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“Myths & reality - cracking IDT”

Many of us do have a belief that the things asked in the question paper are not known to us / known but we don't have a grip over it / a mentality that we might miss out on some crucial issues. I would rather tell just say to yourself that you are the best and yes that's the truth. “As we think we become **Yath bhavam thath bhavathi**.

Many of us have done so much of study; taken a good control over the subject but we still miss out only on certain micro issues like missing out communicating in full what we wanted to / giving more than what is required of and so on . This write up is just to bring certain points which all of you would already know but might miss out due to stress in exam condition / otherwise . Only reward for our hard work over months is a well deserved and positive results; a few tips I thought I could pen down for the benefit of many friends.

Common issues & mistakes :

1. There are a lot of chances people out of stress / excitement just write Rule 4A instead of Sec 4A - MRP though they know it very well as Sec 4A please give proper concentration on these matters which might end miserable if left unnoticed. Similarly is the usage of words turnover instead of clearances in SSI etc.....

.2. If there is a question on transaction value and we do make a lot of addition & deletion to arrive @ TV and we arrive at conclusions based on our knowledge which we fail to communicate by the way of a note like it is in connection/ in relation of sale ; price paid / payable is considered hence discount flowing back is eliminated and so on . Similar is for a practical problem in customs valuation and service tax.

3. Quoting of case laws in such questions by notes with just a line will add much more value to the answer. It is not necessary to indicate the forum of decision etc, it is sufficient enough if the judgment & the assessee's name is expressed and if not, at least the judgment in a line . eg : as decided in Panchamukhi engg / Supreme petrochem Ltd - dharmada/donation charges ; pre delivery inspection charges Maruthi udyog Ltd included as in connection / in relation to sale . Certain item though looks to be valued under valuation rules gets covered under sec 4A Medley pharma case stating once covered in sch 3 e.g goods given as free samples but under MRP.

4. Take adequate care on calculations performed in case of practical problems, as small mistakes/ errors will cost so much and every word in the question paper must be read properly and every important information therein must be underlined for better control to avoid these kinds of errors/ mistakes.

5. Reference to a rule number say 8 of central excise valuation rules eg. in case of goods given free of cost - see to that it is not directly answered as rule 8 and the proper flow is communicated i.e. by application of rule 11 & thereby applying rule 8 . if quoting section no. / rule no. becomes difficult just quote - central excise valuation rules & the rule captive consumption ; residuary rule ; job worker , and so on similarly apply on for any law. In service tax – in case of a given service specify why that service is not taxable .is that by virtue of negative list / by any notification stands exempt and so on.

6. Usage of appropriate words and phrases as spelt and used in the statute eg: Declared tariff, establishment in a taxable territory, Central air-conditioning/ central air-heating system, remission and so on.

7. Reply to case study or application based questions: (answers are expected to the point and not to beat around the bush , must be simple and straight to the point)

- Reference to the relevant section and or to rules if any and the same needs to be explained.
- Reference to any judgment (name of the assessee) , point of dispute and the judgment.
- Comparing the current case with that of the law and judgment and then concluding on the same.

8. Answer to straight theory questions

In case of theory questions for eg(those with ref. to audit / maintenance of records / remission of duty etc.) straight answers are expected and not to write unwanted/unwarranted answers. It is suggested to write those as points rather than as running paragraphs.

9. General

In the current exam scenario the number of questions posed have increased(doubled) and thereby the marks to each question have considerably reduced and so everyone have to first determine the importance and the time requirement and then to chalk out a skeleton plan in the first 15-20 minutes which will help to carry out proper execution in the rest of the part of exam.

*Wishing all success dear friends,
Regards*

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