BEFORE COMMISSIONER OF INCOME TAX (APPEALS) National faceless Appeal Centre

IN THE MATTER OF

M.C. Modi Educational Trust

VS.

Income Tax Officer -Exemption Ward 1(2)/Hyderabad

APPEAL NO. CIT(A), Hyderabad-9/10195/2019-20

ASST. YEAR 2017-18

BEFORE COMMISIONER OF INCOME TAX (APPEALS) -9/HYD

M.C.Modi Educational Trust 5-4-187/3 &4,Soham Mansion M.G.Road,		Income Tax officer, Exemption Ward 1(2)/ Hyderabad.	
SECUNDERABAD – 500 003. Appellant	V/s.	Respondent	

Appeal NO. CIT(A), Hyderabad- 9/10195/2019-20 Asst. Year 2017-18

In connection with the above appeal the following submissions are made before YOUR HONOURS for kind consideration.

- The appellant is a Public Charitable Trust evidenced under a Trust Deed dated 15-11-1955.Copy enclosed – Annexure 1.
- The trust was settled more than 60 years ago by LateShri.ManilalChhaganlal Modi (M C Modi). The founder Trustees were Late Shri. ManilalChiganlal Modi, Late Shri. ChimanlalChhaganlal Modi and Late Shri. OcchavlalMaganlal Parikh.
- 3. For past several years upon demise of settlor/founder trustees, the trustees of the trust were Mr. Pramod Modi, Mr. Satish Modi. The day-to-day affairs of the trust were managed by them from their respective offices. Shri.Pramod Modi died on 04-06-2012 and Shri. Satish Modi died on 20-01-2016. Both the trustees were healthy and unexpectedly died of heart attacks.
- 4. The present trustees are Mr.Om Prakash, S/o Late Praveen Chandra Modi, Mr. Ashish Modi, S/o. Late Pramod Modi and Mr. Soham Modi, S/o. Late Satish Modi. They are the grand children of late Mr. Manilal C Modi and his brother Late Mr. Chimanlal C Modi.
- The present Trustees namely Mr. Om Prakash, Mr. Ashish Modi and Mr. Soham Modi have executed a Supplementary Trust Deed dated 01.04.2016 which is registered as Document No 137/IV/2017 with S.R.O. Secunderabad. Copy enclosed- Annexure 2.
- 6. The above said Supplementary Trust Deed got executed so as to enable the Trustees to have the ease of carrying out the Trust activities more efficiently and effectively and also to rewrite the objects of the Trust in line with the larger philanthropic motive and desire of the Settlor at the time of settling the Trust 60 years ago.
- 7. The trust has been carrying out his charitable activities implacably for over 60 years.
- 8. The Trust is registered u/s 12A of the IT Act, 1961 vide Letter No. V/19/67-68 dated 01-06-1968.

- 9. The above registration letter and also the Original Trust Deed has been lost/misplaced.
- 10. Due to the sudden demise of late Mr. Pramod Modi and Late Mr. Satish Modi, all records pertaining to the trust could not be handed over to the present trustees. Accordingly, several documents pertaining to exemptions under IT act and others are no longer traceable. The premises from which the operations of the trust were handled by late Mr. Pramod Modi is no longer being used by the present trustees and many documents were lost in transferring the files from the old office of the trust.
- 11. The Trust has requested Commissioner of Income Tax (Exemption) /Hydto issue a duplicate Registration certificate as that may be available with their records. Copy of Letter dated12.06.2017 filed on 19.06.2017 is enclosed- Annexure 3.
- 12. We have received a communication dated 21.06.2017 from Commissioner of Income Tax (Exemption) /Hydthat there is no such provision to issue a duplicate registration certificate. Copy of Letter dated 21.06.2017 is enclosed- Annexure 4.
- 13. In view of this background and left with no alternative, and under peculiar facts and circumstances, we have applied for a registration u/s 12AA afresh. The application was electronically filed on 26-02-2018. Copy of Ack is enclosed -Annexure 5.
- 14. Vide Order u/s 12AA(1)(b)(ii) F.No CIT(E)/Hyd/68(02)/12A/2017-18 dated 27-08-2018, the registration is denied and the application in Form 10A got rejected by CIT(Exemptions). The only ground of rejection is due to non-submission of certain documents/information requested for in the course of hearing could not be furnished within time allowed.
- 15. The application filed in Form 10A on 26-02-2018 was required to be disposed of within a period of 6 months i.e., by 31-08-2018. Since the group accountant was pre-occupied with finalization of various IT returns to filed on or before 31-08-2018 and also with the tax audits works, could not attend to and furnished the required information. As the matter was getting time barred, the application got rejected.
- 16. It may be noted that the rejection of registration is during the FY 2018-19 which has to take effect for Assessment Year 2019-20. The rejection order does not ispo facto applicable for Assessment Year 2017-18. Further, the rejection is operative with prospective date and not with retrospective date.
- 17. The Trust is therefore deemed to be a Registered Trust u/s 12A/AA for Assessment Year 2018-19 vide Letter No. V/19/67-68 dated 01-06-1968.
- 18. Aggrieved by the rejection of registration u/s 12AA by CIT(Exemptions), an appeal is preferred before Hon'ble ITAT/Hyd on 30.07.2019 and is pending disposal.

19. An appeal before CIT(A)-9/Hyd for Asst. Year 2016-17 on the similar ground is pending disposal.

20. The Trust has been regularly filing its Return of Income under the Status of AOP(Trust) for past several years.

21. For Assessment Year 2017-18, the Return of Income was e-filed on 08.07.2017admitting income of Rs.30,84,657/-

22. The Income is computed in accordance with the provision of Section 11 and 12 of I.T Act, 1961.

23. The copy of ITR Ack, Computation of Income, Annual accounts and Audit Report in Form 10B is enclosed herewith- **Annexure 6.**

24. The LearnedAssessing Officer while passing assessment order u/s 143(3) in para 2 has concluded that since the Trust is not having registration u/s 12A, the Trust is considered as AOP.

25. In view of the above said peculiar facts and circumstances under which the Trust is placed, it is pleaded that the Trust be considered as a registered Trust under the relevant provisions of the Income tax Act and thus the taxable income should be computed in accordance with the provisions u/s 11 and 12.

26. The Learned Assessing Officer after concluding that the Trust is not registered Trust u/s. 12A of IT Act have added the amount of Rs. 30,84,657/- u/s. 11(3)(c). The question of Computation of Income in accordance with the provision of section 11/12 does not arise in the event of the Trust is considered as AOP and not a registered Trust u/s 12A of I.T. Act. Thus, consideration of Rs.30,84,657/- as income is fundamentally and legally incorrect.

27. The addition of Rs 30,84,657/- u/s 11(3)(c) by the Assessing Officer has resulted in a dichotomy whereby on one hand the exemption/computation of income u/s 11 is not accepted for the reason that the Trust in not registered u/s 12A and on the other hand invokes provisions of Section 11(3)(c) to add the income of Rs 30,84,657/-. The same is therefore patently bad in law and hence deserves to be deleted.

Your HONOURS, it is pleaded to allow the appeal granting the relief prayed for.

For M.C.Modi Educational Trust

(Soham Medi) Trustee

(APPELLANT)