



SECURITIES & EXCHANGE COMMISSION OF PAKISTAN

CIRCULAR NO. 6/2020

March 22nd, 2020

Subject: Relaxation from certain provisions of Companies Act, 2017 due to CoVID-19

The CoVID-19 (Coronavirus) has affected many businesses around the world and has been declared as a *pandemic*. The present circumstances in timely complying with the mandatory requirements of the Companies Act, 2017 (the "Act") warrant the need for temporary relaxations from the compliance requirements of various provisions of the Act. Accordingly, the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan in exercise of powers conferred under section 510 of the Act hereby allows the following relaxations in relation to compliance with requirements of the Act:

- 1) All companies which are facing difficulties in timely holding the annual general meeting (the "AGM") for the year ended on December 31, 2019, are hereby allowed a general extension for a period of 30 days as provided in section 132 of the Act for holding their AGMs. The companies can now hold their AGM for the year ended on December 31, 2019 on or before May 29, 2020.
- 2) The companies, whose election of directors is due before or in the aforesaid AGM, may file *impediment reports* with the concerned registrar under section 158(2) of the Act citing the reasons for delay in holding the election of directors.
- 3) Accordingly, any statutory return which is required to be filed on or after 24th March, 2020 may be filed with the concerned registrar with the delay of 30 days of occurrence of any event without any additional filing fee as no penal action shall be taken for the late filing.


Mubasher Saeed Saddozai
Registrar of Companies

Distribution:

1. Chief Executive Officer of all companies with the year ended on December 31, 2019
2. The Chief Executive Officer, Pakistan Stock Exchange Limited, Karachi
3. The President, Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan, Karachi
4. The President, Institute of Cost & Management Accountants of Pakistan, Karachi
5. The President, Institute of Corporate Secretaries of Pakistan, Karachi
6. The President, Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Karachi
7. The Chairman, The Pakistan Business Council
8. The Chairman, Overseas Investors Chamber and Commerce and Industry
9. Official Website