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PART-V

GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA
MEGHALAYA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT

NOTIFICATION

The 13th March, 2020.

No.LB.45/LA/2020/5. – The Meghalaya Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2020 introduced in the Meghalaya Legislative Assembly on the 13th March, 2020 together with the Statement of Objects and Reasons is published under Rule 71 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Meghalaya Legislative Assembly for general information.

THE MEGHALAYA GOODS AND SERVICES TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2020**A****BILL**

further to amend the Meghalaya Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017 (Act No. 10 of 2017)

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Meghalaya in the Seventy First Year of the Republic of India as follows:-

Short title and commencement.

1. (1) This Act may be called the Meghalaya Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Act, 2020.
- (2) Save as otherwise provided, the provisions of this Act shall come into force on such date as the Meghalaya Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.

Provided that different dates may be appointed for different provisions of this Act and any reference in any such provision to the commencement of this Act shall be construed as a reference to the coming into force of that provision.

Amendment of Section 2.

2. (1) In Section 2 of the Meghalaya Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017 (hereinafter referred as Meghalaya Goods and Services Tax Act), in sub-section (4), after the words "the Appellate Authority for Advance Ruling", the words "the National Appellate Authority for Advance Ruling", shall be inserted.

Amendment of Section 10.

3. (1) In Section 10 of the Meghalaya Goods and Services Tax Act, —
 - (a) in sub-section (1), after the second proviso, the following Explanation shall be inserted, namely:-

"Explanation.- For the purposes of second proviso, the value of exempt supply of services provided by way of extending deposits, loans or advances in so far as the consideration is represented by way of interest or discount shall not be taken into account for determining the value of turnover in the State";
 - (b) in sub-section (2),-
 - (i) in clause (d), the word "and" occurring at the end shall be omitted;
 - (ii) in clause (e), for the word "Council:", the words "Council; and" shall be substituted;
 - (iii) after clause (e), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:-

"(f) he is neither a casual taxable person nor a non-resident taxable person:";
 - (c) after sub-section (2), the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:-

"(2A) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this Act, but subject to the provisions of sub-sections (3) and (4) of Section 9, a registered person, not eligible to opt to pay tax under sub-section (1) and sub-section (2), whose aggregate turnover in the preceding financial year did not exceed fifty lakh rupees, may opt to pay, in lieu of the tax payable by him under sub-section (1) of Section 9, an amount of tax calculated at such rate as may be

prescribed, but not exceeding three per cent of the turnover in the State, if he is not-

- (a) engaged in making any supply of goods or services which are not leviable to tax under this Act;
- (b) engaged in making any inter-State outward supplies of goods or services;
- (c) engaged in making any supply of goods or services through an electronic commerce operator who is required to collect tax at source under Section 52;
- (d) a manufacturer of such goods or supplier of such services as may be notified by the Government on the recommendations of the Council; and
- (e) a casual taxable person or a non-resident taxable person:

Provided that where more than one registered person are having the same Permanent Account Number issued under the Income-tax Act, 1961, the registered person shall not be eligible to opt for the scheme under this sub-section unless all such registered persons opt to pay tax under this sub-section.";

(d) in sub-section (3), after the words, brackets and figure "under sub-section (1)" at both the places where they occur, the words, brackets, figure and letter "or sub-section (2A), as the case may be," shall be inserted.

(e) in sub-section (4), after the words, brackets and figure "of sub-Section (1)", the words, brackets, figure and letter "or, as the case may be, sub-section (2A)" shall be inserted.

(f) in sub-section (5), after the words, brackets and figure "under sub-section (1)", the words, brackets, figure and letter "or sub-section (2A), as the case may be," shall be inserted.

(g) after sub-section (5), the following Explanation shall be inserted, namely:-

'Explanation 1.- For the purposes of computing aggregate turnover of a person for determining his eligibility to pay tax under this Section, the expression "aggregate turnover" shall include the value of supplies made by such person from the 1st day of April of a financial year upto the date when he becomes liable for registration under this Act, but shall not include the value of exempt supply of services provided by way of extending deposits, loans or advances in so far as the consideration is represented by way of interest or discount.

Explanation 2.- For the purposes of determining the tax payable by a person under this Section, the expression "turnover in State" shall not include the value of following supplies, namely:-

- (i) supplies from the first day of April of a financial year upto the date when such person becomes liable for registration under this Act; and
- (ii) exempt supply of services provided by way of extending deposits, loans or advances in so far as the consideration is represented by way of interest or discount.'

**Amendment of
Section 22**

4. In Section 22 of the Meghalaya Goods and Services Tax Act, in sub-section (1), after the existing proviso, the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:-

"Provided also that the Government may, on the recommendations of the Council, enhance the aggregate turnover from twenty lakh rupees to such amount not exceeding forty lakh rupees in case of supplier who is engaged exclusively in the supply of goods, subject to such conditions and limitations, as may be notified.

Explanation.- For the purposes of this sub-section, a person shall be considered to be engaged exclusively in the supply of goods even if he is engaged in exempt supply of services provided by way of extending deposits, loans or advances in so far as the consideration is represented by way of interest or discount."

**Amendment of
Section 25**

5. In Section 25 of the Meghalaya Goods and Services Tax Act, after sub section (6), the following sub-sections shall be inserted, namely:—

"(6A) Every registered person shall undergo authentication, or furnish proof of possession of Aadhaar number, in such form and manner and within such time as may be prescribed:

Provided that if an Aadhaar number is not assigned to the registered person, such person shall be offered alternate and viable means of identification in such manner as Government may, on the recommendations of the Council, prescribe:

Provided further that in case of failure to undergo authentication or furnish proof of possession of Aadhaar number or furnish alternate and viable means of identification, registration allotted to such person shall be deemed to be invalid and the other provisions of this Act shall apply as if such person does not have a registration.

(6B) On and from the date of notification, every individual shall, in order to be eligible for grant of registration, undergo authentication, or furnish proof of possession of Aadhaar number, in such manner as the Government may, on the recommendations of the Council, specify in the said notification:

Provided that if an Aadhaar number is not assigned to an individual, such individual shall be offered alternate and viable means of identification in such manner as the Government may, on the recommendations of the Council, specify in the said notification.

(6C) On and from the date of notification, every person other than an individual, shall, in order to be eligible for grant of registration, undergo authentication, or furnish proof of possession of Aadhaar number of the Karta, Managing Director, whole time Director, such number of partners, Members of Managing Committee of Association, Board of Trustees, authorised representative, authorized signatory and such other class of persons, in such manner, as the Government may, on the recommendation of the Council, specify in the said notification:

Provided that where such person or class of persons have not been assigned the Aadhaar Number, such person or class of persons shall be offered alternate and viable means of identification in such manner as the

Government may, on the recommendations of the Council, specify in the said notification.

(6D) The provisions of sub-section (6A) or sub-section (6B) or sub-section (6C) shall not apply to such person or class of persons, or part of the State, as the Government may, on the recommendations of the Council, specify by notification.

Explanation.—For the purposes of this Section, the expression "Aadhaar number" shall have the same meaning as assigned to it in clause (a) of Section 2 of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016."

**Insertion of new
Section 31A
Facility of digital
payment to
recipient**

6. After Section 31 of the Meghalaya Goods and Services Tax Act, the following new Section shall be inserted, namely:-
"31A. The Government may, on the recommendations of the Council, prescribe a class of registered persons who shall provide prescribed modes of electronic payment to the recipient of supply of goods or services or both made by him and give option to such recipient to make payment accordingly, in such manner and subject to such conditions and restrictions, as may be prescribed."

**Amendment of
Section 39**

7. In Section 39 of the Meghalaya Goods and Services Tax Act,—
- (a) for sub-sections (1) and (2), the following sub-sections shall be substituted, namely:—
- "(1) Every registered person, other than an Input Service Distributor or a non-resident taxable person or a person paying tax under the provisions of Section 10 or Section 51 or Section 52 shall, for every calendar month or part thereof, furnish, a return, electronically, of inward and outward supplies of goods or services or both, input tax credit availed, tax payable, tax paid and such other particulars, in such form and manner, and within such time, as may be prescribed:
- Provided that the Government may, on the recommendations of the Council, notify certain class of registered persons who shall furnish a return for every quarter or part thereof, subject to such conditions and restrictions as may be specified therein.
- (2) A registered person paying tax under the provisions of Section 10, shall, for each financial year or part thereof, furnish a return, electronically, of turnover in the State, inward supplies of goods or services or both, tax payable, tax paid and such other particulars in such form and manner, and within such time, as may be prescribed.";
- (b) for sub-section (7), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—
- "(7) Every registered person who is required to furnish a return under sub-section (1), other than the person referred to in the proviso thereto, or sub-section (3) or sub-section (5), shall pay to the Government the tax due as per such return not later than the last date on which he is required to furnish such return:

Provided that every registered person furnishing return under the proviso to sub-section (1) shall pay to the Government, the tax due taking into account inward and outward supplies of goods or services or both, input tax credit availed, tax payable and such other particulars during a month, in such form and manner, and within such time, as may be prescribed:

Provided further that every registered person furnishing return under sub-section (2) shall pay to the Government the tax due taking into account turnover in the State, inward supplies of goods or services or both, tax payable, and such other particulars during a quarter, in such form and manner, and within such time, as may be prescribed".

**Amendment of
Section 44**

8. In Section 44 of the Meghalaya Goods and Services Tax Act, in sub-section (1), the following provisos shall be inserted, namely:—

"Provided that the Commissioner may, on the recommendations of the Council and for reasons to be recorded in writing, by notification, extend the time limit for furnishing the annual return for such class of registered persons as may be specified therein:

Provided further that any extension of time limit notified by the Commissioner of Central Tax shall be deemed to be notified by the Commissioner."

**Amendment of
Section 49**

9. In Section 49 of the Meghalaya Goods and Services Tax Act, after sub-section (9), the following sub-sections shall be inserted, namely:—

"(10) A registered person may, on the common portal, transfer any amount of tax, interest, penalty, fee or any other amount available in the electronic cash ledger under this Act, to the electronic cash ledger for Integrated Tax, Central Tax, State Tax or Cess, in such form and manner and subject to such conditions and restrictions as may be prescribed and such transfer shall be deemed to be a refund from the electronic cash ledger under this Act.

(11) Where any amount has been transferred to the electronic cash ledger under this Act, the same shall be deemed to be deposited in the said ledger as provided in sub-section (1)."

**Amendment of
Section 50**

10. In Section 50 of the Meghalaya Goods and Services Tax Act, in sub-section (1), the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:—

"Provided that the interest on tax payable in respect of supplies made during a tax period and declared in the return for the said period furnished after the due date in accordance with the provisions of Section 39, except where such return is furnished after commencement of any proceedings under Section 73 or Section 74 in respect of the said period, shall be levied on that portion of the tax that is paid by debiting the electronic cash ledger."

**Amendment of
Section 52**

11. In Section 52 of the Meghalaya Goods and Services Tax Act,-

(a) in sub-section (4), the following provisos shall be inserted, namely:-

"Provided that the Commissioner may, for reasons to be recorded in writing, by notification, extend the time limit for furnishing the statement for such class of registered persons as may be specified therein:

Provided further that any extension of time limit notified by the Commissioner of Central Tax shall be deemed to be notified by the Commissioner."

(c) in sub-section (5), the following provisos shall be inserted, namely:-

"Provided that the Commissioner may, on the recommendations of the Council and for reasons to be recorded in writing, by notification, extend the time limit for furnishing the annual statement for such class of registered persons as may be specified therein:

Provided further that any extension of time limit notified by the Commissioner of State tax or the Commissioner of Union Territory Tax shall be deemed to be notified by the Commissioner."

**Insertion of new
Section 53A
Transfer of certain
Amount**

12. After Section 53 of the Meghalaya Goods and Services Tax Act, the following new Section shall be inserted, namely:-
"5 3 A. Where any amount has been transferred from the electronic cash ledger under this Act to the electronic cash ledger under the Central Goods and Services Tax Act or under the Integrated Goods and Services Tax Act and the Goods and Services Tax (Compensation to States) Act, the Central Government shall, transfer to the Central Tax account or the Integrated Tax account or Cess account, an amount equal to the amount transferred from the electronic cash ledger, in such manner and within such time as may be prescribed."

**Amendment of
Section 54**

13. In Section 54 of the Meghalaya Goods and Services Tax Act, after **sub-section (8)**, the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:-
"(8A) The Government may disburse the refund of the State Tax in such manner as may be prescribed".

**Amendment of
Section 95**

14. In Section 95 of the Meghalaya Goods and Services Tax Act,-
(i) in clause (a).-
(a) after the words "Appellate Authority", the words "or the National Appellate Authority" shall be inserted;
(b) after the words and figures "of Section 100", the words, figures and letter "or of Section 101C of the Central Goods and Services Tax Act" shall be inserted;
(ii) after clause (e), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:--
"(f) " National Appellate Authority" means the National Appellate Authority for Advance Ruling referred to in Section 101A."

**Insertion of new
Section 101A,
"Constitution of
National Appellate
Authority for
Advance Ruling**

15. After Section 101 of the Meghalaya Goods and Services Tax Act, the following new Section shall be inserted, namely:-
101A. (1) The Government shall, on the recommendations of the Council, by notification, constitute, with effect from such date as may be specified therein, an Authority known as the National Appellate Authority for Advance Ruling for hearing appeals made under Section 101B.
(2) The Constitution of the National Appellate Authority and the qualification, appointment, salary and allowances, terms of office, resignation, removal with respect to the President and Members of the National Appellate

- Authority shall be governed as per sub section (2), sub section (3), sub section (4), sub section (5), sub section (6), sub section (7), sub section (8), sub section (9), sub section (10), sub section (11), sub section (12), sub section (13) and sub section (14) of Section 101A of the Central Goods and Services Tax Act".
- Amendment of Section 102**
16. In Section 102 of the Meghalaya Goods and Services Tax Act, in the opening portion,-
- (a) after the words "Appellate Authority", at both the places where they occur, the words "or the National Appellate Authority" shall be inserted;
- (b) after the words and figures "or Section 101", the words, figures and letter "or Section 101C, respectively," shall be inserted;
- (c) for the words "or the appellant", the words "appellant, the Authority or the Appellate Authority" shall be substituted.
- Amendment of Section 103**
17. In Section 103 of the Meghalaya Goods and Services Tax Act,-
- (i) after sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:-
- "(1A) The advance ruling pronounced by the National Appellate Authority under this Chapter shall be binding on-
- (a) the applicants, being distinct persons, who had sought the ruling under sub-section (1) of Section 101B of the Central Goods and Services Tax Act and all registered persons having the same Permanent Account Number issued under the Income-tax Act, 1961;
- (b) the concerned officers and the jurisdictional officers in respect of the applicants referred to in clause (a) and the registered persons having the same Permanent Account Number issued under the Income-tax Act, 1961.";
- (ii) in sub-section (2), after the words, brackets and figure "in sub-section (1)", the words, brackets, figure and letter "and sub-section (1A)" shall be inserted.
- Amendment of Section 104**
18. In Section 104 of the Meghalaya Goods and Services Tax Act, in sub-section (1),-
- (a) after the words "Authority or the Appellate Authority", the words "or the National Appellate Authority" shall be inserted;
- (b) after the words and figures "of Section 101", the words, figures and letter "or under Section 101C of the Central Goods and Services Tax Act" shall be inserted.
- Amendment of Section 105**
19. In Section 105 of the Meghalaya Goods and Services Tax Act,-
- (a) for the marginal heading, the following marginal heading shall be substituted, namely:- "Powers of Authority, Appellate Authority and National Appellate Authority";
- (b) in sub-section (1), after the words "Appellate Authority", the words "or the National Appellate Authority" shall be inserted;

- (c) in sub-section (2), after the words "Appellate Authority", at both the places where they occur, the words "or the National Appellate Authority" shall be inserted.
- Amendment of Section 106**
20. In Section 106 of the Meghalaya Goods and Services Tax Act,-
- (a) for the marginal heading, the following marginal heading shall be substituted, namely:- "Procedure of Authority, Appellate Authority and National Appellate Authority";
- (b) after the words "Appellate Authority", the words "or the National Appellate Authority" shall be inserted.
- Amendment of Section 171**
21. In Section 171 of the Meghalaya Goods and Services Tax Act, after sub-section (3), the following amendment shall be inserted, namely:—
- "(3A) Where the Authority referred to in sub-section (2) after holding examination as required under the said sub-section comes to the conclusion that any registered person has profiteered under sub-section (1), such person shall be liable to pay penalty equivalent to ten per cent. of the amount so profiteered:
- Provided that no penalty shall be leviable if the profiteered amount is deposited within thirty days of the date of passing of the order by the Authority.
- Explanation.- For the purposes of this Section, the expression "profiteered" shall mean the amount determined on account of not passing the benefit of reduction in rate of tax on supply of goods or services or both or the benefit of input tax credit to the recipient by way of commensurate reduction in the price of the goods or services or both."
- Repeal and Savings**
22. (1) The Meghalaya Goods and Services Tax (Amendment Ordinance) (Meghalaya Ordinance No. 8 of 2019) is hereby repealed.
- (2) Notwithstanding such repeal, anything done or any action taken under the Principal Act, as amended by the said Ordinance shall be deemed to have been done or action taken under the Principal Act as amended by this Act.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Meghalaya Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017 (Act No. 10 of 2017) requires to be amended again in order to put into effect the changes recommended by the GST Council. Some of the major recommendations amongst others are:-

- (i) Creation of the National Appellate Authority for Advance Ruling.
- (ii) To provide for an alternative composition Scheme for supplier of services or mixed suppliers who are presently not eligible.
- (iii) To provide for the Government to increase the threshold limit for registration under the Act for supplier of goods from the existing exceeding ₹ 20 lakhs p.a. to exceeding ₹ 40 lakhs p.a.
- (iv) To provide for mandatory Aadhaar submission or alternative authentication procedure in its absence.
- (v) To provide for furnishing of annual return for tax payers opting for composition scheme with quarterly payment of tax and for certain other tax payers to opt for quarterly submission of return and monthly payment of tax.
- (vi) To provide for transfer of amount available in the electronic cash ledger, from one head to another.
- (vii) To provide for charging of interest only on the net cash liability.
- (viii) To provide for levy of penalty equivalent to 10% of the profiteered amount.

Hence this Bill.

JAMES K. SANGMA,
Minister-in-charge.

ANDREW SIMONS,
Commissioner & Secretary,
Meghalaya Legislative Assembly.

FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

The provisions of this Bill when enacted and enforced will be administered by the staff of the Taxation Department and no additional expenditure will be necessary for the purpose.