Sub: Disclosure of events under Regulation 30 of LODR
– Disruption of operations

The Central and State Governments have been ordering a number of measures to combat COVID-19 attack. Such measures are increasingly becoming stricter with a view to achieve isolation and social distancing for containing the spread of COVID-19.

Having regard to the above, Government of Tamil Nadu has issued G.O.(Ms) No.152 dated 23.03.2020. In this, it has ordered several restrictions being imposed in the whole of territorial jurisdiction of Tamil Nadu from 18.00 hrs of 24.03.2020 to 06.00 hrs of 01.04.2020.

The restrictions seek to curb movement of men and material, discontinuance of inter State and inter District services, closure of shops and establishments besides prohibiting congregation of more than five persons in public places.

Sugar mills that are engaged in the production of essential commodity remain exempt from the purview of above G.O. and they can run the factories subject to restricting the workforce at 50% of the normal strength on rotation basis. Accordingly there is no State ban in operating our sugar mill.
However there has been severe disruption to harvest labour and other logistic supports necessary for effective operation of a sugar factory. Viewing the overall situation, it has been decided that our sugar mill operations shall close and cease to operate from 18.00 hrs of 24th March 2020. Its restart would be considered based on emerging development. We however apprehend considerable stress in our ability to sustain operations at optimum level in the near term. The extent of financial loss or adversity on this score is not readily quantifiable.

Further, our registered office in Chennai will remain closed during the restriction period covered by the above G.O. and as may be extended/ modified from time to time. There may hence be interruption in providing services to shareholders during the temporary period of closure. In case of any urgency, Mr S.Viswanathan-Mobile No.9500031403, email:svs@ponnisugars.com may be approached.

This information is furnished in deference to Regulation 30 of the Listing Regulations.

Kindly take the same into your records.

Thanking you

N Ramanathan
Managing Director