ANNUAL REGIONAL PCS CONFERENCE "CS - A SERVER"



OPPORTUNITIES IN FOREIGN EXCHANGE MANAGEMENT ACT - (FEMA)



PUNE 14TH & 15TH JUNE, 2019 Hinesh. R. Doshi & Co. LLP Chartered Accountants

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History of FEMA

<u>Defence of India Rules</u> - Introduced in India for the first time as a temporary measure at the time of IInd World War in September 1939.

<u>FERA, 1947</u> - It then turned into permanent feature through Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1947 (FERA) which was very basic law.

<u>FERA 1973</u> - FERA re-appeared in new avtar in the form of Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 (FERA), which however remained draconian and a criminal law.

Post Liberalization (i.e. New Industrial Policy of 1991), being a need to attract more foreign investments into country, it was then decided to review provisions of FERA.

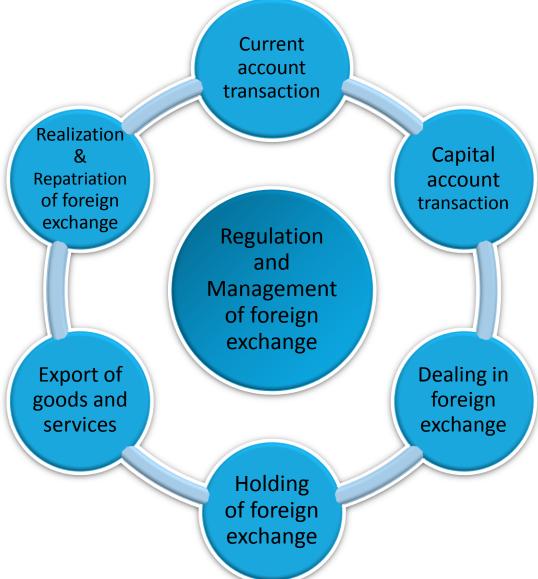
<u>FEMA, 1999</u> - The Foreign Exchange Management Act,1999 (FEMA) brought in force on June 1, 2000, to replace the then existing FERA. This is more of a civil law, more liberal, relaxed and less draconian.

FEM/

FERA



Objectives of FEMA



Structure of FEMA, 2000 (7 Chapters; 49 Sections)

Chapter No.	Chapter Title	Subject	Sections nos.
I	Preliminary	Jurisdiction and Definitions	1-2
II	Regulation & Management of Forex	 Restriction on dealing with PROI Holding of forex Current a/c transactions Capital a/c transactions Export of goods & services Realization and repatriation of forex with exemptions 	3-9
III	Authorised Persons	Provisions relating to Authorised Persons	10-12
IV	Contravention and Penalties	Provisions relating to Contravention, its consequences and Compounding	13-15
V	Adjudication and Appeal	 Provisions relating to terms of service, composition, appointment of Adjudicating Authority, Members to Appellate Tribunal Provisions relating to Appeal to Special Director (Appeals), Appellate Tribunal and High Court 	16-35
VI	Enforcement Directorate	Provisions relating to Appointment & Powers	36-38
VII	Miscellaneous	Power to make Rules and Regulations, etc	39-49



The main operating sections in FEMA are only Section 1 to Section 9. Rest of the sections are procedural, administrative or enforcement provisions.

Policy updations under FEMA



Notifications by RBI + CG	 For making or revising Regulations and Rules https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS viewfemanewnotification.aspx
A.P.(Dir Series) Circulars by RBI	 Contains procedural instructions to Authorized Dealers / Banks https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS ApCircularsDisplay.aspx
Press Notes by DPITT	• https://dipp.gov.in/policies-rules-and-acts/press-notes-fdi-circular
Master Directions by RBI	 MD are consolidated updated instructions, rules and regulations. https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_ViewMasterDirections.aspx
FDI Policy by DPITT	• https://dipp.gov.in/foreign-direct-investment/foreign-direct-investment-policy
FAQs & Compounding Orders	 https://m.rbi.org.in/Scripts/FAQView.aspx?Id=80

DPIIT: Department for promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (Earlier known as DIPP)

DIPP: Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion

AP (DIR): Authorized Person (Directions)



Rules/Regulations under FEMA

Nature of Transactions	Borrowing/Lending/ Guarantee	Issue Of Securities	<u>Asset</u>	<u>Others</u>
FEM (Permissible capital account transactions) Regulations, 2000 FEM (Current Account Transaction) Rules, 2000	FEM (Borrowing and Lending) Regulations, 2018 FEM (Guarantees) Regulations, 2000	FEM (Transfer or issue of security by a person resident outside India) Regulations, 2017 Consolidated FDI policy, 2017 FEM (Transfer or Issue of Any Foreign Security) Regulations, 2004	FEM(Acquisition and transfer of immovable property outside India) Regulations, 2015 FEM (Acquisition and transfer of immovable property in India) Regulations, 2018	FEM (Establishment of Branch Office / Liaison Office/ Project Office or any other place of business) Regulations, 2016 FEM (Export of Goods & Services) Regulations, 2015 FEM (Foreign currency accounts by a person resident in India) Regulations, 2015

Overall scheme of FEMA

Transactions in FEMA are classified into two broad heads:

Capital account and Current account transactions



Capital
Account
Transaction

A transaction which alters assets or liabilities:

- a) Outside India of a person resident in India (PRI) or
- b) In India of persons resident outside India (PROI)

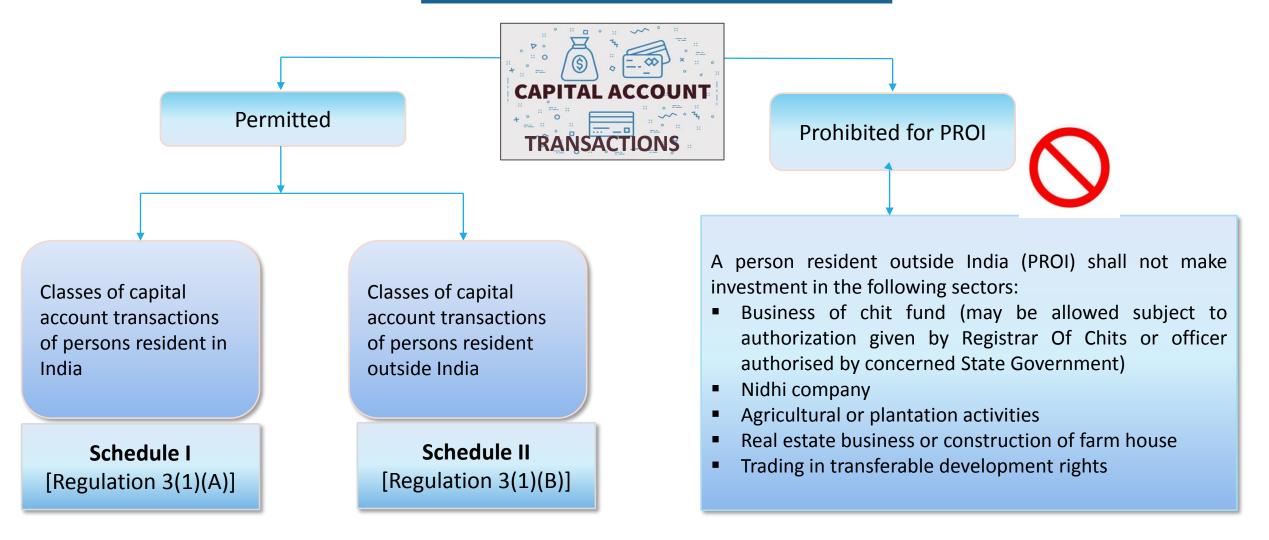
Capital account transactions are permitted to the extent allowed by RBI/CG

Current Account Transaction

It is transaction other than a capital account transaction

All current account transactions are freely permitted unless specifically restricted by Central Government

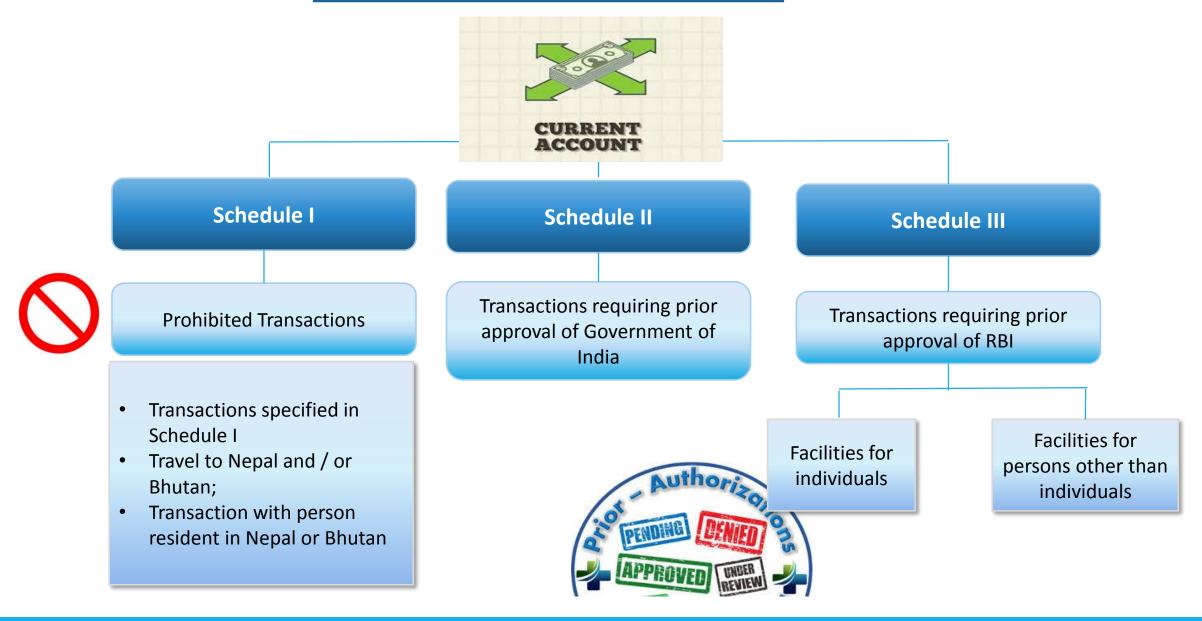
Overall scheme of FEMA



Foreign Exchange Management (Permissible Capital account transactions) Regulations, 2000

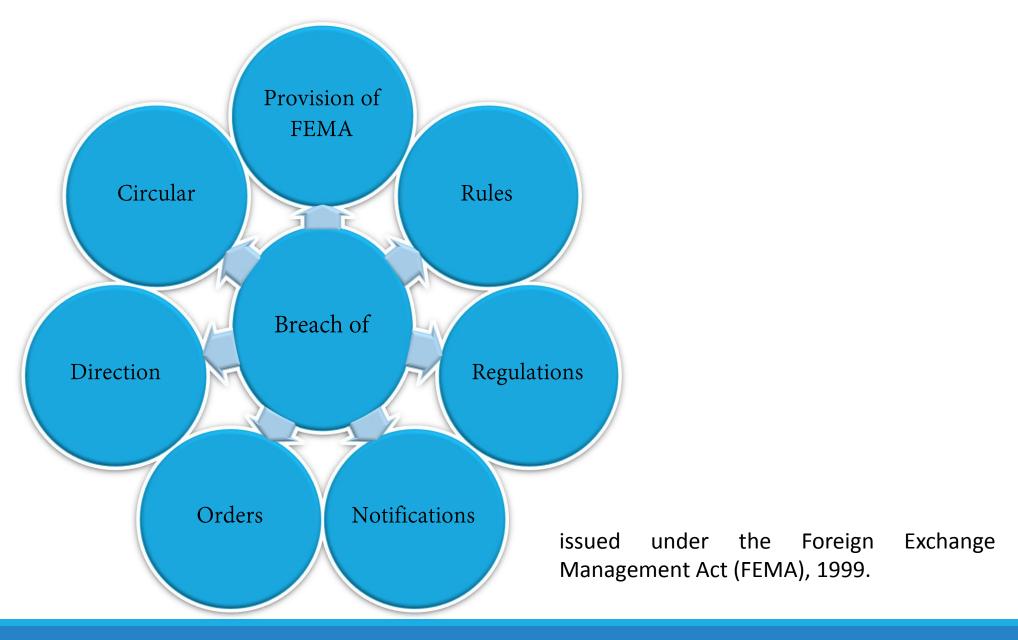
Link: https://rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_FemaNotifications.aspx?ld=155

Overall scheme of FEMA



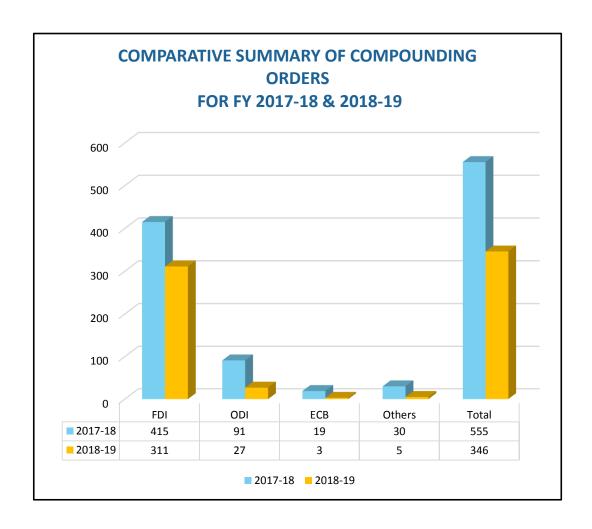
Overview of FEMA Compliances

What is Contravention??



Summary of Compounding orders between April 2017 – March 2019

Sr. No.	Nature of Compliance	No. of Compounding orders		
		FY 2017-18	FY 2018-19	
1	Foreign Direct Investment	415	311	
2	Overseas Direct Investment	91	27	
3	ECB	19	3	
4	Others	30	5	
	Total	555	346	



Source: https://www.rbi.org.in/scripts/Compoundingorders.aspx

CONTRAVENTION

Generally Committed Contraventions

Foreign Direct Investment

- Not reporting of inward remittance within 30 days (now not required after SMF)
- Not allotting equity instruments or not refunding the amount within 60 days
- Not submitting form FC-GPR within 30 days from the date of allotment
- Non submission of form FCTRS on transfer of shares
- Issue of instruments other than equity shares,
- Non compliance of any other regulation of FEMA 20R

Overseas Direct Investment

- Non submission of form ODI after investment and UIN not allowed
- Not a permitted method of funding
- Not obtaining share certificate within stipulated time period from the date of remittance
- Non-submission of Annual Performance Reports (APR) every year
- Non compliance of any other regulation of FEMA 120.

External Commercial Borrowing

- Loan Registration Number not obtained
- Drawdown without LRN
- Borrower not an eligible borrower
- Lender not a recognized lender
- Minimum maturity period not adhered to
- Breach of all in cost ceiling
- End use not a permitted one
- Non-Filing of monthly return (ECB-2)

Balance Sheet as at 31/03/2019

Particulars	Note No.	As at 31/03/2019	Particulars	Note No.	As at 31/03/2019
I. EQUITY AND LIABILITIES			II. ASSETS		
(1) Shareholders' funds			Non-current assets		
(a) Share capital		××	(1) (a) Fixed assets		××
(b) Reserves and surplus		××	(b) Non-current investments		××
(c) Money received against share		××	(c) Deferred tax assets (net)		××
warrants			(d) Long-term loans and		××
(2) Share application money pending		××	advances		
allotment			(e) Other non-current assets		××
(3) Non-current liabilities		××	(2) Current assets		
(a) Long-term borrowings		××	(a) Current investments		××
(b) Deferred tax liabilities (Net)		××	(b) Inventories		××
(c) Other Long term liabilities		××	(c) Trade receivables		××
(d) Long-term provisions			(d) Cash and cash equivalents		××
(4) Current liabilities			(e) Short-term loans and		××
(a) Short-term borrowings		××	advances		
(b) Trade payables		××	(f) Other current assets		××
(c) Other current liabilities		××			
(d) Short-term provisions		××			
TOTAL		××	TOTAL		××

FEMA Compliance- Balance Sheet -"LIABILITIES"

Share Capital/ Compulsory Convertible Debentures

- Foreign Direct Investment
- FEMA (Transfer or issue of security by a person resident outside India) Regulations, 2017- <u>FEMA</u> 20(R)/2017-RB
- Consolidated FDI policy, 2017
- FED Master Direction No. 11/2017-18
- FAQs (Updated as on May 07, 2018)



Loans

(Secured/ Unsecured/ Long /Short term)

- External Commercial Borrowings
- FEMA (Borrowing and Lending)
 Regulations, 2018- FEMA 3(R)/2018 RB
- FED Master Direction No.5/2018-19
- FAQ (Updated as on May 29, 2019)



Trade Payables

- Imports
- Foreign Exchange Management (Current Account Transactions rules), 2000
- FED Master Direction No. 17/2016-17



FEMA Compliance- Balance Sheet -"ASSETS"

Fixed Assets

- Acquisition of Immovable Property outside India
- Import of Machinery
- FEMA (Acquisition and transfer of immovable property outside India)
 Regulations, 2015 - FEMA 7(R)/2015-RB
- Foreign Exchange Management (Permissible capital account transactions) Regulations, 2000 - <u>FEMA</u> <u>1/2000-RB</u>
- FED Master Direction No. 12/2015-16
- FAQs (Updated as on May 07, 2018)

Investments

- Overseas Direct Investment
- Liberalised Remittance Scheme
- Foreign Exchange Management (Transfer or Issue of Any Foreign Security)Regulations, 2004 - <u>FEMA</u> 120/ RB-2004
- FED Master Direction No. 15/2015-16
- FED Master Direction No. 7/2015-16
- FAQs (Updated as on May 29, 2019)
- FAQs (Updated as on February 13, 2019)

Short term Loans

Loan to the foreign entity

- Foreign Exchange Management (Transfer or Issue of Any Foreign Security) Regulations, 2004 - <u>FEMA</u> <u>120/ RB-2004</u>
- FED Master Direction No. 15/2015-16
- FAQs (Updated as on May 29, 2019)



FEMA Compliance- Balance Sheet-"ASSETS"

Branch Office

• Foreign Branch office

- Establishment of Branch
 Office (BO)/ Liaison Office
 (LO)/ Project Office (PO) or
 any other place of business
 in India by foreign entities)
 Regulations, 2016- <u>FEMA</u>
 22(R) /2016-RB
- FED Master Direction No.10/2015-16
- FAQs (Updated as on December 26, 2016)



Trade Receivables

• Export Proceeds

- FEMA (Export of Goods & Services) Regulations, 2015-FEMA.23(R)/2015-RB
- FED Master Direction No. 16/2015-16

RECEIVABLE

Cash/Bank

- •Foreign Currency A/c in India or Bank A/c outside India
- Foreign Exchange
 Management (Foreign
 currency accounts by a person
 resident in India) Regulations,
 2015 FEMA 10 (R) /2015-RB
- FED Master Direction No. 14/2015-16
- Foreign Exchange
 Management (Export and import of currency)
 Regulations, 2015 <u>FEMA 6</u>
 (R)/RB-2015
- FAQ (Updated as on August 01, 2016)

Contingent Liability

- Guarantee
- Foreign Exchange
 Management (Transfer or
 Issue of Any Foreign
 Security) Regulations, 2004
 - <u>FEMA 120/ RB-2004</u>
- FEMA (Guarantees)
 Regulations, 2000-<u>FEMA</u>
 8/2000-RB
- FED Master Direction No. 15/2015-16



Profit & Loss A/c

Particulars	Note No.	For the year ended 31.03.2019
1	2	3
I. Revenue from operations II. Other income III. Total Revenue (I + II) IV. Expenses:		×× ×× <u>××</u>
 Cost of materials consumed Purchases of Stock-in-Trade / Imports Changes in inventories of finished goods work-in-progress and Stock-in-Trade 		×× ×× ××
 Employee benefits expense Finance costs Depreciation and amortization expense Other expenses 		×× ×× ××
Total expenses V. Profit before exceptional and extraordinary items and tax (III-IV) VI. Exceptional items VII. Profit before extraordinary items and tax (V - VI) VIII. Extraordinary items		<u>××</u> ×× ××
IX. Profit before tax (VII- VIII)		××

FEMA Compliance- Profit & Loss account -"INCOME"

Sales

- Export Sales
- Foreign Exchange Management (Export of Goods and Services) Regulations, 2015 -FEMA 23(R)/ 2015- RB
- FED Master Direction No. 16/2015-16



Other Income - Interest

- Interest on loan from foreign entities
- FEMA (Borrowing and lending in foreign exchange) Regulations, 2018- <u>FEMA</u> 3(R)/2018-RB
- FED Master Direction No.5/2018-19
- FAQ (Updated as on May 29, 2019)



FEMA Compliance- Profit & Loss account-"EXPENSES"

Purchase

- Imports
- Foreign Exchange
 Management
 (Current Account
 Transactions rules),
 2000
- FED Master Direction No. 17/2016-17

Bad Debts W/off

- Export Sales
- Foreign Exchange
 Management (Export
 of Goods and
 Services)
 Regulations, 2015 FEMA 23(R)/ 2015 RB
- FED Master Direction No. 16/2015-16

Interest on Loan

- Interest on loan to foreign entities
- FEMA (Borrowing and Lending)
 Regulations, 2018 FEMA 3(R)/2018-RB
- FED Master Direction No.5/2018-19
- FAQ (Updated as on May 29, 2019)

Other expenses

- Miscellaneous Remittances
- FED Master Direction No. 8/2015-16

Royalty Payment

- Royalty payment
- Earlier the limits were there in Schedule II for cap.
- This has been removed w.e.f. 16/12/2009











Reporting Compliances under FEMA

Reporting Compliance - FDI (1/4)

Foreign Direct Investment is freely permitted in almost all sectors. The routes for investment are:

Automatic Route

 The foreign investor or the Indian company does not require any approval from the Reserve Bank or Government of India for the investment.

Real Estate Business or Construction of Farm

Houses*

Government Route

 Prior approval of the Government of India, Ministry of Finance is required.

Prohibited Route

 Unless otherwise specifically stated in the Act or the rules or regulations framed thereunder, investment by a person resident outside India is <u>prohibited in</u> <u>certain sectors.</u>

Nidhi company

Prohibited sectors

Lottery Business including Government/private lottery, online lotteries, etc

Manufacturing of cigars, cheroots, cigarillos and cigarettes, of tobacco or of tobacco substitutes

Gambling and Betting including casinos etc.

Activities/sectors not open to private sector investment e.g.(I) Atomic Energy and (II) Railway operations(other than permitted activities mentioned in para 5.2)

Foreign technology collaboration in any form including licensing for franchise, trademark, brand name, management contract

*Real estate business' shall not include development of townships, construction of residential /commercial premises, roads or bridges and Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) registered and regulated under the SEBI (REITs) Regulations 2014.

Trading in Transferable Development Rights (TDRs)

Reporting Compliance – FDI (2/4)

	Foreign Direct Investments (FDI)		Schedule 1
	Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPI)		Schedule 2 & 5
10R	Purchase/Sale capital instrument on repatriation basis		Schedule 3
Overview of 20R	Purchase/Sale capital instrument on non-repatriation basis for LLP, firm, Proprietory		Schedule 4
8 –	Investment in Limited Liability Partnership		Schedule 6
	Investment by Foreign Venture Capital Investors (FVCI)		Schedule 7
Image: Control of the	Investment in units of an Investment Vehicle		Schedule 8
	Investment in Depository Receipts (DRs)	_	Schedule 9
	Issue of Indian Depository Receipts (IDRs)		Schedule 10

Reporting compliance – FDI (3/4)





Nature of transaction	Reporting in Form	Time limit to report the transaction	Reporting site
Existing FDI Inflows	Form EMF	Was initiated between June 28 – July 20 2018 (Need to file clarification letter if Form EMF is not filed in the above period)	
Issue of Shares - Bonus/Right issue/conversion of ECB/royalty/ technical know-how fee/import of capital goods by units in SEZs	Form FC-GPR	30 days from the date of issue of capital instruments	
Transfer of Shares	Form FC-TRS	60 days from receipt/ remittance of funds or transfer of capital instruments, whichever is earlier .	
FDI in LLP	Form FDI LLP (I)	30 days from the date of receipt of the amount of consideration	RBI FIRMS WEBSITE: https://firms.rbi.org.in/fir
Disinvestment /Transfer in LLP	Form FDI LLP (II)	Within 60 days from the date of receipt of funds.	ms/
Reporting of Downstream Investments	Form DI along with certificate of FEMA compliances from its Statutory Auditor	Within 30 days from the date of receipt of the amount of consideration.	
Reporting of ADR/GDR issue	Form DRR	Within 30 days of close of the issue/program	
Reporting of issue or transfer of Convertible notes	Form CN	Within 30 days of issue of Convertible notes	
Reporting of ESOP	Form ESOP	Within 30 days from issuance of such shares	
Reporting of all FDI and/or ODI during the previous years	Annual Return on Foreign Liabilities and Assets (FLA return)	By 15 th July for year ended on preceding 31st March based on un-audited figures. (Due date for submitting revised FLA is 30 th September)	Email soft copy to fla@rbi.org.in

Reporting compliance – FDI (4/4)

Checklist of documents

FORM FC-GPR

FORM FC-TRS



Documents to be attached for Form FC-GPR:

- Certificate indicating fair value of shares from a Chartered Accountant / SEBI registered Category I Merchant Banker
- ✓ Attested copy of FIRC
- ✓ KYC form of both remitter and beneficial owner.
- Certified copy of MOA
- Board Resolution
- ✓ Declaration for filing FC-GPR by director
- CS Certificate
- ✓ No objection certificate from the remitter for the shares being allotted to the third party mentioning their relationship, if applicable.
- ✓ Letter from the foreign investor explaining the reason for making subscription to shares by the remitter on his behalf, if applicable.

Documents to be attached for Form FC-TRS:

- ✓ KYC Form
- ✓ Attested copy of FIRC
- Certificate indicating fair value of shares from a Chartered Accountant / SEBI registered Category I Merchant Banker
- Extracts of Share Purchase Agreement (SPA)
- ✓ No Objection Certificate from Buyer and Seller
- Declaration from buyer that he is eligible to acquire shares and that pricing guidelines are followed
- ✓ Shareholding pattern Pre & Post
- ✓ FCTRS Declaration

External Commercial Borrowing (ECB) (1/5)



ECBs are commercial loans raised by <u>eligible resident entities</u> from <u>recognized non-resident entities</u> and should <u>conform to parameters</u> such as minimum maturity, permitted and non-permitted end-uses, maximum all-in-cost ceiling, etc.

The negative list, for which the ECB proceeds cannot be utilised, would include the following:

Real estate activities

Investment in capital market

Equity investment

Working capital purposes except from foreign equity holder

General corporate purposes except from foreign equity holder

Repayment of Rupee loans except from foreign equity holder

On-lending to entities for the above activities

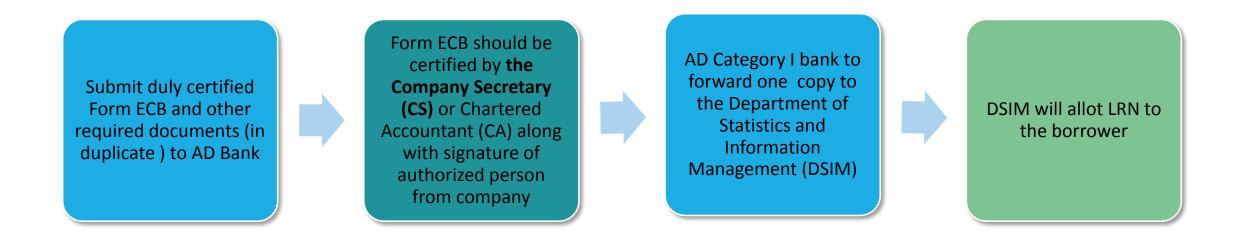
Reporting compliance - External Commercial Borrowing (ECB) (2/5)



Reporting Requirements: Borrowings under ECB Framework are subject to reporting requirements in respect of the following:

<u>Loan Registration Number (LRN):</u> Any draw-down in respect of an ECB as well as payment of any fees/ charges for raising an ECB should happen only after **obtaining the LRN** from RBI.

Process of obtaining LRN:



Reporting compliance - External Commercial Borrowing (ECB) (3/5)

Monthly return regarding use of External Commercial Borrowings



If there is no transactions still a **NIL** return should be submitted

Checklist of documents:

- Copy of Form ECB filed (Original / Revised)
- 2. Copy of LRN issued by RBI
- 3. Bank statement for the month.
- 4. Drawdown or utilization details from client
- 5. Underlying supporting for verification of above.



Reporting compliance - ECB (4/5)

In case of Full Conversion

Form FC- GPR and Form FCB-2

Online on FIRMS portal (under SMF) and DSIM, RBI respectively

The words "ECB Wholly Converted to Equity" should be indicated on top of the ECB- 2 form.

Once reported, filing of ECB-2 in the subsequent months is not necessary.

In case of Partial Conversion

Form FC- GPR for conversion of shares and for remaining portion of ECB, Form ECB- 2

Online on FIRMS portal and DSIM, RBI

The words "ECB Partially Converted to Equity" should be clearly indicated on top of the ECB- 2 form

Within 7 working days from the close of month to which it relates

Reporting compliance - ECB (5/5)

Revised Form ECB* has to be filed if there are changes in parameters below

Through Designated AD Bank to DSIM, RBI

Not later than 7 days from the date of changes effected

Drawdown/ repayment schedule
Currency of Borrowings
AD Bank
Name of the Borrower Company
Recognised Lender
End use of ECB proceeds.
Cancellation of LRN.
Reduction in Amount of ECB
Reduction in all-in-cost of ECB

^{*}Subject to certain terms & conditions

Reporting Delay - Late Submission Fees

The payment of LSF is an option for regularizing reporting delays without undergoing the compounding procedure

Late fees is applicable even if the Form was filed within time limit but was rejected and final form was filed thereafter i.e Form FCGPR should be file with proper details and documents to avoid LSF

The late submission fee is for reporting delays only

Contravention for non-issue/late issue of capital instruments and other contraventions of the provisions FEMA 20(R), one has to go for only compounding procedure

Where LSF is required to be paid, the reports shall be, wherever necessary, conditionally acknowledged subject to payment of the LSF

The final acknowledgement shall be given after the LSF is paid by the applicant

Overseas Direct Investment (ODI) (1/2)

It means investments, either under the Automatic route or the Approval route, by way of contribution to the capital or subscription to Memorandum of Association of a foreign entity, signifying a long term interest in the overseas entity (by setting up or acquiring WOS or JV)

Approval Route

- An Indian party is required to take prior approval of the Reserve Bank for which a specific application in FORM ODI with prescribed documents.
- ODI not meeting conditions prescribed for automatic route
- Overseas investments by :
 - proprietorship concerns
 - unregistered partnership firms
 - Registered Trusts/ Societies satisfying certain eligibility criteria.
- Indian party undertaking financial commitment without equity contribution in JV/WOS

Automatic Route

- An Indian party does not require any prior consent from RBI
- An Indian party is required to approach the AD category 1 bank
- ODI investment within limit of 400% of Indian Party's Net Worth
- ODI by Indian Party engaged in financial services sector (subject to prescribed conditions)
- ODI in oil sector (subject to prescribed conditions)



Reporting compliance - Overseas Direct Investment (2/2)

Form ODI is divided into below parts:

Part I – Application for allotment of Unique Part I – Post Investment Part II - Annual Part III - Report on **Identification Number (UIN) Disinvestment** Changes **Performance Report** & reporting of Remittances / **Transactions** IP- At the time of making remittance for **30 days** of approval by **30 days** of approval by 31st December ODI. competent authority of competent authority of of next year JV/WOS JV/WOS IR – Within **30 days** of making the remittance

EXPORTS OF GOODS & SERVICES



TIME LIMIT



EXTENSION TIME

Up to 6 months

No pending investigations of export transactions by Directorate of Enforcement or CBI or other agencies;

AD Category – I Bank is satisfied that exporter's reasons for not realizing export proceeds are beyond his control;

The exporter submits **a**declaration that the export
proceeds will be realized
during the extended
period.

Extension beyond 1 year

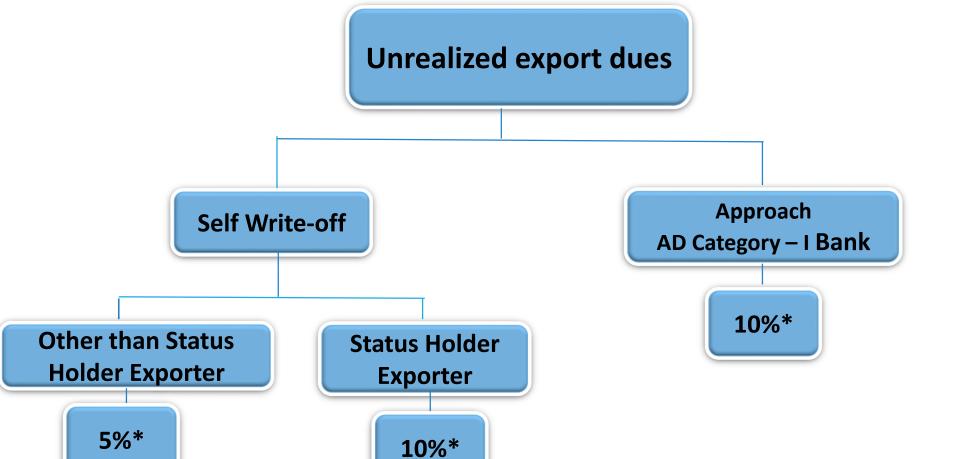
Outstanding amount should **not exceed US \$1 mn OR**

10% of average export realizations of preceding 3 years

whichever is higher.

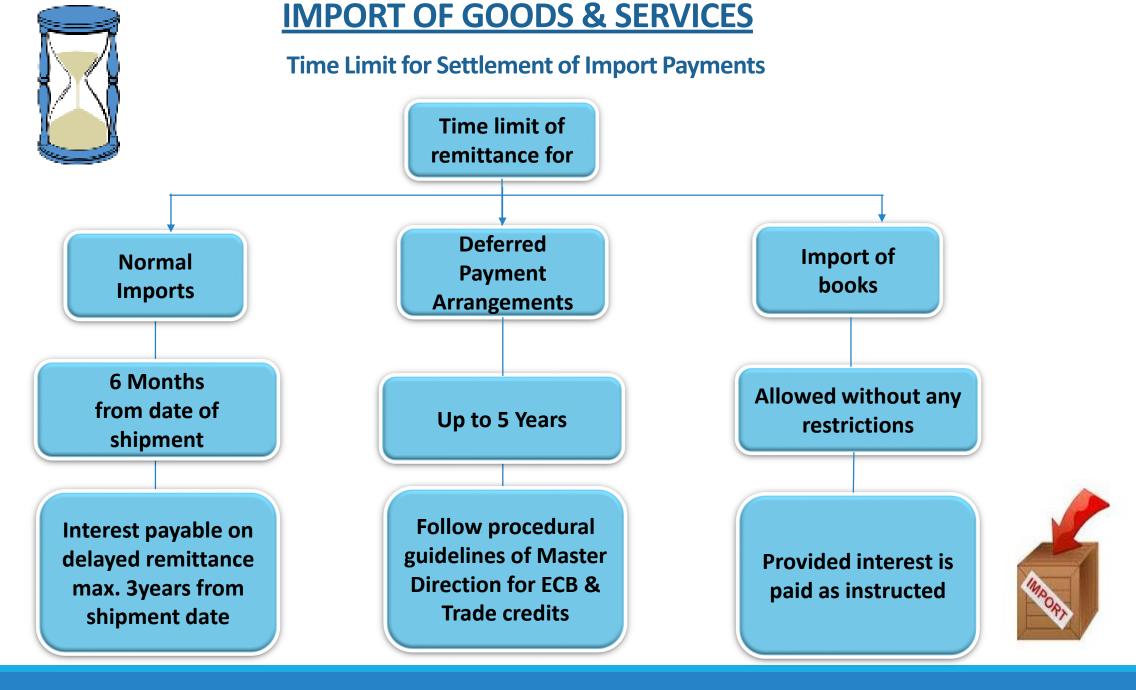
If suits are filed abroad, extension may be granted irrespective of amount involved/ outstanding.

Write Off Of Unrealized Exports





* of the total export proceeds realized during the previous calendar year



IMPORT OF GOODS & SERVICES WRITE OFF

AD Category – I Banks permit

5% of invoice value

in cases where the amount declared in bill of entry varies from the actual remittance due to operational reasons

Write off is on account of quality issues or short shipment or destruction of goods by the port / customs/health authorities.

If situation changes, the importer should remit/receive fundsas the case may be

CONDITIONS to be ensured by Bank for Write-off:

- The case is not the subject matter of any pending civil or criminal suit.
- The Importer has not come to the adverse notice of the Enforcement Directorate or the CBI
- Random sample check to be carried out by auditors

Set-off Export And Import amounts (Goods) – Conditions

The import is as per the Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) in force	
The import is do per eller reader eller (i tr) in lorde	
Payment for the import is still outstanding in the books of the importer .	
Tayment for the import is still outstanding in the books of the importer.	
Submission of Documents such as invoices, bill of lading, airway bills, bill of entry is made by the	
importer to AD bank	
	,
Both the transactions of sale and purchase may be reported separately	
The relative EDF is released by the AD bank only after the entire export proceeds are adjusted / received.	
The set-off of export receivables against import payments should be in respect of the same overseas	
buyer and supplier and that consent for set-off has been obtained from him.	
The even out / increase transportions with ACII sountries should be kent outside the even source	
The export / import transactions with ACU countries should be kept outside the arrangement.	

Compliance is better than Compounding!!





Thank You

Hinesh R. Doshi & Co. LLP

Chartered Accountants

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