

माल और सेवाकर के आयुक्त का कार्यालय,
Office of the Commissioner of Goods & Services Tax (GST)
एन -5, टाउन सेंटर, सिडको, औरंगाबाद - 431003
N-5, Town Centre, CIDCO, Aurangabad - 431003
फोन न. **0240-2484975** ईमेल आईडी:**cexauran@excise.nic.in** फैक्स न. **0240**
- 2483303

DIN- 20201266VJ00004454A7

SHOW CAUSE-CUM-DEMAND NOTICE
(Sr. No. 11/ST/TPI/Commr./2020-21 dated 23.12.2020)

M/S. MEHRA AND COMPANY, Congress Bhavan, Sarojinidevi Road, Jalna - 431 203 who registered under Service Tax with Registration No. <AALFM0799DSD001> (here-in-after 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. 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 neither filed Service Tax return for the period 2015-16 nor paid any service tax for the services provided by them.

3. In order to further investigate the matter and allow the assessee to present the facts, mails dated 27/11/2020 were issued to the assessee, calling for relevant/relied upon documents for verification and for furnishing the reason for non-payment of service tax.

4. In spite of mails 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.

5. 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 engaged in Works Contract Services is providing other services as well.

6. 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.

7. 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 the total value of taxable services provided during the FY 2015-16 by the assessee.

7 . 1 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

Year	Taxable Value as per MAHAVAT data	Taxable Value declared in ST-3 Return (not filed)	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	45,57,39,618	--	45,57,39,618	14.5%	6,60,82,245
TOTAL					6,60,82,245

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 above.

7.2 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 7.1 above, with an intent to evade the payment of said service tax, for the period 2015-16.

8 . Whereas from the foregoing, it appears that the assessee, M/S. MEHRA AND COMPANY, Congress Bhavan, Sarojinidevi Road, Jalna - 431 203 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 vide mails mentioned in Para 13 of this notice, within reasonable time not exceeding 15 days.

9. And whereas, it appears that the service tax liability as indicated in the table at Para 7.1 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.

9.1 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. 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.

10. 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 2014-15, 2016-17 & 2017-18 (upto June 2017). The assessee was also asked to furnish information in respect of the period 2014-15, 2016-17 & 2017-18 (upto June 2017).

11. 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 2014-15, 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.

12. This notice is issued without prejudice to further Show Cause Notice for the period 2014-15, 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 an official source. This notice is issued without prejudice to any other action that may be taken against the said noticee under the Finance Act, 1994 / Central Excise law and / or any other law for the time being in force in India.

13. 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 31st 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.

14. Now therefore, the assessee, M/S. MEHRA AND COMPANY, Congress Bhavan, Sarojinidevi Road, Jalna - 431 203 are hereby called upon to show cause to the Commissioner, CGST & Central Excise, Aurangabad Commissionerate having office at N-5, Town Center, Cannought Place, CIDCO, Aurangabad - 431 003, as to why:

- i. The value of amount of Rs. 45,57,39,618/- 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. 6,60,82,245/- (Rs. Six Crore Sixty Lakh Eighty Two Thousand Two Hundred & Fourty Five) 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.
- vi. Late fee under section of 70 of the Finance Act 1994 read with Rule 7C of Service Tax Rules 1994, should not be imposed on them for non-filing/late filing of ST-3 returns.

15. M/S. MEHRA AND COMPANY, Congress Bhavan, Sarojinidevi Road, Jalna - 431 203 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.

16. 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.

17. 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.

18. The document relied upon in this case are as under:-
a) MAHAVAT data for the year 2015-16.
b) Mail dated 27/11/2020.

(AVINASH THETE)
Commissioner
CGST & Central Excise

Aurangabad

Aurangabad 23.12.2020

BY EMAIL/ REGD POST

To,

**M/S. MEHRA AND COMPANY,
Congress Bhavan, Sarojinidevi Road,
Jalna - 431 203**

Copy to -

1. The Deputy/Assistant Commissioner, CGST & Central Excise, Jalna Division.
2. The Range Superintendent, Jalna Rural Range of Jalna Division.
3. The Superintendent (Computer), Hqrs. for uploading on the website.