

In the

Reserve Bank of India Foreign Exchange Department Fort Glacis, No.16, Rajaji Salai Chennai 600 001

Present

P Ramesh Assistant General Manager

Date : December 03, 2018 C.A.859/2018

In the matter of

M/s. Best Semester India Studies Pvt Ltd.,

CSI Bishop Appasamy College of Arts and Science, 129, Race Course, Coimbatore-641 018

(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 October 25, 2018 (received at Reserve Bank on November 15, 2018) for compounding of contraventions of the provisions of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (the FEMA) and the regulations issued there under. The contravention sought to be compounded is delay in refund of inward remittance received towards subscription to shares in terms of Paragraph 8 of Schedule I to Foreign Exchange Management (Transfer or Issue of



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Security by a Person Resident Outside India) Regulations, 2000 notified vide Notification No. FEMA 20/2000-RB dated May 3, 2000 and 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 June 29, 2011 under the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956 (Registration No. U93090TZ2011PTC017199) and is engaged in the business of educational services rendered by non-techincal colleges schools, universities and other institutions. The applicant received two foreign inward remittances amounting to ₹41,10,204.08 from M/s Council for Christian Colleges and Universities, USA on behalf of Mr. Kyle Royer, USA and Mr. Kenneth Edward Bussema, USA on 11.01.2012 and 24.01.2012 towards subscription to equity shares and reported the same to Reserve Bank. The company allotted 4050000 shares of face value ₹1/- amounting to ₹40,50,000.00 on 13.06.2012 and filed the FC GPR with Reserve Bank.

3. The company refunded the balance amount of inward remittance to the overseas investor as detailed below:

SI. No.	Date of receipt	Amount (INR)	Date of refund
1	24.01.2012	60,204.00	23.12.2015

The company refunded the amount as indicated above with delay of three years five months approximately beyond the stipulated time of 180 days with prior approval of Reserve Bank. Whereas in terms of paragraph 8 of Schedule I to Notification No. FEMA 20/2000-RB, read with AP (Dir Series) Circular No.20 dated December 14, 2007, the shares have to be issued/amount refunded within 180 days from the date of receipt of the inward remittance.

4. The applicant was advised about the contraventions vide memorandum dated January 13, 2015. The applicant has filed a compounding application dated October 25, 2018 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



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their knowledge and belief. It has been declared in the declaration dated November 21, 2018 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 are 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.

5. The applicant was given an opportunity for personal hearing vide Reserve Bank's mail dated November 28, 2018 for further submission in person and/or producing additional documents, if any, in support of the application. The applicant appeared for the personal hearing on December 03, 2018 during which Shri Aditya Chothani, Client Relationship Manager, Lawquest represented the applicant. The authorized representative of the applicant admitted the contravention as stated in para 3 above committed by the applicant for which compounding has been sought. During the personal hearing, it was submitted that the delay was unintentional. In view of the above, they requested 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 applicant during the personal hearing.

6. I have given my careful consideration to the documents on record and submission made by the applicant in the compounding application and during personal hearing. Accordingly, I hold that the applicant has contravened Paragraph 8 of Schedule I to Notification No. FEMA 20/2000-RB due to delay in refund of inward remittance received towards subscription to shares with prior approval of Reserve Bank. The contravention relates to an amount of ₹60,204.00 with the duration of contravention being three years five months approximately.



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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 **₹24,082/-** (Rupees twenty four thousand and eighty two only) will meet the ends of justice.

8. Accordingly, I compound the admitted contravention namely, the contravention of paragraph 8 of Schedule 1 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 **24,082/-** (Rupees twenty four thousand and eighty two 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 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 Third day of December, 2018.

-Sd/-P Ramesh Assistant General Manager