Pan Drugs Limited, 167-168 GIDC Estate, Nandesari, Vadodara - 391340, has filed this review under section 16 of the Foreign Trade (Development & Regulation) Act 1992, as amended, against order in appeal No. 08/01/144/00016/AM17/A'bad, dated 29.03.2018.

Brief facts of the case

2.0 Pan Drugs Limited, 167-168 GIDC Estate, Nandesari, Vadodara - 391340 had applied and obtained an advance Authorisation No. 3410005559 dated 14.10.2002 for CIF value Rs. 57,12,444/- for import of 22500 kgs of Guiacol and 19200 Kgs. Of Epichlorohydryn against export of 30000 Kgs. of Guaifenesine for an FOB value of Rs 94,77,000/- (USD 195000). One of the conditions of the licence was that the Licensee had to fulfil the export obligation within a period of 24 months from the date of issuance of the licence and submit the prescribed documents evidencing fulfilment of export obligation within one month from the date of expiry of export obligation period.

2.1 The company has submitted export documents showing the export of 15500 Kgs. for an FOB value of USD 98373.84. The documentary evidence showing export of 2500 Kgs for USD 18586.84 was accepted by the licensing authority and the other documents were returned to it as there was no evidence for receipt of foreign exchange against such exports. In view of the admitted exports there was an excess import to the extent of 14125 kgs. Of
company was required to regularise the case by paying customs duty and interest which it failed to do. The company submitted requests for clubbing of licence on 10.11.2004 which was rejected by the Licensing authority. Thus the company violated the conditions of the Licence.

2.2 Therefore, the Adjudicating Authority in exercise of power vested in him under section 13 of the FTDR Act vide order-in-original 34/80/40/00423/AM03 dated 30.11.2016 imposed fiscal penalty of Rs.1,15,00,000/- on the firm and its directors under section 11(2) of the said Act.

3.0 Aggrieved by the order-in-original, the applicant company filed an appeal before the Additional Directorate General of Foreign Trade, Mumbai.

4.0 After hearing the applicant and going through the adjudicating order as well as documents available on record the Appellate Authority observed as under:

(i) The Applicant has approached the PRC, DGFT, New Delhi in the month of February 2011 and again in April, 2017 for clubbing but did not receive any relief from the PRC.

(ii) The Applicant claimed to be in BIFR since 2003, but no supporting documents provided.

Therefore, the appeal was rejected vide Order-in-Appeal dated 29.03.2018.

5.0 Aggrieved by the order-in-appeal dated 29.03.2018 the applicant has filed the present review. An opportunity of personal hearing was granted to the applicant by the DGFT on 13.12.2018 at 3:00 PM in which Mr. Sunil Kumar K, Mr. Babu Ezhumavil and Mr. Bhavin Chokshi appeared. The review has been filed on the following grounds:

(i) The company does not have finance to pay such a huge amount.

(ii) The company has export to their credit and put together there may be negligible gap.

(iii) The company had applied for clubbing of advance authorisations which was rejected and the RA redeemed the authorisations individually. The company's request for closing authorisation was not approved for clubbing in PRC citing that it was under adjudication.

(iv) The duty concession which was availed of has been properly utilized and accounted for. Any difference or excess imports are noticed, the firm is ready to pay the duty back with interest on any excess imports left unutilised with them after clubbing.

6. I have gone through the facts of the case carefully. It is observed that the party failed to fulfil the prescribed export obligation against the duty free imports made by them under
this authorisation. It’s request for clubbing of various authorisations was denied by RA Vadodara as it was not eligible for clubbing as per the provisions of the relevant Foreign Trade Policy. Requests of the company for granting relaxation to it were also rejected in the Policy Relaxation Committee. It has failed to get its case regularised as per the conditions attached with the duty free imports made by it under the authorisation.

I, therefore, in exercise of the powers vested in me under section 16 of the FTIDR Act,1992, pass the following order:

Order

F.No. 18/56/2018-19/ECA-D/88

Dated: 04.2019

Order-in-Appeal No. 08/01/144/00016/AM17/A’bad, dated 29.03.2018 is upheld. Review appeal is dismissed.

(Alok Vardhan Chaturvedi)
Director General of Foreign Trade

Copy To:


2. Addl. DGFT, Mumbai with reference to F.No. 08/01/144/00016/AM17/A’bad/0236,

3. RA Vadodara with reference to F.No. 34/80/040/00423/AM/03

4. DGFT Website

(Dilip Kumar)
Dy. Director General of Foreign Trade