IN THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA AT ERNAKULAM

PRESENT

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE S.V.BHATTI

FRIDAY, THE 28TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2020 / 9TH PHALGUNA, 1941

WP(C).No.6087 OF 2020(I)

PETITIONER/S:

PARK DIAMONDS G2 AND G3, LULU INTERNATIONAL SHOPPING MALL, EDAPPALLY, KOCHI-682 024, REPRESENTED BY SARATH KRISHNAN.M.R., MANAGING PARTNER, PARK DIAMONDS

BY ADVS. SRI.K.M.CHERIAN SRI.R.RAMAKRISHNAN POTTY SRI.P.M.GIRIJAVALLABHAN

RESPONDENT/S:

- THE STATE TAX OFFICER
 SGST DEPARTMENT, 1ST CIRCLE, KALAMASSERY, CIVIL STATION,
 KAKKANAD-682 030
- 2 THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER (APPEALS)
 DEPT. OF COMMERCIAL TAX, ERNAKULAM, KOCHI-682 015
- 3 THE DEPUTY TAHSILDAR
 THRISSUR TALUK,THRISSUR -680 020
- 4 THE STATE OF KERALA,
 REPRESENTED BY THE SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCIAL
 TAXES, SECRETARIAT, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM-695 014

OTHER PRESENT:

GP SMT.M M JASMINE

THIS WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) HAVING COME UP FOR ADMISSION ON 28.02.2020, THE COURT ON THE SAME DAY DELIVERED THE FOLLOWING:

JUDGMENT

Dated this the 28th day of February 2020

The petitioner filed appeal in Ext.P3 aggrieved by the order of assessment in Ext.P1 made under Section 25(1) of the KVAT Act. The petitioner has filed the appeal with Ext.P5 stay petition. The petitioner prays for appropriate direction to the appellate authority to consider and dispose of Ext.P5 expeditiously.

2. The case of petitioner is that either the mere filing of appeal or pendency of appeal does not amount to granting stay by the appellate authority. The delay in considering and disposing Ext.P5 results in the assessing officer taking steps for recovering the tax amount which is under challenge in Ext.P3. The assessing officer, if is successful in his effort the statutory appeal would become either academic or ineffective. It is further contended by the petitioner that in the manner the law provides for protecting

the interest of appellant pending appeal, the order on stay petition is passed expeditiously. Hence the writ petition.

3. Perused Exts. P1, P3 and P5. *Prima facie* I am satisfied that a case is made out for issuing necessary directions to second respondent to dispose of the stay petition in Ext.P5.

Having regard to the limited prayer and the grounds referred to above, this Court is satisfied that the writ petition can be disposed of by this order:

- (a) The appellate authority/second respondent considers and disposes of Ext.P5 stay application as early as possible, preferably within two months from the date of receipt of copy of this judgment.
- (b) The respondents are directed not to take coercive steps or recover the amount determined in the order under appeal for ten weeks from today.

Sd/-

S.V.BHATTI

JUDGE

APPENDIX

PETITIONER'S/S EXHIBITS:

EXHIBIT P1 TRUE COPY OF THE ASSESSMENT ORDER

NO.32071207465/13-14 DATED 01.09.2019 FOR THE YEAR

2013-14 ISSUED BY THE FIRST RESPONDENT

EXHIBIT P2 TRUE COPY OF THE REVENUE RECOVERY NOTICE NO

2019/19085/07 DATED 19.02.2020 ISSUED BY THE 3RD

RESPONDENT AND TRANSLATION

EXHIBIT P3 TRUE COPY OF THE APPEAL FILED FOR THE FINANCIAL

YEAR 2013-14 DATED 12.12.2019

EXHIBIT P4 TRUE COPY OF THE INTERLOCUTORY APPLICATION FOR

URGENT HEARING FILED FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR

2013-14 DATED 12.12.2016

EXHIBIT P5 TRUE COPY OF THE INTERLOCUTORY APPLICATION

PRAYING FOR THE STAY OF COLLECTION OF TAX FILED

FOR THE YEAR 13-14 DATED 12.12.2019