BEFORE THE NATIONAL COMPANY LAW TRIBUNAL BENGALURU BENCH T.P.No.284/17

IN

C.A.No.645/16

DATED: WEDNESDAY THE 28TH DAY OF JUNE, 2017 PRESENT: SRI RATAKONDA MURALI, MEMBER JUDICIAL SRI ASHOK KUMAR MISHRA, MEMBER TECHNICAL

IN THE MATTER OF COMPANIES ACT,1956 SECTIONS 391-394 OF THE COMPANIES ACT,1956 AND

IN THE MATTER OF COMPANIES ACT,2013 SECTIONS 230 and 232 OF THE COMPANIES ACT, 2013 AND

IN THE MATTER OF ASA HOLDINGS PRIVATE LIMITED

T.P.No.284/17 IN C.A.No.645/16

1. ASA Holdings Private Limited Niton, E-Block, Ground Floor No.11 Palace Road, Vasanth Nagar, Bangalore-560052

-APPLICANT/TRANSFEREE COMPANY

PARTIES PRESENT: V.J.Achalanand
Advocate, Khaitan & Co LLP
SIMAL, 2nd Floor, 7/1 Ulsoor Road
Bangalore 560042

Heard on:06.02.2017, 30.03.2017, 21.04.2017, 02.06.2017

ORDER

Originally this Company Application was filed before the Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka by the Applicant Company under Section 391 of the Companies Act, 1956, being numbered as C.A. No.645/16. Subsequently as per Notification No.GSR.1119 (E) dated 7th December, 2016 issued by Ministry of Corporate Affairs, New Delhi, the said case is transferred to this Tribunal and renumbered as T.P.No.284/17.

This Company Application is filed on behalf of the Applicant Company under Section 391 of the Companies Act, 1956, praying to order for dispensing with for convening of the Meeting of Equity Shareholders, Preference Shareholders, Secured Creditors and Unsecured Creditors of the Applicant/Transferee Company for considering the Scheme of Amalgamation, where under the Bells Softech Limited which is Transferor Company No.1 and SES (India) Limited which is Transferor Company No.2 to be merged with ASA

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Holdings Private Limited(Applicant/Transferee Company). The Scheme of Amalgamation shown as **Annexure-A**.

The averments made in the Company Application are briefly described hereunder:-

The Applicant Company seeks an order for dispensing with convening of the Meeting of Equity Shareholders, Preference Shareholders, Secured Creditors and UnsecuredCreditors for considering the Scheme of Amalgamation of Bells Softech Limited (Transferor Company No.1) and SES (India) Limited (Transferor Company No. 2)withApplicant CompanyASA Holdings Private Limited (Transferee Company) in terms of Scheme of Amalgamation is shown as **Annexure-A.**

It is further averred in the Application that the Applicant/TransfereeCompany was incorporated on 29th April, 2007 under the name and style of ASA Holdings Private Limited with the Registrar of Companies, Karnataka vide CIN bearing No.U70200KA2004PTC033851.The Registered office of the Applicant Company is situated at Niton, E-Block, Ground Floor, No.11, Palace Road, Vasanth Nagar, Bangalore -560052.

The main objects of the Applicant Company is to build, construct, acquire, purchase or develop any and all kinds of immoveable property, commercial complexes, residential premises apartment buildings, estates to invest in real estate, properties, plantations, hotels and resorts, service apartments, amusement parks, shopping arcades, eateries, catering enterprises, theme parks, places of tourist interest, farm houses, orchards, groves, land, factories, building and appurtenances, to form, incorporate or promote any company or companies in India or abroad having amongst its objects, the acquisition of the assets or control or development of any company or any other object which might directly or indirectly assist the company in management of its business or development of its properties otherwise prove advantageous to the company and to take over the business of any other existing company. The copy of Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Applicant Company is shown as **Annexure-F.**

The latest authorized share capital of Applicant Company is Rs.20,00,00,000/-divided into 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs.10/- each and 10,00,000 Non- Cumulative Preference Shares of Rs.100/- each. The issued, subscribed and paid-up share capital is Rs.19,50,00,000/- divided into 1,00,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs.10/-each and 9,50,000 Non-Cumulative Preference Shares of Rs.100/- each fully paid up. The Audited balance sheet as on 31st March, 2016 is shown as **Annexure –G**.

It is further stated that, the Board of Directors of the Applicant Company has approved and adopted a Scheme of Amalgamation at its meeting held on 1st July, 2016 by virtue of which Bells Softech Limited (Transferor Company No.1) and SES (India) Limited (Transferee Company No.2) are proposed to be merged with ASA Holdings Private Limited (Applicant Company /Transferee Company) subject to confirmation. A copy of the Board Resolution of Applicant Company dated 1st July, 2016 in approving and adopting the Scheme of Amalgamation is shown as **Annexure-H2**.

It is stated in the scheme that, the scheme would inter-alia, have the following benefits:

- Pursue business growth in a more efficient manner by combining all businesses into
 one, thereby providing an integrated solutions and offerings to group stakeholders as
 well as to external customers/ agencies;
- Pursue greater efficiency in cash management and unfettered access to large cash flows generated by the combined business of the three entities, which can be deployed more efficiently to fund larger products with stronger platform so as to strengthen brand visibility;
- Pursue administrative efficiency through centralised control over ongoing and future tax compliances/ litigation under various tax laws, corporate laws and exchange control regulations,

We have heard the Counsel appearing for the Applicant/Transferee Company, who has filed the application for dispensing with the convening of meeting of Equity Shareholders, Secured Creditors and Unsecured Creditors for considering the Scheme of Amalgamation of Bells Softech Limited (Transferor Company No. 1) and SES (India) Limited (Transferor Company No.2) with Applicant Company ASA Holdings Private Limited in terms of Scheme of Amalgamation shown as **Annexure-A.**

The Applicant Company is seeking an order to dispense with convening of meeting of Equity Shareholders on the ground that the Applicant Company has only Six Equity Shareholders and that they have given their consent to the Scheme of Amalgamation. The Certificate of Chartered Accountant certifying the names and number of Equity shareholders is shown as **Annexure-K**.

We have seen the consent letters of the Six Equity shareholders shown as **Annexure- K** series i.e., (i) Mr.Adarsh Jalan holding 1309200 equity shares, constituting 13.09% of the paid-up capital, (ii) Ms. Shalini Jalan holding 176300 equity shares, constituting 1.763% of the

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paid-up capital,(iii)Bikanna Commercial Corporation Limited holding 1970000 equity shares, constituting 19.70% of the paid-up capital,(iv) Park View Properties Private Limited holding 1930000 equity shares, constituting 19.30% of the paid-up capital,(v)PCI Marketing Private Limited holding 1264500 equity shares, constituting 12.65% of the paid-up capital,(vi) SES (India) Limited holding 3350000 equity shares, constituting 33.50% of the paid-up capital.

Applicant Company further filed affidavits of the Equity Shareholders dated 28th April, 2017 in addition to consent letters, conveying their no objection for approval of the Scheme of Amalgamation.

The Applicant Company is seeking an order to dispense with convening of meeting of Preference Shareholders on the ground that the Applicant Company has only Four Preference Shareholders and that they have given their consent to the Scheme of Amalgamation. The Certificate of Chartered Accountant certifying the names and number of Equity shareholders is shown as **Annexure-L**.

We have seen the consent letters of the Four Preference Shareholders shown as Annexure-L series i.e., (i) Mr.Adarsh Jalan holding 750000 preference shares, constituting 78.95% of the paid-up capital,(ii)Bikanna Commercial Corporation Limited holding 100000 preference shares, constituting 10.53% of the paid-up capital,(iii) Park View Properties Private Limited holding 70000 preference shares, constituting 7.37% of the paid-up capital,(iv)PCI Marketing Private Limited holding 30000 preference shares, constituting 3.16% of the paid-up capital.

Applicant Company further filed affidavits of the Preference Shareholders dated 28th April, 2017 in addition to consent letters, conveying their no objection for approval of the Scheme of Amalgamation.

It is further averred that, there are no Secured Creditors as certified by the Chartered Accountant shown as **Annexure-I**.

It is further averred that, there are no Unsecured Creditors as certified by the Chartered Accountant shown as Annexure- J.

The Applicant Company is seeking an order to dispense with convening of meeting of Secured and Unsecured Creditors on the ground that the Applicant Company has no Secured and Unsecured Creditors as certified by Chartered Accountant.

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The Bells Softech Limited (Transferor Company No.1) and SES (India) Limited (Transferor Company No.2) are proposed to be merged with the ASA Holdings Private Limited (Applicant Company /Transferee Company) as per the scheme of Amalgamation shown as Annexure-A and Board of Directors of the Applicant Company have passed the resolution approving the scheme of amalgamation.

The Applicant Company has obtained consent of shareholders, which is 100%. The Applicant Company is praying to dispense with convening of meeting of shareholders as all the shareholders have given their consent to the scheme. It is the contention of the counsel that no useful purpose would be served if meeting of shareholders is ordered as they have already given consent to the scheme. When there is consent of all the shareholders, convening of meeting of shareholders would be futile exercise. It is true when all the shareholders have given consent for the scheme then no useful purpose would be served by convening meeting of Shareholders. Therefore Applicant Company is permitted to dispense with convening of meeting of shareholders.

Since Applicant Company has no Secured and Unsecured Creditors, then the Question of dispensing with convening of meeting does not arise.

In the result, the application is allowed and holding of meeting of the Equity Shareholders and Preference Shareholders is dispensed with. In any eventuality when the Applicant Company approaches this Tribunal for seeking approval of the scheme it would be open for any person who are interested in the Scheme of Amalgamation to put forth their contentions before the Tribunal. - 28TE/17

(RATAKONDA MURALI)

(ASHOK KUMAR MISHRA) MEMBER, JUDICIAL MEMBER, TECHNICAL

DATED THIS THE 2¢