



**PAUL MERCHANTS LTD.**<sup>®</sup>  
(An ISO 9001:2008 Certified Co.) (CIN: L74900DL1984PLC018679)

CORP. OFF. : PML House, SCO 829-830, Sector 22-A, Chandigarh - 160 022 Ph. 0172-5041786, 5025090 Fax : 0172-5041709

E-mail : info@paulmerchants.net Website : www.paulmerchants.net

REGD. OFF. : DSM 335, 336, 337, 3rd Floor, DLF Tower, 15, Shivaji Marg, Najafgarh Road, New Delhi-110015 Ph. : 011-48602000

## **POLICY ON RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

### **1. PREAMBLE**

The Board of Directors (the “Board”) of Paul Merchants Limited (the “Company”) has adopted this Policy upon the recommendation of the Audit Committee and the said Policy includes the materiality threshold and the manner of dealing with Related Party Transactions (“Policy”) in compliance with the requirements of Section 188 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with the Rules framed there under and Regulation 23 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations 2015 with the Stock Exchanges in India. Amendments, from time to time, to the Policy, if any, shall be considered by the Board based on the recommendations of the Audit Committee.

This Policy applies to transactions between the Company and one or more of its Related Parties. It provides a framework for governance and reporting of Related Party Transactions including material transactions.

### **2. OBJECTIVE**

This Policy is intended to ensure due and timely identification, approval, disclosure and reporting of transactions between the Company and any of its Related Parties in compliance with the applicable laws and regulations as may be amended from time to time.

The provisions of this Policy are designed to govern the approval process and disclosure requirements to ensure transparency in the conduct of Related Party Transactions in the best interest of the Company and its shareholders and to comply with the statutory provisions in this regard.

### **3. DEFINITIONS**

**“Audit Committee or Committee”** means the Committee of the Board constituted from time to time under the provisions of Clause 18 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations 2015 and Section 177 of the Companies Act, 2013.

**“Board”** means the Board of Directors as defined under the Companies Act, 2013.

**“Key Managerial Personnel”** means Key Managerial Personnel as defined under

the Companies Act, 2013.

**“Material Related Party Transaction”** will have the same meaning as defined in Regulation 23.

**“Related Party”** will have the same meaning as defined under Section 2(76) of the Act and Regulation 2(1)(zb) of the SEBI Listing Regulations.

**“Related Party Transaction”** have the meaning as defined under Regulation 2(1)(zc) of the SEBI Listing Regulations as means transfer of resources, services or obligations between a listed entity and a related party, regardless of whether price is charged and a transaction with a related party shall be construed to include a single transaction or a group of transactions in a contract, as envisaged in Section 188(1) and includes –

- a. Sale, purchase or supply of any goods or materials;
- b. Selling or otherwise disposing of, or buying property of any kind;
- c. Leasing of property of any kind;
- d. Availing or rendering of any services;
- e. Appointment of any agent for the purchase or sale of goods, materials, services or property;
- f. Such related party's appointment to any office or place of profit in the Company, its subsidiary Company or associate Company;
- g. Underwriting the subscription of any securities or derivatives thereof, of the Company;

(The above list is an indicative list and not an exhaustive one. The Audit Committee can add any other matter at any time as it deems fit).

**“Relative”** means a relative as defined under the Companies Act, 2013 and includes anyone who is related in any of the following manner –

- a. Members of a Hindu undivided family;
- b. Husband or wife;
- c. Father (including step-father);
- d. Mother (including step-mother);
- e. Son (including step-son);
- f. Son's wife;
- g. Daughter;
- h. Daughter's husband;
- i. Brother (including step-brother); or
- j. Sister (including step-sister).

**“Transaction”** with a related party shall be construed to include a single transaction or a group of transactions.

**“Arm's Length Transaction”** means a transaction between two related parties that is conducted as if they are unrelated, so that there is no conflict of interest.

**“Ordinary Course of Business”** means a transaction which is:

- i) Carried out in the normal course of business envisaged in accordance with the Memorandum of Association ('MoA') of the Company as amended from time to time,
- ii) historical practice with a pattern of frequency,
- iii) in connection with the normal business carried on by the Company
- iv) the income, if any, earned from such activity/transaction is assessed as business income in the Company's books of accounts and hence is a business activity,
- v) common commercial practice
- vi) meets any other parameters / criteria as decided by the Board/Audit Committee

Any other term not defined herein shall have the same meaning as defined in the Companies Act, 2013, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 or any other applicable law or regulation.

The terms **Director, Chief Financial Officer, Company Secretary**, shall have the same meaning as assigned under the Companies Act, 2013.

#### **4. POLICY**

The Audit Committee shall review and approve all Related Party Transactions based on this Policy.

All proposed Related Party Transactions must be undertaken with prior approval of the Audit Committee in accordance with this Policy. In the case of frequent / regular / repetitive transactions which are in the normal course of business of the Company, the Committee may grant standing pre – approval / omnibus approval, details whereof are given in a separate section of this Policy.

In exceptional cases, where a prior approval is not taken due to an inadvertent omission or due to unforeseen circumstances, the Committee may ratify the transactions in accordance with this Policy.

##### **4.1 IDENTIFICATION OF RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

Every Director and Key Managerial Personnel will be responsible for providing a declaration in the format as per Annexure 1 containing the following information to the Company Secretary on an annual basis:

1. Names of his / her Relatives;
2. Partnership firms in which he / she or his / her Relative is a partner;
3. Private Companies in which he / she is a member or Director;
4. Public Companies in which he / she is a Director and holds along with his/her Relatives more than 2% of paid up share capital;
5. Any Body Corporate whose Board of Directors, Managing Director or Manager is accustomed to act in accordance with his / her advice, directions or instructions;

and

6. Persons on whose advice, directions or instructions, he / she is accustomed to act (other than advice, directions or instructions obtained from a person in professional capacity).

Every Director and the Key Managerial Personnel will also be responsible to update the Company Secretary of any changes in the above relationships, directorships, holdings, interests and / or controls immediately on him / her becoming aware of such changes.

The Company Secretary shall be responsible to maintain an updated database of information pertaining to Related Parties reflecting details of –

1. All Directors and Key Managerial Personnel;
2. All individuals, partnership firms, companies and other persons as declared and updated by Directors and Key Managerial Personnel;
3. Company's holding company, subsidiary companies and associate companies;
4. Subsidiaries of holding company;
5. Director or Key Managerial Personnel of the holding company or their Relatives;
6. All PML Group entities; and
7. Any other entity which is a Related Party as defined under Section 2(76) of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Clause 23 of of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations 2015 or the relevant Accounting Standard.

The database shall be updated whenever necessary and shall be reviewed at least once a year jointly by the Company Secretary and Chief Financial Officer. The functional / business heads / Chief Financial Officer /Company Secretary/ shall have access to the updated database.

Every Director, Key Managerial Personnel, Functional / Business heads / Chief Financial Officer will be responsible for providing prior Notice to the Company Secretary of any potential Related Party Transaction. They will also be responsible for providing additional information about the transaction that the Board / Committee may request, for being placed before the Committee and the Board.

The suggested details and list of records and supporting documents which are required to be provided along with the Notice of the proposed transaction are provided in Annexure 2 to this Policy.

The Company Secretary in consultation with the Chief Financial Officer may refer any potential related party transaction to any external legal/ Valuation expert and the outcome or opinion of such exercise shall be brought to the notice of the Audit Committee. Based on this Notice, the Company Secretary will take it up for necessary approvals under this Policy.

## **4.2 REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF RELATED PARTY TRANSACTION**

All Related Party Transactions shall be subject to the prior approval of the Audit Committee whether at a meeting or by resolution by circulation or through electronic mode. A member of the Committee who has a potential interest in any Related Party Transaction will not remain present at the meeting or if he is present, shall abstain from discussion and voting on such Related Party Transaction and shall not be counted in determining the presence of a quorum when such Transaction is considered.

### **4.2.1 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE IN APPROVING THE PROPOSED TRANSACTIONS**

While considering any transaction, the Committee shall take into account all relevant facts and circumstances including the terms of the transaction, the business purpose of the transaction, the benefits to the Company and to the Related Party, and any other relevant matters.

Prior to the approval, the Committee shall, *inter-alia*, consider the following factors to the extent relevant to the transaction:

- a. Whether the terms of the Related Party Transaction are in the ordinary course of the Company's business and are on an arm's length basis;
- b. The business reasons for the Company to enter into the Related Party Transaction and the nature of alternative transactions, if any;
- c. Whether the Related Party Transaction includes any potential reputational risks that may arise as a result of or in connection with the proposed Transaction; and Whether the Related Party Transaction would affect the independence or present a conflict of interest for any Director or Key Managerial Personnel of the Company, taking into account the size of the transaction, the overall financial position of the Director, Key Managerial Personnel or other Related Party, the direct or indirect nature of the Director's interest, Key Managerial Personnel's or other Related Party's interest in the transaction and the ongoing nature of any proposed relationship and any other factors the Committee deems relevant.

While considering the arm's length nature of the transaction, the Committee shall take into account the facts and circumstances as were applicable at the time of entering into the transaction with the Related Party. The Committee shall take into consideration that subsequent events (i.e., events after the initial transactions have commenced) like evolving business strategies / short term commercial decisions to improve / sustain market share, changing market dynamics, local competitive scenario, economic / regulatory conditions affecting the global / domestic industry, may impact profitability but may not have a bearing on the otherwise arm's length nature of the transaction.

#### **4.2.2 APPROVAL BY CIRCULAR RESOLUTION OF THE COMMITTEE**

In the event the Company Management determines that it is impractical or undesirable to wait until a meeting of the Committee to enter into a Related Party Transaction, such transaction may be approved by the Committee by way of circular resolution in accordance with this Policy and statutory provisions for the time being in force. Any such approval must be ratified by the Committee at its next scheduled meeting.

#### **4.2.3 APPROVAL BY THE BOARD**

If the Committee determines that a Related Party Transaction should be brought before the Board, or if the Board in any case elects to review any such matter or it is mandatory under any law for Board to approve the Related Party Transaction, then such transaction shall be placed before the Board for its consideration & approval.

Transaction at a meeting and the considerations set forth above shall apply to the Board's review and approval of the matter, with such modification as may be necessary or appropriate under the circumstances. Further, all related party transactions which are not at Arm's length shall be undertaken with prior approval of the Board.

#### **4.2.4 STANDING PRE-APPROVAL / OMNIBUS APPROVAL BY THE COMMITTEE**

In the case of frequent / regular / repetitive transactions which are in the normal course of business of the Company, the Committee may grant standing pre-approval / omnibus approval. While granting the approval the Audit Committee shall satisfy itself of the need for the omnibus approval and that same is in the interest of the Company. The omnibus approval shall specify the following:

- a. Name of the related party
- b. Nature of the transaction
- c. Period of the transaction
- d. Maximum amount of the transactions that can be entered into
- e. Indicative base price / current contracted price and formula for variation in price, if any
- f. Such other conditions as the Audit Committee may deem fit.

Such transactions will be deemed to be pre-approved and may not require any further approval of the Audit Committee for each specific transaction unless the price, value or material terms of the contract or arrangement have been varied / amended beyond the pre-approved variations. Any proposed variations / amendments to these factors shall require a prior approval of the Committee.

Further, where the need of the related party transaction cannot be foreseen and all prescribed details are not available, Committee may grant omnibus approval subject to the value per transaction not exceeding Rs.1,00,00,000/- (Rupees One Crore only). The details of such transaction shall be reported at the next meeting of the Audit Committee for ratification. Further, the Committee shall on an annual basis review and assess such transactions including the limits to ensure that they are in compliance with this Policy. The omnibus approval shall be valid for a period of one year and fresh approval shall be obtained after the expiry of one year.

#### **4.2.5 APPROVAL OF MATERIAL RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

All Material Related Party Transactions shall require approval of the shareholders through special resolution and the Related Parties shall abstain from voting on such resolution.

#### **4.2.6 TRANSACTIONS NOT IN ORDINARY COURSE OF BUSINESS OR NOT AT ARM'S LENGTH**

All Related Party Transactions in excess of the limits prescribed under the Companies Act, 2013, which are not in the Ordinary Course of Business or not at Arms' Length shall also require the prior approval of the shareholders through special resolution and the Related Parties shall abstain from voting on such resolution.

#### **4.2.7 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS NOT PREVIOUSLY APPROVED**

In the event the Company becomes aware of a Related Party Transaction that has not been approved or ratified under this Policy, the transaction shall be placed as promptly as practicable before the Committee or Board or the Shareholders as may be required in accordance with this Policy for review and ratification.

The Committee or the Board or the Shareholders shall consider all relevant facts and circumstances respecting such transaction and shall evaluate all options available to the Company, including but not limited to ratification, revision, or termination of such transaction, and the Company shall take such action as the Committee deems appropriate under the circumstances.

#### **4.3 DISCLOSURE AND REPORTING OF RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

Every Related Party Transaction entered into by the Company shall be referred to in the Board's report to the shareholders along with justification for entering into such transaction. The Company Secretary and the Chief Financial Officer shall be, responsible for such disclosure. The Company Secretary shall also make necessary entries in the Register of Contracts required to be maintained under the Companies Act, 2013.

## **5. SCOPE/ LIMITATION**

In the event of any conflict between the provisions of this Policy and of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations 2015 / Companies Act, 2013 or any other statutory enactments, rules, the provisions of such SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations 2015 / Companies Act, 2013 or statutory enactments, rules shall prevail over this Policy.

## **6. DISSEMINATION OF POLICY**

Either this Policy or the important provisions of this policy shall be disseminated to all functional and operational employees and other concerned persons of the Company and shall be hosted on the website of the Company and web link thereto shall be provided in the annual report of the Company.



**ANNEXURE 1**  
**FORM MBP – 1**

**Notice of interest by director**  
**[Pursuant to section 184 (1) and rule 9(1)]**

To,

The Board of Directors / Company Secretary  
Paul Merchants Limited  
SCO 829-830, Sector 22-A,  
Chandigarh

Dear Sir,

A. I, ....., son/daughter/spouse of ....., resident of ....., holding ..... Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each (..... percent of the paid-up Capital) in the Company in my name, being a ..... in the Company, hereby give notice that I am interested directly/through my Relatives (Schedule) in the following company or companies, body corporate, firms or other association of individuals:

<b>Sr. No</b>	<b>Names of Companies/Bodies Corporate/Firms/Association of Individuals</b>	<b>Nature of Interest or concern / Change in Interest or Concern</b>	<b>Shareholding</b>	<b>Date on which interest or concern arose/ changed</b>

B. The Following are the Bodies Corporate whose Board of Directors, Managing Director or Manager is accustomed to act in accordance with my advice, directions or instructions;

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Name of the Body Corporate</b>

C. I am accustomed to act on the advice, directions or instructions of the following persons (other than advice, directions or instructions obtained in professional capacity).

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Name of the person</b>	<b>Relation</b>

Signature:  
Name:  
Designation:

Place:  
Date:

**SCHEDULE**

**LIST OF RELATIVES**

No.	Relationship	Full Name	Address	Shareholding in Paul Merchants Limited
1	Spouse			
2	Father (including Step-Father)			
3	Son (including Step-son)			
4	Daughter			
5	Daughter's Husband			
6	Brother (Including Step-Brother)			
7	Sister (Including Step-Sister)			
8	Mother (including Step-Mother)			
9	Son's Wife			
10	Members of HUF			

## **ANNEXURE 2**

### **INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED TO THE AUDIT COMMITTEE / BOARD IN RELATION TO THE PROPOSED RELATED PARTY TRANSACTION (TO THE EXTENT RELEVANT TO THE TRANSACTION):**

1. Name of the Related Party and nature of relationship;
2. Nature and duration of the contract/transaction and particulars thereof;
3. Material terms of the contract or arrangement or transaction including the value, if any;
4. In case of existing or approved contracts, transactions, details of proposed variations to the duration, current price / value and / or material terms of the contract or arrangement including a justification to the proposed variations;
5. Any advance paid / received or to be paid / received for the contract or arrangement, if any;
6. Manner of determining the pricing and other commercial terms, whether or not included as part of contract;
7. Copy of the draft MOU, agreement, contract, purchase order or correspondence etc. if any.
8. Valuation reports in case of sale or purchase of capital assets or securities;
9. Justification as to the arm's length nature of the proposed transaction;
10. Declaration by CFO whether the transaction is in the ordinary course of business;
11. Persons / authority approving the transaction; and
12. Any other information relevant or important for the Committee / Board to take a decision on the proposed transaction.