

## Before Nazir Ahmed Shaheen, Registrar of Companies

## *In the matter of* **Shanghai Industries (Private) Limited**

Present: Mr. Khalid Zaidi

Date of hearing: December 27, 2005

## Order under Section 477 (1) of the Companies Ordinance, 1984

This order shall dispose of revision application filed by Shanghai Industries (Pvt) Limited (hereinafter referred to as the "Company") under Section 477 (1) of the Companies Ordinance, 1984 (hereinafter referred to as the "Ordinance") against the impugned order dated 19.08.2005 (the second order) passed by the Joint Registrar of Companies, Karachi imposing a penalty of Rs. 3,000/ for failure to file annual returns of the Company in violation of the mandatory provisions of Sections 156 and 205 of the Ordinance.

2. Brief facts of the matter are that the Company and its directors in terms of Section 156 of the Ordinance were required to prepare and file with the registrar concerned within forty five days in case of a listed company and within thirty days in case of any other company from the date of the annual general meeting held in the year, a return containing the particulars specified in Form-A of the third schedule attached to the Ordinance.

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3. Similarly, in terms of Section 205 of the Ordinance, every company is

required to keep at its registered office, a register of its directors and other officers

and notify the same to the registrar concerned within fourteen days from the date

of incorporation or on the happening of any change thereof.

4. As the Company failed to file with the registrar concerned its Form -A and

Form -29 with a considerable delay ranging from one year to two months, the

Joint Registrar, Companies Registration Office, Karachi passed an ex-parte order

dated October 14, 2004 (the first order) and imposed a fine of Rs. 3,000/on the

Company.

5. Having not satisfied with the aforesaid order, the Company preferred a

revision application with the registrar of companies, which was decided on

January 25, 2005 and the matter was remanded back to the Joint Registrar, Karachi

to adjudicate afresh after affording proper opportunity of hearing to the Company

and to meet the ends of justice.

6. The Joint Registrar in order to comply with the aforesaid order, provided

another opportunity of hearing to the Company on May 05, 2005, where Syed

Zulfiqar Hyder, appeared and submitted the following arguments:

i. Since the returns have been filed and late filing fee has also been

deposited, no penalty can be imposed.

ii. Delay caused due to typographical error and was not a willful default.

7. Having not satisfied with the aforesaid submissions of the Company, the

Joint Registrar, Karachi do not interfere in his earlier order (first order) and



maintained a penalty of Rs. 3000/ vide order dated August 19, 2005 hence, the

8. I have gone through the relevant provisions of law and the documents submitted before me for perusal. The following three points have been raised by

the Company in its revision application:

instant revision application.

i. The default was not willful and was due to oversight of concern staff.

ii. Section 469 of the Ordinance has been misapplied in the instant case, as the Company has not committed any default and simply delayed in filing of

returns.

iii. Defaults committed under Sections 156 & 205 are not included/delegated

under SRO 230 (1)/2001.

9. From the perusal of the provisions of Section 156 of the Ordinance, it has

been noticed that the same are mandatory in nature and the burden of proof is

strictly on the Company to prove the contrary. The considerable delay in filing of

annual returns of the Company do not indicate any inadvertent mistake as it is

duty of the officers of the Company to comply with the statutory requirements of

law in letter and spirit. I have also gone through the provisions of Section 469 (3)

of the Ordinance, which clearly provides that the acceptance of late filing of

documents do not absolve the defaulting company of any liability arising from

the default. Further SRO 975 (1)/2003 dated October 09, 2003 gives powers to all

Joint Registrars to adjudicate matters falling in their jurisdictions.

10. For the foregoing reasons, as the Joint Registrar concerned has already

taken a lenient view and imposed a very nominal amount of penalty, I do not

found it a fit case for further interference. The Company, is therefore, directed to

deposit, within 30 days of the date of receipt of this order fine Rs. 3,000 (Rupees

three thousand only) in the Commission's designated bank accounts maintained

with Habib Bank Ltd or pay by a demand draft / pay order issued in the name of



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the Commission and send a copy of the receipt to the 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 moveable

and immoveable property.

11. The Company and its directors are also advised to be careful in future and

ensure strict compliance to the requirements of the Ordinance in this regard.

(Nazir Ahmed Shaheen)

Registrar of Companies

Announced at Islamabad

January 23, 2006

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OF PAKISTAN Registration Department