GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF TAXES, ASSAM :: KAR BHAWAN
DISPUR, GUWAHATI-6
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CIRCULAR NO. 49/2019-GST

Dated Dispur the 28th March, 2019.

Subject Verification of applications for grant of new registration – reg.

No. CT/GST-15/2017/340. – Recently, a large number of registrations have been cancelled by the proper officer under the provisions of sub-section (2) of section 29 of the Assam Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017 (hereinafter referred to as ‘Assam GST Act’) read with rule 21 of the Assam Goods and Services Tax Rules, 2017 (hereinafter referred to as ‘Assam GST Rules’) on account of non-compliance of the said statutory provisions. In this regard, instances have come to notice that such persons, who continue to carry on business and therefore are required to have registration under GST, are not applying for revocation of cancellation of registration as specified in section 30 of the Assam GST Act read with rule 23 of the Assam GST Rules. Instead such persons are applying for fresh registration. Such new applications might have been made as such person may not have furnished requisite returns and not paid tax for the tax periods covered under the old/cancelled registration. Further, such persons would be required to pay all liabilities due from them for the relevant period in case they apply for revocation of cancellation of registration. Hence, to avoid payment of the tax liabilities, such persons may be using the route of applying for fresh registration. It is pertinent to mention that as per the provisions contained in proviso to sub-section (2) of section 25 of the Assam GST Act, a person may take separate registration on same PAN in the same State.

2. In order to ensure uniformity in the implementation of the provisions of law across the field formations, the Commissioner of State tax, in exercise of its powers conferred by section 168 of the Assam GST Act, hereby issues the following instructions.

3. Sub-section (10) of section 25 of the Assam GST Act read with rule 9 of the Assam GST Rules provide for rejection of application for registration if the information or documents submitted by the applicant are found to be deficient. It is possible that the applicant may suppress some material information in relation to earlier registration. Some of the information that may be concealed in the application for registration in FORM GST REG-01 are Sl. No. 7 ‘Date of Commencement of Business’, Sl. No. 8 ‘Date on which liability to register arises’, Sl. No. 14 ‘Reason to obtain registration’ etc. Such persons may also not furnish the details of earlier registrations, if any, obtained under GST on the same PAN.

4. It is hereby instructed that the proper officer may exercise due caution while processing the application for registration submitted by the taxpayers, where the tax payer is
seeking another registration within the State although he has an existing registration within the said State or his earlier registration has been cancelled. It is clarified that not applying for revocation of cancellation of registration along with the continuance of the conditions specified in clauses (b) and (c) of sub-section (2) of section 29 of the Assam GST Act shall be deemed to be a “deficiency” within the meaning of sub-rule (2) of rule 9 of the Assam GST Rules. The proper officer may compare the information pertaining to earlier registrations with the information contained in the present application, the grounds on which the earlier registration(s) were cancelled and the current status of the statutory violations for which the earlier registration(s) were cancelled. The data may be verified on common portal by fetching the details of registration taken on the PAN mentioned in the new application vis-a-vis cancellation of registration obtained on same PAN. The information regarding the status of other registrations granted on the same PAN is displayed on the common portal to both the applicant and the proper officer. Further, if required, information submitted by applicant in Sl. No. 21 of FORM GST REG-01 regarding details of proprietor, all partner/Karta/Managing Directors and whole time Director/Members of Managing Committee of Associations/Board of Trustees etc. may be analysed vis-à-vis any cancelled registration having same details.

5. While considering the application for registration, the proper officer shall ascertain if the earlier registration was cancelled on account of violation of the provisions of clauses (b) and (c) of sub-section (2) of section 29 of the Assam GST Act and whether the applicant has applied for revocation of cancellation of registration. If proper officer finds that application for revocation of cancellation of registration has not been filed and the conditions specified in clauses (b) and (c) of sub-section (2) of section 29 of the Assam GST Act are still continuing, then, the same may be considered as a ground for rejection of application for registration in terms of sub-rule (2) read with sub-rule (4) of rule 9 of Assam GST Rules. Therefore, it is advised that where the applicant fails to furnish sufficient convincing justification or the proper officer is not satisfied with the clarification, information or documents furnished, then, his application for fresh registration may be considered for rejection.

6. This Circular is clarificatory in nature and not meant for any interpretation of provisions of the Act and rules.

7. Difficulties, if any, in implementation of the above instructions may be brought to the notice of the Commissioner at an early date.

Sd/- Anurag Goel, IAS.,
Commissioner of State tax, Assam,
Dispur, Guwahati

Copy to:

1. The Additional Chief Secretary to the Government of Assam, Finance Department, Dispur, Guwahati-6 for favour of kind information.

2. The Commissioner & Secretary to the Government of Assam, Finance (Taxation) Department, Dispur, Guwahati-6 for favour of kind information.

3. The Commissioner of Central GST, Guwahati / Dibrugarh for information.

4. The Additional Commissioner of State tax (All) / Joint Commissioner of State tax (All) for information.

5. The Deputy Commissioner of State tax (All) / Assistant Commissioner of State tax (All) / Superintendent of State tax (All) / Inspector of State tax (All) for information and necessary action.

6. The Information Technology Officer, Office of the Commissioner of State tax, Assam for uploading it on the website of the Commissionerate for information of all concerned.

Commissioner of State tax, Assam,
Dispur, Guwahati