# **Tax Bulletin**

Update publication for our clients

# January, 2020



Income Tax

Goods & Services Tax ['GST']

**Customs** 

Foreign Trade Policy ['FTP']



Vijaywargi Khabiya & Saoji Chartered Accountants

### FOREWORD

## In the beginning of the new year we hope that all our readers have a great 2020! May we all grow together and have a successful decade!

While we all welcome 2020 with zeal, we hope that the people and the Government can come to consensus peacefully on the prevalent issues.

Amidst all the tension, the Central Government extended further relief to businesses and deferred the due date for GST Annual Return for FY 2017-2018 to January 31, 2020. The GST Council was also convened for the 38<sup>th</sup> time and deliberated on various issues for which clarifications and Notifications have been released. Further, many changes proposed during the Budget 2019-2020 have been made effective from January 1.

With a snippet of the above updates and more, we hope that this **20<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Tax bulletin** in relation to Direct Tax (i.e. Income Tax) and Indirect Tax (i.e. GST, Customs law and FTP) will be of value to all those interested in keeping abreast with tax developments.

Warm Regards,

Team VK&S



# **Income Tax updates**

- Recent Updates
- Legal Snippets

### **Updates and Legal snippets**

### CBDT prescribes electronic modes of payment for Section 269SU

- The Finance (No. 2) Act, 2019 had introduced Section 269SU which required every person with a business turnover, sales or gross receipts exceeding Rs. 50 crores to mandatorily provide facilities for accepting payments through prescribed electronic modes. The CBDT vide its Notification dated 30th December 2019 has prescribed such electronic modes, which needs to be provided from 1 January 2020. Details are as under:
- Every person with a business turnover of more than Rs. 50 crores has to mandatorily provide all the following modes for the purpose of acceptance of payment, which is in addition to the facility for other electronic modes of payment, if any, being provided by such person:
  - ✓ Debit Card powered by RuPay;
  - ✓ Unified Payments Interface (UPI) (BHIM-UPI); and
  - ✓ Unified Payments Interface Quick Response Code (UPI QR Code) (BHIM-UPI QR Code).
- Every person who fails to offer the prescribed modes (installation & operationalization of the facilities) by 31st January 2020 would be subjected to a penalty of Rs. 5,000 per day of default with effect from 1st February, 2020.

### **Legal Snippets**

Whether excess stock unearthed during the course of survey has to be brought to tax as 'undisclosed income' – YES

[SVL Oil Mills Vs ACIT, Chennai 2019-TIOL-2098-HC-MAD-IT]



Whether investment in shares made for strategic business purposes & by utilising borrowed capital, merits being allowed u/s 36(1)(iii) & if no evidence is put forth to establish otherwise - YES

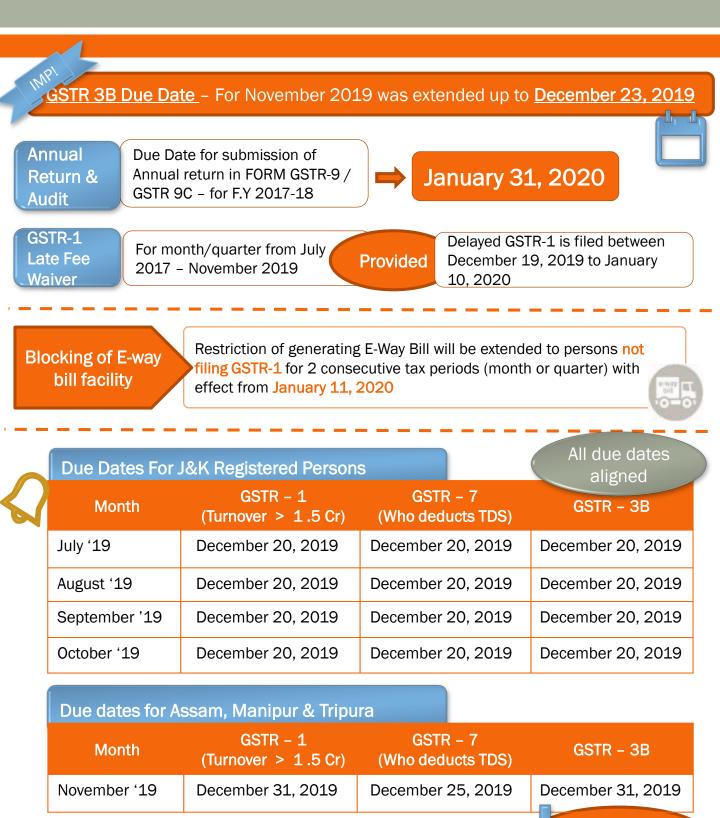
[CIT Chennai Vs KEC International Limited 2019-TIOL-2801-HC-MAD-IT}



# **GST updates**

- > Notifications & Circulars
- Legal Snippets
- GST Advance Rulings

### GST - Due Dates, Late Fee Waiver & E-way Bill



Also applicable for MEGHALAYA

### **GST – RCM & Rate changes**

#### RCM on renting of motor vehicle

- From October 1, 2019, renting of motor vehicle to a body corporate was included under Reverse Charge Mechanism. Due to the words of the Notification, confusion prevailed.
- Clarificatory Notification and circular has been issued and renting of motor vehicle will attract <u>GST @ 5% under RCM</u> in the following scenario:

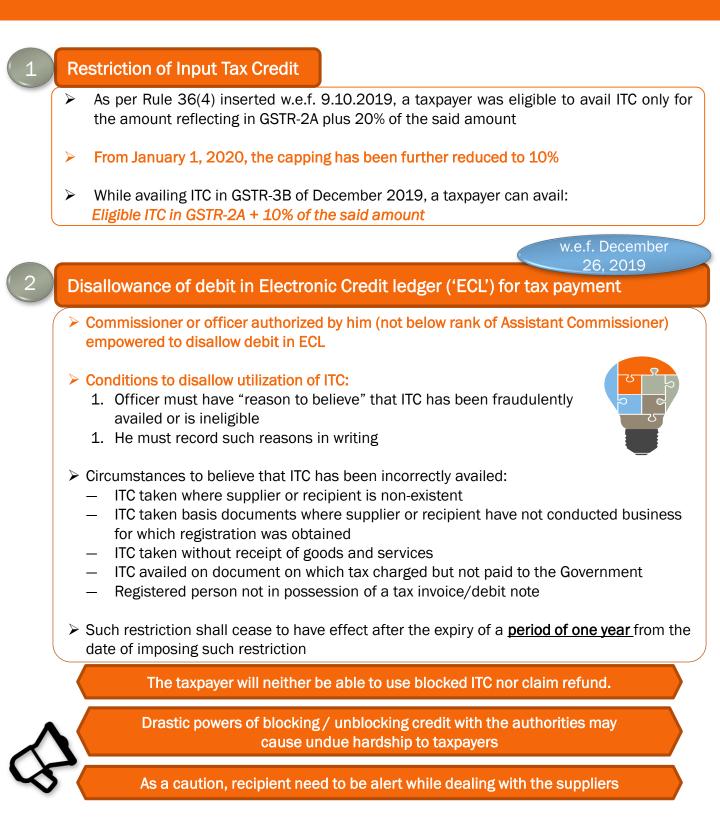
Nature of Service	Supplier	Recipient
Renting of any Motor vehicle	Any person	Body corporate
	<ul> <li>other than a body-</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Located in the</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>designed to carry passengers</li> </ul>	corporate	taxable territory
	<ul> <li>does not issue an</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>cost of fuel included in the consideration</li> </ul>	invoice charging GST @12%	

Amendment in Ra	ate Notification for goods		
Chapter Heading/ Tariff Item	Description of Goods	Previous Rate	Current Rate
3923 or 6305	Woven and non-woven bags and sacks of polyethylene or polypropylene strips or the like, whether or not laminated, of a kind used for packing of goods;	12%	18%
6305 3200	Flexible intermediate bulk containers.	12%	18%

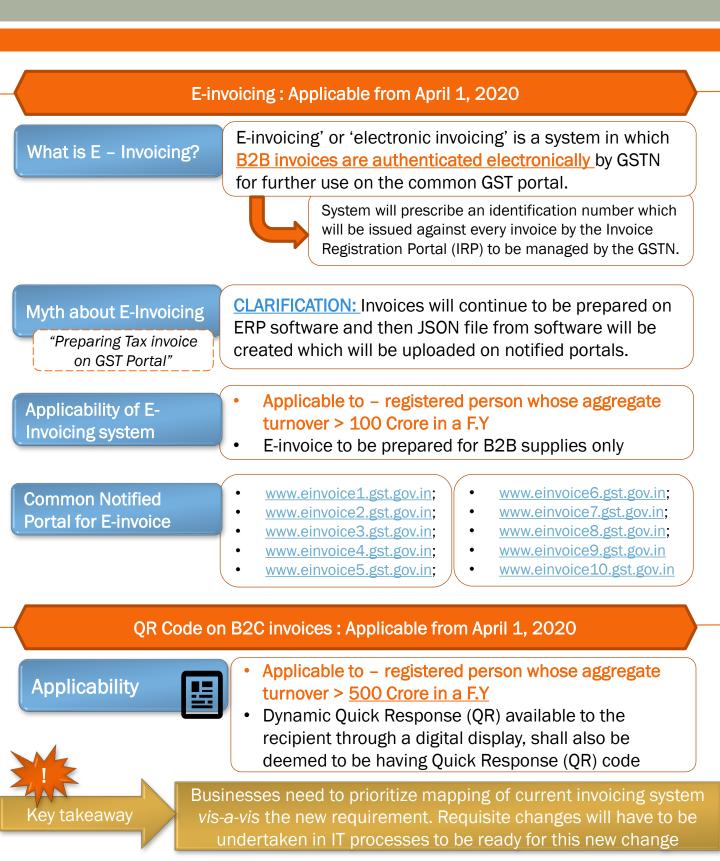
#### Amendment in Service Exemption Notification

- Exemption from upfront amount payable for long term lease of industrial/ financial infrastructure plots extended when such land provided by an entity having 20% or more ownership of Central or State Govt. w.e.f. January 01, 2020.
  - Earlier 50% or more ownership was of Govt was required
  - Additional conditions prescribed regarding utilization of land for industrial or financial activity only

### GST – Input Tax Credit



## **GST – E-invoicing & QR Code**



### **GST Notifications**

#### Amendments in CGST Act made through Finance (No.2) Act, 2019 notified

#### To be effective from January 1, 2020

- Changes relating to Composition Levy
- Power to prescribe separate Registration threshold for States
- Requirement of Aadhar No. for Authentication of GST Registration
- Power to Notify persons who need to provide facility of digital payment to recipient
- Power to extend due date of Annual Return
- Provision regarding transfer of amount in Cash Ledger of CGST to SGST . UTGST

#### To be implemented from a later date

- Amendment clarifying that Interest on Delayed Payment is to be calculated on net amount paid in cash
- Return related changes
- Changes in Refund Section
- Changes pertaining to Definitions for Advance Rulings, constitution of National Appellate Authority for Advance Ruling, Rectification, Applicability, powers & procedures of AAR, AAAR, NAAAR)

### Central Goods & Service Tax (Amendments) Rules, 2020

Extension of Due Dates of transitional forms for		Form	Previous Due Date	Amended Due Date	
persons who could not submit the same due to		TRAN - 01	December 31, 2019	March 31, 2020	
technical difficulties		TRAN - 02	March 31, 2020	April 30, 2020	
Format changes	<ul> <li>FORM REG-01 for Registration</li> <li>FORM GSTR – 3A viz. Notice to non-filers</li> <li>FORM INV – 01 – New Form Notified</li> </ul>				

### Amendments in Due Dates for J&K – transition plan

- Notification No. 62/2019 was issued in November to provide for transition procedure for GSTIN holders in State of Jammu & Kashmir who are required to take obtain GSTIN for J&K Union Territory. Transition plan specified the tax period and Procedure to transfer ITC from GSTIN of J&K State to GSTIN of J&K Union Territory.
- Certain due dates in that regard have been extended.

### **GST – Other updates**

#### **ITeS Services**

Circular No. 107/26/2019 dated 18.07.2019 issued in respect of clarifications for IT services supplied by Call Centers, Business process outsourcing services, etc withdrawn *ab-initio*. The said Circular had created unrest with the Industry due to its implications on qualification as 'intermediary' services.

#### Quoting of Document Identification Number

- DIN quoting has been made mandatory for all communications, including e-mails (effective from December 24, 2019)
- Standardized documents issued which will bear a pre-populated DIN
- Forms to be used w.e.f. January 01,2020
- Documents not bearing DIN to be invalid, except when covered under exceptions

#### **Removal of Difficulty Order** Extension of Limitation period for filing Appeal

Due to non-constitution of benches of the Appellate Tribunal the last date for filing of appeals before the GST Appellate Tribunal has been extended.

Limitation for appeal filing is to be calculated from the later of the following:

- date of communication of order; or
- date on which the President /State President, of the Appellate Tribunal enters office

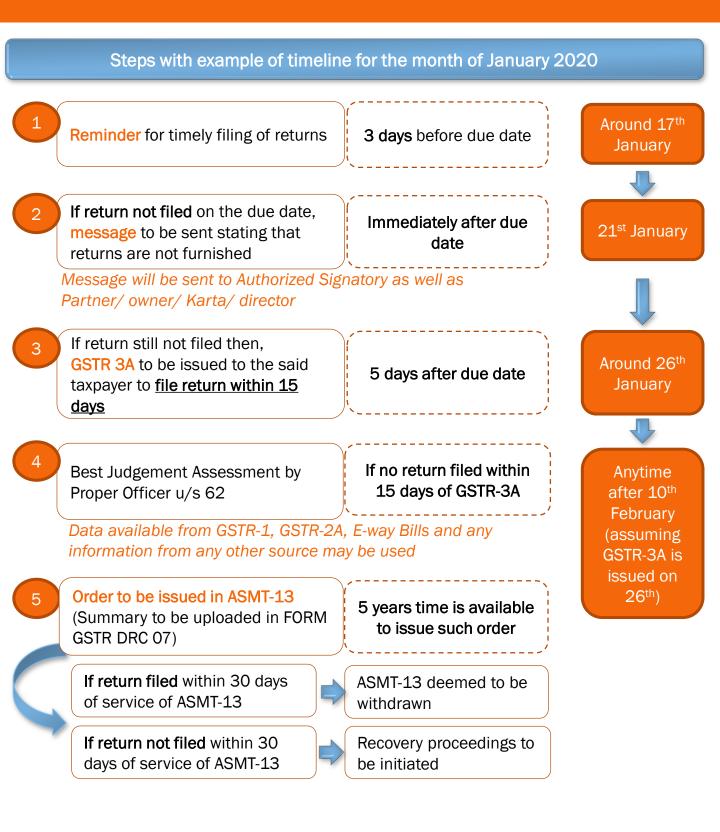
#### Standard Operating Procedure for non-filers of Returns

- CBIC has issued SOP to be followed when GSTR-3B, Annual Return or Final Return (required on cancellation of Registration) is not filed within the due date
  - Notice in GSTR-3A is to be issued directing furnishing of Return within 15 days
  - Where return is still not filed, officer may proceed with Best Judgement Assessment No separate Notice will be issued
  - Assessment Oder in Form ASMT-13 will be issued
- Commissioner may resort to provisional attachment before issuance of ASMT-13
- Proper Officer may initiate cancellation of registration where returns not furnished for a continuous period of 6 months





## **SOP for non-filers of Returns**





Advance ruling is binding only on the applicant who has sought the advance ruling and on the concerned officer or the jurisdictional officer in respect of the applicant

However, the Rulings help us to ascertain the mind-set and interpretation that may be adopted by the Department. Accordingly, we have discussed a few Advance rulings issued recently.

M/s Madhya Pradesh Power Generating Company Ltd [ Madhya Pradesh AAR]

Transportation & Beneficiation of Coal

*Issue:* Applicability of GST rate when transportation and beneficiation of coal provided together. Whether charging separate rates i.e. GST @5% under RCM for transportation services by GTA and @18% on coal beneficiation and loading charges is in compliance with provisions of GST?

*Ruling* – Services of Coal beneficiation and transportation held to be two different supplies and stated to attract GST @18% (SAC 9997) and @5% (under reverse charge if supplier does not avail ITC) or @12% (paid by transporter) under SAC 9965 respectively.

\*No observations given on whether loading/unloading and transportation services are a composite supply or not.

# Infobase Services Pvt. Ltd [West Bengal AAR]

*Issue:* Applicant engaged by a club for supplying services of printing Directory of members and marketing of advertisement space for Directory. Whether such service is a composite supply or mixed supply and applicability of GST?

*Ruling* – Applicant making a bundled supply for a single price as the project cost for printing. The two services are not naturally bundled and bound by an obligation. Therefore, not a composite supply. Hence, it is a mixed supply and therefore attracts highest rate of tax which is @18% for selling of space for advertisement, when made as an intermediary

#### Ex Servicemen Resettlement Society [West Bengal AAR]

Bonus for security personnel

*Issue:* The Applicant is a registered society providing security services and scavenging services to various hospitals under the State Government. The Applicant receives bonus to be paid to security personnel and prepares a separate bill on which no GST is charged. Whether GST applicable on such amount?

#### Ruling -

- Security personnel provided by the Applicant are not employees of the recipient hospitals run by State Government.
- Bonus to such security personnel therefore does not fall within the ambit of "employeremployee" relationship
- As a result, payment received by the Applicant form the recipient will attract GST

#### Applicant A: M/s Vijai Electricals Ltd [Andhra Pradesh AAR] Applicant B: Sealwel Corporation Pvt Ltd [Andhra Pradesh AAR]

Works Contract Services

*Issue:* Applicants were awarded works contract by M/s Eastern Power Distribution Company of Andhra Pradesh Ltd. ('EPDCAPL') and are engaged in execution of works contract relating to electrical works and electrical infrastructure. Whether concessional tax rate @12% applicable to the said Contracts ?

- Applicability of lower rate of GST@12% was sought under the Entry: 'Construction services of 'a civil structure or any other original works meant predominantly for use other than for commerce, industry, or any other business or profession' when provided to specified Government recipients
- EPDCAPL held to be Government Entity as it is wholly owned by Govt. of AP
- Works taken up by the Applicant A was to execute/implement various Schemes for construction of substations, erection of distribution transformers, implementation of World Bank Projects.
- Work taken by Applicant B was i) Conversion of existing LT network into HDVS ii) supply, erection, testing & commissioning of 11KV autoclears and sectionalisers to full turn key basis (with and without IPDS)
- Since the construction in the present case undertaken for EPDCAPL was for business purpose., benefit of concessional rate not applicable.



#### M/s PKR Projects & Engineers [Andhra Pradesh AAR]

*Issue:* Applicant was granted road metal quarry for extraction of road metal by Dy. Director of Mines and Geology. Applicant has to discharge his liability on the amounts paid to the mines department towards royalty paid/dead rent etc. for such mining rights. Ruling sought on classification of service and applicable rate of GST

#### Ruling -

- Applicant required to pay dead rent or Royalty (whichever is higher). Such activity is a supply of service wherein the Government of Andhra Pradesh is a supplier and Applicant is a Recipient.
- Activity undertaken by the Applicant classifiable under Heading 9973 and sub heading 99737 and attracts 18% GST w.e.f. January 01, 2019

#### Rashtriya Ispat NigamLtd [Andhra Pradesh AAR]

Liquidated Damages for delay

Composite Supply of

Works Contract

*Issue:* Whether liquidated damages are liable for GST, if yes, at what rate? Time of Supply on such liquidated damages.

#### Ruling -

- Liquidated Damages attract GST@18% and are covered under Entry No. 35 of Notification No. 11/2017 CT(R) dated June 28, 2017
- **Time Of Supply**: levy of liquidated damages to be at the time where it is successfully established that the delay has been caused on behalf of the contractor

#### M/s Mcnally Bahart [Andhra Pradesh AAR]

*Issue:* Applicant entered into 3 contracts which are: 1) Supply Contract 2) Erection Contract 3) Operation & Maintenance Contract; for establishment of Solar PV Power Project. All the 3 contracts have separate consideration however, there is a clause in all the above contracts that a breach in one contract will automatically be construed as a breach in other. Whether the Supply is a Composite Supply or not and its classification and applicable rate of GST.

#### Ruling -

- Contract held to be a Composite Supply as the intention of the Contractee is to procure a completely functional solar panel and wherein the applicant takes end to end responsibility for its functioning.
- Supply to be classified under Heading 9954 attracting GST @18%

GST on Royalty / Dead Rent

#### M/s Indian Potash Ltd [Andhra Pradesh AAR]

Ocean Freight

GST on GTA

Commission

Issue: Applicant engaged in import handling, promotion & marketing of fertilizer in the entire country... Ruling sough on Whether 1) ocean freight liable to GST? 2) supply qualify as import of service? 3) transaction qualify as an inter-state supply? 4) Applicant a recipient of service 5) Applicant liable under RCM

#### Ruling -

- 1) Ocean freight leviable to IGST as an inter-state supply of service
- 2) Supply qualifies as an import of service
- 3) Supply qualifies as inter-state supply of service

4) Consideration paid by the Applicant is inclusive of both for goods and transport of those goods by vessel (i.e. freight). Therefore, Applicant is a recipient under Section 2(93) of the CGST Act. 5) Importer liable to pay under RCM as per Notification No. 10/2017 – IT (R) dated June 28, 2017

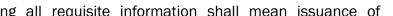
Further, it was held that issues raised on double taxation, subsidies and cascading effect leading to accumulation of credit are issues beyond the purview of Authority.

#### M/s Chitra Transport [Andhra Pradesh AAR]

Issue: Applicant is an Agent carrying the activity of engaging lorries from lorry owners and providing transport facility to their customers. Applicant collects transport charges from their customers and pays requisite amount to the lorry owners while keeping some commission. Whether such Commission is liable to GST or the entire amount charged to their customers without deducting any GST will be liable for GST? Applicable rate of tax.

#### Ruling -

- · Applicant issuing lorry receipts containing all requisite information shall mean issuance of consignment note and therefore qualifies as a GTA.
- Customer of Applicant to pay GST under RCM @ 5% or Applicant may charge GST @12%
- Commission obtained by procuring trucks from lorry owners not taxable in the hands of GTA. (Lack of clarity in Order in relation to this aspect)



#### M/s Siemens Ltd [West Bengal AAAR]

*Issue:* Clarity is sought whether GST to be applicable on gross or net amount after adjusting the mobilization advance?

#### Ruling -

- Mobilization advance has not suffered tax under Pre-GST regime.
- Two characteristics examined i.e. (i) assessee did not pay interest to Kolkata Metro Rail Corporation Limited (KMRCL) for holding the lump-sum amount for long period and (ii) assessee was not at liberty to utilize the lump-sum amount in any venture of their own;
- · Accordingly, inferred that said amount qualifies as "advance only and not as a deposit"
- · Unadjusted part of Mobilization advance received as on July 01 taxable under GST
- M/s Tech Mech Global Interface Pvt. Ltd [Andhra Pradesh AAR]

Clarification on **"place of supply"** sought for liaison services extended by Applicant to overseas manufacturers without any Indian Subsidiary/Indian Liaison Office

• M/s Venkat Rao Tirupathi [Andhra Pradesh AAR]

Sought Ruling on issue of **applicability of interest** for intervening period in the context of payment done under one Head (i.e. Head of Cess) instead of other Head (i.e. Head of CGST) with a time gap of eight months between two payment.

#### • Barbeque Nation Hospitality Ltd [West Bengal AAR]

Applicant taken a lease on certain premises on which the licensor charges and collects electricity charges along with GST claiming that the Licensor is supplying electricity to the Applicant. The question is on component of amount charged by the Licensor on leasing of an immovable .property and is **not related to the supplies made by the Applicant is making**. Therefore, outside the purview of AAR.

#### • M/s Divisional Forest Officer, Logging Division [Andhra Pradesh AAR]

Applicant engaged in the activities of extraction/cutting of Timber & Bamboo from natural forests, its transportation to Government Depots and maintenance works. Applicant do not make any of the supplies in question but is in fact **a recipient of various supp**lies made by the Contractors. Not covered under Section 97(2) of the CGST Act, 2017.

• Maneckji Cooper Education Trust [Maharashtra AAR]

Query raised by Applicant whether they should **surrender GST Registration**. Not covered under Section 97(2) of the CGST Act, 2017.

### l not as a deposit"

Outside the purview of AAR

apply

Appellate AAR

GST on Mobilization Advance

### Legal snippets

#### Interim Bail allowed – Rajasthan HC

- Rajasthan HC allows the interim bail application on humanitarian grounds directing release of the petitioner for 15 days subject to furnishing of a personal bond in the sum of Rs. 10 Lac together with two sureties in the sum of Rs. 5 lac each and surrendering his passport with the concerned Jail Superintendent.
- Matter involved claiming fake currency inputs to the tune of Rs.33 crore

#### Recovery upheld – MP HC

- Petitioner cannot escape his GST liability when it has quantified the tax payable while submitting the GSTR-1:
- Rejected assessee's plea that in absence of determination of tax u/s 73, no recovery could have been initiated u/s 79 as no notice of demand was ever issued
- Clarifies that tax determination has already been done as the assessee quantified its tax liability under GSTR-1 returns

#### Price variation due to GST – Kerala HC

- Kerala HC holds the Petitioner not entitled to any relief under the tender on account of introduction of GST noting that the preliminary agreement provided for payment of tax at the rate prevailing at the time of execution of work"
- Explicates that, "the tender is to be submitted by a bidder taking into account various factors and components and a little bit of speculation is also required" while emphasizing that "necessarily, petitioner ought to have visualised such a situation and the rates should have been quoted only in accordance with the same

## Benefit cannot be denied due to lack of IT system– Delhi HC

- Delhi HC grants partial refund of ITC paid in cash noting that assessee had to pay the tax as it could not use and exploit the ITC while making exports in the months of July and August, 2017
- Observes that, "Petitioner cannot be made to suffer on account of failure on the part of the Respondents in devising smooth transition to GST regime w.e.f. 01.07.2017, from the erstwhile indirect taxation structure"
- Clarifies that software systems have to be in tune with the law, and not vice versa and system limitations cannot be a justification to deny the relief, to which the Petitioner is legally entitled;

# <sup>3</sup> Customs updates

- Notifications
- > Circulars

### **Notifications & Circulars**

## Non-Tariff & Tariff Notifications

Changes in First Schedule to Customs Tariff as per proposals of Finance Act 2019 made effective from January 1, 2010 Corresponding changes made in other relevant Notifications such as:

- > 50/2017 Exemptions to various goods
- > 82/2017- Effective rate for Ch. 50 63
- Notification for rate of Petroleum Crude, etc
- Certain Anti-dumping Notifications

#### Anti-dumping Duty ('ADD') Notifications

45/ 2019	Imposes ADD on imports of Clear float glass originating in or exported from Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and UAE in pursuance of Final findings of Designated Authority in sunset review of notification No. 48/2014-Customs (ADD) dated 11.12.2014

#### Circulars

#### Mandatory DIN

Generation and quoting of Document Identification Number (DIN) on any communication issued by the officers of the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) to tax payers and other concerned persons has been made mandatory from November 8, 2019 for search, summons, etc.

- As per new circular, DIN is to be used for all communications including emails w.e.f. December 24, 2019
- In exceptional circumstance, requirement of DIN may be relaxed

#### Customs Refund -Standing Order

Customs Commissionerate, Maharashtra

Re-assessment of Bills of Entry involving Refund Claim of Excess Duty paid:

- Reliance placed on Order passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in ITC Ltd. Vs C.C.E, Kolkata-IV dated 18.09.2019 wherein it is held that the claim of refund cannot be entertained unless the order of assessment or self-assessment (i.e. Bill of Entry) is modified in Appeal
- <u>Clarified that claim of refund cannot be entertained without the outcome of the appellate order</u> and consequent re-assessment.
- Where refund is sanctioned without appellate order, SCN is to be issued for recovery



- Notifications
- Public Notices

## **Notifications and Public Notice**

Subject	Details
Clearance as 'gifts' (Amendment in Para 2.25 of Foreign Trade Policy)	Import of goods, including those purchased from e-commerce portals, through post or courier, where Customs clearance is sought as 'gifts' is prohibited, <i>except</i> for life saving drugs / medicines and Rakhi (but not gifts related to Rakhi). <i>Rakhi will be exempted as under Section 25(6) of Customs Act, 1962.</i> Further, import of goods as gifts with payment of full applicable duty is permissible.
Amendment in import policy conditions of gold and silver	Import policy of gold, other than monetary gold and silver in any form, is amended from "Free" to "Restricted" hence import is allowed only through nominated agencies as notified by RBI (incase of bank) and DGFT (for other agencies).
	However, Import under Advance Authorization and supply of gold directly by the foreign buyers to exporters under Para 4.45 of Foreign Trade Policy against export orders are exempted.
Amendment in Import Policy and Policy condition under HS Code	Import of Peas (Pisum Sativum) including Yellow Peas, Green peas, Dun Peas and Kaspa peas (having HS Code 07131000) is restricted and import is subject to MIP of Rs. 200/- CIF per kilogram.
07131000	Import is allowed only through Kolkata Sea Port.
Amendment in Para 2.54 of the Handbook of Procedures, 2015- 2020	<i>Para 2.54:</i> The period for installation and operationalization of Radiation Portal Monitors and Containers Scanner in the designated ports has been extended up to <i>31.03.2020</i> .
Extension of Validity of Pre-Shipment Inspection Agencies (PSIAs)	Validity of the Pre-shipment Inspection Agencies (PSIAs) as listed in Appendix 2G and A&ANF, whose validity expires on 31.12.2019 is further extended up to 31.03.2020.
Amendments in Para 4.68 (a) of the Handbook of Procedures 2015- 20.	<b>Proof of Export i.e. Para 4.68 (a)</b> of Handbook of Procedures 2015-20 stands amended to allow submission of self attested copy of Exporter's copy of Shipping Bill in place of Export Promotion (E.P) copy of shipping bill.

## **Notifications and Public Notice**

	Subject	Details					
	Changes in MEIS rates	Except products listed in the Annexure, the additional 2% benefits under MEIS will be available for the all the products which are mentioned in Public Notice ('PN') 44 dated 05.12.2017; PN 02 dated 01.05.2018; PN 13 dated 12.06.2018 and PN 28 dated 08.08.2018 for exports made till 31.12.2019 only.					
			Annexure – HSN Codes				
		61043100	63019010	63049231	63051050	63079012	
		61043200	63025110	63049241	63051060	63079013	
		61171020	63022110	63049281	63051070	63079019	
		61171040	63025110	63049291	63051080	63079020	
		62141020	63026010	63049991	63051090	63079090	
		62141030	63029110	63049992	63061910	63101030	
		62142010	63041100	63051010	63061920	63109030	
		62142020	63041940	63051020	63062910		
		62149032	63049190	63051030	63071030		
		62160020	63049211	63051040	63079011		

### About VK&S



Vijaywargi Khabiya and Saoji, Chartered Accountants, is a single window professional services firm focusing on high quality services one needs from a business advisory organization. The firm is managed by dynamic & pulsating partners with decade long professional experience. The firm provides services and consultancy related to accounting & implementation thereof, auditing including internal, statutory, tax, concurrent and management audit, matters related to direct & indirect tax including advisory, litigation, due diligence review, tax optimization and compliance services, outsourcing of accounts, payrolls, FEMA, Company Laws matters, Project Financing, Subsidies, and the like



### **ANY QUESTIONS?**

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