



- BACBI -

केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क एवम सेवा कर आयुक्तालय , भावनगर  
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF CENTRAL EXCISE & SERVICE TAX  
प्लॉट नं. 6776-बी/1, 'सिद्धि सदन' बिल्डिंग,  
PLOT NO. 6776/B-1, "SIDDDHI SADAN" BUILDING,  
नारायण उपाध्याय मार्ग, भावनगर-364001  
NARAYAN UPADHYAY MARG, BHAVNAGAR-364 001.  
दूरभाष : (0278) 2523627 फैक्स : 0278-2513086

रजिस्टर्ड डाक पावती द्वारा

By R.P.A.D.

फाईल सं. V/15-18/Dem/HQ/2011-12

F. No.

आदेश की तारीख : 01/02/2012

Date of Order

जारी करने की तारीख : 01/02/2012

Date of Issue

पारितकर्ता

Passed by

श्री एन के भुजबल

SHRI N. K. BHUJABAL

आयुक्त , केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क एवम सेवा कर, भावनगर

Commissioner , Central Excise and Service Tax, Bhavnagar

मूल आदेश संख्या Order-in-Original No : 3/BVR/Commissioner/2012

1. आदेश की यह प्रति जिसको जारी किया गया है उनके व्यक्तिगत उपयोग के लिए निःशुल्क भेजी जा रही है ।

1. This copy of order is granted free of charges for private use of the person(s) to whom it is issued and sent.

2. यदि कोई व्यक्ति इस आदेश से स्वयं को असंतुष्ट अनुभव करता है , तो इस आदेश के विरुद्ध सीमा शुल्क , केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क एवं सेवा कर अपीलीय प्राधिकरण , ओ-20 , मेघाणी नगर , नया मानसिक अस्पताल संकुल , अहमदाबाद को केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क अधिनियम की धारा 35-बी की उपधारा 1(a) की शर्तों के आधार पर अपील कर सकता है । धारा 35-बी (1) (परंतुक) (a) से (d) के अंतर्गत मामले जैसे कि हानि , छूट , बॉण्ड के अंतर्गत निर्यात , शुल्क क्रेडिट के मामले , आवेदन के पुनरीक्षण के मामलों में आवेदन भारत सरकार के संयुक्त सचिव , राजस्व विभाग , वित्त मंत्रालय , नई दिल्ली को बंधनकर्ता रहेगा ।

2. Any person(s) deeming himself aggrieved by this Order may appeal against this order to The Customs, Excise and Service Tax Appellate Tribunal, West Zonal Bench, Ahmedabad, O-20, Meghani Nagar, New Mental Hospital Compound, Ahmedabad, in terms of the provision of Section 35B(1)(a) of the Central Excise Act, 1944. If the case covered under the category specified in Section 35B(1) (Proviso) (a) to (d), i.e. Loss, Rebate, Export under Bond, duty credit cases, the Revision application shall lie to the Joint Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, New Delhi.

3. अपील फॉर्म E.A.-3 में केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क (अपील) नियम , 2001 के नियम 3 के उपनियम 2 में विनिर्दिष्ट व्यक्ति द्वारा की जानी चाहिए ।

3. The Appeal should be filed in form EA.-3. It shall be signed by the person as specified in Rule 3(2) of the Central Excise (Appeals) Rules, 2001.

4. केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क अधिनियम , 1944 की धारा 35-B के अंतर्गत अपील इस आदेश की प्राप्ति के तीन माह के अंदर दर्ज करवानी होगी ।

4. The appeal should be filed within three months from the date of communication of this order. (Section 35B of the Central Excise Act, 1944).

5. यह अपील चार प्रतियों में दाखिल की जाए और जिसके विरुद्ध अपील की गई है , उस आदेश की समान संख्या में प्रतियां संलग्न की जाएंगी (इन में से कम से कम एक प्रति अधिप्रमाणित होनी चाहिए) । उक्त अपील के समर्थक सभी दस्तावेज चार प्रतियों में भेजे जाएंगे और उक्त अपील व्यक्तिगत रूप से रजिस्ट्रार के समक्ष प्रस्तुत की जाए या पंजीयक के नाम से रजिस्ट्री डाक द्वारा भेजी जाए । परन्तु उक्त रजिस्ट्रार के कार्यालय में प्राप्ति की तारीख नियत अवधि में होगी ।



5. It shall be filed in quadruplicate and shall be accompanied by an equal number of copies of the order appealed against (One of which at least shall be certified copy). All supporting documents of the appeal should be forwarded in quadruplicate. The appeal shall be presented in person to the Register or sent by Registered Post addressed to the Registrar. But the date of receipt in office of the said Registrar in time or otherwise will be the relevant date for the purposes of limitation of time.

6. फीस का भुगतान न्यायाधिकरण की पीठ के सहायक रजिस्ट्रार के पक्ष में रेखांकित बैंक ड्राफ्ट द्वारा अधिनियम के प्रावधानों के अंतर्गत करना अपेक्षित है। यह ड्राफ्ट जहाँ पीठ स्थित है, किसी राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंक की किसी शाखा के नाम पर जारी किया जाए और उस उक्त अपील प्रपत्र के साथ डिमाण्ड ड्राफ्ट संलग्न किया जाना चाहिए।

6. The Fee is required to be paid as under through a cross Bank Draft in favour of the Assistant Registrar of Bench of the Tribunal on a branch of any Nationalized Bank located at the place where the Bench is situated and it shall be attached to the form of appeal.

- (क) जहाँ पर मांगा गया शुल्क ब्याज और दण्ड रूपए 50,00,000/- (रूपए पचास लाख) से ज्यादा हो, रु. 10,000/- (रूपए दस हजार)
- (a) Where the amount of duty and interest demanded and penalty is levied is more than ₹ 50,00,000/- (Rupees Fifty Lakhs), ₹ 10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand);
- (ख) जहाँ पर मांगा गया शुल्क ब्याज और दण्ड रूपए 5,00,000/- (रूपए पांच लाख) से अधिक हो लेकिन, रूपए 50,00,000/- (रूपए पचास लाख) से कम हो 5,000/- (रूपए पांच हजार)
- (b) Where the amount of duty and interest demanded and penalty levied is more than ₹ 5,00,000/- (Rupees Five Lakhs) but not exceeding ₹ 50,00,000/- (Rupees Fifty Lakhs), ₹ 5,000/- (Rupees Five Thousand);
- (ग) जहाँ पर मांगा गया शुल्क ब्याज और दण्ड रूपए 5,00,000/- (रूपए पांच लाख) अथवा कम हो, रूपए 1,000/- (रूपए एक हजार)
- (c) Where the amount of duty and interest demanded and penalty levied is ₹ 5,00,000/- (Rupees Five Lakhs) or less, ₹ 1,000/- (Rupees One Thousand);

7. इस आदेश की प्रतिलिपि पर न्यायालय शुल्क मुद्रांक अधिनियम, 1970 की अनुसूची 1 मद 6 के अंतर्गत निर्धारित 50 पैसे का न्यायालय शुल्क मुद्रांक (कोर्ट फी स्टाम्प) लगाया जाना चाहिए।

7. The Copy of this order attached therein should bear a Court fee stamp of 50 paise as prescribed under schedule 1 of Article 6 of the Court fee stamp Act, 1970.

8. उक्त अपील फॉर्म के साथ शुल्क / दण्ड की अदायगी का प्रमाण संलग्न किया जाना चाहिए।

8. Proof of payment of duty, penalty etc. should also be attached in original to the form of appeal.

9. अपील पर रु. 5 (रूपए पांच) का न्यायालय शुल्क मुद्रांक (कोर्ट फी स्टाम्प) लगाया जाना चाहिए।

9. Appeal should bear a Court Fee Stamp ₹ 5/-.

10. पूर्ण जानकारी हेतु केंद्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क (अपील) नियम, 2001 एवम CEGAT (कार्यविधि) नियम 1982 देखें।

10. Please refer to the Central Excise (Appeals) Rules, 2001 and the CEGAT, Procedure Rules, 1982 for complete details.

To,

**M/s. Ultratech Cement Ltd.**  
**(Gujarat Cement Works)**  
**Post Kovaya,**  
**Distt. Amreli – 365 541**

विषय : कारण बताओ नोटिस संख्या :

Subject: Show Cause Notice F. No. V/15-18/Dem/HQ/2011-12 dated 01.11.2011 issued to M/s. Ultratech Cement Ltd. (Gujarat Cement Works), Post Kovaya, Distt. Amreli – 365 541.



**BRIEF FACTS OF THE CASE :-**

M/s. Ultratech Cement Ltd., Gujarat Cement Works, Post. Kovaya, Dist Amreli-365541 (herein after referred to as "GCW" for the sake of brevity) are engaged in the manufacture of Ordinary Portland Cement (OPC) and Pozzeleno Portland Cement (PPC) falling under Chapter heading 2523 of the First Schedule to the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985. They are holding Central Excise registration No. AAACL6442LXM007 and are paying Central Excise duty on the Cement cleared by them.

2. Show Cause Notice F. No. V/15-18/Dem/HQ/2011-12 dated 01.11.2011 has been issued to M/s. GCW, proposing (i) assessment of clearance of their final product to their own Ready Mix Concrete units (herein after referred to as "RMC") and other units and final products consumed captively, in terms of Rule 4 of the Central Excise Valuation (Determination of price of Excisable goods) Rules, 2000 (herein after referred to as "Valuation Rules, 2000") instead of Rule 8 read with Rule 9 of Valuation Rules, 2000; (ii) demand and recovery of differential Central Excise duty of ₹ 1,33,67,203/- for the period October - 2010 to February - 2011 under Section 11A(1) of the Central Excise Act, 1944 (herein after referred to as "CEA, 1944"); (iii) recovery of interest at appropriate rate under Section 11AB of CEA, 1944; and (iv) penalty under Rule 25 of the Central Excise Rules, 2002 (herein after referred to as "CER, 2002") read with section 11AC of CEA, 1944.

3. The facts leading to the issuance of SCN are that an intelligence was received in the Directorate General of Central Excise Intelligence (DGCEI), Regional Unit (RU), Vadodara to the effect that M/s. GCW was evading payment of Central Excise duty by way of under valuation of Cement cleared to their own units viz. M/s. Ultratech Cement Limited, Ready Mix Concrete Units situated at various locations in the country and on the Cement consumed by them captively or for their own use. Accordingly, a team of officers of DGCEI, RU, Vadodara visited the factory of M/s. GCW. During the visit, it was revealed that the unit was clearing Cement in loose and packed condition to their various customers, to their own RMC and was using it captively. It was also revealed that M/s. GCW was clearing cement in loose condition to its own units viz. Navi Mumbai Cement Unit (herein after referred to as 'NMCU' for the sake of brevity), situated at Plot No. 53 & 54, Dronagiri Industrial Area, Sector-1, Navi Mumbai and Mangalore Cement unit (herein after referred to as 'MCU' for the sake of brevity) situated at Beach Road, Panambur, Mangalore. The clearance of Cement to these two units was done by sea route in Coastal vessels in loose condition.

4. For the clearances to RMC, NMCU, MCU and for captive consumption, M/s. GCW was adopting assessable value of 110% of Cost of production as per Rule 8 of the Valuation Rules, 2000. For clearances to their independent customers from the factory, there are two types of clearances viz. loose and packed. Cement in loose condition is mainly cleared to bulk buyers, who are the end users and in such case, the unit is paying Central Excise duty ad valorem on normal Transaction value (as per Section 4 of CEA, 1944) or Specific rate (whichever is higher). As per Notification No. 4/2006-CE dated 01.03.2006, as amended vide Notification No. 10/2010-CE dated 27.02.2010, duty on clearance of loose Cement is required to be paid @ ₹ 290/- Per MT or 10%, whichever is higher. Rate of duty for packed Cement of RSP not exceeding ₹ 190/- per 50 kgs. bag or of per ton equivalent RSP not exceeding ₹ 3800/- required to be paid @ ₹ 290/- per ton and rate of duty for packed Cement of RSP exceeding ₹ 190 per 50 Kgs. bag or of per ton equivalent RSP exceeding ₹ 3800/- is required to be paid @ 10% of RSP.



5.1 A Statement dated 09.06.2009 of Shri Ashish Mehta, working as Dy. General Manager (Finance & Accounts) in M/s. UCL, Kovaya, Dist. Amreli was recorded under Section 14 of the CEA, 1944, which is reproduced herein under:

*We are clearing our final product in pack of 50 kgs and also clearing loose. Loose Cement is cleared through oceanic route i.e. in the vessels to our own units at Navi Mumbai (known as Navi Mumbai Cement Unit) and Mangalore (known as Mangalore Cement Unit). On being asked as to how the Assessable value is arrived for such clearances as there is no sale, I state that the assessable value is arrived on the basis of Cost of Production + 10% of Cost of production in terms of Valuation of Excisable Goods Rules.*

*Further, I have been shown the invoices issued for the clearance of Ordinary Portland Cement (loose) to our own units viz. Navi Mumbai (known as Navi Mumbai Cement Unit) and Mangalore (known as Mangalore Cement Unit) for the financial year 2007-08. My attention is drawn to the fact that the clearance value of cement till 25.02.2008 is Rs. 3,588/- per metric ton. Whereas, from 01.03.2008, the price is drastically reduced to Rs. 2,800/- per metric ton.*

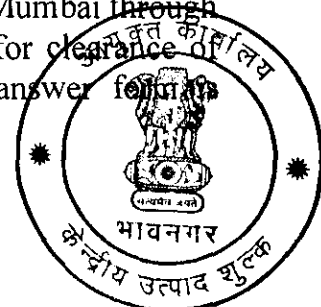
*On being asked to explain such reduction in clearance value, I state that at present I am not able to explain why there is such drastic reduction in the clearance value of Cement to our aforesaid units.*

*On being asked as to who is preparing the Cost sheet data for the Cement manufactured by our company, I state that I am supervising the preparation of Cost Sheet. On being asked I herewith produce the Cost sheet data of both OPC and PPC (both packed and loose) as per CAS-4 norms.*

*We are also clearing Cement in loose and packed condition to our own Ready Mix Concrete plants situated at Ahmedabad, Vadodara and Surat. On being asked as to how the Assessable value is arrived for such clearances as there is no sale, I state that in this case also the assessable value is arrived on the basis of Cost of Production + 10% of Cost of production in terms of Valuation of Excisable Goods Rules.*

*On being asked to state as to how the Assessable value for the clearance of goods from Terminals units i.e. our own units viz. Navi Mumbai and Mangalore is arrived at especially for the clearance to our own Ready Mix Concrete units, I state that I have no idea regarding this. The Assessable value is being decided at their end.*

5.2 As discussed earlier, the Cement in loose condition was cleared by M/s. GCW to their coastal units viz. NMCU and MCU and these two units were further clearing Cement to their own RMC. To ascertain the method of adoption of assessable value at these two coastal units, the officials of the said units were summoned. Accordingly, statement dated 11.06.2009 of Shri Subhash Mohnot, working as Dy. General Manager in NMCU was recorded under Section 14 of the CEA, 1944 wherein he inter-alia stated that their unit was registered with Central Excise as a manufacturer; that they were undertaking packing of Cement from loose to retail packs; that they were receiving Ordinary Portland Cement (mostly of 53 grade) from their manufacturing plant i.e. Gujarat Cement Works situated at Kovaya, Dist. Amreli; that the Cement was received through sea route, which was unloaded at JNPT port and carried to their plant (NMCU) at Navi Mumbai through Bowser; that they were taking credit of duty paid by the GCW for clearance of loose cement to their unit. His further statement in question answer reproduced herein under:



Q.1 How and in which form you are clearing your final product?  
 Ans: We are clearing Cement in following ways:

**Loose:**

Loose cement received as such is cleared as per the requirement of customers. No packing whatsoever is done for loose cement and it is cleared in Bowser as such without any process or packing involved. In such cases, we are paying Central Excise duty on the Transaction value of the goods. Though we are not manufacturer of such goods for bulk dispatches, we are paying Central Excise duty on the Transaction value as we are charging duty to our customers on Transaction value. On being asked I state that clearance to our own Ready Mix Concrete units (RMC) is also done in loose form. In that case, the amount of Credit of duty taken would be reversed.

**Packed**

Loose cement received by us is packed at our unit in 50 kgs. bag. Same is cleared on payment of Central Excise duty. In that case, the duty paid on the Transaction value at our end. In that case also there two methods of payment of duty. In case where the cement is to be sold in the retail market, the duty is paid on the MRP. When the Cement is sold to the institutional buyer or end user, than the duty is paid on the Transaction value.

Q.2 How is the price for Loose as well as packed cement is been decided?

Ans: The price of Cement (loose or packed) for the clearance to independent buyers is decided by our Marketing office. The marketing office of the Mumbai territory is headed by R. Suresh, Asstt. Vice President. Accordingly, the clearance from our unit is done. In case of clearance to our own RMC unit, the price is decided by us. As Cement in case of own RMC is cleared loose as such, the price at which we receive Cement from manufacturing plant i.e. Gujarat Cement Works, Kovaya, we clear to RMC at the same rate because there is no sale in case of clearance to our own RMC. However, in case of Cement cleared in loose condition to independent buyers, the price is fixed by the marketing office according to the prevailing market condition.

Q.3 From the invoices produced by you, your attention is drawn the invoices for clearances of loose cement. In case of independent buyers, the basic price of the cement is 3859.73 to 4221.07 per M. Ton. Whereas, the price of loose cement in case of clearance to your own unit (RMC), the basic price of Cement is shown as 2861.80. Can you explain such a significant difference in pricing?

Ans: As stated earlier in my statement, in case of clearance to independent buyers, the price is being fixed by the Marketing office. Whereas, in case of clearance to our own RMC units, we are showing assessable value at 110% of Cost of production, since there is no sale to our own RMC. Hence, there is such a difference.



5.3 Shri Sanjaykumar V. Munoyat, working as Manager (Accounts) in M/s. Ultratech Cement Ltd., South Zone-A Marketing, Bangalore, representing MCU responded to the summons. Accordingly, his statement dated 11.06.2009 was recorded under Section 14 of the CEA, 1944 wherein he inter-alia stated that they were having Central Excise Registration; that theirs was a packing unit; that they were receiving Cement (both 43 and 53 grade) from their manufacturing plant i.e. Gujarat Cement Works, situated at Kovaya, Dist. Amreli; that the cement was received through sea route, which was unloaded at Mangalore port and carried to their plant; that they were taking credit of duty paid on Cement received by them. His further statement in question and answer form is reproduced herein under:

*Q.1 How and in which form you are clearing your final product?*

*Ans: Loose cement received by us is packed at our unit in 50 kgs. bag. Same is cleared on payment of Central Excise duty. The duty is paid on the Transaction value at our end. In that case also there two methods of payment of duty. In case where the cement is to be sold in the retail market, the duty is paid on the MRP. When the Cement is sold to the institutional buyer or end user, than the duty is paid on the Transaction value.*

*Q.2 How the assessable value for payment of Central Excise duty is arrived at in case of clearance of Cement to your own Ready Mix Cement (RMC) units?*

*Ans: In case of clearance to our own Ready Mix Cement units, we are arriving at assessable value by adding 10% to the Cost of production as there is no sale in case of clearance to our own RMC. The cost of production is calculated at our MCU.*

*Q.3 Please produce Cost sheet for both OPC and PPC.*

*Ans: I will produce the same within 15 days.*

*Q.4 Are you clearing Cement in loose condition?*

*Ans: No we are not clearing Cement in loose condition. All our clearances are in packed condition i.e. in 50 kgs. pack.*

*Q.5 Who is deciding the price for clearance of Cement?*

*Ans: The price is decided by the Marketing persons. The Marketing head for the South Zone-A is Shri S. V. Patil, Sr. Vice President, Zonal head, Marketing and Shri Sudhakar, Assistant Vice President, Zonal Head, Key Accounts.*

5.4 A statement dated 14.06.2010 of Shri Shyam Phophalia, Sr. Manager (Accounts) of M/s. GCW was recorded under section 14 of the CEA, 1944 wherein he stated that :-

*"My name, age and address as stated above are true and correct. I am working with Ultratech Cement ltd. since 2008. I am basically looking after the sales accounting. Our unit is engaged in manufacture of Cement viz. Ordinary Portland Cement [43 and 53 grade] and Portland Pozzelano Cement. We are having manufacturing facility of Cement Clinker. We are having installed capacity of 5 Million Tons per annum. Our main inputs are Lime Stone, which we are getting from our own mines, Coal, which is being imported as well as procured indigenously.*



*We (GCW) are clearing our final product in pack of 50 kgs. and also clearing loose. Loose Cement is cleared through oceanic route i.e. in the vessels to our own units at Navi Mumbai (known as Navi Mumbai Cement Unit) and Mangalore (known as Mangalore Cement Unit). On being asked as to how the Assessable Value is arrived for such clearances as there is no sale, I state that the assessable value is arrived on the basis of Cost of Production + 10% of Cost of Production in terms of Valuation of Excisable Goods Rules. Similarly, we (GCW) are also clearing Cement in loose and packed condition to our own Ready Mix Concrete plants situated at Ahmedabad, Vadodara and Surat. On being asked as to how the Assessable Value is arrived for such clearances as there is no sale, I state that in this case also the assessable value is arrived on the basis of Cost of Production +10% of Cost of production in terms of Valuation of Excisable Goods Rules.*

*On being asked regarding pattern of further clearance by Navi Mumbai Cement Unit and Mangalore Cement Unit, I state that there is no change in the pattern during the period from 01.06.2009 to 31.05.2010 as disclosed / described by officials of our company during the course of investigation before DGCEI authorities.*

*On being asked, we are submitting herewith details of all clearance of cement including clearances to NMCU, MCU, RMC, Self-Consumption as well as further Clearance effected by NMCU during the period from 01.06.2009 to 31.05.2010 in soft copy as per our letter dated 14.06.2010."*

6. From the paras discussed above, it revealed that GCW were clearing Cement in loose condition to (i) their own RMC, (ii) their own coastal units viz. NMCU, MCU and (iii) captive consumption in their own factory, on payment of Central Excise duty. It also revealed that since the clearance of Cement to their own RMC and their own coastal units viz. NMCU and MCU was not sale, they were arriving at the assessable value in terms of Section 4(1)(b) of the CEA, 1944 whereby the valuation of Excisable goods was governed by Valuation Rules, 2000. GCW were arriving at the assessable value in terms of Rule 8 of the Valuation Rules, 2000. Hence, they were paying Central Excise duty on the assessable value arrived at 110% of the Cost of Production of the final product. Further, from the information provided by the GCW, it appeared that GCW had paid duty @ ₹ 290/- per MT during the period from October-2010 to February-2011, for the clearance of Cement.

7. It also revealed that at NMCU, the Cement was received in loose condition from GCW through sea route. NMCU was taking Cenvat credit of duty paid on such Cement by GCW. As discussed earlier, the duty has been paid by GCW for the clearance to NMCU taking assessable value at 110% of cost of production. NMCU was clearing the Cement in loose condition to their own RMC. In such case, the Cenvat credit taken by them was reversed. Effectively, the duty on such clearance has been paid calculating assessable value at 110% of the cost of production.

8. Further, the Central Excise duty on Cement falling under Chapter Sub heading 2523 29 10 was chargeable in following manner in terms of Notification No. 4/2006-CE dated 01.03.2006, as amended, from time to time.



Period	Description of goods	Rate of duty	Date from which effective	Notification No. by which principal Notification No. 4/2006 was amended.
2007-08	When the Retail sale price is less than ₹ 190/- per package	350/MT	01.03.2007	4/2007-CE dated 01.03.2007
2007-08	other than those cleared in a packaged form	400/MT	01.03.2007	
2007-08	Other than above	600/MT		Tariff rate
2008-09	when MRP is less than 190 (in packaged form)	350/MT	10.05.2008	Notification No. 27/2008-CE dated 10.05.2008
2008-09	for Retail sale price exceeding ₹ 190 per bag,	12% of the Retail sale price	10.05.2008	
2008-09	other than above - other than those cleared in a packaged form	14% or 400/MT, whichever is higher	01.03.2008	Notification No. 04/2008-CE dated 01.03.2008
2008-09	when MRP is less than 190 (in packaged form)	230/MT	07.12.2008	Notification No. 58/2008-CE dated 07.12.2008
2008-09	for Retail sale price exceeding ₹ 190 per bag,	8% of the Retail sale price	07.12.2008	
2008-09	other than above - other than those cleared in a packaged form (loose form)	10% or 290/MT, whichever is higher	07.12.2008	
2009-10	Loose Cement	8% or 230/MT, whichever is higher	24.02.2009	Notification No. 4/2009-CE dated 24.02.2009
2010-11	Cement cleared in packaged form i. of RSP not exceeding ₹ 190 per 50 kg bag or of per tonne equivalent RSP not exceeding ₹ 3800 ii. of RSP exceeding ₹ 190 per 50 kg bag or of per tonne equivalent RSP exceeding ₹ 3800	290/- PMT  10% of RSP	27.02.2010	Notification No.10/2010-C.E. dated 27.02.2010





2010-11	Cement other than those cleared in packaged form (i.e. cleared in loose)	10% or ₹ 290 per tonne whichever is higher	27.02.2010	Notification No.10/2010-C.E. dated 27.02.2010
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9. From the above table, it is seen that Central Excise duty on Cement w.e.f from 01.03.2008 has been revised and was chargeable @ 14% ad-valorem or ₹ 400/MT whichever is higher in case of cement cleared in loose condition in terms of Notification No. 4/2006-CE dated 01.03.2006, as amended vide Notification No. 04/2008-CE dated 01.03.2008. The duty rate of packed cement was revised vide amending Notification No. 27/2008-C.E. dated 10.05.2008 and as per the revised rate, the rate of duty for packed cement of RSP not exceeding ₹ 190 per 50 kgs bag or of per tonne equivalent RSP not exceeding ₹ 3800/- was ₹ 350 per tonne and rate of duty for packed cement of RSP exceeding ₹ 190 per 50 kgs bag or of per tonne equivalent RSP exceeding ₹ 3800/- was 12% of RSP. Thereafter, the rate of duty was revised vide Notification No. 58/2008-C.E. dated 07.12.2008 and as per revised rate the duty was required to be paid @ 10% ad-valorem or ₹ 290/- PMT whichever is higher for the clearance of loose cement and the rate of duty for packed Cement of RSP not exceeding ₹ 190 per 50 kgs bag or of per tonne equivalent RSP not exceeding ₹ 3800/- was ₹ 230 per tonne and rate of duty for packed Cement of RSP exceeding ₹ 190 per 50 kgs bag or of per tonne equivalent RSP exceeding ₹ 3800/- was 8% of RSP. The duty rate for clearance of loose cement was again revised to 8% ad-valorem or ₹ 230/- PMT whichever is higher w.e.f. 24.02.2009 vide amending Notification No. 04/2009-C.E. dated 24.02.2009. The duty rate thereafter was revised on 27.02.2010 vide Notification No. 10/2010-C.E. dated 27.02.2010. As per Notification No. 04/2006-CE dated 01.03.2006, as amended vide Notification No. 10/2010-CE dated 27.02.2010, duty on clearance of loose Cement is required to be paid @ ₹ 290/- PMT or 10% whichever is higher. Rate of duty for packed cement of RSP not exceeding ₹ 190/- per 50 kgs bag or of per ton equivalent RSP not exceeding ₹ 3800/- is required to be paid @ ₹ 290 per ton and rate of duty for packed Cement of RSP exceeding ₹ 190 per 50 kgs bag or of per tonne equivalent RSP exceeding ₹ 3800/- is required to be paid @ 10% of RSP.

10. It has been seen from the data submitted by GCW that during the period from October – 2010 to February - 2011, the duty for the clearance to their own coastal units viz. NMCU, MCU and for internal consumption was paid @ ₹ 290/M.T. instead of paying duty @ 10% ad-valorem. Further, on going through the data submitted by GCW, it appeared that the unit had deliberately and intentionally paid the duty at specific rate instead of ad-valorem rate. If the duty is calculated at ad-valorem rate i.e. 10%, the GCW is required to pay more duty.

11. Further, it has been seen from the discussions above that in case of clearances of Cement to their own units viz. RMC, NMCU, MCU and for internal consumption, since it was not sale, the assessment by M/s. GCW was done as per provisions of Section 4(1)(b) of the CEA, 1944, which prescribes that the valuation of excisable goods would be done as per Central Excise Valuation Rules, 2000. It also appeared during the investigation that M/s. GCW had adopted assessable value in terms of Rule 8 of the said Rules and consequently had arrived at assessable value by addition of 10% to the Cost of Production of their final product. Since, the ad-valorem duty in terms of this method was less than specific duty, they had paid duty at specific rate i.e. on per ton basis.



12.1 The Central Excise duty on Cement cleared in loose condition till 01.03.2008 was at specific rate. From 01.03.2008, the rate of duty was revised to 14% ad-valorem or ₹ 400/- per MT, whichever is higher. On scrutiny of the data submitted by M/s. GCW, it is seen that for the clearance affected by them till 28.02.2008 to their own units viz. NMCU, MCU, RMC and for internal consumption (i.e. when the rate of duty was specific), they had shown value of Cement per ton as ₹ 3588/- per Metric ton. From 01.03.2008 onwards, the value of Cement in case of clearance to their own units, was drastically reduced to ₹ 2800/- per ton with a sole motive to pay less duty. On being confronted with these facts, Shri Ashish Mehta, Dy. General Manager (Finance & Accounts) of M/s. GCW could not explain such reduction of value in such a short span. Later on, he, vide his letter dated 27.07.2009 gave the explanation to reduction in price. The relevant contents of the letter are re-produced herein under:

*In this connection, we have to inform you that the excise duty in case of cement has been changed because of Exemption Notification No. 4/2006 dated 01/03/2006 from specific duty to specific cum ad valorem duty, whichever is higher for the clearance in bulk (loose) from Gujarat to our Bulk Terminal from 01/03/2008.*

*Please note that earlier excise was not payable based on the valuation.*

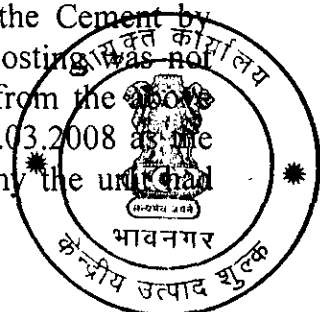
*The estimated valuation was for transferring the material from one plant to another plant for our internal control purpose. No excise or sales tax is applicable on the transfer of material from Gujarat to Bulk Terminal as no sale is involved.*

*The transferring value is reduced from Rs.3527/- PMT to Rs. 2800/- PMT for the reason of our internal purpose and it has nothing to do for levying excise duty there on as no sale is involved. When we are removing material from Gujarat for taking the same to the Bulk Terminal, the excise duty is payable at Rs.400 PMT upto 29/02/2008. Thereafter from 01/03/2008 the excise duty is payable at Rs.400/- or 14%, whichever is higher.*

*14% has been calculated at 110% of the cost (as prescribed under Rule 8 of the Valuation Rules) or at Rs.400 PMT, whichever is higher.*

*In our case duty of Rs.400 PMT is higher and as such duty obligation is discharged at that rate.*

12.2 It has been alleged in the SCN that all along in the letter, Shri Mehta had stated that the transfer price shown in their invoice for clearance to their own units viz. RMC, NMCU and MCU was their internal matter and levying of Excise duty had nothing to do with the same, whereas after the Excise duty was chargeable at ad-valorem, even in case of inter unit transfer, the value of the product was relevant. Hence, GCW cannot plead that the value of Cement in case of transfer to their own unit was not relevant. Shri Ashish Mehta was a Cost Accountant by qualification and was responsible for preparation of Cost of production sheet of their company. Hence, it appeared from the above discussion that M/s. GCW had intentionally reduced the value of Cement from ₹ 3588/- to ₹ 2800/- within a period of 5 days and had continued to clear the Cement by showing less price. More importantly, the person in-charge of Costing was not able to explain any reason for such reduction. It thus appeared from the above facts that M/s. GCW, had reduced the value of Cement w.e.f. 01.03.2008 as the duty on Cement became chargeable at ad-valorem rate. As to why the unit had



drastically reduced the price of the Cement from ₹ 3500/- per MT to ₹ 2800/- per MT that can be understood from the following duty calculation. Take for example, the rate of duty ₹ 290/- per MT or 10% whichever is higher.

(a) If value of cement is shown ₹ 3500/- per M.T., the unit is required to pay ₹ 350/- per M.T. as per the below calculation.

$$3500 \times 10/100 = ₹ 350/\text{per M.T.}$$

(b) If value of cement is shown ₹ 2800/-per M.T., the unit is required to pay ₹ 290/PMT as ₹ 280/PMT is less than ₹ 290/- as per the below calculation.

$$2800 \times 10/100 = ₹ 280/- \text{ per M.T.}$$

12.3 From the above facts, it can be seen that if value is shown as ₹ 2800/- per M.T., the unit is required to pay duty @ ₹ 290/- per M.T. as the amount is more than ₹ 280/- per M.T. (calculated @ 10%). If the value is shown as ₹ 3500/- per M.T., the unit is required to pay ₹ 350/- per M.T. as the amount is higher than ₹ 290/- per M.T. Thus, it appeared that the unit has drastically reduced the sale value of Cement with intend to pay less Central Excise duty. If the price is not reduced, the unit was required to pay more duty as calculated in Annexure-D/1 to Annexure-D/2 of the SCN.

12.4 From these facts, it appeared that M/s GCW had adopted some superfluous figures as a cost of production as the cost of loose cement and packed cement cannot be same.

13. It thus appeared from the discussions above that M/s. GCW had intentionally shown far lesser value for the clearance of cement from 01.03.2008 with a sole intent to evade payment of Central Excise duty. On being confronted during the recording of statement on 09.06.2009, Shri Ashish Mehta could not give any plausible explanation regarding such drastic reduction. Later, vide his letter dated 27.07.2009 he contended that the reduction of value from ₹ 3527/- PMT to ₹ 2800/- PMT was for internal purpose and had nothing to do with levying of Central excise duty as no sale was involved. Since, there was no plausible explanation for such a huge reduction in price within such a short span of time, it appeared that there was clear intent on part of M/s. GCW to evade payment of Central Excise duty.

14. Further, it had been seen that while clearing their final product to their own units viz. NMCU, MCU, RMC and for internal consumption, w.e.f. from 01.03.2008, M/s. GCW was resorting to assessment under Section 4(1)(b) of the Central Excise Act, 1944 as there was no sale involved. Consequently, they were adopting assessable value by adding 10% to the Cost of Production in terms of Rule 8 of the Valuation Rules, 2000 and thus they had purportedly arrived at value of ₹ 2,800/- per ton as discussed above. Since, the ad valorem duty would be less than specific duty; they were paying duty @ ₹ 290/- per M.T.

15.1 In the SCN, it has been alleged that resorting to Rule 8 of the Valuation Rules, 2000 by M/s. GCW is not correct for the reasons as explained hereunder:

15.2 M/s. GCW was clearing major part of their production to independent buyers and a small part of their production was cleared by them to their own RMC units. Rule 8 of the Valuation Rules, 2000 would be applicable in



case where a manufacturer was clearing its entire production to be consumed captively. Rule 8 is applicable in cases where there is no sale and where price of the product cleared to an independent buyer is not available. In the present case, M/s. GCW is also selling maximum quantity of Cement to independent buyers and thus price of Cement is available. So, it is legally not correct to arrive at the assessable value by adopting formula of 110% of production cost.

15.3 It has been proposed in the SCNs that for the purpose of assessment of Central Excise duty, in case of clearances of Cement by M/s. GCW to their own RMC units, Rule 4 of the Valuation Rules, 2000 is more appropriate. Since M/s. GCW are clearing their majority of production for sale to independent buyers, for paying Central Excise duty for the clearances to their own RMC (which is not sale), they could have adopted the price which they had charged for the sale to independent buyers.

16.1 It is alleged that in case of clearance to their own RMC units (which is not sale), M/s. GCW would be liable to pay Central Excise duty on the value of such goods sold by M/s. GCW for delivery at the nearest time of clearance to their independent buyers. It is seen from the data submitted by M/s. GCW that in a single day, they are making clearances to various customers. In such a case there would be multiple normal values in a single day. Hence, to arrive at reasonable price of sale by M/s. GCW to independent customers, M/s. GCW was required to take assessable value of Cement sold to independent customers at "Normal Transaction Value" as per Rule 2(b) of the Valuation Rules, 2000.

*"Normal Transaction Value" means the transaction value at which the greatest aggregate quantity of goods are sold.*

16.2 Hence, in terms of the above definition, "Normal Transaction Value" is arrived at by taking per ton value of Cement at which the greatest aggregate quantity of Cement is cleared on that particular day i.e. on the day on which the assessment of Cement cleared to own RMC unit and cleared for internal consumption is to be considered. For example, if there is a clearance by M/s. GCW to their own RMC unit on 01.04.2008, then all the clearances on 01.04.2008 are scrutinized and the value at which highest quantity of Cement is cleared on 01.04.2008, is taken as the Transaction value for that day i.e. 01.04.2008 and that would be the value at which the assessment of clearance of Cement by M/s. GCW to their own RMC would be done. To be more elaborate, say for example on 01.04.2008, there are following clearances of Cement by M/s. GCW to the independent buyers:

Basic Rate per ton at which Cement cleared	Quantity of clearance (in tons)
3500	30
3520	40
3500	20
3520	10
3500	10

16.3 In the above case, the quantity cleared at the rate of ₹ 3500/- per ton is higher than the quantity cleared at ₹ 3520/- per ton. Hence, for that particular day, the assessable value to be adopted would be ₹ 3500/- per ton. The differential duty for the clearance of Cement from M/s. GCW to their own RMC and for captive consumption has been calculated in the SCN in this manner.



17.1 As discussed earlier, NMCU was getting cement in loose condition from GCW on payment of Central Excise duty. Further, for such clearance, the value of goods was calculated at 110% of cost of production for purpose of calculating Central Excise duty and duty was discharged at specific rate as the same was higher. NMCU was taking credit of duty paid in the Cement received by them from GCW.

17.2 As per selling pattern, NMCU is clearing Cement in loose condition i.e. as such received from M/s. GCW. Hence, it means that NMCU is not carrying out any process on the loose Cement cleared by them. Effectively, for the clearance of loose Cement, they are acting as a depot for M/s. GCW. In case of clearance of loose Cement, NMCU is not manufacturer and hence, in such case the duty has to be discharged by the manufacturer i.e. GCW and not by NMCU. In case of sale of loose Cement by NMCU, they are paying Central Excise duty on the transaction value. It would effectively mean that they are discharging duty on behalf of M/s. GCW (as in this case GCW has to discharge the duty). However, in case of clearance of loose Cement to their own RMC unit, the NMCU was reversing the Cenvat Credit of the duty paid by M/s. GCW which effectively means that duty was paid on 110% of the cost of production of M/s. GCW. Hence, for the reasons enumerated in the above paras, there appeared to be undervaluation in case of clearance of loose Cement by NMCU. Since, liability to discharge the duty in case of clearance of loose Cement from NMCU to RMC is on GCW (as they are the manufacturer), and NMCU is only selling the Cement to RMC without any processing, and thereby NMCU is just acting as a depot. Further, the value for the purpose of Central Excise duty in case of clearance of Cement to RMC from NMCU is taken as the value of Cement cleared in loose condition by NMCU on the date of clearance of Cement to RMC. As in case of valuation of clearance of Cement from GCW to RMC, in case of NMCU also, the value is arrived at for the clearance value of greatest aggregate quantity of loose cement cleared on a particular date.

18. From the above discussions it appeared that M/s. GCW has contravened following provisions of CEA, 1944 and Rules and Notifications issued there under:

- (i) Section 4(1)(b) of the CEA, 1944 in as much as they failed to correctly arrive at assessable value for the clearance of their final product to their own RMC units and used for internal consumption;
- (ii) Rule 8 of the Valuation Rules, 2000 in as much as they wrongly assessed the application of the said rule for the clearance of their final product to their own RMC units and used for internal consumption;
- (iii) Rule 4 of the Valuation Rules, 2000 in as much as they failed to assess the application of the said rule for the clearance of their final product to their own RMC units and used for internal consumption;
- (iv) Notification No. 4/2006-CE dated 01.03.2006, as amended from time to time, in as much as they failed to apply the correct rate of duty in terms of said Notification for the clearance of their final product to their own RMC units and used for internal consumption; and



- (v) Rule 11 of the CER, 2002 in as much as they failed to show correct value and rate of duty for the clearance of their final product to their own RMC units and used for internal consumption.

19. All the above omission and commission on the part of M/s. GCW alleged to have been committed with a willful intent to mis-state the value of goods and in turn evade payment of Central Excise duty. They had intentionally and deliberately shown lesser value for the clearance of goods to their own RMC and used for internal consumption w.e.f. 01.03.2008 without any sufficient reason or explanation, with a sole motive to under value such clearance and thus evade payment of correct amount of Central Excise duty. It is also alleged that M/s. GCW knew or had reason to believe that their acts of omission and commission would result in short payment of Central Excise duty. Since, it appeared that there was a deliberate and conscious attempt on the part of M/s. GCW to under value their clearance of goods to their own RMC and used for internal consumption, the total differential Central Excise duty of ₹ 1,33,67,203/- (including Education Cess and Secondary and Higher Education Cess) appeared to be recoverable from them by invoking extended period of time in terms of proviso to Section 11A(1) of the CEA, 1944 along with interest in terms of Section 11AB of the CEA, 1944. It also appeared that these acts of omission and commission on the part of M/s. GCW have rendered them liable for penalty under Rule 25 of the CER, 2002 read with Section 11AC of the CEA, 1944.

### **DEFENCE REPLY**

20. M/s. GCW has filed written submission vide their letter dated 22.11.2011.

21.1 It is inter-alia submitted that they have cleared Cement in packaged form to various consumers like institutional/ industrial consumers like builders/ contractors, ready mix concrete units, manufacturers of Cement based finished products, etc. In respect of the Cement cleared in loose condition or packed condition on sale to the industrial consumers who had purchased the same from their factory, they have paid duty at the rate specified in Sl. No. 1C of Notification No. 4/2006-CE dated 1.3.2006. The SCNs has not disputed the rate of duty applied for such clearances.

21.2 They have also cleared cement from their factory in loose form to NMCU and to MCU on payment of duty. NMCU and MCU are their packing units where the Cement received in loose/bulk condition is packed in bags of 50 kg capacity. They have also cleared cement in loose condition to their own RMC units.

21.3 In respect of the Cement cleared from their factory in loose condition to NMCU, MCU and RMC units also, they have paid duty at the rate stipulated in Sl. No. 1C of Notification No. 4/2006-CE. Some times, they have cleared Cement in packed condition to their own RMC unit and the rate of duty paid was in terms of Sl. No. 1C of Notification No. 4/2006.

22. During the period from October – 2010 to February – 2011, the rate of duty specified in Sl. No. 1C of Notification No. 4/2006-CE was @ 10% ad-valorem or ₹ 290/- per MT, whichever is higher.



23. It is submitted that during the period from October-2010 to February-2011, in respect of Cement cleared by them in loose/ packed condition to their own units namely NMCU, MCU and RMC where there is no sale involved, the rate of duty of ₹ 290/- per MT, in terms of Sl. No. 1C of Notification No. 4/2006-CE was adopted, since the ad-valorem rates of duty specified under Sl. No. 1C of Notification No. 4/2006-CE was lower than ₹ 290/- per MT. For this purpose, the assessable value of the Cement cleared by them to their own units namely NMCU, MCU and RMC was determined in terms of Rule 8 of the Valuation Rules, 2000 based on 110% of the cost of production.

24. NMCU which received loose cement from their factory had utilised the same for packing and the packed Cement was cleared on payment of appropriate duty. Therefore, NMCU took credit of duty paid by GCW unit. Some quantity of loose cement on which credit has been taken was also cleared by NMCU to their RMC units on payment of the amount equal to the credit taken in terms of Rule 3(5) of the Cenvat Credit Rules.

25. Their own RMC units which received loose cement had used the same in the manufacture of Ready Mix Concrete.

26.1 It is submitted that under the aforesaid circumstances, the show cause notice has been issued proposing to demand differential duty on the quantity of cement cleared in loose/ packed condition from GCW and NMCU to their own RMC units and used for self consumption on the ground that for determining the rate of duty in terms of Sl. No. 1C of Notification No. 4/2006-CE, the value in terms of Section 4 has to be arrived at in terms of Rule 4 of Valuation Rules, 2000, based on the price at which the loose/ packed cement was sold by Gujarat Cement Works to independent buyers.

26.2 The show cause notice proceeds on the basis that if the transaction value at which the greatest aggregate quantity of cement in loose/ packed condition was sold to independent buyer, is taken at the point of time nearest to that of the clearances of loose/ packed cement to RMC units from GCW, and for self consumption, then the ad-valorem rates of duty specified in Sl. No. 1C from time to time, would be higher than the specific rates of duty stipulated under the said Sl. No. 1C of Notification No. 4/2006-C.E., from time to time. Accordingly, the show cause notice propose to determine the value under Section 4(ii)(b) read with Rule 4 of the Central Excise Valuation Rules, 2000 and adopt the ad-valorem rates of duty stipulated in Sl. No. 1C of Notification No. 4/2006-CE for the purpose of computing the duty payable on loose and packed cement cleared to their own RMC units.

26.3 The SCN also alleges that some quantity of loose cement received by NMCU from GCW was cleared by NMCU to their own RMC units in loose form by paying an amount equal to the credit taken instead of determining the assessable value based on the price at which such loose cement was sold by NMCU to independent buyers. The show cause notice proposes to demand differential duty on such loose cement cleared by NMCU to their own RMC units.

26.4 The SCN further allege that they have contravened the provisions of Rule 8 and 4 of the Valuation Rules, 2000. The SCN allege that they had wilfully mis-stated the value of the goods and effected the payment of Central Excise duty. The SCN therefore, propose to invoke the proviso to impose penalty under Section 11AC of the Central Excise Act.



27. It is submitted that the entire basis in the SCN is incorrect in law as well as on facts. Further, the basis in the SCN is also contrary to the Circular of Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC) which is binding on the department. The proceedings initiated against them are to be dropped for the above grounds alone.

28.1 They submitted that the clearances of cement to their own units like NMCU, MCU & their own RMC units were on stock transfer basis from factory and do not involve sale. Generally, NMCU, MCU & their own RMC units use the cement in the manufacture. Hence the rule 8 of the Valuation Rules 2000 alone will be applicable.

28.2 The SCN does not dispute the legal position that the rate of duty specified in Sl. No. 1C of the Notification No. 4/2006-CE dated 1.3.2006, as amended, alone is applicable to the cement cleared by M/s. GCW & NMCU to their own RMC units and for Cement used captively.

28.3 The Notification No. 4/2006-CE dated 1.3.2006 was amended. During the period October – 2010 to February – 2011, the rate of duty specified in Sl. No. 1C of Notification No. 4/2006-CE was at 10% Ad-valorem or ₹ 290/- per MT, whichever is higher.

28.4 They submitted that for the purpose of determining the amount of duty at 10% ad-valorem in order to compare with specific rate of ₹ 290/- per MT, they have to determine the value of the goods cleared to their other factories based on Rule 8 of the Valuation Rules, 2000.

29.1 It is submitted that the CBEC issued instructions on valuation rules to be followed vide its Circular No. 354/81/2000-TRU dated 30.06.2000.

29.2 They also submitted that the Central Board of Excise & Customs vide Circular No. 643/34/2002-CX dated 1.7.2002 had specifically considered the situation of captive consumption of excisable goods and clarified that the assessable value of the goods captively consumed has to be determined under Rule 8 of the Valuation Rules, 2000.

29.3 In fact at Sl. No. 5 of the table given in the above Circular setting out the clarifications for various situations, the CBEC considered the situation where the manufactured goods are being consumed within the same factory and also in the case where such manufactured goods are transferred to a sister unit or another factory of the same company / firm for further use.

29.4 It was clarified by CBEC that when the goods were transferred to a sister unit or another unit of the same company, the valuation will be done as per the proviso to Rule 9 of the Central Excise Valuation Rules, 2000 which would attract Rule 8 of the Central Excise Valuation Rules, 2000.

29.5 They referred to the proviso to Rule 9 of the Valuation Rules, 2000 and submitted that in view of the same, the value determined by them in respect of the quantity of cement in question under Rule 8 is in accordance with the above Circular of the CBEC.





29.6 They submitted that the Central Excise department is bound by the aforesaid Circular of the CBEC for the determination of assessable value of the excisable goods manufactured and cleared to the other units of the same company. The assessable value of the goods is to be determined in terms of Rule 8 of Valuation Rules, 2000 on the basis of 110% of the cost of production. Therefore, they had to determine the value on the basis of 110% of the cost of production and then determine the amount of duty payable at the rate of 10% ad-voleram. Such duty payable should be compared with ₹ 290/- per MT and whichever amount is higher is to be adopted for payment of duty on the cement captively consumed. By adopting the above method to determine the rate of duty in respect of the cement cleared to NMCU, RMC, and for self consumption, they had correctly determine the rate of duty as ₹ 290/- per MT for the period in question. The proceedings initiated in the SCN contrary to the above are therefore incorrect and unsustainable in law.

30.1 They submitted that the Circular dated 30.06.2000 and 01.07.2002 of the CBEC are binding on the authorities under the Act. The contrary stand of the department to demand differential duty is unsustainable in law.

30.2 The Circular dated 30.06.2000 and 1.7.2002 issued by CBEC had specifically considered the situation of clearance of excisable goods to the other unit of the same manufacturer and clarified that the assessable value, of such goods has to be determined under proviso to Rule 9 of the Valuation Rules, 2000 according to which Rule 8 of Valuation Rules, 2000 would apply. The department is bound by this Circular issued by CBEC for determination of assessable value of the goods manufactured and cleared to their other units.

30.3 They submitted that it has been clearly laid down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in number of judgments that the departmental officers are bound by the Circular issued by CBEC and the assessee can argue that the department cannot take a stand contrary to the Circular issued by the Board. Some of these judgements are as under:-

- a) CCE v. Cadbury India Ltd  
2006 (200) ELT 353.
- b) CCE v. Jayant Dalal Ltd.  
1996 (88) ELT 638 (SC)
- c) Paper Products v. CCE  
1999 (112) ELT 765 (SC)

30.4 The proceeding initiated in the SCN is based on the grounds which are contrary to the aforesaid Circulars dated 30.06.2000 and 1.7.2002 of the CBEC. In view of the decisions of Hon'ble Supreme Court referred to supra, the department cannot take a stand contrary to the Circulars of CBEC which are binding on the department. Hence the proceeding initiated in the aforesaid SCN to demand differential duty is incorrect and unsustainable in law.

31.1 They submitted that the cost of production has been correctly arrived at by them. The show cause notice had also alleged that cost of production considered by them was incorrect since for the period prior to 1.3.2008 they had shown the value for transfer of cement to their own units as ₹ 3,588/- per ton. After 1.3.2008 they had reduced the same to ₹ 2,800/- per ton. This allegation in the SCN is incorrect in law as well as on fact.



31.2 During the period prior to 1.3.2008, the rate of duty specified for cement falling under Sl. No.1C of Notification No. 4/2006-CE was at specific rate and the value declared in the stock transfer documents was not determined based on the method of valuation provided under Section 4 of the CEA, 1944. They have been declaring the estimated valuation for transferring the cement from their GCW to their own units like NMCU and their own RMC units. However, for the payment of excise duty for the Cement cleared to RMC units from GCW, they had paid duty on the value of 110% of the cost of production under Rule 8 of Valuation Rules, 2000 and following the Board's Circular No. 354/81/2000-TRU dated 30.06.2000 and 643/34/2002-CX dated 01.07.20002.

31.3 The cost of production of the cement captively consumed has to be determined in terms of Cost Accounting standard (CAS-4) developed by the Institute of Cost & Works Accountants of India [ICWAI]. The CBEC vide Circular No. 692/8/2003-CX., dated 13.2.2003 clarified that cost of production of captively consumed goods will be done strictly in accordance with CAS-4. The Supreme Court in the case of CCE v. Cadbury India Ltd reported at 2006 (200) ELT 353 noted the aforesaid Circular of the CBEC and held as under:

*12. Subsequent to the filing of these appeals, the Institute of Cost and Works Accountants of India (ICWAI) has laid down the principles of determining cost of production for captive consumption and formulated the standards for costing: CAS-4. According to CAS-4 the definition of "cost of production" is as under :*

*Cost of Production : Cost of Production "4.1. shall consist of Material consumed, Direct wages and salaries, Direct expenses, Works overheads, Quality Control cost, Research and Development cost, Packing cost, Administrative Overheads relating to production."*

*13. The cost accounting principles laid down by ICWAI have been recognized by the Central Board of Excise and Customs vide Circular No. 692/8/2003-CX., dated 13-2-2003. The circular requires the department to determine the cost of production of captively consumed goods strictly in accordance with CAS-4.*

*14. The Tribunal in the case of BMF Beltings Ltd. v. CCE : 2005 (184) E.L.T. 158 (Tri. - Bang.) for the period 1995 to 2000 has directed the department to apply CAS-4 for the determination of the cost of production of the captively consumed goods. In ITC v. CCE - 2005 (190) E.L.T. 119 the Tribunal held that the department has to calculate the cost of production in terms of CAS-4. Other decisions of the Tribunal, wherein it has directed that CAS-4 be applied for determination of the cost of production, are Teja Engineering v. CCE - 2006 (193) E.L.T. 100 (Tri- Chennai), Ashima Denims v. CCE - 2005 (191) E.L.T. 318 (Tri-Mumbai), and Arti Industries v. CCE - 2005 (186) E.L.T. 208 (Tri-Chennai). This is therefore a consistent view taken by the Tribunal. The department has not filed any appeal in these cases and accepted the legal position. Apart from this, in the light of several decisions of this Court, the Department is also bound by the said circular No. 692/8/2003-CX., dated 13-2-2003 issued by CBEC. As such it cannot now take a contrary stand.*

(Emphasis supplied)

