

4. On the basis of the legal opinion, it is hereby **clarified** that various actions/compliances under GST can be broadly categorised as follows: -

(a) **Proceedings that need to be initiated or compliances that need to be done by the taxpayers:-** These actions would continue to be governed only by the statutory mechanism and time limit provided/ extensions granted under the statute itself. Various Orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court would not apply to the said proceedings/ compliances on part of the taxpayers.

(b) **Quasi-Judicial proceedings by tax authorities:-**

The tax authorities can continue to hear and dispose off proceedings where they are performing the functions as quasi-judicial authority. This may interalia include disposal of application for refund, application for revocation of cancellation of registration, adjudication proceedings of demand notices, etc.

Similarly, appeals which are filed and are pending, can continue to be heard and disposed off and the same will be governed by those extensions of time granted by the statutes or notifications, if any.

(c) **Appeals by taxpayers/ tax authorities against any quasi- judicial order:-**

Wherever any appeal is required to filed before Joint/ Additional Commissioner (Appeals), Commissioner (Appeals), Appellate Authority for Advance Ruling, Tribunal and various courts against any quasi-judicial order or where a proceeding for revision or rectification of any order is required to be undertaken, the time line for the same would stand extended as per the Hon'ble Supreme Court's order.

5. In other words, the extension of timelines granted by Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its Order dated 27.04.2021 is applicable in respect of any appeal which is required to be filed before Joint/ Additional Commissioner (Appeals), Commissioner (Appeals), Appellate Authority for Advance Ruling, Tribunal and various courts against any quasi-judicial order or where proceeding for revision or rectification of any order is required to be undertaken, and is not applicable to any other proceedings under GST Laws.

## **158**

**Clarification regarding extension of time limit to apply for  
revocation of cancellation of registration in view of  
Notification No. 34/2021-Central Tax dated 29th August, 2021 - Reg.  
Circular No. 158/14/2021-GST**

**6th September, 2021**

Vide Circular No. 148/04/2021-GST, dated 18th May, 2021, detailed guidelines for implementation of the provision of extension of time limit to apply for revocation of cancellation of registration under section 30 of the Central Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017 (hereinafter referred to as "the CGST Act / said Act") and rule 23 of the Central Goods and Services Tax Rules, 2017 (hereinafter referred to as "the CGST Rules") have been specified, till the time an independent functionality for extension of time limit for applying in FORM GST REG-21 is developed on the GSTN portal. It may be noted that notification No.14/2021-Central Tax, dated 1st May, 2021, as amended, had, inter-alia, extended the date of filing of application for revocation of cancellation of registration till 30th June, 2021, where the



due date of filing of application was falling between 15th April, 2021 to 29th June, 2021. Government has now issued notification No. 34/2021-Central Tax dated 29th August, 2021 (hereinafter referred to as "the said notification") under section 168A of the said Act to extend the timelines for filing of application for revocation of cancellation of registration to 30th September, 2021, where the due date of filing of application for revocation of cancellation of registration falls between 1st March, 2020 to 31st August, 2021. This extension is applicable for those cases where registrations have been cancelled under clause (b) or clause (c) of sub-section (2) of section 29 of the said Act.

2. In order to ensure uniformity in the implementation of the said notification across field formations, the Board, in exercise of its powers conferred by section 168(1) of the said Act, hereby clarifies the issues relating to the extension of timelines for application for revocation of cancellation of registration as under:

### **3. Applications covered under the scope of the said notification**

3.1. The said notification specifies that where the due date of filing of application for revocation of cancellation of registration falls between 1st March, 2020 to 31st August, 2021, the time limit for filing of application for revocation of cancellation of registration is extended to 30th September, 2021. Accordingly, it is **clarified** that the benefit of said notification is extended to all the cases where cancellation of registration has been done under clause (b) or clause (c) of sub-section (2) of section 29 of the CGST Act, 2017 and where the due date of filing of application for revocation of cancellation of registration falls between 1st March, 2020 to 31st August, 2021. It is further **clarified** that the benefit of notification would be applicable in those cases also where the application for revocation of cancellation of registration is either pending with the proper officer or has already been rejected by the proper officer. It is further **clarified** that the benefit of notification would also be available in those cases which are pending with the appellate authority or which have been rejected by the appellate authority. In other words, the date for filing application for revocation of cancellation of registration in all cases, where registration has been cancelled under clause (b) or clause (c) of sub-section (2) of section 29 of CGST Act, 2017 and where the due date of filing of application for revocation of cancellation of registration falls between 1st March, 2020 to 31st August, 2021, is extended to 30th September, 2021, irrespective of the status of such applications. As explained in this para, the said notification would be applicable in the following manner:

**(i) application for revocation of cancellation of registration has not been filed by the taxpayer-**

In such cases, the applications for revocation can be filed upto the extended timelines as provided vide the said notification. Such cases also cover those instances where an appeal was filed against order of cancellation of registration and the appeal had been rejected.

**(ii) application for revocation of cancellation of registration has already been filed and which are pending with the proper officer-**

In such cases, the officer shall process the application for revocation considering the extended timelines as provided vide the said notification.

**(iii) application for revocation of cancellation of registration was filed, but was rejected by the proper officer and taxpayer has not filed any appeal against the rejection -**



In such cases, taxpayer may file a fresh application for revocation and the officer shall process the application for revocation considering the extended timelines as provided vide the said notification.

- (iv) **application for revocation of cancellation of registration was filed, the proper officer rejected the application and appeal against the rejection order is pending before appellate authority-**

In such cases, appellate authorities shall take the cognizance of the said notification for extension of timelines while deciding the appeal.

- (v) **application for revocation of cancellation of registration was filed, the proper officer rejected the application and the appeal has been decided against the taxpayer-**

In such cases, taxpayer may file a fresh application for revocation and the officer shall process the application for revocation considering the extended timelines as provided vide the said notification.

4. It may be recalled that, with effect from 01.01.2021, proviso to sub-section (1) of section 30 of the CGST Act has been inserted which provides for extension of time for filing application for revocation of cancellation of registration by 30 days by Additional/ Joint Commissioner and by another 30 days by the Commissioner. Doubts have been raised whether the said notification has extended the due date in respect of initial period of 30 days for filing the application (in cases where registration has been cancelled under clause (b) or clause (c) of sub-section (2) of section 29 of CGST Act, 2017) under sub-section (1) of section 30 of the CGST Act or whether the due date of filing applications for revocation of registration can be extended further for the period of 60 days (30 + 30) by the Joint Commissioner/ Additional Commissioner/ Commissioner, as the case may be, beyond the extended date of 30.09.2021. It is **clarified** that:

- (i) where the thirty days' time limit falls between 1st March, 2020 to 31st December, 2020, there is no provision available to extend the said time period of 30 days under section 30 of the CGST Act. For such cases, pursuant to the said notification, the time limit to apply for revocation of cancellation of registration stands extended up to 30th September, 2021 only; and
- (ii) where the time period of thirty days since cancellation of registration has not lapsed as on 1st January, 2021 or where the registration has been cancelled on or after 1st January, 2021, the time limit for applying for revocation of cancellation of registration shall stand extended as follows:
- (a) Where the time period of 90 days (initial 30 days and extension of 30 + 30 days) since cancellation of registration has elapsed by 31.08.2021, the time limit to apply for revocation of cancellation of registration stands extended upto 30th September 2021, without any further extension of time by Joint Commissioner/ Additional Commissioner/ Commissioner.
- (b) Where the time period of 60 days (and not 90 days) since cancellation of registration has elapsed by 31.08.2021, the time limit to apply for revocation of cancellation of registration stands extended upto 30th September 2021, with the extension of timelines by another 30 days beyond 30.09.2021 by the Commissioner, on being satisfied, as per proviso to sub-section (1) of section 30 of the CGST Act



- (c) Where the time period of 30 days (and not 60 days or 90 days) since cancellation of registration has elapsed by 31.08.2021, the time limit to apply for revocation of cancellation of registration stands extended upto 30th September 2021, with the extension of timelines by another 30 days beyond 30.09.2021 by the Joint/Additional Commissioner and another 30 days by the Commissioner, on being satisfied, as per proviso to sub-section (1) of section 30 of the CGST Act.

## **159**

### **Clarification on doubts related to scope of "Intermediary"-reg.**

**Circular No. 159/15/2021-GST**

**20th September, 2021**

Representations have been received citing ambiguity caused in interpretation of the scope of "Intermediary services" in the GST Law. The matter has been examined. In view of the difficulties being faced by the trade and industry and to ensure uniformity in the implementation of the provisions of the law across field formations, the Board, in exercise of its powers conferred by section 168 (1) of the Central Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017 (hereinafter referred to as "CGST Act"), hereby clarifies the issues in succeeding paragraphs.

#### **2. Scope of Intermediary services**

**2.1** 'Intermediary' has been defined in the sub-section (13) of section 2 of the Integrated Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017 (hereinafter referred to as "IGST" Act) as under-

*"Intermediary means a broker, an agent or any other person, by whatever name called, who arranges or facilitates the supply of goods or services or both, or securities, between two or more persons, but does not include a person who supplies such goods or services or both or securities on his own account."*

**2.2** The concept of 'intermediary' was borrowed in GST from the Service Tax Regime. The definition of 'intermediary' in the Service Tax law as given in Rule 2(f) of Place of Provision of Services Rules, 2012 issued vide notification No. 28/2012-ST, dated 20-6-2012 was as follows:

*"intermediary" means a broker, an agent or any other person, by whatever name called, who arranges or facilitates a provision of a service (hereinafter called the 'main' service) or a supply of goods, between two or more persons, but does not include a person who provides the main service or supplies the goods on his account;"*

**2.3** From the perusal of the definition of "intermediary" under IGST Act as well as under Service Tax law, it is evident that there is broadly no change in the scope of intermediary services in the GST regime vis-à-vis the Service Tax regime, except addition of supply of securities in the definition of intermediary in the GST Law.

#### **3. Primary Requirements for intermediary services**

The concept of intermediary services, as defined above, requires some basic prerequisites, which are discussed below:

**3.1 Minimum of Three Parties:** By definition, an intermediary is someone who arranges or facilitates the supplies of goods or services or securities between two or more persons. It is thus a natural corollary that the arrangement requires a minimum of three parties,