

AVANTI FEEDS LIMITED:

DIVIDEND DISTRIBUTION POLICY OF AVANTI FEEDS LIMITED

The Board of Directors (the “Board”) of Avanti Feeds Limited (the “Company”) has adopted the Dividend Distribution Policy (the “Policy”) of the Company as required in terms of Regulation 43A of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 (the “Listing Regulations”) in its meeting held on 12th August, 2016.

EFFECTIVE DATE

The Policy shall become effective from the date of its approval by the Board i.e.12th August, 2016.

PURPOSE, OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (“SEBI”) vide its Notification dated July 08, 2016 has amended the Listing Regulations by inserting Regulation 43A in order to make it mandatory to have a Dividend Distribution Policy in place, by the top five hundred listed companies based on their market capitalization calculated as on the 31st day of March of every year. Considering the provisions of the aforesaid Regulation 43A, the Board of Directors (the “Board”) of the Company recognizes the need to lay down a broad framework for considering decisions by the Board of the Company, with regard to distribution of dividend to its shareholders and/ or retaining or plough back of its profits. The Policy also sets out the circumstances and different factors for consideration by the Board at the time of taking such decisions of distribution or of retention of profits, in the interest of providing transparency to the shareholders.

The Policy is not an alternative to the decision of the Board for recommending dividend, which is made every year after taking into consideration all the relevant circumstances enumerated hereunder or other factors as may be decided as relevant by the Board.

The Policy reflects the intent of the Company to reward its shareholders by sharing a portion of its profits after retaining sufficient funds for growth of the Company. The Company shall pursue this Policy, to pay, subject to the circumstances and factors enlisted hereon, progressive dividend, which shall be consistent with the performance of the Company over the years.

The Policy shall not apply to:

- ☒ Distribution of dividend in kind, i.e. by issue of fully or partly paid bonus shares or other securities, subject to applicable law;
- ☒ Distribution of cash as an alternative to payment of dividend by way of buyback of equity shares.

A. GENERAL POLICY OF THE COMPANY AS REGARDS DIVIDEND

The general considerations of the Company for taking decisions with regard to dividend payout or retention of profits inter alia the operating and financial performance of the Company, the advice of executive management including the CFO, and other relevant factors.

B. CONSIDERATIONS RELEVANT FOR DECISION OF DIVIDEND PAY-OUT

The Board shall consider the following, while taking decisions of a dividend payout during a particular year-

Statutory requirements

The Company shall observe the relevant statutory requirements including those with respect to mandatory transfer of a certain portion of profits to any specific reserve such as Debenture Redemption Reserve, Capital Redemption Reserve etc. as provided in the Companies Act, 2013, which may be applicable to the Company at the time of taking decision with regard to dividend declaration or retention of profit.

Agreements with lending institutions

The decision of dividend pay-out shall also be affected by the restrictions and covenants contained in the agreements as may be entered into with the lenders of the Company, if any from time to time.

Prudential requirements

The Company shall analyze the prospective projects and strategic decisions in order to decide-

- to build a healthy reserve of retained earnings;
- to augment long term strength;
- to build a pool of internally generated funds to provide long-term resources as well as resource-raising potential for the Company; and
- the needs for capital conservation and appreciation.

Proposals for major capital expenditures etc.

In addition to plough back of earnings on account of depreciation, the Board may also take into consideration the need for replacement of capital assets, expansion and modernization or augmentation of capital stock, including any major capital expenditure proposals.

Extent of realized profits as a part of the IND AS profits of the Company

The extent of realized profits out of its profits calculated as per IND AS, affects the Board's decision of determination of dividend for a particular year. The Board is required to consider such factors before taking any dividend or retention decision.

Expectations of major stakeholders, including small shareholders

The Board, while considering the decision of dividend pay-out or retention of a certain amount or entire profits of the Company, shall, as far as possible, consider the expectations of the major stakeholders including the small shareholders of the Company who generally expects for a regular dividend payout.

C. OTHER FINANCIAL PARAMETERS

In addition to the aforesaid parameters such as realized profits and proposed major capital expenditures, the decision of dividend payout or retention of profits shall also be based the following-

Operating cash flow of the Company

If the Company cannot generate adequate operating cash flow, it may need to rely on outside funding to meet its financial obligations and sometimes to run the day-to-day operations. The Board will consider the same before its decision whether to declare dividend or retain its profits.

Net sales of the Company

To increase its sales in the long run, the Company will need to increase its marketing and selling expenses, advertising etc. The amount outlay in such activities will influence the decision of declaration of dividend.

Return on invested capital

The efficiency with which the Company uses its capital will impact the decision of dividend declaration.

Magnitude of earnings of the Company

Since dividend is directly linked with the availability of earning over the long haul, the magnitude of earnings will significantly impact the dividend declaration decisions of the Company.

Cost of borrowings

The Board will analyze the requirement of necessary funds considering the long term or short term projects proposed to be undertaken by the Company and the viability of the options in terms of cost of raising necessary funds from outsiders such as bankers, lending institutions or by issuance of debt securities or plough back its own funds.

Obligations to creditors

The Company should be able to repay its debt obligations without much difficulty over a reasonable period of time. Considering the volume of such obligations and time period of repayment, the decision of dividend declaration shall be taken.

Inadequacy of profits

If during any financial year, the Board determines that the profits of the Company are inadequate, the Board may decide not to declare dividends for that financial year.

Post dividend EPS

The post dividend EPS can have strong impact on the funds of the Company, thus, impacting the overall operations on day-to-day basis and therefore, affects the profits and can impact the decision for dividend declaration during a particular year.

D. FACTORS THAT MAY AFFECT DIVIDEND PAYOUT

External Factors

Taxation and other regulatory concern

- Dividend distribution tax or any tax deduction at source as required by applicable tax regulations in India, as may be applicable at the time of declaration of dividend.
- Any restrictions on payment of dividends by virtue of any regulation as may be applicable to the Company at the time of declaration of dividend.

Product/ market expansion plan

The Company's growth oriented decision to conserve cash in the Company for future expansion plan impacts shareholders expectation for the long run which shall have to consider by the Board before taking dividend decision.

Macroeconomic conditions

Considering the state of economy in the Country, the policy decisions that may be formulated by the Government and other similar conditions prevailing in the international market which may have a bearing on or affect the business of the Company, the management may consider retaining a larger part of the profits to have sufficient reserves to absorb unforeseen circumstances.

Internal Factors

Past performance/ reputation of the Company

The trend of the performance/ reputation of the Company that has been during the past years determine the expectation of the shareholders.

Working capital management in the Company

The current working capital management system within the Company also impacts the decision of dividend declaration.

Age of the Company and its product/market

The age of the Company and its product or the market in which the Company operates will be one of the most significant determining factors to the profitability of the Company and dividend declaration or retention.

E. CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER WHICH DIVIDEND PAYOUT MAY OR MAY NOT BE EXPECTED

The Board shall consider the factors provided above under Para A and B, before determination of any dividend payout after analyzing the prospective opportunities and threats, viability of the options of dividend payout or retention etc.

F. MANNER OF DIVIDEND PAYOUT

The discussion below is a summary of the process of declaration and payment of dividends, and is subject to applicable regulations:

In case of final dividends

1. Recommendation, if any, shall be done by the Board, usually in the Board meeting that considers and approves the annual financial statements, subject to approval of the shareholders of the Company.
2. The dividend as recommended by the Board shall be approved/declared at the Annual General Meeting of the Company.
3. The payment of dividends shall be made within the time prescribed as per applicable law from the date of declaration to the shareholders entitled to receive the dividend on the record date/book closure period.

In case of interim dividend

1. Interim dividend, if any, shall be declared by the Board.
2. Before declaring interim dividend, the Board shall consider the financial position of the Company that allows the payment of such dividend.
3. The payment of dividends shall be made within the time prescribed under applicable law from the date of declaration to the shareholders entitled to receive the dividend on the record date.
4. In case no final dividend is declared, interim dividend paid during the year, if any, will be regarded as final dividend in the Annual General Meeting.

G. MANNER OF UTILISATION OF RETAINED EARNINGS

The Board may retain its earnings in order to make better use of the available funds and increase the value of the stakeholders in the long run. The decision of utilization of the retained earnings of the Company shall be based on the following factors:

- ☒ Market expansion plan;
- ☒ Product expansion plan;
- ☒ Increase in production capacity;
- ☒ Modernization plan;
- ☒ Diversification of business;
- ☒ Long term strategic plans;
- ☒ Replacement of capital assets;
- ☒ Where the cost of debt is expensive;
- ☒ Other such criteria as the Board may deem fit from time to time.

H. PARAMETERS FOR VARIOUS CLASSES OF SHARES

1. The factors and parameters for declaration of dividend to different class of shares of the Company shall be same as covered above.
2. The payment of dividend shall be based on the respective rights attached to each class of shares as per their terms of issue.

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