



---

**Freemen Investments Private Limited**

**Fair Practice Code**

---





---

## Table of Contents

1. Rationale .....	3
2. Objective of the code .....	4
3. Our key commitments and declarations.....	5
4. Non-discrimination policy .....	6
5. Loan appraisal and terms / Conditions.....	7
6. Disbursement of loans .....	8
7. Post disbursal monitoring / Supervision .....	9
8. General.....	9
9. Complaint Redressal Mechanism .....	10
10. Policy to determine interest rates, & other charges .....	11

---





---

## 1. Rationale

The Reserve Bank of India, (RBI), vide its notification number DNBS (PD) CC No.80/03.10.042/2005- 06 dated September 28, 2006 and subsequently through various other notifications has prescribed the broad guidelines on fair practices that are to be framed and approved by the Board of Directors of all Non-Banking Financial Companies. All of this has been consolidated in last Master Circular FPC notification number DNBR.(PD).CC.No.054/03.10.119/2015-16 dated July 1, 2015.

The requirement further prescribes that the Fair Practices Code (FPC) so framed and approved by the Board of Directors should be published and disseminated on the web-site of the company, if any, for the information of the public.

---



---

## 2. Objective of the code

Promote good, fair and trustworthy practices by setting minimum standards in dealing with the customers;

Increase transparency to enable the customers to have a better understanding of what they can reasonably expect of the services;

Encourage market forces, through competition, to achieve higher operating standards;

Promote a fair and cordial relationship between the customers and the Company.

The Fair Practices Code is aimed to provide to the customers effective overview of practices, which will be followed by the Company in respect of the financial facilities and services offered by the Company to its customers. The Code will facilitate the customers to take informed decisions in respect of the financial facilities and services to be availed by them and will apply to any loan that the Company may sanction and disburse.

---



---

### **3. Our key commitments and declarations**

#### **A. We shall act efficiently, fairly and diligently in our dealings with all our customers by:**

Meeting the commitments and standards in this Fair Practices Code for the financial products and services, we offer, and the procedures and practices our staff follow;  
Ensuring that all the financial services meet relevant laws and regulations;

Providing professional, courteous and speedy services; Providing accurate and timely disclosure of terms and conditions, costs, rights and liabilities as regards financial transactions.

#### **B. We shall help the customer understand how our financial products and services work by:**

Giving verbal information about the financial schemes in English and local vernacular language as understood by the borrower;

Ensuring that our advertising & promotional literature is clear and is not misleading;

Explaining financial implications of the transactions;

Help the customer to choose the financial scheme.

#### **C. We shall deal quickly and proactively with things that go wrong by:**

Correcting mistakes quickly;

Attending to customer complaints quickly;

Telling our customers how to take their complaint forward if the customers are still not satisfied with our assistance;

Reverse any charges that we apply due to our mistake.



---

#### **4. Non-discrimination policy**

The Company shall offer all financial products, to eligible qualified applicants, without discrimination on the basis of caste, colour, creed, race, religion, sex or handicap.

- a. All communications to the borrowers shall be made in vernacular language or a language as understood by the borrower.
  - b. The Company will offer credit to eligible qualified applicants who express their need to borrow through their loan request letter or loan application forms.
  - c. Loan application forms issued by the Company shall include necessary information which affects the interest of the borrower so that a meaningful comparison with the terms and conditions offered by other NBFCs can be made and an informed decision can be taken by the borrower.
  - d. The Company shall issue an acknowledgement receipt for all loan applications. Subject to receipt of all the requisite documentation and information, loan applications shall be disposed of within 30 days, from the date of receipt of the application form complete in all respects. In any case the Customer will be kept informed by the sales person with regards to the status of his application from time-to-time. The Customer may also contact TCL's customer service team at the prescribed toll-free number or email id to obtain an update on the status of application.
  - e. If any additional details/ documents are required, the same shall be intimated to the borrowers immediately.
-



## 5. Loan appraisal and terms / Conditions

A. The Company shall conduct a due diligence on the credit worthiness of the borrower, which will be an important parameter for taking decision on the application. The assessment would be in line with the Company's credit policies, norms and procedures in respect thereof.

B. The borrower would be informed in writing in the vernacular language as understood by the borrower by means of sanction letter or otherwise, the amount of loan sanctioned. The said letter shall contain the terms and conditions including the annualized rate of interest and the method of application thereof. The Company shall keep on record the acceptance of these terms and conditions by the borrower.

C. The Company shall invariably be bound to furnish a copy of the loan documents containing the terms and conditions of the loan ("Loan Documents"), preferably in the vernacular language as understood by the borrower, along with a copy of all enclosures quoted in the Loan Documents to all the borrowers at the time of sanction/ disbursement of loans. The Company shall ensure that the Loan Documents and all enclosures furnished to all borrowers contain the terms and conditions and the rate of interest. Further, the Company shall mention the penal interest charged for late payment in bold in the Loan Documents. It shall also contain the provisions referred to in clauses (e) and (f) of Para 5 of this Code.

D. The Company shall have a built-in repossession clause wherever applicable in the contract/Loan Documents so as to have legal enforceability.

E. Wherever applicable, the terms and conditions contained in the Loan Documents of the Company shall also contain the following provisions:

- Notice period before taking possession.
  - Circumstances under which the notice period can be waived.
  - Procedure for taking possession of the security.
  - Provision regarding final chance to be given to the borrower for repayment of loan before the sale/auction of the property.
  - Procedure for sale/ auction of the property.
- 

## **6. Disbursement of loans including changes in terms / Conditions**

A. The Company shall frame appropriate internal principles and procedures for determining and ensuring that the interest rates and processing and other charges are not excessive. The Company shall, at the time of disbursement, ensure that the interest rate and processing and other charges on loan and advances are in strict adherence to above referred internal principles and procedures.

B. The disbursement will be done immediately upon compliance of all the terms and conditions of the sanction by the borrower.

C. The Company shall give a notice to the borrower in the vernacular language as understood by the borrower, of any change in the terms and conditions including disbursement schedule, interest rates, service charges, pre-payment charges etc. The Company shall also ensure that changes in interest rates and charges are affected only prospectively. A condition to this effect shall be incorporated in the Loan Documents.

---





---

## **7. Post disbursal monitoring / Supervision**

A. Any decision to recall/accelerate payment or performance under the Loan Documents shall be in consonance with the Loan Documents.

B. All securities offered by the borrower shall be released on repayment of all dues or on realization of the outstanding amount of loan subject to any legitimate right or lien for any other claim the Company may have against the borrower. If such right of set off is to be exercised, the borrower shall be given notice about the same with full particulars about the remaining claims and the conditions under which the Company is entitled to retain the securities till the relevant claim is settled/ paid.

---

## **8. General**

A. The Company shall not interfere in the affairs of the borrower except for the purposes provided in the Loan Documents, unless new information not earlier disclosed by the borrower has come to the notice of the Company.

B. In the matter of recovery of loans, the Company shall not resort to undue harassment like bothering the borrowers at odd hours, use of muscle power for recovery of loans etc. The Company shall ensure that its staff is adequately trained to deal with the customers in an appropriate manner.

C. The Company or its representative will call delinquent customers between 0700 hrs to 2100 hrs unless special circumstances of the borrower's business require to call them otherwise outside the hours mentioned.

D. The Company may arrange for enforcing security charged to it of the delinquent borrower, if required, with an aim only to recover dues and will not be aimed at whimsical deprivation of the property.

E. The Company shall ensure that the entire process of enforcing its security, valuation and realisation thereof be fair and transparent.

F. In case of receipt of a request from the borrower for transfer of the borrower's account to other NBFC or Bank, the consent or otherwise i.e. objection of the Company, if any, shall be conveyed within 21 days from the date of receipt of such request in writing. Such transfer shall be as per transparent contractual terms in consonance with law.

---

## 9. Complaint Redressal Mechanism

A. The toll-free number for recording the grievances of the customers will be intimated the Application Form/Sanction Letter/other document issued to the borrower. In addition, a separate e-mail ID will be created where customer can send their grievances via e-mail.

B. After examining the matter, the Company will endeavor to send the customer its response within four weeks and intimate the customer how to escalate the complaint to higher level, if he is not satisfied with the response. The Company has set up product wise turn-around time ("TAT") for resolution of customer grievances within the above period of four weeks and shall ensure to resolve the complaints within such defined TATs.

C. At all the branches / Head Office of the Company, notice will be put up informing the customers about the escalation mechanism and the Grievance Redressal Officer (including the name and contact details). If the grievance is not redressed within the Turn-Around-Time (TAT) referred above, the customer may appeal to:



**The Officer in Charge,  
Department of Supervision,  
Reserve Bank of India,  
Bakery Junction, Thiruvananthapuram – 695 033**

D. The Company shall request the customer to provide feedback on the services rendered. This can be done through direct contact by staff or through specific customer satisfaction surveys that may be conducted from time to time.

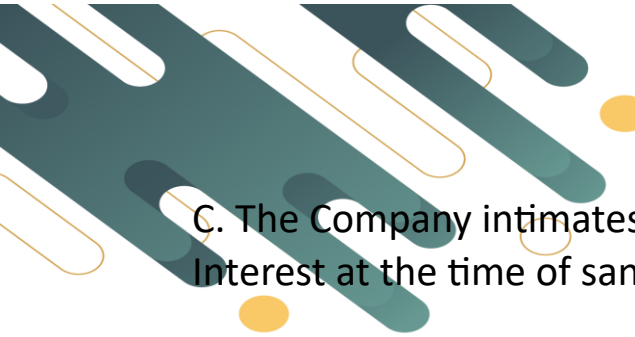
E. A periodical review of the Fair Practices Code and the functioning of the Grievances Redressal Mechanism at various levels of management would be undertaken by the Company and a consolidated report of such reviews shall be submitted to the Board of Directors of the Company at regular intervals.

---

## **10. Policy to determine interest rates, & other charges**

A. To ensure that there the Customers are not charged excessive interest rate and charges on loans and advances by the Company, the Board of the Company has adopted a Policy for Determining Interest Rates, Processing and Other Charges (“Interest Rate Policy”). Further the Board of the Company also undertakes periodical review of the Interest Rate Policy.

B. Freeman Investment Private Limited has been lending at interest rate based on weighted average cost of funds, operating cost, administrative cost, risk premium, and expected return for stakeholder value on a sustainable basis as approved/revised by the Board as and when required. The rate of interest shall be fixed on the basis of the risk gradation of the client and shall be charged on per annum basis. The risk committee will monitor the rates periodically.



C. The Company intimates the Borrower, the loan amount and Rate of Interest at the time of sanction of the loan along with the tenure.

D. The processing fee, if any, shall be determined on the basis of quantum of work involved in credit appraisal, volume of documentation and other expenses involved in the transaction. The rate of interest is subject to change as the situation warrants due to market compulsions and changes in regulatory norms and is subject to the discretion of the management on a case to case basis.

E. The Company shall abide by this Fair Practices Code following the spirit of the Code and in the manner it may be applicable to its business.

---