

## In the Reserve Bank of India 10/3/8, Nrupathunga Road Bengaluru-560001

## Present

Shri Jose J Kattoor Regional Director, Karnataka and Chief General Manager, Bengaluru

> Date: September 09, 2019 C.A. BGL 443/2016

> > In the matter of

M/s Humble Mobile Solutions Private Limited 112/2, KHB Colony, 17<sup>th</sup> Main

5<sup>th</sup> Block, Koramangala Bengaluru - 560095 **(Applicant)** 

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

## Order

The applicant has filed a compounding application dated June 19, 2019, received at the office of Reserve Bank of India, Bengaluru, on June 24, 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 receipt of foreign inward remittances towards subscription to equity, and (ii) delay in submission of form FC-GPRs to the Reserve Bank, after issue of shares to a person resident outside India, in terms of Paragraphs 9(1)(A) and 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 03, 2000, and as amended from time to time (hereinafter referred to as Notification No. FEMA 20/2000-RB).



2. The relevant facts of the case are as follows: The applicant, M/s Humble Mobile Solutions Private Limited, was incorporated on July 17, 2015, under the Companies Act, 1956, as per the Certificate of Incorporation issued by the Registrar of Companies, Karnataka. The activity undertaken by the company is to develop, market, maintain and upgrade a software, mobile application that will allow the customers book, track and pay for services and also track drivers through inbuilt GPS devices. The applicant had received funds towards share application money from the non-resident investors, namely, Revan S Shetkar, USA, Vishal Mathur, USA, Preeth Chengappa, USA, Basavaraj C Ullagaddi, USA, Sridhar Muppala, USA, Sridhar Panchapakesan, USA, M/s Unitus Seed Mauritius, Mauritius, M/s Driveu Investment Fund LLC, USA, M/s The Hegde Family Revocable Trust, USA, Geoffrey Tanner Woolley, USA, Tarni Dewangan, USA, and M/s Prapti Ventures LLC, USA, as shown below:

Table -1

Sr. No.	Date of Receipt	Total Amount (INR)	Date of Reporting to RBI / AD Bank
1	30-07-2015	47,61,992.00	20-01-2016
2	30-07-2015	26,67,000.00	29-10-2015
3	05-08-2015	19,05,000.00	29-10-2015
4	05-08-2015	25,40,000.00	13-07-2016
5	11-08-2015	20,40,000.00	Not Reported in form ARF
6	12-08-2015	10,35,618.75	29-10-2015
7	18-11-2015	2,01,13,590.00	08-12-2015
8	25-05-2016	2,01,45,000.00	24-06-2016
9	06-10-2016	32,98,680.00	16-11-2016
10	07-10-2016	66,20,000.00	16-11-2016
11	14-12-2016	2,23,33,689.00	27-12-2016
12	04-01-2017	33,89,643.60	Not Reported in form ARF
13	01-06-2017	3,00,35,495.04	13-06-2017
14	03-10-2017	32,44,262.76	28-10-2017
15	06-10-2017	32,24,709.60	28-10-2017



	Total	13,05,80,196.85	
16	06-10-2017	32,25,516.10	28-10-2017

The applicant reported receipt of remittances to the Reserve Bank / Authorized Dealer Bank, with a delay ranging from ten days to two years eleven months and twenty one days, beyond the stipulated time of 30 days, in respect of the remittances as indicated at serial numbers 1 to 6, 9, 10 and 12, in the Table 1 above. 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. The company had not reported the inward remittances indicated at serial numbers 5 and 12, in the Table – 1 above, in form ARF to AD/RBI. Since, inflow reporting in form ARF was discontinued with effect from September 01, 2018, (date on which Single Master Form (SMF) reporting in FIRMS portal was implemented) the delay/contravention period for non-reporting of the said inward remittances has been considered till August 31, 2018.

**3.** The company had allotted shares and filed form FC-GPRs with Reserve Bank/AD Bank as indicated below:

Table-2

SI. No.	Date of Allotment	Number of shares allotted	Amount (INR)	Date of reporting to RBI/AD Bank
1	26-09-2015	10023 equity	1,49,44,293.00	18-12-2015
2	20-11-2015	1 equity & 13489 CCPs	2,01,13,590.00	28-12-2015
3	24-06-2016	2014500 CCDs	2,01,45,000.00	20-10-2016
4	10-11-2016	1479 CCPs	66,15,567.00	09-12-2016
5	16-01-2017	4993 CCPs	2,23,33,689.00	03-02-2017
6	04-02-2017	338964 CCDs	33,89,640.00	21-02-2017
7	15-06-2017	6706 CCPs	2,99,95,938.00	27-06-2017
8	30-10-2017	969447 CCDs	96,94,470.00	28-11-2017
	Total	10024 equity, 26667 CCPs & 3322911 CCDs	1272,32,187.00	



The applicant filed form FC-GPRs, on allotment of shares, with the Bengaluru Regional Office of the Reserve Bank of India / Authorized Dealer Bank, with a delay ranging from eight days to two months and twenty six days, beyond the prescribed period of 30 days, in respect of the allotments as indicated at serial numbers 1 to 3, in the Table - 2 above. Whereas, in terms of Paragraph 9(1)(B) of Schedule I to Notification No. FEMA. 20/2000-RB, dated May 3, 2000, an Indian company issuing shares in accordance with these Regulations, has to submit to Reserve Bank of India, a report in form FC-GPR, along with documents prescribed therein, within 30 days, from the date of issue of shares to persons resident outside India.

- 4. The applicant was given an opportunity for personal hearing, vide Reserve Bank's letter FE.BG.FID (CEFA) No. 688/22.09.688/2019-20, dated September 06, 2019, for further submission in person and/or producing documents, if any, in support of the application. The applicant's authorized representatives, Mr. Sreejith Ponneth, Finance Controller and Mr. Ajit Hegde, Company Secretary, who appeared for the personal hearing on September 09, 2019, admitted the contraventions as stated in paragraphs 2 and 3 above, committed by the applicant, for which compounding has been sought. During the personal hearing, the representatives of the applicant requested that as the contraventions were not intentional or with a malafide intention, and was mainly due to inadvertence, a lenient view may be taken in disposal of the application. 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 and thereafter.
- **5.** I have given my careful consideration to the documents on record and submission made by the applicant during the personal hearing. 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 foreign inward remittances, received towards



subscription to equity as detailed in paragraph 2 above. The contravention relates to an amount of ₹2,82,57,934.35, and the period of delay ranges from ten days to two years eleven months and twenty one days; and

- (b) Paragraph 9(1)(B) of Schedule I to Notification No. FEMA 20/2000-RB, due to delay in submission of form FC-GPRs 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 ₹5,52,02,883.00, and the period of delay ranges from eight days to two months and twenty six days.
- **6.** It has been declared in the compounding application dated June 19, 2019, 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 undertaking dated June 19, 2019, furnished as part of 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 thereafter. It has further been declared that the applicant has not filed any appeal under Section 17 or Section 19 of FEMA, 1999. Accordingly, the above contraventions which are being compounded in this order is subject to the veracity of the above declarations made by the applicant, and 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.
- 7. In terms of Section 13 of the FEMA, 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 ₹63,725.00 (Rupees Sixty Three Thousand Seven Hundred and Twenty Five only), will meet the ends of justice.
- **8.** Accordingly, I compound the admitted contraventions namely, contraventions of Paragraphs 9(1)(A) and 9(1)(B) of Schedule I to Notification No. FEMA



20/2000-RB, by the applicant, based on the facts discussed above, in terms of the Foreign Exchange (Compounding Proceedings) Rules, 2000, on payment of an amount of ₹63,725.00 (Rupees Sixty Three Thousand Seven Hundred and Twenty Five only), which shall be deposited by the applicant with the Reserve Bank of India, Foreign Exchange Department, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 10/3/8, Nrupathunga Road, Bengaluru – 560001, by a demand draft drawn in favour of the "Reserve Bank of India", payable at Bengaluru, within a period of 15 days, from the date of this order. In case of 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 of accordingly.

Dated this, the Ninth day of September 2019.

Sd/-

(Jose J Kattoor) Regional Director, Karnataka and Chief General Manager, Bengaluru