

BEFORE THE ADJUDICATING OFFICER
REGISTRAR OF COMPANIES, GOA, DAMAN & DIU
(ADJUDICATION ORDER NO: ROCGDD/AO/92&137/2019/26)

ORDER

UNDER SECTION 454 OF THE COMPANIES ACT, 2013 READ WITH COMPANIES (ADJUDICATION OF PENALTIES) RULES, 2014.

In respect of:

MENEZES PHARMACEUTICALS LIMITED

U24232GA1996PLC002040

Appointment of Adjudicating Officer:-

1. Ministry of Corporate Affairs vide its gazette notification no SO 831(E) dated 24.03.2015 appointed undersigned as Adjudicating Officer (hereinafter referred to as 'the A.O.')
- in exercise of the powers conferred by section 454 of the Companies Act, 2013 [herein after known as **Act**] read with Companies (Adjudication of Penalties) Rules, 2014 [Notification no GSR 254(E) dated 31-3-2014] for adjudging penalties under the provisions of the Act. The undersigned vide the Companies (Amendment) Ordinance, 2019 is entrusted with power to adjudicate penalties under section 92 and 137 of the Act with effect from 02.11.2018.

Company:-

2. Menezes Pharmaceuticals Limited [herein after known as **Company**] CIN U24232GA1996PLC002040 is a registered company with the office of Registrar of Companies, Goa, Daman and Diu and having its registered address as 5th Floor, Dempo Towers, EDC, Patta Plaza, Panjim, North Goa, Goa-403001, India as per records maintained by this office in online registry.

Show Cause Notice, Reply and Personal Hearing:-

3. The Show Cause Notices (SCN) under Section 92(5) and 137(3) of the Companies Act, 2013 were issued vide no. ROCGDD/Penalty/2019/Non-filing/4220-4223 dated 29.01.2019 to the Company and its directors, Ms.Maryann Veronica Menezes (DIN:00145980), Ms.Brenda Juliette Nazareth Menezes (DIN:01126236) and Ms.Christine Stephanie Menezes (DIN:06549798). The Noticees to SCN were called upon to show the cause for



non-filing of Annual Return(s) and Financial Statement(s) pursuant to Section 92 and Section 137 of the Act respectively.

4. Reply dated 12.02.2019 received from the company inter alia stating that company's financial statements could not get prepared and audited within stipulated time limit as in the month November 2013, there has been an ongoing dispute between the family members, who are also directors of the company, before the Civil Court, Goa, High Court and the Hon'ble Supreme Court. This disrupted the smooth working and functioning of the company. Besides the said reason there was an ongoing agitation, stoppage of work by the unionized workers at the plant and also disputes before the Labour Commissioner by these unionized workers during the negotiations of charter of demands. The charter of demands could not be resolved due to these workers high and unreasonable demands which the management was forced to take tough decision of closure of the plant. This resulted in the company losing many key employees. Due to the said reasons the directors were faced with many unforeseen and unavoidable condition. The company has filed its statutory returns for the financial year ending 31.03.2016 on 28.10.2018. Further, it has stated that it is in process of completing its financial statements for financial year ending 31.03.2017 and 31.03.2018. The reply of the company is not satisfactory. It is observed from the master data, the company has not filed its statutory returns for the financial year ending 31.03.2017 and 31.03.2018 and the default is continuing till date of this order.

Provisions of Companies Act, 2013:-

5. Sub-section (1) of Section 92 of the Act provides that every company shall prepare an Annual Return in the prescribed form and sub-section(4) of Section 92 of the Act provides that every company shall file with the Registrar a copy of the annual return, within sixty days from the date on which the annual general meeting is held or where no annual general meeting is held in any year within sixty days from the date on which the annual general meeting should have been held together with the statement specifying the reasons for not holding the annual general meeting, with such fees or additional fees, as applicable.
6. Every company shall prepare its annual return in the prescribed form containing the particulars as they stood on the close of the financial year regarding—
 - (a) its registered office, principal business activities, particulars of its holding, subsidiary and associate companies;
 - (b) its shares, debentures and other securities and shareholding pattern;
 - (c) its debentures;

- (d) its members and debenture-holders along with changes therein since the close of the previous financial year;
- (e) its promoters, directors, key managerial personnel along with changes therein since the close of the previous financial year;
- (f) meetings of members or a class thereof, Board and its various committees along with attendance details;
- (g) remuneration of directors and key managerial personnel;
- (h) penalty or punishment imposed on the company, its directors or officers and details of compounding of offences and appeals made against such penalty or punishment;
- (i) matters relating to certification of compliances, disclosures as may be prescribed;
- (j) details, as may be prescribed, in respect of shares held by or on behalf of the Foreign Institutional Investors indicating their names, address, countries of incorporation, registration and percentage of shareholding held by them; and
- (k) such other matters as may be prescribed, and signed by a director and the company secretary, or where there is no company secretary, by a company secretary in practice:

7. Sub-section (5) of Section 92 of the Act provides that if any company fails to file its annual return under sub-section (4) of Section 92 of the Act, before the expiry of the period specified therein, such company and its every officer who is in default shall be liable to a penalty of fifty thousand rupees and in case of continuing failure, with further penalty of one hundred rupees for each day during which such failure continues, subject to a maximum of five lakh rupees.
8. Sub-section (1) of Section 129 of the Act provides that company shall prepare a financial statement comply with the accounting standards notified under section 133 of the Act and sub-section (2) of Section 129 of the Act provides that at every annual general meeting of a company, the Board of Directors of the company shall lay before such meeting financial statements for the financial year. Further sub-section (1) of the Section 137 of the Act provides that a copy of the financial statements, including consolidated financial statement, if any, along with all the documents which are required to be or attached to such financial statements under this Act, duly adopted at the annual general meeting of the company, shall be filed with the Registrar within thirty days of the date of annual general meeting in such manner, with such fees or additional fees, as applicable.


9. Sub-section (3) of section 137 of the Act provides that if a company fails to file the copy of the financial statements under sub-section (1) or sub-section (2) of the section 137, as the case may be, before the expiry of the period specified therein, the company shall be liable to a penalty of one thousand rupees for every day during which the failure continues but which shall not be more than ten lakh rupees, and the managing director and the Chief Financial Officer of the company, if any, and, in the absence of the managing director and the Chief Financial Officer, any other director who is charged by the Board with the responsibility of complying with the provisions of this section, and, in the absence of any such director, all the directors of the company, shall be liable to a penalty of one lakh rupees and in case of continuing failure, with further penalty of one hundred rupees for each day after the first during which such failure continues, subject to a maximum of five lakh rupees.

ORDER

10. The Company and its directors have not filed Annual Return(s) and Financial Statement(s) pursuant to sub-section (4) of Section 92 and sub-section (1) of Section 137 of the Act respectively for financial year ending 31.03.2018, thereby attracting penal provisions under sub-section(5) of Section 92 and sub-section(3) of Section 137 of the Act respectively. It is further noticed that company has also defaulted in filing of statutory returns for FY 2016-17 also and also observed that AGM was held for FY 2014-15 on 06.01.2017 and 31.03.2016 on 28.10.2018 i.e., a delay in holding AGM of almost 15 and 25 months respectively.

The object of filing the annual return of company with the Public Domain is in the public interest, to enable the investors, public and whosoever interested in the company can access the fundamental information about the company and its management. Non-filing of this statutory return will result in denial of information to public about the company.

The object of filing financial statements of company with MCA portal is to enable the interested public/investors/statutory agencies to access and know about the company state of affairs. The financial statements of a company so filed shall give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company, the said statements will become documents of public domain and the interested public can access the said statements through MCA website to know the financial state of affairs of the company as on the date.

11. This Order could not be passed within the stipulated time period as most of the Officials of this office were engaged in Lok Sabha Election duty and the default is continuing as on the date of this order. 

12. Having considered the facts and circumstances of the case, and after taking into account the factors above, the A.O. hereby impose penalty on Company and Directors as per table below for violation of Section 92 and Section 137 of the Companies Act, 2013 for Financial Year ending **31.03.2018**. The A.O. is of the opinion that penalty is commensurate with the aforesaid failure committed by the Noticee.

Document Required to be filed	No of Days of Default *	Penalty imposed on Company /Director	First Default (in Rs)	Default Continues (in Rs)	Total (in Rs)
Financial Statement u/s 137(1) of the Companies Act, 2013	189 days	On Company	Rs.1000X189=Rs1,89,000/-		Rs.1,89,000/-
		Maryann Menezes	Rs.1,00,000/-	Rs.100X189= Rs.18,900/-	Rs.1,18,900/-
		Brenda Menezes	Rs.1,00,000/-	Rs.100X189= Rs.18,900/-	Rs.1,18,900/-
		Christine Menezes	Rs.1,00,000/-	Rs.100X189= Rs.18,900/-	Rs.1,18,900/-
Annual Returns u/s 92(4) of the Companies Act, 2013	160 days	On Company	Rs.50,000/-	Rs.100X160=Rs.16,000/-	Rs.66,000/-
		Maryann Menezes	Rs.50,000/-	Rs.100X160=Rs.16,000/-	Rs.66,000/-
		Brenda Menezes	Rs.50,000/-	Rs.100X160=Rs.16,000/-	Rs.66,000/-
		Christine Menezes	Rs.50,000/-	Rs.100X160=Rs.16,000/-	Rs.66,000/-

*No. of days have been calculated from November, 2018 & December 2018 for Financial Statement and Annual Return respectively till date of order.

13. It is hereby directed to rectify the default immediately from the date of receipt of copy of this Order.
14. The Penalty imposed shall be paid through Ministry of Corporate Affairs portal only.
15. Appeal against this order may be filed in writing with the Regional Director(WR), Ministry of Corporate Affairs, 100, Marine Drive, Everest Building, Mumbai-400002, within a period of sixty days from the date of receipt of this order, in Form ADJ setting forth the grounds of appeal and shall be accompanied by a certified copy of this order. [Section 454 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Companies (Adjudicating of Penalties) Rules, 2014].
16. Your attention is also invited to section 454(8) of the Act regarding consequences of non-payment of penalty.
17. In terms of the provisions of sub-rule (9) of Rule 3 of Companies (Adjudication of Penalties) Rules, 2014, copy of this order is being sent to Menezes Pharmaceuticals Limited at 5th Floor, Dempo Towers, EDC, Patto, Panjim, North Goa. Goa-403001, India and Ms. Maryann Veronica Menezes (DIN:0145980) at HNo.508/B,104/A, Vainguinim Valley Taleigao, Nio, Dona Paula, Tiswadi, North Goa, Goa-403004, India, Ms. Brenda Juliette Nazareth Menezes (DIN: 1126236) at HNo.508/B,104/A, Vainguinim Valley Taleigao, Nio Dona Paula,



Tiswadi, North Goa,Goa-403004,India, Ms.Christine Stephanie Menezes (DIN:6549798) at 104/A, Vainguinim Valley Taleigao, Nio Dona Paula, Tiswadi, North Goa, Goa-403004, India and also to Office of Regional Director(WR), Ministry of Corporate Affairs, 100, Marine Drive, Everest Building, Mumbai-400002.

Place:- Panaji, Goa.

Date:- 09.05.2019

Registrar of Companies Goa, Daman & Diu

Adjudicating Officer

