

EDITORIAL

Reining in overreach: On arrests and summons under GST law

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC), through four different communiqués this week, has altered the enforcement processes for tax evaders in both customs as well as Goods and Services Tax (GST) matters. First, it significantly raised the monetary thresholds for initiating prosecutions and arrests under the Customs Act. Separately, the board laid down elaborate guidelines for GST officials before they exercise their powers to arrest and issue summons under the central GST law. While such norms were laid down for legacy laws governing taxes such as central excise, that are now subsumed into the GST, CBIC felt the need to issue fresh guidelines. The summons checklist, for instance, takes note of routine issuance of summons to top officials of firms even for procuring records available on the GST portal, and specifies that CEOs and MDs of any firm must not "generally" be summoned in the first instance, but only when their involvement in tax evasion is clearly indicated. An approval process that requires officers to record reasons for issuing summons has been mandated to ensure that the power is

exercised judiciously, even as they have been advised to first consider where simple letters may suffice. The norms spell out for arrest and bail for GST offenses, that stem from a Supreme Court judgment, are far more exhaustive and aimed at preventing routine and mechanical arrests. The prerequisites laid out before an arrest include the availability of credible evidence of wrongdoing as a starting point. However, approvals to arrest would hinge on whether the intent to evade tax or wrongfully avail tax benefits is evident and mens rea or guilty mind is palpable. Mere disagreements on interpreting a tax levy should not result in an arrest, the Board has said, underlining that the power to arrest must be exercised carefully as it impinges on personal liberty. Although the CBIC took a year to respond to the apex court's conclusion that an arrest must not be made just because it can be made, its latest directives are a welcome sign that the board laid down elaborate guidelines for GST officials before they exercise their powers to arrest and issue summons under the central GST law. While such norms were laid down for legacy laws governing taxes such as central excise, that are now subsumed into the GST.

A month of pinkwashing

Every June our social media feed looks like a dizzying assortment of VIBGYOR content. This year too corporations like Walmart and Meta have all announced their pride "campaigns," and all profile photos have turned rainbow. That is, until the clock strikes 12 on July 1. June, recognised as Pride month, is a political movement for and by the queer and transgender community. As conversations around the LGBTQ+ community entered the mainstream, the presence of the corporate sector escalated. Today, every company worth its salt "celebrates" pride with product launches and lip-service. Movies and campaigns around LGBTQ+ themes create an idea of progress hardly reflected in contemporary society. The passing of the Equality Act in the US and the general rollbacks of protections across nations, all point to the reality on ground. On top of everyday discrimination, 2021 saw the most number of registered



murders of transgender people across the world, with a total of 375 deaths. Corporations yield profits up to \$50-100 billion annually during pride month. Though they claim to be allies in our bid for queer liberation, these corporations also fund politicians who pass legislations that shrink spaces for LGBTQ+ people. With visibility or the corporate flag emerged as a unique consumer base, one that corporations don't shy away from marketing to in the name of support. This concept, called pinkwashing, has in the recent decade effectively taken over the movement in the West. After persistent backlash, corporations have adjusted their strategy. This June, AT&T announced their campaign #TurnUpTheLove, and partnered up with the US's biggest LGBTQ+ non-profit. Similarly, Walmart has come out with merchandise with quirky slogans like "Lez is more," and "Walmart PRIDE Walmart Proud". Corporations mentioned here also rank high on the US' Human Rights

inclusion momentum, seems apparent. OTT platforms like Netflix and Prime have seen a surge in queer content too. This April, on the heels of losing subscriber count, Netflix fired 150 employees in North America. The majority of the people fired were LGBTQ+ individuals or people of colour. Netflix was disqualified by the HRC this year, following their choice to air Dave Chappelle's transphobic stand-up special. What's interesting though, is that the company had a perfect corporate equality score in the five years leading up to 2022. Part of the score is assigned on grounds of having workplace policies for LGBTQ+ employees. How, with those protections in place then, was Netflix able to carry out the firings in the way it did, demands a hard look at the nature of these policies. Social media platforms like Facebook and Twitter, some reports suggest that they algorithmically tilt the balance in favour of conservative accounts — also announce their support for the community while trolls on the platform engage in unfettered queerbaiting. Corporations cannot refute that their efforts at inclusion are anything but attempts in maximising profits and capitalising on an expanding consumer base. The

conversations sparked by this visibility have value, but not at the cost of lack of protections to the community. In an era of conservatism, these projections of progress are dissonant at best and dishonest at worst. In India, the LGBTQ+ movement doesn't have the influence it enjoys in the West. Corporate takeover of an agitation this nascent could be very damaging. With time, the scope for expanding this consumer base to India will only increase. Companies with a presence here, like Amul, UNAIDS have also started announcing campaigns. The trend of pinkwashing is unlikely to recede, even amid the critique it faces. So, holding companies accountable becomes necessary. Any corporation claiming to support LGBTQ+ people must be able to prove its mettle through the policies that limit the arbitrariness in hiring and firing, the nature of anti-discriminatory policies they adopt and their work with the community outside the month of June. Political engagement and investments are crucial to this assessment. Most importantly, though, we must centre our focus on celebration and discounts to the true meaning of pride — an agitation led by LGBTQ+ people for queer liberation, rooted in civil rights.

If you can lean in, you can lean out too

In a moment, Sandberg was seen as trivialising the criticality of her mission. And by foregoing her role-model position, she was seen as a supreme traitor to the cause and reinforcing stereotypes of women not having it in them to go the whole hog. In an instant, people had turned her change-making moment into one of abandonment. Some even had mouthed their "Lean In" initiative as just a glossy handout of what male techpreneurs were already doing, seizing the leadership of a digital world that was completely wired out of real issues. Yet, Sandberg embodies nothing but the real issues.

When Bill Gates stepped down from the Microsoft board in 2020 to pursue philanthropy, he conveniently forgot the allegations of his intimacy with a former employee that might have prompted such a move. And by the time Jack Dorsey decided to step down from Twitter in his 40s, people believed his higher profile calling, seeing a greater purpose behind his flowing beard, ice baths and one-a-day meals. Yet when Sheryl Sandberg, considered the tech goddess and as much a doughy maker of Meta as Mark Zuckerberg, stepped down from her pedestal, all hell broke loose. While her predecessors were hailed as change-makers, she was denounced as a mid-life maniac. Her sin? Choosing "to write the next chapter of her life", prioritising family life and pursuing women-oriented philanthropy. For all her clarity of thought

at 52, daring to make the next half of her life count in different ways, she wasn't considered either noble like Enielaire or wise like Dorsey. All she faced was one big question — "Why now?" — with attendant conspiracy theories. Unfortunately Sandberg, for all the glass ceilings she had shattered throughout her life, had all the broken shards headed her way. Was she escaping controversies like Cambridge Analytica, unethical data leaks and biased politics? Grave charges indeed. Does she stop to think that she might have felt choked enough by the toxicity of it all and decided to step outside that man and stay inside? Why doesn't anybody consider that she made millions during her tenure and is resourceful enough to start anything she wants? Most surprising was the attack on her by her own kind, the women whom she addressed through her charitable foundation, Lean In, that aims to see women in 50 per cent of the positions in personal comfort and 50 per cent in the workforce. For someone who had been righteous about working mothers not giving up, they simply accused her of betraying the feminist cause, leading her hard-won position of personal comfort and being hypocritical about continuing to work for women's causes.

P Chidambaram writes: More minus than plus in jobs



The government has flattened me by reading my column (The Indian Express, February 20, 2022). Finally waking up to the reality of soaring unemployment, it has announced that 10 lakh persons will be recruited to posts under the central government. Save a few exceptions, every family is affected by the lack of jobs. Add to that the loss of jobs. Especially after the pandemic-hit year (2020-21) and the indifferent recovery year (2021-22), unemployment is the biggest economic challenge faced by India. In the run-up to the LS elections 2014, Mr Narendra Modi, the BJP's candidate for prime minister, made the lofty promise that he would create 2 crore jobs a year. There were sceptics, but their voices were drowned by the drumbeats of the bhakts (believers). The bhakts swallowed every promise including the mind-boggling promise that "black money stashed abroad will be brought back and Rs 15 lakh credited to the account of every Indian." I doubt if any one did the math.

After the new government took office, all talk ceased about creating 2 crore jobs a year or crediting every Indian's bank account with Rs 15 lakh. The people were unusually forgiving! The government got busy in refurbishing and renaming the LPA schemes and claiming them to be its own. The MGNREGA scheme that provided 'last resort' jobs to the poor — that was lampooned by Mr Modi — was retained because the government could not invent an alternative scheme. The situation on a job!

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Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/Co-Borrower/ Guarantor (Loan Account Number & Address)	Property Address of Secured Asset/ Asset to be Enforced	Date of Notice Sent/ Outstanding as on Date of Notice	NPA Date
1.	Nimavat Dipakbhai Bharatbhai (Borrower), Bharuben Kalubhai (Borrower), Bharuben Kalubhai Nagadviya (Co-Borrower), Yuvandana Society Vichya Road Jasdian Rajkot Gujarat 360050. LHRJA00001422112	Jilleswar Park Bh Virchand Sheth Bunglows, Off Vichhyaroad Jasdian- Rajkot 360050, Bounded By:- North: Dhanu Amnabai Bechar, South: Land of Sasthu Vrajaji Mayram, East: Plot No.4, West: Plot No.4	07-06-2022 Rs. 20,10,825/-	02-06-2022
2.	Nimavat Dipakbhai Bharatbhai (Borrower), Bharuben Kalubhai (Borrower), Bharuben Kalubhai Nagadviya (Co-Borrower), Yuvandana Society Vichya Road Jasdian Rajkot Gujarat 360050. LHRJA00001422112	Jilleswar Park Bh Virchand Sheth Bunglows Off Vichhyaroad Jasdian- Rajkot 360050, Bounded By:- North: Dhanu Amnabai Bechar, South: Land of Sasthu Vrajaji Mayram, East: Plot No.4, West: Plot No.4	07-06-2022 Rs. 84,01,27/-	02-06-2022
3.	Kalubhai Magabhai Nagadviya (Borrower), Bharuben Kalubhai Nagadviya (Co-Borrower), Bajrang Society Vichya Road Jasdian Rajkot Gujarat 360050. NHDJN00001279262	New Gamtal, Nr Ramdevi Temple, At Shanthal, New Gamtal Plot No.77 Rajkot Gujarat 360050, Bounded By:- North: Plot No.77, South: 20 Ft Wd Road, East: Plot No.71, West: 20 Ft Wd Road.	07-06-2022 Rs. 14,39,949/-	02-06-2022
4.	More Vinobha Laxman (Borrower), Vasanthi More (Co-Borrower), 10 Shivje Nagar Near Malpura Vadodra Gujarat 390011. LHRH00001368225	Shivje Enclave Flats Nr Suncity Circle, Malpura Vadodra Rs No.427 T P 19 FP 212 CS No.2418 204 Vadodra, Gujarat 390011, Bounded By:- North: Flat No.203, South: By Building Open, East: Common Passage, West: By Open Space.	15-06-2022 Rs. 1,16,110/-	07-06-2022
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The steps are being taken for substituted service of notices. The above borrowers and/or their guarantors (as applicable) are advised to make the payments of outstanding amount of 60 days from the date of publication of this notice else further steps will be taken as per the provisions of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

Date : September 03, 2022
Place: Rajkot, Vadodara

PUBLIC NOTICE				
[Registered Office: ICICI Bank, Towers, Bandra-Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai- 400051]				
[Corporate Office: ICICI HFC Tower, JB Nagar, Andheri, Kurla Road, Andheri East, Mumbai- 400059]				
[Branch Address: 3rd floor, 301, Nakshatra-3, 150 Ft Ring Road, Near Raoya Telephone Exchange, Rajkot - 360007]				
[Branch Address: 1st Floor, 101 & 102, SPS Empress, opposite LIC Showroom, B5, Passport Seva Kendra, near Mitakhali Six Roads, Navanapura - 380009]				
The following borrowers have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the loans facility obtained by them from ICICI Home Finance Company Limited ("ICICI HFC") and the loans have been classified as Non-Performing Assets (NPA). A notice was issued to them under Section 13 (2) of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act-2002 on their last known addresses, however it was not served and hence they are hereby notified by way of this public notice.				
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SIKKO INDUSTRIES LIMITED
 CIN: L51909GJ2000PLC037329
 Regd. Off: 508 Icon Elegance, Nr. Jain Temple, Nr. Prahladnagar Pick up Stand, Vejalpur, Ahmedabad-380051
 Website: www.sikkoindia.com; Email: compliance@sikkoindia.com
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NOTICE OF THE 22nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE COMPANY, RECORD DATE AND E-VOTING NOTICE is hereby given that the Twenty-second (22nd) Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Members of Sikko Industries Limited will be held on Tuesday, September 27, 2022 at 04:00 PM. IST through Video Conferencing ("VC") / Other Audio Visual Means ("OAVM"). The venue of the Meeting shall be deemed to be the Registered Office of the Company i.e. 508 Icon Elegance, Nr. Jain Temple, Nr. Prahladnagar Pick up Stand, Vejalpur, Ahmedabad - 380051. In accordance with the General Circular No. 14/2020 dated April 8, 2020, General Circular No. 02/2021 dated January 13, 2021, General Circular No. 19/2021 dated December 8, 2021, General Circular No. 21/2021 dated December 14, 2021 and General Circular No. 2/2022 dated May 5, 2022 (hereinafter collectively referred to as "MCA Circulars") issued by Ministry of Corporate Affairs ("MCA") and all other relevant Circulars issued from time to time, the Notice of AGM along with Annual Report 2021-22 have been sent through electronic mode only to those Members whose email addresses are registered with the Company Depositories. Member may note that Notice and Annual Report 2021-22 have been updated on the website of the Company at www.sikkoindia.com, website of National Stock Exchange of India Limited at www.nseindia.com and website of National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL) i.e. www.evoting.nsdl.com. There being no physical shareholders in the Company, the Register of members and share transfer books of the Company is not closed. Members whose names are recorded in the Register of Members or in the Register of Beneficial Owners maintained by the Depositories as on Wednesday, September 21, 2022 ("Cut-off date"), shall only be entitled to avail the facility of remote e-voting as well as e-voting on the Annual General Meeting. Pursuant to the provisions of Section 108 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Rules made thereunder (as amended) and Regulation 44 of SEBI (LODR) Regulations, 2015 (as amended) and above mentioned MCA Circulars, the Company is providing facility of remote e-voting and e-voting on the date of the AGM to its Members in respect of the businesses proposed for consideration. For this purpose, the Company has entered into an agreement with NSDL for facilitating voting through electronic means. The remote e-voting will commence on 9:00 A.M. on Saturday, September 24, 2022 and will end on 5:00 P.M. on Monday, September 27, 2022. During this period, the members of the Company holding shares as on Cut-off date may cast their vote electronically (Remote E-Voting). Members may note that the remote e-voting module shall be disabled by NSDL after the aforesaid date and time for voting and on the day on a resolution is cast by the member, the member shall not be allowed to change it subsequently; (b) the facility of e-voting shall be made available at the 22nd AGM and (c) the members who have cast their vote by remote e-voting prior to the 22nd AGM may also attend the 22nd AGM but shall not be entitled to cast their vote again. Detailed procedure for remote e-voting / e-voting is provided in the Notice of the 22nd Annual General Meeting.

Any person, who acquires shares in the Company and become member of the Company after dispatch of the Notice of AGM and holding shares as on the cut-off date i.e. Wednesday, September 21, 2022, may obtain the login ID and password by sending a request at evoting@nsdl.co.in or compliance@sikkoindia.com. However, if you are already registered with NSDL for remote e-voting then you can use your existing user ID and password for casting your vote. If you forgot your password, you can reset your password by using "Forgot Password" option available on www.evoting.nsdl.com. In case of any queries for e-voting, you may refer the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for Shareholders or for Shareholders using manual for Shareholders available at the download section of www.evoting.nsdl.com or call on toll free no.: 1800-222-990 and 1800-22-44-30 or send a request at evoting@nsdl.co.in. Members may also contact Ms. Anita Lunagaria, Company Secretary of the Company at the registered office of the Company or may write an e-mail to compliance@sikkoindia.com or may call on +91 95120 23804 for any further clarification.

Members can attend and participate in the Annual General Meeting through VC/OAVM facility only. The instructions for joining the Annual General Meeting are provided in the Notice of the Annual General Meeting. In case the shareholders/members have any queries or issues regarding participation in the AGM, you can write an email to evoting@nsdl.co.in or Call on: Tel: 1800-222-990. Members attending the Meeting through VC/OAVM shall be entitled for the purposes of reckoning the quorum under Section 103 of the Companies Act, 2013.

For, Sikko Industries Limited
 S/-
 Jayantibhai kumbhani
 Managing Director
 DIN: 00587807
 Place: Ahmedabad
 Date : September 02, 2022