Foreign Exchange Management (Remittance of Assets) Regulations, 2000

Notification No.FEMA 13 /2000-RB dated 3rd May 2000

RESERVE BANK OF INDIA (EXCHANGE CONTROL DEPARTMENT) CENTRAL OFFICE MUMBAI 400 001

In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 47 of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (42 of 1999), the Reserve Bank makes the following regulations in respect of remittance outside India by a person whether resident in India or not, of assets in India, namely:

1. Short title and commencement :-

- i) These Regulations may be called the Foreign Exchange Management (Remittance of Assets) Regulations, 2000.
- ii) They shall come into force on 1st day of June, 2000.

2. Definitions:-

In these Regulations, unless the context requires otherwise, -

- (i) 'Act' means the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (42 of 1999);
- (ii) 'authorised dealer' means a person authorised as an authorised dealer under subsection (1) of section 10 of the Act;
- (iii) 'Person of Indian Origin (PIO)' means a citizen of any country other than Bangladesh or Pakistan, if
 - a) he at any time held Indian passport;

or

b) he or either of his parents or any of his grand-parents was a citizen of India by virtue of the Constitution of India or the Citizenship Act 1955 (57 of 1955);

or

- c) the person is a spouse of an Indian citizen or a person referred to in subclause (a) or (b).
- (iv) 'Remittance of asset' means remittance outside India of funds representing a deposit with a bank or a firm or a company, provident fund balance or superannuation benefits, amount of claim or maturity proceeds of Insurance policy, sale proceeds of shares, securities, immovable property or any other asset held in India in accordance with the provisions of the Act or rules or regulations made thereunder;
- (v) the words and expressions used but not defined in these Regulations shall have the same meanings respectively assigned to them in the Act.

3. Prohibition on Remittance outside India of assets held in India:

Save as otherwise provided in the Act or rules or regulations made or issued thereunder, no person whether resident in India or not, shall make remittance of any asset held in India by him or by any other person:

Provided that the Reserve Bank may, for sufficient reasons, permit any person to make remittance of any asset held in India by him or by any other person.

4. Permission for remittance of assets in certain cases :-

- (1) A person specified in sub-regulation (2) may make remittance of assets through an authorised dealer, to the extent specified in that sub-regulation.
- (2) A citizen of foreign state, not being a citizen of Nepal or Bhutan or a person of Indian origin (PIO), who –
 - (i) has retired from an employment in India, or
 - (ii) has inherited the assets from a person referred to in sub-section (5) of section 6 of the Act;
 - (iii) is a widow resident outside India and has inherited assets of her deceased husband who was an Indian citizen resident in India.

may remit an amount, not exceeding Rs.20 lakhs per calendar year, on production of,

- (a) documentary evidence in support of acquisition of assets by the remitter; and
- (b) a Tax clearance/no objection certificate from the Income-Tax authority for the remittance:

Provided that for the purpose of arriving at annual ceiling of remittance under the sub-regulation (2), the funds representing sale proceeds of shares and immovable property owned or held by the citizen of foreign state on repatriation basis in accordance with the Foreign Exchange Management (Acquisition and transfer of immovable property in India) Regulations, 2000 and Foreign Exchange Management (Transfer of Indian security by a person resident outside India) Regulations, 2000 made under the Act, shall not be included.

Provided further that where the remittance is made in more than one instalment, the remittance of all instalments shall be made through the same authorised dealer.

- (iv) had come to India for studies/training and has completed his studies/training, may remit the balance available in his account, provided such balance represents funds derived out of remittances received from abroad through normal banking channels or rupee proceeds of foreign exchange brought by such person and sold to an authorised dealer or out of stipend/scholarship received from the Government or any Organisation in India.
- (3) An authorised dealer in India may, without approval from Reserve Bank, effect remittance of assets made by a person eligible under sub-regulation (2).

5. Permission to an Indian entity to remit funds in certain cases :-

An entity in India may remit the amount being its contribution towards the provident fund/superannuation/pension fund in respect of the expatriate staff in its employment who are resident in India but not permanently resident therein.

Explanation:

For the purpose of this Regulation, -

- (a) 'expatriate staff' means a person whose provident / superannuation/ pension fund is maintained outside India by his principal employer outside India;
- (b) 'not permanently resident' means a person resident in India for employment of a specified duration (irrespective of length thereof) or for a specific job or assignment, the duration of which does not exceed three years.

6. Reserve Bank's prior permission in certain cases :-

- (1) person who desires to make a remittance of assets in the following cases, may apply to the Reserve Bank, namely:
 - (i) In Form LEG annexed to this regulation for remittance on account of legacy, bequest or inheritance to a citizen of foreign state permanently resident outside India,
 - (ii) remittance to a person resident outside India on the ground that hardship will be caused to such a person if remittance from India is not made;
 - (iii) remittance of winding up proceeds of a branch/office in India of a person resident outside India:

provided that the application is supported by the following documents, namely:

- (A) copy of the Reserve Bank's permission for establishing the branch/office in India;
- (B) Auditor's certificate,-
 - i) indicating the manner in which the remittable amount has been arrived and supported by a statement of assets and liabilities of the applicant, and indicating the manner of disposal of assets;
 - confirming that all liabilities in India including arrears of gratuity and other benefits to employees etc. of the branch/office have been either fully met or adequately provided for;
 - iii) confirming that no income accruing from sources outside India (including proceeds of exports) has remained unrepatriated to India;
- (C) no-objection or Tax clearance certificate from Income-Tax authority for the remittance; and
- (D) confirmation from the applicant that no legal proceedings in any Court in India are pending and there is no legal impediment to the remittance.
- (2) On consideration of the application made under sub-regulation (1), the Reserve Bank may permit the remittance, subject to such terms and conditions as it deem necessary.

(P.R. GOPALA RAO)
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