Government of India  
Ministry of Commerce & Industry  
Directorate General of Foreign Trade  
Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi-110011

F.No. 18/29/18-19/ECA-I(3)/217  
Date of Order: 09.2019  
Date of Dispatch: 09.2019

Name of the Applicant: N. J. Leather Enterprise, Flat No. 7, 3rd Floor, 45A, Shamsul Huda Road, Kolkata - 700 017

IEC No. 0288029593

Order reviewed against: Order-in-Original No. 02/21/021/00209/AM'07 dated 22.01.2016 passed by Jt. DGFT, Kolkata.

Order-in-Review passed by: Shri Alok Vardhan Chaturvedi, DGFT

Order-in-Review

N. J. Leather Enterprise, Kolkata filed a Review Petition dated 03.10.2018 against Order-in-Original No. 02/21/021/00209/AM'07 dated 22.01.2016 passed by Dy. DGFT, Kolkata. The petitioner has requested to waive penalty, customs duty and interest. The adjudicating authority imposed a penalty of Rs. 2,00000/- in addition to customs duty and 15% interest per annum on the petitioner and its partners.

Facts of the case:

2. The petitioner obtained an EPCG Authorisation No. 0230001653 dated 24.07.2006 from RA, Kolkata as per provisions of Foreign Trade policy prevalent during the period for import of capital goods for a Duty Saved Value of Rs. 64,662/- with an Export Obligation (EO) of Rs. 5,17,296/- (US$ 11112.69) to be completed within a period of 8 years from the date of issue of the Authorization. As per condition of the Authorization, the Applicant was required to submit the prescribed export documents towards fulfilment of obligation block wise and Installation Certificate within the time frame as mentioned in the FTP during that policy period.

2.1 The export obligation period expired on 24.07.2014. The petitioner did not furnish any export documents towards fulfilment of export obligation and Installation Certificate. A Show Cause Notice was issued on 07.05.2015 for submission of return reply. Since, the petitioner did not submit reply, a refusal order was issued to it on 30.11.2015 in terms of section 9(2) of FT(D&R) Act, 1992 read with Rule 7(1)(a) and (k) of FT (Regulations) Rules, 1993. The petitioner was also granted personal hearing. The petitioner did not respond to the Show Cause Notice and did not appear for personal hearing. The Adjudicating Authority passed Order-in-Original dated 22.01.2016 imposing a fiscal penalty of Rs.2,00,000/- in addition to payment of customs duty alongwith 15% interest per annum on the petitioner and its partners.
2.2. The petitioner did not file an appeal before the Appellate Authority against the Order-in-Original dated 22.01.2016.

3. The petitioner has now submitted a review petition dated 03.10.2018 before the undersigned. The petitioner has inter-alia submitted the following:

(i) It could not submit the requisite documents to obtain EODC owing to unscrupulous attitude of its employees whom it had trusted to do the job. It has to keep itself busy in tannery production and to cope with the poor business situation and monetary hardship.

(ii) It has already fulfilled export obligation.

(iii) After receiving duplicate copy of adjudication order, it submitted relevant documents to RA, Kolkata but the same were not accepted.

(iv) It could not submit appeal owing to time stipulations.

4. I have gone through the facts and records carefully. The petitioner was granted personal hearing on 29.11.2018 which was availed by it. During the course of Personal Hearing, the petitioner re-iterated to have fulfilled the export obligation. The petitioner was advised to submit the prescribed export documents to its RA. The RA, Kolkata, vide its letter dated 29.07.19 informed that the petitioner submitted some documents which are incomplete and have discrepancies. It is observed that the petitioner failed to submit complete documents towards fulfillment of export obligation inspite of a fresh opportunity given to it.

5. I, therefore, in exercise of powers vested in me under Section 16 of Foreign Trade (Development & Regulation) Act, 1992, as amended pass the following order:

ORDER

Order-in-Original dated 22.01.2016 is upheld. The present review petition is dismissed.

(Alok Vardhan Chaturvedi)
Director General of Foreign Trade

Copy To:

(1) N. J. Leather Enterprise, Flat No. 7, 3rd Floor, 45A, Shamsul Huda Road, Kolkata – 700017
(2) Additional DGFT, 4, Esplanade East, Kolkata - 700069
(3) DGFT Website.

(Dilip Kumar)
Dy. Director General of Foreign Trade