

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of  
Hindustan Oil Exploration Company Limited

### Report on the Audit of the Standalone Financial Statements

#### Opinion

We have audited the accompanying standalone financial statements of **Hindustan Oil Exploration Company Limited** ("the Company"), which comprise the Balance Sheet as at March 31, 2020, and the Statement of Profit and Loss (including Other Comprehensive Income), the Statement of Cash Flows and the Statement of Changes in Equity for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, which includes seven unincorporated joint ventures accounted on proportionate basis.

In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, and based on the consideration of the reports of the other auditors on the separate financial statements of unincorporated joint ventures referred to in Other Matters section below, the aforesaid standalone financial statements give the information required by the Companies Act, 2013 ("the Act") in the manner so required and give a true and fair view in conformity with the Indian Accounting Standards prescribed under Section 133 of the Act read with the Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Rules, 2015, as amended, ("Ind AS") and other accounting principles generally accepted in India, of the state of affairs of the Company as at March 31, 2020, and its profit, total comprehensive income, its cash flows and the changes in equity for the year ended on that date.

#### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit of the standalone financial statements in accordance with the Standards on Auditing specified under Section 143 (10) of the Act (SAs). Our responsibilities under those Standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Standalone Financial Statements Section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the Code of Ethics issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the standalone financial statements under the provisions of the Act and the Rules made thereunder, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the ICAI's Code of Ethics. We believe that the audit evidence obtained by us and the audit evidence obtained by other auditors in terms of reports referred to in Other Matters section below is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion on the standalone financial statements.

#### Emphasis of Matter

We draw attention to Note 3.3 of the standalone financial statements which describes the management's assessment of the impact of the outbreak of COVID-19. The management believes that no adjustments are required in the financial statements as there is no impact in the current financial year. However, in view of highly uncertain economic environment due to COVID-19, a definitive assessment of the impact on the subsequent periods is dependent upon circumstances as they evolve.

Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

#### Key Audit Matters

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgment, were of most significance in our audit of the standalone financial statements of the current period. These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the standalone financial statements as a whole, and in forming our opinion thereon, and we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters. We have determined the matters described below to be the key audit matters to be communicated in our report.

S.No	Key Audit Matter	Auditor's Response
1	<p><b>Impairment of Oil and Gas Assets</b></p> <p>The Balance Sheet includes property, plant and equipment (PP&amp;E) of ₹ 30,789 Lakhs, of which ₹ 30,504 Lakhs are oil and gas assets.</p> <p>Recoverability of PP&amp;E assets has been identified as a key audit matter due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The significance of the carrying value of the assets being assessed; and</li> <li>• The assessment of the recoverable amount of the Company's Cash Generating Units (CGUs) involving significant judgements about future cash flow forecasts and the discount rates applied.</li> <li>• Estimation of oil and natural gas reserves being a significant area of judgement due to the technical uncertainty and having a substantial impact on impairment testing.</li> </ul> <p>As required by Ind AS 36 'Impairment of Assets', management estimated the recoverable amount of the CGU to determine if any impairment charges or reversals were required.</p>	<p><b>Principal audit procedures:</b></p> <p>We tested management's internal controls over the setting of oil and gas prices, discount rates and reserve estimates. In addition, we conducted the following substantive procedures:</p> <p><b>Reserves estimates</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We reviewed Company's reserves estimation methods and policies.</li> <li>• We performed a look-back analysis to check for indicators of bias over time.</li> <li>• We assessed how these policies had been applied to five internal reserves estimates.</li> <li>• We assessed the competence, capability and objectivity of Company's internal reserve experts, through obtaining their relevant professional qualifications and experience.</li> </ul> <p><b>Other procedures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We challenged management's cash generating unit determination, scrutinized the impairment and impairment reversal indicator analysis and considered whether there was any contradictory evidence present.</li> <li>• We analysed the consistency of Production done in previous years and as considered in the projections.</li> <li>• Assessing the methods used to calculate the discount rate applied to the estimated cash flows expected, we also involved our internal valuation specialist in evaluating management's assessment.</li> <li>• We verified estimated future capital and operational costs by comparison to approved budgets and assessed them with reference to field production forecasts.</li> <li>• We compared production of previous year and proved and probable reserves to reserve reports and our understanding of the life of the fields.</li> <li>• We assessed these estimates against management's historical forecasting accuracy and whether the estimates had been determined and applied on a consistent basis.</li> </ul>
2	<p><b>Measurement of provision for decommissioning, dismantling, removal and restoration ("DDRR")</b></p> <p>The provision outstanding for DDRR of the Company amounts to ₹ 10,309 Lakhs.</p> <p>The estimation of DDRR provision, involves significant degree of judgement, complex calculations and estimation uncertainty.</p> <p>Decommissioning provisions are inherently subjective given they are based on estimates of costs that will be settled in the future.</p> <p>The Company reviews the DDRR provision on an annual basis, of which key components include the interest rate, inflation rate and expected future costs.</p>	<p><b>Principal audit procedures:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We tested management's internal controls over determination of Decommissioning Provision. In addition, we conducted the following substantive procedures:</li> <li>• We have tested the reasonableness of management's inflation and discount rates used for the decommissioning provision based on market data.</li> <li>• We re-performed the calculation of the DDRR provision over the five blocks.</li> </ul>

### **Information Other than the Financial Statements and Auditor's Report Thereon**

- The Company's Board of Directors is responsible for the preparation of the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Boards' Report including Annexures to Board's Report, Management Discussion and Analysis Report and Corporate Governance Report including annexures thereon but does not include the standalone financial statements and our auditor's report thereon.
- Our opinion on the standalone financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.
- In connection with our audit of the standalone financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the standalone financial statements or our knowledge obtained during the course of our audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.
- If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

### **Management's Responsibility for the Standalone Financial Statements**

The Company's Board of Directors is responsible for the matters stated in Section 134(5) of the Act with respect to the preparation of these standalone financial statements that give a true and fair view of the financial position, financial performance including other comprehensive income, cash flows and changes in equity of the Company in accordance with the Ind AS and other accounting principles generally accepted in India. This responsibility also includes maintenance of adequate accounting records in accordance with the provisions of the Act for safeguarding the assets of the Company and for preventing and detecting frauds and other irregularities; selection and application of appropriate accounting policies; making judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and design, implementation and maintenance of adequate internal financial controls, that were operating effectively for ensuring the accuracy and completeness of the accounting records, relevant to the preparation and presentation of the standalone financial statement that give a true and fair view and are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the standalone financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Board of Directors are also responsible for overseeing the Company's financial reporting process.

### **Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Standalone Financial Statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the standalone financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with SAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these standalone financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with SAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the standalone financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal financial control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances. Under Section 143(3)(i) of the Act, we are also responsible for expressing our opinion on whether the Company has adequate internal financial controls system in place and the operating effectiveness of such controls.

- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the standalone financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the standalone financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the standalone financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

Materiality is the magnitude of misstatements in the standalone financial statements that, individually or in aggregate, makes it probable that the economic decisions of a reasonably knowledgeable user of the standalone financial statements may be influenced. We consider quantitative materiality and qualitative factors in (i) planning the scope of our audit work and in evaluating the results of our work; and (ii) to evaluate the effect of any identified misstatements in the standalone financial statements.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

From the matters communicated with those charged with governance, we determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the standalone financial statements of the current period and are therefore the key audit matters. We describe these matters in our auditor's report unless law or regulation precludes public disclosure about the matter or when, in extremely rare circumstances, we determine that a matter should not be communicated in our report because the adverse consequences of doing so would reasonably be expected to outweigh the public interest benefits of such communication.

#### **Other Matters**

- a) We have placed reliance on technical / commercial evaluation by the management in respect of the categorization of wells as exploratory, development, producing and dry wells, allocation of costs incurred on them, proved developed hydrocarbon reserves and depletion thereof on Oil and Gas assets, impairment and liability for site restorations costs.
- b) Due to the COVID-19 related lockdown, we were unable to observe the Management's year-end physical verification of inventory at certain locations. Consequently, we have performed alternate procedures to audit the existence of inventory as per the guidance provided in SA 501 - "Audit Evidence - Specific Considerations for Selected Items", and have obtained sufficient appropriate audit evidence to issue our unmodified opinion on these standalone financial statements.
- c) We did not audit the financial statements of seven unincorporated joint ventures included in the standalone Ind AS financial statements of the Company, whose financial statements reflect total assets of Rs. 22,589 Lakhs as at March 31, 2020 and total revenues of Rs. Nil for the year ended on that date, as considered in the standalone Ind AS financial statements. These financial statements of these unincorporated joint ventures have been audited by the other auditors whose reports have been furnished to us, and our opinion in so far relates to the amounts and disclosures included in respect of these unincorporated joint ventures and our report in terms of sub-section (3) of Section 143 of the Act, in so far as it relates to the aforesaid unincorporated joint ventures, is solely based on the report of such other auditors and the procedures performed by us as stated under Auditor's Responsibilities section above.

Our opinion on the standalone financial statements and our report on other legal and Regulatory Requirements below is not modified in respect of these matters.

### Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

1. As required by Section 143(3) of the Act, based on our audit and on consideration of the reports of the other auditors on the separate financial statements of the unincorporated joint ventures, referred to in the Other Matters paragraph above, we report, to the extent applicable that:
  - a) We have sought and obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purposes of our audit.
  - b) In our opinion, proper books of account as required by law have been kept by the Company so far as it appears from our examination of those books.
  - c) The Balance Sheet, the Statement of Profit and Loss including Other Comprehensive Income, the Statement of Cash Flows and Statement of Changes in Equity dealt with by this Report are in agreement with the relevant books of account.
  - d) In our opinion, the aforesaid standalone financial statements comply with the Ind AS specified under Section 133 of the Act.
  - e) On the basis of the written representations received from the directors as on March 31, 2020 taken on record by the Board of Directors, none of the directors is disqualified as on March 31, 2020 from being appointed as a director in terms of Section 164(2) of the Act.
  - f) With respect to the adequacy of the internal financial controls over financial reporting of the Company and the operating effectiveness of such controls, refer to our separate Report in "Annexure A". Our report expresses an unmodified opinion on the adequacy and operating effectiveness of the Company's internal financial controls over financial reporting.
  - g) With respect to the other matters to be included in the Auditor's Report in accordance with the requirements of Section 197(16) of the Act, as amended,
 

In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the remuneration paid by the Company to its directors during the year is in accordance with the provisions of Section 197 of the Act.
  - h) With respect to the other matters to be included in the Auditor's Report in accordance with Rule 11 of the Companies (Audit and Auditors) Rules, 2014, as amended in our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us:
    - i. The Company has disclosed the impact of pending litigations on its financial position in its standalone financial statements;
    - ii. The Company did not have any long-term contracts including derivative contracts for which there were any material foreseeable losses.
    - iii. There has been no delay in transferring amounts, required to be transferred, to the Investor Education and Protection Fund by the Company.
2. As required by the Companies (Auditor's Report) Order, 2016 ("the Order") issued by the Central Government in terms of Section 143(11) of the Act, we give in "Annexure B" a statement on the matters specified in paragraphs 3 and 4 of the Order.

For **Deloitte Haskins & Sells LLP**  
**Chartered Accountants**  
 (Firm's Registration No.117366W/W-100018)

**Bhavani Balasubramanian**  
 (Partner)  
 (Membership No. 22156)  
 UDIN: 20022156AAAAAQ2976

Chennai, May 31, 2020

**ANNEXURE "A" TO THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

(Referred to in paragraph 1(f) under 'Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements' Section of our report of even date)

**Report on the Internal Financial Controls Over Financial Reporting under Clause (i) of Sub-Section 3 of Section 143 of the Companies Act, 2013 ("the Act")**

We have audited the internal financial controls over financial reporting of **Hindustan Oil Exploration Company Limited** ("the Company") as of March 31, 2020 in conjunction with our audit of the standalone Ind AS financial statements of the Company for the year ended on that date.

**Management's Responsibility for Internal Financial Controls**

The Company's management is responsible for establishing and maintaining internal financial controls based on the internal control over financial reporting criteria established by the Company considering the essential components of internal control stated in the Guidance Note on Audit of Internal Financial Controls over Financial Reporting issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India. These responsibilities include the design, implementation and maintenance of adequate internal financial controls that were operating effectively for ensuring the orderly and efficient conduct of its business, including adherence to company's policies, the safeguarding of its assets, the prevention and detection of frauds and errors, the accuracy and completeness of the accounting records, and the timely preparation of reliable financial information, as required under the Companies Act, 2013.

**Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's internal financial controls over financial reporting of the Company based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with the Guidance Note on Audit of Internal Financial Controls Over Financial Reporting (the "Guidance Note") issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India and the Standards on Auditing prescribed under Section 143(10) of the Companies Act, 2013, to the extent applicable to an audit of internal financial controls. Those Standards and the Guidance Note require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether adequate internal financial controls over financial reporting was established and maintained and if such controls operated effectively in all material respects.

Our audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the adequacy of the internal financial controls system over financial reporting and their operating effectiveness. Our audit of internal financial controls over financial reporting included obtaining an understanding of internal financial controls over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, and testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion on the Company's internal financial controls system over financial reporting.

**Meaning of Internal Financial Controls over Financial Reporting**

A company's internal financial control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company's internal financial control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorisations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorised acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

**Inherent Limitations of Internal Financial Controls over Financial Reporting**

Because of the inherent limitations of internal financial controls over financial reporting, including the possibility of collusion or improper management override of controls, material misstatements due to error or fraud may occur and not be detected. Also, projections of any evaluation of the internal financial controls over financial reporting to future periods are subject to the risk that the internal financial control over financial reporting may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

**Opinion**

In our opinion, to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us the Company has, in all material respects, an adequate internal financial controls system over financial reporting and such internal financial controls over financial reporting were operating effectively as at March 31, 2020, based on the criteria for internal financial control over financial reporting established by the Company considering the essential components of internal control stated in the Guidance Note on Audit of Internal Financial Controls Over Financial Reporting issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India.

For **Deloitte Haskins & Sells LLP**  
**Chartered Accountants**  
(Firm's Registration No.117366W/W-100018)

**Bhavani Balasubramanian**  
(Partner)

(Membership No. 22156)  
UDIN: 20022156AAAAAQ2976

Chennai, May 31, 2020

**ANNEXURE "B" TO THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

**(Referred to in paragraph 2 under 'Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements' Section of our report of even date)**

- (i) In respect of Property, plant and equipment :-
- (a) The Company has maintained proper records showing full particulars, including quantitative details and situation of Property, plant and equipment.
- (b) The Property, plant and equipment were physically verified during the year by the Management in accordance with a regular programme of verification which, in our opinion, provides for physical verification of all the Property, plant and equipment at reasonable intervals. According to the information and explanation given to us, no material discrepancies were noticed on such verification.
- (c) According to the information and explanations given to us and the records examined by us and based on the examination of the registered sale deed provided to us, we report that, the title deeds, comprising all the immovable properties of land and buildings which are freehold, are held in the name of the Company as at the balance sheet date.
- (ii) As explained to us, the inventories were physically verified during the year by the Management at reasonable intervals and no material discrepancies were noticed on physical verification.
- (iii) The Company has not granted any loans, secured or unsecured, to companies, firms, Limited Liability Partnerships or other parties covered in the register maintained under Section 189 of the Companies Act, 2013.
- (iv) In our opinion and according to the information and explanations given to us, the Company has complied with the provisions of Sections 185 and 186 of the Companies Act, 2013 in respect of grant of loans, making investments and providing guarantees and securities, as applicable.
- (v) The Company has not accepted deposits during the year and does not have any unclaimed deposits as at March 31, 2020 and therefore, the provisions of the clause (v) of the Order is not applicable.
- (vi) The maintenance of cost records has been specified by the Central Government under Section 148(1) of the Companies Act, 2013. We have broadly reviewed the cost records maintained by the Company pursuant to the Companies (Cost Records and Audit) Rules, 2014, as amended prescribed by the Central Government under sub-section (1) of Section 148 of the Companies Act, 2013, and are of the opinion that, prima facie, the prescribed cost records have been made and maintained. We have, however, not made a detailed examination of the cost records with a view to determine whether they are accurate or complete.
- (vii) According to the information and explanations given to us in respect of statutory dues:
- (a) The Company has been generally regular in depositing undisputed statutory dues including Provident Fund, Income-tax, Goods and Services Tax, Customs Duty, Value Added Tax, Cess and other material statutory dues applicable to it with the appropriate authorities.
- (b) There were no undisputed amounts payable in respect of Provident Fund, Income-tax, Goods and Services Tax, Customs Duty, Value Added Tax, cess and other material statutory dues in arrears as at March 31, 2020 for a period of more than six months from the date they became payable.
- (c) Details of dues of Service Tax which have not been deposited as on March 31, 2020 on account of disputes are given below:

Name of Statute	Nature of dues	Forum where dispute is pending	Period to which the amount relates	Amount involved (₹)
Finance Act, 1994	Service Tax	CESTAT, Chennai	April 2006 to November 2007	14,74,789
			October 2007 to March 2011	1,46,46,272*

(\* ) Net of ₹ 7,70,856 paid under protest

- (viii) The Company has not taken any loans or borrowings from financial institutions, banks and government or has not issued any debentures. Hence reporting under clause (viii) of the Order is not applicable.
- (ix) The Company has not raised moneys by way of initial public offer or further public offer (including debt instruments) or term loans and hence reporting under clause (ix) of the Order is not applicable.
- (x) To the best of our knowledge and according to the information and explanations given to us, no fraud by the Company or no material fraud on the Company by its officers or employees has been noticed or reported during the year.
- (xi) In our opinion and according to the information and explanations given to us, the Company has paid / provided managerial remuneration in accordance with the requisite approvals mandated by the provisions of Section 197 read with Schedule V to the Companies Act, 2013.
- (xii) The Company is not a Nidhi Company and hence reporting under clause 3 (xii) of the Order is not applicable.
- (xiii) In our opinion and according to the information and explanations given to us the Company is in compliance with Section 177 and 188 of the Companies Act, 2013, where applicable, for all transactions with the related parties and the details of related party transactions have been disclosed in the standalone financial statements as required by the applicable accounting standards.
- (xiv) During the year the Company has not made any preferential allotment or private placement of shares or fully or partly convertible debentures and hence reporting under clause (xiv) of the Order is not applicable.
- (xv) In our opinion and according to the information and explanations given to us, during the year the Company has not entered into any non-cash transactions with its directors or persons connected to its directors and hence provisions of Section 192 of the Companies Act, 2013 are not applicable.
- (xvi) The Company is not required to be registered under Section 45-IA of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.

For **Deloitte Haskins & Sells LLP**  
**Chartered Accountants**  
(Firm's Registration No.117366W/W-100018)

**Bhavani Balasubramanian**  
(Partner)  
(Membership No. 22156)  
UDIN: 20022156AAAAAQ2976

Chennai, May 31, 2020