SUB: Clarification in respect of issues under GST law for companies under Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 — Regarding

Ref: Circular No 134/04/2020-GST, dated 23.03.2020 issued by the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance Government of India New Delhi.

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As per IBC, once an entity defaults certain threshold amount, Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process (hereafter referred to as “CIRP”) gets triggered and the management of such entity (Corporate Debtor) and its assets vest with an interim resolution professional (hereafter referred to as “IRP”) or resolution professional (hereafter referred to as “RP”). It continues to run the business and operations of the said entity as a going concern till the insolvency proceeding is over and an order is passed by the National Company Law Tribunal (hereinafter referred to as the “NCLT”)

To address the aforementioned problems, G.O Ms No.68/2020- TNGST, dated 13.04.2020 has been issued by the Government prescribing special procedure under section 148 of the Tamil Nadu Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017 (hereinafter referred to as the “TNGST Act”) for the corporate debtors who are undergoing CIRP under the provisions of IBC and the management of whose affairs are being undertaken by IRP/RP. In order to ensure uniformity in the implementation of the provisions of the law across the field formations, the Commissioner of Commercial Taxes, in exercise of the powers conferred under section 168 of the TNGST Act hereby clarifies various issues in the table below:-

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<th>S.No.</th>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Clarification</th>
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<td>1.</td>
<td>How are dues under GST for pre-CIRP period be dealt?</td>
<td>In accordance with the provisions of the IBC and various legal pronouncements on the issue, no coercive action can be taken against the corporate debtor with respect to the dues for period prior to insolvency commencement date. The dues of the</td>
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period prior to the commencement of CIRP will be treated as ‘operational debt’ and claims may be filed by the proper officer before the NCLT in accordance with the provisions of the IBC. The tax officers shall seek the details of supplies made / received and total tax dues pending from the corporate debtor to file the claim before the NCLT.

Moreover, section 14 of the IBC mandates the imposition of a moratorium period, wherein the institution of suits or continuation of pending suits or proceedings against the corporate debtor is prohibited.

2. **Should the GST registration of corporate debtor be cancelled?**

   It is clarified that the GST registration of an entity for which CIRP has been initiated should not be cancelled under the provisions of section 29 of the TNGST Act, 2017. The proper officer may, if need be, suspend the registration. In case the registration of an entity undergoing CIRP has already been cancelled and it is within the period of revocation of cancellation of registration, it is advised that such cancellation may be revoked by taking appropriate steps in this regard.

3. **Is IRP/RP liable to file returns of pre-CIRP period?**

   No. In accordance with the provisions of IBC, 2016, the IRP/RP is under obligation to comply with all legal requirements for period after the Insolvency Commencement Date. Accordingly, it is clarified that IRP/RP are not under an obligation to file returns of pre-CIRP period.

   **During CIRP period**

4. **Should a new registration be taken by the corporate debtor during the CIRP period?**

   The corporate debtor who is undergoing CIRP is to be treated as a distinct person of the corporate debtor and shall be liable to take a new registration in each State or Union territory where the corporate debtor was registered earlier, within thirty
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<th>days of the appointment of the IRP/RP. Further, in cases where the IRP/RP has been appointed prior to the issuance of G.O Ms No.68/2020- TNGST dated 13.04.2020, he shall take registration within thirty days of issuance of the said notification, with effect from date of his appointment as IRP/RP.</th>
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<td>5.</td>
<td><strong>How to file First Return after obtaining new registration?</strong></td>
<td>The IRP/RP will be liable to furnish returns, make payment of tax and comply with all the provisions of the GST law during CIRP period. The IRP/RP is required to ensure that the first return is filed under section 40 of the TNGST Act, for the period beginning the date on which it became liable to take registration till the date on which registration has been granted.</td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td><strong>How to avail ITC for invoices issued to the erstwhile registered person in case the IRP/RP has been appointed before issuance of G.O Ms No.68/2020- TNGST, dated 13.04.2020 and no return has been filed by the IRP during the CIRP?</strong></td>
<td>The special procedure issued under section 148 of the TNGST Act has provided the manner of availing of ITC while furnishing the first return under section 40. The said class of persons shall, in his first return, be eligible to avail input tax credit on invoices covering the supplies of goods or services or both, received since appointment as IRP/RP and during the CIRP period but bearing the GSTIN of the erstwhile registered person, subject to the conditions of Chapter V of the TNGST Act and rule made thereunder, except the provisions of sub-section (4) of section 16 of the TNGST Act and sub-rule (4) of rule 36 of the TNGST Rules. In terms of the special procedure under section 148 of the TNGST Act issued vide G.O Ms No.68/2020- TNGST, dated 13.04.2020. This exception is made only for the first return filed under section 40 of the TNGST Act.</td>
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<td>7.</td>
<td><strong>How to avail ITC for invoices by persons who</strong></td>
<td>Registered persons who are receiving supplies from the said class of persons</td>
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are availing supplies from the corporate debtors undergoing CIRP, in cases where the IRP/RP was appointed before the issuance of the G.O Ms No.68/2020-TNGST, dated 13.04.2020?

shall, for the period from the date of appointment of IRP / RP till the date of registration as required in this notification or 30 days from the date of this notification, whichever is earlier, be eligible to avail input tax credit on invoices issued using the GSTIN of the erstwhile registered person, subject to the conditions of Chapter V of the TNGST Act and rule made thereunder, except the provisions of sub-rule (4) of rule 36 of the TNGST Rules.

8. Some of the IRP/RPs have made deposit in the cash ledger of erstwhile registration of the corporate debtor. How to claim refund for amount deposited in the cash ledger by the IRP/RP?

Any amount deposited in the cash ledger by the IRP/RP, in the existing registration, from the date of appointment of IRP / RP to the date of notification specifying the special procedure for corporate debtors undergoing CIRP, shall be available for refund to the erstwhile registration under the head refund of cash ledger, even though the relevant FORM GSTR-3B/GSTR-1 are not filed for the said period.

The instructions contained in Circular No. 1(2019)/2020-TNGST dt. 23.03.2020 stands modified to this extent.

Sd/- M.A.Siddique  
Commissioner of State Tax  
Tamil Nadu

To

All the Joint Commissioners (ST) (Territorial) in the state including LTU

Copy to:

1. The Principal Secretary to Government, CT & R Department, Chennai – 600 009.
2. All Additional Commissioners, O/o the CCT, Ezilagam, Chennai – 600 005.
3. The Joint Commissioner (CS) to host in the departmental website
4. The Director, Commercial Tax Staff Training Institute, Chennai-6
5. The Secretary, TNSTAT, Chennai 600 104.
6. All the Joint Commissioners (ST) (Intelligence) in the state
7. All the Deputy Commissioners (ST) in the State including intelligence
8. All the heads of assessment circles

//forwarded/by order//

Assistant Commissioner