2.3 Critical accounting estimates, assumptions and judgements

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an on-going basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised and future periods affected. The Company based its assumptions and estimates on parameters available when the financial statements were prepared. Existing circumstances and assumptions about future developments, however, may change due to market changes or circumstances arising that are beyond the control of the Company. Such changes are reflected in the assumptions when they occur.

Significant judgements and estimates relating to the carrying values of assets and liabilities include, determination of estimated projected cost and revenue in long-term contracts, determination of term of lease contracts, fair value measurement, impairment of goodwill, provision for employee benefits and other provisions, recoverability of deferred tax assets and commitments and contingencies.

2.3.1 Estimates and assumptions

a. Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment represent a significant proportion of the asset base of the Company. The charge in respect of periodic depreciation is derived after determining an estimate of an asset's expected useful life and the expected residual value at the end of its life. The useful lives and residual values of Company's assets are determined by management at the time the asset is acquired and reviewed periodically, including at each financial year end. The lives are based on historical experience with similar assets as well as anticipation of future events, which may impact their life, such as changes in technology.

b. Provision for employee benefits

The cost of the defined benefit gratuity plan and the present value of the gratuity obligation are determined using actuarial valuations. An actuarial valuation involves making various assumptions that may differ from actual developments in the future. These include the determination of the discount rate, future salary increases and mortality rates. Due to the complexities involved in the valuation and its long-term nature, a defined benefit obligation is highly sensitive to changes in these assumptions. All assumptions are reviewed at each reporting date. The parameter most subject to change is the discount rate. In determining the appropriate discount rate for plans operated in India, the management considers the interest rates of government bonds in currencies consistent with the currencies of the post-employment benefit obligation. The mortality rate is based on publicly available mortality tables. Those mortality tables tend to change only at interval in response to demographic changes. Future salary increases and gratuity increases are based on expected future inflation rate and past trends. Further details about gratuity obligations are given in Note 31.

c. Provision for litigations and contingencies

The provision for litigations and contingencies are determined based on evaluation made by the management of the present obligation arising from past events the settlement of which is expected to result in outflow of resources embodying economic benefits, which involves judgements around estimating the ultimate outcome of such past events and measurement of the obligation amount. Due to the judgements involved in such estimations, the provisions are sensitive to the actual outcome in future periods.

d. Project revenue and costs

The Company uses the percentage-of-completion method in accounting for its fixed-price contracts. Use of the percentage-of-completion method requires the Company to estimate the efforts or costs expended to date as a proportion of the total efforts or costs to be expended. Efforts or costs expended have been used to measure progress towards completion as there is a direct relationship between input and productivity. Provisions for estimated losses, if any, on uncompleted contracts are recorded in the period in which such losses become probable based on the expected contract estimates at the reporting date.

Further, the percentage-of-completion method places considerable importance on accurate estimates to the extent of progress towards completion and may involve estimates on the scope of deliveries and services required for fulfilling the contractually defined obligations. These significant estimates include total contract costs, total contract revenues, contract risks, including technical, political and regulatory risks, and other judgments. This requires the Company to estimate various costs to capture such risks,