

**Before Dr. Sajid Oureshi, Executive Director (Company Law Division)**

*In the matter of*

**M/s. Crescent Knitwear Limited**

(Under Sub-section (3) of Section 245 of the Companies Ordinance, 1984)

No. & date of show cause notices	EMD/Enf-II/246/2005 Dated May 10, 2006 & May 16, 2006
Date of hearing	August 09, 2006
Present	No one appeared
Date of Order	August 10, 2006

## **Order**

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This Order shall dispose of the proceedings initiated against the directors of M/s. Crescent Knitwear Limited (hereinafter referred to as the “Company”) for default made in complying with the provisions of Sub-section (1) of Section 245 of the Companies Ordinance, 1984 (the “Ordinance”).

2. The facts leading to this case, briefly stated, are that in terms of the provisions of Section 245 of the Ordinance, the Company was required to prepare and transmit to the members and simultaneously file with the Registrar and the Commission its quarterly accounts for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter ended December 31, 2005 & 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter ended March 31, 2006 by February 28, 2006 and April 30, 2006 respectively. Failure of the Company to comply with the aforesaid mandatory requirements within the prescribed time period necessitated action against the responsible directors of the Company in terms of Sub-section (3) of Section 245 of the Ordinance. Consequently, show cause notices dated May 10, 2006 & May 16, 2006 were served on all the directors including the Chief Executive of the Company calling upon them to



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show cause as to why penalties as provided under Sub-section (3) of Section 245 read with Section 476 of the Ordinance may not be imposed on them for the aforesaid contravention. The Chief Executive and other directors, however, did not respond to the aforesaid show cause notice. In order to provide an opportunity of personal hearing the matter was fixed for July 05, 2006. However, no one appeared on the date of hearing. To afford another opportunity the matter was finally fixed for August 09, 2006. Again neither anybody attended the hearing nor any written explanation was received. This leads me to believe that the Chief Executive and directors of the Company have nothing in their defence, and they are deliberately avoiding appearance in the hearing. Therefore, I proceed to adjudicate this case on its merits.

3. Before proceeding to decide this case, I consider it necessary to highlight the importance of the strict observance of the aforesaid mandatory provisions of the law. The protection of the investors/shareholders is one of the primary objectives of the Ordinance. It is investors/shareholders who provide seed for capital formation. If the interest of the investors is protected, they will save and invest more. Their interest is protected by transmission of timely, adequate and meaningful information to them. It is the annual and interim accounts, which provide information to the investors about the affairs of the companies. It has unfortunately been noted that the directors of M/s. Crescent Knitwear Limited are not observing these compulsory requirements of law.

4. From the aforesaid discussion, it is clear that the directors and Chief Executive have intentionally avoided appearance before me in spite of the fact that they were provided two opportunities of hearings by the Commission which they failed to avail. It is also mentioned that the Company has failed to file the aforesaid quarterly accounts even after issuance of show cause notice. The default, therefore, is considered willful and deliberate. In the circumstances, it can be legitimately inferred that the Chief Executive and directors have failed to protect the interest of the shareholders. The aforesaid state of affairs is a cause of great concern for the Commission. The track record of the Company with regard to filing of



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annual, quarterly and half yearly accounts is also not satisfactory as the Company has also defaulted in the past. This led me to believe that the directors have no respect for the law and they have again deprived the shareholders of their statutory right to receive the quarterly accounts of the Company within the prescribed time limit. The responsibility for preparation/circulation of quarterly accounts rests with the directors of the Company and they have to take appropriate action at appropriate time. The repetition of default clearly shows that the Company is not making any serious efforts to comply with the provisions of the law. For the foregoing reasons, the defaults under Sub-section (1) of Section 245 of the Ordinance regarding non-submission of quarterly accounts for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter ended December 31, 2005 and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter ended March 31, 2006 stand established.

5. However, instead of imposing the maximum fine of Rs.100,000 on every director and a further fine of Rs.1,000 per day for the continuous default, I impose the following penalties on the Chief Executive and the directors of the Company under Sub-section (3) of Section 245 of the Ordinance:-

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Penalty in Rs.</b>
1.	Mr. Khurram Mazhar Karim, Chief Executive	35,000
2.	Mr. Abdul Rauf, Director	35,000
3.	Mr. Shams Rafi, Director	35,000
4.	Mr. Muhammad Shahbaz, Director	35,000
5.	Mr. Zaheer A Sheikh, Director	35,000
6.	Mr. Imran-ur-Rahman, Director	35,000
7.	Mr. A.H. Zaidi, Director	35,000
	<b>Total</b>	<b>245,000</b>

6. The Chief Executive and directors of M/s. Crescent Knitwear Limited are hereby directed to deposit the aforesaid fines aggregating to Rs.245,000/- (Rupees two hundred and forty five thousand only) in the designated bank account maintained in the name of Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan with Habib Bank Limited within thirty days from the



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receipt of this Order and furnish receipted vouchers or pay by a DD/pay order issued in the name of Commission for information and record, failing which proceedings under the Land Revenue Act, 1967 will be initiated which may result in the attachment and sale of movable and immovable property. It may also be noted that the said penalties are imposed on the Chief Executive and other directors in their personal capacity, therefore, they are required to pay the said amount from their personal resources.

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**Dr. Sajid Qureshi**  
Executive Director (CLD)