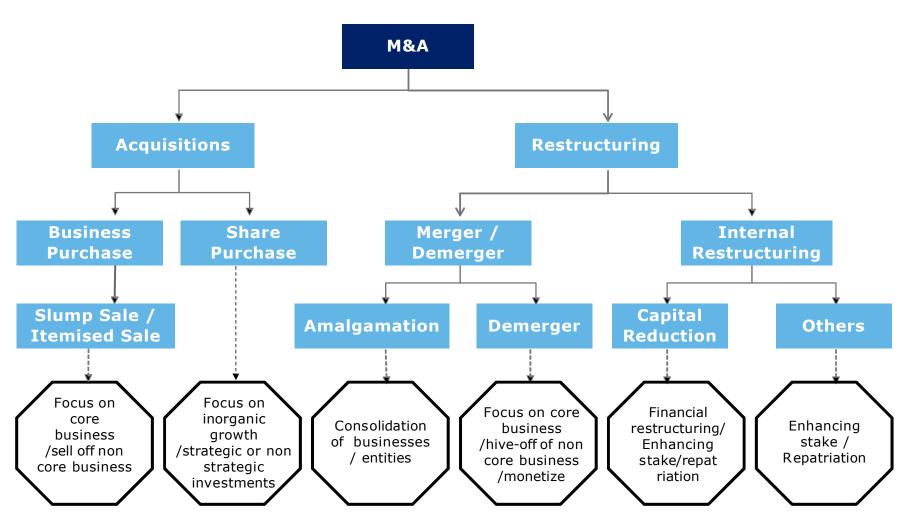
# **Deloitte Haskins & Sells**



### **Business Restructuring**

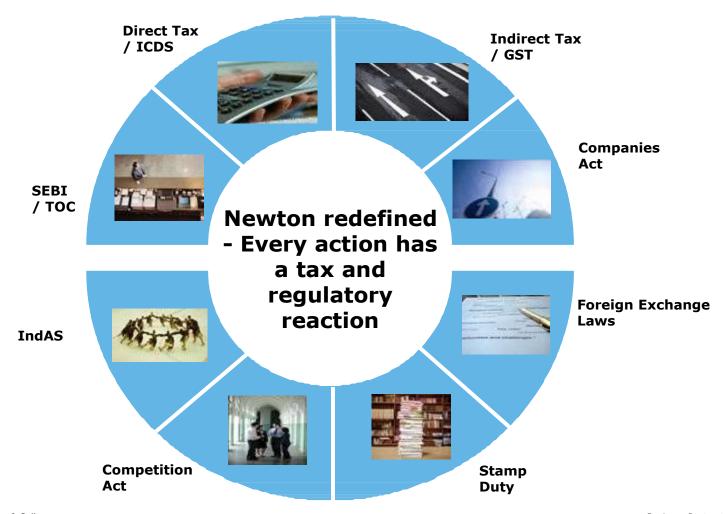
Tax aspects of M&As in India
By Deepa Dalal
20 January 2018

#### Modes of M&A in India



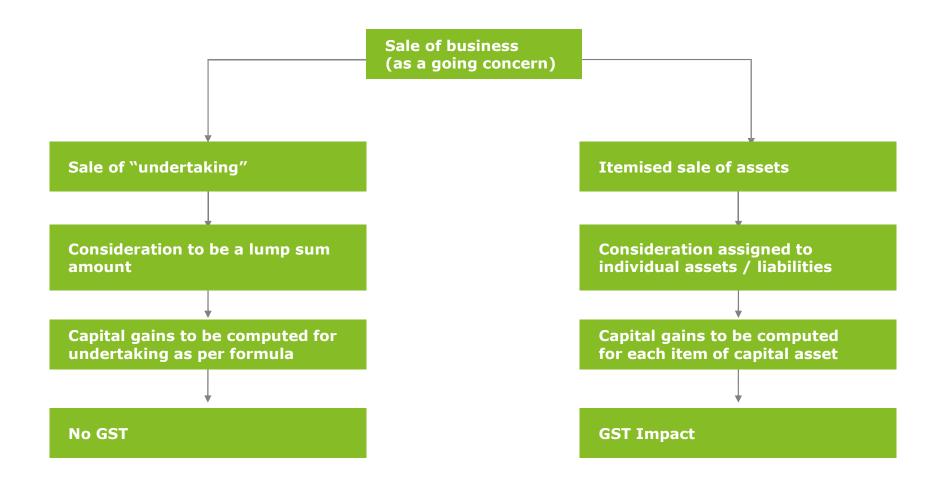
# Legislative Framework of M&A in India

## Snapshot of Indian laws impacting M&A

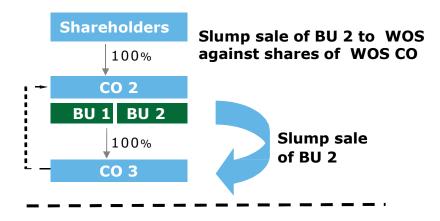


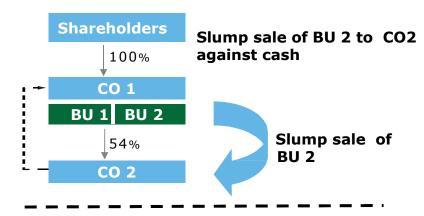
# **Business acquisitions**

### Slump sale v. Itemised sale



### Slump sale



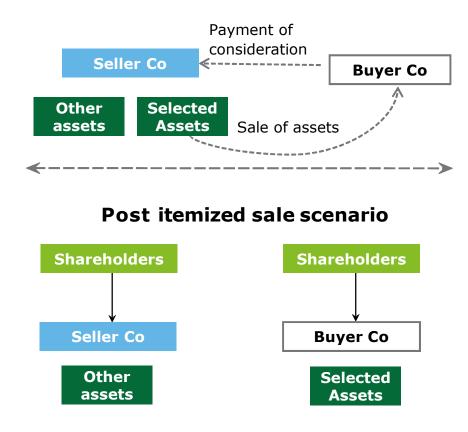


- Transfer of identified business from one company to another for a lump sum consideration
- In consideration, the buyer company to pay cash to the seller company
- Values not to be assigned to individual assets / liabilities during sale
- No Court approval required
- Undertaking defined to include -
  - A part of an undertaking
  - Unit or division of an undertaking
  - Business activity taken as a whole

#### Key tax considerations

- · Special provision to compute capital gains on slump sale
- Tax net worth certificate to compute capital gains impact
- Will the transaction be regarded as a slump sale if certain assets or liabilities are not taken over by the purchaser?
- Can depreciation be claimed on the amount paid over and above the value of
- Tax deductions/exemptions (section 80-IA,80-IB,10AA) in the case of slump sale, whether will be transferred to the new company?
- Whether TP provisions would apply to a slump sale transaction?

#### Itemised - sale of Business



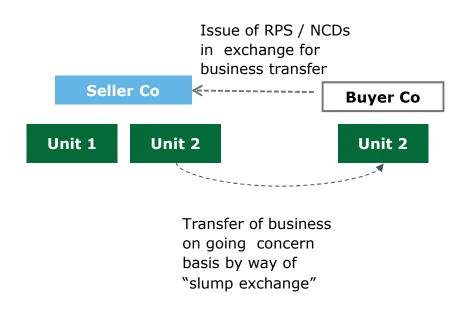
- Involves transfer of business wherein consideration is identified against each asset
- Not necessary what is transferred
- constitutes a business undertaking
- In consideration, the Buyer Co pays cash to the Seller Co
- No requirement for the Buyer Co to continue to undertake the business
- No Court approval required

Cherry Picking of assets and allocation of value to individual assets based on their inherent commercial advantage

#### Key tax considerations

- Transaction non-tax neutral
  - Gains arising on sale of capital assets taxed as Long/ short term capital gains depending on period of holding
- Provisions of Section 50 shall apply in the case of sale of depreciable assets that form a part of a block of assets
- Provisions of Section 50C apply in case of sale of capital asset being land / building
  - Stamp duty value to be considered as full value of consideration for computation of capital gains

#### Slump Exchange



#### **Background / Transaction mechanics**

- Seller Co to transfer Unit 2 to Buyer Co on a 'going concern' basis
- Buyer Co to issue RPS / NCDs in exchange for business transferred
- RPS / NCDs to be redeemed after an agreed period

#### **Key Considerations**

- IndAS and MAT impact to be evaluated
- Impact under GAAR
- Commercial rationale for slump exchange

Whether 'slump exchange' can be regarded as 'slump sale' and taxed under Section 50B of the Act?

# Demerger

### What is demerger?



v/s





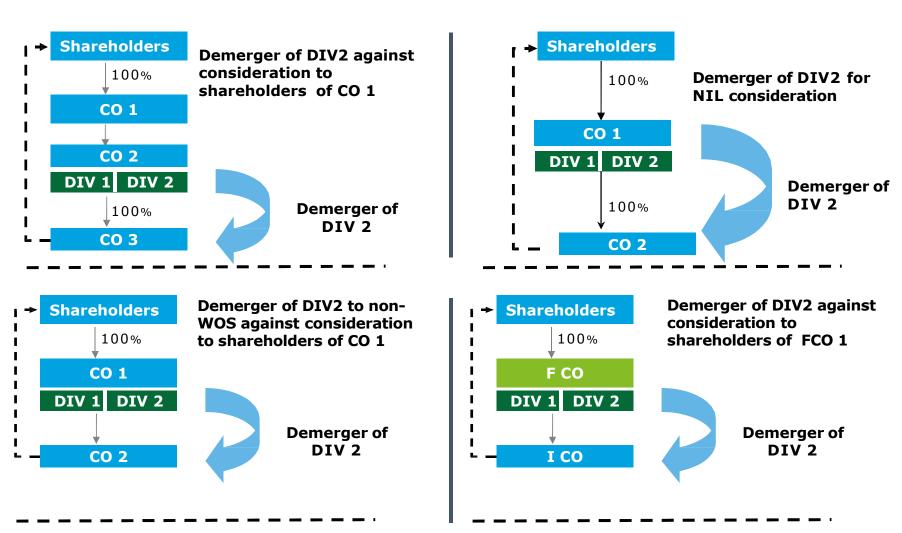
- Demerger involves transfer of identified business from one company to another
- In consideration, company which acquires business, issues shares to shareholders of selling company
- Demerger is a Court approved process similar to merger

#### **Prominent demergers**

- Wipro
- Bajaj
- TTML

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### Demerger situations



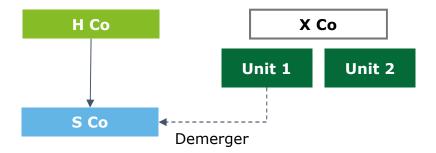
### Key tax implications

- Tax neutral subject to fulfilment of conditions as per the Income Tax Act
- Carry forward & set off of losses/ unabsorbed depreciation relatable to demerged undertaking / division
- Depreciation allowable on proportionate basis
- Demerger expenses amortisable
- Cost of acquisition to be split
- Period of holding

#### Other tax considerations

- What constitutes an 'undertaking'?
- Continuity of tax holiday benefits of the Demerged Co?
- Whether MAT credit allowed to transferred to the Resulting Co?
- Issue of cash on demerger?
- Applicability of transfer pricing provisions?

#### Non common control – Demerger



 X Co pursuant to a Scheme of Arrangement demerges its undertaking into S Co

#### **IndAs**

- Since the transaction is not a common control transaction the assets and liabilities of the undertaking will have be recorded by S Co at its fair value
- Whether the demerger will be regarded as a tax neutral demerger ?
- Impact in the hands of shareholders?
- Transferor Co?
- Transferee Co?
- Cost step up on tax WDV of assets?

# Mergers

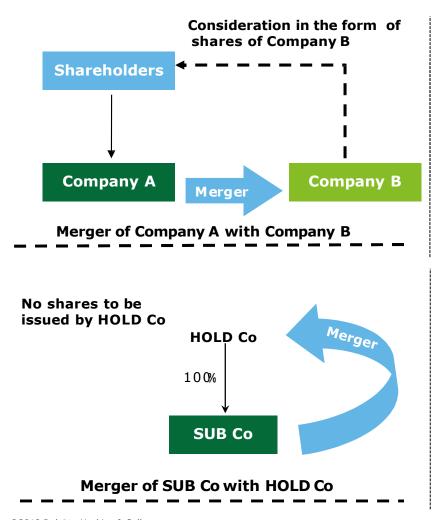
#### Merger

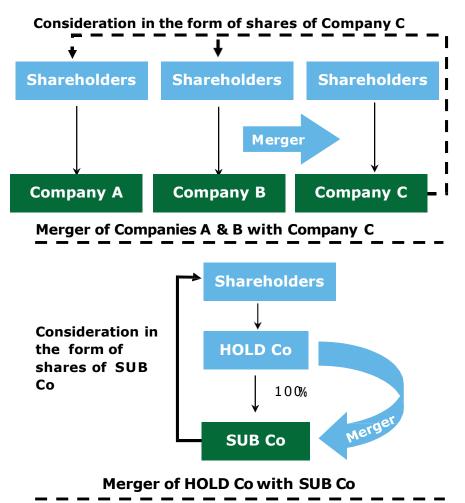
- Merger refers to consolidation of two or more entities
- Involves transfer of assets and liabilities from one or more transferor companies to a transferee company
- In consideration, the transferee company issues shares to the shareholders of transferor company

#### **Prominent mergers**

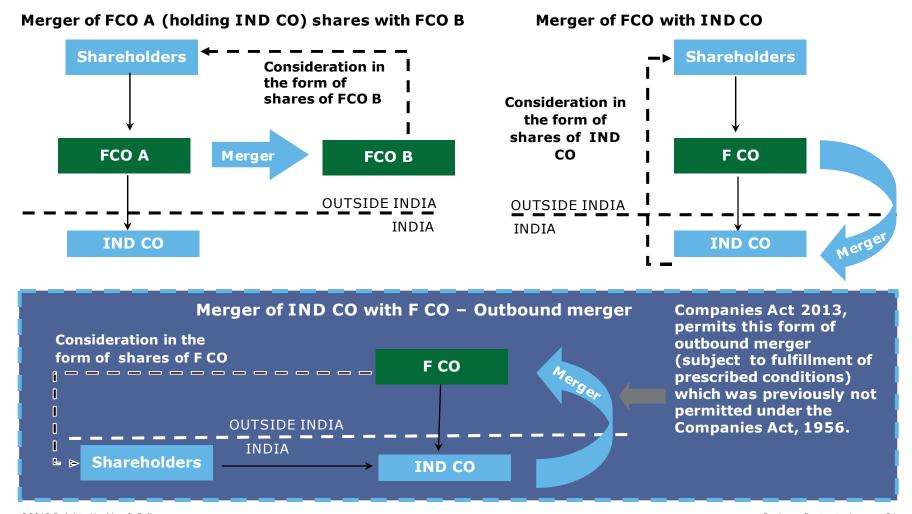
- Idea Cellular Vodafone India
- IDFC Capital First
- Pfizer Wyeth
- Max Life HDFC Life

### **Domestic Merger Situations**





### Cross Border Merger Situations



### Key tax implications

- Tax neutral subject to fulfilment of certain conditions
- Carry forward & set off of losses / unabsorbed depreciation
- Depreciation allowable on proportionate basis
- Merger expenses amortisable over 5 years
- Cost of acquisition (COA)
- Period of holding
- COA of capital assets transferred to Transferee Co = Cost incurred by Transferor Co for acquiring such assets

#### Other tax considerations

- Appointed Date v. Effective Date
- Whether equity and preference shareholders should be issued equity and preference shares respectively on amalgamation?
- Tax holiday benefits
- MAT credit
- Change in shareholding lapse of losses
- Goodwill on merger Supreme Court in Smifs Securities
- Applicability of transfer pricing provisions

# **Questions?**

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