

The Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SEC) has advised non-listed public and private limited companies to regularize their defaults of filing returns under the Companies Ordinance, 1984 before March 31st, 2002. In this regard, the Companies Regularization Scheme introduced by the SEC provides the following concessions and incentives to defaulting companies.

- The overdue returns can be filed on payment of normal fee plus one time additional fee equivalent to normal fee (i.e. Rs. 200/- + Rs.200/- = Rs/400/- per return instead of Rs.800/- per return).
- There shall be no show cause notice/penal proceedings under Section 476 of the Companies Ordinance, 1984 on the returns filed late under this scheme.
- The scheme shall be applicable to the defaults in filing of returns committed upto 31-12-2000.

The SEC has provided an opportunity to the managements of companies to regularize their filing requirements under the Companies Ordinance, 1984, and to participate in economic revival of the country, with the incentive to pay lesser fee and also save themselves from penal and civil consequences.

The Commission will, however, take necessary legal action against the directors and chief executives of companies failing to file their returns, as provided under the law, after March 31, 2002.