

## **DIVIDEND DISTRIBUTION POLICY**

### **Preamble**

Dividend is the payment made by a Company to its shareholders, usually in the form of distribution of its profits. The profits earned by the Company can either be retained in business and used for acquisitions, expansion or diversification, or it can be distributed to the shareholders. The Company may choose to retain a part of its profits and distribute the balance among its shareholders as dividend. This Policy aims to reconcile between all these needs.

The objective of this policy is to ensure a regular dividend income for the shareholders and long term capital appreciation for all shareholders of the Company. The Company would ensure to strike the right balance between the quantum of dividend paid and amount of profits retained in the business for various purposes. The Board of Directors (Board) will refer to the policy while declaring/ recommending dividends. Through this policy, the Company would endeavour fairness, consistency and sustainability while distributing profits to the shareholders.

This policy also stipulates the process for recommendation/ declaration of dividend and its pay-out by the Company in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act,2013 (the Companies Act) and other rules, regulations etc. as applicable to the Company.

### **Class of Shares**

The Company has issued only Equity Shares and no Preference shares issued by the Company are outstanding.

### **Category of Dividends**

The Companies Act provides for two forms of Dividend- Final and Interim. The Board shall have the absolute power to declare interim dividend during the financial year, as and when they consider it fit. Normally, the Board will endeavour to declare an interim dividend after finalization of quarterly financial accounts. The Board may declare interim dividend based on profits of the Company, one or more times in a financial year as and when considered appropriate, in line with this policy.

After the annual accounts are prepared, the Board may recommend final dividend to the shareholders for their approval in the General Meeting of the Company. In the event the Board declares more than one interim dividend in a financial year, the Board may recommend to the shareholder to treat the last interim dividend as a final Dividend.

### **Recommendation / Declaration of Dividend**

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Act, the Board shall recommend/declare/ pay the Dividend only out of-

- i) Current financial year's profit:
  - a) after providing for depreciation in accordance with law;
  - b) after transferring to reserves such amount as may be prescribed under the Companies Act or applicable law, regulations, norms or as may be otherwise considered appropriate by the Board at its discretion.
- ii) The profits for any previous financial year(s):
  - a) after providing for depreciation in accordance with law;
  - b) remaining undistributed; or
- iii) out of i) & ii) both.
- iv) out of free reserves in the manner permissible under the Companies Act.

### **Factors to be considered while declaring Dividend**

The decision regarding dividend is a crucial decision as it determines the amount of profit to be distributed among shareholders and amount of profit to be retained in business. The Board will endeavour to take a decision with an objective to enhance shareholders wealth and market value of the shares. However, the decision regarding dividend is subject to several factors and hence any optimal policy in this regard may be far from obvious. The Board considers a stable dividend to constitute an important element of the Company's investment attractiveness and shareholder return. As a leading Asset Financing Company operating in rapidly developing, yet volatile, markets, its primary need is to maintain sufficient resources and financial flexibility to meet financial and operational requirements. The Company continually seeks ways to create shareholder value through both commercial and financial strategies, which may include both organic and inorganic development as well as the Company's capital management practices.

The shareholders of the Company may not expect dividend for a financial year(s) in the circumstances of challenging/sluggish market conditions, tough liquidity position, losses or inadequate profits.

The decision regarding recommendation / declaration of dividend will depend upon various external and internal factors including the following:

**External Factors:-**

**State of Economy-** in case of uncertain or recessionary economic and business conditions, the Board will endeavour to retain larger part of profits to build up reserves to absorb future shocks.

**Capital Markets-** when the markets are favourable, dividend pay-out can be liberal. However, in case of unfavourable market conditions, Board may resort to a conservative dividend pay-out in order to conserve cash outflows.

**Statutory and Contractual Restrictions-** The Board needs to keep in mind the restrictions imposed under the Companies Act and any other laws, the regulatory developments with regard to declaration of dividend, the Company's contractual obligations under the loan agreements / debenture trust deed and other agreements, documents, writings limiting / putting restrictions on dividend pay-out.

**Internal Factors:-**

Apart from the various external factors aforementioned, the Board will take into account various internal factors while recommending / declaring Dividend, which inter alia will include-

- i) Profits earned during the year;
- ii) Present and future capital requirements of the existing businesses; / capital expenditures and the Company's debt position
- iii) Business Acquisitions opportunities;
- iv) Expansion/ Modernization of existing businesses; / growth opportunities available to the Company
- v) Additional investments in subsidiaries/associates of the Company;
- vi) Fresh investments into external businesses;
- vii) Cash flow from operations
- viii) Cost of raising funds
- ix) Providing for unforeseen events and contingencies with financial implication.
- x) Any other factor as deemed fit by the Board.

## **Process for approval of Payment of Interim and Final Dividend**

- ✓ The Company will give prior intimation of 2 working days to Stock Exchanges (excluding the date of intimation and the date of the Board meeting) of date of Board Meeting in which the declaration / recommendation of dividend will be considered.
- ✓ The Company will inform about the decision taken by Board regarding dividend to Stock Exchange within 30 minutes of the closure of the Board Meeting.
- ✓ The Company will fix Record date for the purpose of determination for list of shareholders eligible to receive dividend.
- ✓ The Company shall recommend or declare dividend at least 5 working days (excluding the date of intimation and the record date) before the record date is fixed for the purpose.
- ✓ The intimation for fixing Record date shall be given to exchange at least seven working days in advance (excluding the date of intimation and the record date).

In the event of any amendment in SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 or any other applicable law with respect to the process of recommendation/approval/payment of dividend, the same shall prevail and shall be deemed to form part of this policy.

## **Transfer of Unpaid / Unclaimed Dividend and Equity Shares to Investor Education and Protection Fund (IEPF)**

As per section 124(5) of the Companies Act, the dividend which remains unpaid / unclaimed for a period of 7 years from the date of transfer to unpaid dividend account shall be transferred by the Company to IEPF.

## **Utilisation of Retained Earnings**

The Retained earnings strengthen the Company's net owned funds. It will further help in maintaining Capital Adequacy Ratio (CAR) for Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) in the growth phase. The Board from time to time will decide utilization of the retained earnings depending upon various factors including organic / inorganic growth strategies of the Company, market competition, creating long term shareholder value etc.

The Board will ensure judicious balancing of these factors in the interest of the Company and its stakeholders.

### **Dividend Pay-out Range**

The Company stands committed to deliver sustainable value to all its stakeholders. The Company will strive to distribute an optimal and appropriate level of the profits earned by it in business with the shareholders' funds in the form of dividend. As explained in the earlier part of this Policy, determining the dividend pay-out is dependent upon several factors, both internal to a business and external to it. Taking into consideration the aforementioned factors, the Board may consider maintaining a Dividend Pay-out ratio in the range of 20-25% of the profits after tax (PAT), subject to applicable regulations. However, the Board may amend the pay-out range, whenever considered appropriate by it, keeping in mind the aforesaid factors having a bearing on the dividend pay-out decision.

### **Review**

This policy is in accordance with SEBI Circular No. SEBI/ LAD-NRO/GN/2016-17/008 dated 08<sup>th</sup> July, 2016. The same will be reviewed by the Board periodically for additions, deletions, changes or alterations in the parameters, process of recommendation/declaration/ pay-out of dividend considered in the policy and in line with changes in regulations as applicable to the Company.