



Astral Limited

CIN: L25200GJ1996PLC029134

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13th October, 2023

COMMUNICATION ON TAX DEDUCTED AT SOURCE ON PAYMENT OF DIVIDEND

Dear Shareholder,

We are happy to inform you that the Board of Directors at their Meeting to be held on 18th October, 2023 shall consider the declaration of Interim Dividend on Equity Share of face value of Re. 1/ – each for the financial year 2023-2024. The Record Date for the determining the shareholders entitled for payment of interim dividend shall be 27th October, 2023. The Interim Dividend, if declared, shall be paid to the entitled shareholders on or after 27th October, 2023.

As you are aware that as per the Income-tax Act, 1961 (ACT), as amended by the Finance Act, 2020, dividends paid or distributed by the Company after 1st April 2020 shall be taxable in the hands of the Shareholders. Your Company shall therefore be required to deduct tax at source (TDS) at the time of making payment of the above said Dividend, at the applicable rates.

This communication summarizes the applicable TDS provisions in accordance with the provisions of the Income Tax Act, 1961, for various categories, including Resident or Non-Resident members and the manner of submission of required forms/documents.

1. For resident Shareholders:

Sl. No.	Category of Shareholder	TDS Rate (Read with notes below)	Exemption/applicability /Documents required (if any)
(a)	Resident Member with Valid PAN	10%	Tax will be deducted at source ("TDS") under Section 194 of the Act on the amount of dividend payable unless exempt under any of the provisions of the Act Update/Verify the PAN, and the residential status as per Income Tax Act, 1961 if not already done, with the depositories (in case of shares held in demat mode) and with the Company's Registrar and Transfer Agents i.e. Bigshare Services Private Limited (in case of shares held in physical mode).
(b)	Resident Individual Member	NIL	In case of Individuals, TDS would not apply if the aggregate of total dividend paid to them by the

			Company under folio(s) during FY 2023-24 does not exceed Rs.5,000/-.
(c)	Resident Individual Member Submitting Form 15G/ Form 15H	NIL	<p>Declaration in Form 15G (for individuals, with no tax liability on total income and income not exceeding maximum amount which is not chargeable to tax) / Form 15H (for individual above the age of 60 years with no tax liability on total income for the FY 2023-24).</p> <p>Documents required</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-attested Duly filled declaration in Form 15G/15H
(d)	Resident Member Submitting Order under Section 197 of the Income Tax Act, 1961 (Act)	Rate provided in the Order	<p>Lower/NIL rate of tax as specified in exemption certificate for the FY 2023-24 obtained from tax authority</p> <p>Document required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exemption certificate issued by the Income-tax Department
(e)	Mutual Fund specified under clause (23D) of Section 10 of the Income Tax Act, 1961	NIL	<p>Document required :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-declaration that it is registered with SEBI and is notified under Section 10 (23D) of the Act Self-attested copy of PAN card and Certificate of registration with SEBI
(f)	An Insurance Company exempted under Section 194 of the Income Tax Act, 1961	NIL	<p>Document required :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self declaration that it qualifies as 'Insurer' as per section 2(7A) of the Insurance Act, 1938 and has full beneficial interest with respect to the shares owned by it Self-attested copy of PAN card Certificate of registration with Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA)/ LIC/ GIC
(g)	Alternative Investment Fund (AIF) established in India	NIL	<p>Document required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-declaration that its income is exempt under Section 10 (23FBA) of the Act and they are registered with SEBI as Category I or Category II AIF Self-attested copy of the PAN card Certificate of AIF registration with SEBI
(h)	Entities exempt under Section 10 of the Act :	NIL	<p>Document required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-attested copy of documentary evidence supporting the exemption from TDS (entities as provided in Circular No.18 of 2017) Self-attested copy of the PAN card.

(i)	Benefit under Rule 37BA	Rates based on the status of the beneficial owners	<p>In case where shares are held by Clearing Member/ intermediaries/ stock brokers and TDS is to be applied by the Company in the PAN of the beneficial shareholders, then TDS will be deducted in beneficial shareholders PAN, subject to receipt of following documents</p> <p>Document required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self attested copy of declaration as per ANNEXURE 1 wherein reasons for giving credit in another PAN is clearly mentioned. List of beneficial owners in the format prescribed as ANNEXURE 1A. <p>In case of absence of receipt of documents as specified, the company will deduct TDS in the PAN of Clearing Member/ intermediaries/ stock brokers/Trusts at applicable rate</p>
(j)	New Pension System (NPS) Trust	NIL	<p>Document required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-declaration that it qualifies as NPS trust and income is eligible for exemption under section 10(44) of the Act and being regulated by the provisions of the Indian Trusts Act, 1882 Self-attested copy of the PAN card.
(k)	Resident shareholders without PAN/Invalid PAN/ Deleted PAN/ non-compliance of Section 206AB /Non linking of PAN with Aadhar Number	20% or rates as mentioned in section 206AB, whichever is higher	NA

2. For Non-Resident shareholders:

Sl. No.	Category of Shareholder	TDS Rate (Read with notes below)	Exemption/applicability /Documents required (if any)
(a)	Any non-resident shareholder (including Foreign Institutional Investors, Foreign Portfolio Investors (FII, FPI))	<p>20% (plus applicable surcharge and cess)</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Tax Treaty Rate (whichever is lower) provided documents are received (In case of non-compliance of</p>	<p>Update/Verify the PAN and the residential status as per Income Tax Act, 1961, if not already done, with the depositories (in case of shares held in demat mode) and with the Company's Registrar and Transfer Agents i.e. Bigshare Services Private Limited (in case of shares held in physical mode).</p> <p>As per Section 90 of the Act, a non-resident shareholder has an option to be governed by the provisions of the Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement ('DTAA') between India and the country of tax residence of the shareholder, if</p>

		Section 206AB, TDS will be deducted at applicable higher rate)	<p>such DTAA provisions are more beneficial to such shareholder.</p> <p>To avail the DTAA benefits, the non-resident shareholder will have to compulsorily provide the following documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tax Residency Certificate (TRC) obtained from the tax authorities of the country of which the shareholder is a resident certifying status during Financial Year 2023-24. • Form 10F duly filled and signed (Format attached as Annexure 2. Shareholders who have PAN need to mandatorily file the Form 10F online at the link https://eportal.incometax.gov.in/ with effect from 1st April, 2023 to avail the benefit of DTAA and submit to Company such filed form. • self-attested copy of the PAN card • Completed and duly signed Self-declaration from Non-resident as per Annexure 3 • In case of Foreign Institutional Investors and Foreign Portfolio Investors copy of SEBI registration certificate <p>It is recommended that shareholders should independently satisfy its eligibility to claim DTAA benefit including meeting of all conditions laid down by DTAA.</p> <p>Application of beneficial DTAA rate shall depend upon the completeness of the documents submitted by the Non-Resident shareholders and satisfactory review by the Company. It is at sole discretion of the Company to apply Domestic TDS rate and is not obligated to apply the beneficial DTAA rates for tax deduction on dividend payable to shareholders.</p> <p>In case of non-residents falling under category as mentioned in note 3.1 below, please provide following document</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • self-attested copy of the PAN card • No PE in India declaration
(b)	Submitting Order u/s 197 (i.e. lower or withholding tax certificate)	Rate provided in the Order	Lower/NIL withholding tax certificate obtained from tax authority to be submitted.

* Notes:

1. Shareholders holding shares under multiple accounts under different status/ category (eg. Resident and Non-Resident) and single PAN, may note that, higher of the tax as applicable to the status in which shares held under a PAN will be considered on their entire holding in different accounts.
2. Recording of the Permanent Account Number (PAN) for the registered Folio/DP ID-Client ID is mandatory. In the absence of valid PAN, tax will be deducted at a higher rate of, as per Section 206AA read with 206AB of the Act.

3. **TDS to be deducted at higher rate in case of non-filers of Return of Income:**

For Shareholders who are identified as "Specified Persons" under Sec 206AB of the Act, higher tax rate as applicable would be deducted if

- a. Shareholder has not furnished the return of income for the assessment year relevant to the previous year immediately preceding the financial year in which tax is required to be deducted
- b. Aggregate of tax deducted at source and tax collected at source is rupees fifty thousand or more in the said previous years.

For the purpose of TDS, Company will verify the status (i.e., Specified Person or not) from the Government enabled online facility and deduct TDS accordingly.

- 3.1 Provision related to "Specified person" that as per sections 206AB shall not apply to non-resident who does not have a permanent establishment in India.
- 3.2 If Person is "specified person" as per section 206AB then TDS Rate is higher of:
 - Twice the rate specified in the relevant provisions of the Income-tax Act; or
 - Twice the rate or rates in force; or
 - the rate of 5%;

4. **TDS to be deducted at higher rate in case of non-linkage of PAN with Aadhaar**

As per Section 139AA of the Income Tax Act, every person who has been allotted a PAN and who is eligible to obtain Aadhaar, shall be required to link the PAN with Aadhaar. In case of failure to comply to this, the PAN allotted shall be deemed to be invalid/inoperative and tax shall be deducted at the rate of 20% as per the provisions of section 206AA of the Act. The Company will be using functionality of the Income-tax department for the above purpose. Provisions will be effective from 1st July, 2023.

Shareholders may visit Income tax website for FAQ issued by Government on PAN Aadhar linking.

For the attention of all Shareholders:

Shareholders may make an online submission of Form 15G / 15H and Form 10F, along with the requisite supporting documents (scanned copies) as mentioned above, as applicable, on the website of Bigshare Services Private Limited, the Company's Registrar and Share Transfer Agent ("Bigshare") at www.bigshareonline.com. The Shareholders may also download these forms from Bigshare's website and send: (a) physical copies of the duly filled forms / documents mentioned above to Bigshare's Registered Office at Office No S6-2, 6th Floor, Pinnacle Business Park, Next to Ahura Centre, Mahakali Caves Road Andheri (East), Mumbai 400093. Phone No: +91 22-62638200, Maharashtra, or (b) scanned copies of the duly filled forms / other documents to Company's e-mail ID at dividend@astralpipes.com and Bigshare's e-mail ID at tds@bigshareonline.com.

The aforesaid declarations and documents need to be submitted by the Shareholders so as to reach Bigshare **on or before Friday, 27th October, 2023 i.e., Record Date.**

It may please be noted that Forms received after the said date and incomplete or incorrect forms shall not be considered and shall not be eligible for non-deduction or lower deduction of tax.

The URL for downloading the aforesaid forms from the website of Bigshare is: <https://www.bigshareonline.com/Resources.aspx>

All the forms are available in under the heading “Forms & Procedures”.

Alternatively, these declarations can be submitted online also at: <https://www.bigshareonline.com/dividendTDS.aspx>

On this page the user shall be prompted to select / share the requisite particulars and upload the supporting documents.

By submission of Form 15G / 15H and Form 10F, along with the requisite supporting documents, the Shareholder is deemed to confirm to the Company that:

- a. the Shareholder satisfies the requisite criteria for submission of the same and takes full responsibility for availing the TDS deduction exemption;
- b. the Company or Bigshare will not be held responsible / liable and no claims shall lie against them in this regard;
- c. the online submission of the Form 15G/Form 15H (if made) shall be deemed to have been signed by the Shareholder.

The Company will arrange to email a soft copy of TDS Certificate to the Shareholder at the Shareholder’s registered e-mail ID in due course.

It may be further noted that in case the tax on said dividend is deducted at a higher rate in absence of receipt of the aforementioned details / documents from a Shareholder, there would still be an option available with such Shareholder to file the return of income and claim an appropriate refund, if eligible.

All communications/ queries in this respect should be addressed to the RTA, Bigshare Services Private Limited on their e-mail address investor@bigshareonline.com

Further, Shareholders holding shares in physical mode and who have not registered / updated their email addresses with the Company are requested to update their email addresses with Bigshare. Shareholder holding shares in dematerialized mode are requested to register / update their e-mail addresses with the relevant Depository Participant(s).

Shareholders holding shares in physical mode, who have not provided the information regarding bank particulars, are requested to register/update their Bank details (e.g. name of the bank and the branch, bank account number, 9 digits MICR number, 11 digit IFS Code and the nature of account) online with Bigshare on its website (at www.bigshareonline.com) along with the copy of the signed request letter mentioning the name and address of the Shareholder, scanned copy of the Share Certificate (front and back), self-attested copy of the PAN Card, and self-attested copy of any document (e.g.: Driving License, Election Identity Card, Passport) in support of the address of the Shareholder along with a copy of latest cancelled cheque with the Shareholder’s name. Shareholders holding shares in electronic mode are requested to register their Bank details with the relevant Depository Participant. This will enable the Company to make timely credit of dividend to the Shareholders in their respective bank accounts. For Shareholders who have not updated their bank account details, Dividend Warrants / Demand Drafts will be sent to their registered addresses upon normalization of the postal services.

Disclaimer: This Communication is not exhaustive / advice from the Company or its affiliates or Bigshare Services Private Limited and does not purport to be complete analysis or listing of all potential tax consequences in the matter of dividend payment. Shareholders should obtain the tax advice related to their tax matters from a tax professional.

We request for your kind co-operation in this regard.

For Astral Limited

Sd/-

Manan Bhavsar
Company Secretary