



SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OF PAKISTAN
Securities Market Division
Market Supervision and Registration Department (MSRD)

Before the Director/HOD (MSRD)

In the matter of Show Cause Notice issued under Section 224(4) of the Companies Ordinance, 1984 to Mr. Yousuf Ahmed, Director of Artistic Denim Mills Limited

Date of Hearing:

January 30, 2014

Present at Hearing:

Representing the Respondent:

Mr. Rizwan Manai

Assisting the Director/HOD (MSRD):

*Mr. Muhammad Farooq,
Joint Director, SECP
(Through Video Link)*

Order

This Order will dispose of the proceedings initiated under Section 224(4) of the Companies Ordinance, 1984 ("**Ordinance**") by the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan ("**Commission**") through Show Cause Notice No. SMD/BOW/222/4(3967)95 dated 07/01/2014 ("**Notice**") issued to Mr. Yousuf Ahmed ("**Respondent**"), Director of Artistic Denim Mills Limited ("**Issuer Company**").

2. The facts of the matter leading up to aforesaid Notice are that the Issuer Company is a public listed company and the Respondent being its Director was required to file returns of change in beneficial ownership on Form 32, within the period stipulated under Section 222 of the Ordinance. However, he failed to discharge the said obligations which attract penal provision contained in Section 224(4) of the Ordinance.





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3. Section 222(2)(c) of the Ordinance stipulates the period within which Form 32 is required to be submitted as under:-

“where there is any change in the position or interest as aforesaid including a change in the beneficial ownership of any equity, security, within fifteen days of such change”.

4. The Respondent, in response to this office letter dated 09/07/2013, has reported the following changes in beneficial ownership on Forms 32 to the Commission on 23/07/2013 with the delay as mentioned against each:-

Sr. No.	Date of Change	Nature of Change	No. of Shares	Delay in Days
1	13/01/2007	Gift Made	1,200,000	2,368
2	19/07/2007	Bonus	8,962,400	2,362
3	18/09/2007	Sale	2,000,000	2,120
4	28/11/2007	Bonus	1,600,600	2,049
5	21/07/2009	Gift Made	1,976,200	1,448
6	01/06/2010	Gift Made	7,527,400	1,133

The aforesaid changes in beneficial ownership have been reported to the Commission on 24/07/2013 with delay ranges from 1,133 days to 2,368 days, in contraventions of Section 222(2)(c) of the Ordinance. The aforementioned contraventions *prima facie* attract penal provisions contain in Section 224(4) of the Ordinance, which provides as under:-

“Whoever knowingly and wilfully contravenes or otherwise fails to comply with any provision of section 222, section 223 or section 224 shall be liable to a fine which may extend to thirty thousand rupees and in the case of a continuing contravention, non-compliance or default to a further fine which may extend to one thousand rupees for every day after the first during which such contravention, non-compliance or default continues”.

5. The Commission took cognizance of the aforesaid default and issued Notice to the Respondent under Section 224(4) of the Ordinance, calling upon him to explain through written reply alongwith documentary evidence, if any as to why action may not be taken against him pursuant to Section 224(4) of the Ordinance, for aforesaid contraventions of Section 222 of the Ordinance.

6. Furthermore, in order to provide an opportunity of being heard in person, hearing in the matter was fixed on 23/01/2014 at the Commission's Head Office, Islamabad, which on the





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request of the Respondent was rescheduled on 30/01/2014 at Commission's Regional Office, Karachi. On the said date, Mr. Rizwan Manai ("**Authorized Representative**") appeared on behalf of the Respondent. The Respondent, in response to directive given during the course of hearing vide letter dated 31/01/2014 filed written reply to the Notice. The submissions made in writing by the Respondent as well as verbally by the Authorized Representative during the course of hearing be summarized as under:-

- a) *Returns of beneficial ownership for aforementioned changes in beneficial ownership were submitted to Company Registration Office, Karachi.*
- b) *Due to oversight, the said changes in beneficial ownership could not be reported to the Commission.*
- c) *The default is unintentional and the same may kindly be condoned.*
- d) *The Authorized Representative ensured that the Respondent will comply with the requirement of Section 222 of the Ordinance within the prescribed time period in future.*

7. I have considered the submissions made by the Respondent in writing and verbally by the Authorized Representative, during the course of hearing. The Respondent has admitted the default with the contention that it was not intentional. The Authorized Representative requested to condone the default with the plea that the Respondent has already filed the returns of beneficial ownership with the Registrar and upon receipt letter from the Commission, the same have also been filed with it.

8. In this concern, it is pointed out that the default committed by the Respondent pertains to the period from January 2007 to June 2010. It is worth mentioning that in order to provide an opportunity to directors/beneficial owners of listed companies to file their overdue returns of beneficial ownership without facing penal action, the Commission through Notices dated 07/09/2009 and 21/09/2010 asked them to file their returns of beneficial ownership with Head Office of the Commission by 31/10/2009 and 31/10/2010 respectively and to ensure timely compliance of Section 222 of the Ordinance in future. The aforesaid Notices were sent to all listed companies and were also disseminated through stock exchanges and print media, wherein it was clearly mentioned that return of beneficial ownership is required to be submitted to the Registrar and the Commission. But, the Respondent did not avail this opportunity. Besides, the record of this office shows that the Respondent is on the Board of Directors of the Issuer Company since 1995. Thus, it is evident that the Respondent was fully aware about his liability of filing of the returns of beneficial ownership, but he failed to do so within the stipulated time period. In my opinion, the Respondent has contravened the provisions of Section 222 of the Ordinance. Hence, in the light of aforesaid discussion, I am of the view that the Respondent has committed the violation. However, considering the filing of the said returns by the Respondent

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with the Registrar and taking a lenient view of the default, in exercise of powers conferred under Section 224 (4) of the Ordinance, I hereby impose a fine of Rs. 20,000/- (twenty thousand rupees only) on the Respondent.

9. This Order is issued without prejudice to any other action that the Commission/Registrar may initiate against the Respondent in accordance with the law on matter subsequently investigated or brought to the Notice of the Commission.




(Imran Inayat Butt)
Director/HOD (MSRD)

Islamabad.
Announced on March 10, 2014.