



भारत सरकार / Government of India

वित्तमंत्रालय, राजस्वविभाग/Ministry Of Finance, Department Of Revenue

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER, CENTRAL GOODS & SERVICE TAX, GST BHAVAN,
TOWN CENTRE, CIDCO, N-5, AURANGABAD-431003

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DIN 20201266VJ0000213723

SHOW CAUSE-CUM-DEMAND NOTICE

(Sr. No. 116/ST/TPI/JC/NED/ 20-21 dated 24.12.2020)

M/s. NEHA DEVELOPERS, POMDE COMPLEX, ANAND NAGAR, NANDED, registered under Service Tax with Registration No. AHXPB3664KSD001 (hereinafter referred to as “the assessee”), are engaged in providing services including works contract services which are taxable services covered under the Finance Act, 1994 (hereinafter referred to as “the Act”).

2.1 Whereas information regarding Value of Net Turnover of Works Contracts and Ongoing Leasing provided, as declared by the assessee to Department of Commercial Taxes, Maharashtra State for the year 2015-16 was obtained. From the said data, it appeared that the assessee is providing Works Contracts Services (both being taxable services under Finance Act, 1994) to its customers. However, on going through the records available, it is observed that the assessee has not filed service tax return for the period 2015-16 nor paid any service tax for the services provided by them.

2.2 In order to further investigate the matter and allow the assessee to present the facts, letter/ email dated 23.09.2020/22.12.2020 were issued to the assessee, calling for relevant/relied upon documents for verification and for furnishing the reason for non payment of service tax.

3. In spite of mails and letters mentioned in aforesaid Para, the assessee neither submitted the requisite information which was called for nor paid the Service Tax along with applicable interest and penalty for FY 2015-16. It appears that the assessee was not interested in submitting the financial records and reconciliation as stated above. Thus, it is evident that there is an act of omission and commission on the part of the assessee, with intent to evade payment of Service tax. The non-payment of the service tax by the assessee on the value even after being pointed out by the Department, leads to the conclusion that in spite of legal provisions to furnish the correct information to the department, the assessee is not willing to share such correct information with the department.

4. It appears from the registration of the assessee under Finance Act, 1994 (Service Tax) that the activity carried out by the assessee falls under the category of service as

defined under Section 65B (44) of the Finance Act, 1994. It also appears from the MAHAVAT data that the assessee is engaged in providing Works Contract Services in addition to any other service the assessee may be providing.

5. This Show Cause Notice is therefore being issued, for demand of service tax on the basis of values of services determined from the MAHAVAT information for FY 2015-16.

6.1 For the purpose of this notice, the Value of Net Turnover of Works Contracts and Ongoing Leasing as per MAHAVAT data, is being considered as value of taxable services provided during the FY 2015-16 by the assessee.

6.2 Whereas, it accordingly appears that, in view of the provisions of Section 68(1) of the Act read with the provisions of Rule 6(1) of the Rules, the assessee was required to pay service tax on monthly / quarterly basis, to the credit of the Central Government, on such values as described below, at a rate specified in Section 66B of the Act as applicable during the relevant period. The calculations of such values and service tax payable by the assessee for F.Y. 2015-16 is enumerated in the table given below:-

Calculation of value and service tax payable thereon

(Amount in Rs.)					
Year	Taxable Value as per MAHAVAT data	Taxable Value decalred in ST-3 Return	Difference in Taxable value declared in MVAT to ST-3	Rate at which Service Tax is being demanded	Service Tax Payable and being demanded
1	2	3	4	5	6
2015-16	4,27,41,220/-	0	4,27,41,220/-	14.5%	61,97,477/-
TOTAL					61,97,477/-

6.3 The assessee has failed to come forward to explain the value of services provided as per MVAT data. Therefore the department has no other option but to proceed with using best judgment method as envisaged under Section 72 of Finance Act, 1994 i.e. calculating the service tax liability based on records available to the department i.e. on basis of values of services determined from MVAT data available which was supplied by VAT department. Therefore the value as per MVAT data has been considered for calculation of service tax liability and is treated as taxable value in terms of Section 67 of Finance Act, 1994. Thus it appears that the assessee has not paid Service Tax for the period 2015-16, as shown at column no. 6 of the Table above on the value as shown in column no. 4 of the Table above.

6.4 Further, it appears that, while the assessee was liable to assess and pay the service tax on the services provided every month/every quarter and declare the information of services provided, value thereof, service tax liable to be paid and service tax actually paid, service wise, in the specified form ST-3 return, on half-yearly basis, as specified in Section 70(1) of the Act read with the provisions of Rule 7 of the Rules, which they have failed to do. Thus, the assessee has suppressed from the Department, consideration for providing

the taxable services, involving service tax liability as detailed in Para 6.2 above, with an intent to evade the payment of said service tax, for the period 2015-16.

6.5 Rule 5A(2) of Service Tax Rules, 1994 requires every assessee to make available to officer authorized in this regard, various records, within reasonable time not exceeding fifteen days. In the instant case, the assessee has failed to take action as prescribed in Rule 5A (2) and has thus contravened the provisions thereof.

7. Whereas from the foregoing, it appears that the assessee, **M/s. NEHA DEVELOPERS**, have contravened the following provisions of the Finance Act, 1994, and rules made thereunder:-

- i) Section 68(1) of the said Act read with Section 66B of the Act read with Rule 6 of the Rules, as applicable during the relevant period, in as much as they failed to pay the appropriate Service Tax for period 2015-16, on the due dates as prescribed.
- ii) Section 70(1) of the Act read with Rules 7(1), 7(2) & 7(3) of the Rules, in as much as they have failed to assess the service tax due, on the services provided by them and also failed to furnish prescribed ST-3 Returns with correct details in prescribed time for period 2015-16.
- iii) Rule 5A(2) of Service Tax Rules, 1994 (hereinafter referred to as "the rules") in as much as they failed to produce/furnish the books of account, financial statements and other documents as required by the duly authorized officer letter/ email dated 23.09.2020/22.12.2020 mentioned in Para 13 of this notice, within reasonable time not exceeding 15 days.

8.1 And whereas, it appears that the service tax liability as indicated in the table at Para 6.2 above, for the services provided by the assessee, would have gone unnoticed had it not been for the reconciliation done by the Department. It is a statutory obligation on the assessee to correctly pay service tax and file true and correct Returns. In the era of self-assessment, trust is placed on the assessee to correctly self-assess their tax liability and pay the same and disclose the true values in their ST-3 returns. However, in this case, on the basis of MAHAVAT information for 2015-16 received from Department of Commercial Taxes, State of Maharashtra, it was noticed that the assessee has deliberately suppressed the true value of taxable service in as much as they have neither declared the complete value of taxable service rendered during the material time nor paid the service tax liability thereon. Further, it also appears that the assessee was well aware of the fact that the business activities carried out by them was leviable to service tax, since they have obtained service tax registration. Therefore, it appears that the above acts / omissions by the assessee, tantamount to suppression of the material facts from the department with intent to evade payment of service tax and they have thereby contravened the various legal provisions of the 'Act' and the 'Rules' made there under. It therefore, appears that the provisions of proviso to Section 73(1) of the Act are correctly invocable for demanding the service tax for the extended period. Any suppression of facts resulting in wrong self-assessment causing evasion of tax, which gets detected during scrutiny by the Departmental officers, enables invocation of extended period of five years under Section 73 of the Act, as in the present case.

8.2 Invoking of extended period leads to liability to imposition of penalty under Section 78 of the Act. Further the liability to pay interest is concurrent with the liability to pay Service Tax. Delay in payment of Service Tax, requires payment of interest at appropriate rates. Hence, in the instant case the assessee is required to pay interest as applicable under the provisions of Section 75 of the Act on the service tax payable as enumerated in Para 6.2. Further, the assessee failed to declare the true value of the Services provided by them during the said period and the service tax payable thereon as required under Section 70 of the Act read with Rule 7 of the Rules. They also failed to keep, maintain or retain books of account and other documents as required in accordance with the provisions of the Act or the rules made there under; failed to furnish information called by an officer in accordance with the provisions of the Act or rules made there under; failed to produce documents called for by a Central Excise Officer in accordance with the provisions of the Act or rules made there under; failed to pay the tax electronically and failed to account for an invoice in his books of account and therefore are liable for payment of a penalty under Section 77(1) of the Act for period 2015-16.

9. Since there is non payment of service tax as per MAHAVAT data for the year 2015-16, these are reasonable grounds to allege that the assessee has also suppressed the correct values of taxable services for 2016-17 & 2017-18 (upto June 2017). The assessee was also asked to furnish information in respect of the period 2016-17 & 2017-18 (upto June 2017).

10. Whereas it further appears that, the assessee has not furnished such information and records and therefore in absence of such information, this show cause cum demand notice, does not cover period 2016-17 & 2017-18 (upto June 2017). The department will consider issue of Show Cause cum demand notice for such period, whenever such information will be provided by the assessee or is available to the department from other sources.

10.1 Further ,in exercise of the powers conferred by section 6 of the Taxation and Other Laws (Relaxation and amendment of Certain Provisions) Act, 2020 (No. 38 of 2020), the Central Government has hereby specified that the 30th day of December,2020 shall be the end date of the period during which the time limit specified in, or prescribed or notified under the provisions of chapter V of the Finance Act , 1994 and the 31th December, 2020 shall be the end date to which the time limit for completion or compliance of such action shall stand extended. In the said case, the time limit specified was on or before 25.10.2020, which is before the end date i.e., 30th December, 2020. Therefore, in the said case the time limit for completion of investigation stand extended to 31st December, 2020.

11. Now therefore, the assessee, **M/s. NEHA DEVELOPERS**. Situated at POMDE COMPLEX, ANAND NAGAR, NANDED, are hereby called upon to show cause to the **Joint Commissioner, CGST & Central Excise**, Aurangabad Commissionerate, having office at **N-5, Town Centre, CIDCO, Aurangabad - 431003** as to why:

- i) The value of amount of **Rs 4,27,41,220/-** so determined and calculated in above para, should not be considered as taxable value for services provided by them in terms of Section 67 of Act;
- ii) Service Tax of **Rs.61,97,477/-** inclusive of cess, not paid on taxable services provided by them, for period 2015-16, as detailed above, should not be demanded and recovered from them under the provisions of proviso to Section 73(1) of the Act;
- iii) Interest on the tax amount as mentioned at (ii) above, at appropriate rate, should not be charged & recovered from them as specified under Section 75 of the Finance Act, 1994 from the date such tax was payable to the date such tax is paid;
- iv) Penalty under Section 78 of the Finance Act, 1994, equal to the tax evaded as mentioned in (ii) above, should not be imposed on them for suppressing the material facts from the Department, with an intention to evade payment of service tax for period 2015-16;
- v) Penalty under Section 77 of the Act, should not be imposed on them for failure to submit the documents required for the enquiry as mandated under the provisions of Rule 5(A)2 of the Service Tax Rules, 1994.

12. **M/s. NEHA DEVELOPERS** are hereby directed to file their reply to this Show Cause Notice within 30 days of receipt of this notice. They are required to produce at the time of showing cause, all the evidence upon which they intend to rely, in support of their defense. They are further requested to state as to whether they wish to be heard in person, before the case is adjudicated. If no cause is shown against the action proposed to be taken, within 30 days of receipt of this notice, or the assessee or their legal representative does not appear before the adjudicating authority when the case is posted for personal hearing, the case is liable to be decided ex-parte on the basis of evidence available on records, without any further reference to the assessee.

13. The document relied upon in this case are as under:-
- a) MAHAVAT data for the year 2015-16.
 - b) letter/ email dated 23.09.2020/22.12.2020

14. The provisions of Section 174(2) of the Central Goods & Services Tax Act, 2017 empowers the proper officer to exercise the powers vested under the provisions of erstwhile Chapter V of Finance Act, 1994 read with Service Tax Rules, 1994.

15. This notice is issued without prejudice to further show cause notice for the period 2016-17 & 2017-18 (upto June 2017), as and when financial records are submitted by the Assessee or the information is available to the department from other sources. This notice is issued without prejudice to any other action that may be taken against the said assessee under the Finance Act, 1994/Central Excise law and/or any other law for the time being in force in India.


Joint Commissioner,
CGST & Central Excise
Aurangabad

F. No. V(ST)15-60/Adj/JC/2020-21
Aurangabad, dated 24/12/2020

BY REGD POST/MAIL

To,
M/s NEHA DEVELOPERS,
POMDE COMPLEX, ANAND NAGAR, NANDED

Copy to –1. The Deputy Commissioner, CGST & Central Excise, Nanded Division, Nanded.
2. The Superintendent, CGST & Central Excise, **Nanded Urban Range**, Nanded Division.
3. The Superintendent (Computer) to upload the SCN on website.