

CRITERIA FOR MAKING PAYMENTS TO NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

With changes in the Corporate Governance norms brought by the Companies Act, 2013 as well as SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 (Listing Regulations), the role of Non - Executive Directors (“NED”) and the degree of their engagement with the Board and the Company has undergone significant changes over a period of time. The Non-Executive Directors bring in a wider perspective in the deliberations and decision-making of the Board which adds value to the Company.

Section 197 of the Companies Act, 2013 and Regulation 17(6) (a) of Listing Regulations require the prior approval of the shareholders of a Company for making payment to its Non-Executive Directors.

However, the requirement of obtaining prior approval of shareholders in general meeting shall not apply to payment of sitting fees to non-executive directors, if made within the limits prescribed under Companies Act, 2013 for payment of sitting fees without approval of the Central Government

With consideration to above, any fee/remuneration payable to the NEDs of the Company shall abide by the following:

Remuneration to Non- Executive / Independent Director:

1. Sitting Fees:

The NEDs / Independent Directors may receive remuneration by way of fees for attending meetings of Board or Committee thereof. Provided that the amount of such fees shall not exceed the amount as may be prescribed by the Central Government from time to time.

2. Commission:

Under the Companies Act, 2013, Section 197 allows a company to pay remuneration to its NEDs either by way of a monthly payment or at a specified percentage of the net profits of the company or partly by one way and partly by the other.

Further, the section also states that where the company has either managing director or whole-time director or manager, then a maximum of 1% of its net profits can be paid as remuneration to its NEDs. In case there is no managing director or whole-time director or manager, then a maximum of 3% of net profit can be paid. Thus, the basis of payment to the NEDs is the net profit of the Company.

3. Professional Fees:

Under the Companies Act, 2013, Section 197 allows a Company to pay remuneration to its NEDs for services rendered by any such Director if:

- a. The services rendered are professional in nature;
- b. In the opinion of Nomination and Remuneration Committee the Director possesses the requisite qualification for the practice of the profession.

As per the provisions of Section 188 of the Companies Act, 2013, the Audit Committee and the Board of Directors of the Company shall approve the Professional fees to be paid to Non- Executive Director(s), and with the approval of the Shareholders wherever required.

4. Refund of excess remuneration paid:

If any Director draws or receives, directly or indirectly, by way of remuneration any such sums in excess of the prescribed limit or without approval required under Section 197, he shall refund such sums to the Company, within two years or such lesser period as may be allowed by the Company and until such sum is refunded, hold it in trust for the Company. The Company shall not waive the recovery of any sum refundable to it unless approved by the Company by Special Resolution within two years from the date the sum becomes refundable.

5. Stock Options:

As per the Regulation 17 of the Listing Regulations, the shareholders' resolution shall specify the limits for the maximum number of stock options that can be granted to Non-Executive Directors, in any financial year and in aggregate.

Provided that an Independent Director shall not be entitled to any stock options and may receive remuneration by way of fees and reimbursement of expenses for participation in meetings of the Board and other meetings and profit related commission as may be approved by the members.

Amendments

The Company reserves the right to modify and/or amend this document at any time subject to the applicable provisions the Companies Act, 2013 and Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015.