

eClerx/SECD/SE/2020/070

August 14, 2020

BSE Limited

Corporate Relationship Department, Phiroze Jeejeebhoy Towers, 25th Floor, Dalal Street, Fort, Mumbai - 400 001 **National Stock Exchange of India Limited**

Exchange Plaza, Plot No. C/1, Block G, Bandra - Kurla Complex Bandra (East), Mumbai – 400 051

Dear Sir/Madam,

Sub: Shareholders Communication - Deduction of tax at source on dividend

Scrip Code: <u>BSE - 532927</u>

NSE – ECLERX

In terms of the provisions of the Income-tax Act, 1961, ("the Act") as amended by the Finance Act, 2020, dividend paid or distributed by a Company on or after April 1, 2020 shall be taxable in the hands of the shareholders. The Company shall therefore be required to deduct tax at source at the time of payment of the final dividend of Re. 1/- per equity share as recommended by the Board of Directors at its meeting held on June 9, 2020, if approved, at the ensuing 20th Annual General Meeting.

In this regard, please find attached communication to shareholders regarding deduction of tax at source on dividend which is being sent to those shareholders whose email IDs are registered with the Company or Depositories.

The said communication is also available on the website of the Company viz. www.eclerx.com.

This is for your information and records.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully

For eClerx Services Limited



Pratik Bhanushali Company Secretary & Compliance Officer F8538

Encl: As above



August 14, 2020

Dear Shareholder,

Subject: Deduction of tax at source on dividend

The final dividend of Re. 1/- per equity share as recommended by the Board at its meeting held on June 9, 2020, if approved, at the ensuing 20th Annual General Meeting, will be paid to the shareholders whose names are registered in the Register of Members of the Company as on Thursday, September 17, 2020 in case of shares held in physical form. In case of shares held in dematerialized form, the dividend thereon shall be paid to the Beneficial Owners as at the end of the business on Thursday, September 17, 2020, as per lists to be provided by the Depositories for the said purpose.

As you may be aware, in terms of the provisions of the Income-tax Act, 1961, ("the Act") as amended by the Finance Act, 2020, dividend paid or distributed by a Company on or after April 1, 2020 shall be taxable in the hands of the shareholders. The Company shall therefore be required to deduct tax at source at the time of payment of the above referred dividend.

For resident shareholders: Tax will be deducted at source ("TDS") under Section 194 of the Act @ 7.5% (applicable for FY 20-21) on the amount of dividend payable unless exempt under any of the provisions of the Act. However, in case of individuals, TDS would not apply if the aggregate of total dividend distributed to them by the Company during FY 2020-21 does not exceed Rs. 5,000/-.

Tax at source will not be deducted in cases where a shareholder provides Form 15G (applicable to any person other than a Company or a Firm)/Form 15H (applicable to an individual above the age of 60 years), provided that the eligibility conditions are being met. Blank Form 15G and 15H can be downloaded from the link given at the end of this communication or from the website of the RTA viz. https://ris.kfintech.com/form15/. Needless to mention, the Permanent Account Number ("PAN") will be mandatorily required. If PAN is not submitted, TDS would be deducted @ 20% as per Section 206AA of the Act.

In order to provide exemption from withholding of tax, the following organizations must provide a self-declaration as listed below:

- i. Insurance companies: A declaration that they are beneficial owners of shares held;
- ii. **Mutual Funds**: A declaration that they are governed by the provisions of Section 10(23D) of the Act along with copy of registration documents (self-attested);
- iii. Alternative Investment Fund (AIF) established in India: A declaration that its income is exempt under Section 10(23FBA) of the Act and they are established as Category I or Category II AIF under the SEBI (Alternative Investment Funds) Regulation, 2012. Copy of registration documents (self-attested) should be provided.

- iv. **New Pension System Trust**: A declaration that they are governed by the provisions of Section 10(44) and Section 197A(1E) of the Act along with copy of registration documents (self-attested);
- v. **Corporation established by or under a Central Act** which is, under any law for the time being in force, exempt from income- tax on its income documentary evidence that the person is covered under Section 196 of the Act.

For non-resident shareholders: Tax is required to be withheld in accordance with the provisions of Section 195 of the Act at applicable rates in force. As per the relevant provisions of the Act, the tax shall be withheld @ 20% (plus applicable surcharge and cess) on the amount of dividend payable. However, as per Section 90 of the Act, a non-resident shareholder has the option to be governed by the provisions of the Double Tax Avoidance Agreement ("DTAA") between India and the country of tax residence of the shareholder, if they are more beneficial to the shareholder. For this purpose, i.e. to avail the tax treaty benefits, the non-resident shareholder will have to provide the following:

- Self-attested copy of PAN card, if any, allotted by the Indian Income Tax authorities;
- Self-attested copy of Tax Residency Certificate ("TRC") for the year in which the dividend is received to be obtained from the tax authorities of the country of which the shareholder is resident;
- Self-declaration in Form 10F, if all the details required in this form are not mentioned in the TRC;
- Self-declaration by the non-resident shareholder as to:
 - ✓ Eligibility to claim tax treaty benefits based on the tax residential status of the shareholder, including having regard to the Principal Purpose Test (if any), introduced in the applicable tax treaty with India;
 - ✓ No Permanent Establishment/fixed base in India in accordance with the applicable tax treaty;
 - ✓ Shareholder being the beneficial owner of the dividend income to be received on the equity shares.

The Company is not obligated to apply the beneficial DTAA rates at the time of tax deduction/withholding on dividend amounts. Application of beneficial DTAA rate shall depend upon the completeness and satisfactory review by the Company, of the documents submitted by non-resident shareholders.

Notwithstanding the above, tax shall be deducted at source @ 20% (plus applicable surcharge and cess) on dividend paid to Foreign Institutional Investors and Foreign Portfolio Investors under Section 196D of the Act. Such TDS rate shall not be reduced on account of the application of the lower DTAA rate, if any.

Note: For Non-resident shareholders there is no threshold provided for which no tax will be deducted. Entire dividend is subject to withholding of tax.

To enable us to determine the appropriate TDS/withholding tax rate applicable, we request you to upload the requisite documents on the link https://ris.kfintech.com/form15/ or email the documents on einward.ris@kfintech.com on or before Thursday, September 17, 2020 to enable the Company to determine the appropriate TDS/withholding tax rate applicable.

Any communication on the tax determination/deduction received post Thursday, September 17, 2020 shall not be considered.

To summarize, dividend will be paid after deducting the tax at source as under:

- NIL for resident shareholders receiving dividend upto Rs.5,000 or in case Form 15G/Form 15H (as applicable) along with self-attested copy of the PAN card is submitted.
- 7.5% for resident shareholders in case copy of PAN card is provided/available.
- 20% for resident shareholders if copy of PAN card is not provided/not available.
- Tax will be assessed on the basis of documents submitted by the non-resident shareholders.
- 20% plus applicable surcharge and cess for non-resident shareholders in case the aforementioned documents are not submitted.
- Lower/NIL TDS on submission of self-attested copy of the certificate issued under Section 197 of the Act.

In case tax on dividend is deducted at a higher rate in the absence of receipt of the aforementioned details/documents, you would still have the option of claiming refund of the excess tax paid at the time of filing your income tax return by consulting your tax advisor.

No claim shall lie against the Company for such taxes deducted. Shareholders will be able to see the credit of TDS in Form 26AS, which can be downloaded from their e-filing account at https://incometaxindiaefiling.gov.in.

We seek your co-operation in the matter.

Yours faithfully,
For eClerx Services Limited

sd/-

Pratik Bhanushali Company Secretary & Compliance Officer F8538

Click here to download - 15H

Click here to download - 15G

Click here to download - 10F

Click here to download - Self declaration