



SECURITIES & EXCHANGE COMMISSION OF PAKISTAN

(Adjudication Department-II, Adjudication Division)
4th Floor State Life Building No.2, Wallace Road, Karachi.
Website: www.secp.gov.pk

CASE No. 813/2022

BEFORE THE ADJUDICATING OFFICER

ORDER UNDER REGULATION 6(3) & REGULATION-7 OF THE COMPANIES (MAINTENANCE AND AUDIT OF COST ACCOUNTS) REGULATIONS, 2020 (THE "REGULATIONS") R/W SECTION 512 OF THE COMPANIES ACT, 2017 ("THE ACT").

IN THE MATTER OF M/S. SIDDIQI & COMPANY COST & MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANTS

Present: Mustafa Hussain Siddiqi (Cost Auditor)

Date of hearing: 14-06-2022

1. This Order shall dispose of the proceedings initiated under REGULATION 6(3) & REGULATION-7 OF THE COMPANIES (MAINTENANCE AND AUDIT OF COST ACCOUNTS) REGULATIONS, 2020 (THE "REGULATIONS") R/W SECTION 512 OF THE COMPANIES ACT, 2017 ("THE ACT").
2. The facts of the case are that the cost auditor of the company was required to make out a report within one hundred and eighty days of the close of the financial year to which the cost audit relates, to the board in the form set out in Appendix II along with a statement in the form set out in Appendix III (of the Regulations) and simultaneously shall submit a copy to the Commission and the registrar concerned, in terms of the provision of regulation 6(3) of the of the companies (maintenance and audit of cost accounts) regulations, 2020.
3. However, the record of the company registration office revealed that **M/s. Siddiqi & Company Cost & Management Accountants.**, the "Cost Auditor" of **M/s. Digri Sugar Mills Limited** (the "Company") failed to submit a copy of the Cost Audit Report of the Company for the year **2022**, in respect of financial statements for the period ended on 30.09.2021, to the Commission and the registrar in violation of Regulation 6(3) of the Regulations
4. This constituted violation of law and rendered the cost auditor liable to the aforesaid default which attracts the penal provisions contained in sub-section (2) of section 512 of the "Act" r/w Regulation-7 of the "Regulations" reproduced as under:

Regulation 7 of the Regulations

"7. Penalty for contravention of these regulations. — Any contravention or violation of any provision of these regulations shall be liable to a penalty as

provided in sub-section (2) of section 512 of the Act, notwithstanding the punishment provided under sub-section (6) of section 220 or other provisions of the Act "

Section 512(2) of the Act

"512. Power to make regulations.— (2) Any regulation made under sub-section (1) may provide that a contravention thereof shall be punishable with a penalty which may extend to five million rupees and, where the contravention is a continuing one, with a further penalty which may extend to one hundred thousand rupees for every day after the first during which such contravention continues."

5. Accordingly, taking cognizance of the matter, a Show-Cause Notice dated 02-06-2022, was served to the cost auditor calling upon him/them to Show Cause in my office on 14-06-2022, as to why the penalty laid down under the above mentioned section should not be imposed.
6. On the date of hearing, the Authorized Representative of the Cost Auditor appeared before me in person and submitted in the light of his reply dated 14th June, 2022 that the company failed to provide us the requisite information, books, data which were essential for doing cost audit, in spite of several reminders. Under the circumstance, the Cost Audit could not be conducted and the audit report could not be made out due to the failure in providing necessary material/documents by the company. You would therefore, appreciate that the negligence and failure to make compliance of the Regulation/Law is on the part of the company and the cost auditor may not be held liable or responsible for the subject default. Copies of correspondence made in this regard with the company has also been submitted as evidence.
7. In order to ensure the stance of the cost auditor, a letter dated 05-07-2022 was issued to the company alongwith written reply form the cost auditor for seeking company's comments. However, no response / reply received from the company which establishes and substantiates the justification and the facts furnished by the cost auditor.
8. The submission and the justification made by/on behalf of the cost auditor is quite sustainable as, prima facia, there is no negligence and willfulness on his part, as he was unable to do cost audit in the absence of requisite data, books and documents. Infact, it was a failure on the part of the company to get audit of its cost accounts in terms of the "Regulation". Therefore, I hereby condone the subject default with no order as to cost / penalty on the "cost auditor".
9. A copy of this order be placed on the file/ record of the concerned registrar and the case referring department for taking action against the company for violation of the relevant provisions of the "Regulation" r/w "the Act", if deemed appropriate.

Disposed off accordingly.



**(ZIA UL RASHEED ABBASI)
ADJUDICATING OFFICER /
ADDITIONAL REGISTRAR**

Dated: 29-07-2022