<u>INDIRECT TAXES UPDATE – 144</u>

SERVICE TAX

Swachh Bharat Cess leviable from 15th November 2015

CBEC vide *Notification No. 21/2015-Service Tax Dated 6th November, 2015* has provided that Swachh Bharat Cess (SBC) @ 0.5% would be leviable on value of all taxable services <u>with</u> <u>effect from 15th November 2015</u>. This implies that effective rate of service tax will be 14.5%.

Further, CBEC vide *Notification No.* 22/2015-Service Tax Dated 6th November, 2015 has exempted all taxable services from payment of Swachh Bharat Cess in excess of 0.5% of the value of services. It has also been provided that <u>SBC would not be applicable on non-taxable services and services which are exempt from service tax.</u>

As there is no amendment proposed in the CENVAT Credit Rules, 2004, hence whether CENVAT credit of SBC would be available or not requires an immediate clarification/amendment from the board.

[Notification No. 21/2015-Service Tax Dated 6th November, 2015 & Notification No. 22/2015-Service Tax Dated 6th November, 2015]

Source: www.cbec.gov.in

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