

# Independent Auditor's Report

To the Members of **Colgate-Palmolive (India) Limited**

## Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

### Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Colgate-Palmolive (India) Limited ('the Company'), which comprise the Balance sheet as at March 31 2024, the Statement of Profit and Loss, including the statement of Other Comprehensive Income, the Cash Flow Statement and the Statement of Changes in Equity for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of material accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the aforesaid financial statements give the information required by the Companies Act, 2013, as amended ('the Act') in the manner so required and give a true and fair view in conformity with the accounting principles generally accepted in India, of the state of affairs of the Company as at March 31, 2024, its profit including other comprehensive income its cash flows and the changes in equity for the year ended on that date.

### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit of the financial statements in accordance with the Standards on Auditing (SAs), as specified under section 143(10) of the Act. Our responsibilities under those Standards are further described in the 'Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements' section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the 'Code of Ethics' issued by the Institute

of Chartered Accountants of India together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements under the provisions of the Act and the Rules thereunder, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the Code of Ethics. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion on the financial statements.

### Key Audit Matters

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgment, were of most significance in our audit of the financial statements for the financial year ended March 31, 2024. These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the financial statements as a whole, and in forming our opinion thereon, and we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters. For each matter below, our description of how our audit addressed the matter is provided in that context.

We have determined the matters described below to be the key audit matters to be communicated in our report. We have fulfilled the responsibilities described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report, including in relation to these matters. Accordingly, our audit included the performance of procedures designed to respond to our assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements. The results of our audit procedures, including the procedures performed to address the matters below, provide the basis for our audit opinion on the accompanying financial statements.

Key audit matters	How our audit addressed the key audit matter
<p><b>(a) Revenue recognition (as described in Note 25 of the financial statements)</b></p> <p>Revenue from the sale of goods is measured net off discounts and rebates that are given to the customers (i.e., to the Wholesale traders and Retail traders) as a part of sales promotion, comprising of primary and secondary schemes.</p> <p>Of the total discounts and rebates passed on to the customers, certain discounts and rebates are passed on to the customers on the basis of secondary sales made by customers i.e., secondary schemes.</p> <p>Significant judgement is required in estimating accruals relating to secondary schemes recognized, based on sales made during the year.</p>	<p>Our audit procedures included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assessing the appropriateness of the Company's revenue recognition accounting policies including those relating to discounts and rebates for primary and secondary sales.</li> <li>Obtained an understanding, assessed and tested the operating effectiveness of internal control relating to the identification, recognition and measurement of discounts and rebates for secondary schemes.</li> <li>Tested on sample basis, the underlying documentation and assumptions, for discount and rebate provisions accrued during the year in relation to secondary sales.</li> <li>Tested on sample basis, the subsequent claims accounted by the company, to assess the adequacy and appropriateness of accruals outstanding as at year end.</li> <li>Performed an analysis between historical accrual and actual expenses incurred for the previous periods.</li> <li>Obtained reasons from management to ascertain reasonableness in relation to ageing of outstanding accruals and verified subsequent settlement of provisions.</li> <li>We assessed the adequacy of the disclosures in respect of revenue to be disclosed as per Ind AS 115.</li> </ul>
<p><b>(b) Contingent liabilities / provisions in relation to tax Litigations (as described in Note 24(A), and 31(e) and 32 of the Financial statements)</b></p> <p>The Company has received various demand orders and notices under various tax laws which the Company is contesting. In cases where the outflow of resources embodying economic benefits is probable, the company has made provision and in cases where outflow of resources embodying economic benefits is possible, then such items are disclosed as contingent liabilities.</p> <p>Significant judgements and estimates are required to assess impact of these litigations on the financial position, results of operations and cash flows.</p>	<p>Our audit procedures included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Obtained an understanding, assessed and tested the internal control environment relating to the identification, recognition and measurement of provisions for disputes and disclosures of contingent liabilities in relation to tax litigations.</li> <li>Obtained details of completed tax assessments and demands issued by tax authorities, from the management.</li> <li>Read the orders/notices received from tax authorities and held discussion with management to understand management's assessment of the quantification and likelihood of significant exposures and the provision required for specific cases. We engaged our tax specialists to evaluate the current status of tax assessments and management's position in relation to on-going disputes with regard to likelihood assessment of exposure done by the management.</li> <li>Analysed the management's estimates related to the recognized provisions for disputes and disclosures of contingent liabilities in relation to tax litigations and uncertain tax positions in the financial statements.</li> </ul>

## Other Information

The Company's Board of Directors is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report but does not include the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether such other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements, or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

## Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

The Company's Board of Directors is responsible for the matters stated in section 134(5) of the Act with respect to the preparation of these financial statements that give a true and fair view of the financial position, financial performance including other comprehensive income, cash flows and changes in equity of the Company in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in India, including the Indian Accounting Standards (Ind AS) specified under section 133 of the Act read with the Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Rules, 2015, as amended. This responsibility also includes maintenance of adequate accounting records in accordance with the provisions of the Act for safeguarding of the assets of the Company and for preventing and detecting frauds and other irregularities; selection and application of appropriate accounting policies; making judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and the design, implementation and maintenance of adequate internal financial controls, that were operating effectively for ensuring the accuracy and completeness of the accounting records, relevant to the preparation and presentation of the financial statements that give a true and fair view and are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue

as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those Board of Directors are also responsible for overseeing the Company's financial reporting process.

## Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with SAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with SAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances. Under section 143(3)(i) of the Act, we are also responsible for expressing our opinion on whether the Company has adequate internal financial controls with reference to financial statements in place and the operating effectiveness of such controls.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.

- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

From the matters communicated with those charged with governance, we determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the financial statements for the financial year ended March 31, 2024 and are therefore the key audit matters. We describe these matters in our auditor's report unless law or regulation precludes public disclosure about the matter or when, in extremely rare circumstances, we determine that a matter should not be communicated in our report because the adverse consequences of doing so would reasonably be expected to outweigh the public interest benefits of such communication.

## Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

1. As required by the Companies (Auditor's Report) Order, 2020 ('the Order'), issued by the Central Government of India in terms of sub-section (11) of section 143 of the Act, we give in the 'Annexure 1' a statement on the matters specified in paragraphs 3 and 4 of the Order.
2. As required by Section 143(3) of the Act, we report, to the extent applicable, that:
  - (a) We have sought and obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purposes of our audit;
  - (b) In our opinion, proper books of account as required by law have been kept by the Company so far as it appears from our examination of those books and daily back up of such books of accounts have been maintained on servers physically located in India except back up of audit trail, as referred in Note 45 to financial statements, and for the matters stated in the paragraph (i)(vi) below on reporting under Rule 11(g);
  - (c) The Balance Sheet, the Statement of Profit and Loss including the Statement of Other Comprehensive Income, the Cash Flow Statement and Statement of Changes in Equity dealt with by this Report are in agreement with the books of account;
  - (d) In our opinion, the aforesaid financial statements comply with the Accounting Standards specified under Section 133 of the Act, read with Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Rules, 2015, as amended;
  - (e) On the basis of the written representations received from the directors as on March 31, 2024 taken on record by the Board of Directors, none of the directors is disqualified as on March 31, 2024 from being appointed as a director in terms of Section 164 (2) of the Act;
  - (f) The observations relating to the maintenance of accounts and other matters connected therewith are as stated in paragraph (b) above on reporting under Section 143(3)(b) and paragraph (i)(vi) below on reporting under Rule 11(g);
  - (g) With respect to the adequacy of the internal financial controls with reference to financial statements and the operating effectiveness of such controls, refer to our separate Report in 'Annexure II' to this report;
  - (h) In our opinion, the managerial remuneration for the year ended March 31, 2024 has been paid /

provided by the Company to its directors in accordance with the provisions of section 197 read with Schedule V to the Act;

(i) With respect to the other matters to be included in the Auditor's Report in accordance with Rule 11 of the Companies (Audit and Auditors) Rules, 2014, as amended in our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us:

- i. The Company has disclosed the impact of pending litigations on its financial position in its financial statements - Refer Note 32 to the financial statements;
- ii. The Company did not have any long-term contracts including derivative contracts for which there were any material foreseeable losses;
- iii. There has been no delay in transferring amounts, required to be transferred, to the Investor Education and Protection Fund by the Company;
- iv. a) The management has represented that, to the best of its knowledge and belief, no funds have been advanced or loaned or invested (either from borrowed funds or share premium or any other sources or kind of funds) by the Company to or in any other person(s) or entity(ies), including foreign entities ('Intermediaries'), with the understanding, whether recorded in writing or otherwise, that the Intermediary shall, whether, directly or indirectly lend or invest in other persons or entities identified in any manner whatsoever by or on behalf of the Company ('Ultimate Beneficiaries') or provide any guarantee, security or the like on behalf of the Ultimate Beneficiaries;
- b) The management has represented that, to the best of its knowledge and belief, no funds have been received by the Company from any person(s) or entity(ies), including foreign entities ('Funding Parties'), with the understanding, whether recorded in writing or otherwise, that the Company

shall, whether, directly or indirectly, lend or invest in other persons or entities identified in any manner whatsoever by or on behalf of the Funding Party ('Ultimate Beneficiaries') or provide any guarantee, security or the like on behalf of the Ultimate Beneficiaries; and

- c) Based on such audit procedures performed that have been considered reasonable and appropriate in the circumstances, nothing has come to our notice that has caused us to believe that the representations under sub-clause (a) and (b) contain any material misstatement.
- v. The interim dividend declared and paid by the Company during the year and until the date of this audit report is in accordance with section 123 of the Act.
- vi. Based on our examination which included test checks, the Company has used accounting software for maintaining its books of account which has a feature of recording audit trail (edit log) facility and the same has operated throughout the year for all relevant transactions recorded in the software except that, audit trail feature is not enabled for certain changes, if made, using privileged/ administrative access rights, as described in note 45 to the financial statements. Further, during the course of our audit we did not come across any instance of audit trail feature being tampered with in respect to the accounting software.

**For S R B C & CO LLP**

Chartered Accountants

ICAI Firm Registration Number: 324982E/E300003

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**per Pritesh Maheshwari**

Partner

Membership Number: 118746

UDIN: 24118746BKFZUH6787

Place of Signature: Mumbai

Date: May 14, 2024

# Annexure I

## to the Independent Auditor's Report of even Date on the Financial Statements of Colgate-Palmolive (India) Limited

In terms of the information and explanations sought by us and given by the company by and the books of account and records examined by us in the normal course of audit and to the best of our knowledge and belief, we state that:

- (i) (a) The Company has maintained proper records showing full particulars, including quantitative details and situation of Property, Plant and Equipment.
- (b) The Company has maintained proper records showing full particulars of intangibles assets.
- (c) All property, plant and equipment were physically verified by the Management in the previous year in accordance with a planned programme of verifying them once in three years which, in our opinion, is reasonable having regard to the size of the Company and the nature of its assets.
- (d) The title deeds of immovable properties (other than properties where the Company is the lessee and the lease agreements are duly executed in favor of the lessee) are held in the name of the company.
- (e) The Company has not revalued its Property, Plant and Equipment (including Right of use assets) during the year ended March 31, 2024.
- (f) There are no proceedings initiated or are pending against the Company for holding any benami property under the Prohibition of Benami Property Transactions Act, 1988 and rules made thereunder.
- (ii) (a) The management has conducted physical verification of inventory at reasonable intervals during the year. In our opinion, the coverage and the procedure of such verification by the management is appropriate. No material discrepancies of inventory were noticed on such physical verification. Inventories lying with third parties have been confirmed by them as at March 31, 2024 and no material discrepancies were noticed in respect of such confirmations.
- (b) The Company has not been sanctioned working capital limits in excess of INR five crores in aggregate from banks or financial institutions during any point of time of the year on the basis of security of current assets. Accordingly, the requirement to report on clause 3(ii)(b) of the Order is not applicable to the Company.

- (iii) (a) During the year the Company has provided loans to companies as follows:

Particulars	Loans (₹ Lakhs)
Aggregate amount provided during the year	2,500
Balance outstanding as at balance sheet date in respect of above cases	625

During the year the Company has not made investments, provided guarantees, provided security and granted advances in the nature of loans to companies, firms, Limited Liability Partnerships or any other parties.

- (b) During the year the terms and conditions of the grant of all loans to companies are not prejudicial to the Company's interest. During the year the Company has not made investments, provided guarantees, provided security and granted advances in the nature of loans to companies, firms, Limited Liability Partnerships or any other parties.
- (c) The Company has granted loan during the year to companies where the schedule of repayment of principal and payment of interest has been stipulated and the repayment or receipts are regular.
- (d) There are no amounts of loans and advances in the nature of loans granted to companies, firms, limited liability partnerships or any other parties which are overdue for more than ninety days.
- (e) There were no loans or advance in the nature of loan granted to companies, firms, Limited Liability Partnerships or any other parties which was fallen due during the year, that have been renewed or extended or fresh loans granted to settle the overdues of existing loans given to the same parties.
- (f) The Company has not granted any loans or advances in the nature of loans, either repayable on demand or without specifying any terms or period of repayment to companies, firms, Limited Liability Partnerships or any other parties. Accordingly, the requirement to report on clause 3(iii)(f) of the Order is not applicable to the Company.



- (iv) There are no loans, investments, guarantees, and securities given in respect of which provisions of section 185 of the Companies Act 2013 are applicable and hence not commented upon. Further, according to the information and explanations given to us, provisions of sections 186 of the Companies Act, 2013 in respect of loans have been complied with by the Company.
- (v) The Company has neither accepted any deposits from the public nor accepted any amounts which are deemed to be deposits within the meaning of Sections 73 to 76 of the Companies Act and the Companies (Acceptance of Deposits) Rules, 2014 (as amended). Accordingly, the provisions of clause 3(v) of the Order are not applicable to the company.
- (vi) The Central Government has not specified the maintenance of cost records under Section 148(1) of

the Companies Act, 2013, for the products/services of the Company.

- (vii) (a) The Company is regular in depositing with appropriate authorities undisputed statutory dues including goods and services tax, provident fund, employees' state insurance, income-tax, duty of custom, cess and other statutory dues applicable to it. According, to the information and explanations given to us and based on audit procedures performed by us, no undisputed amounts payable in respect of these statutory dues were outstanding, at the year end, for a period of more than six months from the date they became payable.
- (b) The dues of income-tax, goods and services tax, duty of excise, customs, service tax, sales-tax, value added tax and cess on account of any dispute, are as follows:

### Income Tax

Sr. no.	Name of the Statute	Period to which amount relates	Forum where dispute is pending	Amount (₹ Lakhs)
1.	Income Tax Act, 1961	AY 2014-15 to AY 2015-16 AY 2017-18 to AY 2018-19 AY 1996-97 to AY 2000-01	Income Tax Appellate Tribunal High Court	78,580.31  1,100.21
<b>Total</b>				<b>79,680.52</b>

### Sales Tax

Sr. no.	Name of the Statute	Period to which amount relates	Forum where dispute is pending	Amount (₹ Lakhs)
1.	Statute applicable in Maharashtra, UP and Kerala	1993-94, 2004-05 and 2016-17	High court	431.97
2.	Statute applicable in Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Rajasthan, Uttaranchal, Delhi, Tripura, West Bengal, Bihar, Odisha, Assam, Gujarat, Karnataka, Jharkhand, Goa, Chandigarh, Haryana	1988-89, 1995-96 to 1998-99, 2000-01 to 2017-18	Assessing authorities and First Appellate Authorities of various states	1,012.55
3.	Statute applicable in Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Bihar, Odisha and Karnataka	1987-88, 1990-91, 1995-96 to 1997-98, 1999-00 to 2001-02, 2003-04	Sales Tax Appellate Tribunal of various States	210.61
<b>Total</b>				<b>1,655.13</b>

### Service Tax

Sr. no.	Name of the Statute	Period to which amount relates	Forum where dispute is pending	Amount (₹ Lakhs)
1.	Service Tax (Finance Act, 1994)	July 2007 to October 2008	Customs, Excise and Service Tax Appellate Tribunal	15.20
		2003-2010 and 2013-2017	First appellate authorities	13.11
	<b>Total</b>			<b>28.31</b>

### Excise related matters

Sr. no.	Name of the Statute	Period to which amount relates	Forum where dispute is pending	Amount (₹ Lakhs)
1.	The Central Excise Act, 1944	Excise duty liability 1994-95, 2005-06 to 2010-11 and Jun'14 - Jun'17	Customs, Excise and Service Tax Appellate Tribunal	1,998.07
		1998-1999 to 2004-05 and 2006-07 to 2016-17	First appellate authorities	803.16
	<b>Total</b>			<b>2,801.23</b>

### Goods and Service Tax

Sr. no.	Name of the Statute	Period to which amount relates	Forum where dispute is pending	Amount (₹ Lakhs)
1.	Goods & Service Tax Act, 2017	2017-18 to 2022-23	Assessing Officer	8,976.53
		2017-18 to 2018-19 and 2020-21	First appellate authorities	660.88
	<b>Total</b>			<b>9,637.41</b>

- (viii) The Company has not surrendered or disclosed any transaction, previously unrecorded in the books of account, in the tax assessments under the Income Tax Act, 1961 as income during the year. Accordingly, the requirement to report on clause 3(viii) of the Order is not applicable to the Company.
- (ix) (a) The Company did not have any outstanding loans or borrowing or interest thereon due to any lender during the year. Accordingly, the requirement to report on clause 3(ix)(a) of the order is not applicable to the Company.
- (b) The Company has not been declared wilful defaulter by any bank or financial institution or government or any government authority.
- (c) The Company did not have any term loans outstanding during the year hence, the requirement to report on clause 3(ix)(c) of the Order is not applicable to the Company.
- (d) The Company did not raise any funds during the year hence, the requirement to report on clause 3(ix)(d) of the Order is not applicable to the Company.
- (e) The Company does not have any subsidiary, associate or joint venture. Accordingly, the requirement to report on clause 3(ix)(e) and 3(ix)(f) of the Order is not applicable to the Company.



- (x) (a) The Company has not raised any money during the year by way of further public offer (including debt instruments), hence, the requirement to report on clause 3 (x)(a) is not applicable to the Company.
- (b) The Company has not made any preferential allotment or private placement of shares /fully or partially or optionally convertible debentures during the year under audit and hence, the requirement to report on clause 3(x)(b) of the Order is not applicable to the Company.
- (xi) (a) No fraud by the company or no fraud on the company has been noticed or reported during the year.
- (b) During the year, no report under sub-section (12) of section 143 of the Companies Act, 2013 has been filed by us in Form ADT-4 as prescribed under Rule 13 of Companies (Audit and Auditors) Rules, 2014 with the Central Government. As informed to us by the company no report under sub-section (12) of section 143 of the Companies Act, 2013 has been filed by secretarial auditor in Form ADT-4 as prescribed under Rule 13 of Companies (Audit and Auditors) Rules, 2014 with the Central Government.
- (c) We have taken into consideration the whistle blower complaints received by the Company during the year while determining the nature, timing and extent of audit procedures.
- (xii) The Company is not a Nidhi Company as per the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013. Therefore, the requirement to report on clause 3(xii)(a), (b) & (c) of the order are not applicable to the Company.
- (xiii) Transactions with the related parties are in compliance with section 177 and 188 of Companies Act, 2013 where applicable and the details have been disclosed in the notes to the financial statements, as required by the applicable accounting standards.
- (xiv) (a) The Company has an internal audit system commensurate with the size and nature of its business.
- (b) The internal audit reports of the Company issued till the date of the audit report, for the period under audit have been considered by us.
- (xv) The Company has not entered into any non-cash transactions with its directors or persons connected with its directors and hence requirement to report on clause 3(xv) of the Order is not applicable to the Company.
- (xvi) (a) The provisions of section 45-IA of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934(2 of 1934) are not applicable to the Company. Accordingly, the requirement to report on clause 3(xvi)(a) of the Order is not applicable to the Company.
- (b) The Company is not engaged in any Non-Banking Financial or Housing Finance activities. Accordingly, the requirement to report on clause 3(xvi)(b) of the Order is not applicable to the Company.
- (c) The Company is not a Core Investment Company as defined in the regulations made by Reserve Bank of India. Accordingly, the requirement to report on clause 3(xvi)(c) of the Order is not applicable to the Company.
- (d) There are no other Companies part of the Group, hence, the requirement to report on clause 3(xvi) of the Order is not applicable to the Company.
- (xvii) The Company has not incurred cash losses in the current year and immediately preceding financial year.
- (xviii) There has been no resignation of the statutory auditors during the year and accordingly requirement to report on Clause 3(xviii) of the Order is not applicable to the Company.
- (xix) On the basis of the financial ratios disclosed in Note 43 to the financial statements, ageing and expected dates of realization of financial assets and payment of financial liabilities, other information accompanying the financial statements, our knowledge of the Board of Directors and management plans and based on our examination of the evidence supporting the assumptions, nothing has come to our attention, which causes us to believe that any material uncertainty exists as on the date of the audit report that Company is not capable of meeting its liabilities existing at the date of balance sheet as and when they fall due within a period of one year from the balance sheet date. We, however, state that this is not an assurance as to the future viability of the Company. We further state that our reporting is based on the facts up to the date of

the audit report and we neither give any guarantee nor any assurance that all liabilities falling due within a period of one year from the balance sheet date, will get discharged by the Company as and when they fall due.

- (xx) (a) In respect of other than ongoing projects, there are no unspent amounts that are required to be transferred to a fund specified in Schedule VII of the Companies Act (the Act), in compliance with second proviso to sub section 5 of section 135 of the Act. This matter has been disclosed in Note 30(B) to the financial statements
- (b) All amounts that are unspent under section (5) of section 135 of Companies Act, pursuant to any ongoing project, has been transferred to special account in compliance of with provisions of sub

section (6) of section 135 of the said Act. This matter has been disclosed in note 30(B) to the financial statements.

**For S R B C & CO LLP**

Chartered Accountants

ICAI Firm Registration Number: 324982E/E300003

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**per Pritesh Maheshwari**

Partner

Membership Number: 118746

UDIN: 24118746BKFZUH6787

Place of Signature: Mumbai

Date: May 14, 2024

# Annexure II

## to the Independent Auditor's Report of even Date on the Financial Statements of Colgate-Palmolive (India) Limited

### Report on the Internal Financial Controls under Clause (i) of Sub-section 3 of Section 143 of the Companies Act, 2013 ('the Act')

We have audited the internal financial controls with reference to financial statements of Colgate-Palmolive (India) Limited ('the Company') as of March 31, 2024 in conjunction with our audit of the financial statements of the Company for the year ended on that date.

### Management's Responsibility for Internal Financial Controls

The Company's Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining internal financial controls based on the internal control over financial reporting criteria established by the Company considering the essential components of internal control stated in the Guidance Note on Audit of Internal Financial Controls Over Financial Reporting issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India ('ICAI'). These responsibilities include the design, implementation and maintenance of adequate internal financial controls that were operating effectively for ensuring the orderly and efficient conduct of its business, including adherence to the Company's policies, the safeguarding of its assets, the prevention and detection of frauds and errors, the accuracy and completeness of the accounting records, and the timely preparation of reliable financial information, as required under the Companies Act, 2013.

### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's internal financial controls with reference to these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with the Guidance Note on Audit of Internal Financial Controls Over Financial Reporting (the 'Guidance Note') and the Standards on Auditing, as specified under section 143(10) of the Act, to the extent applicable to an audit of internal financial controls, both issued by ICAI. Those Standards and the Guidance Note require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether adequate internal financial controls with reference to these

financial statements was established and maintained and if such controls operated effectively in all material respects.

Our audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the adequacy of the internal financial controls with reference to these financial statements and their operating effectiveness. Our audit of internal financial controls with reference to financial statements included obtaining an understanding of internal financial controls with reference to these financial statements, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, and testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion on the Company's internal financial controls with reference to these financial statements.

### Meaning of Internal Financial Controls With Reference to these Financial Statements

A company's internal financial controls with reference to financial statements is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company's internal financial controls with reference to financial statements includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorisations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorised acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

## Inherent Limitations of Internal Financial Controls With Reference to Financial Statements

Because of the inherent limitations of internal financial controls with reference to financial statements, including the possibility of collusion or improper management override of controls, material misstatements due to error or fraud may occur and not be detected. Also, projections of any evaluation of the internal financial controls with reference to financial statements to future periods are subject to the risk that the internal financial control with reference to financial statements may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

## Opinion

In our opinion, the Company has, in all material respects, adequate internal financial controls with reference to

financial statements and such internal financial controls with reference to financial statements were operating effectively as at March 31, 2024, based on the internal control over financial reporting criteria established by the Company considering the essential components of internal control stated in the Guidance Note issued by the ICAI.

### For S R B C & CO LLP

Chartered Accountants

ICAI Firm Registration Number: 324982E/E300003

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### per Pritesh Maheshwari

Partner

Membership Number: 118746

UDIN: 24118746BKFZUH6787

Place of Signature: Mumbai

Date: May 14, 2024