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Marks

3. (a) PQR & Co. is engaged in the business of fabrication and erection of structures of various types on contract basis. They entered into a contract with M/s. XYZ Co. for fabrication, assembly and erection on turn key basis of a waste water treatment plant. This activity involved procurement, supply, fabrication, transportation of various duty paid components and finally putting up a civil construction and erection of the waste water treatment plant and commissioning the same. The entire fabrication is done at site. The pressure testing was carried out as such until it was wholly built. The excise department has issued a show cause notice that the fabrication at site amounted to manufacture of excisable goods since the plant came into existence in an unassembled form as per drawings and designs approved by the client, M/s. XYZ Co. before the fabrication activity was undertaken. Therefore according to the department excise duty was payable on the value of the plant excluding the value of the civil work. Briefly discuss with reference to case law whether the show cause notice is sustainable in law. 5
- (b) Sweet Sugar Mills is engaged in the manufacture of sugar. Government of India had issued directions under the Sugar Control Order for sugar companies to maintain buffer stock of sugar of certain quantity for a specified period. In order to compensate the sugar mill the government had extended buffer stock subsidy towards storage, interest and insurance charges in respect of the buffer stock of sugar actually held by the sugar mill. The department has issued a show cause notice to the assessee raising a demand of service tax on the ground that the amount received by the sugar mill as buffer subsidy is covered under the taxable service of 'storage and warehousing'. Discuss briefly with reference to decided case law whether the action of the department is sustainable in law. 5

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P.T.O.