

In the

Reserve Bank of India Foreign Exchange Department Mumbai Regional Office Main Building, 3rd floor Shahid Bhagat Singh Marg, Fort Mumbai 400 001

Present

J. K. Pandey Chief General Manager

Date: July 4, 2018

C.A. No. 757/2018

In the matter of

Pipa Bella Accessories Private Limited A/4, Purshottam Building Opera House Mumbai – 400 004 (Applicant)

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

Order

1. The applicant has filed the compounding application dated March 28, 2018 (received at the Reserve Bank of India on April 10, 2018) for compounding of contraventions of the provisions of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (the FEMA) and the regulations issued thereunder. The contraventions sought to be compounded are (i) delay in reporting receipt of foreign inward remittance towards subscription to equity and (ii) delay in submission of Form FC-GPR to the Reserve Bank after issue of shares to a person resident outside India (iii) delay in filing 'Annual Return on Foreign Liabilities and Assets' (FLA Returns), in terms of paragraphs 9 (1) (A), 9 (1) (B) and 9 (2) respectively, of Schedule 1 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 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 11, 2012, under the Companies Act, 1956 as Pipa Bella Accessories Private Limited. Its main activities are to carry on the business of buying, selling, branding, managing of inventory, importing, exporting, transporting, storing, developing, promoting, marketing or supplying, packaging and re-packaging, exhibitors of various goods, services and merchandise, broker, trader, agent, distributor, franchiser, consultant, stockiest, export house of goods, merchandise and services of all grades, specifications, descriptions, applications, modalities, fashions and deal in any commodities, substances, articles, merchandise, goods and things whether solid or liquid or gaseous in any manner whatsoever including but not limited to apparels, jewellery, accessories, perfumeries, cosmetics, food and provisions, household goods, consumer durables, home improvement products, footwear, leather goods, luggage, books & stationery, medical and health care, beauty products, toys and music, computers and accessories, electronic and telecom products, agri input products, furniture and furnishings, automobile and accessories on wholesale basis in India or elsewhere.

3. The applicant received foreign inward remittances from Pipa Bella Pte Ltd., Singapore towards equity / preference share capital and reported the same to the Reserve Bank of India as indicated in the table.

Sr. No.	Amount received in INR	Date of receipt	Date of reporting
1	3,19,85,000.00	03-08-2015	30-09-2015
2	14,74,000.00	08-12-2016	03-02-2017
3	30,52,460.00	06-01-2017	03-02-2017
4	6,37,083.00	03-05-2017	07-11-2017
5	9,62,679.00	25-05-2017	07-11-2017



6	5,40,439.74	31-05-2017	07-11-2017
7	5,74,447.90	13-06-2017	07-11-2017
8	5,72,016.90	03-08-2017	07-11-2017
9	12,12,894.60	07-09-2017	27-11-2017
10	6,76,887.04	17-10-2017	27-11-2017
11	4,62,593.00	21-10-2017	27-11-2017
12	7,55,200.00	02-11-2017	27-11-2017
13	3,21,385.00	08-11-2017	27-11-2017
14	47,320.00	08-11-2017	27-11-2017
15	6,50,508.04	14-11-2017	27-11-2017
16	14,22,300.00	19-09-2017	27-11-2017
17	4,79,200.00	29-09-2017	27-11-2017
18	7,66,569.06	05-12-2017	23-01-2018
19	2,28,000.00	03-01-2018	19-01-2018
Total	4,68,20,983.28		

The applicant reported receipt of remittances to the Reserve Bank of India with a delay ranging from 6 days to 5 Months 4 Days, approximately, in respect of remittances at serial no. 1, 2, 4 to 11 and 16, 17 above. Whereas in terms of paragraph 9 (1) (A) of Schedule 1 to Notification No. FEMA 20/2000-RB, an Indian company issuing shares or convertible debentures in accordance with these Regulations should report foreign inward remittances 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.

4. The company allotted equity shares/preference shares/convertible preference shares and filed FC-GPR as indicated below:

Sr. No.	No. of shares	FV in INR	Premium in INR	Amount in INR	Date of allotment	Date of reporting
1	3198500	10	0	3,19,85,000.00	05-08-2015	03-10-2015
2	147300	10	0	14,73,000.00	09-12-2016	05-01-2018
3	302523	10	0.09	30,52,457.00	06-03-2017	04-12-2017
4	59264	10	0.75	6,37,088.00	05-05-2017	09-01-2018
5	91859	10	0.48	9,62,682.00	27-05-2017	19-01-2018
6	52317	10	0.33	5,40,435.00	02-06-2017	19-01-2018



7	56429	10	0.18	5,74,447.00	15-06-2017	22-01-2018
8	56974	10	0.04	5,72,019.00	05-08-2017	22-01-2018
9	289711	10	0.75	31,14,393.00	12-10-2017	28-02-2018
10	254266	10	1.46	29,13,888.00	01-12-2017	28-02-2018
11	21694	10	0.51	2,28,004.00	27-02-2018	19-03-2018
12	73045	10	0.51	7,67,703.00	01-01-2018	19-03-2018
			Total	4,68,21,117.00		

The applicant filed form FC-GPR as indicated at serial No. 1 to 9 above with a delay ranging from 28 Days to 11 Months 26 Days approximately. Whereas, in terms of Paragraph 9(1)(B) of Schedule 1 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.

5. The company has not filed the Annual Return on Foreign Liabilities and Assets (FLA return) to the Reserve Bank of India for the Financial Year 2015-16 on or before July 15. Whereas, in terms of Paragraph 9(2) of Schedule 1 to Notification No. FEMA 20/2000-RB read with A. P. (DIR Series) Circular No. 29 dated February 02, 2017, all Indian companies which have received Foreign Direct Investment in the previous years including the current year, shall submit to the Reserve Bank of India, on or before the 15th day of July each year, a report titled 'Annual Return on Foreign Liabilities and Assets' as specified by the Reserve Bank from time to time.

6. The applicant was given an opportunity for personal hearing vide e-mail dated June 5, 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 June 7, 2018, during which Ms. Shuchi Pandya, Director and Roshni Maru, Authorised Representative represented the applicant in the cabin of Shri J. K. Pandey, Chief General Manager, Mumbai Regional Office. The representatives of the applicant admitted the contraventions for which compounding has been sought. During the personal hearing, it was submitted that the delay was inadvertent and unintentional. They requested that in view thereof, the matter may

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be viewed leniently. 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 submitted along with the application.

7. I have given my careful consideration to the documents on record and submissions made by the applicant during the personal hearing and thereafter. 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 the delay in reporting of receipt of foreign inward remittances towards subscription to equity as detailed in paragraph no. 3 above. The contravention relates to an amount of Rs.4,09,99,541.00 (Rupees Four Crore Nine Lakh Ninety Nine Thousand Five Hundred Forty One Only) and the delay ranging from 6 Days to 5 Months 4 Days approximately.

(b) Paragraph 9(1)(B) of Schedule 1 to Notification No. FEMA 20/2000-RB due to the delay in submission of Form FC-GPR to the Reserve Bank of India after issue of shares to persons resident outside India as detailed in para 4 above. The contravention relates to an amount of Rs.4,29,11,521.00 (Rupees Four Crore Twenty Nine Lakh Eleven Thousand Five Hundred Twenty One Only) and the delay ranging from 28 Days to 11 Months 26 Days approximately.

(c) Paragraph 9(2) of Schedule 1 to Notification No. FEMA 20/2000-RB due to delayed filing of Annual Return on Foreign Liabilities and Assets for the Financial Year 2015-16.

8. It has been declared in the compounding application dated March 28, 2018, that the particulars given by the applicant in the application are true and correct to the best of their/his/her knowledge and belief. It has further been stated in the declaration dated June 5, 2018, 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/

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adjudication proceedings against it/him/her 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 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.

9. 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 Rs.49,040/- (Rupees Forty Nine Thousand Forty Only) will meet the ends of justice.

10. Accordingly, I compound the admitted contraventions namely, the contraventions of paragraphs 9(1)(A), 9(1)(B) and 9(2) of Schedule 1 to Notification No. FEMA 20/2000-RB by the applicant as stated above on the facts discussed above in terms of the Foreign Exchange (Compounding Proceedings) Rules, 2000 on payment of an amount of Rs.49,040/- (Rupees Forty Nine Thousand Forty Only) which shall be deposited by the applicant with the Reserve Bank of India, Foreign Exchange Department, Mumbai Regional Office, Main Building, 3rd floor, Shahid Bhagat Singh Marg, Fort, Mumbai-400001 by a demand draft drawn in favour of the "Reserve Bank of India" and payable at "Mumbai" 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.

11. The above order is passed only in respect of contraventions of para 9(1)(A), 9(1)(B) and 9(2) of Schedule 1 to Notification No. FEMA 20/2000-RB and does not

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restrict the right of any other authority to proceed against the Company for any other violations/contraventions noticed at any point of time.

The application is disposed of accordingly.

Dated: July 4, 2018.

Compounding Authority

Sd/-(J. K. Pandey) Chief General Manager