

Independent Auditors' Report

To the Members of Asian Paints Limited

REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF THE STANDALONE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying standalone financial statements of Asian Paints Limited ("the Company"), which comprise the Balance Sheet as at 31st March, 2020, and the Statement of Profit and Loss (including other comprehensive income), Cash Flow Statement and Statement of Changes in Equity for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, 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 31st March, 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 is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion on the standalone financial statements.

Key Audit Matter

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 matter described below to be the key audit matter to be communicated in our report.

The Key Audit Matter	How was the matter addressed in our audit
<p>Revenue recognition (Refer note 1.4 (f) and 22A of the Standalone Financial Statements)</p> <p>Revenue is one of the key profit drivers and is therefore susceptible to misstatement. Cut-off is the key assertion insofar as revenue recognition is concerned, since an inappropriate cut-off can result in material misstatement of results for the year.</p>	<p>Our audit procedures with regard to revenue recognition included testing controls, automated and manual, around dispatches / deliveries, inventory reconciliations and circularization of receivable balances, substantive testing for cut-offs and analytical review procedures.</p>

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

The Company's Board of Directors is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises Board's Report, Report on Corporate governance and Business Responsibility report but does not include the consolidated financial statements, 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

Independent Auditors' Report (Contd.)

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 statements 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.

Those 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.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

1. As required by Section 143(3) of the Act, based on our audit, 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 including other comprehensive income, the Cash Flow Statement and the 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 31st March, 2020 taken on record by the Board of Directors, none of the directors is disqualified as on 31st March, 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

Abhijit A. Damle
Partner
Membership No 102912
UDIN: 20102912AAAADD9396

Mumbai
June 23, 2020

Annexure “A” to the Independent Auditors’ 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 Asian Paints Limited (“the Company”) as of 31st March, 2020 in conjunction with our audit of the standalone 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 (“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.

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 31st March, 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

Abhijit A. Damle

Partner

Mumbai

June 23, 2020

Membership No 102912

UDIN: 20102912AAAADD9396

Annexure B to the Independent Auditors' Report

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

- i. (a) The Company has maintained proper records showing full particulars, including quantitative details and situation of the 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 three years. In our opinion, this periodicity of physical verification is reasonable having regard to the size of the Company and the nature of its assets. Pursuant to the program, certain fixed assets were physically verified by the Management during the year. According to the information and explanations 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 including registered title deeds, 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 that have been taken on lease and disclosed as Right of Use Assets 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 stocks lying with third parties, have been physically verified by the management during the year. In our opinion, the frequency of such verification is reasonable. For stocks lying with third parties at the year end, written confirmations have been obtained. The discrepancies noticed on verification between the physical stocks and the book records were not material and have been dealt with in books of account.
- iii. According to the information and explanations given to us, the Company has granted loans, unsecured, to one of its wholly owned subsidiary company, covered in the register maintained under section 189 of the Companies Act, 2013, in respect of which:
 - (a) The terms and conditions of the grant of such loans are, in our opinion, prima facie, not prejudicial to the Company's interest.
 - (b) The schedule of repayment of principal and payment of interest has been stipulated and repayments or receipts of principal amounts and interest have been regular as per stipulations.
 - (c) There is no overdue amount remaining outstanding as at the year-end.
- iv. In our opinion and according to information and explanations given to us, the Company has complied with provisions of Section 185 and 186 of the Act in respect of grant of loans, making investments and providing guarantees and securities, as applicable.
- v. In our opinion and according to the information and explanations given to us, the Company has not accepted any deposit from the public in accordance with the provisions of Sections 73 to 76 or any other relevant provisions of the Act and the rules framed there under. Accordingly, paragraph 3(v) of the Order is not applicable to the Company.
- vi. 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.
- vii. According to the information and explanations given to us, in respect of statutory dues:
 - (a) The Company has generally been regular in depositing undisputed statutory dues, including Provident Fund, Employees' State Insurance, Income Tax, Customs Duty, Goods and Service Tax, cess and other material statutory dues applicable to it to the appropriate authorities.
 - (b) There were no undisputed amounts payable in respect of Provident Fund, Employees' State Insurance, Income Tax, Customs Duty, Goods and Service Tax, cess and other material statutory dues in arrears as at 31st March, 2020 for a period of more than six months from the date they became payable.
 - (c) Details of dues of Income Tax, Sales Tax, Service Tax, Excise Duty, and Value Added Tax which have not been deposited as on 31st March, 2020 on account of disputes are given below:

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Name of Statute	Nature of Dues	Forum where dispute is pending	Period to which the Amount relates	Amount under involved (₹ in crores)	Amount Unpaid (₹ In crores)
Income Tax	IT Matters under dispute	CIT (A)	A.Y. 2017-18	77.18	37.96
		CIT (A)	A.Y. 2016-17	67.40	51.24
		Tribunal/ CIT(A)	A.Y. 2015-16	13.92	6.05
		Tribunal/ CIT(A)	A.Y. 2014-15	9.72	-
		Tribunal/ CIT(A)	A.Y. 2013-14	2.61	-
		Tribunal/ CIT(A)	A.Y. 2012-13	2.92	-
		Assessing Officer	A.Y. 2006-07	0.82	-
		High Court	A.Y. 2007-08	0.09	0.09
		Tribunal	A.Y. 2009-10	0.11	0.11
		Tribunal	A.Y. 2010-11	0.13	0.13
		CIT (A)	A.Y. 2011-12	0.40	0.32
		Tribunal	A.Y. 2011-12	0.31	0.31
Total (A)				175.61	96.21
Sales tax	Assessment Dues	Assessing Authority	F.Y. 2000-01 to F.Y. 2002-03, F.Y.2004-05 to F.Y. 2015-16, F.Y.2017-18	22.16	21.03
		First Appellate level	F.Y. 1995-96, F.Y. 1997 to F.Y. 1999, F.Y. 2000-01 to F.Y. 2017-18	35.10	27.99
		Tribunal	F.Y. 1991-92, F.Y. 1993-94, F.Y. 1996-97 to F.Y. 1999-00, F.Y. 2000-01 to F.Y. 2011-12, F.Y.2013-14	12.16	8.05
		High court	F.Y. 1993-94, F.Y. 1997-98, F.Y. 2000-01 to F.Y. 2009-10	1.78	0.93
		Supreme Court	F.Y. 1992-93, F.Y. 1993-94	0.16	0.16
Total (B)				71.36	58.16
Central Excise Act, 1944 & Customs Act, 1962	Assessment Dues	First Appellate	F.Y. 1986-87, F.Y. 1996-97, Sep 13 to Nov 13, F.Y. 2015-16 F.Y. 2016-17, Apr-17 to Jun-17, F.Y. 2018-19	1.96	1.82
		Tribunal	F.Y. 2005-06 to F.Y. 2015-16	8.14	6.60
Total (C)				10.10	8.42
Total (A+B+C)				257.07	162.79

There are no dues of Customs duty which have not been deposited on account of dispute.

- viii. In our opinion and according to the information and explanations given to us, the Company has not defaulted during the year in repayment of dues to bankers and government. The Company did not have any outstanding dues to financial institutions and debenture holders during the year.
- ix. The Company did not have any term loans outstanding during the year. 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 and 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, managerial remuneration has been paid or provided in accordance with the requisite approvals mandated by the provisions of Section 197 read with Schedule V to the Act.

- xii. According to the information and explanations given to us, the Company is not a Nidhi Company as prescribed under Section 406 of the Act. Accordingly, reporting under clause (xii) of the Order is not applicable to the Company.
- xiii. According to the information and explanations given to us, all transactions with the related parties are in compliance with Section 177 and 188 of Act, where applicable and the details have been disclosed in the Financial Statements as required by the applicable Indian 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 to the Company.
- 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 and hence provisions of section 192 of the Companies Act, 2013 are not applicable.

- xvi. According to 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 **Deloitte Haskins & Sells LLP**
Chartered Accountants
Firm's Registration No: 117366W/W-100018

Abhijit A. Damle
Partner
Membership No 102912
UDIN: 20102912AAAADD9396

Mumbai
June 23, 2020

