

Commissioner of Income Tax Vs Sh. Rajesh Rana

Court: High Court Of Punjab And Haryana At Chandigarh

Date of Decision: Oct. 14, 2010

Acts Referred: Income Tax Act, 1961 " Section 133A, 260A, 271(1)

Citation: (2011) 335 ITR 207

Hon'ble Judges: Ajay Kumar Mittal, J; Adarsh Kumar Goel, J

Bench: Division Bench

Judgement

Adarsh Kumar Goel, J.

On 7.7.2009, the following order was passed:

1. This appeal has been preferred by the Revenue u/s 260A of Income Tax Act, 1961 (for short, "the Act") against the order of Income Tax

Appellate Tribunal, Amritsar Bench, Amritsar, dated 3.8.2007 passed in ITA No. 381 (ASR)/2006-Assessment Year 1994-95, proposing to

raise following substantial questions of law:

1. Whether on the facts and in the circumstances of the case, the ITAT was right in law in upholding the order of the CIT(A) deleting the penalty of

Rs. 1,14,770/- imposed u/s 271(1)(c) of the Income Tax Act, 1961.?

2. Whether on the facts and in the circumstances of the case, the ratio of judgment of the Hon'ble Punjab and Haryana High Court in the case of

CIT v. M/s. Munish Iron Store reported at 263 ITR 483 is applicable in the present case when the finding regarding furnishing of inaccurate

particulars of income have been given in the assessment order in a detailed manner?

2. During assessment for the assessment year in question, the Assessing Officer on the basis of survey u/s 133A found that the assessee had stocks

in excess of stock entered in the books of accounts. The assessee surrendered some of the amounts as additional income to cover up the

discrepancies. However, the Assessing Officer made additions to the declared amount. Notice for imposition of penalty was also issued and order

of penalty was separately passed.

3. The quantum matter is subject matter of ITA No. 344 of 2005 at the instance of the assessee.

4. On appeal, CIT(A) set aside the penalty only on the ground that from the proceedings recorded by the A.O., the requirement of Section 271(1)

(c) of the Act was not met as it was not recorded that a case of penalty was made out while mentioning that notice for penalty proceedings had

been separately issued.

5. Learned Counsel for the Revenue points out that this issue was considered by this Court in Commissioner of Income Tax Vs. Pearey Lal and

Sons (EP) Ltd., and it was held that order of this nature could not be set aside on the ground that requirement of Section 271(1)(c) of the Act was

not made. Existence or otherwise of satisfaction was not a matter of form but of substance.

6. Learned Counsel for the Assessee submitted that even if the requirement of Section 271(1)(c) was met, the assessee was entitled to be heard

on merits of justification for levy of penalty. The CIT (A) has set aside the penalty, without going into the merits of the issue.

7. In view of the above, though the matter may have been liable to be remitted to the CIT(A) for deciding the issue afresh after considering the

view point of the assessee on merits, but since it is pointed out that quantum case is pending in this Court, we consider it appropriate to direct that

this appeal be listed along with ITA No. 344 of 2005.

3. We have heard learned Counsel for the parties.

4. By a separate order passed today, ITA No. 344 of 2005 Sh. B.S. Rana v. Commissioner of Income Tax, Jalandhar has been dismissed. In

view of earlier order, this appeal is allowed and orders of the CIT (A) as well as the Tribunal are set aside. The matter is remanded to the CIT(A)

for fresh decision in accordance with law. The assessee may appear before the CIT(A) on 20.12.2010.