# Audit Committee-Controls and Board Expectations

CA. Bimal R Bhatt Vadodara, Gujarat, Mother India

### **Corporate Governance Calls for....**

- Equitable treatment
- Disclosure and Transparency in decision making
- Accountability
- Role of Stakeholders

### **Audit Committee**

- Qualified and Independent Audit Committee (AC)
- Meetings
- Powers
- Role
- Review of Information

#### **Role of Audit Committee-Few Matters**

- Oversight of the company's financial reporting process and the disclosure of its financial information
- Reviewing, with the management, the annual financial statements and auditor's report thereon before submission to the board for approval
- Reviewing, with the management, the quarterly financial statements before submission to the board for approval;

- Reviewing, with the management, the statement of uses / application of funds raised through an issue (public issue, rights issue, preferential issue, etc.)
- Disclosure of any related party transactions
- Qualifications in the draft audit report
- Scrutiny of inter-corporate loans and investments;

- Valuation of undertakings or assets of the company, wherever it is necessary;
- Reviewing the adequacy of internal audit function, if any, including the structure of the internal audit department
- To look into the reasons for substantial defaults in the payment to the depositors, debenture holders, shareholders (in case of non-payment of declared dividends) and creditors

- Evaluation of internal financial controls and risk management systems;
- To review the functioning of the Whistle Blower mechanism;
- Approval of appointment of CFO (i.e., the wholetime Finance Director or any other person heading the finance function or discharging that function) after assessing the qualifications, experience and background, etc. of the candidate;

#### **Review of Information by Audit Committee**

- 1.Management discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations;
- 2.Statement of significant related party transactions (as defined by the Audit Committee), submitted by management;
- 3.Management letters / letters of internal control weaknesses issued by the statutory auditors;

- 4.Internal audit reports relating to internal control weaknesses; and
- 5.The appointment, removal and terms of remuneration of the Chief internal auditor

#### **Business Model Overview-Tata Steel**

- Products and Brands
- Supply Chain and logistics
- Research and Development
- Technology
- Customer Focus and Market Segments
- Raw Material and Mining
- Manufacturing

#### **Audit Plan Focus-Tata Steel**

- a. All operational and related activities are performed efficiently and effectively.
- b. Significant financial, managerial and operating information that is relevant, accurate and reliable is provided on time.
- c. Review the process of identification and management of Business Risks.

- d. Resources are acquired economically, used efficiently and safeguarded adequately.
- e. Employees' actions are in accordance with the Company's policies and procedures, Tata Code of Conduct and applicable laws an regulations.
- f. Significant legislative and regulatory provisions impacting the organization are recognized and addressed appropriately.

- g. Opportunities identified during audits, for improving management control, business targets and profitability, process efficiency and the organization's image, are communicated to the appropriate level of management.
- h. Shareholders' and other Stakeholders' wealth and welfare are preserved, protected and enhanced.

### **Management Discussion and Analysis**

- a. Industry structure and developments.
- b. Opportunities and Threats.
- c. Segment-wise or product-wise performance.
- d. Outlook
- e. Risks and concerns.
- f. Internal control systems and their adequacy.

## **Risk Management**

#### **Internal Risk Factors**

- Culture, Values and Leadership
- Human Resource Management
- Financial Reporting Risks
- Liquidity and Leverage
- Contractual Compliance
- Compliance with Local Laws
- Intellectual Property management
- Engagement Execution
- Integration of Subsidiaries, if any

#### **External Risk Factors**

- Macro Economic Factors
- Exchange Rate Fluctuations
- Political Environment
- Competitive Environment
- Concentration of Revenues
- Inflation & Cost Structure
- Immigration Regulations
- Security & Business Continuity
- Technology Obsolescence

### **Monitoring and Control Issues**

- Information in Standard Formats with analysis, wherever necessary
- Establishment of a Project, Purchase of a Unit, Merger, De-merger, etc.
- Fixed Assets Utilization and Physical Verification
- Inventory Valuation and Physical Verification
- Group Financial Transactions

- Availing and Utilization of Funds
- Cost Records
- Estimation and Actual Cash Flow
- Depreciation policy
- Monitoring of Fixed Deposits
- Annual Repairs and Maintenance –technical, financial and accounting adodara, Gujarat,

- Contingent Liabilities and Implications including Guarantees given
- Latest developments on Legal and Compliances
- Co-relation of Sales, Inventory, Work-in-Progress
- Transfer Pricing
- Insurance Management

- Dividend Distribution Policy
- Credibility of Reporting
- Subsidiary Operations, Monitoring and Reporting
- Tax Survey, Search
- System and Technology Authenticity

# Let's monitor as well as contribute to co-create a better corporate citizen.

## Thank you