## THE HIGH COURT OF SINDH, KARACHI

[COMPANY BENCH]

J.C.M. No. 33 of 2024 In the matter of the Companies Act, 2017 And

of (a) U&I Garments (Pvt.) Ltd.

(b) Junaid Jamshed (Pvt.) Ltd.

Petitioners : U&I Garments (Pvt.) Ltd. and Junaid

Jamshed (Pvt.) Ltd., through Mr.

Mikael Azmat Rahim Advocate.

On Court notice : Securities and Exchange Commission

of Pakistan through Syed Ebad-ur-

Rehman, Advocate.

Date of hearing : 13-05-2025

Date of order : 13-05-2025

## ORDER OF SANCTION OF SCHEME

Adnan Iqbal Chaudhry J. - The Petitioners are private companies limited by shares incorporated in Pakistan with registered offices at Karachi. The Petitioners seek sanction of a Scheme of Amalgamation under section 282 read with sections 279 to 281 of the Companies Act, 2017 [the Act]. The Petitioners fall in the category of Large Sized Companies under the Third Schedule to the Act. Therefore, in view of SRO 840(I)/2017 dated 17.08.2017 issued under section 285(8) of the Act, the instant petition lies before the Company Bench of the High Court.

- 2. The Petitioners are associated companies. The principal line of business of the Petitioners is the manufacturing and sale of readymade garments.
- 3. The Scheme of Amalgamation dated 20.11.2024 proposes to merge/amalgamate Petitioner No.2 with Petitioner No.1 such that:
- (a) the entire undertaking and business of Petitioner No.2, including all assets, rights, liabilities and obligations, shall stand transferred to and vest in Petitioner No.1;

- (b) authorized share capital of Petitioner No.1 shall be increased to Rs. 6,500,000,000/- divided into 65,000,000 ordinary shares of Rs. 100/- each;
- (c) in consideration of the amalgamation, Petitioner No.1 will issue and allot an aggregate of 25,073,545 ordinary shares of Rs. 100/- each to the shareholders of Petitioner No.2 at a swap ratio of approximately 1.38 shares for every 1 share of Petitioner No.2;
- (d) Petitioner No.2 shall stand dissolved without winding-up.
- 4. By order dated 29.11.2024 passed under section 282(1) of the Act, the Court ordered separate meetings of shareholders and secured creditors of the Petitioners to vote on the Scheme of Amalgamation. The Chairman appointed for each meeting has filed his report under Rule 57 of the Companies (Court) Rules, 1997.
- 5. Heard learned counsel and perused the record.
- 6. In view of section 11 of the Competition Act, 2010, read with Regulation 6 of the Competition (Merger Control) Regulations 2016, the Petitioners have obtained pre-merger clearance from the Competition Commission of Pakistan. A copy of such order dated 22.04.2025 is placed on record today.
- 7. *Prima facie* the requirements of section 282(2) of the Act were fulfilled in calling the meeting of shareholders of the Petitioners and secured creditors of the Petitioner No.1 to vote on the Scheme of Amalgamation.
- 8. Reports by Chairmen of the respective meetings, submitted under Rule 57 of the Companies (Court) Rules, 1997, reflect the following:
  - (i) meeting of shareholders of Petitioner No.1 and Petitioner No.2, held separately on 27.12.2024, was attended by shareholders representing 100% of the shares issued, all

- of whom voted to approve the Scheme and passed a special resolution accordingly;
- (ii) meeting of secured creditors of Petitioner No.1, held on 10.02.2025, was attended by 100% of them, all of whom voted in favor of the Scheme. NoCs of those secured creditors are also on record.

Thus, the Scheme of Amalgamation was approved by more than three-fourths majority of the value of shareholders of each Petitioner and secured creditors of Petitioner No.1 present and voting at the meeting, thereby fulfilling the requirement of section 279(2) of the Act. No meeting was called for secured creditors of Petitioner No.2 as it did not have secured creditors.

- 9. To the extent the amalgamation of Petitioners results in increase in the authorized share capital of Petitioner No.1, Article 4.3 of the Scheme provides that the Memorandum & Articles of Association of Petitioner No.1 shall also stand amended accordingly, and that the special resolution passed by it's shareholders to approve the Scheme shall also constitute special resolution to alter the Memorandum & Articles of Association. Such measure finds support in the cases of *Joint Registrar of Companies, SECP v. Omer Iqbal Solvent (Pvt.) Ltd.* (2016 CLD 902) and *Kings Food (Pvt.) Ltd & Hilal Confectionary (Pvt.) Ltd.* (2014 CLD 961) which held that where an increase in authorized share capital of the transferee company was automatic by virtue of an amalgamation under sections 284 and 287 of the erstwhile Companies Ordinance, 1984, separate provisions of the Ordinance for increasing the authorized capital were not attracted.
- 10. As per the auditor's report on the financial statements of the Petitioners for the period ended 30-06-2024, books of accounts of the Petitioners are properly maintained, and the financial statements are in accord with the books of accounts.

- 11. The Scheme of Amalgamation is for viable reasons, *inter alia* that the amalgamation would increase the asset base of the surviving company, reduce administrative costs, consolidate operations capacity, increase risk absorption capacity and rationalize tax reporting. The swap ratio of shares worked out by the Chartered Accountant engaged for the purpose appears to be reasonable. It is settled law that where a Scheme of Amalgamation approved by the requisite majority appears to be fair, just, reasonable and *prima facie* fulfils statutory requirements, then the Court does not sit in appeal over the commercial wisdom of the Scheme.<sup>1</sup>
- 12. The Petitioners affirm that there are no investigation proceedings pending against them under sections 256 to 258 of the Act. The SECP does not dispute that fact. The petition was advertised pursuant to Rule 19 of the Companies (Court) Rules, 1997, however, no one has come forth to oppose sanction of the Scheme. Comments filed by the Securities & Exchange Commission of Pakistan [SECP] also do not bring forth any material objection to withhold sanction.
- 13. Therefore, the Scheme of Amalgamation dated 20.09.2024 filed with the petition as **Annexure 'E'** is hereby sanctioned without modification with the following order:
- (i) That all the property, rights and powers of Junaid Jamshed (Pvt.) Ltd. [JJPL] as per the audited financial statement of JJPL as at June 30, 2024, and all the other property, rights and powers of JJPL, be transferred without further act or deed to U&I Garments (Pvt.) Ltd. [U&I], and accordingly the same shall pursuant to section 282(3) of the Companies Act, 2017 be transferred to and vest in U&I for all the estate and interest of the JJPL therein but subject nevertheless to all charges now affecting the same; and
- (ii) That all the liabilities and duties of JJPL be transferred without further act or deed to U&I, and accordingly the same shall

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Paramount Spinning Mills (2020 CLD 1443); IGI Insurance Ltd. (2018 CLD 572); Gadoon Textile Mills Ltd. (2015 CLD 2010).

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pursuant to section 282(3) of the Act, be transferred to and

become the liabilities and duties of U&I; and

(iii) That all proceedings now pending by or against JJPL be

continued by or against U&I; and

(iv) That U&I do without further application allot to the members

of JJPL the shares in U&I to which they are entitled under the Scheme of Amalgamation, and the shares allotted by JJPL shall

be cancelled as per the Scheme; and

(v) That the authorized capital of U&I stands increased to

Rs. 6,500,000,000/- divided into 65,000,000 ordinary shares of

Rs. 100/- each, and Memorandum & Articles of Association of

U&I stand amended accordingly; and

(vi) That U&I do within 7 days after the date of this order cause a

certified copy of this order to be delivered to the Registrar of Companies for registration, and on such certified copy being so

delivered, JJPL shall stand dissolved. The Registrar of

Companies shall place all documents relating to JJPL and

registered with him on the file kept by him in relation to U&I,

and the files relating to the said two companies shall be

consolidated accordingly; and

(vii) That any person interested shall be at liberty to apply to the

Court in the above matter for any directions that may be

necessary.

Petition allowed in above terms.

JUDGE

Karachi:

Dated: 13-05-2025