provisions of Rule 15 of Central Credit Rules, 2004 read with Section 11A(C) of the Central Excise Act, 1944 and also imposed personal penalty of Rs.5,000/- upon appellant no.2 under the provisions of Rule 16A of Central Credit Rules, 2004. Being aggrieved with the impugned order the appellants have filed the present appeals.

3. The appellants have filed the present appeals on the following grounds :

(i) Impugned order passed by the adjudicating authority is not proper and legal as the same has been passed by ignoring the provisions of Section 4 of the Central Excise Act, 1944. (ii) The appellants have relied upon the decision of the Honble Gujarat High Court in the case of M/s. Pooja Holding (P) Ltd. Vs Commissioner of Customs, as recorded in 2013 (768) ELT 347 (Guj) wherein the court held that "Bankers lying inside

the engine room' are classifiable under chapter heading 8908 of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 and not under chapter 27 of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975; this view has also been taken by the CCEIT vide their letter F.No.1004/5884/3782/PC 2(1) dated 28.06.2013. In view of this they had worked out the duty liability by considering the above mentioned settled issue, that the appellant obtained vide letter dated 29.02.2018 addressed to the jurisdictional Range superintendent regarding availing the Central credit under dispute; that they clarified the grounds that disputed Central credit had been taken on the basis of Bill of entry read with the paid up (Gst) read with the provision mentioned on the reverse page of the relevant Bill of Entry, therefore had legally availed the Central credit under dispute under the provisions of Rule 3 of the Central Credit Rules, 2004; that they had availed Central credit under dispute on the bunkers lying under the engine room which was classified under chapter 89.08 of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 read with Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985 and also filed declaration in the bill of entry that they would avail Central credit of the goods falling under chapter 89.08 of the said Tariff Act. Accordingly the said bills & c/c's were nothing but the 'bill input' as specified under Rule 2(b) of the Central Credit Rules, 2004; the proper document was the Bill of entry read with working out duty liability of such bunkers under chapter no.89.08 instead of chapter 27 and accordingly such bunkers was the bill input for availment of such central credit as provided under provisions of Rule 3(i)(ii) of the Central Credit Rules. The appellant have relied upon the various citations viz. (i)Gata Haradwaras In Vs UOI- 2014(505) ELT 437; (ii) Kerala State Electronics Corporation vs CCE - 1996 (86) ELT 44; (iii) Indian Oil Corporation Ltd vs CCE - 2006 (205) ELT 583; iv) RCH Electric Ltd vs CCE Faridkot-1 - 2016 (314) ELT 439 (T. Chand) & (v) CCE vs CMS Computers - 2005 (157) ELT 23 (SC-3 Member Bench) & (vi) S. Kumar Ltd. vs CCE (2007) 211 ELT 124 (CESTAT).

4. The personal hearing in the matter was fixed on 28.01.2018 and again on 29.02.2018 which was attended by Shri N.K. Manu, Consultant (Authorised Representative) on behalf of the appellant No. 1 & 2. He has reiterated the submission made in the appeal memorandum and requested to grant 10 days time limit for the further written submission. However, no further written submission has been received from the either from the appellants or their consultants.

5. In pursuance of Board's Notification No.23/2017-C.Ex.(NT) dated 17.10.2017 read with Board's Order No.05/2017-ST dated 15.11.2017 the instant appeals have been taken on hand for passing Order-In Appeal.

6. I find that in case of instant appeal, the impugned order was received by the appellants on 29.02.2017 and date of filing of appeals is 27.04.2017. Hence, both appeals have been filed within the stipulated time period and there is no delay of filing the appeals. Since appellant, no. 1 already obtained Central credit of Rs. 19,50,004/- vide

debit entry no. 12 on 20.06.2013 and Rs. 275 by appellant no. 2 vide SBI cheques no. 03 dated 15.04.2014, hence the condition of pre deposit also stands fulfilled.

7. I have gone through the impugned order, appeal memorandum and written submissions made by the appellants. The issue to be decided in the present appeal is whether Central Credit of Rs. 15,50,834/- availed on the CVD paid on fuel oil Marine Gas Oil (MGO), Code no. 27100000 classified under Chapter 27100000 by the appellant no. 1 is correct or otherwise and whether interest @ 20% per annum imposed vide impugned order is correct or otherwise?

8. In the instant case, I find that the appellant no. 1 have availed CENVAT credit of Rs. 15,50,834/- on the CVD paid on Fuel oil Marine Gas Oil (MGO), Code no. 27100000 on the basis of Bill of Entry No. 58YK332014-15 dated 08.04.2014 filed on import of the vessel, namely M/V City of Beirut. Prior to availment of this Central credit, appellant no. 1 had taken Central Credit of Rs. 2,02,10,042/- on 01.05.2014 in respect of CVD paid on import of ship M/V. 'Golden' classified under Heading No. 89.08 of the schedule to the Customs Tariff Act, 1975. Said Central Credit being restricted to 55% of total CVD of Rs. 3,61,87,390/- on Bill of Entry No. 58YK332014-15 dated 08.04.2014 as per Notification No. 39/11-CEN dated 31.03.2011.

9. I find that the appellant no. 1 have taken such credit keeping reliance upon the judgment [2012 (11) TMI 532 - Gujarat High Court - 2013 (288) ELT 347 (Guj.) - CH- Customs Field Control Reference No. 14 of 2004] dated 25.07.2012 pronounced by the Hon'ble High Court of Gujarat at Ahmedabad in the case of M/s. Piyu Holding P. Ltd versus Commissioner of Customs, Howrah, Jannagar wherein the bunkers containing oil were to be treated as part of the vessel's machinery and were classifiable under Heading No. 89.09 of the Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act, 1975. The appellants have prepared worksheet and availed credit of duty assessed considering manner that A/cly contained in the Tariff engine room as classified under 2710 under their respective sub heading 27100000. I find that said judgment of Hon'ble High Court of Gujarat pronounced on 25.07.2012 and Bill of Entry No. 58YK332014-15 filed on 08.04.2014 filed on the import of vessel namely M/V City of Beirut after lapse of almost two years of said judgment. According to the said judgment dated 25.07.2012, the department has related to assess to duty of CVD of the bunkers lying inside the engine room under the Chapter Heading No. 89.09 of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 read with the provisions of the Chapter Heading No. 89.08 of the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1995, instead of under Chapter 27 on which Appellant has paid duty. Therefore, on this ground the Appellant no. 1 is not eligible to take Central Credit on worksheet prepared by them. Moreover, the Appellant no. 1 already availed 55% of the Central Credit of CVD as per restriction contained vide Notification No. 39/11-CEN dated 01.03.2011 in respect of the said Bill of Entry. I also find that, as per the said High Court judgment, engine department tanks (bunkers) containing oil were to be treated as part of the

vessel's machinery and were classifying under heading No. 8409 of the Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 and no separate duty is leviable thereon. However other items containing fuel and oil did not form part of the LDT of the vessel and had to be classified under their own heading and duty had to be charged accordingly. The Hon'ble High Court vide above judgment has decided the matter of classification of engine room fuel. Therefore, if appellant has found that Customs assessed Bill of Entry under wrong classification, they were required to take objection at the time of assessment. But, in the instant case, the Appellant no. 1 has prepared worksheet at their own without getting Bill of Entry amended by the Customs and had availed Central Credit of CVD on fuel and oil classified under Chapter 27100000. Considering this fact, I find that Central Credit is eligible on fuel and oil subject to assessed under heading no. 8409 only as per the said Hon'ble High Court order. Remaining part of fuel and oil which is not treated as part of the vessel and assessed under sub heading 27100000, the Central Credit is not admissible on it.

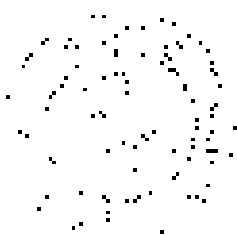
10. Further, as per rule 2(i) of the CCR, 2004 the worksheet prepared by the appellant no. 1 is not the proper document on the basis Central credit was availed since the proper subject Bill of Entry were not finally assessed as per the calculation shown in the worksheet produced by the appellant no. 1 under their letter dated 16.04.2016. I also find that as per above mentioned order 6699 05.07.2012 of the Hon'ble High Court, Central Credit is eligible on fuel and oil subject to assessed under heading no. 8409 only. Remaining part of fuel and oil which is not treated as part of the vessel and assessed under sub heading 27100000, the Central Credit is not admissible on it as per Rule 3 read with Rule 2(k) of the Central Credit Rules, 2004. I find that lower adjudicating authority has rightly observed that Note 9 of Section XV (Base Metals and Articles of Base Metal) of the Schedule 4 appended to the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985 covers all the goods falling under 72 to 83 of the Article. Note 9 of Section XV explains that in relation to the products of this section the process of obtaining goods and materials by breaking up of ships, boats and other floating structures shall amount to manufacture. Therefore, it is undoubtably clear from the definition of Rule 2(i) of CCR, 2004 that for ship breaking, goods and materials obtained by process of breaking of ship, boats or other floating structures can only be considered as 'taxable goods'. Rule 2(i) of the CCR, 2004 defines that 'finished products' means taxable goods manufactured or produced from input, or by using input services. Further Rule 3 of the CCR, 2004 states that a manufacturer or producer of final products or a provider of output service is allowed to take credit or surfeit of excise paid on input or input service and received by the manufacturer for use in or in relation to the manufacture of final product. Further, as defined under Rule 2(x) of CCR, 2004, 'input' means all goods used in the factory by the manufacture of the final product but excludes any goods which have no relationship whatsoever with the manufacture of a final product. From this definition, it is clear that the item which is not used in the factory by manufacture of final product cannot be considered as 'input' as defined under Rule 2(x) of CCR, 2004 and

as such Cenvat Credit of duty paid on such item will not be available to the assessee under Rule 3 of the CCR, 2004.

11. I find that the lower adjudicating authority in the impugned order has noticed that in statement dated 14.03.2016, the appellant no 2 has clearly stated that immediately after beaching of the ship at their port, all the fuel & oils are removed from the vessel and sold out without storing the same were not used in the process of obtaining goods and materials by breaking up of ship. I agree with conclusion of the lower adjudicating authority that it is evident that such Fuel oil, Marine Gas Oil and Lub oil do not form part of input in terms of Rule 3 of the Cenvat Credit Rules, 2004 and therefore cenvat credit on the same not available to the appellant no 1, as elaborated at para 3.5 to 3.9 of the impugned order.

12. The said Appellants in their defence also contended that disputed Cenvat credit was availed in the month of January 2016, whereas the SCK was issued on 20.04.2016 and the same was time barred. I find that the lower adjudicating authority in the impugned order at para 3.8 rightly established the invocation of extended period of demand under Section 11A(1) of the Central Excise Act, 1944. The appellant no. 1 suppressed the facts from the department that Fuel Oil, Marine Gas Oil (HSD), Lub Oil on which Cenvat credit were taken as inputs, were not used in or in relation to manufacture of their final products. The fact was came to the notice of the department only after inquiry conducted by the department. From the monthly FRI returns it cannot be ascertained whether the goods against appellant no. 1 has taken credit were used in the manufacture of their final excisable product or whether Cenvat credit is admissible on such inputs or otherwise. It is only when investigation was carried out against the appellants the fact of non eligibility of Cenvat credit on such goods came to the notice of the department. In view of foregoing discussion, I find that extended period of five years is correctly invoked by the lower adjudicating authority under the proviso to Section 11A (4) of the Central Excise Act 1944, to recover the wrongly availed Cenvat credit. Accordingly demand has been rightly confirmed by the lower adjudicating authority vide the impugned order. I find that when demand is confirmed and Cenvat credit has been wrongly taken and utilised the same, the interest at appropriate rate on the amount so recoverable also liable to be recovered from the Appellant under the provisions of Section 11AA of the Central Excise Act, 1944 read with Rule 14 of the Cenvat Credit Rules 2004. I also find that appellant no 1 have availed the wrong availed Cenvat credit of Rs. 15,50,824/- only after the enquiry initiated against the appellants. It can be seen from the records that the appellants to take wrong Cenvat credit. Hence, lower adjudicating authority has rightly imposed penalty against appellants under the provisions of Section 11AC of the Central Excise Act, 1944 read with Rules 15 of the Cenvat Credit Rules, 2004.

13. I have also carefully gone through all the case laws cited by the Appellant and find that none of them are applicable in the present as most of the case laws deal with



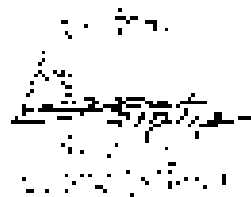
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wrong availing of CENVAT Credit of fuel lying in the engine room. Therefore, I deny all the contention made by the Appellants.

14. Due to above reasons, no confirmation of the above demand alongwith the interest under Section 110A and the penalty under Section 110C of the Central Excise Act, 1944 read with Rules 15 of the Central Excise Rules, 2004 appear to be.

15. In view of the above facts and circumstances, I uphold the entire demand of the impugned order No. 40/A/C/RURAL/BVT/R3/2016-17 dated 27.02.2017 confirming the CENVAT, interest and penalties or merits and reject the appeals filed by the appellants.

16. The appeals filed by the appellant stands disposed off in above terms.



(P. A. Vasava)
Commissioner (Appeals) /
Commissioner
CGST & Central Excise
Kuloh (Gandhinagar)

F.No. V2/109/BVR/2017
F.No. V2/110/BVH/2017

Date: 26.03.2019

By R.F.A.:

To

1. M/s. Marinelines Ship Breakers Pvt. Ltd.,
Plot No. 47, Along Ship Breaking Yard,
Ajang, Dist. Bhavnagar
2. Shri Kunal Kumar Chavha
Director of M/s. Marinelines Ship Breakers Pvt. Ltd.,
Plot No. 47, Along Ship Breaking Yard,
Ajang, Dist. Bhavnagar

Copy to:

- 1) The Principal Chief Commissioner, CGST & Central Excise, Ahmedabad
- 2) The Dy. Asst. Commissioner, Central Excise, Rural Division, Bhavnagar
- 3) The Dy. Asst. Commr. (S&T), H.O. Bhavnagar for uploading on website
- 4) F.No.V2/109/BVR/2017 and F.No. V2/110/BVH/2017.
- 5) Grant File