

In the

Reserve Bank of India

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

Present

R Kesavan Chief General Manager

Date: January 19, 2018 C.A.720/2017

In the matter of

M/s. India Consolidated Contractors Company Pvt Ltd.,

Plot No.39, 1st Floor, 2nd Street, Thirumalai Nagar, Kolathur, Chennai- 600 099

(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 August 21, 2017 (received at Reserve Bank on October 11, 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

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shares with Reserve Bank and (iii) delay in allotment of shares 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 October 13, 2009 under the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956 (Registration No. U45208TN2009PTC073181) and is engaged in business and management consultancy activities and architectural and engineering and other technical consultancy activities. The applicant received foreign inward remittances from i) Mr. Samer Khoury, Greece ii) Mr. Dimitrios Econimides, Greece and iii) M/s Consolidated Contractors GR OFF CCC, Lebanon towards subscription to equity shares and reported the same to the Reserve Bank as detailed below:

SI. No	Amount of Foreign Inward Remittance (in INR)	Date of receipt	Reported to RBI on
1	97,414.61	04.11.2009	25.01.2010
2	29,72,499.94	05.11.2009	25.01.2010
3	22,43,992.72	14.01.2010	03.08.2015
4	22,48,879.64	12.05.2010	03.08.2015
5	22,31,042.49	20.05.2011	17.06.2011
6	27,57,438.21	06.07.2012	27.08.2012
7	30,41,443.00	17.10.2013	22.10.2013

The applicant reported receipt of remittances to the Reserve Bank on dates indicated above with delay ranging from 21 days to five years five months 19 days approximately beyond the stipulated time of 30 days in respect of the remittances at SI. Nos.1 to 4 and 6. 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

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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 share allotted	Face Value (in INR.)	Amount (INR)	Date of allotment of shares	Reported to RBI on
1	306900	10	30,69,000	30.01.2010	27.12.2016
2	223100	10	22,31,000	15.11.2011	29.03.2012
3	275743	10	27,57,430	22.11.2012	07.10.2015
4	304144	10	30,41,440	14.03.2014	03.04.2014
5	449287	10	44,92,870	31.10.2017	02.01.2018

The applicant filed the form FC-GPR as indicated above with delay ranging from one month three days to six years nine months 27 days approximately beyond the stipulated time of 30 days in respect of the allotments at Sl. Nos.1 to 3 and 5. 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 31.10.2017 against remittances received as detailed below:

SI. No.	Date of receipt	Amount (INR)	Date of allotment
1	14.01.2010	22,43,992.72	31.10.2017
2	12.05.2010	22,48,877.28	31.10.2017

The company allotted shares with delay ranging from six years 11 months 19 days to seven years three months 17 days approximately 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.

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- **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 19, 2018 during which Shri R Thamizhvanan, Practicing Company Secretary 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 August 21, 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 August 21, 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:

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- (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 ₹ 1,03,20,225.12 with duration of contravention ranging from 21 days to five years five months 19 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 ₹ 1,25,50,300/- with the duration of contravention ranging from one month three days to six years nine months 27 days approximately; and
- (c) Paragraph 8 of Schedule I to Notification No. FEMA 20/2000-RB due to delay in allotment of shares with prior approval of Reserve Bank. The contravention relates to an amount of ₹ 44,92,870/- with the duration of contravention ranging from six years 11 months 19 days to seven years three months 17 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 ₹ 1,37,332/- (Rupees one lakh thirty seven thousand three hundred and thirty two 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 ₹ 1,37,332/-(Rupees one lakh thirty seven thousand three hundred and thirty two only) which shall be deposited by the applicant with the Reserve Bank of India, Foreign Exchange

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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 Nineteenth day of January, 2018.

Sd/-

R Kesavan Chief General Manager