

In the

Reserve Bank of India

Foreign Exchange Department Fort Glacis, No.16, Rajaji Salai Chennai 600 001

Present

Suman Ray Chief General Manager

Date: October 17, 2019 C.A.927/2019

In the matter of

M/s. Efficient Light Source Technologies Pvt Ltd.

Plot No. D6, Phase II, Zone B MEPZ, Tambaram Chennai – 600 045

(Applicant)

In exercise of the powers under section 15 (1) of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 and the Regulations/Rules/Notifications/orders made there under, I pass the following

Order

The applicant has filed a compounding application dated June 25, 2019 (received at Reserve Bank on June 28, 2019) for compounding of contraventions of the provisions of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (the FEMA) and the regulations issued there under. The contraventions sought to be compounded are (i) delay in reporting to Reserve Bank of inflow of funds received from a person resident outside India for



allotment of shares and (ii) delay in submission of Form FC-GPR to Reserve Bank on allotment of shares in terms of Paragraph 9(1)A and Paragraph 9(1)B respectively of Schedule I to Foreign Exchange Management (Transfer or Issue of Security by a Person Resident Outside India) Regulations, 2000 notified vide Notification No. FEMA 20/2000-RB dated May 3, 2000, as then applicable (hereinafter referred to as Notification No. FEMA 20/2000-RB).

2. The relevant facts of the case are as follows: The applicant company was incorporated on September 22, 2005 under the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956 (Registration No. U31501TN2005PTC057588) and is engaged in the business of manufacture of electric lighting equipment. The applicant received one foreign inward remittance from Advanced Lighting Technologies Inc., USA towards subscription to shares and reported the same to the Reserve Bank as detailed below:

SI.	Amount of Foreign	Date of receipt	Reported to RBI
No	Inward Remittance (₹)		on
1	2,22,61,250.00	28.03.2006	31.08.2018

The applicant reported receipt of remittance to the Reserve Bank on date indicated above with delay of 12 years 5 months approximately beyond the stipulated time of 30 days. Whereas, in terms of paragraph 9 (1) A of Schedule I to Notification No. FEMA 20/2000-RB, an Indian company issuing shares or convertible debentures in accordance with these Regulations should report to the Reserve Bank of India as per the prescribed procedure not later than 30 days from the date of receipt of the amount of consideration.

3. The company allotted shares and filed Form FC-GPR as indicated below:

SI. No.	No. of share allotted	Face Value ₹	Amount ₹	Date of allotment of shares	Reported to RBI on
1	2216125	10	2,21,61,250.00	31.03.2006	17.05.2019

The applicant filed the form FC-GPR as indicated above with a delay of 13 years one month approximately beyond the stipulated time of 30 days. Whereas in terms of



paragraph 9 (1) B of Schedule I to Notification No. FEMA 20/2000-RB, an Indian company issuing shares in accordance with these Regulations has to submit to Reserve Bank a report in Form FC-GPR along with documents prescribed therein within 30 days from the date of issue of shares to person resident outside India.

- 4. The applicant was advised about the contraventions vide memorandum dated June 11, 2019. The applicant has filed a compounding application dated June 25, 2019 wherein it has been declared in the compounding application that the particulars given by the applicant in the application are true and correct to the best of their knowledge and belief. It has been declared in the declaration furnished with the compounding application that the applicant was not under any enquiry/investigation/adjudication by any agency as on the date of the application and has, in this regard, not informed of initiation of any such enquiry/investigation/ adjudication proceedings against it/him/her thereafter. Accordingly, the above contraventions which are being compounded in this Order is without prejudice to any other action which may be taken by any authority under the extant laws if the said declarations are subsequently discovered to be false and/or incorrect.
- 5. The applicant was given an opportunity for personal hearing vide Reserve Bank's mail dated October 11, 2019 for further submission in person and/or producing documents, if any, in support of the application. The applicant appeared for the personal hearing scheduled on October 16, 2019 during which Mrs. Angeline Viji Samuel, Director of the company, represented the applicant. The authorized representative of the applicant admitted the contraventions as stated in paragraphs 2 and 3 above for which compounding has been sought. During the personal hearing, it was submitted that the delays were unintentional. In view of the above, they requested Reserve Bank to take a lenient view in the matter. The application for compounding is, therefore, being considered on the basis of the averments made in the application as well as other documents and submissions made in this context by the applicant during personal hearing.



- **6**. I have given my careful consideration to the documents on record and submission made by the applicant in the compounding application. Accordingly, I hold that the applicant has contravened the following FEMA provisions issued in terms of:
 - (a) Paragraph 9(1)A of Schedule I to Notification No. FEMA 20/2000-RB due to delay in reporting of receipt of inward remittances towards subscription of shares as detailed in paragraph 2 above. The contravention relates to an amount of ₹2,22,61,250.00 with duration of contravention being 12 years 5 months approximately;
 - (b) Paragraph 9(1)B of Schedule I to Notification No. FEMA 20/2000-RB due to delay in submission of Form FC-GPR to the Reserve Bank after issue of shares to persons resident outside India as detailed in paragraph 3 above. The contravention relates to an amount of ₹2,21,61,250.00 with the duration of contravention being 13 years one month approximately;
- 7. In terms of Section 13 of the FEMA, 1999, any person contravening any provision of the Act shall be liable to a penalty up to thrice the sum involved in such contravention upon adjudication. However, taking into account the relevant facts and circumstances of the case as stated in the foregoing paragraphs, I am persuaded to take a lenient view on the amount for which the contraventions are to be compounded and I consider that an amount of ₹12,95,000/- (Rupees twelve lakhs ninety five thousand only) will meet the ends of justice.
- **8.** Accordingly, I compound the admitted contraventions namely, the contraventions of paragraphs 9(1)A and 9(1)B of Schedule I to Notification No. FEMA 20/2000-RB, by the applicant on the facts discussed above in terms of the Foreign Exchange (Compounding Proceedings) Rules, 2000 on payment of an amount of ₹12,95,000/- (Rupees twelve lakhs ninety five thousand only) which shall be deposited by the applicant with the Reserve Bank of India, Foreign Exchange Department, Fort Glacis, No.16, Rajaji Salai, Chennai 600 001 by a demand draft drawn in favour of the "Reserve Bank of India" and payable at Chennai within a period of **15 days** from the date of this order. In case of



M/s. Efficient Light Source Technologies Pvt Ltd.-C.A.927/2019

failure to deposit the compounded amount within the above mentioned period, Rule 10 of the Foreign Exchange (Compounding Proceedings) Rules, 2000 dated May 3, 2000 shall apply.

The application is disposed accordingly.

Dated this seventeenth day of October, 2019.

Sd/-Suman Ray Chief General Manager