ORDER SHEET IN THE HIGH COURT OF SINDH AT KARACHI

SCRA 136 of 2020

DATE ORDER WITH SIGNATURE OF JUDGE(S)

- 1. For orders on CMA No.791/2020.
- 2. For hearing of main case.
- 3. For orders on CMA No.792/2020.

01.10.2025

Sardar Zafar Hussain, advocate files Vakalatnama on behalf of the applicant, which is taken on record.

- 1. Exemption granted subject to all just exceptions.
- 2&3. Per learned counsel, the questions raised in this reference application have already been decided by a Division Bench order of this court and once such order reflecting the same is placed on record. The contents whereof are reproduced herein below:

"25.08.2025

Mr. Muhammad Khalil Dogar, Advocate for Applicant.

- 1) Granted subject to all exceptions.
- 2 & 3) Through this Reference Application, the Applicant has impugned Order dated 02.122.200115 passed in Customs Appeal No.K-1732/2014 by the Customs Appellate Tribunal, Karachi proposing various Questions of law;; however, on perusal of the record, it appears that only one Question is relevant and arising out of the impugned order which reads as under:-
 - "iii) Whether on facts & circumstances of the case the learned Appellate Tribunal has erred in law not to consider that under the provision of Section 80 of the Act, the assessing officer has the power to re-assess the goods even after clearance from their charge, secondly, the provision of Section 195 of the Acct, have no overriding effect on Section 32 of the Act?"

Heard learned Counsel for the Applicant and perused the record. It appears that Respondent had imported a consignment of Hot Rolled Alloy Steel Round Bars, Grade 20MC5 having Size in mm, dia x length 130 x 6000mm and claimed classification of the goods under PCT heading 7228.3090 which was chargeable to custom duty @ 5%. Thereafter, the Respondent department without issuing any Show Cause Notice or opportunity of hearing on their own re-assessed the goods declaration after clearance of the goods and sent a message to the Respondent for payment of the alleged amount levy of customs duty and taxes. The Tribunal has given its findings as to jurisdiction of the Applicant department and has been pleased to hold that the Applicant department had no jurisdiction to invoke Section 80(3) of the Customs Act, 1969 once goods had been released and out of charge. We see no reason to interfere with such findings as the law is clear and settled to that effect. Reliance may be placed on Messrs Harris Silicones and Glass (Pvt.) Ltd. V. Federation of Pakistan (2022 PTD 1163).

In view of the above, the proposed Question is answered against the Applicant and in favour of the Respondent and consequently, this Reference Application is dismissed along with pending applications. Let copy of this order be sent to Appellate Tribunal Customs in terms of sub-section (5) of Section 196 of Customs Act, 1969."

Learned counsel states that the authority / order cited supra is binding upon this court, therefore, in view of the reasoning and rational, so enunciated, this court may be pleased to determine the question framed for determination against the applicant and dismiss the reference application, subject to right of appeal of the applicant. Order accordingly.

A copy of this decision may be sent under the seal of this Court and the signature of the Registrar to the learned Customs Appellate Tribunal, as required per section 196(5) of the Customs Act, 1969.

Judge

Judge

Khuhro/PS