

In the

RESERVE BANK OF INDIA

Foreign Exchange Department
6, Sansad Marg
New Delhi - 110001

Present

Md. Shakir Hasan Assistant General Manager

> Date: February 6, 2020 CA No. NDL552/2019

> > In the matter of

Oxford Policy Management India Private Limited

4/6, Siri Fort Institutional Area New Delhi - 110049

(Applicant)

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

ORDER

The applicant has filed the compounding application dated September 20, 2019 (received at Reserve Bank of India, New Delhi on September 25, 2019) for compounding of contraventions of the provisions of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (hereinafter referred to as FEMA) and the regulations issued thereunder. The contraventions sought to be compounded are those of issue of shares to persons resident outside India prior to receipt of the amount of consideration, in terms of paragraph 2(2) of Schedule 1 to Foreign Exchange Management (Transfer or Issue of Security by a Person Resident Outside India) Regulations, 2017 notified vide Notification No. FEMA 20(R)/2017-RB dated November 7, 2017 (hereinafter referred to as FEMA 20(R)/2017-RB), as then applicable.

- 2. The relevant facts of the case are as follows:
- (a) The applicant company, incorporated on May 24, 2018, is engaged in professional, scientific and technical activities including consulting activities and advisors/ helps in



preparation of economic policies.

(b) The applicant issued 10,000 equity shares on June 5, 2018 to the subscribers to its Memorandum of Association, M/s Oxford Policy Management Limited, U.K. and Mr. Dougal Adam Freeman, U.K. The consideration for the said shares amounting to ₹1,00,000/- was received in two tranches, after the issue of shares, as detailed below, with delay of 1 month & 15 days and 1 month & 19 days, in contravention of paragraph 2(2) of Schedule 1 to FEMA 20(R)/2017-RB, as then applicable.

SI. No.	Date of Issue	Amount (₹)	Date of Receipt
1	05.06.2018	10.00	20.07.2018
2	05.06.2018	99,990.00	24.07.2018
	Total	1,00,000.00	

Whereas, in terms of paragraph 2(2) of Schedule 1 to FEMA 20(R)/2017-RB, an Indian company accepting FDI has to receive the share application money from the non-resident investor prior to the issue of shares, and shares have to be issued within sixty days from the date of receipt of the consideration.

- (c) Thus, there are contraventions of paragraph 2(2) of Schedule 1 to FEMA 20(R)/2017-RB, as then applicable.
- 3. The applicant was given an opportunity for personal hearing for further submission in person and/ or by producing documents, if any, in support of the application. Shri Shivam Garg, Company Secretary, appeared for personal hearing on February 4, 2020 on behalf of the applicant. The representative admitted the contraventions committed by the applicant for which compounding has been sought. During the personal hearing, he submitted that the contraventions were without any *malafide* or wilful intention but were mainly due to lack of understanding of various regulatory requirements. He requested for a lenient view in the matter. The application for compounding is, therefore, being considered on the basis of averments made in the application as well as other documents and submissions made during the personal hearing.
- 4. I have given my careful consideration to the documents on record and submissions made by the applicant during the personal hearing. Accordingly, I hold that the applicant has contravened the provision of paragraph 2(2) of Schedule 1 to



FEMA 20(R)/2017-RB, as then applicable, on account of issue of shares to person resident outside India prior to receipt of the amount of consideration as detailed in paragraph 2(b) above. The contraventions relate to an amount of ₹1,00,000/- (Rupees One Lakh only) and the period of contraventions are 1 month & 15 days and 1 month & 19 days.

- that the particulars given by the applicant in the application are true and correct to the best of their knowledge and belief. It has also been declared in the declaration furnished with the compounding application 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/ adjudication proceedings against it, thereafter. It has further been declared that the applicant has not filed any appeal under Section 17 or Section 19 of FEMA. 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.
- 6. In terms of Section 13 of 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. After considering the submissions made by the applicant and the entire facts and circumstances of the case I am persuaded to compound the contraventions, in line with the Guidance Note on Computation Matrix prescribed as part of Master Direction Compounding of Contraventions, framed in accordance with the Foreign Exchange (Compounding Proceedings) Rules, 2000. Accordingly, it stands to reason that payment of an amount of ₹50,500/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand and Five Hundred only) will meet the ends of justice in the circumstances of this case.
- 7. Accordingly, I compound the admitted contraventions of paragraph 2(2) of Schedule 1 to FEMA 20(R)/2017-RB, as then applicable, by the applicant based on the facts detailed above in terms of the Foreign Exchange (Compounding



Proceedings) Rules, 2000, on payment of an amount of ₹50,500/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand and Five Hundred only) which shall be deposited by the applicant with the Reserve Bank of India, Foreign Exchange Department, 6, Sansad Marg, New Delhi - 110001 by a demand draft drawn in favour of the "Reserve Bank of India" and payable at New Delhi 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.

The application is disposed accordingly.

Dated this the 6th day of February 2020.

Sd/-(Md. Shakir Hasan) Assistant General Manager