

**SBEC SUGAR LIMITED** 



May 29, 2024

To, The Manager BSE Ltd. 25<sup>th</sup> floor, P.J. Towers, Dalal Street, Mumbai – 400 001

# <u>Subject: Annual Secretarial Compliance Report for the year ended</u> <u>March 31, 2024</u>

# Scrip Code: 532102

Dear Sir/Madam,

Pursuant to Regulation 24A of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 read with SEBI Circular no. CIR/CFD/CMD1/27/2019 dated February 08, 2019. We hereby enclosed herewith the Annual Secretarial Compliance Report of the Company for the year ended March 31, 2024, issued by M/s Soniya Gupta & Associates, Company Secretaries.

We request you to kindly take the same on record.

Thanking You,

For SBEC Sugar Limited

Ankit K. Srivastava Company Secretary & Compliance Officer

Encl: A/a



# SONIYA GUPTA & ASSOCIATES

PRACTICING COMPANY SECRETARIES

### SECRETARIAL COMPLIANCE REPORT of SBEC SUGAR LIMITED for the year ended on 31.03.2024

We have conducted the review of the compliance of the applicable statutory provisions and the adherence togood corporate practices by SBEC SUGAR LIMITED (hereinafter referred as 'the listed entity'), having its Registered Office at Vill- Loyan Malakpur, Teh- Baraut, Distt. – Baghpat, Uttar Pradesh, Secretarial Review was conducted in a manner that provided us a reasonable basis for evaluating the corporate conducts/statutory compliances and expressing our opinion thereon.

Based on our verification of the listed entity's books, papers, minutes books, forms and returns filed and other records maintained by the listed entity and also the information provided by the listed entity, its officers, agents and authorized representatives during the conduct of Secretarial Review, we hereby report that in our opinion, the listed entity has, during the review period covering the financial year ended on March 31, 2024, complied with the statutory provisions listed hereunder and also that the listed entity has proper Board processes and compliance mechanism in place to the extent, in the manner and subject to the reporting made hereinafter:

We have examined:

- (a) all the documents and records made available to us and explanation provided by SBEC SUGAR LIMITED ("the listed entity"),
- (b) the filings/ submissions made by the listed entity to the stock exchanges,
- (c) website of the listed entity,

(d) any other document/ filing, as may be relevant, which has been relied upon to make this certification, for the year ended 31.03.2024 ("Review Period") in respect of compliance with the provisions of :

i.the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992 ("SEBI Act") and the Regulations, circulars, guidelines issued thereunder; and

ii.the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956 ("SCRA"), rules made thereunder and the Regulations, circulars, guidelines issued thereunder by the Securities and Exchange Board of India ("SEBI");

The specific Regulations, whose provisions and the circulars/ guidelines issued thereunder, have been examined, include:-

(a) Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015;

(b) Securities and Exchange Board of India (Issue of Capital and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2018; (Not applicable to the listed entity during the review period)

(c) Securities and Exchange Board of India (Substantial Acquisition of Shares and Takeovers) Regulations, 2011;

(d) Securities and Exchange Board of India (Buyback of Securities) Regulations, 2018; (Not applicable to the listed entity during the review period)

(e) Securities and Exchange Board of India (Share Based Employee Benefits and Sweat Equity) Regulations, 2021; (Not applicable to the listed entity during the review period)

(f) Securities and Exchange Board of India (Issue and Listing of Debt Securities) Regulations,
 2008; (Not applicable to the listed entity during the review period)

(g) Securities and Exchange Board of India (Issue and Listing of Non-Convertible Securities) Regulations,2021; (Not applicable to the listed entity during the review period)

(h) Securities and Exchange Board of India (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulations, 2015;

(i) (other regulations as applicable)

and circulars/ guidelines issued thereunder;

I/We hereby report that, during the Review Period the compliance status of the listed entity is appended as below:

Sr. No.	Particulars	Compliance Status (Yes/No/NA)	Observations/ Remarks by PCS*
1.	Secretarial Standards: The compliances of the listed entity are in accordance with the applicable Secretarial Standards (SS) issuedby the Institute of Company Secretaries India (ICSI),as notified by the Central Government under section 118(10) of the Companies Act, 2013 and mandatorily applicable.	YES	
2.	<ul> <li>Adoption and timely updation of the Policies:</li> <li>All applicable policies under SEBI Regulations areadopted with the approval of board of directors of the listed entities</li> <li>All the policies are in conformity with SEBI Regulations and have been reviewed &amp; updated on time, as per the regulations/circulars/guidelines issued by SEBI</li> </ul>	YES	

3.	<ul> <li>Maintenance and disclosures on Website:</li> <li>The Listed entity is maintaining a functional website</li> <li>Timely dissemination of the documents/ information under a separate section on the website</li> <li>Web-links provided in annual corporate governance reports under Regulation 27(2) are accurate and specific which re-directs to the relevant document(s)/section of the website</li> </ul>	YES	
4.	<b>Disqualification of Director:</b> None of the Director(s) of the Company is/ are disqualified under Section 164 of Companies Act, 2013as confirmed by the listed entity.	YES	
5.	<ul> <li>Details related to Subsidiaries of listed entities</li> <li>havebeen examined w.r.t.:</li> <li>(a) Identification of material subsidiary companies</li> <li>(b) Disclosure requirement of material as well as other subsidiaries</li> </ul>	YES	
6.	<b>Preservation of Documents:</b> The listed entity is preserving and maintaining records as prescribed under SEBI Regulations and disposal of records as per Policy of Preservation of Documents and Archival policy prescribed under SEBI LODR Regulations, 2015.	YES	
7.	<b>Performance Evaluation:</b> The listed entity has conducted performance evaluation of the Board, Independent Directors and the Committees at the start of every financial year/during the financial year as prescribed in SEBI Regulations.	YES	

8.	<b>Related Party Transactions:</b>		
	<ul> <li>(a) The listed entity has obtained prior approval of AuditCommittee for all related party transactions; or</li> <li>(b) The listed entity has provided detailed reasons along with confirmation whether the transactions were subsequently approved/ratified/rejected by the Audit Committee, in case no prior approval has been obtained.</li> </ul>	YES	
9.	Disclosure of events or information:		
	The listed entity has provided all the required disclosure(s) under Regulation 30 along with Schedule III of SEBI LODR Regulations, 2015 within the time limits prescribed thereunder.	YES	
10.	Prohibition of Insider Trading:		
	The listed entity is in compliance with Regulation 3(5) & 3(6) SEBI (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulations, 2015.	YES	
11.	Actions taken by SEBI or Stock Exchange(s), if any: No action(s) has been taken against the listed entity/its promoters/ directors/ subsidiaries either by SEBI or by Stock Exchanges (including under the Standard Operating Procedures issued by SEBI through various circulars) under SEBI Regulations and circulars/ guidelines issued thereunder except as provided under separate paragraph herein (**).	YES	No such action taken during the reporting period.
12.	Additional Non-compliances, if any: No additional non-compliance observed for any SEBI regulation/circular/guidance note etc.	YES	

Compliances related to resignation of statutory auditors from listed entities and their material subsidiaries as perSEBI Circular CIR/CFD/CMD1/114/2019 dated 18th October, 2019:

Sr. No.	Particulars	Compliance Status (Yes/No/ NA)	Observations/ Remarks by PCS*
1.	Compliances with the following conditions while a	ppointing/re-appo	inting an auditor

	<ul> <li>i. If the auditor has resigned within 45 days from the end of a quarter of a financial year, the auditor before such resignation, has issued the limited review/ audit report for such quarter; or</li> <li>ii. If the auditor has resigned after 45 days from theend of a quarter of a financial year, the auditor before such resignation, has issued the limited review/ audit report for such quarter as well as the next quarter; or</li> <li>iii. If the auditor has signed the limited review/ audit report for such quarter as well as the next quarter; or</li> <li>iii. If the auditor has signed the limited review/ audit report for the first three quarters of a financial year, the auditor before such resignation, has issued the limited review/ audit report for the first three quarters of a financial year, the auditor before such resignation, has issued the limited review/ audit report for the first three quarters of a financial year, the auditor before such resignation, has issued the limited review/ audit report for the first three quarter of a such financial year as well as the auditreport for such financial year.</li> </ul>	Not Applicable	
2.	Other conditions relating to resignation of statutor	ry auditor	
	i. Reporting of concerns by Auditor with respect to the listed entity/its material subsidiary to the Audit Committee:	Not Applicable	There was no change in statutory auditors due to resignation in the reporting period

	<ul> <li>a. In case of any concern with the management of the listed entity/material subsidiary such as non-availability of information / non- cooperation by the management which has hampered the audit process, the auditor has approached the Chairman of the Audit Committee of the listed entity andthe Audit Committee shall receive suchconcern directly and immediately without specifically waiting for the quarterly Audit Committee meetings.</li> <li>b. In case the auditor proposes to resign, all concerns with respect to the proposed resignation, along with relevant documentshas been brought to the notice of the Audit Committee. In cases where the proposed resignation is due to non-receipt of information / explanation from the company, the auditor has informed the Audit Committee the details of information/explanation sought and not provided by themanagement, as applicable.</li> </ul>	Not Applicable	There was no change in statutory auditors due to resignation in the reporting period
	c. The Audit Committee / Board of Directors, as the case may be, deliberated on the matter on receipt of such information from the auditor relating to the proposal to resign as mentioned above and communicate its views to the management and the auditor.		
	ii. Disclaimer in case of non-receipt of information: The auditor has provided an appropriate disclaimerin its audit report, which is in accordance withthe Standards of Auditing as specified by ICAI / NFRA, in case where the listed entity/ its materialsubsidiary has not provided information as required by the auditor.		
3.	The listed entity / its material subsidiary has obtained information from the Auditor upon resignation, in the format as specified in Annexure- A in SEBI Circular CIR/ CFD/CMD1/114/2019 dated 18th October, 2019.	Not Applicable	There was no change in statutory auditors due to resignation in the reporting period.

(a) The listed entity has complied with the provisions of the above Regulations and circulars/ guidelines issued thereunder, except in respect of matters specified below:

Sr. No	Compliance Requirement (Regulations/ circulars/ guidelines including specific clause)	Regu- lation/ Circul arNo.	<b>Deviatio</b> ns	Actio n Take nby	Type of Action	Detail of Vio- lation	Fine Amou nt	Obser - vation s/Re- marks of the Prac- ticing Comp a-ny Sec- retary	Man- age- ment Re- spons e	Re- mar ks
					Advisory/ Clarificati on/ Fine/Sho w Cause Notice/ Warning, etc.					

(b) The listed entity has taken the following actions to comply with the observations made in previous reports:

Sr. No	Compliance Requirement (Regulations/	Regul ation/	Deviatio ns	Actio n	Type of Action	Detail s of	Fine Amount	Ob- serv a-	Man- age-	Re- mark
·	circulars/	Circul		Taken		Viola-		tions	ment	S
	guidelines	arNo.		by		tion		/ Re-	Re-	
	including specific			Ũ				mar ksof	spons	
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		Advisory/ Clarificati on/			
		Fine/Sho w Cause Notice/ Warning,			
		etc.			

Following was the observation in the report for the previous year however, there has been no change in the status of the observation:

The Securities and Exchange Board of India on September 17, 2018 had issued directions to the Promoter group of the Company (namely Shri Umesh Kumar Modi, Kumkum Modi, Jayesh Modi, Longwell Investments Private Limited, A to Z Holdings Pvt. Ltd., Moderate Leasing and Capital Services Limited and SBEC Systems (India) Limited), severally or jointly to make a public announcement to acquire the shares of Target Company (i.e. SBEC SUGAR LIMITED) in accordance with the provisions of the Takeover Regulations, 2011, within a period of 45 days from the date of the above mentioned order. The shareholding/ voting rights of the promoter group had increased from 54.46% (2,59,51,083 Shares) as on June 30, 2014 to 63.86% (3,04,32,117 shares) as on September 30, 2014. In addition to the aforesaid acquisition, one of the lending promoter i.e. Moderate Leasing and Capital Services limited had also acquired 1.31% of SBEC Sugar Limited during March 18, 2015 to March 23, 2015, which increased the shareholding of promoter group to 65.17%. As per the said impugned order, the promoter group have violated the provisions of Regulation 3(2) of the Takeover Regulations, 2011 by acquiring shares in excess of the prescribed limit without making an announcement for open offer.

Against the said impugned SEBI order, M/S SBEC Systems (India) Limited had filed appeal no. 1 (No. 443/2018) before the Securities Appellant Tribunal, Mumbai.

Whereas the promoter group namely (Shri Umesh Kumar Modi, Ms. Kumkum Modi, Mr. Jayesh Modi, Longwell Investments Private Limited, A to Z Holdings Pvt. Ltd., Moderate Leasing and Capital Services Limited) had filed appeal no. 2 (No. 444/2018) before the Securities Appellant Tribunal, Mumbai.

The Hon'ble Securities Appellate Tribunal upon hearing the said Appeal vide its order dated January 29, 2020 has allowed the Appeal No. 1 (Appeal No.443 of 2018) and partly allowed Appeal No. 2 (Appeal No.444 of 2018), whereby, the directions issued by SEBI for open offer vide order dated September 17, 2018 qua promoters namely SBEC System (India) Limited, Shri. Umesh Kumar Modi, Smt. Kumkum Modi, Shri. Jayesh Modi and Longwell Investment Private Limited has been set aside, however, the directions issued by SEBI for Open Offer vide order dated September 17, 2018 issued qua the promoters namely A to Z Holdings Pvt. Ltd. and Moderate Leasing & Capital Services Ltd. (the acquirer of the shares) has been modified in terms of Regulation 32(1)(b) and they had been directed to sell the shares acquired in violation of the SAST Regulation and to transfer the proceeds of the same to the Investor Protection Fund established under the SEBI (Investor Protection and Education Fund), 2009 within a period of 6 (Six) months from the date of the order i.e. from January 29, 2020.

The promoters namely A to Z Holdings Pvt. Ltd. and Moderate Leasing & Capital Services Ltd. (the acquirer of the shares) could not comply with the order dated January 29, 2020, therefore, the said promoters approached the Hon'ble Securities Appellate Tribunal vide Misc. Application no. 209 / 2020 seeking an extension of 6 (six) months for compliance of the order dated January 29, 2020 inter-alia on Page 8 of 9

the grounds of operations of the said promoters being shut due to the pandemic COVID – 19. The said Misc. Application was listed before Hon'ble Securities Appellate Tribunal on July 29, 2020 and dismissed vide order dated July 29, 2020.

In the meantime, the Securities Exchange Board of India filed a Civil Appeal bearing nos. 2995 – 2996 / 2020 before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on July 29, 2020 against the order dated January 29, 2020 passed by Hon'ble Securities Appellate Tribunal.

Furthermore, the promoters namely A to Z Holdings Pvt. Ltd. and Moderate Leasing & Capital Services Ltd. have also filed a Civil Appeal bearing no. 3002 / 2020 before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on August 11, 2020 against the order dated July 29, 2020 passed by Hon'ble Securities Appellate Tribunal.

It is important to point out that both the Civil Appeals before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India have been connected and the pleadings therein are complete. The said Civil Appeals were last listed before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on October 13, 2022 and the matter is still pending for final hearing.

#### Assumptions & Limitation of scope and Review:

- 1. Compliance of the applicable laws and ensuring the authenticity of documents and information furnished, are the responsibilities of the management of the listed entity.
- 2. Our responsibility is to certify based upon our examination of relevant documents and information. This is neither an audit nor an expression of opinion.
- 3. We have not verified the correctness and appropriateness of financial Records and Books of Accounts of the listed entity.
- 4. This Report is solely for the intended purpose of compliance in terms of Regulation 24A (2) of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 and is neither an assurance as tothe future viability of the listed entity nor of the efficacy or effectiveness with which the management has conducted the affairs of the listed entity.

For Soniya Gupta & Associates Company Secretaries



Date: 16/05/2024 UDIN: F007493F000383385 PRFCN.: 1548/2021