

### In the

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

Present

# B Sarangi Deputy General Manager

Date : January 17, 2018 C.A.747/2017

In the matter of

M/s. ECS Systems Services India Pvt Ltd., 137, G Block, 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Annanagar West, Chennai-600040

# (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 26, 2017 (received at Reserve Bank on December 04, 2017) 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 of inflow of funds received from a person resident outside India for allotment of shares (ii) delay in submission of Form FC-GPR on allotment of shares



with Reserve Bank and (iii) allotment of shares prior to receipt of consideration in terms of Paragraph 9 (1) A, Paragraph 9 (1) B and Paragraph 8 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 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 company was incorporated on July 17, 2014 under the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956 (Registration No. U72900TN2014FTC096574) and is engaged in business of data processing, hosting and related activities, web portals. The applicant received foreign inward remittances from M/s ECS Services Pty Ltd., Australia towards subscription to equity shares and reported the same to the Reserve Bank as detailed below:

SI. No	Amount of Foreign Inward Remittance (in Rs.)	Date of receipt	Reported to RBI on
1	5,00,000.00	02.02.2015	05.10.2016
2	20,00,000.00	09.04.2015	04.10.2016

The applicant reported receipt of remittances to the Reserve Bank on dates indicated above with delay ranging from one year four months 25 days to one year seven months three days approximately beyond the stipulated time of 30 days in respect of the remittances. 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 equity shares and filed FC-GPR as indicated below:

SI. No.	No. of shares/CCPs allotted	Face Value (in Rs.)	Amount (INR)	Date of allotment of shares	Reported to RBI on
1	2499999	1	24,99,999.00	17.07.2014	04.10.2016



The applicant filed the form FC-GPR as indicated above with delay of two years one month 17 days approximately beyond the stipulated time of 30 days in respect of the allotments. 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 company allotted shares on 17.07.2014 against remittances received as detailed below:

SI. No.	Date of receipt	Amount (INR)	Date of allotment
1	02.02.2015	5,00,000.00	17.07.2014
2	09.04.2015	19,99,999.00	17.07.2014

The company received the inward remittance towards the above allotment with delay ranging from six months 15 days to eight months 22 days approximately. 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.

**5**. The applicant was given an opportunity for personal hearing vide Reserve Bank's mail dated January 11, 2018 for further submission in person and/or producing documents, if any, in support of the application. The applicant appeared for the personal hearing on January 17, 2018 during which Shri S Vijay, Partner, M/s AV Associates, Legal and Secretarial Consultants represented the applicant. The authorized representative of the applicant admitted the contraventions as stated in para 2 to 4 above committed by the applicant 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 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 the personal hearing.

**6.** It has been declared in the compounding application dated October 26, 2017 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 dated October 26, 2017 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.

**7**. I have given my careful consideration to the documents on record and submission made by the applicant in the compounding application and 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 1 to Notification No. FEMA 20/2000-RB due to delay in reporting of receipt of inward remittances towards subscription of equity shares as detailed in paragraph 2 above. The contravention relates to an amount of ₹ 25,00,000/- with duration of contravention ranging from one year four months 25 days to one year seven months three days approximately;
- (b) Paragraph 9 (1) B of Schedule 1 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. The contravention relates to an amount of ₹ 24,99,999/- with the duration of contravention being two years one month 17 days approximately; and



(c) Paragraph 8 of Schedule I to Notification No. FEMA 20/2000-RB due to allotment of shares prior to receipt of consideration. The contravention relates to an amount of ₹ 24,99,999/- with the duration of contravention ranging from six months 15 days to eight months 22 days approximately.

8. 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 ₹ 68,145/- (Rupees sixty eight thousand one hundred and forty five only) will meet the ends of justice.

**9.** Accordingly, I compound the admitted contraventions namely, the contraventions of paragraphs 9 (1) A, 9 (1) B and 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 ₹ **68,145/**-(Rupees sixty eight thousand one hundred and forty five 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 shall apply.

The application is disposed of accordingly.

Dated this Seventeenth day of January, 2018.

Sd/-

# **B** Sarangi



# Deputy General Manager