

Summary of Recent case laws of IDT applicable for Nov., 2012 Exams

(A) Central Excise

S.No.	Issue	Decision	Case law
1.	Does a product with a short shelf-life satisfy the test of Marketability?	Supreme court ruled that a product with shelf-life of 2 to 3 days was marketable & Hence Excisable.	Nicholas Piramal India Ltd. V. CCEX, Mumbai 2010 (260) E.L.T. 338 (SC)
2.	Are the physician sample excisable goods in view of the fact that they are statutorily prohibited from being sold?	The court inferred that the physician sample were excisable goods and were liable to Excise Duty.	Medley Pharmaceuticals Ltd. V. CCE & C., Daman 2011 (263) E.L.T. 641 (SC)
3.	Whether assembling of the testing equipment for testing the final product in the factory amounts to manufacture?	Such equipment was saleable & marketable. Hence, the apex court held that duty was payable on such testing equipment.	Usha Rectifier Corpn. (I) Ltd. V. CCEX, New Delhi 2011 (263) E.L.T. 655 (SC)
4.	Does the process of cutting & embossing aluminum foil for packing the cigarettes amounts to manufacture?	There were no records to suggest that cut to shape/embossing aluminum foils used for packing cigarettes were distinct marketable commodity. Hence process did NOT amount to manufacture as per Section 2(F) of CE Act, 1944.	GTC Industries Ltd. V. CCEX 2011 (266) E.L.T. 160 (Bom.)
5.	Whether time-limit under section 11A of the central excise Act, 1944 is applicable to recovery of dues under compound levy scheme?	It was held that the time-limit under section 11A of CE Act, 1944 is NOT applicable to recovery of dues under compound levy scheme.	Hans Steel Rolling Mill V. CCEX, Chandigarh 2011 (265) E.L.T. 321 (SC)
6.	Can re-appreciation of evidence by CESTAT be considered to be rectification of mistake apparent on records under section 35C (2) of the CE Act, 1944?	The court opined that CESTAT exceeded its power under section 35C (2) of the CE Act, 1944. In pursuance of a rectification application, it CANNOT re-appreciate the evidence & reconsider its legal view taken earlier. Note: - section 35C (2) of the Act. The appellate Tribunal may, at any time within 6 months from the date of order, with a view to rectify any mistake apparent from the records, amend any order passed by it under sub-section 1 & shall make such amendment if the mistake is brought to its notice by the commissioner of CE or the other party.	RDC Concrete (I) Pvt. Ltd. 2011 (270) E.L.T. 625 (SC)
7.	Is the CESTAT order disposing appeal on a totally new ground sustainable?	The High court explained that CESTAT should have remanded the matter back to the Adj. Auth. However, it could NOT have assumed to itself the jurisdiction to decide the appeal on a ground which had NOT been urged before the lower authorities.	GujChem Distillers V. CCE 2011 (270) E.L.T. 338 (SC)
8.	The assesses claimed the CENVAT credit on the duty paid on capital goods which were later destroyed by fire. The Insurance co. reimbursed the amount incl. excise duty. Is the CENVAT credit availed by the assesses required to be reversed?	The high court therefore answered the substantial question of law in favor of the assesses & against the revenue.	Tata advanced Material Ltd. V. CCEX 2011 (271) E.L.T. 62 (Kar.)
9.	Head office distributed the CENVAT credit of the service tax paid on the services received to its various units. Can the CENVAT credit be denied to a particular unit on the ground that input services were obtained by another unit belonging to same manufacturing Co.?	The high court therefore held that unit had rightly availed the CENVAT credit of S/Tax paid by its HO.	Ecof Industries Pvt. Ltd. V. CCE 2011 (271) E.L.T. 58 (Kar.)
10.	In case of combo pack of brought out tooth brush sold along with tooth paste manufactured by assesses; is tooth brush eligible as input under the CCRules, 2004?	The High court upheld the Tribunal's decision that the credit was admissible in the case of assesses.	Prime Health Care Products V. CCE 2011 (272) E.L.T. 54 (Guj.)

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11.	Can the excess duty paid by the seller be refunded on the basis of the debit note issued by the buyer?	The substantial Q. of law raised was answered in favor of the assesses & against revenue. Conseqtly. Dept. refunded the excess duty paid. (Already asked in CA Final's May, 2012 attempt)	Techno Rubber Industries Pvt. Ltd. V. CCE 2011 (272) E.L.T. 191 (Kar.)
12.	Whether the metal scrap or waste generated during the repair of his worn out M/c/parts of cement manufacturing amts. to manufacture?	It held that generation of metal scrap or waste during the repair of his worn out M/c/parts of cement manufacturing plant does NOT amts. to manufacture	Grasim Industries Ltd V. UOI 2011 (273) ELT 10 (SC)
13.	Does the fabrication, assembly & erection of waste water treatment plant amts. to manufacture?	It was held that the fabrication, assembly & erection of waste water treatment plant does NOT amts. to manufacture.	Larsen & Toubro Ltd V. UOI 2009 (243) ELT 662 (Bom.)
14.	Whether the theoretical possibility of product being sold is sufficient to establish the marketability of a product?	The mere theoretical possibility of the product being sold is NOT sufficient but there shud be commercial capability of being sold to prove marketability.	Bata India Ltd V. CCE 2010 (252) ELT 492 (SC)
15.	Whether the M/c which is not assimilated in permanent structure would be considered to be moveable so as to be dutiable under the central excise Act?	The Apex court held that the plant in Q. were NOT immovable property so as to be immune from the levy of excise duty. Consequently, duty would be levied on them.	CCE V. Solid & Correct Engineering works & ORS 2010 (252) ELT 481 (SC)
16.	Does the activity of packing of imported compact discs in a jewel box along with inlay card amts. to manufacture?	The court held that activities carried out by the respondent did NOT amt. to manufacturing, since the CD had been complete & finished when imported by the assesses.	CCE V. Sony Music Entertainment (I) (P) Ltd 2010 (249) ELT 341 (Bom.)
17.	Does the process of preparation of tarpaulin made ups after cutting & stitching the tarpaulin fabrics & fixing the eye lets amts. to manufacture?	The Apex court opined that stitching of tarpaulin sheets & making eyelets did NOT change the basis characteristics of the raw material & end product, so would NOT amts. to Manufacture. (Already asked in CA Final's Nov., 2011 attempt)	CCE V. Tarpaulin International 2010 (256) ELT 481 (SC)
18.	Is the product "Scrabble" classification under sub heading 9503.00 or sub heading 9504.90 of the first schedule to the central excise & Tariff Act, 1985?	The Apex court held that "Scrabble" was a board game. It was NOT a puzzle. In the circumstances, it would fall under heading 95.04 & NOT under sub heading 9503.00 of the central excise Tariff.	Pleasantine Product V. CCE 2009 (243) ELT 641 (SC)
19.	Whether the charges towards pre-delivery inspection & after sale services recovered by dealers from buyers of cars would be included in the assessable value of cars?	It was held that the charges towards pre-delivery inspection & after sale services recovered by dealers from buyers of cars would be included in the assessable value of cars.	Maruti Suzuki India Ltd. V. CCE 2010 (257) ELT 226 (Tri-LB)
20.	Whether CENVAT credit can be denied on the ground that the weight of the inputs recorded on receipt in the premises of the manufacturer of the final products shows a shortage as compared to the weight recorded in the relevant invoice?	The Tribunal held that each case had to be decided according to merit & NO hard & fast rule can be laid down for dealing with different kinds of shortage. Similarly, minor variation arising due to weighment by different M/c will also have to be ignored if such variations are within tolerance limits.	CCE V. Bhuwalka Steel Industries Ltd 2010 (249) ELT 218 (Tri-LB)
21.	Merely bcoz assesses has sustained loss more than the refund claim, is it justifiable to hold that it is not a case of unjust enrichment even though the assesses failed to establish non-inclusion of duty in the cost of Prod.?	The High court held that assesses could NOT be granted relief since it had failed to establish that the cost of the duty was NOT included while computing the COP.	CCE V. Gem Properties (P) Ltd 2010 (257) ELT 222 (Karn.)
22.	Whether the clearance of two firms having common brand name, goods being manufactured in the same factory premises, having common mgmt & a/c's etc can be clubbed for the purposes of SSI exemption?	The High court held that the clearance of the common goods under the same brand name manufactured by both had been rightly clubbed.	CCE V. Deora Engineering Work 2010 (255) ELT 184 (P&H)
23.	Whether a consolidated return filed by the assesses after obtaining registration, but for the period prior to obtaining registration, could be treated as a return under clause (a) of the first proviso to sec. 32E (1)?	The court held that, it rejected the submission of the petitioner that filing of consolidated return coving all the past period would serve the purpose.	Icon Industries V. UOI 2011 (273) ELT 487 (Del.)
24.	Is the settlement comm. Empowered to grant the benefit under the proviso to sec. 11AC in cases of settlement?	The court ruled that benefit under the proviso to sec. 11AC could NOT be granted by the settlement comm.. in cases of settlement.	Ashwani Tobacco Co. (P) Ltd V. UOI 2010 (251) ELT 162 (Del.)
25.	Whether penalty can be imposed on the director of the co. for the wrong CENVAT credit availed by the co.?	The court observed that CENVAT credit had been availed by the co. & penalty U/R 13(1) was imposable only on the person who had availed CENVAT credit, who was a manufacture. The petitioner director of the co. could NOT be said to be manufacture availing CENVAT credit.	Ashok Kumar Fulwadhya V. UOI 2010 (251) ELT 336 (Bom.)

26.	Can CENVAT credit be taken on the basis of private challans?	The High court held that credit be taken on the strength of private challans as the same were NOT found to be fake & thr was a proper certificate that duty had been paid.	CCEX V. Stelko Strips Ltd 2010 (255) ELT 397 (P&H)
27.	Whether non-disclosure of a statutory requirement under law would amt. to suppression for invoking the larger period of limitation u/s 11A?	The High court held that non-disclosure of the said fact on the part of the assesses would NOT amt. to suppression so as to call for invocation of the extended period of limitation.	CCEX & C v. Accrapac (I) (P) Ltd 2010 (257) ELT 84 (Guj.)
28.	What is the date of commencement of the period for the purpose of computing intt. on delayed refund u/s 11BB the date of receipt of application for refund or date on which the order of refund is made?	The Apex court held that liability of the revenue to pay intt. u/s 11BB commences from the date of expiry of three month from the date of receipt of application for refund u/s 11B(1) & NOT on the expiry of the said period from the date on which order of refund is made.	Ranbaxy Laboratories Ltd V. UOI 2011 (273) ELT 3 (SC)

(B) Custom

29.	Are the clearances of goods from DTA to SEZ chargeable to export duty under the SEZ Act, 2005 or the custom Act, 1962?	The high court inferred that the clearance of goods from DTA to SEZ is NOT liable to export duty either under the SEZ Act, 2005 or under custom Act, 1962. (Already asked in CA Final's May, 2012 attempt)	Tirupati Udyog Ltd. V. UOI 2011 (272) E.L.T. 209 (AP)
30.	Can separate penalty under section 112 of the custom Act be imposed on the partner when the same has already been imposed on partnership firm?	The high court held that for the purpose of imposing penalty, the Adj. Auth. Under custom Act, 1962 might in an appropriate case, impose a penalty both upon a partnership firm as well as on its partner.	Textoplast industries V. Addl. Comm. Of custom 2011 (272) E.L.T. 513 (Bom.)
31.	Whether Chartered Accountants certificate alone is sufficient evidence to rule out the unjust enrichment under custom?	The respondent could NOT be granted refund merely on the basis of the said certificate. Thus, the High court overruling the Tribunal's decision, answered the Q. of law in favor of revenue.	BPL Ltd. V. CCus., Chennai 2010 (259) E.L.T. 526 (Mad.)
32.	Whether the benefit of exemption meant for imported goods can also be given to the smuggled goods?	The Apex court held that the smuggled goods could NOT be considered as "Imported Goods" for the purpose of benefit of the exemption notification. (Already asked in CA Final's May, 2012 attempt)	M. Ambalal & Co. V. CCus. (Prev.), Mumbai 2010 (260) E.L.T. 487 (SC)
33.	Can the goods be detained indefinitely without any formal order under section 110 of the custom Act, 1962?	The High court held that goods CANNOT indefinitely be detained without any order under section 110.	S. J. Fabrics Pvt. Ltd. V. UOI 2011 (268) E.L.T. 475 (Cal.)
34.	Is it mandatory for the revenue officer to make available the copies of the seized documents to the person from whose custody such doc. Were seized?	The High court directed the revenue to make available the copies of the document asked for by the assesses, which was seized during the course of the seizure action. (Already asked in CA Final's May, 2012 attempt)	Manish Lalit kumar Bavishi V. Addl. DIR General, DRI 2011 (272) E.L.T. 42 (Bom.)
35.	Under what circumstance can the penalty be imposed in term of section 112(a) (ii) of the custom Act, 1962?	The High court inferred that UNLESS it is established that a person has, by his omission or commission, led to a situation where duty is "sought to be evaded", there CANNOT be an imposition of penalty in terms of section 112(a) (ii) of the custom Act, 1962.	O. T. Enasu V. UOI 2011 (272) E.L.T. 51 (Kar.)
36.	Whether remission of duty is permissible u/s 23 of the custom Act, 1962 when the remission application is filled after the expiry of W/H period (Incl. extended warehousing period)?	The High court held that when the goods are NOT cleared within the period or extended period as given by the authorities, their continuances in the W/H will NOT attract sec. 23 of the Act.	CCE V. Decorative Laminates (I) (P) Ltd 2010 (257) E.L.T. 61 (Kar.)
37.	Whether classification of imported product changes if it undergoes a change after importation & before being actually used?	The court noted that it was the use of the product that had to be considered in the instant case. If a product undergoes some changes after importation & before being actually used, it is immaterial, provided it remains the same product & it is used for the purpose specified in the classification.	Atherton Engineering Co. (P) Ltd V. UOI 2010 (256) E.L.T. 358 (Cal.)
38.	Will the description of the goods as per the doc. Submitted along with the shipping bill be a relevant criterion for the purpose of classification, if not otherwise disputed on the basis of any technical opinion or test? Whether a separate notice is req. to be issued for payment of intt. which is mandatory & automatically applies for recovery of excess drawback?	The High court held that the description of the goods as per the doc. Submitted along with the shipping bill be a relevant criterion for the purpose of classification & NO notice need to be issued separately as the payment of intt. becomes automatic, once it is held that excess drawback has to be repaid.	M/s CPS Textiles (P) Ltd V. Joint Secretary 2010 (255) E.L.T. 228 (Mad.)

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39.	Whether the issue of the imported goods warehoused in the premises of 100% EOU for manufacture/production/processing in 100% EOU would amts. to clearance for home consumption?	The Tribunal held that imported goods warehoused in the premises of a 100% EOU (which is licensed as a custom bonded W/H) & used for the purpose of manufacturing in bond as authorized u/s 65 of the custom Act, 1962, CANNOT be treated to have been removed for home consumption.	Paras Fab International V. CCE 2010 (256) E.L.T. 556 (Tri-LB)
40.	Whether revenue can prefer an appeal in case of consent order?	The High court held that an appeal against the consent order CANNOT be filed by the revenue.	CCus. V. Trilux Electronics 2010 (253) E.L.T. 367 (Kar.)
41.	Can a refund claim be filed u/s 27 of custom Act, 1962 if the payment of duty has not been made pursuant to an assessment order?	The High court held that the refund claim of the appellant was maintainable u/s 27 & the non-filing of the appeal against the assessed bill of entry did NOT deprive the appellant to file its claim for refund u/s 27 of Custom Act. (Already asked in CA Final's Nov.,2011 attempt)	Aman Medical Products Ltd V. CCus., Delhi 2010 (250) E.L.T. 30 (Del.)
42.	Can the assesses be denied the refund claim only on the basis of contention that he had produced the attested copy of TR-6 challan & not the original of the TR-6 challan?	The High court held that the petitioner could NOT be denied the refund claim & attested copy of TR-6 challan would suffice for processing the refund application.	Narayan Nambiar Meloths V. CCus 2010 (251) E.L.T. 57 (ker.)
43.	Whether u/s 125 of custom Act, 1962, discretion vests with the adjudicating Auth. To give option to redeem the goods even though the said goods are liable to absolute confiscation (since the importation of said goods is prohibited)?	The High court pronounced that in this case, the adjudicating Auth.'s action was justified.	CCus. V. Alfred Menezes 2009 (242) E.L.T. 334 (Bom.)
44.	In case the imported goods are confiscated, & goods are not redeemed by paying fine, whether the importer is bond to pay the C/Duty?	The court held that the imported goods are confiscated & goods are NOT redeemed by paying fine, the importer is bound to pay the C/Duty.	Poona Health Services V. CCus 2009 (242) E.L.T. 335 (Bom.)
45.	Whether the goods held to be improperly imported are liable for confiscation u/s 111 of the customs Act, 1962, even though he same are cleared & not available for seizure? Whether redemption fine can be imposed with regards to such goods?	The court held that in the absence of the goods being available, NO fine in lieu of confiscation could have been imposed. (Already asked in CA Final's Nov.,2011 attempt)	CCus. V. Finesse Creation Inc 2009 (248) E.L.T. 122 (Bom.)
46.	In case of the goods liable to confiscation u/s 111, issuing of a notice to the owner original importer of the goods is enough or whether notice is also required to be issued to person from whose custody the goods are seized?	The court held that in case of seizure of goods from the custody of persons other than importer, notice must also be given to person from whose custody the goods are seized.	Gawar Construction Ltd V. UOI 2009 (243) E.L.T. 484 (Bom.)
47.	Is the want of evidence from foreign supplier enough to cancel the confiscation order of goods undervalued?	The High court held that in a case of confiscation of goods bcoz of this under valuation, tribunal could NOT cancel the confiscation order for the want of evidence from foreign supplier.	CCus. V. Jaya Singh Vijaya Jhaveri 2010 (251) E.L.T. 38 (Ker.)
48.	In case of a settlement comm.'s order, can the assesses be permitted to accept what is favorable to them & reject what is not?	The court opined that the appellant could NOT be permitted to dissect the settlement comm.'s order with a view to accept what is favorable to them & reject what is not	Sanghvi Reconditioners (P) Ltd V. UOI 2010 (251) E.L.T. 3 (SC)
49.	Can the order of the settlement comm. be considered to be a judicial processing?	The High court observed that as per sec. 127M of Custom Act, 1962, the order passed by the settlement comm. Is in judicial proceedings & it is a judicial order.	UOI V. East & West Shipping Agency 2010 (253) E.L.T. 12 (Bom.)
50.	Does the settlement comm. have jurisdiction to settle cases relating to the recovery of drawback erroneously paid by the revenue?	The High court held that the settlement comm. has jurisdiction to deal with the Q. relating to the recovery of drawback erroneously paid by the revenue.	UOI V. Cus. & C. Ex Settlement commission 2010 (258) E.L.T. 476 (Bom.)

(C) Service Tax

51.	SIM card supplied as part of service should be added to value of taxable services or treated as sale of goods?	It was held that SIM cards were NOT goods sold but supplied as part of service & hence form the part of value of taxable service. (Already asked in CA Final's May,2012 attempt)	Idea Mobile Communication Ltd. V. CCE 2011 (23) S.T.R. 433
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52.	Is the service tax & excise liability mutually exclusive?	The high court held that the excise duty is levied on the aspect of manufacture & S/Tax is levied on the aspect of service rendered. Hence, it would NOT amount to payment of tax twice & the assesses would be liable to pay S/tax on the value of services. (Already asked in CA Final's May, 2012 attempt)	Lincoln helios (I) Ltd. V. Commissioner of S/Tax 2011 (23) S.T.R. 112 (Kar.)
53.	Can appeal be filled to high court for deciding the Q. related to the taxability of S/Tax?	The high court held that the Q. as to whether the assesses is liable to pay S/Tax falls squarely within the exception carved cut in section 35G of CE Act, 1944? (Already asked in CA Final's May, 2012 attempt)	Volvo India Ltd. V. CCEx & ST 2011 (24) S.T.R. 25 (Kar.)
54.	Whether a concern not having profit motive can be regarded as a security agency u/s 65(94) of the Finance Act, 1994?	The High court observed that thr was NO requirement that the S/Provider shud provide service for profit motive. Hence, the assesses was held liable to pay S/tax.	Punjab Ex-Servicemen Corporation V. UOI 2012 (25) STR 122 (P&H)
55.	In case whr rooms have been rented out by municipality, can it pass the burden of S/tax to service receiver ie tenant?	The court held that municipality can pass the burden of S/tax on service receiver.	Kishore K. S. V. cherthala Municipality 2011 (24) STR 538 (Kar.)
56.	Can marriage be regarded as a social function for the purpose of levying S/Tax under pandal or shamiana contractors services?	The High court elucidated that when a “Pandal or Shamiana” is used for marriage, it would be regarded as “social function” & would be liable to S/tax.	All India Tent Dealers Welfare Organization V. UOI 2011 (24) STR 385 (Del.)
57.	Can a comm. Agent also acting as a consignment agent be covered under the definition of “Clearing & Forwarding Agent”?	Since the consignment agent had been brought under statutory definition of “Clearing & Forwarding Agent” by inclusion clause, the high court held that the assesses falls under the definition of “Clearing & Forwarding Agent”.	CCE V. Mahaveer Generics 2010 (17) STR 225 (Kar.)
58.	Whether the levy of S/tax on hire purchase & leasing tranx falling u/s 65 (12) of the Finance Act, 1994 is constitutional Valid?	The High court in the impugned judgment, had upheld the constitutional validity of S/tax levy on hire purchase & lease services.	Madras Hire Purcahse Association V. UOI 2009 (16) STR 3 (Mad.)
59.	Can a software be treated as goods & if so, whether its supply to a customer as per an “End User License Agreement” (EULA) would be treated as sale or service?	The High court reiterated that software is goods as per article 366 (12) of the constitution. Further, the court was of the view that such tranx taking place betw. members of ISODA & its customer, the software is NOT sold as such, but only the content of the data stored in the software are sold which would only amts. to service & NOT Sale.	Infotech Software Dealers Association (ISODA) V. UOI 2010 (20) STR 289 (Mad.)
60.	Whether S/tax is chargeable on the buffer subsidy provided by the Govt. for storage of free sale sugar, under the category of storage & W/H services?	The court held that the storage of specific quantity of free sale sugar could NOT be treated as Providing storage & W/H services to GOI.	CCE V. Nahar Industrial Enterprises Ltd 2010 (19) STR 166 (P&H)
61.	Will the S/provider by way of “Advice, consultancy or technical assistance” in the case of turnkey contracts attract S/tax & can ths turnkey contract be vivisected?	The Tribunal held that turnkey contract can be vivisected & services by way of “Advice, consultancy or technical assistance” in the case of turnkey contracts shall attract S/tax.	CCE V. BSBK (P) Ltd 2010 (18) STR 555 (Tri-LB)
62.	In case whr the respondent is authorized by the airport authority to collect entrance fee from visitors to airport, who is liable to pay S/tax – Respondent or Airport Authority?	The Court opined that respondent (P. C. Paulose) being the Service Provider was liable to pay S/tax. (Already asked in CA Final's Nov., 2011 attempt)	CCE V. P. C. Paulose 2010 (19) STR 487 (Ker.)
63.	Can the option for composition scheme under works contract service be exercised after payment of S/tax on a particular work contract?	It was held that, whr S/tax has been paid in respect of a works contract, the eligibility to exercise an option to avail the benefit of the composition scheme is excluded.	Nagarjuna Contruction Co. Ltd V. GOI 2010 (19) STR 321 (AP)

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