

**TATA  
CODE OF CONDUCT  
FOR  
PREVENTION OF INSIDER TRADING**

**AND**

**CODE OF  
CORPORATE DISCLOSURE PRACTICES**

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## **INTRODUCTION:**

Insider trading means trading in Securities of a company by its Directors, Employees or other Insiders while in possession of Unpublished Price Sensitive Information (“**UPSI**”). Such trading by Insiders erode the investors’ confidence in the integrity of the management and is unhealthy for the capital markets.

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), in its endeavor to protect the interests of investors in general, had formulated the SEBI (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulations, 1992 under the powers conferred on it under the SEBI Act, 1992, which came into effect from November 19, 1992 and the same were made applicable to all companies whose shares were listed on Indian stock exchanges.

To strengthen these regulations and to create a framework for prevention of insider trading to facilitate legitimate business transactions, SEBI had constituted a committee under the Chairmanship of Hon’ble Justice N.K. Sodhi in April 2013. Some of the recommendations of the committee were considered and approved by SEBI Board and accordingly, Securities & Exchange Board of India (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulations, 2015 (hereinafter referred to as “the Regulations”) were notified by SEBI on January 15, 2015 which will become effective from May 14, 2015. The Regulations not only regulate trading by insiders but also seek to prohibit insider trading. The text of the Regulations is given in Appendix A.

The relevant extract of Regulations 3(1), 3(2), 4(1) of the Regulations, which prohibit insider trading is quoted below:

*“3(1) No insider shall communicate, provide, or allow access to any unpublished price sensitive information, relating to a company or securities listed or proposed to be listed, to any person including other insiders except where such communication is in furtherance of legitimate purposes, performance of duties or discharge of legal obligations.”*

*“3(2) No person shall procure from or cause the communication by any insider of unpublished price sensitive information, relating to a company or securities listed or proposed to be listed, except in furtherance of legitimate purposes, performance of duties or discharge of legal obligations.”*

*“4(2) No insider shall trade in securities that are listed or proposed to be listed on a stock exchange when in possession of unpublished price sensitive information....”*

It is mandatory in terms of the Regulations for every listed company, market intermediaries and any other person who is required to handle UPSI in the course of business operations to formulate a Code of Conduct for Prevention of Insider Trading to regulate, monitor and report trading by its Directors, Employees and other Connected Persons. In addition, every company whose Securities are listed on a stock exchange, is also required to formulate a Code of Practices and Procedures for fair disclosure of UPSI (hereinafter referred to as “**Code of Corporate Disclosure Practices**”).

The subjects of insider trading and disclosure practices have already been dealt with in the Tata Code of Conduct. Clause 21 and Clause 12 respectively of the Tata Code of Conduct, currently in force, dealing with these subjects are reproduced below:

*“21. Securities Transactions and Confidential Information*

*An employee of a Tata company and his / her immediate family shall not derive any benefit or counsel, or assist others to derive any benefit, from access to and possession of information about the company or Group or its clients or suppliers that is not in the public domain and, thus, constitutes unpublished, price sensitive insider information.*

*An employee of a Tata company shall not use or proliferate information that is not available to the investing public and which therefore constitutes insider information for making or giving advice on investment decisions about the securities of the respective Tata company, Group, client or supplier on which such insider information has been obtained.*

*Such insider information might include (without limitation) the following:*

*Acquisition and divestiture of businesses or business units.*

*Financial information such as profits, earnings and dividends.*

*Announcement of new product introductions or developments.*

*Asset revaluations.*

*Investment decisions/plans.*

*Restructuring plans.*

*Major supply and delivery agreements.*

*Raising of finances.*

*An employee of a Tata company shall also respect and observe the confidentiality of information pertaining to other companies, their patents, intellectual property rights, trademarks and inventions; and strictly observe a practice of non-disclosure.*

*“12. Public Representation of the company and the Group*

*The TATA Group honours the information requirements of the public and its stakeholders. In all its public appearance with respect to disclosing company and business information to public constituencies such as the media, the financial community, employees, shareholders, agents, franchisees, dealers, distributors and importers, a TATA company or the Tata Group shall be represented only by specifically authorised directors and employees. It shall be the sole responsibility of these authorised representatives to disclose information about the company or the Group.”*

In line with the Tata Code of Conduct and in order to comply with the mandatory requirement of the Regulations, it was necessary to formulate a specific Code of Conduct for Tata Companies for use by its Directors, Employees and other Connected Persons.

This document embodies the Code of Conduct for Prevention of Insider Trading and the Code of Corporate Disclosure Practices (“**Code**”) to be adopted by listed Tata companies and followed by their Directors, Employees and other Connected Persons. The Code is based on the principle that Directors and Employees of a Tata Company owe a fiduciary duty to, among others, the shareholders of the Company to place the interest of the shareholders above their own and conduct their personal Securities transactions in a manner that does not create any conflict of interest situation.

The Code is also intended to serve as a guiding charter for all concerned persons associated with the functioning of listed companies and their trading in Securities of such companies. Further, the Code also seeks to ensure timely and adequate disclosure of UPSI to the investor community by the Company to enable them to take informed investment decisions with regard to the Company’s Securities. The provisions of this Code have to be read along with the Regulations and if there is any inconsistency / contradiction between the two, the provisions of the Regulations shall prevail.

## **DEFINITIONS:**

As used in this Code:

- (a) “**Board**” means Board of Directors of the Company.
- (b) “**Code**” means this Code of Conduct for Prevention of Insider Trading and the Code of Corporate Disclosure Practices, as applicable, including modifications made thereto from time-to-time.
- (c) “**Company**” means (insert name of the company).

- (d) “**Compliance Officer**” means any senior officer, designated so and reporting to the board of directors, who is financially literate and is capable of appreciating requirements for legal and regulatory compliance under the Regulations and who shall be responsible for compliance of policies, procedures, maintenance of records, monitoring adherence to the rules for the preservation of unpublished price sensitive information, monitoring of trades and the implementation of the codes specified in these regulations under the overall supervision of the board of directors of the listed company;
- (e) “**Connected Person**” shall have the meaning given to it under Regulation 2(d) of the Regulations and shall also include the promoters and their directors and key managerial personnel.
- (f) “**Designated Persons**” means: -
- (i) Directors ; and
  - (ii) such Employees and Connected Persons (including representatives of the auditors, accountancy firms, law firms, analysts, consultants, etc.) as identified by the Compliance Officer in consultation with the Board in line with the objectives of the Code. ;
- (g) “**Director**” means a member of the Board of Directors of the Company.
- (h) “**Employee**” means every employee of the Company (whether working in India or abroad) including the Directors in the employment of the Company.
- (i) “**Generally Available Information**” means information that is accessible to the public on a non-discriminatory basis, such as information published on websites of stock exchanges.
- (j) “**Immediate Relative**” means the spouse of the Designated Person, and includes parent, sibling and child of such Designated Person or of the spouse, who are either financially dependent on the Designated Person or consults the Designated Person in taking decisions relating to trading in securities.

- (k) “**Insider**” means any person who is a Connected Person or in possession of or having access to Unpublished Price Sensitive Information.
- (l) “**Promoter**” shall have the meaning assigned to it under the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Issue of Capital and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2009 or any modification thereof.
- (m) “**Securities**” shall have the meaning assigned to it under the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956 (42 of 1956) or any modification thereof except units of a mutual fund.
- (n) “**Specified Persons**” means all Directors, Employees and Connected Persons of the Company (including all Designated Persons)
- (o) “**Trading Day**” means a day on which the recognized stock exchanges are open for trading.
- (p) “**Trading in Securities**” means and includes an act of subscribing to, buying, selling, dealing or agreeing to subscribe to, buy, sell or deal in any Securities of the Company and “trade” shall be construed accordingly.
- (q) “**Unpublished Price Sensitive Information (“UPSI”)**” means any information, relating to a Company or its Securities, directly or indirectly, that is not generally available which upon becoming generally available, is likely to materially affect the price of Securities of the Company and shall, ordinarily include but not be restricted to, information relating to the following:
- (i) financial results ;
  - (ii) dividends;
  - (iii) change in capital structure;
  - (iv) mergers, de-mergers, acquisitions, delistings, disposals and expansion of business and such other transactions;
  - (v) changes in key managerial personnel; and
  - (vi) material events in accordance with the listing agreement/regulations

All terms used in this Code but not defined hereinabove shall have the meanings ascribed to them under the Regulations.

## **CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PREVENTION OF INSIDER TRADING**

### **COMPLIANCE OFFICER:**

The Board of the Company shall appoint the Chief Financial Officer as the Compliance Officer to ensure compliance and for effective implementation of the Regulations and also this Code across the Company.

The Compliance Officer shall report to the Board of the Company.

The Chief Financial Officer shall hold the position of the Compliance Officer so long as he/she remains the Chief Financial Officer. In the event of the office of the Chief Financial officer falling vacant till such time a successor is appointed, the \_\_\_\_\_ shall, in the interim period act as the Compliance Officer.

In order to discharge his/her functions effectively, the Compliance Officer shall be adequately empowered and provided with adequate manpower and infrastructure to effectively discharge his/her function. In the performance of his/her duties, the Compliance Officer shall have access to all information and documents relating to the Securities of the Company.

The Compliance Officer shall act as the focal point for dealings with SEBI in connection with all matters relating to the compliance and effective implementation of the Regulations and this Code.

### **DUTIES OF THE COMPLIANCE OFFICER:**

The Compliance Officer shall be responsible for:

- setting forth policies in relation to the implementation of the Code and the Regulations in consultation with the Board/Audit Committee.
- prescribing procedures for various activities referred to in the Code.
- compliance with the policies and procedures referred hereinabove.
- monitoring adherence to the rules for the preservation of UPSI.
- grant of pre-trading approvals to the Designated Persons for trading in the Company's Securities by them / their Immediate Relatives and monitoring of such trading.



- implementation of this Code under the general supervision of the Audit Committee and the overall supervision of the Board of the Company.

The Compliance Officer shall maintain a record (either manual or in electronic form) of the Designated Persons and their Immediate Relatives (*see Annexure-1*) and changes thereto from time-to-time.

The Compliance Officer shall assist all the Designated Persons in addressing any clarifications regarding the Regulations and this Code.

The Compliance Officer shall place status reports before the Chairman of the Audit Committee, detailing Trading in the Securities by the Designated Persons along with the documents that such persons had executed in accordance with the pre-trading procedure prescribed under the Code on a quarterly basis.

## **HANDLING OF UPSI**

### **Preservation of Unpublished Price Sensitive Information:**

Specified Persons shall maintain the confidentiality of all UPSI coming into their possession or control.

To comply with this confidentiality obligation, the Specified Persons shall not:

- (i) communicate, provide or allow access of UPSI to any person directly or indirectly, including by way of making a recommendation for the purchase or sale of Securities of the Company unless such communication is in furtherance of legitimate purposes, performance of duties or discharge of legal obligations; or
- (ii) discuss UPSI in public places, or
- (iii) disclose UPSI to any Employee who does not *need to know* the information for discharging his or her duties, or
- (iv) recommend to anyone that they may undertake Trading in Securities of the Company while being in possession, control or knowledge of UPSI, or
- (v) be seen or perceived to be Trading in Securities of the Company while in possession of UPSI.

### **Need to know:**

The Specified Persons who are privy to UPSI, shall handle the same strictly on a “*Need to Know*” basis. This means the UPSI shall be disclosed only to those persons who need to know the same in furtherance of a legitimate purpose, the course of performance or discharge of their duty and whose possession of UPSI will not in any manner give rise to a conflict of interest or likelihood of misuse of the information.

### **Limited access to confidential information:**

Specified Persons privy to confidential information shall, in preserving the confidentiality of information, and to prevent its wrongful dissemination, adopt among others, the following safeguards:

- files containing confidential information shall be kept secure.
- computer files must have adequate security of login through a password.
- follow the guidelines for maintenance of electronic records and systems as may be prescribed by the Compliance Officer from time-to-time in consultation with the person in charge of the information technology function.

### **CHINESE WALL**

To prevent the misuse of UPSI, the Company has adopted a ‘Chinese Wall’ policy which separates those departments which routinely have access to UPSI, considered “inside areas” from those departments which deal with sale/marketing or other departments providing support services, considered “public areas”.

As per the said policy:

- The Employees in the inside areas are not allowed to communicate any UPSI to anyone in the public areas.
- The Employees in inside area may be physically separated from the Employees in public area.
- The demarcation of various departments as inside area shall be determined by the Compliance Officers in consultation with the Board.
- Only in exceptional circumstances, Employees from the public areas are brought ‘over the wall’ and given UPSI on the basis of “need to know”

criteria, under intimation to the Compliance Officer.

### **TRADING WINDOW:**

Other than the period(s) for which the Trading Window is closed as prescribed hereunder, the same shall remain open for Trading in the Securities of the Company.

Unless otherwise specified by the Compliance Officer, the Trading Window for Trading in Securities of the Company shall be closed for the Designated Persons when the Compliance Officer determines that a Designated Person or class of Designated Persons are reasonably expected to have UPSI, including for the following purposes-

- (a) declaration of financial results,
- (b) declaration of dividends,
- (c) change in capital structure,
- (d) Mergers, de-mergers, acquisitions, delistings, disposals and expansion of business and such other transactions
- (e) changes in key managerial personnel, and
- (f) material events in accordance with the listing agreement.

In respect of declaration of financial results, the Trading Window shall remain closed from a date that is 7 days prior to the end of the respective quarter, half-year, or financial year, as the case may be.

As regards declaration of dividend and other matters referred to in (c) to (f) above, the Managing Director/ Chief Executive Officer shall, well before initiation of such activity/ project, form a core team of Employees who would work on such assignment. The Managing Director/ Chief Executive Officer shall also designate a senior Employee who would be in-charge of the project. Such team members will execute an undertaking not to deal in the Securities of the Company till the UPSI regarding the activity /project is made generally available or the activity/project is abandoned and the Trading Window would be regarded as closed for them. Such core team may share information related to the activity/project with any Connected Person only on a need to know basis for any advice or guidance required from such Connected Person, provided that such person are bound by confidentiality

and undertake not to breach the Regulations. Further, where the activity/project relates to a listed company, the name of such listed company will be deemed to be included in the “restricted list” which is confidentially maintained by the Compliance Officer. The Compliance Officer shall use the restricted list as the basis for approving or rejecting applications for pre-trading.

The Trading Window shall be opened 48 (Forty-Eight) hours after the information referred to above becomes generally available.

All the Designated Persons shall strictly conduct all their Trading in the Securities of the Company only when the Trading Window is open and no Designated Person or their Immediate Relatives shall trade in the Securities of the Company during the period the Trading Window is closed or during any other similar period as may be specified by the Compliance Officer from time-to-time.

### **PRE-CLEARANCE OF DEALS IN SECURITIES:**

#### **Applicability:**

Every Designated Person shall obtain a *pre-trading* approval as per the procedure prescribed hereunder for any Trading in the Securities of the Company proposed to be undertaken by such Designated Person / his / her Immediate Relatives. Such *pre-trading* approval would be necessary, only if the cumulative trading (including trading in derivatives of Securities, if permitted by law) whether in one transaction or a series of transactions in any financial year exceeds Rs. 10 lakhs (market value).

#### **Pre-trading Procedure:**

For the purpose of obtaining a *pre-trading* approval, the concerned Designated Person shall make an application in the prescribed form (***see Annexure 2***) to the Compliance Officer. (The Compliance Officer should submit his/her application for *pre-trading* approval to the Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer.) Such application should be complete and correct in all respects and should be accompanied by such undertakings and declaration (***see Annexure 3***) indemnity bonds and other documents/papers as may be prescribed by the Compliance Officer from time-to-time. Such application for *pre-trading* approval with enclosures may preferably be sent through electronic mail followed by hard copies of all the documents. The e-mail for this purpose should be sent to the address specifically dedicated for this purpose i.e. \_\_\_\_\_. No Designated Person

shall apply for *pre-trading* approval if such person is in possession of UPSI, even if the Trading Window is not closed.

**Approval:**

- (a) The Compliance Officer shall consider the application made as above and shall approve it forthwith preferably on the same Trading Day but not later than the next Trading Day unless he is of the opinion that grant of such an approval would result in a breach of the provisions of this Code, or the Regulations. Such approval/rejection may preferably be conveyed through electronic mail and if no such approval / intimation of rejection is received within a period of 2 (two) Trading Days, the applicant can presume that the approval is deemed to be given. While considering the application, the Compliance Officer shall have due regard to whether the declaration provided in ***Annexure 3*** is reasonably capable of being rendered inaccurate.
- (b) Every approval letter shall be issued in such format (***see Annexure 4***) as may be prescribed by the Company from time-to-time. Every approval shall be dated and shall be valid for a period of 7 (seven) Trading Days from the date of approval.
- (c) In the absence of the Compliance Officer due to leave etc., the Employee designated by him/her from time-to-time, not being below the level of [●] and part of the Finance or Compliance Department shall discharge the function referred to in (a) above.

**Completion of Pre-cleared Trading:**

- (a) All the Designated Persons shall ensure that they / their Immediate Relatives complete execution of every pre-cleared deal in the Company's Securities as prescribed above no later than 7 (seven) Trading Days from the date of the approval. The Designated Person shall file within 2 (two) Trading Days of the execution of the deal, the details of such deal, with the Compliance Officer in the prescribed form (***see Annexure 5***). In case the transaction is not undertaken, a report to that effect shall be filed (***see Annexure 5***).

- (b) If a deal is not executed by the concerned Designated Person / Immediate Relatives pursuant to the approval granted by the Compliance Officer within 7 (seven) Trading Days, the Designated Person shall apply once again to the Compliance Officer for *pre clearance* of the transaction covered under the said approval.

### **Trading Plans:**

The Regulations recognize the concept of Trading Plans. Any Designated Person intending to formulate a Trading Plan shall consult the Compliance Officer to discuss the applicable rules and procedure. The Compliance Officer shall only approve a Trading Plan in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Regulations.

### **Opposite transactions in the Securities:**

The Designated Persons shall not, within six months of buying or selling any number of Securities of the Company, enter into an opposite transaction i.e. sell or buy, as the case may be, any number of the Securities of the Company.

The Compliance Officer can grant relaxation from strict application of the above restriction after recording the reasons in this regard provided that such relaxation does not violate the Regulations. It may however, be noted that in terms of the Regulations, no such purchase/ sale will be permitted when the Trading Window is closed.

Notwithstanding the above, should the Designated Persons execute an opposite transaction, inadvertently or otherwise, in violation of the restrictions set out above, the profits from such trade shall be liable to be disgorged for remittance to SEBI for credit to the Investor Protection and Education Fund administered by SEBI under the SEBI Act, 1992.

### **Advice regarding Pre-Clearance:**

In case of doubt, the Designated Person shall check with the Compliance Officer or the Officer designated by him/her from time-to-time whether the provisions relating to *pre-clearance* are applicable to any proposed transaction in the Company's Securities.

## **REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR TRANSACTIONS IN SECURITIES:**

- (a) Every Promoter, key managerial personnel, Director and Designated Person (as and when identified by the Board) of the Company shall disclose their holding, and the holding of their Immediate Relatives and of any other person for whom such person takes trading decisions, of the Company's Securities (including derivatives) to the Compliance Officer within 30 (thirty) days of the Regulations taking effect (i.e., by June 13, 2015) or forthwith on being identified as a Designated Person, as the case may be, in prescribed format (*see Annexure 6*).
- (b) Every person on appointment as a key managerial personnel or a Director of the Company or upon becoming a Promoter of the Company or on being identified as a Designated Person shall disclose their holding, and the holding of their Immediate Relatives and of any other person for whom such person takes trading decisions, of the Company's Securities (including derivatives) as on the date of appointment or becoming a Promoter, to the Company within 7 (seven) days of such appointment or becoming a Promoter or on being identified as a Designated Person, as the case may be, in prescribed format (*see Annexure 6*).
- (c) Every Promoter, key managerial personnel, Director and Designated Person of the Company shall disclose annual statements of their holding, and the holding of their Immediate Relatives and of any other person for whom such person takes trading decisions, of the Company's Securities (including derivatives) to the Compliance Officer as on 31<sup>st</sup> March every year in such form and manner (*see Annexure 7*) as may be prescribed by the Compliance Officer from time-to-time. Such statement shall be submitted by 15<sup>th</sup> April every year.
- (d) Every Promoter, Director and Employee of the Company shall disclose in prescribed format (*see Annexure 8*) to the Compliance Officer the number of such Securities (including derivatives) of the Company acquired or disposed by them or their Immediate Relatives and by any other person for whom such person takes trading decisions, within 2 (two) Trading Days of such transaction if the value of the Securities traded, whether in one transaction or a series of transactions over any calendar quarter, aggregates to a traded value in excess of Rs. 10 lakhs or such other value as may be specified. The Company shall notify the particulars of such trading to the stock exchange on which its Securities are listed within 2 (two) Trading Days of receipt of disclosure or from becoming aware of such information.

The Compliance Officer shall maintain records of all the above declarations in an appropriate form for a minimum period of 5 (five) years from the date of the filing thereof. The Company may, at its discretion, prescribe additional obligations for any other Connected Persons or a class of Connected Persons to make disclosures of holdings and trading in Securities (including the form and frequency).

### **PENALTY FOR CONTRAVENTION:**

Every Employee, Director, Promoter and Designated Person shall be individually responsible for complying with the applicable provisions of this Code (including to the extent the provisions hereof are applicable to their Immediate Relatives).

The persons who violate this Code shall, in addition to any other penal action that may be taken by the Company pursuant to law, also be subject to disciplinary action which in respect of an Employee may include wage freeze, suspension or termination of employment.

Action taken by the Company for violation of the Regulations and the Code against any person will not preclude SEBI from taking any action for violation of the Regulations or any other applicable laws/rules/regulations.

Under Section 15G of the SEBI Act, any Insider who indulges in insider trading in contravention of Regulation 3 is liable to a penalty which shall not be less than Rs. 10 lakhs but which may extend to Rs.25 crores or three times the amount of profits made out of insider trading, whichever is higher. Under Section 24 of the SEBI Act, anyone who contravenes the Regulations is punishable with imprisonment for a maximum period of ten years or with fine which may extend to Rs.25 crores or with both. Further, in case any person fails to pay the penalty imposed by the adjudicating officer or fails to comply with any of his directions or orders, he shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than one month but which may extend to ten years, or with fine, which may extend to twenty-five crore rupees or with both. An extract of Sections 15G and 24 is given in Appendix B.

In case it is observed by the Compliance Officer that there has been a violation of the Regulations by any person, he/she shall forthwith inform the Audit Committee of the Company about the violation. The penal action will be initiated on obtaining suitable directions from the Audit Committee. The Compliance Officer shall simultaneously inform SEBI about such violation. The person, against whom information has been furnished by the



Company/Compliance Officer to SEBI for violations of the Regulations/Code, shall provide all information and render necessary co-operation as may be required by the Company/Compliance Officer or SEBI in this connection.

**CLARIFICATIONS:**

For all queries concerning this Code, please contact the Compliance Officer.



**ANNEXURE 2**

**SPECIMEN OF APPLICATION FOR PRE-TRADING APPROVAL**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

To,  
The Compliance Officer  
\_\_\_\_\_ Limited  
\_\_\_\_\_

<b>Internal use</b>
Recd date and time:
Sign :

Dear Sir/Madam,

**APPLICATION FOR PRE-TRADING APPROVAL IN  
SECURITIES OF THE COMPANY**

Pursuant to the SEBI (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulations, 2015 and the Company's Code of Conduct for Prevention of Insider Trading, I seek approval for purchase/ sale/subscription of the \_\_\_\_\_ Securities (including derivatives) (GIVE DESCRIPTION) of the Company as per the details given below

NAME

\_\_\_\_\_

State whether

Director

Designated Person

Immediate Relative

<b>#EMPL</b>	<b>NO.</b> _____
<b>DESIGNATION</b> _____	
<b>#DEPARTMENT</b>	_____
<b>LOCATION</b> _____	

Nature of transaction	*Name of Proposed Buyer/Seller	No. Of Securities	**Date of purchase /allotment	***Previous approval no. and date for purchase/allotment )	DP/BEN ID of the account / folio no. where the securities will be credited/debited	No. of Securities held in such Account /Folio No.
					<i>DP ID</i> _____  <i>BEN ID</i> _____  -  <i>FOLIO NO</i> _____	

\* applicable for off market transaction

\*\* applicable only if the application is in respect of sale of Securities (including derivatives)

\*\*\* applicable only if the application is in respect of sale of Securities (including derivatives) for which an earlier purchase sanction was granted by the Compliance Officer

# to be filled in only by Employees

I enclose herewith the form of Undertaking signed by me.

Yours faithfully,

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Applicant)

**Note:** This application has to be necessarily submitted through electronic mail at the dedicated e-mail id \_\_\_\_\_ and followed by a hard copy.

### ANNEXURE 3

## **FORMAT OF UNDERTAKING/DECLARATION TO BE ACCOMPANIED WITH THE APPLICATION FOR PRE-TRADING**

### UNDERTAKING/DECLARATION

To,

\_\_\_\_\_ Ltd

I, \_\_\_\_\_, resident of \_\_\_\_\_ hereby declare that I am Designated Person of \_\_\_\_\_ [INSERT NAME OF THE COMPANY].

I further declare that I am not in possession of or otherwise privy to any Unpublished Price Sensitive Information [as defined in the Company's Code of Conduct for Prevention of Insider Trading (the Code)] up to and at the time of signing this Undertaking/Declaration.

In case I have access to or I receive any Unpublished Price Sensitive Information after signing this Undertaking/Declaration but before execution of the transaction, I shall inform the Compliance Officer of the change in my position and I would, and ensure that my Immediate Relatives would completely refrain from Trading in the Securities (including derivatives) of the Company till the time such Unpublished Price Sensitive Information becomes generally available.

I declare that I have not contravened the Code as notified by the Company from time to time.

I undertake to submit the necessary report within two Trading Days of execution of the transaction/a 'Nil' report if the transaction is not undertaken.

I am aware that, I shall be liable to face penal consequences as set forth in the Code including disciplinary action under the Code of the

Company, in case the above declarations are found to be misleading or incorrect at any time.

I agree to comply with the provisions of the Code and provide any information relating to the trade as may be required by the Compliance Officer and permit the Company to disclose such detail to SEBI, if so required by SEBI.

I declare that I have made full and true disclosure in the matter.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of the Applicant)

Date:

## ANNEXURE 4

### FORMAT FOR PRE-TRADING APPROVAL LETTER

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approval No: \_\_ of \_\_\_\_

To,  
Mr. /Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_  
Emp. No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Designation: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **PRE-TRADING APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL - Your application dt \_\_\_\_\_**

Dear Mr. /Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_

With reference to your above application seeking approval for undertaking certain transactions in Securities (including derivatives) of the Company detailed therein, please be informed that you are / your Immediate Relative \_\_\_\_\_ is hereby authorised/not authorised to undertake the transaction(s) as detailed in your said application.

This approval is being issued to you based on the various declarations, representations and warranties made by you in your said application.

This approval letter is valid till \_\_\_\_\_ (i.e. for {7} trading days from date hereof). If you / your Immediate Relative \_\_\_\_\_ do (es) not execute the approved transaction /trade on or before this date you would have to seek fresh pre-trading approval before executing any transaction/deal in the Securities (including derivatives) of the Company. Further, you are required to file the details of the executed transactions in the attached format within two {2} Trading Days from the date of transaction/deal. In case the transaction is not undertaken a "Nil" report shall be necessary.

Yours truly,

***Compliance Officer***

*Encl: Format for submission of details of transaction (Annexure 5)*

## ANNEXURE 5

### **FORMAT FOR DISCLOSURE OF PRE-APPROVED TRANSACTIONS**

[To be submitted within 2 Trading Days of transaction/Trading in Securities (including derivatives) of the Company]

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

To,  
The Compliance Officer  
\_\_\_\_\_ Limited

Dear Sir,

#### **DETAILS OF PRE-APPROVED TRANSACTION**

**Ref: Your Approval letter No. \_\_\_\_\_ dated \_\_\_\_\_**

I hereby inform you that I / my \_\_\_\_\_

● have not bought/sold/subscribed any Securities (including derivatives) of the Company

● have bought/sold/subscribed to the \_\_\_\_\_ Securities (including derivatives) (GIVE DESCRIPTION) as mentioned below on \_\_\_\_\_ (INSERT DATE)

Name of holder	** First or joint holder	No. of Securities (including derivatives) dealt with	Bought / Sold/ Subscribed	DP ID/CLIENT ID (electronic form ) or Folio no. for physical where the Sec. will be debited or credited	Price (Rs)

\*\* “F” first holder “J” joint holder

In connection with the aforesaid transaction(s), I hereby undertake to preserve, for a period of 5 (Five) years and produce to the Compliance Officer/SEBI any of the following documents:



1. Broker's contract note
2. Proof of payment to/from brokers
3. Extract of bank passbook/statement (to be submitted in case of demat transactions).
4. Copy of Delivery instruction slip (applicable in case of sale transaction)

I declare that the above information is correct and that no provisions of the Company's Insider Trading Code and/or applicable laws/regulations have been contravened for effecting the above said transaction(s).

I agree not to buy/sell • the Securities (including derivatives) for a period of [six months] from the date of the aforesaid transaction (applicable in case of purchase / sale transaction by Designated Persons only).

In case there is any urgent need to sell these Securities (including derivatives) within the said period, I shall approach the Company (Compliance Officer) for necessary approval (applicable in case of purchase / subscription).

Yours truly,

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

#Emp No: \_\_\_\_\_

#Dept/ Div. \_\_\_\_\_

- Strike out whichever is not applicable.

**# to be filled in only by Employees**

**ANNEXURE 6**

**FORMAT FOR DISCLOSURE OF PARTICULARS BY  
PROMOTER / KEY MANAGERIAL PERSONNEL /  
DIRECTOR/ DESIGNATED PERSON**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

To,  
The Compliance Officer,  
\_\_\_\_\_ Limited

Dear Sir,

My personal details are as under:

NAME OF PROMOTER/ KEY MANAGERIAL PERSONNEL /DIRECTOR /DESIGNATED PERSON		
#EMPL NO. _____	#GRADE _____	
#DEPARTMENT _____		
#LOCATION _____	DATE OF APPOINTMENT _____	

<b>Internal use</b>
Recd date and time:
Sign :

Pursuant to the provisions of SEBI (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulations, 2015 and the Company's Code of Conduct for Prevention of Insider Trading, I hereby declare that I have the following Immediate Relative(s):

Sr No.	Name of the Immediate Relative	Relationship with Director/ Designated Person

I hereby declare that I and/or my Immediate Relatives

- do not hold any Securities (including derivatives) as on date
- hold Securities (including derivatives) \_\_\_\_\_ (GIVE DESCRIPTION) as per the details given below :

Name of holder *	**First or joint holder	Folio No. (physical form )	Holding	DP ID/CLIENT ID (electronic form )	Holding

\*Include holdings where Director/ Designated Employee or Immediate Relative is a joint holder.

\*\* Indicate “F” where the named holder is the first holder of the Securities (including derivatives) and “J” where he/ she is the joint holder of the Securities (including derivatives).

# to be filled in only by Employees.

All DP Ids and Client Ids to be furnished even if no Securities of the Company are held.

I hereby undertake to inform the changes in the above details from time-to-time.

I hereby declare that the above details are true, correct and complete in all respects.

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Note: Please do not submit through electronic mail.**

**ANNEXURE 7**

**FORMAT OF ANNUAL STATEMENT OF HOLDINGS BY  
PROMOTER / KEY MANAGERIAL PERSONNEL /  
DIRECTOR/ DESIGNATED PERSON AND THEIR  
IMMEDIATE RELATIVES**

Date:

To,  
The Compliance Officer  
\_\_\_\_\_ Limited  
\_\_\_\_\_

Dear Sir,

**STATEMENT OF SHAREHOLDINGS IN THE COMPANY  
(\_\_\_\_\_ LTD.)**

As on \_\_\_\_\_, I along with my Immediate Relatives hold the Securities (including derivatives) of the Company, details whereof are as under:

**Description of Security:**

<i>Name of Holder</i>	<i>Physical Holdings</i>		<i>Electronic Holdings</i>		
	<i>Folio No.</i>	<i>Total holdings</i>	<i>DP</i>	<i>Client ID</i>	<i>Total holdings</i>

Yours truly,

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

#Emp. No: \_\_\_\_\_

#Dep. /Div. \_\_\_\_\_

**#to be filled in only by Employees**

## ANNEXURE 8

### **FORMAT FOR DISCLOSURE OF TRANSACTIONS CROSSING CERTAIN THRESHOLDS BY PROMOTER/ DIRECTORS/ EMPLOYEES**

(To be submitted within 2 Trading Days of transaction/Dealing in Securities(including derivatives) of the Company)

<i>Name, PAN &amp; Address</i>	<i>No. &amp; % of Securiti es (includ ing derivat ives)</i>	<i>Date of receipt of allotment advice/ acquisiti on/ sale of Securities (includin g derivativ es)</i>	<i>Date of intimat ion to compa ny</i>	<i>Mode of acquisiti on (market purchase/ public/r ights/ preferen tial offer etc.)</i>	<i>No. &amp; % of Securities (includin g derivativ es) post acquisiti on / sale</i>	<i>Trading member through whom the trade was executed with SEBI Registra tion No. of the trading member</i>	<i>Exchange on which the trade was executed</i>	<i>Buy/Sell quantity</i>	<i>Buy/ Sell value</i>

Note: The disclosure of the incremental transactions after the previous disclosure is required to be made when the transactions effected after the prior disclosure cross the threshold of Rs. 10 lakhs in the same calendar quarter.

## **CODE OF CORPORATE DISCLOSURE PRACTICES**

### **Overseeing and co-ordinating disclosure:**

The Board of the Company shall designate a senior officer as a Chief Investor Relations Officer who would be responsible to ensure timely, adequate, uniform and universal dissemination of information and disclosure of Unpublished Price Sensitive Information (“UPSI”) pursuant to this Code as required under the Regulations so as to avoid selective disclosure.

The Chief Investor Relations Officer shall report to the Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer as the case may be and shall also co-ordinate with the Compliance Officer.

The Chief Investor Relations Officer shall ensure that information shared with analysts and research personnel is not UPSI. The Chief Investor Relations Officer shall be responsible for overseeing and co-ordinating disclosure of UPSI to analysts, shareholders and media, and educating Employees on disclosure policies and procedures.

**The Chief Investor Relations Officer, shall also ensure that when interacting with media and external public, guidelines for disclosure of UPSI are complied with.**

All disclosure/dissemination of any UPSI (save and except disclosure required to be made under any law or under this Code) on behalf of the Company shall be first marked to the Chief Investor Relations Officer, for approval. Any such information shall be made public or published on behalf of the Company only if the same is approved by the Chief Investor Relations Officer. In case of doubt, the Chief Investor Relations Officer, shall consult and seek approval of the Managing Director/ Chief Executive Officer before dissemination of such information.

Should any dissemination of information on behalf of the Company take place without prior approval referred above, out of accidental omission, selectively, inadvertently or otherwise by any Employee / Director of the Company then such Employee / Director of the Company shall forthwith inform the Chief Investor Relations Officer., about such disclosure. The Chief Investor Relations Officer will then promptly disseminate the information so as to make such information generally available.

### **Responding to market rumours:**

The Employee/ Director of the Company shall promptly direct any queries on news reports or requests for verification of market rumours received from regulatory authorities to the Chief Investor Relations Officer.

The Chief Investor Relations Officer, shall on receipt of requests as aforesaid, consult the Managing Director/ Chief Executive Officer as the case may be and send an appropriate and fair response to the same.

The Chief Investor Relations Officer shall be responsible for deciding in consultation with the Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer of the Company as to the necessity of a public announcement for verifying or denying rumours and thereafter making appropriate disclosures.

All requests/queries received shall be documented and as far as practicable, the Chief Investor Relations Officer, shall request for such queries/requests in writing. No disclosure in response to the queries/request shall be made by the Chief Investor Relations Officer, unless the Managing Director/ Chief Executive Officer approves the same.

### **Disclosure/ dissemination of UPSI with special reference to analysts, institutional investors:**

No person, except those authorized by the Chief Investor Relations Officer, shall disclose any information relating to the Company's Securities to analysts and research persons. The Chief Investor Relations Officer, shall be invited to meetings/ conferences organized by the Company with analysts/research persons.

All Directors and Employees of the Company should follow the guidelines given hereunder while dealing with analysts and institutional investors: -

### **Sharing of UPSI:**

The Employee and Director of the Company shall provide only public information to analysts/ research persons. In case any UPSI is proposed to be provided, the person proposing to so provide information shall consult the Chief Investor Relations Officer, in advance. The Chief Investor Relations Officer, shall ensure that that the information provided to the analyst/research person/investor as above is made public simultaneously with such disclosure.

The Company shall take extreme care and caution when dealing with analysts' questions that raise issues outside the intended scope of discussion.

The Chief Investor Relations Officer, should tackle the unanticipated questions carefully. The unanticipated questions may be noted and a considered response be given later in consultation with the Managing Director/ Chief Executive Officer. If the answer to any question requires dissemination of UPSI, the Chief Investor Relations Officer, shall report the same to the Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer and obtain necessary approval for its dissemination to the Stock Exchanges/public announcement through press. The Chief Investor Relations Officer, shall, after dissemination of such UPSI, respond to such unanticipated questions.

The Chief Investor Relations Officer shall handle all the UPSI on a need-to-know basis only. In case of doubt, the Chief Investor Relations Officer, shall consult and seek approval of the Managing Director/ Chief Executive Officer before dissemination of such information.

**Recording of discussion:**

All analyst and other investor relations conferences shall be attended by the Chief Investor Relations Officer who may be accompanied by any other Employee(s) of the Company. In order to avoid misquoting or misrepresentation, the Chief Investor Relations Officer can make transcripts or arrangements for recording the discussions at the meeting.

**Simultaneous release of information:**

Whenever the Company proposes to organise meetings with investment analysts/research person, the Company shall make a press release or post relevant information on its website after every such meeting. The Company may also consider live webcasting of analyst meets.

The Chief Investor Relations Officer, shall be responsible for drafting of the press release or the text of the information to be posted on the Company's web-site, in consultation with the Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer.

**Medium of disclosure/ dissemination:**

The Company shall disseminate all credible and concrete UPSI on a continuous and in a timely manner to stock exchanges where its Securities are listed in accordance with the requirements of applicable law and thereafter to the press.



As a good corporate practice, the UPSI disclosed to the Stock Exchanges and to the Press may also be supplemented by prompt updates on the Company's web-site. The Company may also consider other modes of public disclosure of UPSI so as to improve investor access to the same.

The Chief Investor Relations Officer, shall mark a copy of the press release to Chief - Group Corporate Affairs and Media, Tata Sons Limited, simultaneously for supplementing the Group's website: [www.tata.com](http://www.tata.com).

The information filed by the Company with the Stock Exchanges under the Stock Exchange Listing Agreement shall also be posted on the Company's website.

The Company will also promptly intimate any amendment to this Code of Corporate Disclosure Practices to the Stock Exchanges, as required under the Regulations.

## **APPENDIX A**

### **SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE BOARD OF INDIA (PROHIBITION OF INSIDER TRADING) REGULATIONS, 2015**

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#### **CHAPTER I: PRELIMINARY**

1. Short title and commencement
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3. Communication or procurement of unpublished price sensitive information
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#### **CHAPTER IV: CODES OF FAIR DISCLOSURE AND CONDUCT**

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#### **SCHEDULE A**

Principles of Fair Disclosure for purposes of Code of Practices and Procedures for Fair Disclosure of Unpublished Price Sensitive Information

## **SCHEDULE B**

Minimum Standards for Code of Conduct to Regulate, Monitor and Report Trading by Insiders

### **CHAPTER – I**

#### **PRELIMINARY**

##### **Short title and commencement.**

(1) These regulations may be called the SEBI (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulations, 2015.

(2) These regulations shall come into force on the one hundred and twentieth day from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

##### **Definitions.**

2. (1) In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires, the following words, expressions and derivations therefrom shall have the meanings assigned to them as under:–

(a) “Act” means the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992 (15 of 1992);

(b) “Board” means the Securities and Exchange Board of India;

(c) “compliance officer” means any senior officer, designated so and reporting to the board of directors or head of the organization in case board is not there, who is financially literate and is capable of appreciating requirements for legal and regulatory compliance under these regulations and who shall be responsible for compliance of policies, procedures, maintenance of records, monitoring adherence to the rules for the preservation of unpublished price sensitive information, monitoring of trades and the implementation of the codes specified in these regulations under the overall supervision of the board of directors of the listed company or the head of an organization, as the case may be;

(d) "connected person" means,-

(i) any person who is or has during the six months prior to the concerned act been associated with a company, directly or indirectly, in any capacity including by reason of frequent communication with its officers or by being in any contractual, fiduciary or employment relationship or by being a director, officer or an employee of the company or holds any position including a professional or business relationship between himself and the company whether temporary or permanent, that allows such person, directly or indirectly, access to unpublished price sensitive information or is reasonably expected to allow such access.

(ii) Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, the persons falling within the following categories shall be deemed to be connected persons unless the contrary is established, -

- (a). an immediate relative of connected persons specified in clause (i); or
- (b). a holding company or associate company or subsidiary company; or
- (c). an intermediary as specified in section 12 of the Act or an employee or director thereof; or
- (d). an investment company, trustee company, asset management company or an employee or director thereof; or
- (e). an official of a stock exchange or of clearing house or corporation; or
- (f). a member of board of trustees of a mutual fund or a member of the board of directors of the asset management company of a mutual fund or is an employee thereof; or
- (g). a member of the board of directors or an employee, of a public financial institution as defined in section 2 (72) of the Companies Act, 2013; or
- (h). an official or an employee of a self-regulatory organization recognised or authorized by the Board; or
- (i). a banker of the company; or
- (j). a concern, firm, trust, Hindu undivided family, company or association of persons wherein a director of a company or his immediate relative or banker of the company, has more than ten per cent. of the holding or interest;

**NOTE:** *It is intended that a connected person is one who has a connection with the company that is expected to put him in possession of unpublished price sensitive information. Immediate relatives and other categories of persons specified above are also presumed to be connected persons but such a presumption is a deeming legal fiction and is rebuttable. This definition is also intended to bring into its ambit persons who may not seemingly occupy any position in a company but are in regular touch with the company and its officers and are involved in the know of the company's operations. It is intended to bring within its ambit those who would have access to or could access unpublished price sensitive information about any company or class of companies by virtue of any connection that would put them in possession of unpublished price sensitive information.*

(e) "generally available information" means information that is accessible to the public on a non-discriminatory basis;

***NOTE:** It is intended to define what constitutes generally available information so that it is easier to crystallize and appreciate what unpublished price sensitive information is. Information published on the website of a stock exchange, would ordinarily be considered generally available.*

(f) "immediate relative" means a spouse of a person, and includes parent, sibling, and child of such person or of the spouse, any of whom is either dependent financially on such person, or consults such person in taking decisions relating to trading in securities;

***NOTE:** It is intended that the immediate relatives of a "connected person" too become connected persons for purposes of these regulations. Indeed, this is a rebuttable presumption.*

(g) "insider" means any person who is:

- i) a connected person; or
- ii) in possession of or having access to unpublished price sensitive information;

***NOTE:** Since "generally available information" is defined, it is intended that anyone in possession of or having access to unpublished price sensitive information should be considered an "insider" regardless of how one came in possession of or had access to such information. Various circumstances are provided for such a person to demonstrate that he has not indulged in insider trading. Therefore, this definition is intended to bring within its reach any person who is in receipt of or has access to unpublished price sensitive information. The onus of showing that a certain person was in possession of or had access to unpublished price sensitive information at the time of trading would, therefore, be on the person leveling the charge after which the person who has traded when in possession of or having access to unpublished price sensitive information may demonstrate that he was not in such possession or that he has not traded or or he could not access or that his trading when in possession of such information was squarely covered by the exonerating circumstances.*

(h) "promoter" shall have the meaning assigned to it under the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Issue of Capital and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2009 or any modification thereof;

(i) "securities" shall have the meaning assigned to it under the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956 (42 of 1956) or any modification thereof except units of a mutual fund;

(j) "specified" means specified by the Board in writing;

(k) "takeover regulations" means the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Substantial Acquisition of Shares and Takeovers) Regulations, 2011 and any amendments thereto;

(l) "trading" means and includes subscribing, buying, selling, dealing, or agreeing to subscribe, buy, sell, deal in any securities, and "trade" shall be construed accordingly ;

**NOTE:** Under the parliamentary mandate, since the Section 12A (e) and Section 15G of the Act employs the term 'dealing in securities', it is intended to widely define the term "trading" to include dealing. Such a construction is intended to curb the activities based on unpublished price sensitive information which are strictly not buying, selling or subscribing, such as pledging etc when in possession of unpublished price sensitive information.

(m) "trading day" means a day on which the recognized stock exchanges are open for trading;

(n) "unpublished price sensitive information" means any information, relating to a company or its securities, directly or indirectly, that is not generally available which upon becoming generally available, is likely to materially affect the price of the securities and shall, ordinarily including but not restricted to, information relating to the following: –

- (i) financial results;
- (ii) dividends;
- (iii) change in capital structure;
- (iv) mergers, de-mergers, acquisitions, delistings, disposals and expansion of business and such other transactions;
- (v) changes in key managerial personnel; and
- (vi) material events in accordance with the listing agreement.

**NOTE:** It is intended that information relating to a company or securities, that is not generally available would be unpublished price sensitive information if it is likely to materially affect the price upon coming into the public domain. The types of matters that would ordinarily give rise to unpublished price sensitive information have been listed above to give illustrative guidance of unpublished price sensitive information.

(2) Words and expressions used and not defined in these regulations but defined in the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992 (15 of 1992), the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956 (42 of 1956), the Depositories Act, 1996 (22 of 1996) or the Companies Act, 2013 (18 of 2013) and rules and regulations made thereunder shall have the meanings respectively assigned to them in those legislation.

## **CHAPTER – II RESTRICTIONS ON COMMUNICATION AND TRADING BY INSIDERS**

### **Communication or procurement of unpublished price sensitive information.**

3. (1) No insider shall communicate, provide, or allow access to any unpublished price sensitive information, relating to a company or securities listed or proposed to be listed, to any person including other insiders except where such communication is in furtherance of legitimate purposes, performance of duties or discharge of legal obligations.

***NOTE:** This provision is intended to cast an obligation on all insiders who are essentially persons in possession of unpublished price sensitive information to handle such information with care and to deal with the information with them when transacting their business strictly on a need-to-know basis. It is also intended to lead to organizations developing practices based on need-to-know principles for treatment of information in their possession.*

(2) No person shall procure from or cause the communication by any insider of unpublished price sensitive information, relating to a company or securities listed or proposed to be listed, except in furtherance of legitimate purposes, performance of duties or discharge of legal obligations.

***NOTE:** This provision is intended to impose a prohibition on unlawfully procuring possession of unpublished price sensitive information. Inducement and procurement of unpublished price sensitive information not in furtherance of one's legitimate duties and discharge of obligations would be illegal under this provision.*

(3) Notwithstanding anything contained in this regulation, an unpublished price sensitive information may be communicated, provided, allowed access to or procured, in connection with a transaction that would:–

(i) entail an obligation to make an open offer under the takeover regulations where the board of directors of the company is of informed opinion that the proposed transaction is in the best interests of the company;

***NOTE:** It is intended to acknowledge the necessity of communicating, providing, allowing access to or procuring UPSI for substantial transactions such as takeovers, mergers and acquisitions involving trading in securities and change of control to assess a potential investment. In an open offer under the takeover regulations, not only would the same price be made available to all shareholders of the company but also all information necessary to enable an informed divestment or retention decision by the public shareholders is required to be made available to all shareholders in the letter of offer under those regulations.*

(ii) not attract the obligation to make an open offer under the takeover regulations but where the board of directors of the company is of informed opinion that the proposed transaction is in the best interests of the company and the information that constitute unpublished price sensitive information is disseminated to be made generally available at least two trading days prior to the proposed transaction being effected in such form as the board of directors may determine.

***NOTE:** It is intended to permit communicating, providing, allowing access to or procuring UPSI also in transactions that do not entail an open offer obligation under the takeover regulations if it is in the best interests of the company. The board of directors, however, would cause public disclosures of such unpublished price sensitive information well before the proposed transaction to rule out any information asymmetry in the market.*

(4) For purposes of sub-regulation (3), the board of directors shall require the parties to execute agreements to contract confidentiality and non-disclosure obligations on the part of such parties and such parties shall keep information so received confidential, except for the purpose of sub-regulation (3), and shall not otherwise trade in securities of the company when in possession of unpublished price sensitive information.

**Trading when in possession of unpublished price sensitive information.**

4. (1) No insider shall trade in securities that are listed or proposed to be listed on a stock exchange when in possession of unpublished price sensitive information:

Provided that the insider may prove his innocence by demonstrating the circumstances including the following: –

(i) the transaction is an off-market *inter-se* transfer between promoters who were in possession of the same unpublished price sensitive information without being in breach of regulation 3 and both parties had made a conscious and informed trade decision;



(ii) in the case of non-individual insiders: –

(a) the individuals who were in possession of such unpublished price sensitive information were different from the individuals taking trading decisions and such decision-making individuals were not in possession of such unpublished price sensitive information when they took the decision to trade; and

(b) appropriate and adequate arrangements were in place to ensure that these regulations are not violated and no unpublished price sensitive information was communicated by the individuals possessing the information to the individuals taking trading decisions and there is no evidence of such arrangements having been breached;

(iii) the trades were pursuant to a trading plan set up in accordance with regulation 5.

***NOTE:** When a person who has traded in securities has been in possession of unpublished price sensitive information, his trades would be presumed to have been motivated by the knowledge and awareness of such information in his possession. The reasons for which he trades or the purposes to which he applies the proceeds of the transactions are not intended to be relevant for determining whether a person has violated the regulation. He traded when in possession of unpublished price sensitive information is what would need to be demonstrated at the outset to bring a charge. Once this is established, it would be open to the insider to prove his innocence by demonstrating the circumstances mentioned in the proviso, failing which he would have violated the prohibition.*

(2) In the case of connected persons the onus of establishing, that they were not in possession of unpublished price sensitive information, shall be on such connected persons and in other cases, the onus would be on the Board.

(3) The Board may specify such standards and requirements, from time to time, as it may deem necessary for the purpose of these regulations.

### **Trading Plans.**

5. (1) An insider shall be entitled to formulate a trading plan and present it to the compliance officer for approval and public disclosure pursuant to which trades may be carried out on his behalf in accordance with such plan.

***NOTE:** This provision intends to give an option to persons who may be perpetually in possession of unpublished price sensitive information and enabling them to trade in securities in a compliant manner. This provision would enable the formulation of a trading*

*plan by an insider to enable him to plan for trades to be executed in future. By doing so, the possession of unpublished price sensitive information when a trade under a trading plan is actually executed would not prohibit the execution of such trades that he had pre-decided even before the unpublished price sensitive information came into being.*

(2) Such trading plan shall:–

(i) not entail commencement of trading on behalf of the insider earlier than six months from the public disclosure of the plan;

**NOTE:** *It is intended that to get the benefit of a trading plan, a cool-off period of six months is necessary. Such a period is considered reasonably long for unpublished price sensitive information that is in possession of the insider when formulating the trading plan, to become generally available. It is also considered to be a reasonable period for a time lag in which new unpublished price sensitive information may come into being without adversely affecting the trading plan formulated earlier. In any case, it should be remembered that this is only a statutory cool-off period and would not grant immunity from action if the insider were to be in possession of the same unpublished price sensitive information both at the time of formulation of the plan and implementation of the same.*

(ii) not entail trading for the period between the twentieth trading day prior to the last day of any financial period for which results are required to be announced by the issuer of the securities and the second trading day after the disclosure of such financial results;

**NOTE:** *Since the trading plan is envisaged to be an exception to the general rule prohibiting trading by insiders when in possession of unpublished price sensitive information, it is important that the trading plan does not entail trading for a reasonable period around the declaration of financial results as that would generate unpublished price sensitive information.*

(iii) entail trading for a period of not less than twelve months;

**NOTE:** *It is intended that it would be undesirable to have frequent announcements of trading plans for short periods of time rendering meaningless the defence of a reasonable time gap between the decision to trade and the actual trade. Hence it is felt that a reasonable time would be twelve months.*

(iv) not entail overlap of any period for which another trading plan is already in existence;

**NOTE:** *It is intended that it would be undesirable to have multiple trading plans operating during the same time period. Since it would be possible for an insider to time the*

*publication of the unpublished price sensitive information to make it generally available instead of timing the trades, it is important not to have the ability to initiate more than one plan covering the same time period.*

(v) set out either the value of trades to be effected or the number of securities to be traded along with the nature of the trade and the intervals at, or dates on which such trades shall be effected; and

**NOTE:** *It is intended that while regulations should not be too prescriptive and rigid about what a trading plan should entail, they should stipulate certain basic parameters that a trading plan should conform to and within which, the plan may be formulated with full flexibility. The nature of the trades entailed in the trading plan i.e. acquisition or disposal should be set out. The trading plan may set out the value of securities or the number of securities to be invested or divested. Specific dates or specific time intervals may be set out in the plan.*

(vi) not entail trading in securities for market abuse.

**NOTE:** *Trading on the basis of such a trading plan would not grant absolute immunity from bringing proceedings for market abuse. For instance, in the event of manipulative timing of the release of unpublished price sensitive information to ensure that trading under a trading plan becomes lucrative in circumvention of regulation 4 being detected, it would be open to initiate proceedings for alleged breach of SEBI (Prohibition of Fraudulent and Unfair Trade Practices Relating to the Securities Market) Regulations, 2003.*

(3) The compliance officer shall review the trading plan to assess whether the plan would have any potential for violation of these regulations and shall be entitled to seek such express undertakings as may be necessary to enable such assessment and to approve and monitor the implementation of the plan.

**NOTE:** *It is intended that the compliance officer would have to review and approve the plan. For doing so, he may need the insider to declare that he is not in possession of unpublished price sensitive information or that he would ensure that any unpublished price sensitive information in his possession becomes generally available before he commences executing his trades. Once satisfied, he may approve the trading plan, which would then have to be implemented in accordance with these regulations.*

(4) The trading plan once approved shall be irrevocable and the insider shall mandatorily have to implement the plan, without being entitled to either deviate from it or to execute any trade in the securities outside the scope of the trading plan.

*Provided that the implementation of the trading plan shall not be commenced if any unpublished price sensitive information in possession of the insider at the time of formulation of the plan has not become generally available at the time of the commencement of implementation and in such event the compliance officer shall confirm that the commencement ought to be deferred until such unpublished price sensitive information becomes generally available information so as to avoid a violation of sub-regulation (1) of regulation 4.*

**NOTE:** *It is intended that since the trading plan is an exception to the general rule that an insider should not trade when in possession of unpublished price sensitive information, changing the plan or trading outside the same would negate the intent behind the exception. Other investors in the market, too, would factor the impact of the trading plan on their own trading decisions and in price discovery. Therefore, it is not fair or desirable to permit the insider to deviate from the trading plan based on which others in the market have assessed their views on the securities.*

*The proviso is intended to address the prospect that despite the six-month gap between the formulation of the trading plan and its commencement, the unpublished price sensitive information in possession of the insider is still not generally available. In such a situation, commencement of the plan would conflict with the over-riding principle that trades should not be executed when in possession of such information. If the very same unpublished price sensitive information is still in the insider's possession, the commencement of execution of the trading plan ought to be deferred.*

(5) Upon approval of the trading plan, the compliance officer shall notify the plan to the stock exchanges on which the securities are listed.

**NOTE:** *It is intended that given the material exception to the prohibitory rule in regulation 4, a trading plan is required to be publicly disseminated. Investors in the market at large would also factor the potential pointers in the trading plan in their own assessment of the securities and price discovery for them on the premise of how the insiders perceive the prospects or approach the securities in their trading plan.*

## **CHAPTER – III**

### **DISCLOSURES OF TRADING BY INSIDERS**

#### **General provisions.**

6. (1) Every public disclosure under this Chapter shall be made in such form as may be specified.

(2) The disclosures to be made by any person under this Chapter shall include those relating to trading by such person's immediate relatives, and by any other person for whom such person takes trading decisions.

***NOTE:** It is intended that disclosure of trades would need to be of not only those executed by the person concerned but also by the immediate relatives and of other persons for whom the person concerned takes trading decisions. These regulations are primarily aimed at preventing abuse by trading when in possession of unpublished price sensitive information and therefore, what matters is whether the person who takes trading decisions is in possession of such information rather than whether the person who has title to the trades is in such possession.*

(3) The disclosures of trading in securities shall also include trading in derivatives of securities and the traded value of the derivatives shall be taken into account for purposes of this Chapter:

Provided that trading in derivatives of securities is permitted by any law for the time being in force.

(4) The disclosures made under this Chapter shall be maintained by the company, for a minimum period of five years, in such form as may be specified.

#### **Disclosures by certain persons.**

##### *7. (1) Initial Disclosures.*

(a). Every promoter, key managerial personnel and director of every company whose securities are listed on any recognised stock exchange shall disclose his holding of securities of the company as on the date of these regulations taking effect, to the company within thirty days of these regulations taking effect;

(b). Every person on appointment as a key managerial personnel or a director of the company or upon becoming a promoter shall disclose his holding of securities of the company as on the date of appointment or becoming a promoter, to the company within seven days of such appointment or becoming a promoter.

##### *(2) Continual Disclosures.*

(a). Every promoter, employee and director of every company shall disclose to the company the number of such securities acquired or disposed of within two trading days of such transaction if the value of the securities traded, whether in one transaction or a series of transactions over any calendar quarter, aggregates to a traded value in excess of ten lakh rupees or such other value as may be specified;

(b). Every company shall notify the particulars of such trading to the stock exchange on which the securities are listed within two trading days of receipt of the disclosure or from becoming aware of such information.

Explanation. — It is clarified for the avoidance of doubts that the disclosure of the incremental transactions after any disclosure under this sub-regulation, shall be made when the transactions effected after the prior disclosure cross the threshold specified in clause (a) of sub-regulation (2).

*Disclosures by other connected persons.*

(3) Any company whose securities are listed on a stock exchange may, at its discretion require any other connected person or class of connected persons to make disclosures of holdings and trading in securities of the company in such form and at such frequency as may be determined by the company in order to monitor compliance with these regulations.

**NOTE:** *This is an enabling provision for listed companies to seek information from those to whom it has to provide unpublished price sensitive information. This provision confers discretion on any company to seek such information. For example, a listed company may ask that a management consultant who would advise it on corporate strategy and would need to review unpublished price sensitive information, should make disclosures of his trades to the company.*

## **CHAPTER – IV**

### **CODES OF FAIR DISCLOSURE AND CONDUCT**

#### **Code of Fair Disclosure.**

8. (1) The board of directors of every company, whose securities are listed on a stock exchange, shall formulate and publish on its official website, a code of practices and procedures for fair disclosure of unpublished price sensitive information that it would follow in order to adhere to each of the principles set out in Schedule A to these regulations, without diluting the provisions of these regulations in any manner.

**NOTE:** *This provision intends to require every company whose securities are listed on stock exchanges to formulate a stated framework and policy for fair disclosure of events and occurrences that could impact price discovery in the market for its securities. Principles such as, equality of access to information, publication of policies such as those on dividend, inorganic growth pursuits, calls and meetings with analysts, publication of transcripts of such calls and meetings, and the like are set out in the schedule.*

(2) Every such code of practices and procedures for fair disclosure of unpublished price sensitive information and every amendment thereto shall be promptly intimated to the stock exchanges where the securities are listed.

**NOTE:** *This provision is aimed at requiring transparent disclosure of the policy formulated in sub-regulation (1).*

### **Code of Conduct.**

9. (1) The board of directors of every listed company and market intermediary shall formulate a code of conduct to regulate, monitor and report trading by its employees and other connected persons towards achieving compliance with these regulations, adopting the minimum standards set out in Schedule B to these regulations, without diluting the provisions of these regulations in any manner.

**NOTE:** *It is intended that every company whose securities are listed on stock exchanges and every market intermediary registered with SEBI is mandatorily required to formulate a code of conduct governing trading by its employees. The standards set out in the schedule are required to be addressed by such code of conduct.*

(2) Every other person who is required to handle unpublished price sensitive information in the course of business operations shall formulate a code of conduct to regulate, monitor and report trading by employees and other connected persons towards achieving compliance with these regulations, adopting the minimum standards set out in Schedule B to these regulations, without diluting the provisions of these regulations in any manner.

**NOTE:** *This provision is intended to mandate persons other than listed companies and market intermediaries that are required to handle unpublished price sensitive information to formulate a code of conduct governing trading in securities by their employees. These entities include professional firms such as auditors, accountancy firms, law firms, analysts, consultants etc., assisting or advising listed companies, market intermediaries and other capital market participants. Even entities that normally operate outside the capital market may handle unpublished price sensitive information. This provision would mandate all of them to formulate a code of conduct.*

(3) Every listed company, market intermediary and other persons formulating a code of conduct shall identify and designate a compliance officer to administer the code of conduct and other requirements under these regulations.

**NOTE:** *This provision is intended to designate a senior officer as the compliance officer with the responsibility to administer the code of conduct and monitor compliance with these regulations.*

## CHAPTER – V

### MISCELLANEOUS

#### **Sanction for violations.**

10. Any contravention of these regulations shall be dealt with by the Board in accordance with the Act.

#### **Power to remove difficulties.**

11. In order to remove any difficulties in the interpretation or application of the provisions of these regulations, the Board shall have the power to issue directions through guidance notes or circulars:

Provided that where any direction is issued by the Board in a specific case relating to interpretation or application of any provision of these regulations, it shall be done only after affording a reasonable opportunity of being heard to the concerned persons and after recording reasons for the direction.

#### **Repeal and Savings.**

12. (1) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulations, 1992 are hereby repealed.

(2) Notwithstanding such repeal,—

(a) the previous operation of the repealed regulations or anything duly done or suffered thereunder, any right, privilege, obligation or liability acquired, accrued or incurred under the repealed regulations, any penalty, forfeiture or punishment incurred in respect of any offence committed against the repealed regulations, or any investigation, legal proceeding or remedy in respect of any such right, privilege, obligation, liability, penalty, forfeiture or punishment as aforesaid, shall remain unaffected as if the repealed regulations had never been repealed; and

(b) anything done or any action taken or purported to have been done or taken including any adjudication, enquiry or investigation commenced or show-cause notice issued under the repealed regulations prior to such repeal, shall be deemed to have been done or taken under the corresponding provisions of these regulations;

(3) After the repeal of Securities and Exchange Board of India (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulations, 1992, any reference thereto in any other regulations made, guidelines or circulars issued thereunder by the Board



shall be deemed to be a reference to the corresponding provisions of these regulations.

## **SCHEDULE A**

*[See sub-regulation (1) of regulation 8]*

### **Principles of Fair Disclosure for purposes of Code of Practices and Procedures for Fair Disclosure of Unpublished Price Sensitive Information**

1. Prompt public disclosure of unpublished price sensitive information that would impact price discovery no sooner than credible and concrete information comes into being in order to make such information generally available.
2. Uniform and universal dissemination of unpublished price sensitive information to avoid selective disclosure.
3. Designation of a senior officer as a chief investor relations officer to deal with dissemination of information and disclosure of unpublished price sensitive information.
4. Prompt dissemination of unpublished price sensitive information that gets disclosed selectively, inadvertently or otherwise to make such information generally available.
5. Appropriate and fair response to queries on news reports and requests for verification of market rumours by regulatory authorities.
6. Ensuring that information shared with analysts and research personnel is not unpublished price sensitive information.
7. Developing best practices to make transcripts or records of proceedings of meetings with analysts and other investor relations conferences on the official website to ensure official confirmation and documentation of disclosures made.
8. Handling of all unpublished price sensitive information on a need-to-know basis.

## **SCHEDULE B**

*[See sub-regulation (1) and sub-regulation (2) of regulation 9]*

### **Minimum Standards for Code of Conduct to Regulate, Monitor and Report Trading by Insiders**

1. The compliance officer shall report to the board of directors and in particular, shall provide reports to the Chairman of the Audit Committee, if any, or to the Chairman of the board of directors at such frequency as may be stipulated by the board of directors.
2. All information shall be handled within the organisation on a need-to-know basis and no unpublished price sensitive information shall be communicated to any person except in furtherance of the insider's legitimate purposes, performance of duties or discharge of his legal obligations. The code of conduct shall contain norms for appropriate Chinese Walls procedures, and processes for permitting any designated person to "cross the wall".
3. Employees and connected persons designated on the basis of their functional role ("**designated persons**") in the organisation shall be governed by an internal code of conduct governing dealing in securities. The board of directors shall in consultation with the compliance officer specify the designated persons to be covered by such code on the basis of their role and function in the organisation. Due regard shall be had to the access that such role and function would provide to unpublished price sensitive information in addition to seniority and professional designation.
4. Designated persons may execute trades subject to compliance with these regulations. Towards this end, a notional trading window shall be used as an instrument of monitoring trading by the designated persons. The trading window shall be closed when the compliance officer determines that a designated person or class of designated persons can reasonably be expected to have possession of unpublished price sensitive information. Such closure shall be imposed in relation to such securities to which such unpublished price sensitive information relates. Designated persons and their immediate relatives shall not trade in securities when the trading window is closed.
5. The timing for re-opening of the trading window shall be determined by the compliance officer taking into account various factors including the unpublished price sensitive information in question becoming generally available and being capable of assimilation by the market, which in any event shall not be earlier than forty-eight hours after the information becomes generally available. The trading window shall also be applicable to any

person having contractual or fiduciary relation with the company, such as auditors, accountancy firms, law firms, analysts, consultants etc., assisting or advising the company.

6. When the trading window is open, trading by designated persons shall be subject to preclearance by the compliance officer, if the value of the proposed trades is above such thresholds as the board of directors may stipulate. No designated person shall apply for pre-clearance of any proposed trade if such designated person is in possession of unpublished price sensitive information even if the trading window is not closed.

7. The compliance officer shall confidentially maintain a list of such securities as a “restricted list” which shall be used as the basis for approving or rejecting applications for preclearance of trades.

8. Prior to approving any trades, the compliance officer shall be entitled to seek declarations to the effect that the applicant for pre-clearance is not in possession of any unpublished price sensitive information. He shall also have regard to whether any such declaration is reasonably capable of being rendered inaccurate.

9. The code of conduct shall specify any reasonable timeframe, which in any event shall not be more than seven trading days, within which trades that have been pre-cleared have to be executed by the designated person, failing which fresh pre-clearance would be needed for the trades to be executed.

10. The code of conduct shall specify the period, which in any event shall not be less than six months, within which a designated person who is permitted to trade shall not execute a contra trade. The compliance officer may be empowered to grant relaxation from strict application of such restriction for reasons to be recorded in writing provided that such relaxation does not violate these regulations. Should a contra trade be executed, inadvertently or otherwise, in violation of such a restriction, the profits from such trade shall be liable to be disgorged for remittance to the Board for credit to the Investor Protection and Education Fund administered by the Board under the Act.

11. The code of conduct shall stipulate such formats as the board of directors deems necessary for making applications for pre-clearance, reporting of trades executed, reporting of decisions not to trade after securing pre-clearance, recording of reasons for such decisions and for reporting level of holdings in securities at such intervals as may be determined as being necessary to monitor compliance with these regulations.

12. Without prejudice to the power of the Board under the Act, the code of conduct shall stipulate the sanctions and disciplinary actions, including wage freeze, suspension etc., that may be imposed, by the persons required to formulate a code of conduct under sub-regulation (1) and sub-regulation (2) of regulation 9, for the contravention of the code of conduct.

13. The code of conduct shall specify that in case it is observed by the persons required to formulate a code of conduct under sub-regulation (1) and sub-regulation (2) of regulation 9, that there has been a violation of these regulations, they shall inform the Board promptly.

## **Appendix B**

### **An extract of Sections 15G and 24 the SEBI Act, 1992**

#### **15G. Penalty for insider trading**

If any insider who,—

(i) either on his own behalf or on behalf of any other person, deals in securities of a body corporate listed on any stock exchange on the basis of any unpublished price-sensitive information; or

(ii) communicates any unpublished price-sensitive information to any person, with or without his request for such information except as required in the ordinary course of business or under any law; or

(iii) counsels, or procures for any other person to deal in any securities of any body corporate on the basis of unpublished price-sensitive information, shall be liable to a penalty which shall not be less than ten lakh rupees but which may extend to twenty-five crore rupees or three times the amount of profits made out of insider trading, whichever is higher.

#### **24 Offences**

(1) Without prejudice to any award of penalty by the adjudicating officer under this Act, if any person contravenes or attempts to contravene or abets the contravention of the provisions of this Act or of any rules or regulations made thereunder, he shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to ten years, or with fine, which may extend to twenty-five crore rupees or with both.

(2) If any person fails to pay the penalty imposed by the adjudicating officer or fails to comply with any of his directions or orders, he shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than one month but which may extend to ten years, or with fine, which may extend to twenty-five crore rupees or with both.