

BEFORE THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE BOARD OF INDIA

SETTLEMENT ORDER

in Summary Settlement Application Nos. SS – 37 of 2021

**filed by National Insurance Company Limited [PAN: AAACN9967E] in the matter of
Axis Bank Limited**

1. Securities and Exchange Board of India (hereinafter referred to as 'SEBI') conducted an investigation in the matter of Axis Bank Limited (hereinafter referred to as 'the Company'). During the said investigation, it was noted that National Insurance Company Limited (hereinafter referred to as 'the applicant') had delayed making disclosures as required under Regulation 7(2)(a) of the SEBI (Prohibition of Insider Trading), 2015 (hereinafter referred to as the 'PIT Regulations'), in respect of change in their shareholding in the Company.
2. It was noted in the investigation that during the period from October 01, 2017 to September 30, 2018, the value of securities of the Company traded by the applicant, a promoter of the Company, on each trading day was more than ten lakh rupees. The same was required to be disclosed to the Company within two trading days under Regulation 7(2)(a) of the PIT Regulations. However, the said disclosures for all the transactions were made by the applicant only on September 28, 2020, with a delay.
3. In view thereof, SEBI decided to issue a 'Notice of Summary Settlement' dated December 28, 2020 (hereinafter referred to as 'notice'), to the applicant, intimating thereby that if the applicant so desired, the proceedings (to be initiated), may be settled and disposed of upon filing of a settlement application under Chapter-II of the SEBI (Settlement Proceedings) Regulations, 2018 (hereinafter referred to as 'Settlement Regulations') along

with remittance of settlement amount of ₹74,93,063/- (Rupees Seventy Four Lakh Ninety Three Thousand and Sixty Three only) to SEBI in terms of Regulation 16(1) of the Settlement Regulations, within 30 calendar days from the date of receipt of the notice.

4. In reply, the applicant filed an application for settlement, in terms of Chapter VII of the Settlement Regulations, proposing to settle without admitting or denying the findings of fact and conclusions of law, the defaults as discussed in para 1, through a settlement order and remitted a sum of ₹74,93,063/- (Rupees Seventy Four Lakh Ninety Three Thousand and Sixty Three only) towards the settlement charges, vide NEFT dated January 28, 2021. The receipt of the same was also confirmed upon verification.
5. In view of the above, in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 15JB of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992 and in terms of Regulations 23 read with Regulation 28 of the Settlement Regulations, it is hereby ordered that the proposed proceedings to be initiated for the default as discussed in paragraph 1 are settled *qua* the applicant as per the following terms;
 - i. SEBI shall not initiate any enforcement action against the applicant for the said defaults;
 - ii. this order disposes of the proceedings that may be initiated for the defaults as mentioned above, in respect of the applicant; and
 - iii. passing of this Order is without prejudice to the right of SEBI under Regulation 28 of the Settlement Regulations to take enforcement actions including commencing proceedings against the applicant, if SEBI finds that:
 - a. any representation made by the applicant in the present settlement proceedings is subsequently found to be untrue;
 - b. the applicant has breached any of the clauses/ conditions of undertakings/ waivers filed during the present settlement proceedings; and
 - c. there was a discrepancy while arriving at the settlement terms.

6. This settlement order is passed on this 5th day of February, 2021 and shall come into force with immediate effect.
7. In terms of Regulation 25 of the Settlement Regulations, a copy of this order shall be sent to the applicant and also be published on the website of SEBI.

Sd/-

S.K. MOHANTY
WHOLE TIME MEMBER

Sd/-

ANANTA BARUA
WHOLE TIME MEMBER