

TAXATION OF REAL ESTATE TRANSACTION

12TH OCT 2023 CA SUNIL GARG Nagpur branch of WIRC of ICAI

SECTION 45 (1)

- Any profits or gains arising
- from the transfer of a capital asset
- effected in the previous year shall
- Save as otherwise provided in section 54,54B,54D,54E,54 EA,54 EB,54 F,54 G,54H
- •be chargeable to income tax under the head capital gain and shall be deemed to be the income of the previous year in which the transfer took place.

SECTION 48: MODE OF COMPUTATION

- The income chargeable under the head Capital Gain shall be computed by deducting from full value of consideration received or accuring as a result of the transfer of capital assets the following amount, namely:-
- (i) expenditure incurred wholly and exclusively in connection with such transfer
- >(ii) the cost of acquisition of the asset and cost of any improvement therto

SECTION 50 D

Fair market value deemed to be full value of consideration in certain cases.

50D. Where the consideration received or accruing as a result of the transfer of a capital asset by an assessee is not ascertainable or cannot be determined, then, for the purpose of computing income chargeable to tax as capital gains, the fair market value of the said asset on the date of transfer shall be deemed to be the full value of the consideration received or accruing as a result of such transfer.

MEANING OF CAPITAL ASSET [SEC 2(14)]

Capital Asset means

- a) property of Any kind held by an Asseessee, whether or not connected with business or profession of the Asseessee.
- b) Any securities held by a FII which has invested in such securities in accordance with the regulations made under the SEBI Act, 1992.

MEANING OF PROPERTY: NOT DEFINED IN IT ACT

Section 2(c) of the Benami Transactions (Prohibition) Act, 1988 defines property as:

"Property" means property of any kind, whether movable or immovable, tangible or intangible, and includes any right or interest in such property.

TRANSFER: SECTION 2(47)

Transfer", in relation to a capital asset, includes:

- (i) Sale, exchange or relinquishment of the asset;
- (ii) Extinguishment of any rights in relation to a capital asset;
- (iii) Compulsory acquisition thereof under any law

TRANSFER :2(47)

- (iv) Conversion of capital asset into stock-in-trade;
- (iv a) Maturity or redemption of a zero coupon bond;
- (v) any transaction involving the Allowing of the possession of any immovable properties to be taken or retained in part performance of the contract of the nature as referred in section 53 A of Transfer of property act, 1882.

SECTION 2(47)

(vi) any transaction

(whether by way of becoming a member of, or acquiring shares in a cooperative society, company, or other association of person or by way of any agreement or any arrangement or any other manner whatsoever)

which has the effect of transferring, or enabling the enjoyment of any immovable property.

JOINT DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT

- > JDA with registered agreement
- > JDA without registered agreement
- \triangleright Situation prior to 45(5A).
- \triangleright Agreement which do not fall in the perview of 45(5A)
- > JDA by company / Firm other than individual & HUF
- > JDA by company firm with land as business assets
- > JDA by company / firm with land as capital assets

YEAR OF TAXABLITY

- date of JDA
- Date of registration of JDA
- handing of physical possession or constructive possession
- > At the time of completion of project
- > at the time of sale / conveyance deed
- date of receipts of consideration
- Or depends on terms of JDA

JOURNEY SO FAR

Chaturbhuj Das Kapadia 260 ITR 491 (Bombay)	Physical possession
Jasbir singh sarkaria	Physical possession or general control
Charanjit singh Atwal	General control plus registration
Balbir singh maini 398 ITR 531 Seshasayee Steels (P.) Ltd. vs. ACIT 421ITR 46	General control plus registration after 2001

ANALYSIS OF BALBIR SINGH MAINI DECISION

Precondition of applicability of 2(47)(v)

In case of Shrimant Shamrao Suryavanshi & Anr. v. Pralhad Bhairoba

Suryavanshi (D) by LRs. & Ors honourable supreme court held

"16. But there are certain conditions which are required to be fulfilled if a transferee wants todefend or protect his possession under Section 53-A of the Act.

The necessary conditions are:

(1) there must be a contract to transfer for consideration of any immovable property;

PRECONDITION OF VALID CONTRACT FOR 53 A

- (2) the contract must be in writing, signed by the transferor, or by someone on his behalf;
- (3) the writing must be in such words from which the terms necessary to construe the transfer can be ascertained;
- (4) the transferee must in part-performance of the contract take possession of the property, or of any

part thereof

- (5) the transferee must have done some act infurtherance of the contract; and
- (6) the transferee must have performed or be willing to perform his part of the contract."

BALBIR SINGH MAINI: EFFECT OF NON REGISTRATION OF CONTRACT

however after amendment in section 17 (1A) & 49 registration act in 2001, any agreement which is not registered:

it shall not have any effect in law, other than being received as evidence of a contract in a suit for specific performance or as evidence of any collateral transaction not required to be effected by a registered instrument.

BALBIR SINGH MAINI: WHETHER IT IS TRANSFER IN 2(47)(VI)

- The object of Section 2(47)(vi) appears to be to bring within the tax net a *de facto* transfer of any immovable property
- The expression "enabling the enjoyment of" takes color from the earlier expression "transferring",
- we have to check whether ownership rights has really been transferred or it was mere a possession or licence to work only
- > unless and until ownership rights are being transferred, mere enabling enjoyment of property does not tantamount to transfer

BALBIR SINGH MAINI: REAL INCOME VS HYPOTHETICAL INCOME

- the court in para 25 explained the meaning of accrual of income citing cases of ED E D Susson & co Ltd (1955)
- held accrual of income arises only when the right to receive that income has arisen

Unless and until there is created in favour of the assessee a debt due by somebody it cannot be said that he has acquired a right to receive the income or that income has accrued to him."

IMPORTANT DECISION ON TRANSFER

- > Principal Commissioner of Income Tax, Kolkata-1 v. Infinity Infotech Parks Ltd.
- * possession given, but if transfree can be dispossessed due to terms contained in JDA, then it is not a transfer
- * Tamilnadu Brick Industries 97 taxmann .com 1(2018) Chennai
- ❖ JDA and GPA for full control has been given for 40 % of superstructure, held transfer has been taken place
- Emporis Properties (P.) Ltd. 151 taxmann 64 (2023) Calcutta high court
- terms of JDA contains termination clause, refundable security recd, only licence to develop was given: held NO TRANSFER

SECTION 45 (5A)

FINANCE ACT -2017

Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1),

- Where the capital gain arises to an Assessee,
- being an individual or a HUF,
- from the transfer of a capital asset, being land or building or both,
- under a specified agreement,
- the capital gains shall be chargeable to income tax
- > as income of the previous year in which the certificate of completion for the whole or part of the project is issued by the competent authority;

CONSIDERATION FOR: 45(5A)

- > And for the purposes of section 48,
- the stamp duty value, on the date of issue of the said certificate, of his share, being land or building or both in the project, as increased by the consideration received in cash, if any,

shall be deemed to be the full value of the consideration received or accruing as a result of the transfer of the capital asset:

SECTION 45 (5A): PROVISIO IF SHARE IS TRANSFERRED BEFORE GETTING COMPLETION

If Assessee transfers his share in the project

- Provided that provisions of this section shall not apply where the assessee transfer his share on or before the date of issue of the said certificate of completion,
- capital gains shall be deemed to be the income of the previous year in which such transfer takes place
- The provisions of this Act, other than the provisions of this sub-section,
- received or accruing as a result of such transfer.

EXPLANATION TO 45(5A)

- > competent authority: means authority enpowered to approve building plans by or under any law for the time being in force
- > specified agreement: means a registered agreement in which aperson owning land building or both agrees to allow other person to develop a real estate project on such land building or both in consideration of share being land building or both in such project whether with or without payment of part of the consideration in cash
- > stamp duty value means the value adopted assessed or assessable by any authority of government for the purpose of payment of stamp duty in respect of immovable property being land building or both.

ISSUES IN JDA

- Whether amendment by FA 2017 in section 45(5A), can be applied retrospectively
- may be yes, being a curative provisions it can be applied for joint development agreement prior to April 2017. but in following decision it was held NO.
- Adinarayana Reddy Kummeta v. ACIT [2018] 91 taxmann.com 360 (Hyd. ITAT) -K. Vijaya Lakshmi v. ACIT [2018] 91 taxmann.com 253 (Hyd. ITAT)
- How to compute tax, if the land is held by assessee business assets.
- the income will arise under the head PGBP and percentage of completion method will be applicable.

CONVERSION BEFORE JDA: 45(2)

- If the capital assets is converted into business assets before entering into JDA.
- in case of conversion from capital assets to business asset section 45(2) will be applicable. And 45(5A) will not be applicable. Hence income from PGBP will be applicable
- > deduction u/s 54 / 54 F can be claimed as per circular 791 dt 2.6 2000

CONVERSION BEFORE JDA: 28(VIA)

- inventory converted to capital assets
- > taxable event under PGBP will arise immrdiately u/s 28
- > section 45(5A) will be available

ISSUES IN JDA

- What if the consideration is in revenue sharing model.
- if the consideration is not fixed in monetary terms, and is on the basis of revenue sharing basis, then 45(5A) is applicable. However if the consideration is fixed in monetary value then 45(5A) is not applicable.

JDA FOR DEVELOPED PLOT ONLY

- whether specified agreement covers JDA where only plots are developed and no building
- Yes, it may be development of land, with infrastructure.
 But completion from competent authority is must.
- whether sale of land in divided plots , can be covered .
- No, if there is mere division. It may be treated as business venture.

JDA OF RURAL AGRICULTURAL LAND:

- ➤ In case land transferred by the landowner is agricultural land, what would be the tax liability/implications thereof?
- if it is rural agricultural land it is not a capital asset. But after the change of land use is taken than it become a non agricultural land and hence taxable.
- If it is stock in trade than income will be taxable even in case of agricultural land.

COMPLETION CERTIFICATE OF PART OF THE PROJECT

Howtointerpretandapplythewords"partoftheproject"?Doesitmeanan ypartofprojectordoesitmeanonlythatpartinwhichtheassesseeistogeta share?

Explanatory Memorandum provides that provision introduced to remove hardship of paying taxintheyear of transfer

Hence, part of the project should be interpreted as that part in which assesse is stoget the share

COMPLETION CERTIFICATE - DATE OF ISSUANCE VS. DATE OF APPLICATION

Aspertheprovisionsofsection 47 of Indian Registration Act, 1908, adocumenton subsequent registration willt akeeffect from the time when it was executed and not from the time of its registration.

-Gurbux Singh v. Kartar Singh [2002] 254 ITR 112

CITvs.TarnetarCorporation[2014]362ITR174(Gujarat)

EFFECT OF UNREGISTERED AGREEMENT : UNDER BENAMI ACT / INCOME TAX ACT

Explanation to section 2(9) of benami transaction act:

For the removal of doubts, it is hereby declared that benami transaction shall not include any transaction involving the allowing of possession of any property to be taken or retained in part performance of a contract referred to in section 53A of the Transfer of Property Act, 1882, if, under any law for the time being in force,— (i) consideration for such property has been provided by the person to whom possession of property has been allowed but the person who has granted possession thereof continues to hold ownership of such property; (ii)

stamp duty on such transaction or arrangement has been paid;

and (iii) the contract has been registered.

SECTION 50 C: PLAIN READING

- •Where the consideration received or accuring by as a result of
- •Transfer of capital asset being land building or both is
- •Less than value **adopted**, **assessed or assessable** by state authority
- •For the purpose of stamp duty (circle rate)
- •The value so adopted, assessed or assessable shall be deemed to be full value of consideration for section 48.

SECTION 50 C: IF THE DATE OF AGREEMENT VS DATE OF TRANSFER

- •Circle rate difference between date of agreement & date of registration
- Benefit of date of agreement can be taken, provided part payment by banking channel
- •However if the difference is less than $110\,\%$ of sale consideration with circle rate , than to be ignored

50 C(2): IF THE FMV IS LESS THAN STAMP DUTY VALUE

- >Assessee claims before the AO
- > stamp duty value is higher than FMV
- and such value has not been disputed in an appeal
- > then AO may refer the case to DVO
- if the valuation by DVO is higher than stamp duty value, then stamp duty value will be taken as full value of consideration.
- > if the value is lower then stamp duty value , it will be adopted .

ISSUES IN 50 C-PROPERTY UNDER GIFT / TRANSFER TO RELATIVE FOR INADEQUATE CONSIDERATION

- 50 C provisions will not be applicable on Property transferred in gift ,will , irrevocable trust or partition of HUF , as this not a transfer u/s 47
- •Transfer by relative for inadequate consideration, will affect 50 C, but

will not be taxable u/s 56 (2) (x)

•There is no concept of adequate or inadequate in section 50 C

50 C: AGREEMENT TO SALE REGISTERED BUT NO PAYMENT THROUGH BANKING CHANNEL

- It is not mandatory that sale agreement must be registered.
- Part payment, through banking channel is the essence
- •If agreement is registered, but no payment through banking channel, than relief should be granted, but no concrete view.
- •If circle rate reduced after agreement, assessee can take the benefit of reduced rate.

SECTION 50C - WHETHER TRANSFER OF RIGHT IN IMMOVABLE PROPERTY COVERED UNDER 50 C

Transfer of Lease Hold Right/Tenancy Right

Transfer of flat without possession is not immovable property, but a right only hence 50 C is not applicable.

ISSUES IN 50 C — SALE BY POA, WHETHER COVERED

- Property sold on POA also covered under section 50 C
- •But apex court in case of Suraj Lamp Pvt Ltd vs state of Haryana held that transfer through POA is not valid transfer under transfer of property act.
- •In benami act , if possession is offered on agreement of sale $/\mathsf{POA}$
- Than it should be registered and stamp duty has been paid.
- Otherwise it will attract prohibition of benami transaction act 2016

THANK YOU

Please feel free to contact us

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