

RISK FACTORS

This Annual Report contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. Our actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements as a result of certain factors, including those set forth in the following risk factors and elsewhere in this Annual Report.

Risks Related to our Company and our Industry

Our revenues and expenses are difficult to predict because they can fluctuate significantly given the nature of the markets in which we operate. This increases the likelihood that our results could fall below the expectation of market analysts, which could cause the price of our equity shares and ADSs to decline.

Our revenue historically has fluctuated and may fluctuate in the future depending on a number of factors, including:

- the size, complexity, timing and profitability of significant projects or product orders;
- changes in our pricing policies or those of our competitors;
- the proportion of services we perform at our clients' sites rather than at our offshore facilities;
- seasonal changes that affect the mix of services we provide to our clients or the relative proportion of services and product revenue;
- seasonal changes that affect purchasing patterns among our consumers of desktops, notebooks, servers, communication devices, consumer care and other products;
- unanticipated cancellations, contract terminations or deferral of projects, including those resulting from our clients' or those occurring as a result of our clients reorganizing their operations;
- the duration of tax holidays or exemptions and the availability of other Government of India incentives;
- the effect of seasonal hiring patterns and the time we require to train and productively utilize our new employees; and
- currency exchange fluctuations.

Approximately 54% of our total operating expenses in the services component of our Global IT Services and Products business segment, particularly personnel and facilities, are fixed in advance of any particular quarter. As a result, unanticipated variations in the number and timing of our projects or employee utilization rates may cause significant variations in operating results in any particular quarter. We believe that period-to-period comparisons of our results of operations are not necessarily meaningful and should not be relied upon as indications of future performance. Thus, it is possible that in the future some of our quarterly results of operations may be below the expectations of public market analysts and investors, and the market price of our equity shares and ADSs could decline.

Our net income increased 58% in the year ended March 31, 2005, as compared to the year ended March 31, 2004. We continue to face increasing competition, pricing pressures for our products and services and wage pressures for our work force in India primarily due to large U.S. multinational corporations establishing offshore operations in India. We are also investing in developing capabilities in new technology areas and deepening our domain expertise. While we believe that our global delivery model allows us to manage costs efficiently, as the proportion of our services delivered at client sites increases, we may not be able to keep our operating costs as low in the future. In our Business Process Outsourcing, or BPO, business, we are diversifying our service offerings to include process transformation services. High attrition levels and higher proportion of revenues from customer interaction services could adversely impact our operating margins. As a result, there can be no assurance that we will be able to sustain our historic levels of profitability.

If we do not continue to improve our administrative, operational and financial personnel and systems to manage our growth, the value of our shareholders' investment may be harmed.

We have experienced significant growth in all our businesses. We expect our growth to place significant demands on our management and other resources. This will require us to continue to develop and improve our operational, financial and other internal controls, both in India and elsewhere. In particular, our continued growth will increase the challenges involved in:

- recruiting and retaining sufficiently skilled technical, marketing and management personnel;
- adhering to our high quality standards;
- maintaining high levels of client satisfaction;
- developing and improving our internal administrative infrastructure, particularly our financial, operational, communications and other internal systems; and
- preserving our culture, values and entrepreneurial environment.

If we are unable to manage our growth effectively, the quality of our services and products may decline, and our ability to attract clients and skilled personnel may be negatively affected. These factors in turn could negatively affect the growth of our Global IT Services and Products business and harm the value of our shareholders' investment.

Intense competition in the market for IT services could adversely affect our cost advantages, and, as a result, decrease our revenue.

The market for IT services is highly competitive. Our competitors include software companies, IT companies, systems consulting and integration firms, other technology companies and client in-house information services departments. We may also face competition from IT companies operating from China and the Philippines. Many of our competitors command significantly greater financial, technical and marketing resources and generate greater revenue than we do. We cannot be reasonably certain that we will be able to compete successfully against such competitors or that we will not lose our key employees or clients to such competitors. Additionally, we believe that our ability to compete also depends in part on factors outside our control, such as the availability of skilled resources, the price at which our competitors offer comparable services, and the extent of our competitors' responsiveness to their clients' needs.

Appreciation of Indian Rupee against major currencies of the world could negatively impact our revenue and operating results.

Approximately 78% of our revenues are earned in major currencies of the world while a significant portion of our costs is in Indian rupees. The exchange rate between the rupee and major currencies of the world has fluctuated significantly in recent years and may continue to fluctuate in the future. Appreciation of the rupee against the major currencies of the world can adversely affect our revenues and competitive positioning, and can adversely impact our gross margins. We enter into forward exchange contracts to minimize the impact of currency fluctuations on our revenues. However, volatility in exchange rate movement and/or sustained rupee appreciation will negatively impact our revenue and operating results.

Our hedging strategy could negatively impact our competitive positioning.

We have entered into forward contracts to hedge a significant portion of our forecasted foreign currency inflows until March 2006. Although the forward contracts minimize the impact of volatility in foreign exchange rates on our income statement, this could result in our realizations of foreign currency denominated revenues or foreign currency denominated expenses to be at a rate different from prevailing market rates and different from the rates realized or incurred by our competitors. This could adversely affect our competitive positioning in the market.

An economic slowdown, terrorist attacks in the United States, and other acts of violence or war could delay or reduce the number of new purchase orders we receive and disrupt our operations in the United States, thereby negatively affecting our financial results and prospects.

Approximately 68% of our Global IT Services and Products revenue is from the United States. During an economic slowdown our clients may delay or reduce their IT spending significantly, which may in turn lower the demand for our services and affect our financial results. Further, terrorist attacks in the United States could cause clients in the U.S. to delay their decisions on IT spending, which could affect our financial results. Any significant decrease in

the IT industry, or significant consolidation in that industry or decrease in growth or consolidation in other industry segments on which we focus, may reduce the demand for our services and negatively affect our revenues and profitability. Although we continue to believe that we have a strong competitive position in the United States, we have increased our efforts to geographically diversify our clients and revenue.

We may face difficulties in providing end-to-end business solutions for our clients that could cause clients to discontinue their work with us, which in turn could harm our business.

We have been expanding the nature and scope of our engagements and have added new service offerings, such as IT consulting, business process management, systems integration and outsourcing of entire portions of IT infrastructure. The success of these service offerings is dependent, in part, upon continued demand for such services by our existing and new clients and our ability to meet this demand in a cost-competitive and effective manner. In addition, our ability to effectively offer a wider breadth of end-to-end business solutions depends on our ability to attract existing or new clients to these service offerings. To obtain engagements for such end-to-end solutions, we also are more likely to compete with large, well-established international consulting firms, resulting in increased competition and marketing costs. Accordingly, we cannot be certain that our new service offerings will effectively meet client needs or that we will be able to attract existing and new clients to these service offerings.

The increased breadth of our service offerings may result in larger and more complex projects with our clients. This will require us to establish closer relationships with our clients and a thorough understanding of their operations. Our ability to establish such relationships will depend on a number of factors, including the proficiency of our IT professionals and our management personnel. Our failure to understand our client requirements or our failure to deliver services which meet the requirements specified by our clients could result in termination of client contracts, and we could be liable to our clients for significant penalties or damages.

Larger projects may involve multiple engagements or stages, and there is a risk that a client may choose not to retain us for additional stages or may cancel or delay additional planned engagements. These terminations, cancellations or delays may result from the business or financial condition of our clients or the economy generally, as opposed to factors related to the quality of our services. Such cancellations or delays make it difficult to plan for project resource requirements, and inaccuracies in such resource planning may have a negative impact on our profitability.

Our success depends in large part upon our management team and other highly skilled professionals. If we fail to retain and attract these personnel, our business may be unable to grow and our revenue could decline, which may decrease the value of our shareholders' investment.

We are highly dependent on the senior members of our management team, including the continued efforts of our Chairman and Managing Director. Our ability to execute project engagements and to obtain new clients depends in large part on our ability to attract, train, motivate and retain highly skilled professionals, especially project managers, software engineers and other senior technical personnel. If we cannot hire and retain additional qualified personnel, our ability to bid on and obtain new projects and to continue to expand our business will be impaired and our revenue could decline. We believe that there is significant competition for professionals with the skills necessary to perform the services we offer. We may not be able to hire and retain enough skilled and experienced employees to replace those who leave. Additionally, we may not be able to re-deploy and retrain our employees to keep pace with continuing changes in technology, evolving standards and changing client preferences. We are experiencing high employee attrition rates, in line with industry, in our BPO services business. Continued employee attrition rates in this business may adversely affect our revenues and profitability.

We currently have operations, including a development center, in Pune and New Mumbai in the State of Maharashtra, India. Recently, the Maharashtra state government introduced legislation requiring that certain employers in the State give preferential hiring treatment to various under-represented groups resident within the State. The quality of our work force is critical to our business. If the legislation becomes effective, our ability to hire the most highly qualified technology professionals in the State of Maharashtra may be hindered.

Our Global IT Services and Products service revenue depend to a large extent on a small number of clients, and our revenue could decline if we lose a major client.

We currently derive, and believe we will continue to derive, a significant portion of our Global IT Services and Products service revenue from a limited number of corporate clients. The loss of a major client or a significant reduction in the service performed for a major client could result in a reduction of our revenue. Our largest client for the years ended March 31, 2003, March 31, 2004 and March 31, 2005, accounted for 8%, 5% and 4% of our Global IT Services

and Products revenue, respectively. For the same periods, our ten largest clients accounted for 36%, 33% and 27% of our Global IT Services and Products revenue. The volume of work we perform for specific clients may vary from year to year, particularly since we typically are not the only outside service provider for our clients. Thus, a major client in one year may not provide the same level of revenue in a subsequent year.

There are a number of factors, other than our performance, that could cause the loss of a client and that may not be predictable. In certain cases, clients have reduced their spending on IT services due to challenging economic environment and consequently have reduced the volume of business with us. If we were to lose one of our major clients or have significantly lower volume of business with them, our revenue and profitability could be reduced. We continually strive to reduce our dependence on revenue from services rendered to any one client.

Restrictions on immigration may affect our ability to compete for and provide services to clients in the United States, which could hamper our growth and cause our revenue to decline.

If U.S. immigration laws change and make it more difficult for us to obtain H-1B and L-1 visas for our employees, our ability to compete for and provide services to clients in the United States could be impaired. In response to recent terrorist attacks in the United States, the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services has increased the level of scrutiny in granting visas and has decreased the number of its grants. This restriction and any other changes in turn could hamper our growth and cause our revenue to decline. Our employees who work on site at client facilities or at our facilities in the United States on temporary and extended assignments typically must obtain visas.

A majority of our personnel in the United States hold H-1B visas or L-1 visas. An H-1B visa is a temporary work visa, which allows the employee to remain in the United States while he or she remains an employee of the sponsoring firm, and the L-1 visa is an intra-company transfer visa, which only allows the employee to remain in the United States temporarily. Although there is no limit to new L-1 petitions, there is a limit to the aggregate number of new H-1B petitions that the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services may approve in any government fiscal year. The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services has limited the number of H-1B visas that may be granted as of the 2004 fiscal year to 65,000 per year, from 195,000 in each of the three years prior to 2004. Although the U.S. government has approved the grant of approximately 20,000 additional H-1B visas, these visas are only available to skilled workers who possess a Master's or higher degree from educational institutions in the United States.

The L-1 and H-1B Visa Reform Act of 2005 further proposes to preclude foreign companies from obtaining L-1 visas for employees with specialized knowledge: (1) if such employees will be stationed primarily at the worksite of another company in the U.S. and the employee will not be controlled and supervised by his employer, or (2) if the placement is essentially an arrangement to provide labor for hire rather than in connection with the employee's specialized knowledge. In May 2005, the U.S. senate decided to defer legislation on the L-1 visas until later this year.

Immigration laws in the United States may also require us to meet certain levels of compensation, and to comply with other legal requirements, including labor certifications, as a condition to obtaining or maintaining work visas for our technology professionals working in the United States.

Immigration laws in the United States and in other countries are subject to legislative change, as well as to variations in standards of application and enforcement due to political forces and economic conditions. It is difficult to predict the political and economic events that could affect immigration laws, or the restrictive impact they could have on obtaining or monitoring work visas for our technology professionals.

Although we currently have sufficient personnel with valid H-1B visas, we cannot assure you that we will continue to be able to obtain any or a sufficient number of H-1B visas on the same time schedule as we have previously obtained, or at all.

We focus on high-growth industries, such as networking and communications. Any decrease in demand for technology in such industries may significantly decrease the demand for our services, which may impair our growth and cause our revenue to decline.

Approximately 33% of our Global IT Services and Products business is derived from clients in high growth industries who use our IT services for networking and communications equipment. These industries have experienced periods of above normal growth and periods of contraction. Any significant decrease in the growth of these industries will decrease the demand for our services and could reduce our revenue.

Our failure to complete fixed-price, fixed-timeframe contracts on budget and on time may negatively affect our profitability, which could decrease the value of our shareholders' investment.

We offer a portion of our services on a fixed-price, fixed-timeframe basis, rather than on a time-and-materials basis. Although we use specified software engineering processes and our past project experience to reduce the risks associated with estimating, planning and performing fixed-price, fixed-timeframe projects, we bear the risk of cost overruns, completion delays and wage inflation in connection with these projects. If we fail to accurately estimate the resources and time required for a project, future rates of wage inflation and currency exchange rates, or if we fail to complete our contractual obligations within the contracted timeframe, our profitability may suffer.

Disruptions in telecommunications could harm our service model, which could result in a reduction of our revenue.

A significant element of our business strategy is to continue to leverage and expand our software development centers in Bangalore, Chennai, Hyderabad and Pune, India, as well as overseas. We believe that the use of a strategically located network of software development centers will provide us with cost advantages, the ability to attract highly skilled personnel in various regions of the country and the world, the ability to service clients on a regional and global basis and the ability to provide services to our clients 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Part of our service model is to maintain active voice and data communications between our main offices in Bangalore, our clients' offices, and our other software development and support facilities. Although we maintain redundancy facilities and satellite communications links, any significant loss in our ability to transmit voice and data through satellite and telephone communications could result in a disruption in business, thereby hindering our performance or our ability to complete client projects on time. This, in turn, could lead to a reduction of our revenue.

We may be liable to our clients for damages caused by disclosure of confidential information or system failures.

We often have access to or are required to collect and store confidential client and customer data. Many of our client agreements do not limit our potential liability for breaches of confidentiality. If any person, including any of our employees, penetrates our network security or misappropriates sensitive data, we could be subject to significant liability from our clients or from our clients' customers for breaching contractual confidentiality provisions or privacy laws. Unauthorized disclosure of sensitive or confidential client and customer data, whether through breach of our computer systems, systems failure or otherwise, could damage our reputation and cause us to lose clients.

We are investing substantial cash assets in new facilities and physical infrastructure, and our profitability could be reduced if our business does not grow proportionately.

As of March 31, 2005, we had contractual commitments of approximately Rs. 1,181 million (\$ 27 million) related to capital expenditures on construction or expansion of our software development facilities. We may encounter cost overruns or project delays in connection with new facilities. These expansions may increase our fixed costs. If we are unable to grow our business and revenues proportionately, our profitability will be reduced.

Our international operations subject us to risks inherent in doing business on an international level that could harm our operating results.

Currently, we have software development facilities in seven countries around the world. The majority of our software development facilities are located in India. We intend to establish new development facilities in Southeast Asia and Europe. We have not yet made substantial contractual commitments to establish any new facilities and we cannot assure you that we will not significantly alter or reduce our proposed expansion plans. Because of our limited experience with facilities outside of India, we are subject to additional risks related to our international expansion strategy, including risks related to complying with a wide variety of national and local laws, restrictions on the import and export of certain technologies and multiple and possibly overlapping tax structures. In addition, we may face competition in other countries from companies that may have more experience with operations in such countries or with international operations generally. We may also face difficulties integrating new facilities in different countries into our existing operations, as well as integrating employees that we hire in different countries into our existing corporate culture. Our international expansion plans may not be successful and we may not be able to compete effectively in other countries.

Our business will suffer if we fail to anticipate and develop new services and enhance existing services in order to keep pace with rapid changes in technology and the industries on which we focus.

The IT services market is characterized by rapid technological change, evolving industry standards, changing client preferences and new product and service introductions. Our future success will depend on our ability to anticipate these advances and develop new product and service offerings to meet client needs. We may not be successful in anticipating or responding to these advances in a timely basis, or, if we do respond, the services or technologies we develop may not be successful in the marketplace. Further, products, services or technologies that are developed by our competitors may render our services non-competitive or obsolete.

Most of our client contracts can typically be terminated without cause and with little or no notice or penalty, which could negatively impact our revenue and profitability.

Our clients typically retain us on a non-exclusive, project-by-project basis. Most of our client contracts, including those that are on a fixed-price, fixed-timeframe basis, can be terminated with or without cause, with between zero and ninety days' notice and without termination-related penalties. Additionally, most of our contracts with clients are typically limited to discrete projects without any commitment to a specific volume of business or future work. Our business is dependent on the decisions and actions of our clients, and there are a number of factors relating to our clients that are outside our control that might result in the termination of a project or the loss of a client, including:

- financial difficulties for a client;
- a change in strategic priorities, resulting in a reduced level of IT spending;
- a demand for price reductions; and
- a change in outsourcing strategy by moving more work to client in-house IT departments or to our competitors.

We may engage in future acquisitions, investments, strategic partnerships or other ventures that may harm our performance, dilute our shareholders' ownership and cause us to incur debt or assume contingent liabilities.

We have acquired and in the future may acquire or make investments in complementary businesses, technologies, services or products, or enter into strategic partnerships with parties who can provide access to those assets. We may not identify suitable acquisition, investment or strategic partnership candidates, or if we do identify suitable candidates, we may not complete those transactions on terms commercially acceptable to us or at all. We could have difficulty in assimilating the personnel, operations, technology and software of the acquired company. In addition, the key personnel of the acquired company may decide not to work for us. If we make other types of acquisitions, we could have difficulty in integrating the acquired products, services or technologies into our operations. These difficulties could disrupt our ongoing business, distract our management and employees and increase our expenses.

Our revenues could be significantly affected if the governments, in geographies we operate in, restrict companies from outsourcing work to foreign corporations

In the United States, despite economic recovery, the unemployment levels have not declined significantly from the pre- economic recovery levels. There has been concern among the legislators about the impact of outsourcing on unemployment levels in the United States. Legislation has been proposed to prohibit federal and state governments from outsourcing IT and IT enabled services to foreign corporations. Legislators have also proposed to introduce economic deterrents for U.S. companies outsourcing work to foreign corporations.

Independent research agencies have conducted research and concluded that outsourcing benefits the U.S. economy. Several U.S. companies have also supported outsourcing as a competitive advantage. However, if the proposed laws come into effect it would adversely affect our revenues and profitability.

Our BPO services revenue depend to a large extent on a small number of clients, and our revenue could decline if a major client reduces the volume of services obtained from us.

We currently derive, and believe we will continue to derive, a significant portion of our BPO services revenue from a limited number of corporate clients. The reduction in volume of work done to a major client could result in a

reduction of our revenue. Since we recruit and train employees in anticipation of continued growth in volume, reduction in the volume of work from these major clients would adversely impact our gross margins.

There are a number of factors that could cause the loss of a client and such factors are not predictable. We could fail to achieve performance standards due to a lack of clarity between us and the client on the performance standards or due to deficiencies in processes. In certain cases, a client could reduce their spending on such services due to a challenging economic environment and consequently reduce the volume and profitability of business with us. In other cases, a client could reduce its spending on such services with us and form internal competing operations in the U.S., India or other price competitive geographies.

We may be liable to our clients for damages caused by system failures, which could damage our reputation and cause us to lose customers.

Many of our contracts involve projects that are critical to the operations of our clients' businesses and provide benefits that may be difficult to quantify. Any failure in a client's system could result in a claim for substantial damages against us, regardless of our responsibility for such failure. Although we attempt to limit our contractual liability for consequential damages in rendering our services, we cannot be assured that the limitations on liability we provide for in our service contracts will be enforceable in all cases, or that they will otherwise protect us from liability for damages. A successful assertion of one or more large claims against us that exceeds our available insurance coverage or changes in our insurance policies, including premium increases or the imposition of a large deductible or co-insurance requirement, could adversely affect our operating results.

Our earnings will be adversely affected upon adoption of an accounting policy to expense stock options based on fair value method.

We do not currently deduct the expense of employee stock option grants from our income based on the fair value method. We have adopted the pro forma disclosure provisions of SFAS No. 123, Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation. In December 2004, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued FASB Statement No. 123 (revised 2004), Share-Based Payment, requiring companies to change their accounting policies to record the fair value of stock options issued to employees as an expense. We are required to adopt SFAS No. 123R as of April 1, 2006. The change in our accounting policy with respect to the treatment of employee stock option grants will adversely affect our earnings and operating results in the event that we make any future grants, and we are evaluating the magnitude of that impact. If we had amortized the stock based employee compensation expense determined under the fair value method of SFAS No. 123, our net income as reported for the years ended March 31, 2003, 2004 and 2005 would have been reduced by Rs. 2,988 million, Rs. 2,080 million and Rs. 1,244 million respectively.

Compliance with new and changing corporate governance and public disclosure requirements adds uncertainty to our compliance policies and increases our costs of compliance.

Changing laws, regulations and standards relating to accounting, corporate governance and public disclosure, including the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, new SEC regulations, NYSE rules, Securities and Exchange Board of India rules and Indian stock market listing regulations, are creating uncertainty for companies like ours. These new or changed laws, regulations and standards may lack specificity and are subject to varying interpretations. Their application in practice may evolve over time as new guidance is provided by regulatory and governing bodies. This could result in continuing uncertainty regarding compliance matters and higher costs of compliance as a result of ongoing revisions to such governance standards.

We are committed to maintaining high standards of corporate governance and public disclosure, and our efforts to comply with evolving laws, regulations and standards in this regard have resulted in, and are likely to continue to result in, increased general and administrative expenses and a diversion of management time and attention from revenue-generating activities to compliance activities. In addition, the new laws, regulations and standards regarding corporate governance may make it more difficult for us to obtain director and officer liability insurance. Further, our board members, chief executive officer and chief financial officer could face an increased risk of personal liability in connection with their performance of duties. As a result, we may face difficulties attracting and retaining qualified board members and executive officers, which could harm our business. If we fail to comply with new or changed laws or regulations and standards differ, our business and reputation may be harmed.

Risks Related to Investments in Indian Companies.

We are incorporated in India, and substantially all of our assets and our employees are located in India. Consequently, our financial performance and the market price of our ADSs will be affected by political, social and

economic developments affecting India, Government of India policies, including taxation and foreign investment policies, government currency exchange control, as well as changes in exchange rates and interest rates.

Wages in India have historically been lower than wages in the United States and Europe, which has been one of our competitive advantages. Wage increases in India may prevent us from sustaining this competitive advantage and may reduce our profit margins.

Our wage costs in India have historically been significantly lower than wage costs in the United States and Europe for comparably skilled professionals, and this has been one of our competitive advantages. However, wage increases in India may prevent us from sustaining this competitive advantage and may negatively affect our profit margins. We may need to increase the levels of our employee compensation more rapidly than in the past to retain talent. Unless we are able to continue to increase the efficiency and productivity of our employees or source talent from other low cost locations, like Eastern Europe, China or South-East Asia, wage increases in the long term may reduce our profit margins.

Our costs could increase if the Government of India reduces or withholds tax benefits and other incentives it provides to us.

Currently, we benefit from certain tax incentives under Indian tax laws. As a result of these incentives, our operations have not been subject to significant Indian tax liabilities. These tax incentives currently include a 10-year tax holiday from payment of Indian corporate income taxes for our Global IT Services and Products business operated from specially designated "Software Technology Parks" in India and an income tax deduction of 100% for profits derived from exporting information technology services. As a result, a substantial portion of our pre-tax income has not been subject to significant tax in recent years. For the years ended March 31, 2003, 2004 and 2005 our tax benefits were Rs. 2,263 million, Rs. 2,925 million and Rs. 4,591 million respectively, from such tax incentives. We are currently also eligible for exemptions from other taxes, including customs duties. The Finance Act, 2000 phases out the tax holiday over a ten year period from the financial year 1999-2000 to financial year 2008-2009. Our current tax holidays expire in stages by 2009. For companies opting for the 100% tax deduction for profits derived from exporting information technology services, the Finance Act, 2000 phases out the income tax deduction over a period of five years from April 1, 2000. When our tax holiday and income tax deduction exemptions expire or terminate, our costs will increase. Additionally, the Government of India could enact similar laws in the future, which could further impair our other tax incentives.

On or about March 25, 2004, we received an assessment order from the Deputy Commissioner of Income Tax, Bangalore, India (Assessing Officer) in connection with our regular assessment of our income tax return for the year ended March 31, 2001. The assessment order disallows an income deduction we made under Section 10A of the Income Tax Act, 1961 of India pertaining to some of our software development units located in Bangalore. Section 10A of the Income Tax Act, 1961 provides a ten-year tax holiday for setting up software development units in Software Technology Parks of India ("STPI"). The assessing officer's claim is based, among other things, upon the premise that in order for such software development units to qualify for the special tax treatment and corresponding tax deduction, we should have obtained a license for each such new unit located in the STPI. We have instead formed such new units with STPI approval under our original STPI licenses obtained in 1992. The assessment order claims that the disallowance, along with other disallowances, requires us to make a payment of Rs. 2,614 million.

On similar grounds, in March 2005, we received a demand from the tax authorities for Rs. 2,617 million, or approximately \$ 60 million, including interest, in connection with the completion of the tax review for our fiscal year ended March 31, 2002.

Based on our assessment of the merits of the claims, we have made a provision in the amount of Rs. 493 million or approximately \$ 11.3 million, on our balance sheet. In the opinion of management, the remainder of the amounts referred to in the assessment orders are without merit. We filed an appeal within the statutory prescribed time limit before the first appellate authority of the relevant tax department, known as the Commissioner (Appeals), challenging the two assessment orders.

Although we currently believe we will ultimately prevail in our appeal, the results of such appeal, and any subsequent appeals, cannot be predicted with certainty. Should we fail to prevail in our appeal, or any subsequent appeals, in any reporting period, the operating results of such reporting period could be materially adversely affected.

After considering the provision made in the books based on our assessment, as of March 31, 2004 and March 31, 2005, our net exposure on these tax demands was Rs. 2,316 million and Rs. 4,738 million, or approximately \$ 109 million, respectively.

The Indian Finance Act, 2005 imposes an additional income tax on companies called a “Fringe Benefits Tax”, or FBT. Pursuant to this Act, companies are deemed to have provided fringe benefits to their employees if certain defined expenses are incurred. A portion of these expenses is deemed to be a fringe benefit to the employees and subjects a company to tax at a rate of 30%, exclusive of applicable surcharge and cess. The Fringe Benefits Tax and other similar taxes enacted in the future by the government of India could adversely affect our profitability.

Regional conflicts in South Asia could adversely affect the Indian economy, disrupt our operations and cause our business to suffer.

South Asia has from time to time experienced instances of civil unrest and hostilities among neighboring countries, including between India and Pakistan. In recent years there have been military confrontations between India and Pakistan that have occurred in the region of Kashmir and along the India-Pakistan border. The potential for hostilities between the two countries is high due to terrorist incidents in India and the aggravated geopolitical situation in the region. Both countries have initiated active measures to reduce hostilities. Military activity or terrorist attacks in the future could influence the Indian economy by disrupting communications and making travel more difficult and such political tensions could create a greater perception that investments in Indian companies involve higher degrees of risk. This, in turn, could have a material adverse effect on the market for securities of Indian companies, including our equity shares and our ADSs, and on the market for our services.

Political instability in the Indian government could delay the liberalization of the Indian economy and adversely affect economic conditions in India generally, which could impact our financial results and prospects.

Since 1991, successive Indian governments have pursued policies of economic liberalization, including significantly relaxing restrictions on the private sector. Nevertheless, the role of the Indian central and state governments in the Indian economy as producers, consumers and regulators has remained significant. The last general elections were held in May 2004. The ruling coalition government, which has over last several years pushed significant economic reforms, was voted out of power and a new coalition government has come to the helm. The new government has announced policies and taken initiatives that support the continued economic liberalization policies that have been pursued by previous government. Although we believe that the process of economic liberalization will continue, the rate of economic liberalization could change, and specific laws and policies affecting technology companies, foreign investment, currency exchange and other matters affecting investment in our securities could change as well. A significant change in India’s economic liberalization and deregulation policies could adversely affect business and economic conditions in India generally and our business in particular.

The new government is a coalition of several parties and withdrawal of one or more of these parties could result in political instability. Such instability could delay the reform of the Indian economy and could have a material adverse effect on the market for securities of Indian companies, including our equity shares and our ADSs, and on the market for our services.

Indian law limits our ability to raise capital outside India and may limit the ability of others to acquire us, which could prevent us from operating our business or entering into a transaction that is in the best interests of our shareholders.

Indian law constrains our ability to raise capital outside India through the issuance of equity or convertible debt securities. Generally, any foreign investment in, or an acquisition of, an Indian company requires approval from relevant government authorities in India, including the Reserve Bank of India. However, subject to certain exceptions, the Government of India currently does not require prior approvals for IT companies like us. If we are required to seek the approval of the Government of India and the Government of India does not approve the investment or implements a limit on the foreign equity ownership of IT companies, our ability to seek and obtain additional equity investment by foreign investors will be limited. In addition, these restrictions, if applied to us, may prevent us from entering into a transaction, such as an acquisition by a non-Indian company, which would otherwise be beneficial for our company and the holders of our equity shares and ADSs.

Our ability to acquire companies organized outside India depends on the approval of the Government of India. Our failure to obtain approval from the Government of India for acquisition of companies organized outside India may restrict our international growth, which could negatively affect our revenue.

The Ministry of Finance of the Government of India and/or the Reserve Bank of India must approve our acquisition of any company organized outside of India. The Government of India has recently issued a policy statement permitting the acquisition of companies organized outside India for a transaction value not exceeding 200% of the net worth of the acquiring company and:

- if the transaction consideration is paid in cash, up to 100% of the proceeds from an ADS offering; and
- if the transaction consideration is paid in stock (i.e., by issue of ADRs/GDRs), the greater of \$ 100 million or ten times the acquiring company's previous fiscal year's export earnings.

We cannot assure you that any required approval from the Reserve Bank of India and or the Ministry of Finance or any other government agency can be obtained. Our failure to obtain approval from the Government of India for acquisitions of companies organized outside India may restrict our international growth, which could negatively affect our revenue.

It may be difficult for you to enforce any judgment obtained in the United States against us, the selling shareholders or our affiliates.

We are incorporated under the laws of India and many of our directors and executive officers, reside outside the United States. Virtually all of our assets and the assets of many of these persons are located outside the United States. As a result, you may be unable to effect service of process upon us outside India or upon such persons outside their jurisdiction of residence. In addition, you may be unable to enforce against us in courts outside of India, or against these persons outside the jurisdiction of their residence, judgments obtained in courts of the United States, including judgments predicated solely upon the federal securities laws of the United States.

We have been advised by our Indian counsel that the United States and India do not currently have a treaty providing for reciprocal recognition and enforcement of judgments (other than arbitration awards) in civil and commercial matters. Therefore, a final judgment for the payment of money rendered by any federal or state court in the United States on civil liability, whether or not predicated solely upon the federal securities laws of the United States, would not be enforceable in India. However, the party in whose favor such final judgment is rendered may bring a new suit in a competent court in India based on a final judgment that has been obtained in the United States. The suit must be brought in India within three years from the date of the judgment in the same manner as any other suit filed to enforce a civil liability in India. It is unlikely that a court in India would award damages on the same basis as a foreign court if an action is brought in India. Furthermore, it is unlikely that an Indian court would enforce foreign judgments if it viewed the amount of damages awarded as excessive or inconsistent with Indian practice. A party seeking to enforce a foreign judgment in India is required to obtain approval from the Reserve Bank of India under the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999, to execute such a judgment or to repatriate any amount recovered.

The laws of India do not protect intellectual property rights to the same extent as those of the United States, and we may be unsuccessful in protecting our intellectual property rights. Unauthorized use of our intellectual property may result in development of technology, products or services which compete with our products. We may also be subject to third-party claims of intellectual property infringement.

Our intellectual property rights are important to our business. We rely on a combination of copyright and trademark laws, trade secrets, confidentiality procedures and contractual provisions to protect our intellectual property. However, the laws of India do not protect proprietary rights to the same extent as laws in the United States. Therefore, our efforts to protect our intellectual property may not be adequate. Our competitors may independently develop similar technology or duplicate our products or services. Unauthorized parties may infringe upon or misappropriate our products, services or proprietary information.

The misappropriation or duplication of our intellectual property could disrupt our ongoing business, distract our management and employees, reduce our revenue and increase our expenses. We may need to litigate to enforce our intellectual property rights or to determine the validity and scope of the proprietary rights of others. Any such litigation could be time-consuming and costly. As the number of patents, copyrights and other intellectual property rights in our industry increases, and as the coverage of these rights increases, we believe that companies in our industry will face more frequent infringement claims. Defending against these claims, even if not meritorious, could be expensive and divert our attention and resources from operating our company.

Although we believe that our intellectual property rights do not infringe on the intellectual property rights of any other party, infringement claims may be asserted against us in the future. If we become liable to third parties for

infringing their intellectual property rights, we could be required to pay a substantial damage award and be forced to develop non-infringing technology, obtain a license or cease selling the applications or products that contain the infringing technology. We may be unable to develop non-infringing technology or to obtain a license on commercially reasonable terms, or at all.

Risks Related to the ADSs

Sales of our equity shares may adversely affect the prices of our equity shares and the ADSs.

Sales of substantial amounts of our equity shares, including sales by insiders, in the public market, or the perception that such sales may occur, could adversely affect the prevailing market price of our equity shares or the ADSs or our ability to raise capital through an offering of our securities. In the future, we may also sponsor the sale of shares currently held by some of our shareholders, or issue new shares. We can make no prediction as to the timing of any such sales or the effect, if any, that future sales of our equity shares, or the availability of our equity shares for future sale, will have on the market price of our equity shares or ADSs prevailing from time to time.

An active or liquid trading market for our ADSs is not assured.

An active, liquid trading market for our ADSs may not be maintained in the long term. Loss of liquidity could increase the price volatility of our ADSs.

Indian law imposes foreign investment restrictions that limit a holder's ability to convert equity shares into ADSs, which may cause our ADSs to trade at a premium or discount to the market price of our equity shares.

Under certain circumstances, the Reserve Bank of India must approve the sale of equity shares underlying ADSs by a non-resident of India to a resident of India. The Reserve Bank of India has given general permission to effect sales of existing shares or convertible debentures of an Indian company by a resident to a non-resident, subject to certain conditions, including the price at which the shares may be sold. Additionally, except under certain limited circumstances, if an investor seeks to convert the rupee proceeds from a sale of equity shares in India into foreign currency and then repatriate that foreign currency from India, he or she will have to obtain an additional Reserve Bank of India approval for each transaction. Required approval from the Reserve Bank of India or any other government agency may not be obtained on terms favorable to a non-resident investor or at all.

Investors who exchange ADSs for the underlying equity shares and are not holders of record will be required to declare to us details of the holder of record, and the holder of record will be required to disclose the details of the beneficial owner. Any investor who fails to comply with this requirement may be liable for a fine of up to Rs. 1,000 for each day such failure continues. Such restrictions on foreign ownership of the underlying equity shares may cause our ADSs to trade at a premium or discount to the equity shares.

An investor in our ADSs may not be able to exercise preemptive rights for additional shares and may thereby suffer dilution of his or her equity interest in us.

Under the Indian Companies Act, a company incorporated in India must offer its holders of equity shares preemptive rights to subscribe and pay for a proportionate number of shares to maintain their existing ownership percentages prior to the issuance of any new equity shares, unless such preemptive rights have been waived by three-fourths of the shares voting on the resolution to waive such rights. Holders of ADSs may be unable to exercise preemptive rights for equity shares underlying ADSs unless a registration statement under the Securities Act is effective with respect to such rights or an exemption from the registration requirements of the Securities Act is available. We are not obligated to prepare and file such a registration statement and our decision to do so will depend on the costs and potential liabilities associated with any such registration statement, as well as the perceived benefits of enabling the holders of ADSs to exercise their preemptive rights, and any other factors we consider appropriate at the time. No assurance can be given that we would file a registration statement under these circumstances. If we issue any such securities in the future, such securities may be issued to the Depositary, which may sell such securities for the benefit of the holders of the ADSs. There can be no assurance as to the value, if any, the Depositary would receive upon the sale of such securities. To the extent that holders of ADSs are unable to exercise preemptive rights granted in respect of the equity shares represented by their ADSs, their proportional interests in us would be reduced.

ADS holders may be restricted in their ability to exercise voting rights.

At our request, the Depositary will mail to you any notice of shareholders' meeting received from us together with information explaining how to instruct the Depositary to exercise the voting rights of the securities represented by ADSs. If the Depositary receives voting instructions from you in time, relating to matters that have been forwarded to you, it will endeavor to vote the securities represented by your ADSs in accordance with such voting instructions. However, the ability of the Depositary to carry out voting instructions may be limited by practical and legal limitations and the terms of the securities on deposit. We cannot assure that you will receive voting materials in time to enable you to return voting instructions to the Depositary in a timely manner. Securities for which no voting instructions have been received will not be voted. There may be other communications, notices or offerings that we only make to holders of our equity shares, which will not be forwarded to holders of ADSs. Accordingly, you may not be able to participate in all offerings, transactions or votes that are made available to holders of our equity shares.

Item 4. Information on the Company

History and Development of the Company

Wipro Limited was incorporated in 1945 as Western India Vegetable Products Limited under the Indian Companies Act, VII of 1913, which is now superseded by the Companies Act, 1956. We are deemed to be registered under the Companies Act, 1956, or the Companies Act. We are registered with the Registrar of Companies, Karnataka, Bangalore, India as Company No. 20800. Our registered office is located at Doddakannelli, Sarjapur Road, Bangalore 560 035, and the telephone number of our registered office is +91-80-2844-0011. The name and address of our registered agent in the United States is CT Corporation, located at 1350 Treat Blvd., Suite 100, Walnut Creek, California 94596.

Wipro Limited was initially engaged in the manufacture of hydrogenated vegetable oil. Over the years, we have diversified into the areas of Information Technology, or IT, services, IT products and Consumer Care and Lighting Products. We are headquartered in Bangalore, India and have operations in North America, Europe and Asia. For the fiscal year ended March 31, 2005, 94% of our operating income was generated from our IT business segments. For the same period, Global IT Services and Products represented 89% of our operating income, India and AsiaPac IT Services and Products represented 5% of our operating income.

In October 2000, we raised gross aggregate proceeds of approximately \$ 131 million in our initial U.S. public offering of our ADSs on the New York Stock Exchange. We used a portion of these proceeds to consummate the acquisition of Wipro BPO, Global Energy Practice and Wipro Nervewire.

We incurred capital expenditure of Rs. 2,529 million, Rs. 4,135 million and Rs. 6,613 million during the fiscal years ended March 31, 2003, 2004 and 2005, respectively. These capital expenditures were primarily incurred on new software development facilities in India for our Global IT Services and Products business segment. As of March 31, 2005, we had contractual commitments of Rs. 1,181 million (\$ 27 million) related to capital expenditures on construction or expansion of software development facilities. We currently intend to finance our planned construction and expansion entirely from internal sources of capital.

Business Overview

We are a leading global IT services company. We were ranked as market leader in the October 2004 META Group's METASpectrumSM report for offshore outsourcing. We have been ranked in the "Leader" segment of the METASpectrum analysis specifically due to our breadth and depth of services, strength in significant quality practices, awareness and reputation in the market, and high execution capabilities.

We provide a comprehensive range of IT services, software solutions, IT consulting, business process outsourcing, or BPO, services and research and development services in the areas of hardware and software design to leading companies worldwide. We combine the business knowledge and industry expertise of our domain specialists and the technical knowledge and implementation skills of our delivery team in our development centers located in India and around the world, to develop and integrate solutions which enable our clients to leverage IT for achieving their business objectives. We use our quality processes and global talent pool for delivering time to development advantage, cost savings and productivity improvements.

In India, we are a leader in providing IT solutions and services. We also have a profitable presence in the Indian markets for consumer products and lighting.