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L&T MUTUAL FUND

6th Floor, Brindavan, Plot No. 177, C.S.T. Road, Kalina, Santacruz (East), Mumbai - 400 098 Call: 1800 2000 400 E-mail: <u>investor.line@lntmf.co.in</u> Website: <u>www.ltfs.com</u>

Addendum (No. 43 of F.Y. 2022 - 2023)

Changes in the fundamental attributes and certain features of L&T Credit Risk Fund

Unitholders are hereby informed that in terms of notice dated October 15, 2022 on and from the close of business hours on November 25, 2022, the fundamental attributes and certain features of L&T Credit Risk Fund ("the scheme") stands modified as under:

Key Feature: Credit Risk Fund

Description	Existing provisions	Proposed provisions
Name of scheme	L&T Credit Risk Fund	HSBC Credit Risk Fund (erstwhile known as L&T Credit Risk Fund)
Type of scheme	An open ended debt scheme predominantly investing in AA and below rated corporate bonds (excluding AA+ rated corporate bonds). A relatively high interest rate risk and relatively high credit risk.	

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Description	Existing provisions				Prop	osed provisions			
Name of scheme	L&T Credit Risk Fund				HSB(Fund)	C Credit Risk Fund	(erstwhile k	nown as L&	T Credit Risk
Riskometer Investment Objective	This product is suitable for investo are set • Generation of regular returns and appreciation over medium to long to • Investment in debt instruments (ind securitized debt), government and market securities *Investors should consult their find product is suitable for them. To generate regular returns and predominantly in AA and below ra securities and money market instru objective of the Scheme will be real guarantee any returns.	eking* capital erm cluding money ancial advise d capital a ted corporate ments. There	Low Investors underst will be at ppreciation e bonds, deb e is no assu	by investing t, government rance that the	To ge predo gover assura	Benchmark Name: Risk Bond Index enerate regular returns minantly in AA and mance that the objective me does not assure or g	NIFTY Crect and capital below rate money marke	appreciation ed corporate et instrument me will be re	bonds, debt, s. There is no
Asset Allocation	Instruments		Allocation et assets)	Risk Profile		Instruments		Allocation et assets)	Risk Profile
		Minimum	Maximum				Minimum	Maximum	
	Debt Instruments*	0%	100%	Low to Medium	Mone	Instruments and ey market instruments in AA and below	65%	100%	Low to Medium

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Description	Existing provisions				Proposed provisions			
Name of scheme	L&T Credit Risk Fund				HSBC Credit Risk Fund (erstwhile known as L&T Credit Risk Fund)			
	Money market instruments [^]	0%	100%	Low to Medium	rated corporate bonds (excludes AA+ rated corporate bonds)			
	Units issued by REITs and InvITs	0%	10%	Medium to High	Debt and Money market0%35%Low toInstruments other thanMedium			
	*Debt instruments would include all banks, companies, public sector unc	lertakings,	municipal co	rporations, body	above			
	corporates, warrants, equity linked compulsorily convertible debenture instruments including Basel III bor	(with no	equity linked	returns), capital	InvITs High			
	development loans and UDAY be bonds and G-Sec repos and any othe from time to time.	onds, reca	pitalization be	onds, municipal	Net assets shall be excluding the extent of minimum stipulated liquic			
	commercial papers, T-Bills, repo, rev bills of exchange / promissory notes,	verse repos Standby I securities	and TREP, bi Letter of Credit having unexpire	ll rediscounting, (SBLC) backed red maturity of 1	Under normal circumstances, the Scheme will predominantly (a least 65% of net assets) invest in corporate debt instruments that are rated AA and below (also including TREPS). This could undergo a change in future in accordance with SEBI regulations. Pending deployment of funds, the Scheme may invest them into			
	Investments will be made in line with the applicable SEBI and / or AMFI g				deposits of scheduled commercial banks as permitted under the			
	Under normal circumstances, the Sc invest in corporate debt instrument		•	• · · ·				

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Description	Existing provisions	Proposed provisions
Name of scheme	L&T Credit Risk Fund	HSBC Credit Risk Fund (erstwhile known as L&T Credit Risk Fund)
	 including TREP). This could undergo a change in future in accordance with SEBI regulations. 1. The Scheme may also enter into "Repo" and "Stock Lending". 2. The Scheme may invest in securitized debt upto 50% of its total assets. 	Investments will be made in line with the asset allocation of the Scheme and the applicable SEBI guidelines as specified from time to time. The Scheme may invest in repo in corporate bonds of public sector or private sector undertakings upto 10% of the net assets. The Scheme may also enter into "Repo" and Stock Lending. The Scheme
	3. The Scheme may take exposure in repos of corporate bonds up to 10% and foreign securities up to 25% of total assets of the Scheme.	may invest in securitized debt upto 40% of its total assets.
	4. The cumulative gross exposure through debt, derivative positions including fixed income derivatives, repo transactions and credit default swaps in corporate debt securities, and such other securities/assets as may be permitted by SEBI from time to time shall not exceed 100% of the net assets of the Scheme	
	5. The Scheme may also invest into deposits of scheduled commercial banks as permitted under the extant Regulations.	credit default swaps, forward rate agreements, etc. The Scheme will participate in derivative transactions in accordance with the SEBI Regulations. The Scheme will not invest in Foreign Securities.
	6. The Scheme may invest in derivatives up to 100% of the total assets of the Scheme for the purpose of hedging and portfolio balancing purposes. Further, in line with SEBI circular dated September 27, 2017, the Scheme is permitted to imperfectly hedge their portfolio or a part of their portfolio by using Interest Rate Futures. These instruments may include instruments such as interest rate swaps, interest rate futures, credit default swaps, forward rate agreements, etc.	The Scheme may engage in short selling and securities lending. The Scheme may also take exposure to stock lending up to 20% of net assets of the Scheme and not more than 5% of the net assets of the Scheme shall be deployed in stock/securities lending to any single

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Description	Existing provisions	Proposed provisions
Name of scheme	L&T Credit Risk Fund	HSBC Credit Risk Fund (erstwhile known as L&T Credit Risk Fund)
	Due to market conditions, the AMC may invest beyond the range set out in the asset allocation. Such deviations shall normally be for a short term purpose only, and the intention being at all times to protect the interests of the Unit Holders. In the event of deviations, rebalancing will normally be carried out within 30 days.	including Additional Tier 1 bonds and Additional Tier 2 bonds as prescribed under SEBI circular no
		a. more than 10% of its net assets in such instruments; andb. more than 5% of its net assets in such instruments issued by a single issuer.
		The cumulative gross exposure through, debt, REITs, InvITs, derivative positions including fixed income derivatives, repo transactions and credit default swaps in corporate debt securities, and such other securities/assets as may be permitted by SEBI from time to time, subject to approval, if any, shall not exceed 100% of the net assets of the Scheme.
		The Scheme may participate in Credit Default Swap (CDS) transactions in line with the guidelines issued by SEBI / RBI from time to time. As per the extant regulatory guidelines, the exposure to a single counterparty in CDS transactions shall not exceed 10% of the net assets of the Scheme. The total exposure related to premium paid for all derivative positions, including CDS, shall not exceed 20% of the net assets of the Scheme.

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Description	Existing provisions	Proposed provisions
Name of scheme	L&T Credit Risk Fund	HSBC Credit Risk Fund (erstwhile known as L&T Credit Risk Fund)
		All investments shall be subject to compliance with 'Restrictions on Investment in debt instruments having Structured Obligations / Credit Enhancements' as prescribed under SEBI circular no. SEBI/HO/IMD/DF2/CIR/P/2019/104 dated October 01, 2019 and any other guidelines issued by SEBI from time to time. As per extant regulatory guidelines, the Scheme shall not invest more than 10% of its net assets in following instruments: a. Unsupported rating of debt instruments (i.e. without factoring-in credit enhancements) is below investment grade and b. Supported rating of debt instruments (i.e. after factoring-in credit enhancement) is above investment grade.
		Due to market conditions, the AMC may invest beyond the range set out in the asset allocation. Such deviations shall normally be for a short term and defensive considerations as per SEBI Circular no. SEBI/HO/IMD/DF2/CIR/P/2021/024 dated March 4, 2021, and the fund manager will rebalance the portfolio within 30 calendar days from the date of deviation. Further, as per SEBI Circular no. SEBI/HO/IMD/IMD-II DOF3/P/CIR/2022/39 dated March 30, 2022, as may be amended from time to time, in the event of deviation from mandated asset allocation due to passive breaches (occurrence of instances not arising out of omission and commission of the AMC), the fund manager shall rebalance the portfolio of the Scheme within 30 Business Days. In case the portfolio of the Scheme is not rebalanced within the period of 30 Business Days, justification in



Description	Existing provisions	Proposed provisions
Name of scheme	L&T Credit Risk Fund	HSBC Credit Risk Fund (erstwhile known as L&T Credit Risk Fund)
		writing, including details of efforts taken to rebalance the portfolio shall be placed before the Investment Committee of the AMC. The Investment Committee, if it so desires, can extend the timeline for rebalancing up to sixty (60) Business Days from the date of completion of mandated rebalancing period.
		Further, in case the portfolio is not rebalanced within the aforementioned mandated plus extended timelines the AMC shall comply with the prescribed restrictions, the reporting and disclosure requirements as specified in SEBI circular dated March 30, 2022.
Investment Strategy	The Scheme seeks to generate regular returns and capital appreciation by investing in debt (including securitized debt), government and money market securities.	
	The actual percentage of investment in various fixed income securities will be decided after considering the economic environment (including interest rates and inflation), the performance of the corporate sector and general liquidity, prevailing political conditions and other considerations in the economy and markets. Also, the Fund Manager will generally be guided by, but not restrained by, the ratings announced by various rating agencies on the assets in the portfolio. All investments made by the Scheme will be made in accordance with SEBI (Mutual Funds) Regulations, 1996.	securities will be decided after considering the economic environment (including interest rates and inflation), the performance of the corporate sector and general liquidity, prevailing political conditions and other considerations in the economy and markets. Also, the Fund Manager will generally be guided by, but not restrained by, the ratings announced by various rating agencies on the assets in the portfolio.

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Description	Existing provisions	Proposed provisions
Name of scheme	L&T Credit Risk Fund	HSBC Credit Risk Fund (erstwhile known as L&T Credit Risk Fund)
	The overall portfolio structuring would aim at controlling risk at moderate level. Security specific risk will be minimised by investing only on those companies that have been thoroughly researched in-house. Risk will also be managed through broad diversification of the portfolios within the framework of the Scheme' investment objective and policies. The AMC will follow a structured investment process in order to identify the best securities for investment and has developed an internal research framework for consistently examining all securities. The Scheme will invest in "Non-Convertible Debentures", which are rated by at least one rating agency. Please refer to "Investments in Derivatives" and "Guidelines for Investments in Securitized Debt".	 with SEBI (Mutual Funds) Regulations, 1996. The overall portfolio structuring would aim at controlling risk at moderate level. Security specific risk will be minimised by investing only on those companies that have been thoroughly researched inhouse. Risk will also be managed through broad diversification of the portfolios within the framework of the Scheme' investment objective and policies. The AMC will follow a structured investment process in order to
Tier 1 Benchmark Index	NIFTY Credit Risk Bond Index	NIFTY Credit Risk Bond Index
Plan / Options /Sub-options	 Growth Income Distribution cum Capital Withdrawal (IDCW) (Reinvestment and Payout) 	 Growth Income Distribution cum Capital Withdrawal (IDCW) (Reinvestment and Payout)



Description	Existing provisions	Proposed provisions
Name of scheme	L&T Credit Risk Fund	HSBC Credit Risk Fund (erstwhile known as L&T Credit Risk Fund)
	Annual IDCW (Reinvestment and Payout)	Annual IDCW (Reinvestment and Payout)
	Investors are requested to note that currently the Board of Trustee Company has decided the frequency as Monthly dividend under IDCW Option of the Scheme. The Board of Trustee Company reserves the right to change the frequency of the said Dividend Sub-Option of the Scheme	Company has decided the frequency as Monthly dividend under
Loads (Including	Entry Load*: Nil	Entry Load: Not Applicable
SIP / STP where applicable)	Exit Load: If the units redeemed or switched out are upto 10% of the units purchased or switched in ("the limit") within 1 year from the date of allotment – Nil.	•
	If units redeemed or switched out are over and above the limit within 1 year from the date of allotment -1% . If units are redeemed or switched out on or after 1 year from the date of allotment $-$ Nil.	
Liquidity	The Scheme will offer Units for Purchase and Redemption at Applicable NAV on every Business Day. The Mutual Fund will endeavour to dispatch the Redemption proceeds within 3 Business Days from the date of acceptance of the Redemption request.	Applicable NAV on every Business Day.



Description	Existing provisions	Proposed provisions
Name of scheme	L&T Credit Risk Fund	HSBC Credit Risk Fund (erstwhile known as L&T Credit Risk Fund)
PRC	C III	СШ
Segregated Portfolio	Enabled	Enabled (Definition of Credit Event is modified as under to include trigger date for instruments with special features as prescribed under SEBI circular no SEBI/HO/IMD/DF4/CIR/P/2021/032 dated March 10, 2021)
Credit Event (for	 Creation of Segregated Portfolio Creation of Segregated Portfolio shall be subject to guidelines specified by SEBI from time to time and includes the following: 1) Segregated Portfolio may be created, in case of a Credit Event at issuer level i.e. downgrade in credit rating by a SEBI registered Credit Rating Agency (CRA), as under: 	
	 a. Downgrade of a debt or money market instrument to 'below investment grade', or b. Subsequent downgrades of the said instruments from 'below investment grade', or c. Similar such downgrades of a loan rating. 2) In case of difference in rating by multiple CRAs, the most conservative rating shall be considered. Creation of Segregated Portfolio shall be based on issuer level Credit Events as mentioned above and implemented at the ISIN level. 	 investment grade', or b. Subsequent downgrades of the said instruments from 'below investment grade', or c. Similar such downgrades of a loan rating. 2) Trigger of a pre-specified event for loss absorption in case of debt instruments with special features such as subordination to equity
	3) In case of unrated debt or money market instruments of an issuer that does	

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Description	Existing provisions	Proposed provisions
Name of scheme	L&T Credit Risk Fund	HSBC Credit Risk Fund (erstwhile known as L&T Credit Risk Fund)
	 not have any outstanding rated debt or money market instruments, actual default of either the interest or principal amount by the issuer of such instruments shall be considered as a Credit Event for creation of Segregated Portfolio. 4) Creation of Segregated Portfolio is optional and is at the discretion of the AMC. 	if the instrument is to be written off or converted to equity pursuant to any proposal, the date of said proposal may be treated as the Trigger Date. However, if the said instruments are written off or converted to equity without proposal, the date of write off or

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A. Provisions relating to investments in Perpetual Debt Instruments (PDI) including Additional Tier-1 and Tier-2 bonds

The Scheme may invest in certain debt instruments with special features viz. subordination to equity (absorbs losses before equity capital) and /or convertible to equity upon trigger of a pre-specified event for loss absorption including Additional Tier I bonds and Tier 2 bonds issued under Basel III framework (known as perpetual debt instruments). PDIs are instruments issued by the borrower to strengthen their capital structure and as the name suggests, these instruments do not have a specific maturity date but have an embedded call option instead and maybe less liquid than conventional debt instruments. These bonds are subordinate to all other debt and only senior to equity capital. The issuer may call or redeem the bonds on the call exercise date if they can refinance the issue at a cheaper rate, especially when interest rates are declining. The issuers of such instruments could be banks, NBFCs and corporates. PDIs issued by Banks and NBFCs fall under scope of Reserve Bank of India (RBI)'s guidelines for Basel III capital regulations. These are also referred to as Additional Tier I (AT1 bonds). However, there are no regulatory guidelines for issuance of PDIs by corporates.

Since PDIs have special features other than usual non-convertible bonds, there are additional risks associated with such instruments which are listed below -

<u>Risk related to coupon servicing –</u>

Banks - As per the terms of the instruments, Banks may have discretion at all times to cancel distributions/payment of coupons. In the event of non-availability of adequate distributable reserves and surpluses or inadequacy in terms of capital requirements, RBI may not allow banks to make payment of coupons. These bonds may not be permitted to pay these coupons if the Bank's financial position improves subsequently (non-cumulative).

NBFCs - While NBFCs can defer/postpone payment of coupon in case paying the coupon leads to breach of capital ratios, they also have discretion at all times to cancel payment of coupon.

Corporates - Corporates usually have discretion to defer the payment of coupon. However, the coupon is usually cumulative and any deferred coupon shall accrue interest at the original coupon rate of the PDI.

Risk of write down or conversion to equity -

In the event of shortfall in maintenance of capital adequacy ratios and/or Point of Non Viability Trigger (PONV – a point defined by RBI when a bank is deemed to have become non-viable unless appropriate measures are taken to revive its operations or infusion of public sector capital), PDIs issued by Banks could be written down or converted to common equity. This risk does not exist in case of PDIs issued by NBFCs and Corporates.

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<u>Risk of call option not exercised by the issuer –</u>

Banks and NBFCs - The issuing Banks and NBFCs have an option to call back the instrument after minimum period as per the regulatory requirement from the date of issuance and specified period thereafter, subject to meeting the RBI guidelines. However, if the issuer does not exercise the call on first call date, the Scheme may have to hold the instruments for a period beyond the first call exercise date and hence maybe exposed valuation impacts.

Corporates – Unlike Banks and NBFCs there is no minimum period for call date for corporate issuers. However, if the corporate does not exercise the call option, the Scheme may have to hold the instruments for a period beyond the call exercise date and hence maybe exposed to valuation impacts.

<u>**Risk Mitigation**</u> – The Scheme will not invest more than 10% of the NAV of the Scheme in such instruments and will limit exposure to 5% of the NAV of the Scheme for such instruments issued by a single issuer.

B. <u>Risk factors related to investments in Structured Obligations (SO) / Credit Enhancements (CE):</u>

Structured Obligations (SO) are complex financial instruments issued by entities intending to improve their financing profile with the help of non-conventional financial instruments. Credit Enhancement (CE) rating is assigned by Credit Rating agencies to a debt security based on an identifiable credit enhancement for the security which could be in the form of letter of comfort, guarantee, shortfall undertaking etc. from another entity than the issuer, related or not related to the issuer. CE could additionally include pledging of equity shares listed on a stock exchange with a suitable haircut. Apart from standard risks related to debt instruments, these instruments are further exposed the below risks:

Liquidity Risk: SO rated securities are often complex structures, with a variety of credit enhancements. Debt securities generally lack a well-developed secondary market in India, and due to the credit enhanced nature of CE securities as well as structured nature of SO securities, the liquidity in the market for these instruments is shallow compared to similar rated conventional debt instruments. Hence, lower liquidity of such instruments, could lead to inability of the scheme to exit such debt instruments when required and generate liquidity for the scheme or lead to higher impact cost when such instruments are sold impacting portfolio returns.

Credit Risk: Securities which have a structure with a guarantee from the corporate / promoter, may see an adverse effect if there are any signs of stress at the promoter/ group level, even though the standalone borrowing entity's debt servicing capability and repayments may not see any material impact, from a future cash flow perspective. CEs are exposed to credit risk pertaining not only to the issuer of the security but also to the entity providing the credit enhancement. The credit risk of debt instruments which are CE rated is based on the combined strength of the issuer as well as the structure. Hence, any weakness in either the issuer or the structure could have an adverse credit impact on the debt instrument. The weakness in structure could arise due to inability of the investors to enforce the structure due to issues such

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as legal risk, inability to sell the underlying collateral or enforce guarantee, etc. Therefore, apart from issuer level credit risk such debt instruments are also susceptible to structure related credit risk.

This Addendum forms an integral part of the Scheme Information Document (SID) & Key Information Memorandum (KIM) of the scheme.

Investors are requested to take note of the above.

For L&T Investment Management Limited CIN: U65991MH1996PLC229572 (Investment Manager to L&T Mutual Fund)

Date: November 24, 2022 **Place:** Mumbai

Sd/-Authorised Signatory

Mutual Fund investments are subject to market risks, read all scheme related documents carefully.