

VIGIL MECHANISM / WHISTLE BLOWER POLICY

PREAMBLE

Section 177 (9) of the Companies Act, 2013 mandates the following classes of companies to constitute/establish a vigil mechanism for the directors and employees to report genuine concerns in such manner as may be prescribed –

- Every listed company;
- Every other company which accepts deposits from the public;
- Every company which has borrowed money from banks and public financial institutions in excess of Rs. 50 crores.

Also, Effective October 1, 2014, Clause 49 of the Listing Agreement between listed companies and the Stock Exchanges, inter alia, provides for a mandatory requirement for all listed companies to establish a mechanism called ‘Whistle Blower Policy’ for employees to report to the management instances of unethical behaviour, actual or suspected, fraud or violation of the company’s code of conduct.

Accordingly, this Whistleblower Policy (“the Policy”) has been formulated for directors and employees of the Company with a view to provide for adequate safeguards against victimization of persons who use such mechanism and also make provision for direct access to the chairperson of the Audit Committee in appropriate or exceptional cases.

POLICY

In compliance of the above requirements, Pasari Spinning Mills Limited, being a Listed Company has established a Vigil (Whistle Blower) Mechanism and formulated a Policy in order to provide a framework for responsible and secure whistle blowing/vigil mechanism.

POLICY OBJECTIVES

The Vigil (Whistle Blower) Mechanism aims to provide a channel to the directors and employee of Pasari Spinning Mills Limited for reporting instances of actual or suspected fraud, unethical/improper conduct in good faith of the company and commitment in adhering to the standards of ethical, moral and fair business practices.

The Company is committed to adhere to the highest standards of ethical, moral and legal conduct of business operations and in order to maintain these standards, the Company encourages its employees who have genuine concerns about suspected misconduct to come forward and express these concerns without fear of punishment or unfair treatment.

The mechanism provides for adequate safeguards against victimization of Directors and employees to avail of the mechanism and also provide for direct access to the Chairman of the Audit Committee in exceptional cases.

This neither releases employees from their duty of confidentiality in the course of their work nor can it be used as a route for raising malicious or unfounded allegations about a personal situation.

DEFINITIONS

The definitions of some of the key terms used in this Policy are given below-

“Whistle Blowing” A policy that provides a secure avenue to directors and employees for informing or reporting the right authorities about any confirmed or suspected unethical practices, wrongdoings or illegal activities in the company or Protected Disclosure under this Policy .

“Whistle Blower” is a Director or employee who makes a Protected Disclosure under this Policy and also referred in this policy as complainant.

“Protected Disclosure” means a written communication of a concern made in good faith, which discloses or demonstrates information that may evidence an unethical or improper activity under the title “SCOPE OF THE POLICY” with respect to the Company by Whistleblower. It should be factual and not speculative and should contain as much specific information as possible to allow for proper assessment of the nature and extent of the concern.

“Subject” means a person or group of persons against or in relation to whom a Protected Disclosure is made or evidence gathered during the course of an investigation.

“Audit Committee” means the Audit Committee of Directors constituted by the Board of Directors of the Company in accordance with Section 177 of the Companies Act, 2013 and read with Clause 49 of the Listing Agreement with the Stock Exchanges.

“Employee” means every employee of the Company (whether working in India or abroad), including the directors in the employment of the Company.

“Director” means every Director of the Company, past or present.

“Protected Disclosure” means any communication made in good faith that discloses or demonstrates information that may evidence unethical or improper activity.

SCOPE OF POLICY

This Policy covers disclosure made by Whistleblower for reporting of any unethical and improper or malpractices and events which have taken place/ suspected involving:

- Breach of the Company’s Code of Conduct
- Breach of Business Integrity and Ethics
- Breach of terms and conditions of employment and rules thereof
- Intentional Financial irregularities, including fraud, or suspected fraud
- Deliberate violation of laws/regulations
- Gross or Wilful Negligence causing substantial and specific danger to health, safety and environment
- Manipulation of company data/records
- Pilferation of confidential/propriety information
- Gross Wastage/misappropriation of Company funds/assets

They are not required or expected to act as investigators or finders of facts, nor would they determine the appropriate corrective or remedial action that may be warranted in a given case.

Whistleblowers should not act on their own in conducting any investigative activities, nor do they have a right to participate in any investigative activities other than as requested by the vigilance officer or the Chairman of the Audit Committee or the Investigators.

Protected Disclosure will be appropriately dealt with by the vigilance officer or the Chairman of the Audit Committee, as the case may be.

ELIGIBILITY

All Directors and Employees of the Company are eligible to make Protected Disclosures under the Policy. The Protected Disclosures may be in relation to matters concerning the Company.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

To ensure that this Policy is adhered to, and to assure that the concern will be acted upon seriously, Pasari Spinning Mills Limited will:

- Ensure that the Whistle Blower and/or the person processing the Protected Disclosure is not victimized for doing so and is adequately protected against any such incident
- Treat victimization as a serious matter including initiating disciplinary action on such person/(s)
- Ensure complete confidentiality
- Not attempt to conceal evidence of the Protected Disclosure
- Take disciplinary action, if any one destroys or conceals evidence of the Protected Disclosure made/to be made
- Provide an opportunity of being heard to the persons involved especially to the Subject

DISQUALIFICATIONS

- While it will be ensured that genuine Whistleblowers are accorded complete protection from any kind of unfair treatment as herein set out, any abuse of this protection will warrant disciplinary action.
- Protection under this Policy would not mean protection from disciplinary action arising out of false or bogus allegations made by a Whistleblower knowing it to be false or bogus or with a mala fide intention.
- Whistleblowers, who make three or more Protected Disclosures, which have been subsequently found to be mala fide, frivolous, baseless, malicious, or reported otherwise than in good faith, will be disqualified from reporting further Protected Disclosures under this Policy. In respect of such Whistleblowers, the Company/Audit Committee would reserve its right to take/recommend appropriate disciplinary action.

PROCEDURE

All Protected Disclosures should be reported in writing by the complainant as soon as possible, not later than 30 days after the Whistle Blower becomes aware of the same and should either be typed or written in a legible handwriting in English.

The Protected Disclosure should be submitted under a covering letter signed by the complainant in a closed and secured envelope and should be super scribed as **“Protected disclosure under the Whistle Blower policy”** or sent through email with the subject **“Protected disclosure under the Whistle Blower policy”**. If the complaint is not super scribed and closed as mentioned above, the protected disclosure will be dealt with as if a normal disclosure.

All Protected Disclosures should be addressed to the Vigilance Officer of the Company or to the Chairman of the Audit Committee in exceptional cases.

The contact details of vigilance officer are as under:

Name, Designation – **Mr. T K Gupta, Managing Director**

Address - **Pasari Spinning Mills Limited**

18 (old No 16) Anjaneya Temple Road,

Yediyur, Jayanagar,

BANGALORE – 560 082.

Email Id: admin@pasariexports.com

In order to protect the identity of the complainant, the Vigilance Officer will not issue any acknowledgement to the complainants and they are not advised neither to write their name / address on the envelope nor enter into any further correspondence with the Vigilance Officer. Anonymous / Pseudonymous disclosure shall not be entertained by the Vigilance Officer. On receipt of the protected disclosure the Vigilance Officer shall detach the covering letter bearing the identity of the Whistle Blower and process only the Protected Disclosure.

INVESTIGATION

- All Protected Disclosures under this policy will be recorded and thoroughly investigated.
- The Vigilance Officer will carry out an investigation either himself/herself or by involving any other Officer of the Company/ Committee constituted for the same /an outside agency before referring the matter to the Audit Committee of the Company.
- The Audit Committee, if deems fit, may call for further information or particulars from the complainant and at its discretion, consider involving any other/additional Officer of the Company and/or Committee and/ or an outside agency for the purpose of investigation.
- The investigation by itself would not tantamount to an accusation and is to be treated as a neutral fact finding process.
- The investigation shall be completed normally within 90 days of the receipt of the protected disclosure and is extendable by such period as the Audit Committee deems fit.
- Any member of the Audit Committee or other officer having any conflict of interest with the matter shall disclose his/her concern /interest forthwith and shall not deal with the matter.

DECISION AND REPORTING

- If an investigation leads to a conclusion that an improper or unethical act has been committed, the Chairman of the Audit Committee shall recommend to the Board of Directors of the Company to take such disciplinary or corrective action as it may deem fit.
- Any disciplinary or corrective action initiated against the Subject as a result of the findings of an investigation pursuant to this Policy shall adhere to the applicable personnel or staff conduct and disciplinary procedures.
- A complainant who makes false allegations of unethical & improper practices or about alleged wrongful conduct of the Subject to the Vigilance Officer or the Audit Committee shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action in accordance with the rules, procedures and policies of the Company.

CONFIDENTIALITY

The complainant, Vigilance Officer, Chairman of Audit Committee, the Subject and everybody involved in the process shall, maintain confidentiality of all matters under this Policy, discuss only to the extent or with those persons as required under this policy for completing the process of investigations and keep the papers in safe custody.

PROTECTION

No unfair treatment will be meted out to a Whistle Blower by virtue of his/ her having reported a Protected Disclosure under this policy. Adequate safeguards against victimisation of complainants shall be provided. The Company will take steps to minimize difficulties, which the Whistle Blower may experience as a result of making the Protected Disclosure.

The identity of the Whistle Blower shall be kept confidential to the extent possible and permitted under law. Any other employee assisting in the said investigation shall also be protected to the same extent as the Whistle Blower.

ACCESS TO CHAIRMAN OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Whistle Blower shall have right to access Chairman of the Audit Committee directly in exceptional cases and the Chairman of the Audit Committee is authorized to prescribe suitable directions in this regard.

COMMUNICATION

Directors and Employees shall be informed of the Policy by publishing on the website of the Company.

AMENDMENT

The Company reserves its right to amend or modify this Policy in whole or in part, at any time without assigning any reason whatsoever.