

# **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF NESTLÉ INDIA LIMITED**

## **Report on the Audit of the Ind AS Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying Ind AS financial statements of Nestlé India Limited ("the Company"), which comprise the Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2018, the Statement of Profit and Loss, the Statement of Changes in Equity and the Statement of Cash Flows for the year then ended, and summary of the significant accounting policies and other explanatory information (collectively referred to as "Ind AS financial statements").

## **Management's Responsibility for the Ind AS Financial Statements**

The Company's Board of Directors is responsible for the matters stated in Section 134(5) of the Companies Act, 2013 ("the Act") with respect to the preparation of these Ind AS financial statements that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs, profit/loss and other comprehensive income, changes in equity and cash flows of the Company in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in India, including the Indian Accounting Standards (Ind AS) prescribed under Section 133 of the Act.

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 judgements 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 Ind AS financial statements that give a true and fair view and are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the Ind AS 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.

## **Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these Ind AS financial statements based on our audit.

We have taken into account the provisions of the Act, the accounting and auditing standards and matters which are required to be included in the audit report under the provisions of the Act and the Rules made thereunder.

We conducted our audit of the Ind AS financial statements in accordance with the Standards on Auditing specified under Section 143(10) of the Act. Those Standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Ind AS financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and the disclosures in the Ind AS financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the Ind AS financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal financial control relevant to the Company's preparation of the Ind AS financial statements that give a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of the accounting estimates made by the Company's Directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the Ind AS financial statements.

We are also responsible to 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 entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in the auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify the opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of the auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause an entity to cease to continue as a going concern.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion on the Ind AS financial statements.

## Opinion

In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the aforesaid Ind AS financial statements give the information required by the Act in the manner so required and give a true and fair view in conformity with the accounting principles generally accepted in India of the state of affairs of the Company as at 31 December 2018, its profit and other comprehensive income, changes in equity and its cash flows for the year ended on that date.

## Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

1. 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 A" a statement on the matters specified in paragraphs 3 and 4 of the Order.
2. As required by Section 143(3) of the Act, we report 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, the Statement of Cash Flows and Statement of Changes in Equity dealt with by this Report are in agreement with the books of account.
- d) In our opinion, the aforesaid Ind AS financial statements comply with the Indian Accounting Standards prescribed under section 133 of the Act.
- e) On the basis of the written representations received from the directors as on 31 December 2018 taken on record by the Board of Directors, none of the directors is disqualified as on 31 December 2018 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 with reference to financial statements of the Company and the operating effectiveness of such controls, refer to our separate Report in "Annexure B".
- g) 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, 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 Ind AS financial statements - Refer Note 37 and 45 to the Ind AS 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.
  - iv. The disclosures in the financial statements regarding holdings as well as dealings in specified bank notes during the period from 8 November 2016 to 30 December 2016 have not been made since they do not pertain to the financial year ended 31 December 2018.

For **B S R & Co. LLP**  
*Chartered Accountants*

Firm's Registration No.: 101248W/W-100022

Place: Gurugram  
Date: 14 February 2019

**Jiten Chopra**  
*Partner*  
Membership No.: 092894

**Annexure - A to the Independent Auditor's Report of even date on the Ind AS financial statements of Nestlé India Limited**

- (i) (a) The Company has maintained proper records showing full particulars, including quantitative details and situation of fixed assets.
- (b) The Company has a regular programme of physical verification of its fixed assets by which all fixed assets are verified in a phased manner over a period of two years. In our opinion, the periodicity of physical verification is reasonable having regard to the size of the Company and the nature of its assets. As informed 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 / transfer deed / conveyance 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. In respect of immovable properties of land and buildings that have been taken on lease and disclosed as fixed asset in the financial statements, the lease agreements are in the name of the Company, where the Company is the lessee in the agreement.
- (ii) The inventory, except goods in transit and stock lying with third parties, has been physically verified by the management during the year. In our opinion, the frequency of such verification is reasonable. Confirmations have been obtained for stock lying with third parties at the year end. According to the information and explanations given to us, the discrepancies noticed on physical verification of inventory as compared to book records were not material and have been properly dealt with in the books of account.
- (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. Accordingly, clause 3(iii) of the order is not applicable.
- (iv) According to the information and explanations given to us and on the basis of our examination of the records of the Company, the Company has not entered into any transactions in respect of loans, investments, guarantees, and security which are covered under section 185 of the Companies Act, 2013.

The Company has complied with the provisions of Section 186 of the Companies Act, 2013 in respect of grant of loans, making investments and providing guarantees and securities, as applicable.

- (v) According to the information and explanations given to us, the Company has not accepted any deposits covered under

section 73 to 76 or any other relevant provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 and the rules framed there under. Accordingly, clause 3(v) of the Order is not applicable.

- (vi) We have broadly reviewed the records maintained by the Company pursuant to the rules prescribed by Central Government for maintenance of cost records under sub section (1) of Section 148 of the Act and are of the opinion that prima facie, the prescribed accounts and records have been made and maintained. However, we have not made a detailed examination of the records.
- (vii) (a) According to the information and explanations given to us and on the basis of our examination of the records of the Company, amounts deducted/ accrued in the books of account in respect of undisputed statutory dues including Provident Fund, Employees' State Insurance, Income-tax, Duty of Customs, Goods and Services Tax, Cess and other material statutory dues have been regularly deposited during the year by the Company with the appropriate authorities.

According to the information and explanations given to us, no undisputed amounts payable in respect of Provident Fund, Employees' State Insurance, Income-tax, Duty of customs, Goods and Services Tax, Cess and other material statutory dues were in arrears as at 31 December 2018 for a period of more than six months from the date they became payable.

- (b) According to the information and explanations given to us, except as stated in Appendix 1, there are no dues of Income-tax, Goods and Services tax, Sales tax, Service tax, Duty of customs, Duty of excise or Value added tax which have not been deposited on account of any dispute.
- (viii) In our opinion and according to the information and explanations given to us, the Company has not defaulted in repayment of dues to its bankers. The Company did not have any dues payable to any financial institutions, government or debentures holders during the year.
- (ix) The Company has not raised any money by way of initial public offer, further public offer (including debt instruments) and term loans during the year. Accordingly, the provisions of clause 3(ix) of the Order are not applicable to the Company.
- (x) According to the information and explanations given to us, no material 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) According to the information and explanations given to us and based on our examination of the records, the Company has paid or provided for managerial remuneration in accordance with the requisite approvals mandated by the provisions of section 197 read with Schedule V to the Act.

- (xii) In our opinion and according to the information and explanations given to us, the Company is not a Nidhi Company. Accordingly, clause 3(xii) of the Order is not applicable.
- (xiii) According to the information and explanations given to us and based on our examinations of the records of the Company, transactions with the related parties are in compliance with sections 177 and 188 of the Act, where applicable. The details of such related party transactions have been disclosed in the Ind AS financial statements as required by applicable accounting standards.
- (xiv) According to the information and explanations given to us and based on our examination of the records of the Company, the Company has not made any preferential allotment or private placement of shares or fully or partly convertible debentures during the year. Accordingly, clause 3(xiv) of the Order is not applicable.

- (xv) According to the information and explanations given to us and based on our examination of the records of the Company, the Company has not entered into non-cash transactions with directors or persons connected with him. Accordingly, clause 3(xv) of the Order is not applicable.
- (xvi) According to the information and explanations given to us, the Company is not required to be registered under section 45-IA of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.

For **B S R & Co. LLP**  
Chartered Accountants  
Firm's Registration No.: 101248W/W-100022

Place: Gurugram  
Date: 14 February 2019

**Jiten Chopra**  
Partner  
Membership No.: 092894

## Appendix 1 to the statement on the matters specified in paragraph vii(b) of the Companies Auditors Report Order, 2016

(₹ in Million)

Name of the Statute	Nature of Dues	Amount*	Amount Paid under protest	Period to which amount relates	Forum where case is pending
Central Excise Act, 1944	Duty of Excise	68.7	15.5	1996-2006	Supreme Court
Central Excise Act, 1944	Duty of Excise	0.9	-	1994	High Court
Central Excise Act, 1944	Duty of Excise	30.9	33.1	2005-2008	Customs, Excise and Service Tax Appellate Tribunal
Central Excise Act, 1944	Duty of Excise	0.5	-	2000	Commissioner
Customs Act, 1962	Custom Duty	52.8	3.8	2008-2013	Customs, Excise and Service Tax Appellate Tribunal
Customs Act, 1962	Custom Duty	53.0	2.9	2008-2009	Commissioner
The Finance Act, 1994	Service Tax	626.8	214.3	2005-2007, 2008, 2010-2014	Customs, Excise and Service Tax Appellate Tribunal
Central Sales Tax/ Value Added Tax	Sales Tax/ VAT	101.3	2.5	1997-1998, 2000-2006, 2007-2009, 2014-2015	High Court
Central Sales Tax/ Value Added Tax	Sales Tax/ VAT	139.5	49.7	2004-2005, 2006-2007, 2010-2015	Tribunal
Central Sales Tax/ Value Added Tax	Sales Tax/ VAT	183.6	-	2005-2012	Appellate & Revisional Board
Central Sales Tax/ Value Added Tax	Sales Tax/ VAT	22.0	2.3	2005- 2007, 2008-2009, 2011-2013, 2014-2015	Commissioner (Appeals)
Central Sales Tax/ Value Added Tax	Sales Tax/ VAT	81.0	1.1	2004- 2005, 2010-2012, 2013-2014	Commissioner
Central Sales Tax/ Value Added Tax	Sales Tax/ VAT	73.3	1.9	2008-10, 2014-15	Joint Commissioner
Central Sales Tax/ Value Added Tax	Sales Tax/ VAT	50.1	5.8	2008-2009, 2010-2011, 2012-2015	Additional Commissioner
Central Sales Tax/ Value Added Tax	Sales Tax/ VAT	1.1	0.2	2007-2008	Assessing Officer
Income Tax Act, 1961	Income Tax	1,253.2	-	1996-2001, 2004-2008	Supreme Court
Income Tax Act, 1961	Income Tax	298.6	-	2000-2004	High Court
Income Tax Act, 1961	Income Tax	3,594.1	33.4	2006-2007, 2008-2015	Income Tax Appellate Tribunal

\* As per demand order

**Annexure B referred to in our Independent Auditor's Report of even date on the financial statements of Nestlé India Limited**

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

We have audited the internal financial controls with reference to financial statements of **Nestlé India Limited** ("the Company") as of 31 December 2018 in conjunction with our audit of the 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 with reference to financial statements 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 ('ICAI'). 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.

**Auditors' Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's internal financial controls with reference to financial statements 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") and the Standards on Auditing, issued by ICAI and deemed to be prescribed under section 143(10) of the Companies Act, 2013 to the extent applicable to an audit of internal financial controls, both applicable to an audit of Internal Financial Controls and, both issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India. 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 with reference to financial statements 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 with reference to financial statements and their operating effectiveness. Our audit of internal financial controls with reference to financial statements included obtaining an understanding of internal financial controls with reference to financial statements, 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 with reference to financial statements.

**Meaning of Internal Financial Controls with reference to Financial Statements**

A company's internal financial controls with reference to financial statements 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 with reference to financial statements 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 with reference to Financial Statements**

Because of the inherent limitations of internal financial controls with reference to financial statements, 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 with reference to financial statements to future periods are subject to the risk that the internal financial control with reference to financial statements 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, the Company has, in all material respects, an adequate internal financial controls system with reference to financial statements and such internal financial controls with reference to financial statements were operating effectively as at 31 December 2018, based on the internal control with reference to financial statements 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.

**For B S R & Co. LLP**  
*Chartered Accountants*

Firm's Registration No.: 101248W/W-100022

Place: Gurugram  
Date: 14 February 2019

**Jiten Chopra**  
*Partner*  
Membership No.: 092894