



*Hindustan Unilever Limited*

# **POLICY ON DETERMINATION OF MATERIALITY OF EVENTS**





## HINDUSTAN UNILEVER LIMITED

### **POLICY ON DETERMINATION OF MATERIALITY OF EVENTS**

#### **1. BACKGROUND AND APPLICABILITY OF THE POLICY**

SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 (“Listing Regulations”) requires every Listed Company to disclose events or information which, in the opinion of the Board of Directors of a Company, are material.

In this context, the Policy on Determination of Materiality of Events (“Policy”) has been framed by the Board of Directors (“Board”) of Hindustan Unilever Limited (“HUL/Company”) at its meeting held on December 18, 2015 and was further amended by the Board on April 27, 2022 and on July 20, 2023.

The objectives of the Policy are as follows:


- (a) To ensure that the Company complies with the disclosure obligations under the Listing Regulations;
- (b) To provide an overall governance framework for determination of materiality of events/information which require disclosure to the Stock Exchange(s); and
- (c) To ensure that adequate and timely information is provided to investors to enable them to take informed investment decision.

This Policy can be modified and/or amended with the approval of the Board of Directors only.

#### **2. DEFINITIONS**

In this Policy, unless the context otherwise requires, the following terms are defined to mean as under:

- (a) “**Act**” means the Companies Act, 2013 including the Rules, Schedules and clarifications, issued by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs and any amendment thereto and/or modification thereof from time to time;
- (b) “**Board of Directors**” shall mean the Board of Directors of Hindustan Unilever Limited;
- (c) “**Company**” shall mean Hindustan Unilever Limited;

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- (d) **“Default”** shall mean non-payment of the interest or principal amount in full on the date when the debt has become due and payable. In case of revolving facilities like cash credit, an entity would be considered to be in ‘default’ if the outstanding balance remains continuously in excess of the sanctioned limit or drawing power, whichever is lower, for more than thirty days. Default by a promoter, director, key managerial personnel, senior management, subsidiary shall mean default which has or may have an impact on the Company.
- (e) **“Fraud”** shall include fraud as defined under Regulation 2(1)(c) of Securities and Exchange Board of India (Prohibition of Fraudulent and Unfair Trade Practices relating to Securities Market) Regulations, 2003
- (f) **“Listing Regulations”** means the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 and any amendment thereto and/or modification thereof from time to time;
- (g) **“Mainstream Media”** shall include print or electronic mode of the following:
- (i) Newspapers registered with the Registrar of Newspapers for India;
  - (ii) News channels permitted by Ministry of Information and Broadcasting under Government of India;
  - (iii) Content published by the publisher of news and current affairs content as defined under the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021; and
  - (iv) Newspapers or news channels or news and current affairs content similarly registered or permitted or regulated, as the case may be, in jurisdictions outside India.
- (h) **“Promoter”, “Promoter Group”** shall have the same meaning as assigned to them respectively in clauses (oo) and (pp) of sub-regulation (1) of regulation 2 of the SEBI (Issue of Capital and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2018;
- (i) **“Relevant Employees”** shall mean all management employees at work level 3X and above;
- (j) **“Subsidiary”** means a subsidiary as defined under sub-section (87) of Section 2 of the Act;

All other words and expressions used but not defined in this Policy, but defined in the SEBI Act, 1992, Listing Regulations, the Act, the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956, and / or the rules and regulations made thereunder shall have the same meaning as respectively assigned to them in such Acts or rules or regulations or any statutory modification or re-enactment thereto, as the case may be.



### 3. DISCLOSURE OF EVENTS OR INFORMATION

In terms of Regulation 30 of the Listing Regulations, the events requiring disclosure by the Company, are provided as follows:

- (a) Events specified in Annexure A forming part of this Policy are deemed to be material events and have to be disclosed to the Stock Exchanges without application of criteria for materiality as defined in Clause 4 of this Policy.
- (b) Events specified in Annexure B forming part of this Policy shall be disclosed by the Company on application of criteria for materiality as defined in Clause 4 of this Policy.

This Policy shall also apply to the events which are not indicated in Annexure A or Annexure B, but may have a material effect on the Company.

All the above disclosures would be hosted on the website of the Company for a minimum period of five years or as per the Policy on Preservation & Archival of Documents. Annexure A & Annexure B will be read in conjunction with the Listing Regulations and any proposed changes in the Listing Regulations in the said regard shall apply mutatis mutandis to the Annexures forming part of this Policy and the Policy shall be updated accordingly.

### 4. CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING MATERIALITY OF EVENTS OR INFORMATION

Events/information shall be considered as material in nature as per Regulation 30(4) of the Listing Regulations if it meets any the following criteria:


#### **Qualitative Threshold:**

- (a) The omission of an event or information, which is likely to result in significant market reaction if the said omission came to light at a later date; or
- (b) The omission of an event or information, which is likely to result in discontinuity or alteration of event or information already available publicly; or

#### **Quantitative Threshold**

The omission of an event or information, whose value or the expected impact in terms of value, exceeds the lower of the following:

- (i) two percent of turnover, as per the last audited consolidated financial statements of the Company;
- (ii) two percent of net worth, as per the last audited consolidated financial



statements of the Company, except in case the arithmetic value of the net worth is negative;

(iii) five percent of the average of absolute value of profit or loss after tax, as per the last three audited consolidated financial statements of the Company.

In case where the criteria specified hereinabove is not applicable, an event or information may be treated as being material if in the opinion of the Board of Directors of the Company, the event or information is considered material.

## **5. AUTHORIZATIONS:**

The Board of the Company has constituted a 'Disclosure Committee', comprising the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and Company Secretary, which will be authorized to determine the materiality of event or information and make necessary disclosure to the stock exchange(s).

The Disclosure Committee may be contacted on the below mentioned address:


Disclosure Committee  
Hindustan Unilever Limited  
B.D. Sawant Marg, Chakala,  
Andheri -East, Mumbai - 400 099  
Email id : [levercare.shareholder@unilever.com](mailto:levercare.shareholder@unilever.com)

## **6. DISCLOSURE PROCESS**

The events reportable under Regulation 30 of the Listing Regulations, including the ones enumerated in Annexure A and Annexure B of this Policy, shall be immediately informed by the Relevant Employees to the 'Disclosures Committee' alongwith the supporting data/information to facilitate a prompt and appropriate disclosure. The events which are not covered under the Regulations or the Annexures to this Policy, but may potentially be of price sensitive nature, shall also be informed to the Chief Financial Officer or Company Secretary of the Company.

The 'Disclosures Committee' shall be responsible and authorised for evaluating/ascertaining the materiality of events considering its nature and its disclosure after taking into consideration the various provisions of the Regulations and this Policy.

After evaluation, in case the event/information is considered as material, adequate disclosure shall be made to the Stock Exchanges within the timeframe prescribed under the Listing Regulations.



In case of events/information not being the outcome of a Board Meeting or a Board decision taken through circulation, the Board of Directors shall be immediately informed about the information being sent to the Stock Exchanges.

The Company shall use electronic facilities provided by the Stock Exchanges for dissemination of the information and may subsequently disclose the same via other media, including the press release, website of the Company, etc.

The Company shall adhere to the statutory timeframes for disclosure of information to the Stock Exchanges. Delay, if any, shall be explained along with the disclosure.

Regular updates, if required, shall be made with relevant explanations.



**Annexure A**  
**As prescribed under Para-A of Part A of Schedule III of the SEBI Listing Regulations**

A. Events which shall be disclosed without any application of the guidelines for materiality as specified in sub-regulation (4) of Regulation (30):

1. Acquisition(s) (including agreement to acquire), Scheme of Arrangement (amalgamation, merger, demerger or restructuring), sale or disposal of any unit(s), division(s), whole or substantially the whole of the undertaking(s) or subsidiary of the Company, sale of stake in associate company of the Company or any other restructuring.

Explanation (1) - For the purpose of this sub-paragraph, the word 'acquisition' shall mean

- (i) acquiring control, whether directly or indirectly; or
- (ii) acquiring or agreement to acquire shares or voting rights in a company, whether existing or to be incorporated, whether directly or indirectly, such that –
  - (a) the Company holds shares or voting rights aggregating to five percent or more of the shares or voting rights in the said company; or
  - (b) there has been a change in holding from the last disclosure made under sub-clause (a) of clause (ii) of the Explanation to this sub-paragraph and such change exceeds two per cent of the total shareholding or voting rights in the said company; or
  - (c) the cost of acquisition or the price at which the shares are acquired exceeds the threshold specified in sub-clause (c) of clause (i) of sub -regulation (4) of regulation 30.

Explanation (2) - For the purpose of this sub-paragraph, “sale or disposal of subsidiary” and “sale of stake in associate company” shall include-

- (i) an agreement to sell or sale of shares or voting rights in a company such that the company ceases to be a wholly owned subsidiary, a subsidiary or an associate company of the Company; or
- (ii) an agreement to sell or sale of shares or voting rights in a subsidiary or associate company such that the amount of the sale exceeds the threshold specified in sub-clause (c) of clause (i) of sub-regulation (4) of regulation 30.

Explanation (3)- For the purpose of this sub-paragraph, “undertaking” and “substantially the whole of the undertaking” shall have the same meaning as given under section 180 of the Companies Act, 2013.

2. Issuance or forfeiture of securities, split or consolidation of shares, buyback of securities, any restriction on transferability of securities or alteration in terms or structure of existing securities including forfeiture, reissue of forfeited securities, alteration of calls, redemption of securities etc.
3. New Rating(s) or Revision in Rating(s).
4. Outcome of Meetings of the board of directors: The Company shall disclose to the Exchange(s), within 30 minutes of the closure of the meeting, held to consider the

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following:

- (a) dividends and/or cash bonuses recommended or declared or the decision to pass any dividend and the date on which dividend shall be paid/dispatched;
  - (b) any cancellation of dividend with reasons thereof;
  - (c) the decision on buyback of securities;
  - (d) the decision with respect to fund raising proposed to be undertaken;
  - (e) increase in capital by issue of bonus shares through capitalization including the date on which such bonus shares shall be credited/dispatched;
  - (f) reissue of forfeited shares or securities, or the issue of shares or securities held in reserve for future issue or the creation in any form or manner of new shares or securities or any other rights, privileges or benefits to subscribe to;
  - (g) short particulars of any other alterations of capital, including calls;
  - (h) financial results;
  - (i) decision on voluntary delisting by the Company from stock exchange(s):
5. Agreements (viz. shareholder agreement(s), joint venture agreement(s), family settlement agreement(s) (to the extent that it impacts management and control of the Company), agreement(s)/treaty(ies)/contract(s) with media companies) which are binding and not in normal course of business, revision(s) or amendment(s) and termination(s) thereof.
6. Agreements entered into by the shareholders, promoters, promoter group entities, related parties, directors, key managerial personnel, employees of the Company or of its holding, subsidiary or associate company, among themselves or with the Company or with a third party, solely or jointly, which, either directly or indirectly or potentially or whose purpose and effect is to, impact the management or control of the Company or impose any restriction or create any liability upon the Company, shall be disclosed to the Stock Exchanges, including disclosure of any rescission, amendment or alteration of such agreements thereto, whether or not the Company is a party to such agreements.


Provided that such agreements entered into by a Company in the normal course of business shall not be required to be disclosed unless they, either directly or indirectly or potentially or whose purpose and effect is to, impact the management or control of the Company or they are required to be disclosed in terms of any other provisions of these regulations.

Explanation: For the purpose of this clause, the term “directly or indirectly” includes agreements creating obligation on the parties to such agreements to ensure that Company shall or shall not act in a particular manner.

7. Fraud or defaults by a Company, its promoter, director, key managerial personnel, senior management or subsidiary or arrest of key managerial personnel, senior management, promoter or director of the Company, whether occurred within India or abroad.
8. Change in directors, key managerial personnel (Managing Director, Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer , Company Secretary etc.), senior management, Auditor and Compliance Officer.
9. In case of resignation of the auditor of the Company, detailed reasons for resignation of


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- auditor, as given by the said auditor, shall be disclosed by the Company to the stock exchanges as soon as possible but not later than twenty four hours of receipt of such reasons from the auditor.
10. Resignation of independent director including reasons for resignation: In case of resignation of an independent director of the Company, within seven days from the date of resignation, the following disclosures shall be made to the stock exchanges by the Company:
    - (i) The letter of resignation along with detailed reasons for the resignation as given by the said director.
    - (ii) Names of listed entities in which the resigning director holds directorships, indicating the category of directorship and membership of board committees, if any.
    - (iii) The independent director shall, along with the detailed reasons, also provide a confirmation that there is no other material reasons other than those provided.
    - (iv) The confirmation as provided by the independent director above shall also be disclosed by the listed entities to the stock exchanges along with the disclosures as specified in sub-clause (i) and (ii) above.
  11. In case of resignation of key managerial personnel, senior management, Compliance Officer or director other than an independent director; the letter of resignation along with detailed reasons for the resignation as given by the key managerial personnel, senior management, Compliance Officer or director shall be disclosed to the stock exchanges by the listed entities within seven days from the date that such resignation comes into effect.
  12. In case the Managing Director or Chief Executive Officer of the Company was indisposed or unavailable to fulfil the requirements of the role in a regular manner for more than forty five days in any rolling period of ninety days, the same along with the reasons for such indisposition or unavailability, shall be disclosed to the stock exchange(s).
  13. Appointment or discontinuation of share transfer agent.
  14. Resolution plan/ Restructuring in relation to loans/borrowings from banks/financial institutions including the following details:
    - (i) Decision to initiate resolution of loans/borrowings;
    - (ii) Signing of Inter-Creditors Agreement (ICA) by lenders;
    - (iii) Finalization of Resolution Plan;
    - (iv) Implementation of Resolution Plan;
    - (v) Salient features, not involving commercial secrets, of the resolution/ restructuring plan as decided by lenders.
  15. One time settlement with a bank.
  16. Winding-up petition filed by any party / creditors.
  17. Issuance of Notices, call letters, resolutions and circulars sent to shareholders, debenture holders or creditors or any class of them or advertised in the media by the Company.
  18. Proceedings of Annual and extraordinary general meetings of the Company.
  19. Amendments to memorandum and articles of association of Company, in brief.
  20. (a) Schedule of analysts or institutional investors meet at least two working days in advance [excluding the date of the intimation and the date of the meet]] and presentations made by the Company to analysts or institutional investors.

Explanation: For the purpose of this clause 'meet' shall mean group meetings or group conference calls conducted physically or through digital means.

    - (a) Audio or video recordings and transcripts of post earnings/quarterly calls, by whatever





name called, conducted physically or through digital means, simultaneously with submission to the recognized stock exchange(s), in the following manner:

- (i) the presentation and the audio/video recordings shall be promptly made available on the website and in any case, before the next trading day or within twenty-four hours from the conclusion of such calls, whichever is earlier;
- (ii) the transcripts of such calls shall be made available on the website within five working days of the conclusion of such calls:

21. The following events in relation to the corporate insolvency resolution process (CIRP) of a listed corporate debtor under the Insolvency Code:

- (a) Filing of application by the corporate applicant for initiation of CIRP, also specifying the amount of default;
- (b) Filing of application by financial creditors for initiation of CIRP against the corporate debtor, also specifying the amount of default;
- (c) Admission of application by the Tribunal, along with amount of default or rejection or withdrawal, as applicable;
- (d) Public announcement made pursuant to order passed by the Tribunal under section 13 of Insolvency Code;
- (e) List of creditors as required to be displayed by the corporate debtor under regulation 13(2)(c) of the IBBI (Insolvency Resolution Process for Corporate Persons) Regulations, 2016;
- (f) Appointment/ Replacement of the Resolution Professional;
- (g) Prior or post-facto intimation of the meetings of Committee of Creditors;
- (h) Brief particulars of invitation of resolution plans under section 25(2)(h) of Insolvency Code in the Form specified under regulation 36A(5) of the IBBI (Insolvency Resolution Process for Corporate Persons) Regulations, 2016;
- (i) Number of resolution plans received by Resolution Professional;
- (j) Filing of resolution plan with the Tribunal;
- (k) Approval of resolution plan by the Tribunal or rejection, if applicable;
- (l) Specific features and details of the resolution plan as approved by the Adjudicating Authority under the Insolvency Code, not involving commercial secrets, including details such as:
  - (i) Pre and Post net-worth of the company;
  - (ii) Details of assets of the company post CIRP;
  - (iii) Details of securities continuing to be imposed on the companies' assets;
  - (iv) Other material liabilities imposed on the company;
  - (v) Detailed pre and post shareholding pattern assuming 100% conversion of convertible securities;
  - (vi) Details of funds infused in the company, creditors paid-off;
  - (vii) Additional liability on the incoming investors due to the transaction, source of such funding etc.;
  - (viii) Impact on the investor – revised P/E, RONW ratios etc.;
  - (ix) Names of the new promoters, key managerial personnel, if any and their past experience in the business or employment. In case where promoters are companies, history of such company and names of natural persons in control;
  - (x) Brief description of business strategy.
- (m) Any other material information not involving commercial secrets;

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- (n) Proposed steps to be taken by the incoming investor/acquirer for achieving the MPS;
  - (o) Quarterly disclosure of the status of achieving the MPS;
  - (p) The details as to the delisting plans, if any approved in the resolution plan.
22. Initiation of Forensic audit: In case of initiation of forensic audit, (by whatever name called), the following disclosures shall be made to the stock exchanges by listed entities:
- (a) The fact of initiation of forensic audit along-with name of entity initiating the audit and reasons for the same, if available;
  - (b) Final forensic audit report (other than for forensic audit initiated by regulatory / enforcement agencies) on receipt by the Company along with comments of the management, if any.
23. Announcement or communication through social media intermediaries or mainstream media by directors, promoters, key managerial personnel or senior management of a Company, in relation to any event or information which is material for the Company in terms of regulation 30 of these regulations and is not already made available in the public domain by the Company.
- Explanation – “social media intermediaries” shall have the same meaning as defined under the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021.
24. Action(s) initiated or orders passed by any regulatory, statutory, enforcement authority or judicial body against the Company or its directors, key managerial personnel, senior management, promoter or subsidiary, in relation to the Company, in respect of the following:
- (a) search or seizure; or
  - (b) re-opening of accounts under section 130 of the Companies Act, 2013; or
  - (c) investigation under the provisions of Chapter XIV of the Companies Act, 2013; along with the following details pertaining to the actions(s) initiated, taken or orders passed:
    - (i) name of the authority;
    - (ii) nature and details of the action(s) taken, initiated or order(s) passed;
    - (iii) date of receipt of direction or order, including any ad-interim or interim orders, or any other communication from the authority;
    - (iv) details of the violation(s)/contravention(s) committed or alleged to be committed;
    - (v) impact on financial, operation or other activities of the Company, quantifiable in monetary terms to the extent possible.
25. Action(s) taken or orders passed by any regulatory, statutory, enforcement authority or judicial body against the Company or its directors, key managerial personnel, senior management, promoter or subsidiary, in relation to the Company, in respect of the following:
- (a) suspension;
  - (b) imposition of fine or penalty;
  - (c) settlement of proceedings;
  - (d) debarment;
  - (e) disqualification;

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- (f) closure of operations;
  - (g) sanctions imposed;
  - (h) warning or caution; or
  - (i) any other similar action(s) by whatever name called; along with the following details pertaining to the actions(s) initiated, taken or orders passed:
    - (i) name of the authority;
    - (ii) nature and details of the action(s) taken, initiated or order(s) passed;
    - (iii) date of receipt of direction or order, including any ad-interim or interim orders, or any other communication from the authority;
    - (iv) details of the violation(s)/contravention(s) committed or alleged to be committed;
    - (v) impact on financial, operation or other activities of the Company, quantifiable in monetary terms to the extent possible.
26. Voluntary revision of financial statements or the report of the board of directors of the Company under section 131 of the Companies Act, 2013.



## Annexure B

### **B. As prescribed under Para- B of Part A of Schedule III of the SEBI Listing Regulations Events which shall be disclosed upon application of the guidelines for materiality referred sub-regulation (4) of regulation(30):**

1. Commencement or any postponement in the date of commencement of commercial production or commercial operations of any unit/division.
2. Any of the following events pertaining to the Company:
  - (a) arrangements for strategic, technical, manufacturing, or marketing tieup; or
  - (b) adoption of new line(s) of business; or
  - (c) closure of operation of any unit, division or subsidiary (in entirety or in piecemeal).
3. Capacity addition or product launch.
4. Awarding, bagging/ receiving, amendment or termination of awarded/bagged orders/contracts not in the normal course of business.
5. Agreements (viz. loan agreement(s) or any other agreement(s) which are binding and not in normal course of business) and revision(s) or amendment(s) or termination(s) thereof.
6. Disruption of operations of any one or more units or division of the Company due to natural calamity (earthquake, flood, fire etc.), force majeure or events such as strikes, lockouts etc.
7. Effect(s) arising out of change in the regulatory framework applicable to the Company.
8. Pendency of any litigation(s) or dispute(s) or the outcome thereof which may have an impact on the Company.
9. Frauds or defaults by employees of the Company which has or may have an impact on the Company.
10. Options to purchase securities including any ESOP/ESPS Scheme.
11. Giving of guarantees or indemnity or becoming a surety , by whatever named called,for any third party.
12. Granting, withdrawal , surrender , cancellation or suspension of key licenses or regulatory approvals.
13. Delay or default in the payment of fines, penalties, dues etc to any regulatory, statutory, enforcement or judicial authority.

### **C. Any other information/event viz. major development that is likely to affect business, e.g. emergence of new technologies, expiry of patents, any change of accounting policy that may have a significant impact on the accounts, etc. and brief details thereof and any other information which is exclusively known to the Company which may be necessary to enable the holders of securities of the Company to appraise its position and to avoid the establishment of a false market in such securities.**

### **D. Without prejudice to the generality of para (A), (B) and (C) above, the Company may make disclosures of event/information as specified by the Board from time to time.**