
PENALTIES, PENDING LITIGATION OR PROCEEDINGS, FINDINGS OF INSPECTIONS OR INVESTIGATIONS FOR WHICH ACTION MAY HAVE BEEN TAKEN OR IS IN THE PROCESS OF BEING TAKEN BY ANY REGULATORY AUTHORITY

1. *All disclosures regarding penalties and action(s) taken against foreign Sponsor(s) may be limited to the jurisdiction of the country where the principal activities (in terms of income / revenue) of the Sponsor(s) are carried out or where the headquarters of the Sponsor(s) is situated. Further, monetary penalties exceeding INR 5 Lakhs during the last five years shall be disclosed.*

The Sponsor of the Mutual Fund is HSBC Securities and Capital Markets (India) Private Limited (HSCI), a company incorporated under the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956. The Sponsor being an Indian entity, this section is not applicable. Please refer below point.

2. *In case of Indian Sponsor(s), details of monetary penalties exceeding INR 5 Lakhs imposed and / or action taken during the last five years or pending with any financial regulatory body or governmental authority, against Sponsor(s) and / or the AMC and / or the Board of Trustees / Trustee Company; for irregularities or for violations in the financial services sector, or for defaults with respect to shareholders or debenture holders and depositors, or for economic offences, or for violation of securities law. Details of settlement, if any, arrived at with the aforesaid authorities during the last five years shall also be disclosed.*

- SEBI had issued a Show Cause Notice dated August 04, 2023 to the AMC & members of Trustees as on that date (hereinafter referred to as “Said Trustees”), alleging violation of Regulation 18(9) of Regulations by the Said Trustees & violation of Clause 5 of the Fifth schedule of Mutual Fund Regulations and Clause 1.3.1 (c) of the SEBI Circular No. SEBI/HO/IMD/DF2/ CIR/P/2021/683 dated December 10, 2021 by the AMC. The AMC & the Said Trustees have settled the matter with SEBI under SEBI (Settlement Proceedings) Regulations, 2018, and SEBI vide its settlement order dated May 27, 2024 has disposed of the adjudication proceedings initiated vide Show Cause Notice dated August 04, 2023.

3. *Details of all enforcement actions taken by SEBI in the last five years and / or pending with SEBI for the violation of SEBI Act, 1992 and Rules and Regulations framed there under including debarment and / or suspension and / or cancellation and / or imposition of monetary penalty exceeding INR 5 Lakhs / adjudication / enquiry proceedings, if any, to which the Sponsor(s) and / or the AMC and / or the Board of Trustees / Trustee Company and / or any of the directors and / or key personnel (especially the fund managers) of the AMC and Trustee Company were / are a party. The details of the violation shall also be disclosed.*

- The AMC had acquired the entire share capital of L&T Investment Management Limited (“L&T AMC”), the asset management company of erstwhile L&T Mutual Fund, on 25 November 2022 and L&T AMC was subsequently merged into the AMC. Pursuant to the SEBI Inspection of L&T AMC for the period April 01, 2019 to March 31, 2021, SEBI had issued Show Cause Notice (SCN) dated March 20, 2023 & Supplementary SCN dated June 16, 2023 alleging L&T AMC of not complying with SEBI circular No. MFD/CIR/6/73/2000 dated July 27, 2000, Regulation 25(2) and Clause 9 of Fifth Schedule-Part A of SEBI (Mutual Funds) Regulations, 1996. Adjudicating Officer (AO) of SEBI vide its order dated August 23, 2023, had disposed of the said SCNs without imposing any penalty. Subsequently, SEBI issued a SCN dated Nov 06, 2023 under Section 15-I(3) of SEBI Act, 1992 calling upon the AMC to show cause as to why the AO order dated Aug 23, 2023 should not be revised under Section 15-I(3) of SEBI Act, 1992. SEBI on July 25, 2024 issued an adjudication order imposing penalty of INR 5 Lakhs on the AMC under section 15HB of the SEBI Act, 1992. The penalty was paid by the AMC on August 1, 2024.

4. *Any pending material civil or criminal litigation incidental to the business of the Mutual Fund to which the Sponsor(s) and / or the AMC and / or the Board of Trustees / Trustee Company and / or any of the directors and / or key personnel are a party should also be disclosed separately.*

- **Garnishee Notice from Income Tax Authorities:**

During the financial year 2011-12, an Income tax demand of Rs. 32.58 crores was purported to be recovered under garnishee proceedings, by Income Tax Authorities in respect of investments made in Pass through Certificates (PTC) by some of the debt schemes (including matured schemes) of HSBC Mutual Fund (HSBC MF), for A.Y. 2009-2010. The said demand, impacting various mutual fund players in the industry, raised originally on the trusts sponsored by IL&FS Trust Company Ltd., (Appellants) was sought to be also recovered u/s 177(3) of the Income Tax Act, from HSBC MF. Similar to AY 2009-10, HSBC MF had received a demand notice from the Income Tax authorities for AY 2010-11 for Rs. 6.95 crores. Further, assessment for the A.Y. 2007-

2008 was also been reopened by the Income Tax Authorities and demand of Rs. 2.04 Crores was made on the trust sponsored by IL&FS Trust Company Ltd. HSBC MF has not received any demand notice from the Income Tax authorities for this assessment year. Against all the above demands, an appeal was filed by the Appellant with the first Appellate Authority CIT(A) and thereafter with ITAT. The matter of several Loan Trusts were consolidated and heard by ITAT and vide order dated 17th February 2017, the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal (ITAT) passed an order allowing the appeal of the assessee and dismissed the appeal of the Revenue. The Department filed Miscellaneous Applications (MA) under section 254(2) of the Income Tax Act with ITAT against the favorable orders passed by ITAT on the ground that the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal has failed to consider all aspects of revenue contentions / appeal. The ITAT has vide its order dated March 25th 2022 dismissed the MA filed by department. An appeal filed by Revenue in the Hon' High court against the aforesaid order of February 2017 has been admitted. The matter is currently pending with the Hon' High Court.

- The AMC had acquired the entire share capital of L&T Investment Management Limited ("L&T AMC"), the asset management company of erstwhile L&T Mutual Fund, on 25th November 2022 and L&T AMC was subsequently merged into the AMC. On 02nd August 2024, Directorate General of Goods & Services Tax Intelligence has issued a Show Cause Notice (SCN) to the AMC in a matter related to claiming of Input Tax Credit on distributor commission pertaining to mutual fund schemes by L&T AMC for the period July 2017 to Oct. 2018. GST Authorities have issued an order in this matter on 21st January 2025 upholding the contentions raised in the SCN. The AMC has filed an appeal against the order and the appellate process is currently underway. .

5. ***Any deficiency in the systems and operations of the Sponsor(s) and / or the AMC and / or the Board of Trustees / Trustee Company which SEBI has specifically advised to be disclosed in the SID, or which has been notified by any other regulatory agency, shall be disclosed.***

There are no deficiencies in the systems and operations of the Sponsor of the Mutual Fund and / or the AMC and / or the Board of Trustees which SEBI has specifically advised to be disclosed in the SID, or which has been notified by any other regulatory agency to be disclosed in SID.

The above information has been disclosed in good faith as per the information available to the AMC.