## GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL DIRECTORATE OF COMMERCIAL TAXES 14, BELIAGHATA ROAD, KOLKATA-700015

## TRADE CIRCULAR No. 10/2024

(Corresponding Central Circular No. 216/10/2024-GST)

**DATED: 08.07.2024** 

Subject: Clarification in respect of GST liability and input tax credit (ITC) availability in cases involving Warranty/ Extended Warranty, in furtherance to Trade Circular No. 08/2023-GST dated 11.09.2023.

Reference is invited to Trade Circular No. 08/2023-GST dated 11.09.2023 (herein after referred to as "the said Trade Circular") clarifying certain issues regarding GST liability and availability of input tax credit (ITC) in respect of warranty replacement of parts and repair services during warranty period. Representations have been received from trade and industry requesting for some further clarifications in related matters.

- 2. In order to ensure uniformity in the implementation of the provisions of law across the field formations, the Commissioner, in exercise of his powers conferred by section 168 of the West Bengal Goods & Services Tax Act, 2017 (herein after referred to as the "WBGST Act"), hereby clarifies the following issues as below.
- 3. Clarification regarding GST liability as well as liability to reverse input tax credit in respect of cases where goods as such or the parts are replaced under warranty:
- **3.1** Table in Para 2 of Trade Circular No. 08/2023-GST dated 11.09.2023 clarifies regarding GST liability as well as liability to reverse ITC, only in cases involving replacement of 'parts' and not if goods as such are replaced under warranty. Request has been made to also issue a clarification in respect of cases where the goods as such are replaced under warranty.
- 3.2 In cases where warranty is provided by the manufacturer/ suppliers to the customers in respect of any goods, and if any defect is detected in the said goods during the warranty period, the manufacturer may be required to replace either one or more parts or the goods as such, depending upon the extent of damage/ defect noticed in the said goods. However, Table in Para 2 of the said circular only clarifies in respect of the situations involving replacement of part/ parts and does not specifically refer to the situation involving replacement of goods

as such. It is clarified that the clarification provided in Para 2 of the said circular is also applicable in case where the goods as such are replaced under warranty.

- **3.3** Accordingly, wherever, 'any *part*,' '*parts*' and '*part*(*s*)' has been mentioned in Para 2 of Trade Circular No. 08/2023-GST dated 11.09.2023, the same may be read as '*goods or its parts, as the case may be*'.
- 4. Clarification in respect of cases where the distributor replaces the parts/ goods to the customer as part of warranty out of his own stock on behalf of the manufacturer and subsequently gets replenishment of the said parts/ goods from the manufacturer:
- 4.1 Sr. No. 4 of Para 2 of the said Trade Circular clarifies about the GST liability as well as liability to reverse ITC in cases where the distributor provides replacement of parts to the customer as part of warranty on behalf of the manufacturer. However, it does not cover the scenario where the distributor replaces the goods to the customer as part of warranty out of his own stock on behalf of the manufacturer to provide prompt service to the customer, and then raises a requisition to the manufacturer for the goods replaced by him under warranty. The manufacturer, thereafter, provides the said goods to the distributor vide a delivery challan, as replenishment for the goods provided as replacement to the customer by the distributor. Request has been made to issue clarification in respect of such a scenario also.
- 4.2 In cases where the distributor replaces the parts/ goods to the customer as part of warranty out of his own stock on behalf of the manufacturer and subsequently gets replenishment of the said parts/ goods from the manufacturer, the key aspects, viz.(i) distributor providing replacement out of his own stock; (ii) manufacturer replenishing the distributor for the said replacement; and (iii) the replacement being made at no additional cost on the distributor, are all covered in the scenario specified in point (b) of Sr. No.4 of Para 2 of the said Trade Circular. Therefore, GST liability as well as liability to reverse ITC in cases covered by the said scenario should be similar to that in respect of the scenario covered in point (b) of S. No. 4 of Para 2 of the above Trade Circular.
- **4.3** Accordingly, to specifically clarify in respect of such a scenario, in column 3 of the table in Para 2 of the said Trade Circular, against S. No. 4, after point (c), point (d) shall be inserted as below:
  - "(d) There may be cases where the distributor replaces the goods or its parts to the customer under warranty by using his stock and then raises a requisition to the manufacturer for the goods or the parts, as the case may be. The manufacturer then

provides the said goods or the parts, as the case may be, to the distributor through a delivery challan, without separately charging any consideration at the time of such replenishment. In such a case, no GST is payable on such replenishment of goods or the parts, as the case may be. Further, no reversal of ITC is required to be made by the manufacturer in respect of the goods or the parts, as the case may be, so replenished to the distributor."

- 5. (i) Nature of supply of extended warranty, at the time of original supply of goods, as a separate supply from supply of goods, if the supply of extended warranty is made by a person different from the supplier of the goods;
  - (ii) Nature of supply of extended warranty, made after original supply of goods:
- 5.1 It has been represented that in respect of cases, where agreement for extended warranty is made at the time of original supply of goods, and the supplier of extended warranty is different from the supplier of goods, the extended warranty should be treated as a separate and independent transaction from the supply of goods, whereas Sr. No. 6 of Para 2 of the said Trade Circular has treated it to be in the nature of composite supplies, the principal supply being the supply of goods. Request has been made to issue a suitable clarification in the matter.
- **5.1.1** There may be cases where the supplier of the goods may be the dealer while the supplier of extended warranty may be the OEM or third party. In such cases, the supplies being made by different suppliers cannot be treated as part of the composite supply. It is, therefore, clarified that in cases, where agreement for extended warranty is made at the time of original supply of goods, and the supplier of extended warranty is different from the supplier of goods, the supply of extended warranty and supply of goods cannot be treated as the composite supply. In such cases, supply of extended warranty will be treated as a separate supply from the original supply of goods.
- 5.2 It has also been represented that in cases where extended warranty is sold subsequent to the original supply of goods, the same should be considered as supply of services only whereas the said Trade Circular clarifies that GST on the same would be payable depending on the nature of the contract (i.e. whether the extended warranty is only for goods or for services or for composite supply involving goods and services). Request has been made to issue a revised clarification in respect of the same.

5.2.1 Supply of extended warranty is an assurance to the customers by the manufacturer/ third party that the goods will operate free of defects during the extended warranty coverage period, and in case of any defect attributable to faulty material or workmanship at the time of manufacture, the same will be repaired/ replaced by the said manufacturer/ third party. Further, whether the goods will later on require replacement of parts or just repair service or neither during the said extended warranty period, is also not known at the time of sale/ supply of extended warranty. Thus, extended warranty is in the nature of conveying of an "assurance" and not an actual replacement of part or repairs.

**5.3** Accordingly, it is clarified that in cases, where supply of extended warranty is made subsequent to the original supply of goods, or where supply of extended warranty is to be treated as a separate supply from the original supply of goods in cases referred in Para 5.1.1 above, the supply of extended warranty shall be treated as a supply of services distinct from the original supply of goods, and the supplier of the said extended warranty shall be liable to discharge GST liability applicable on such supply of services.

**5.4** Accordingly, in Sr. No. 6 of Table in para 2 of the said Trade Circular, in column No. 3 of the table, the following shall be substituted:

"(a) If a customer enters into an agreement of extended warranty with the supplier of the goods at the time of original supply, then the consideration for such extended warranty becomes part of the value of the composite supply, the principal supply being the supply of goods, and GST would be payable accordingly. However, if the supply of extended warranty is made by a person different from the supplier of the goods, then supply of extended warranty will be treated as a separate supply from the original supply of goods and will be taxable as supply of services.

(b) In case where a consumer enters into an agreement of extended warranty at any time after the original supply, then the same shall be treated as a supply of services distinct from the original supply of goods and the supplier of the said extended warranty shall be liable to discharge GST liability applicable on such supply of services."

**6.** Difficulty, if any, in the implementation of this Trade Circular may be brought to the notice of the Commissioner.

Sd/-(DEVI PRASAD KARANAM, IAS) Commissioner, State Tax West Bengal Memo. No.-<u>67/CT/PRO</u> 3C/PRO/2024

Copy forwarded to the Special Commissioner, State tax /ISD for information and for uploading it on the official website of the Directorate for information of all concerned.

Sd/-(Joyjit Banik) Additional Commissioner, State Tax & PRO

Date: 08.07.2024