

### Governance Landscape in India

- Y. M. Kale

Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> July 2022, 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

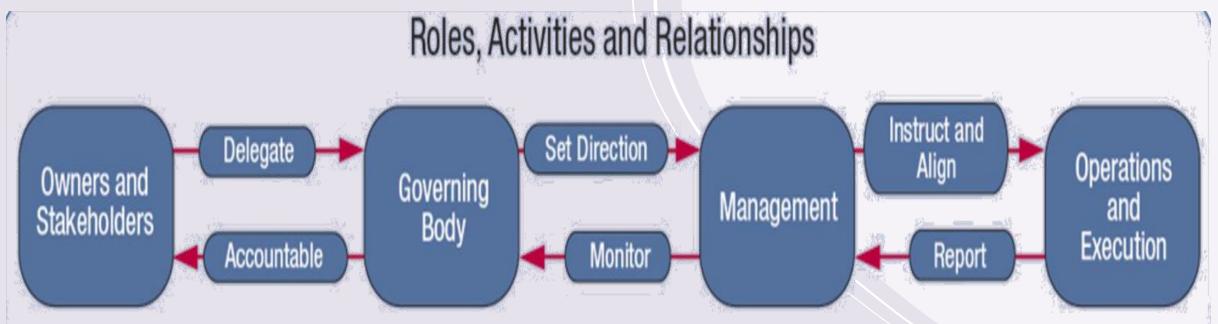
WIRC National Conference, ICAI Tower, BKC

# THE BOARD O MANAGEMENT

#### Governance

Governance is the system, form and style by which businesses are directed and controlled consistent with Regulatory & Internal Frameworks, through an Oversight-body (BoD) and management in the best interests of the stakeholders and others with transparent and timely reporting.

- O Outside, non-executive directors
- □ Executive directors
- △ Other managers



#### **Drivers changing Governance Landscape**

- Leverage due to Global Pandemic & Internationalized Businesses
- Governance function not seen in isolation
- From "Specialist" to "Business Enabler"
- New Roles, Skills & Agenda
- Expectations of Internal & External Audiences

#### Leverage due to Global Pandemic & Internationalized Businesses

**Governance = Caution new landscape Governance = Value Creation** 

- Free Markets / Light-touch Regulation
- Post Pandemic, Governance not to revert to reactive functions
- Shift in accent / direction of demands on Roles & Tasks
- Change in Emphasis, influence & Pressure Points

#### Governance function not seen in isolation

- Business Complexity & Reach
- World Economy as a Whole (Overstretch)
- Credit Crisis / Geographic Segments
- Need for a different kind of Leadership

#### From "Specialist" to "Business Enabler"

- Restructuring
- Divesting underperforming assets
- Acquisition targets
- Identifying recovery vulnerabilities
- Reviewing alliances & Supply Chain
- Business Plans & Bankable Financials to investors / lenders

#### New Roles, Skills & Agenda

- Harnessing Technology Automation and Digitization
- Creating Value
- Managing Costs
- Commercial Focus
- Sensitivity to wider "Business" interfaces

#### **Harnessing Technology**

# Automation & Digitization

= A, B, C & D

Artificial Intelligence

Cyber-Security Block Chain

Data
Analytics

#### **Cyber Security**

- Protect Networks & Computers
- Control unauthorized access
- Extending beyond the office
- Security of Drives & Disks
- Precautions Re Viruses
- Updating devices hardware, esp. software
- Responsibility fixing
- Staff training and awareness
- Record keeping & testing Security measures
- Recovery Plan and Disaster Management

#### **Creating Value**

- Investment Decisions
- Augmenting Asset-based borrowing from Lenders
- Treasury Management Rogue traders
- Legal Entity reduction
- Transaction Shared Service Centers
- ERP Consolidation

#### **Managing Costs**

- Balance cost cuts with long-term impacts
- Cost reduction not at expense of Service
   Levels
- IT Dept Opportunities
  - Optimizing application portfolio
  - > Align services to business needs
  - > Analyse and rationalize Software licenses

#### **Commercial Focus**

Eye on Targets

Configuring Efficiencies

Driving value for money initiatives

Functional allocation of working hours

#### Sensitivity to wider "Business" interfaces

- Utilizing Brands & Intellectual Property
- Using Consultants on Assignments
  - Standard Assignments: Tasks & Outcome broadly known
  - Non-standard assignments: Defined tasks but unbounded outcomes
- Sectoral Challenges Domain Knowledge

#### **Drivers changing Governance Landscape**

#### **Expectations of Internal & External Audiences**

- ESG etc
  - Key Metrics: Data related to Ethics,
     Accountability, Transparency, Communication,
     Leadership, other Initiatives
- Triple Bottom Line Trends
- Insurers, Re-Insurers, Fin Markets, Banks
- Investors & Analysts

#### **Expectations of Internal & External Audiences**

## Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG)

- Spurred by COVID19, COP26 Summit & IPCC Reports
- Key Metrics: (i) Environmental, (ii) Social & (iii) Governance
- Indian Requirements
  - > BRSR
  - ESG MF Grow > 12K Cr
  - Commitment to Net Zero Carbon by 2070
- Investor & Activist pressure to comply
  - Multiple ESG Reporting Standards
  - Sector Specific Reporting Frameworks
- Opportunities for both Risk mitigation & Value creation
- India's ESG Agenda backed by Finance Act 2022

#### Governance Landscape under LODR

(Reg 16 to 27 - Listed Co Eq over 10 Cr. & NW > 25 Cr. + high value debt listed entity i.e. NCD >= 500 Cr.)

- Board Composition etc.
- Board Responsibilities
- Publishing Periodic Results
- Related Party Transactions
- Listed Co/Material Subsidiary Statutory Auditor Resignation
- Timelines for periodic compliance

#### **Board Composition**

- Number, Distribution, Gender
- NED not less than 50%, ID ½ or 1/3,
   ED <= 50%</li>
- Managerial Appointment sanction
- Meeting periodicity & quorum

#### **Board Responsibilities**

- Review, rectify non-compliances
- Succession Plan
- Code of Conduct, ID duties, evaluation
- NED compensation, GM approval
- Specified Info before BoD?
- CEO & CFO Compliance Cert.
- Risk assessment & management



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