Annex – II

F.No.P - 12011/14/2022-ES Cell-DOR

Government of India

Ministry of Finance

Department of Revenue

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New Delhi, dated the 1st September, 2023

ORDER

Subject: - Procedure for implementation of Section 12A of "The Weapons of Mass Destruction and their Delivery Systems (Prohibition of Unlawful Activities) Act, 2005" .

Section 12A of The Weapons of Mass Destruction and their Delivery Systems (Prohibition of Unlawful Activities) Act, 2005 [hereinafter referred to as 'the Act'] reads as under: -

"*12A. (1) No person shall finance any activity which is prohibited under this Act, or under the United Nations (Security Council) Act, 1947 or any other relevant Act for the time being in force, or by an order issued under any such Act, in relation to weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems.*

(2) For prevention of financing by any person of any activity which is prohibited under this Act, or under the United Nations (Security Council) Act, 1947 or any other relevant Act for the time being in force, or by an order issued under any such Act, in relation to weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems, the Central Government shall have power to—

a) freeze, seize or attach funds or other financial assets or economic resources—

i. owned or controlled, wholly or jointly, directly or indirectly, by such person; or

ii. held by or on behalf of, or at the direction of, such person; or

iii. derived or generated from the funds or other assets owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by such person;

prohibit any person from making funds, financial assets or economic resources or related services available for the benefit of persons related to any activity which is prohibited under this Act, or under the United Nations (Security Council) Act, 1947 or any other relevant Act for the time being in force, or by an order issued under any such Act, in relation to weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems.

(3) The Central Government may exercise its powers under this section through any authority who has been assigned the power under sub-section (1) of section 7."

II In order to ensure expeditious and effective implementation of the provisions of Section 12A of the Act, the procedure is outlined below.

1. Appointment and communication details of Section 12A Nodal Officers:

1.1 In exercise of the powers conferred under Section 7(1) of the Act, the Central Government assigns Director, FIU-India, Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, as the authority to exercise powers under Section 12A of the Act. The Director, FIU-India shall be hereby referred to as the Central Nodal Officer (CNO) for the purpose of this order. **[Telephone Number: 011- 23314458, 011- 23314435, 011-23314459 (FAX), email address: dir@fiuindia.gov.in].**

1.2 **Regulator** under this order shall have the same meaning as defined in Rule 2(fa) of Prevention of Money-Laundering (Maintenance of Records) Rules, 2005. **Reporting Entity (RE)** shall have the same meaning as defined in Section 2 (1) (wa) of Prevention of Money-Laundering Act, 2002. DNFPBs is as defined in section 2(1) (sa) of Prevention of Money-Laundering Act, 2002.

1.3 The Regulators, Ministry of Corporate Affairs and Foreigners Division of MHA shall notify a Nodal Officer for implementation of provisions of Section 12A of the Act. The Regulator may notify the Nodal Officer appointed for implementation of provisions of Section 51A of UAPA, also, as the Nodal Officer for implementation of Section 12A of the Act. All the States and UTs shall notify a State Nodal officer for implementation of Section 12A of the Act. A State/UT may notify the State Nodal Officer appointed for implementation of provisions of Section 51A of UAPA, also, as the Nodal Officer for implementation of Section 12A of the Act.

1.4 The CNO shall maintain an updated list of all Nodal Officers, and share the updated list with all Nodal Officers periodically. The CNO shall forward the updated list of all Nodal Officers to all REs.

2. Communication of the lists of designated individuals/entities:

2.1 The Ministry of External Affairs will electronically communicate, without delay, the changes made in the list of designated individuals and entities (hereinafter referred to as 'designated list') in line with section 12A (1) to the CNO and Nodal officers.

2.1.1 Further, the CNO shall maintain the Designated list on the portal of FIU-India. The list would be updated by the CNO, as and when it is updated, as per para 2.1 above, without delay. It shall make available for all Nodal officers, the State Nodal Officers, and to the Registrars performing the work of registration of immovable properties, either directly or through State Nodal Officers, without delay.

2.1.2 The Ministry of External Affairs may also share other information relating to prohibition / prevention of financing of prohibited activity under Section 12A (after its initial assessment of the relevant factors in the case) with the CNO and other organizations concerned, for initiating verification and suitable action.

2.1.3 The Regulators shall make available the updated designated list, without delay, to their REs. The REs will maintain the designated list and update it, without delay, whenever changes are made as per para 2.1 above.

2.2 The Nodal Officer for Section 12A in Foreigners Division of MHA shall forward the updated designated list to the immigration authorities and security agencies, without delay.

3. Regarding funds, financial assets or economic resources or related services held in the form of bank accounts, stocks or insurance policies, etc.

3.1 All Financial Institutions shall –

i. Verify if the particulars of the entities/individual, party to the financial transactions, match with the particulars of designated list and in case of match, REs shall not carry out such transaction and shall immediately inform the transaction details with full particulars of the funds, financial assets or economic resources involved *to* the CNO by email, FAX and by post, without delay.

ii. Run a check, on the given parameters, at the time of establishing a relation with a customer and on a periodic basis to verify whether individuals and entities in the designated list are holding any funds, financial assets or economic resources or related services, in the form of bank accounts, stocks, Insurance policies etc. In case,

the particulars of any of their customers match with the particulars of designated list, REs shall immediately inform full particulars of the funds, financial assets or economic resources or related services held in the form of bank accounts, stocks or insurance policies etc., held on their books *to* the CNO by email, FAX and by post, without delay.

iii. The REs shall also send a copy of the communication, mentioned in 3.1 (i) and (ii) above, *to* State Nodal Officer, where the account/transaction is held, and to their Regulator, as the case may be, without delay.

iv. In case there are reasons to believe beyond doubt that funds or assets held by a customer would fall under the purview of clause (a) or (b) of sub-section (2) of Section 12A, REs shall prevent such individual/entity from conducting financial transactions, under intimation to the CNO by email, FAX and by post, without delay.

3.2 On receipt of the particulars, as referred to in Paragraph 3.1 above, the CNO would cause a verification to be conducted by the State Police and/or the Central Agencies so as to ensure that the individuals/entities identified by the REs are the ones in designated list and the funds, financial assets or economic resources or related services, reported by REs are in respect of the designated individuals/entities. This verification would be completed expeditiously from the date of receipt of such particulars.

3.3 In case, the results of the verification indicate that the assets are owned by, or are held for the benefit of, the designated individuals/entities, an order to freeze these assets under Section 12A would be issued by the CNO without delay and be conveyed electronically to the concerned RE under intimation to respective Regulators. The CNO shall also forward a copy thereof to all the Principal Secretaries/Secretaries, Home Department of the States/UTs and All Nodal officers in the country, so that any individual or entity may be prohibited from making any funds, financial assets or economic resources or related services available for the benefit of the designated individuals / entities. The CNO shall also forward a copy of the order to all Directors General of Police/ Commissioners of Police of all States/UTs for initiating suitable action.

3.4 The order shall be issued without prior notice to the designated individual/entity.

4. Regarding financial assets or economic resources of the nature of immovable properties:

4.1 The Registrars performing work of registration of immovable properties shall --

i. Verify if the particulars of the entities/individual, party to the transactions, match with the particulars of the designated list, and, in case of match, shall not carry out such transaction and immediately inform the details with full particulars of the assets or economic resources involved *to* the State Nodal Officer, without delay.

ii. Verify from the records in their respective jurisdiction, without delay, on given parameters, if the details match with the details of the individuals and entities in the designated list. In case, the designated individuals/entities are holding financial assets or economic resources of the nature of immovable property, and if any match with the designated individuals/entities is found, the Registrar shall immediately inform the details with full particulars of the assets or economic resources involved *to* the State Nodal Officer, without delay.

iii. In case there are reasons to believe beyond doubt that assets that are held by an individual/entity would fall under the purview of clause (a) or (b) of sub-section (2) of Section 12A, Registrar shall prevent such individual/entity from conducting transactions, under intimation to the State Nodal Officer by email, FAX and by post , without delay.

4.2 the State Nodal Officer would cause communication of the complete particulars of such individual/entity along with complete details of the financial assets or economic resources to the CNO without delay by email, FAX and by post.

4.3 The State Nodal Officer may cause such inquiry to be conducted by the State Police so as to ensure that the particulars sent are indeed of these designated individuals/entities. This verification shall be completed without delay and shall be conveyed, within 24 hours of the verification, if it matches, with the particulars of the designated individual/entity, to the CNO without delay by email, FAX and by post.

4.4 The CNO may also have the verification conducted by the Central Agencies. This verification would be completed expeditiously.

4.5 In case, the results of the verification indicate that the assets are owned by, or are held for the benefit of, the designated individuals/entities, an order to freeze these assets under Section 12A would be issued by the CNO without delay and be conveyed electronically to the concerned Registrar performing the work of registering immovable properties, and to FIU under intimation to the concerned State Nodal Officer. The CNO

shall also forward a copy thereof to all the Principal Secretaries/Secretaries, Home Department of the States/UTs and All Nodal officers in the country, so that any individual or entity may be prohibited from making any funds, financial assets or economic resources or related services available for the benefit of the designated individuals / entities. The CNO shall also forward a copy of the order to all Directors General of Police/ Commissioners of Police of all States/UTs for initiating suitable action.

4.6 The order shall be issued without prior notice to the designated individual/entity.

5. **Regarding the real-estate agents, dealers of precious metals/stones (DPMS), Registrar of Societies/ Firms/ non-profit organizations, The Ministry of Corporate Affairs and Designated Non-Financial Businesses and Professions (DNFBPs):**

(i) The dealers of precious metals/stones (DPMS) as notified under PML (Maintenance of Records) Rules, 2005 and Real Estate Agents, as notified under clause (vi) of Section 2(1) (sa) of Prevention of Money-Laundering Act, 2002, are required to ensure that if any designated individual/entity approaches them for sale/purchase of precious metals/stones/Real Estate Assets or attempts to undertake such transactions, the dealer should not carry out such transaction and, without delay, inform the Section 12A Nodal officer in the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC). Also, If the dealers hold any assets or funds of the designated individual/entity, they shall freeze the same without delay and inform the Section 12A Nodal officer in the CBIC, who will, in turn, follow procedure similar to as laid down for State Nodal Officer in the paragraphs 4.2 to 4.6.

(ii) Registrar of Societies/ Firms/ non-profit organizations are required to ensure that if any designated individual/ entity is a shareholder/ member/ partner/ director/ settler/ trustee/ beneficiary/ beneficial owner of any society/ partnership firm/ trust/ non-profit organization, then the Registrar shall freeze any transaction for such designated individual/ entity and shall inform the State Nodal Officer, without delay, and, if such society/ partnership firm/ trust/ non-profit organization holds funds or assets of designated individual/ entity, follow the procedure as laid down for State Nodal Officer in the paragraphs 4.2 to 4.6 above. The Registrar should also ensure that no societies/ firms/ non-profit organizations should be allowed to be registered if any of the

designated individual/ entity is a director/ partner/ office bearer/ trustee/ settler/ beneficiary or beneficial owner of such juridical person and, in case, such request is received, then the Registrar shall inform the State Nodal Officer, without delay.

(iii) The State Nodal Officer shall also advise appropriate department of the State/UT, administering the operations relating to Casinos, to ensure that the designated individuals/ entities should not be allowed to own or have beneficial ownership in any Casino operation. Further, if any designated individual/ entity visits or participates in any game in the Casino or if any assets of such designated individual/ entity are with the Casino operator, or if the particulars of any client match with the particulars of designated individuals/ entities, the Casino owner shall inform the State Nodal Officer, without delay, and shall freeze any such transaction.

(iv) The Ministry of Corporate Affairs shall issue an appropriate order to the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, Institute of Cost and Works Accountants of India and Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI), requesting them to sensitize their respective members to the provisions of Section 12A, so that, if any designated individual/entity approaches them, for entering/ investing in the financial sector and/or immovable property, or they are holding or managing any assets/ resources of designated individual/ entities, then the member shall convey the complete details of such designated individual/ entity to Section 12A Nodal Officer in the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, who shall in turn follow the similar procedure as laid down for State Nodal Officer in paragraph 4.2 to 4.6 above.

(v) The members of these institutes should also be sensitized by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, Institute of Cost and Work Accountants of India and Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI) that if they have arranged for or have been approached for incorporation/ formation/ registration of any company, limited liability firm, partnership firm, society, trust, association where any designated individual/ entity is a director/ shareholder/ member of a company/ society/ association or partner in a firm or settler/ trustee or beneficiary of a trust or a beneficial owner of a juridical person, then the member of the institute should not incorporate/ form/ register such juridical person and should convey the complete details of such designated individual/ entity to Section 12A Nodal Officer in the Ministry of Corporate Affairs.

(vi) In addition, a member of the ICSI shall, if he/she is Company Secretary or is holding any managerial position where any of designated individual/ entity is a Director and/or Shareholder or having beneficial ownership of any such juridical person, convey the complete details of such designated individual/ entity to Section 12A Nodal Officer in the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, who shall follow the similar procedure as laid down in paragraph 4.2 to 4.6 above for State Nodal Officer, if such company, limited liability firm, partnership firm, society, trust, or association holds funds or assets of the designated individual/entity.

(vii) In case any designated individual/ entity is a shareholder/ director/ whole time director in any company registered with the Registrar of Companies (ROC) or beneficial owner of such company or partner in a Limited Liabilities Partnership Firm registered with ROC or beneficial owner of such firm, the ROC should convey the complete details of such designated individual/ entity to section 12A Nodal officer of Ministry of Corporate Affairs. If such company or LLP holds funds or assets of the designated individual/ entity, he shall follow the similar procedure as laid down in paragraph 4.2 to 4.6 above for State Nodal Officer. Further the ROCs are required to ensure that no company or limited liability Partnership firm shall be allowed to be registered if any of the designated individual/ entity is the Director/ Promoter/ Partner or beneficial owner of such company or firm, and in case such a request is received, the ROC should inform the Section 12A Nodal Officer in the Ministry of Corporate Affairs.

(viii) All communications to Nodal officer as enunciated in subclauses (i) to (vii) above should, inter alia, include the details of funds and assets held and the details of transaction.

(ix) The Other DNBPs are required to ensure that if any designated individual/entity approaches them for a transaction or relationship or attempts to undertake such transactions, the dealer should not carry out such transaction and, without delay, inform the Section 12A Central Nodal officer. The communication to the Central Nodal Officer would include the details of funds and assets held and the details of the transaction. Also, If the dealers hold any assets or funds of the designated individual/entity, they shall freeze the same without delay and inform the Section 12A Central Nodal officer.

(DNFBPs shall have the same meaning as the definition in Section 2(1) (sa) of Prevention of Money-Laundering Act,2002.)

5.1. All Natural and legal persons holding any funds or other assets of designated persons and entities, shall, without delay and without prior notice, freeze any transaction in relation to such funds or assets and shall immediately inform the State Nodal officer along with details of the funds/assets held, who in turn would follow the same procedure as in para 4.2 to 4.6 above for State Nodal Officer. This obligation should extend to all funds or other assets that are owned or controlled by the designated person or entity, and not just those that can be tied to a particular act, plot or threat of proliferation; those funds or other assets that are wholly or jointly owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by designated persons or entities; and the funds or other assets derived or generated from funds or other assets owned or controlled directly or indirectly by designated persons or entities, as well as funds or other assets of persons and entities acting on behalf of, or at the direction of designated persons or entities.

5.2 No person shall finance any activity related to the 'designated list' referred to in Para 2.1, except in cases where exemption has been granted as per Para 6 of this Order.

5.3. Further, the State Nodal Officer shall cause to monitor the transactions / accounts of the designated individual/entity so as to prohibit any individual or entity from making any funds, financial assets or economic resources or related services available for the benefit of the individuals or entities in the designated list. The State Nodal Officer shall, upon becoming aware of any transactions and attempts by third party, without delay, bring the incidence to the notice of the CNO and the DGP/Commissioner of Police of the State/UT for initiating suitable action.

5.4 Where the CNO has reasons to believe that any funds or assets are violative of Section 12A (1) or Section 12A (2)(b) of the Act, he shall, by order, freeze such funds or Assets, without any delay, and make such order available to authorities, Financial Institutions, DNFBPs and other entities concerned.

5.5 The CNO shall also have the power to issue advisories and guidance to all persons, including Fls and DNFBPs obligated to carry out sanctions screening. The concerned Regulators shall take suitable action under their relevant laws, rules or

regulations for each violation of sanction screening obligations under section 12A of the WMD Act.

6. **Regarding exemption, to be granted to the above orders**

6.1. The above provisions shall not apply to funds and other financial assets or economic resources that have been determined by the CNO to be: -

(a) necessary for basic expenses, including payments for foodstuff, rent or mortgage, medicines and medical treatment, taxes, insurance premiums and public utility charges, or exclusively for payment of reasonable professional fees and reimbursement of incurred expenses associated with the provision of legal services or fees or service charges for routine holding or maintenance of frozen funds or other financial assets or economic resources, consequent to notification by the MEA authorizing access to such funds, assets or resources.

This shall be consequent to notification by the MEA to the UNSC or its Committee, of the intention to authorize access to such funds, assets or resources, and in the absence of a negative decision by the UNSC or its Committee within 5 working days of such notification.

(b) necessary for extraordinary expenses, provided that such determination has been notified by the MEA to the UNSC or its Committee, and has been approved by the UNSC or its Committee;

6.2. The accounts of the designated individuals/ entities may be allowed to be credited with:

(a) interest or other earnings due on those accounts, or

(b) payments due under contracts, agreements or obligations that arose prior to the date on which those accounts became subject to the provisions of section 12A of the Act.

Provided that any such interest, other earnings and payments continue to be subject to those provisions under para 3.3;

6.3 Any freezing action taken related to the designated list under this Order should not prevent a designated individual or entity from making any payment due under a contract entered into prior to the listing of such individual or entity, provided that:

(i) the CNO has determined that the contract is not related to any of the prohibited goods, services, technologies, or activities, under this Act, or under the United Nations (Security Council) Act, 1947 or any other relevant Act for the time being in force, or by an order issued under any such Act, in relation to weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems;

(ii) the CNO has determined that the payment is not directly or indirectly received by an individual or entity in the designated list under this Order; and
(iii) the MEA has submitted prior notification to the UNSC or its Committee, of the intention to make or receive such payments or to authorise, where appropriate, he unfreezing of funds, other financial assets or economic resources for this purpose, ten working days prior to such authorization

7. **Regarding procedure for unfreezing of funds, financial assets or economic resources or related services of individuals/entities inadvertently affected by the freezing mechanism upon verification that the individual or entity is not a designated person or no longer meet the criteria for designation:**

7.1 Any individual/entity, if it has evidence to prove that the freezing of funds, financial assets or economic resources or related services, owned/held has been inadvertently frozen, an application may be moved giving the requisite evidence, in writing, to the relevant RE/Registrar of Immovable Properties/ ROC/Regulators and the State.

7.2 The RE/Registrar of Immovable Properties/ROC/Regulator and the State Nodal Officer shall inform, and forward a copy of the application, together with full details of the asset frozen, as given by applicant to the CNO by email, FAX and by Post, within two working days. Also, listed persons and entities may petition a request for delisting at the Focal Point Mechanism established under UNSC Resolution.

7.3 The CNO shall cause such verification, as may be required on the basis of the evidence furnished by the individual/entity, and, if satisfied, it shall pass an order, without delay, unfreezing the funds, financial assets or economic resources or related services, owned/held by such applicant, under intimation to all RE/Registrar of Immovable Properties/ROC/Regulators and the State Nodal Officer. However, if it is not possible, for any reason, to pass an Order unfreezing the assets within 5 working days, the CNO shall inform the applicant expeditiously.

7.4 The CNO shall, based on de-listing of individual and entity under UN Security Council Resolutions, shall pass an order, if not required to be designated in any other order, without delay, unfreezing the funds, financial assets or economic resources or related services, owned/held by such applicant, under intimation to all RE/Registrar of Immovable Properties/ROC/Regulators and the State Nodal Officer.

8. **Procedure for communication of compliance of action taken under Section 12A:** The CNO and the Nodal Officer in the Foreigners Division, MHA shall furnish the details of funds, financial assets or economic resources or related services of designated individuals/entities, frozen by an order, and details of the individuals whose entry into India or transit through India was prevented, respectively, to the Ministry of External Affairs, for onward communication to the United Nations.

9. **Communication of the Order issued under Section 12A:** The Order issued under Section 12A of the Act by the CNO relating to funds, financial assets or economic resources or related services, shall be communicated to all nodal officers in the country.

10. This order is issued in suppression of F.No.P-12011/14/2022-ES Cell-DOR, dated 30th January 2023.

11. All concerned are requested to ensure strict compliance of this order.

(Manoj Kumar Singh)

Director (HQ)

To,

1) Governor, Reserve Bank of India, Mumbai

2) Chairman, Securities & Exchange Board of India, Mumbai

3) Chairman, Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority, Hyderabad.

4) Foreign Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi.

5) Finance Secretary, Ministry of Finance, New Delhi.

6) Revenue Secretary, Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, New Delhi.

7) Secretary, Ministry of Corporate Affairs, New Delhi

8) Chairman, Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs, New Delhi.

9) Director, Intelligence Bureau, New Delhi.

10) Additional Secretary, Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance, New Delhi.

11) Chief Secretaries of all States/Union Territories

12) Principal Secretary (Home)/Secretary (Home) of all States/ Union Territories

13) Directors General of Police of all States & Union Territories

14) Director General of Police, National Investigation Agency, New Delhi.

15) Commissioner of Police, Delhi.

16) Joint Secretary (Foreigners), Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi.

17) Joint Secretary (Capital Markets), Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, New Delhi.

18) Joint Secretary (Revenue), Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, New Delhi.

19) Director (FIU-IND), New Delhi.

Copy for information to: -

1. Sr. PPS to HS

2. PS to SS (IS)