



Century Plyboards (India) Limited

DIVIDEND DISTRIBUTION POLICY

PREAMBLE

The shares of Century Plyboards (India) Limited ('the Company') are presently listed on The National Stock Exchange of India Ltd. (NSE) and BSE Ltd. (BSE). Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI) vide its Notification No. SEBI/LAD-NRO/GN/2016-17/008 dated July 08, 2016, inserted Regulation 43A in the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 ('Listing Regulations') mandating the formulation of a Dividend Distribution Policy for the top 500 listed entities based on their market capitalisation calculated on March 31 of every financial year. In compliance with the said Regulation, the Company is required to frame a Dividend Distribution Policy ('the/this Policy') which would aid investors in identifying stocks that match their investment objectives.

EFFECTIVE DATE

This Policy is effective from the date of its adoption by the Board on 1st November, 2016.

INTENT AND OBJECTIVE

The intent of the policy is to broadly specify the external and internal factors including financial parameters that shall be considered while declaring dividend and the circumstances under which the shareholders of the Company may or may not expect dividend, etc.

The objective of the Dividend Distribution Policy of the Company is to reward its shareholders by sharing a portion of the profits, whilst also ensuring that sufficient funds are retained for growth of the Company. This policy aims to ensure a regular dividend income for the shareholders and long term capital appreciation for all stakeholders of the Company.

The Company would ensure to strike the right balance between the quantum of dividend paid and amount of profits retained in the business for various purposes. The Board of Directors will refer to the policy while declaring/ recommending dividends on behalf of the Company.

Through this policy, the Company would endeavour to maintain a consistent approach to dividend pay-out plans. This Policy will also regulate the process of dividend declaration and its pay-out by the Company in accordance with the provisions Contained in Companies Act, 2013 read with the applicable Rules framed thereunder, as may be in force for the time being. This Policy intends to act as a guiding tool to the Board for taking decision whether to distribute or to retain its profits, in the best interest of the stakeholders. It should not be construed as an alternative to the decision making process of the Board, which is based on

careful consideration of several factors and circumstances. This Policy endeavours for fairness, consistency and sustainability while distributing profits to the shareholders.

CATEGORIES OF DIVIDEND AND PROCESS FOR APPROVAL

The Companies Act provides for two Types of Dividend namely Interim dividend and Final Dividend. The Board of Directors shall have the absolute power to declare interim dividend during the financial year, as and when they consider it fit. The Board of Directors shall have the power to recommend final dividend to the shareholders for their approval in the general meeting of the Company.

Final Dividend

The Final dividend is paid once for the financial year after the annual accounts are prepared. The Board of Directors of the Company has the power to recommend the payment of Final Dividend to the shareholders in a general meeting. The declaration of Final dividend shall be included in the ordinary business items that are required to be transacted at the Annual General Meeting.

Process for approval of Payment of Final Dividend:

- Board shall recommend quantum of final dividend payable to shareholders in its meeting in line with this Policy based on the profits arrived at as per the audited financial statements
- Dividend as recommended by the Board shall be approved/declared at the annual general meeting of the Company.
- Payment of dividend to the eligible shareholders shall be made within 30 days from the date of declaration or within such time as may be prescribed under applicable law.

Interim dividend

This form of dividend can be declared by the Board of Directors one or more times in a financial year as may be deemed fit by it. The Board of Directors of the Company would declare an interim dividend, as and when considered appropriate, in line with this policy. Normally, the Board could consider declaring an interim dividend after finalization of quarterly (or half yearly) financial statements. This would be in order to supplement the annual dividend or in exceptional circumstances.

Process for approval of Payment of Interim Dividend:

- Board may declare Interim Dividend at its complete discretion, one or more times in a financial year in line with this Policy based on profits arrived at as per quarterly (or half- yearly) financial statements including exceptional items.
- Payment of dividend to the eligible shareholders shall be made within 30 days from the date of declaration or within such time as may be prescribed under applicable law.
- Interim dividend paid during the year shall be confirmed in the annual general meeting, held after the payment of the same.

DIVIDEND GUIDELINE

The Board shall determine the dividend payout in a particular year after taking into consideration the operating and financial performance of the Company, available cash flow, Capex requirements and applicable taxes. Distribution of dividend in kind, i.e. by way of issue of fully or partly paid bonus shares or other securities shall be subject to applicable law.

In the event of inadequacy or absence of profits in any year, the Company may declare dividend out of surplus subject to the fulfilment of conditions specified under the Companies Act, 2013 and rules made thereunder, including any amendment/ modifications thereto.

Payment of dividend shall be based on the respective rights attached to each class of shares as per their terms of issue.

Preference Shareholders shall be entitled and paid dividend at the fixed rate as per the terms of issue. In case of the Cumulative Preference Shares, if the Company is not having distributable profits for any certain financial year or the Company is not able to pay the dividend, then this shall be accumulated and be paid later on. Dividend when declared shall be first paid to the preference shareholders of the Company as per the terms and conditions of their issue.

RELEVANT FACTORS FOR CONSIDERATION WHILE DECLARING DIVIDEND

The decision regarding dividend pay-out is a crucial one as it determines the amount of profit to be distributed among shareholders and amount of profit to be retained by the Company for its business. The Board of Directors will endeavour to take a decision with an objective to enhance shareholders wealth and market value of the shares. However, the decision regarding pay-out is subject to several factors and hence, any optimal policy in this regard may be far from obvious.

The Board shall consider the following factors while deciding the dividend pay-out:

Internal Factors:-

a. Profits earned during the year

The profits earned during a financial year is the foremost criteria which impacts dividend pay-out decision.

b. Present & future liquidity requirements of the existing businesses

Availability of adequate operating cash flow is necessary for a business to meet its financial obligations and for running its day-to-day operations. This may impact the Boards decision to declare dividend or retain its profits.

c. Expansion/Modernization of existing businesses

In addition to plough back of earnings on account of depreciation, the Board may also take into consideration the need for replacement of capital assets, expansion and modernization or augmentation of capital stock, including any major capital expenditure proposals.

d. Brand/ Business Acquisitions

Acquisition of brands and businesses, increasing expenditure on marketing, advertising and brand building in the long-run will also influence the Board's decision of declaration of dividend.

e. Additional investments in subsidiaries/associates of the Company

The Company operates in various areas through subsidiaries/ associates and continuously needs to make investments therein. Capital requirements of these entities for expansion and operations also need to be assessed by the Board.

f. Fresh investments into external businesses

The Company is continuously exploring the possibility of establishing its foot-prints overseas in order to secure availability of resources in the long-run. This may lead to substantial capital requirements and may impact dividend distribution.

g. Cost of borrowings

Cost of funds raised/ to be raised from bankers, lending institutions or through issuance of debt securities vis-à-vis ploughing back of profits also needs to be considered while deciding dividend payment.

h. Obligations towards creditors

The Company needs to maintain adequate liquidity to be able to fulfil its obligations towards its creditors within the agreed time. Considering the volume of such obligations and time period of repayment, the decision of dividend declaration shall be taken.

i. Post dividend EPS

Post dividend EPS tends to have substantial impact on market capitalisation and the same also needs to be considered before declaring dividend.

j. Past dividend pay-out

Track record of dividend pay-out in the past and its trend also tends to impact dividend distribution decision.

External Factors:-

Many external factors act as determinants for the amount of dividend proposed to be declared. In such conditions, the Board shall exercise its discretion after due consideration of such factors:

State of Economy

In case of uncertain or recessionary economic and business conditions, whether in the National or International markets, Board will endeavour to retain larger part of profits to have adequate reserves to absorb unforeseen and adverse circumstances.

Capital Markets

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

Taxation and Statutory Restrictions

The Board shall consider the tax regulations in respect of Dividend distribution together with restrictions imposed by any statute, including the Companies Act, with regard to declaration of dividend as may be applicable at the time of declaration of dividend. Changes in policies of the Government with respect to dividend may also impact dividend distribution.

CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER WHICH THE SHAREHOLDERS MAY OR MAY NOT EXPECT DIVIDEND

The Equity Shareholders of the Company may expect dividend only if the Company is having surplus funds after providing all expenses, depreciation, etc. and complying with all other applicable statutory requirements. The decision of dividend payout shall, majorly be based on the factors discussed above considering the balanced interest of the shareholders and the Company.

The shareholders of the Company may not expect dividend under the following circumstances:

- Whenever it undertakes or proposes to undertake a significant expansion project requiring higher allocation of capital;
- Significantly higher working capital requirements adversely impacting free cash flow;
- Whenever it undertakes any acquisitions of business/brand/company or joint ventures requiring significant allocation of capital.
- Whenever it proposes to utilise surplus cash for buy-back of securities; or
- In the event of inadequacy of profits or whenever the Company has incurred losses.

DIVIDEND RANGE

The Company stands committed to deliver sustainable value to all its stakeholders. The Company will strive to distribute an optimal and appropriate level of the profits earned by it in its business and investing activity, with the shareholders, in the form of dividend. As explained in the earlier part of this Policy, determining the dividend pay-out is dependent upon several factors, both internal to a business and external to it. Taking into consideration

the aforementioned factors, the Board will endeavour to maintain a per-share minimum dividend pay-out at the rate of 100% (excluding applicable tax on dividend distribution) of face value of equity shares of the Company, subject to an aggregate maximum pay-out of 25% (including applicable tax on dividend distribution) of distributable profit for the particular year.

The upper limit of dividend will inter alia depend upon available free cash flow generated during the particular financial year.

As mentioned above, for computing the distributable profits for purposes of determining the Dividend, the Board may at its discretion, subject to provisions of the law, exclude any or all of (i) extraordinary charges (ii) exceptional charges (iii) other Comprehensive Income (iv) one off charges on account of change in law or rules or accounting policies or accounting standards (v) provisions or write offs on account of impairment in investments (long term or short term) (vi) non-cash charges pertaining to amortisation or ESoP or resulting from change in accounting policies or accounting standards. Further, the Board may amend the pay-out range, whenever considered appropriate by it, keeping in mind the aforesaid factors having a bearing on the dividend pay-out decision including declaring a Special Dividend under certain circumstances such as extraordinary profits from sale of investments.

UTILIZATION OF RETAINED EARNINGS

The Company always looks forward to deliver maximum to its shareholders by consistently working towards creating a balance between overall Wealth Maximization and Earnings per share. Thus the retained earnings of Company after declaration of dividend (if any), shall be utilized in the manner as considered appropriate by the Board.

PARAMETERS ADOPTED WITH REGARD TO VARIOUS CLASSES OF SHARES

Since the company has issued only one class of equity shares with equal voting rights, all the members of the company are entitled to the same dividend per share.

REVIEW AND AMENDMENT

This Policy will be reviewed periodically by the Board. Alternatively, the Chairman or the Managing Director of the Company shall be jointly/severally authorised to review and amend the Policy, to give effect to any change/amendment required in terms of any applicable law. Such amended Policy shall be periodically placed before the Board for noting and necessary ratification immediately after such changes.

Date: 01.11.2016
Place: Kolkata

Sd/-
SAJJAN BHAJANKA
EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN