



Corporate Supervision Department
Company Law Division

Before Ms. Amina Aziz – Director (CSD)

In the matter of

Gulistan Textile Mills Limited

Number and date of SCN: No. CSD/ARN/196/2015-938-44, dated September 20, 2016

ORDER

UNDER SECTION 245 READ WITH SECTION 476 OF THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE, 1984

This order shall dispose of the proceedings initiated against the following directors including the chief executive officer (together referred to as "respondents") of Gulistan Textile Mills Limited (the "Company"):

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------|---|--|
| 1 | Mr. Waqar Ahmad | 5 | Mr. Seemab Ahmad Khan |
| 2 | Mr. Naseer Ahmed | 6 | Mr. Muhammad Afzal Anjum |
| 3 | Mr. Manzar Hussain | 7 | Mr. Muhammad Badar Munir al
Sami Alam |
| 4 | Mr. Muhammad Zubair | | |

The proceedings against the respondents were initiated through show cause notice (the "SCN") dated September 20, 2016 under the provisions of section 245 read with section 476 of the Companies Ordinance, 1984 (the "Ordinance").

2. The brief facts of the case are that the Company did not file the interim financial statements ("Quarterly Accounts") for the following periods with the Commission, in a timely manner as per requirements of section 245 of the Ordinance:

Quarter Ended	Due On
31-Dec-15	29-Feb-16
31-Mar-16	30-Apr-16

Consequently, the SCN was issued to the respondents whereof they were called upon to show cause in writing within fourteen days as to why penal action may not be taken against them under sub-section (3) of section 245 of the Ordinance for not filing the aforesaid Quarterly Accounts with the Commission in a timely manner, as per requirements of the law.



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3. The respondents did not submit a written reply within the stipulated time. Subsequently hearings in this matter were fixed on October 04 2016, October 25 2016 and November 17, 2016 but no response was received. In order to provide a final opportunity of hearing the case was fixed on December 07, 2016 through hearing notice dated November 23, 2016. It was explicitly mentioned in the hearing notice that in case of failure of the respondents to make an appearance in person or through authorized representative, the Commission will proceed to issue ex parte order on the basis of material available on record. The respondents neither responded to the hearing notices nor did any person appear on their behalf on any of the hearing dates.

4. Before proceeding further, it is necessary to advert to the following relevant provisions of the Ordinance.

In terms of sub-section (1) of section 245 of the Ordinance read with Commission's circular no. 9 dated March 19, 2003, all listed companies are, inter alia, required to file their quarterly accounts with the Commission within stipulated time i.e. one month from the close of first and third quarters and two months from the close of second quarter.

Sub-section (3) of section 245, inter alia, provides as under:

(3) If a company fails to comply with any of the requirements of this section, every director, including chief executive and chief accountant of the company who has knowingly by his act or omission been the cause of such default shall be liable to a fine of not exceeding one hundred thousand rupees and to a further fine of one thousand rupees for every day during which the default continues.

In terms of the Commission's notification SRO 1003 (I)/2015 dated October 15, 2015, the powers to adjudicate cases under section 245 have been delegated to the Director (Corporate Supervision Department).

5. I have analyzed the facts of the case, relevant provisions of the Ordinance, and submissions made by the respondents. Before deciding upon on matter I would like to highlight that the requirement to circulate interim accounts was introduced so that the shareholders could have timely access to information about the affairs of companies. Keeping in view the fact that timing of interim financial statements is of essence the disclosure and audit requirements of these accounts have been kept to a bare minimum. Interim financial statements prepared properly and



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in a timely manner not only provide to its users a reliable source of information regarding a company's financial position and performance but these also show the results of management's stewardship of resources entrusted to it. In order to ensure transparency, all the companies must meticulously follow the legal requirement for preparing and circulation of interim accounts. In addition to their responsibility of overseeing and managing affairs of the Company, directors also have fiduciary duties towards the Company and its shareholders. They are, therefore, liable to a higher level of accountability which requires them to be vigilant and perform their duties with care and prudence. It is directors' responsibility to oversee the functioning of the company, to keep it appropriately staffed and organized to ensure due compliance of law.

6. It is clear that the aforesaid Quarterly Accounts of the Company were not filed by the Company. The attitude of the respondents shows that they are not concerned with following the law which is evident from the fact that they have neither submitted a written reply to the SCN, nor have they appeared in the hearings fixed by the Commission. The aforesaid reflect a total disregard of the applicable legal framework by respondent which is not befitting for directors of a public listed company in their fiduciary capacity as caretakers of the investment of the minority shareholders. Keeping in view of the above I, hereby impose a fine of Rs 20,000 for each quarter on each respondents aggregating to Rs280,000/- for contravening the provision of section 245 of the Ordinance. The respondents are directed to deposit the fine in the following manner:

S.#	Names of Directors	Amount in Rs.
1	Mr. Waqar Ahmad	40,000
2	Mr. Naseer Ahmed	40,000
3	Mr. Manzar Hussain	40,000
4	Mr. Muhammad Zubair	40,000
5	Mr. Seemab Ahmad Khan	40,000
6	Mr. Muhammad Afzal Anjum	40,000
7	Mr. Muhammad Badar Munir al Sami Alam	40,000
	TOTAL	280,000

The aforesaid fines must be deposited in the designated bank account maintained with MCB Bank Limited in the name of the "Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan" within thirty days from the receipt of this order and receipted bank vouchers must be furnished to the Commission. In case of non-deposit of the fine, proceedings for recovery of the fines as arrears of land revenue

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will be initiated. It may also be noted that the aforesaid fines are imposed on the respondents in their personal capacity; therefore, they are required to pay the said amount from personal resources.

Amina Aziz
Director (CSD)

Announced:
December 08, 2016
Islamabad