

Under the 1993 Scheme, the pricing of deposit receipts for listed companies could not have been less than the average of the weekly high and low closing prices of the related shares quoted on the relevant stock exchange during the two weeks preceding the relevant date. However, the DR Scheme provides that underlying securities shall not be issued to a foreign depository for issuance of depository receipts at a price which is less than the price applicable to a corresponding mode of issuance to domestic investors.

In terms of the DR Scheme, the foreign depository is entitled to exercise voting rights, if any, associated with the underlying securities whether pursuant to voting instructions from the holder of depository receipts or otherwise. Furthermore, a holder of depository receipts issued against underlying equity shares shall have the same obligations as if it is the holder of the equity shares if it has the right to issue voting instructions.

E. Taxation

This section describes the material U.S. federal income tax consequences to “U.S. holders” (as defined below) and the Indian stamp duty and income and service tax consequences to “non-residents” (as defined below) of owning Shares or ADSs. It applies to you only if you hold your Shares or ADSs as capital assets for tax purposes. This section does not apply to you if you are a member of a special class of holders subject to special rules, including:

- A dealer in securities;
- A trader in securities that elects to use a mark-to-market method of accounting for securities holdings;
- A tax-exempt organization;
- A life insurance company;
- A person liable for alternative minimum tax;
- A person that actually or constructively owns 10% or more of our voting stock;
- A person that holds Shares or ADSs as part of a straddle or a hedging or conversion transaction;
- A person that purchases or sells Shares or ADSs as part of a wash sale for tax purposes; or
- A U.S. holder whose functional currency is not the U.S. dollar.

With regard to United States tax, the following discussion addresses only the material U.S. federal income tax consequences for persons that are “U.S. holders”. You are a U.S. holder if you are a beneficial owner of Shares or ADSs and you are, for U.S. federal income tax purposes:

- An individual citizen or resident of the United States;
- A corporation, or other entity taxable as a corporation, created or organized in or under the laws of the United States, any state therein or the District of Columbia;
- An estate whose income is subject to U.S. federal income tax regardless of its source; or
- A trust if (i) a U.S. court can exercise primary supervision over the trust’s administration and one or more U.S. persons are authorized to control all substantial decisions of the trust, or (ii) it has a valid election in effect under applicable Treasury Regulations to be treated as a U.S. person.

With regard to Indian tax, the following discussion addresses only the tax consequences for persons that are “non-residents” of India, as defined in the Indian Income Tax Act of 1961, as amended by the Finance Act, 2016, or the Income Tax Act, and is based on the provisions of Section 115AC and other applicable provisions of the Income Tax Act and the Depository Receipts Scheme 2014, or the 2014 Scheme, which has replaced the Issue of Foreign Currency Convertible Bonds and Ordinary Shares (Through Depository Receipt Mechanism) Scheme, 1993 promulgated by the Government of India.

For purposes of the Income Tax Act, a non-resident means a person who is not a “resident” of India. An individual is a resident of India during any fiscal year, if such person: (i) is in India in that year for 182 days or more or (ii) was in India for 365 days or more during the four preceding years and is in India for 60 days or more in that year. A firm or other association of persons is resident in India except where the control and the management of its affairs are situated wholly outside India. A company is said to be resident in India in any fiscal year if it is an Indian company or its “place of effective management”, in that year, is in India. “Place of effective management” means a place where key management and commercial decisions that are necessary for the conduct of the business of an entity as a whole are, in substance, made. The Residential test based on “place of effective management” is applicable from FY 2016-17.

With regard to U.S. federal income tax, the following discussion is based upon the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, its legislative history, administrative pronouncements, judicial decisions and final, temporary and proposed Treasury Regulations, all as of the date hereof, changes to any of which may affect the tax consequences described herein, possibly with retroactive effect.

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If an entity classified as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes holds Shares or ADSs, the U.S. federal income tax treatment of a partner will generally depend on the status of the partner and the tax treatment of the partnership. If you hold Shares or ADSs as a partner in a partnership, you should consult your tax advisor with regard to the U.S. federal income tax treatment of an investment in our Shares or ADSs.

This discussion addresses only U.S. federal income taxation and Indian stamp duty and income and service taxation. In addition, this section is based in part upon the assumption that each obligation in the deposit agreement (as amended) and any related agreement will be performed in accordance with its terms.

This summary is not intended to constitute a complete analysis of the individual tax consequences to non-resident holders for the acquisition, ownership and sale of ADSs and Shares.

Taxation of Dividends

In the descriptions below relating to Indian taxation, references to “you” are to a person resident outside India, subscribing to ADSs or Shares.

Indian Taxation

Dividends paid to you will not be subject to Indian tax. However, we have to pay a “dividend distribution tax”, currently at the effective rate of 20.36% (inclusive of applicable surcharge and cess) on the amount of dividend paid out. Further, in the case of (1) an individual, (2) Hindu undivided family or a firm or (3) a firm who is a resident in India as per the Income Tax Act, income by way of dividends from domestic companies that exceed Rs.1,000,000 in the aggregate, shall be subject to income tax at 10% per annum, per Section 115BBDA of the Income Tax Act. For taxation of such dividend, the aggregate amount in excess of Rs.1,000,000 shall be subject to income tax without any deduction with respect to any expenditure or allowance or set off of loss.

If you are a non-resident of India, the distributions made to you of additional ADSs or Shares made with respect to ADSs or Shares should not be subject to Indian tax.

U.S. Federal Income Taxation

Under the U.S. federal income tax laws, and subject to the passive foreign investment company, or PFIC, rules described below, if you are a U.S. holder, the gross amount of any distribution we pay out of our current or accumulated earnings and profits (as determined for U.S. federal income tax purposes) with respect to Shares or ADSs will be a dividend that is subject to U.S. federal income taxation. If you are a non-corporate U.S. holder, dividends that constitute qualified dividend income will be taxable to you at the preferential rates applicable to long-term capital gains provided that you hold the Shares or ADSs for more than 60 days during the 121-day period beginning 60 days before the ex-dividend date and meet other holding period requirements. Dividends we pay with respect to our Shares or ADSs will generally be qualified dividend income.

The dividend is taxable to you when you, in the case of Shares, or the depository, in the case of ADSs, receive the dividend, actually or constructively. The dividend will not be eligible for the dividends-received deduction generally allowed to United States corporations in respect of dividends received from other United States corporations. The amount of the dividend distribution that you must include in your income as a U.S. holder will be the U.S. dollar value of the Indian rupee payments made, determined at the spot Indian rupee/U.S. dollar rate on the date the dividend distribution is includible in your income, regardless of whether the payment is in fact converted into U.S. dollars. Generally, any gain or loss resulting from currency exchange fluctuations during the period from the date you include the dividend payment in your income to the date you convert the payment into U.S. dollars will be treated as ordinary income or loss and will not be eligible for the special tax rate applicable to qualified dividend income. The gain or loss generally will be income or loss from sources within the United States for foreign tax credit limitation purposes. Distributions in excess of current and accumulated earnings and profits, as determined for U.S. federal income tax purposes, will be treated as a non-taxable return of capital to the extent of your basis in the Shares or ADSs and thereafter as capital gain. However, we do not expect to calculate earnings and profits in accordance with U.S. federal income tax principles. Accordingly, you should expect to generally treat distributions we make as dividends for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

Dividends that we pay with respect to Shares and ADSs will generally be income from sources outside the United States and will, depending on your circumstances, be either “passive” or “general” income for purposes of computing the foreign tax credit limitation allowable to you. You will not be entitled to claim a U.S. foreign tax credit for any Indian dividend distribution taxes paid by us on a distribution to you.

Taxation of Capital Gains and Losses

Indian Taxation

Capital Gains

If you are a non-resident of India, any gain realized by you on the sale of ADSs to another non-resident, as per Section 47 of the Income Tax Act will not be subject to Indian capital gains tax under Section 115AC and other applicable provisions of the Income Tax Act.

Capital gains realized by you on the transfer of Shares (including Shares received in exchange of the ADSs) whether in India or outside India to a non-resident of India or Indian resident, will be liable for income tax under the provisions of the Income Tax Act.

Shares (including Shares issuable on the exchange of the ADSs) held by you for a period of more than 12 months will be treated as long-term capital assets and the capital gains arising on the sale thereof will be treated as long-term capital gains. If the Shares are held by you for a period of 12 months or less, such Shares will be treated as short-term capital assets and the capital gains arising on the sale thereof are treated as short-term capital gains. A non-resident holder's holding period (for purposes of determining the applicable Indian capital gains tax rate) in respect of Shares received in an exchange or redemption for ADSs commences on the date on which the request for such redemption is made.

For the purpose of computing capital gains tax on the sale of the Shares or ADSs, the cost of acquisition of such Shares received in exchange for ADSs will be determined on the basis of the prevailing price of the Shares on the BSE or NSE, as applicable, as on the date on which the request for such redemption is made, while the cost of acquisition of shares directly converted from the ADSs will be determined on the basis of the price prevailing on the BSE or NSE, as applicable, on the date of conversion into equity shares.

Gain realized by you on the sale of listed Shares held for more than 12 months will not be subject to Indian capital gains tax if the Securities Transaction Tax, or STT, has been paid on the transaction. The STT will be levied on and collected by the BSE or NSE, as applicable, on which shares are sold at the rate of 0.025% to 0.1% depending upon the nature of the transaction.

Any gain realized by you on the sale of listed Shares held for more than 12 months on which no STT has been paid will be subject to Indian capital gains tax at the rate of 10% plus applicable surcharge on income tax and education cess at the applicable rates.

Capital gains realized in respect of Shares held by you (calculated in the manner set forth above) for 12 months or less (short-term gain) on which STT is paid in the manner and rates set forth above, is subject to tax at the rate of 15% plus applicable surcharge on income tax and cess at the applicable rate. In the event that you do not pay STT, short-term gain will be subject to tax at variable rates with the maximum rate of 40% plus applicable rate of surcharge on income tax and cess at the applicable rate. The actual rate of tax on short-term gains depends on a number of factors, including your legal status and the type of income chargeable in India.

Tax on capital gains is to be deducted at source by the person paying for the shares in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Income Tax Act.

Capital Losses

Section 115AC does not address capital losses arising on a transfer of Shares. In general terms, losses arising from a transfer of a capital asset in India may only be set off against capital gains and not against any other income. A short-term capital loss may be set off against a capital gain, whether short-term or long-term. However, long-term capital loss may only be set off against long-term capital gain and not against short-term capital gain. To the extent that the losses are not absorbed in the year of transfer, you may carry it forward for a period of eight assessment years immediately succeeding the assessment year for which the loss was first determined and may set off against the capital gains assessable for such subsequent assessment years. In order to set off capital losses in this manner, you would be required to file appropriate and timely tax returns in India. The long-term capital loss arising on a sale of shares in respect of which STT is paid may not be available for set-off against any capital gains.

U.S. Federal Income Taxation

Generally, subject to the PFIC rules discussed below, if you are a U.S. holder and you sell or otherwise dispose of your Shares or ADSs, you will recognize capital gain or loss for U.S. federal income tax purposes equal to the difference between the U.S. dollar value of the amount you realize and your tax basis, determined in U.S. dollars, in your Shares or ADSs. If you are a non-corporate U.S. holder, your capital gain is generally taxed at preferential rates where you have a holding period greater than one year in the applicable Shares or ADSs at the time of the sale or other disposition. If you are a U.S. holder, certain limitations exist on your ability to deduct capital losses for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Your gain or loss from the disposition or other sale of Shares or ADSs will generally be income or loss from sources within the United States for foreign tax credit limitation purposes.

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As discussed under “Taxation of Capital Gains and Losses–Indian Taxation”, above, you may be subject to Indian tax upon a sale or other disposition of Shares or ADSs. The Indian capital gains tax described above should be treated as a creditable tax for U.S. federal income tax purposes. However, any capital gain that you recognize upon a sale of Shares or ADSs will generally be treated as U.S. source gain. Accordingly, you will not be able to claim a credit for the capital gains tax under the U.S. foreign tax credit limitation rules unless you recognize a sufficient amount of foreign source income in the appropriate U.S. foreign tax credit limitation basket in the taxable year in which you recognize the capital gain. In addition, the Securities Transaction Tax, levied and collected by BSE and NSE, as applicable depending on which shares are sold, may not be treated as a creditable tax for U.S. federal income tax purposes. You should consult your tax advisor regarding the application of the U.S. foreign tax credit rules to any Indian taxes that you are subject to in respect of a sale or disposition of the Shares or ADSs.

Passive Foreign Investment Companies

We believe that the Shares and ADSs should not be treated as stock of a PFIC for U.S. federal income tax purposes, but this conclusion is a factual determination that is made annually and thus may be subject to change. If we were to be treated as a PFIC, then gain realized on the sale or other disposition of your Shares or ADSs would in general not be treated as capital gain. Instead, if you are a U.S. holder that has not made a mark-to-market election with respect to your ADSs or Shares, you would be treated as if you had realized such gain and certain “excess distributions” ratably over your holding period for the Shares or ADSs and would be taxed at the highest tax rate in effect for each such year to which the gain was allocated, together with an interest charged in respect of the tax attributable to each such year. With certain exceptions, your Shares or ADSs will be treated as stock in a PFIC if we were a PFIC at any time during your holding period in your Shares or ADSs. Dividends that you receive from us will not be eligible for the special tax rates applicable to qualified dividend income if we are treated as a PFIC with respect to you either in the taxable year of the distribution or the preceding taxable year, but instead will be taxable at rates applicable to ordinary income.

Indian Tax Treaties

The provisions of the tax treaty entered into by India and the country of your residence will be applicable to the extent they are more beneficial to you. There is a Double Tax Avoidance Agreement between the United States and India. The Government of India has introduced a provision related to General Anti Avoidance Rules, or GAAR, under which certain arrangements could be declared to be an impermissible avoidance arrangement. The consequences of such arrangements include denial of a tax benefit or benefit under tax treaty. As per the Income Tax Act, the GAAR provisions are applicable from the Government of India’s fiscal year 2017. The Finance Minister of India in his speech presenting the Finance Bill 2015 has indicated that the investments made through March 31, 2017 will not be subject to GAAR. The Income Tax Rules in this regard have been amended, and accordingly, investments made prior to April 1, 2017 are exempt from these GAAR provisions. Further, it has been clarified by amendment to the rules that GAAR provisions would apply to any arrangement (irrespective of the date on which such arrangement has been entered into) in respect of which tax benefit has been obtained on or after April 1, 2017. Also, the Government of India has introduced a provision by which you would not be entitled to claim any relief under the tax treaty unless a tax residency certificate is obtained by you from the government of the country of which you are resident. Furthermore, you shall be required to provide such other required information as has been publicly stated by the Government of India.

Dividend income will not be subject to tax in India in your hands. If any Shares are held by you following withdrawal thereof from the depository under the deposit agreement, the provisions of a tax treaty, if any, entered into by India and the country of which you are resident will be applicable to determine the taxation of any capital gain arising from a transfer of such Shares.

Under the 1993 Scheme, during the period of fiduciary ownership of Shares in the hands of the depository, the provisions of the tax treaty entered into by India and the country of residence of the depository will be applicable to determine the taxation of any capital gains in respect of ADSs.

Indian Stamp Duty

Under Indian law, any transfer of ADSs will be exempt from liability to Indian stamp duty. Purchasers of Shares who seek to register such Shares on our share register are required to pay Indian stamp duty at the rate of Rs.0.25 for every Rs.100 or part thereof of the market value of such Shares. In order to register a transfer of Shares in physical form with the company, it is necessary to present a stamped deed of transfer. An acquisition of Shares in physical form from the depository in exchange for ADSs representing such Shares will not render an investor liable to Indian stamp duty but we will be required to pay stamp duty at the applicable rate on the share certificate. However, since our Shares are compulsorily deliverable in dematerialized form (except for trades of up to 500 Shares which may be delivered in physical form), no stamp duty is payable on the acquisition or transfer of Shares in dematerialized form.