

IDFCFIRSTBANK/SD/295/2020-21

February 20, 2021

The Manager-Listing Department
National Stock Exchange of India Limited
Exchange Plaza,
Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East)
Mumbai – 400 051.
Tel No.: 022 – 2659 8237/ 38
NSE - Symbol – IDFCFIRSTB

The Manager-Listing Department
BSE Limited
Phiroze Jeejeebhoy Towers,
Dalal Street, Fort,
Mumbai – 400 001.
Tel No.: 022 – 2272 2039/ 37/3121
BSE- Scrip Code: 539437

Sub.: Submission of copies of newspaper advertisement for Postal Ballot Notice

Dear Sir / Madam,

We wish to inform that the Bank has issued a newspaper advertisement for Postal Ballot under applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013, read with relevant rules made thereunder, and other applicable laws & regulations, as amended and in terms of the circulars issued by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India vide its General Circular No. 14/2020 dated April 08, 2020, General Circular No. 17/2020 dated April 13, 2020 and General Circular No. 39/2020 dated December 31, 2020 (the '**MCA Circulars**').

Enclosing a copy of Newspaper Advertisement dated February 20, 2021, published in '**Hindu Business Line**' and '**Makkal Kural**' (*electronic editions available*). The same has been made available on the Bank's website www.idfcfirstbank.com.

Please take the above on record and acknowledge receipt of the same.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

For **IDFC FIRST Bank Limited**

Satish Gaikwad
Head - Legal & Company Secretary
Encl.: as above

SUPREME COURT TO RBI

‘Lay down norms for locker facility management in banks’

SC says lockers have become an essential service provided by banking institutions

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
New Delhi, February 19
Holding that banks cannot wash off their hands and claim they bear no liability towards their customers for the operation of lockers, the Supreme Court, on Friday, directed the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to lay down regulations within six months mandating the steps to be taken by banks with respect to locker facility management.

Rise in transactions
A Bench comprising Justices MM Shantanagoudar and Vineet Saran said that with the advent of globalisation, banking institutions have acquired a very significant role

in the life of the common man, as both domestic and international economic transactions have increased multiple folds.
The top court said people are hesitant to keep their liquid assets at home as “we are steadily moving towards a cashless economy”. “Thus, as is evident from the rising demand for such services, lockers have become an essential service provided by every banking institution. Such services may be availed of by citizens as well as by foreign nationals,” the Bench said.
Moreover, due to rapid gains in technology, “we are now transitioning from dual



key-operated lockers to electronically-operated lockers”, the top court said.
In electronically-operated lockers, though the customer may have partial access to the locker through passwords or ATM pin, they are unlikely to possess the technological know-how to control the operation of such lockers, the bench said.
“On the other hand, there is the possibility that miscre-

ants may manipulate the technologies used in these systems to gain access to the lockers without the customers’ knowledge or consent,” it said.
At the mercy of bank
The apex court said that a customer is completely at the mercy of the bank, which is the more resourceful party, for the protection of their assets.
“In such a situation, the banks cannot wash off their hands and claim that they bear no liability towards their customers for the operation of the locker,” it said. The Bench said that the very purpose for which the customer avails of the locker hiring facility is so that they may be assured that their assets are being properly taken care of.

Fino Payments Bank to onboard 10,000 women BCs in U.P.

The project is aimed at improving banking access in the State’s rural areas

OUR BUREAU
Mumbai, February 19
Fino Payments Bank is working with the Uttar Pradesh State Rural Livelihood Mission (UPSRLM) to train and onboard 10,000 women from Self Help Groups (SHG) as business correspondent (BC) Sakhis in the State.
“The agreement in this regard was signed on Friday at an event organised by the UP government in the presence of State Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath,” the bank said

in a statement. The project, to be implemented over the next three months, is part of UPSRLM’s mission to onboard around 58,000 women as BC Sakhis, or banking agents, across all the 75 districts of the State, it further said.
Better banking access
Fino is one of banking partners and facilitators engaged for the project to appoint BC Sakhis, it said, adding that the project is

aimed at improving banking access in rural UP and enhancing the household income of the SHG members.
Ashish Ahuja, Chief Operating Officer, Fino Payments Bank, said: “It is an opportunity for women in rural areas to showcase their entrepreneurial spirit and improve income. As

banking agents in the villages they play a critical role in helping people adopt banking services.”
The 10,000 BC Sakhis are in addition to the already existing over 50,000 Fino merchants in Uttar Pradesh.
As part of the broader Na-

General insurance sector may revive in Q4

The industry should focus on product innovation: SBI General Insurance official

OUR BUREAU
Kolkata, February 19
The general insurance industry, which had witnessed a significant de-growth in business across various segments, including motor and health during the first quarter of FY21, is likely to turnaround and register positive growth in the fourth quarter of this fiscal.

Massive degrowth
According to Subramanyam Brahmajosyula, Head Underwriting & Reinsurance, SBI General Insurance, the industry had witnessed a massive degrowth in business during the first two to three months of the current fiscal, and most business segments other than fire, had registered a drop in growth.
However, from Q2 there was a gradual uptick in de-

mand and the industry is hopeful of ending the year in a “good shape”.
The general insurance industry has registered a growth of around 2.76 per cent year-to-date up to January 2021 (10-month period from April 2020) compared to the same period last year. The non-life industry has been growing by around 13-15 per cent on a year-on-year basis for the last couple of years.
“While the growth rate is lower than the previous performance of the industry as a whole, considering what we saw in the initial stages, this is a good turnaround.

“We were initially worried that it may take two years or longer to bounce back to the kind of growth rate we were experiencing earlier, but now I am almost confident that we should be close to business as usual by next year in terms of growth rates,” said Brahmajosyula at an InsureInd event organised by the CII here on Friday.
While fire insurance has seen a growth of around 30 per cent, health and liability witnessed a growth of around 15 per cent each.
There has been a lot of interest and enquiries from customers about the various new lines of business, particularly on the liability side, and the industry

From Q2, there was a gradual uptick in demand and the industry is hopeful of ending the year in “good shape”



should look to capitalise on it. Moving forward, the industry should focus on product innovation and enhancement.
“The pandemic has focussed our attention on the need to innovate and some of these learnings have become permanent part of the way we work,” he said.
While it is difficult to predict and price a pandemic like Covid, as an industry, insurers should be better prepared for a risk like this. There is also likely to be a higher demand for business interruption covers and the industry, either on its own or through reinsurance solution providers, should come up with something to address this demand.

Bitcoin surges past \$52,000

BLOOMBERG
February 19
Billionaire Elon Musk defended Tesla Inc’s \$1.5 billion Bitcoin investment on Twitter, calling the cryptocurrency a “less dumb” version of cash.
“When fiat currency has negative real interest, only a fool wouldn’t look elsewhere,” said Musk in a reference to the sub-zero returns on cash caused by negative-yielding debt. The comments pushed Bitcoin to a record on Friday, with prices climbing above \$52,000.
In a sense, Musk’s comments sum up one of the big issues facing markets this year. With so much cash being pumped into

the financial system from governments fighting the pandemic, investors are increasingly worried about inflation and looking for alternative places to put their money.
“Having some Bitcoin, which is simply a less dumb form of liquidity than cash, is adventurous enough for an S&P 500 company,” Musk wrote, adding that Tesla’s decision to buy Bitcoin doesn’t directly reflect his opinion.
“Bitcoin is almost as good as fiat money. The key word is ‘almost,’” he added.
Bitcoin was up 1.2 per cent on the day at \$52,669 as of 11:10 am in London. Just this week,

prices have jumped about 10%.
Musk’s posts were in response to remarks by Binance Holdings Ltd’s chief Changpeng Zhao. In a Bloomberg Television interview, Zhao wondered why Tesla bought Bitcoin if he’s so “gung-ho” on Dogecoin. Musk said he’s an engineer, not an investor, and doesn’t own any publicly traded stock besides Tesla.
This year, the billionaire has tweeted about cryptocurrency-related topics more frequently, with his memes and jokes about Bitcoin and Dogecoin – a tongue-in-cheek digital currency – often moving markets.

Govt should ‘strengthen’ PSBs, not privatise them: AIBEA

OUR BUREAU
Mumbai, February 19
The government should strengthen public sector banks (PSBs) by helping them recover bad loans instead of privatising them, according to the All-India Bank Employees’ Association (AIBEA).
“The only problem facing PSBs is bad loans. Most of the bad loans are due to the corporates and rich industrialists,” said CH Venkatachalam, General Secretary, AIBEA, in a statement. He underscored that the government should support PSBs in taking action against defaulting corporates and industrialists and not privatise the banks.
“Many private sector banks have collapsed in our country. Last year, YES Bank was in trouble and through eight financial intermediaries, including State Bank of India, that bank was rescued. Recently, Lakshmi Vilas Bank, another private sector bank, got into trouble and was given to a foreign bank. Hence, one cannot



accept that private sector banks are very efficient,” said Venkatachalam.
Loans for commoners
The association’s General Secretary observed that only public sector banks give loans to the common people, poor people, agriculture, small scale sector, etc. Private banks help only big corporates, he alleged. “Public sector banks give permanent jobs to the young unemployed. In private banks, it is only contract jobs.”
“Private banks will not open branches in rural areas. Only public sector banks have opened thousands of branches in villages,” he said. He feared that if PSBs are

privatised, rural branches will be closed in the name of cost-saving.
Public sector banks, with 75 per cent of total branches in the country, have opened 40.50 crore Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) accounts, but private sector banks, with 25 per cent of the total branches, have opened only 1.25 crore PMJDY accounts.
“Total deposits in the banking sector today is ₹146-lakh crore. This is hard-earned public savings. We cannot allow private hands to play with this huge public savings. Hence, privatisation is a bad idea. If the government is serious about economic development, public sector banks should be strengthened,” he added.
The United Forum of Bank Unions, the umbrella body of nine trade unions in the banking sector, has called for a strike on March 15 and 16 to protest against the government’s decision to privatise two PSBs.

Indian Bank-IISc arm deal to fund start-ups, MSMEs

OUR BUREAU
Bengaluru, February 19
Indian Bank has entered into an MoU with the Society for Innovation and Development (SID), an initiative of the Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru, for extending exclusive credit facility to start-ups and MSMEs.
SID is the forerunner in setting up joint R&D with industries and supporting start-up incubation, and it provides support to the MSME sector by providing joint research and development arrangements, technical and financial support for incubation, and acceleration of high-end technology products under its department named ‘TIME2’ (Technology Innovation for Midsize Enterprises).
Under the MoU, SID will identify the start-ups and MSMEs based on their credentials and past experience, and will refer the list of such members who require financial assistance to the bank.
The initiative is part of the bank’s scheme, ‘Ind Spring



Board for Financing Start-ups’, and will empower start-ups and MSMEs to realise their research efforts powered by financial support from the bank and backed by incubation facilities offered by SID.
The bank will extend loans of up to ₹50 crore to these start-ups for their working capital requirements or for the purchase of machinery and equipment. This initiative, which is mutually beneficial for the bank and IISc, will be the springboard for start-ups to realise their ambitions.
Indian Bank had also recently launched the ‘MSME Prerana’ programme to empower MSME entrepreneurs through skill development and capacity building workshops in local languages.

SBI loan campaign on Twitter

K RAM KUMAR
Mumbai, February 19
State Bank of India (SBI) has posed three crucial questions to its current and prospective customers relating to ‘Bride and Budget for Marriage’, ‘Business Idea and Investment’, and ‘Trip and Car’ as part of a ‘hai-nahi hai’ (have-don’t have) campaign.
In a Twitter campaign, India’s largest bank has specifically asked questions in Hinglish (mix of Hindi and English) such as: “Shaadi ke liye bride hai but budget nahi” (you have a bride but no budget for marriage), “Business ke liye idea hai but investment nahi” (you have a business idea but no money to invest), and “Doston ke sath trip pe jaana hai par car nahi hai” (you want to go on a trip with friends but don’t have a car). And SBI gives a ‘not-to-worry’ assurance as it has answers to the aforementioned questions in the form of products – personal loan for marriage, gold loan for business and car loan for the road trip with friends.
Clearly, the bank wants to expand loans in these three



segments as the non-performing asset (NPA) level is below 1 per cent.
In the third quarter of FY21, SBI’s Xpress Credit (personal loans) portfolio reported a 36 per cent year-on-year growth and stood at ₹1,77,366 crore as of December-end 2020. NPA in this portfolio was at 0.36 per cent.
Auto loans, including car and two-wheelers, nudged up about 3 per cent y-o-y and stood at ₹75,937 crore as of December-end 2020. NPA in this portfolio was at 0.73 per cent.
Personal gold loans portfolio soared about 559 per cent y-o-y to ₹17,492 crore. NPA in this portfolio was only 0.04 per cent.
Once the technology is

MNCs keen on IOC tech for converting CO2 into Omega-3 fatty acids and lipids

IOC to build a demonstration plant that can process 200 tonnes of CO2 daily

M RAMESH
Chennai, February 19
Indian Oil Corporation has been getting overtures from many international companies for its home-grown technology for converting carbon dioxide into Omega-3 fatty acids and lipids.

BASF, Total interested
Disclosing this to *BusinessLine* during a recent conversation, IOC’s Director, R&D, Dr SSV Ramakumar, mentioned in this context the names of German chemical giant BASF and French refiner Total. The question from many is “when could you licence the technology to us”, he said.
IOC intends to build by this year-end a demonstration plant that will process 200 tonnes of carbon dioxide daily to make Omega-3 fatty acids.
Once the technology is

showcased, “we can think of a huge plant”, he said. A kg of CO2 can produce 400 gm of Omega-3, valued at around \$800 in the market. In addition, the process can also produce 300 gms of lipids – water soluble organic compounds – which can be used to make bio-ethanol. This technology, therefore, kills two birds with one stone – utilising CO2, a greenhouse gas – and producing a high-value product, Omega-3 fatty acids.
For the past few years, IOC’s Centre for Advanced Bio-energy Research in Faridabad has been straining itself to develop a way to produce Omega-3 using microbial algae. These algae need carbon as feed – the traditional carbon-nutrient glucose is way too expensive

for this process. However, a good alternative to glucose are chemicals called acetates. Now, how can acetates be made from CO2? IOC solved this problem by taking a stake in a US-based company called LanzaTech, which had the technology for it.
In this way, it hyphenated two processes to end up with Omega-3 fatty acids – CO2 to acetates, and acetates to Omega-3 using algae. The first leg needs no oxygen, while the second has to have an abundance of it.
Currently, IOC is running a 10 kg/d plant to test out the process, which, according to Ramakumar, is the world’s first-of-its-kind.
With it, IOC is “generating a lot of data” and the quality of Omega-3 fatty acids is “improving day after day”.



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NOTICE OF POSTAL BALLOT

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to and in compliance with Section 110 of the Companies Act, 2013 (the “**Act**”) and Rule 20 & 22 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014, Regulation 44 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, Secretarial Standard on General Meeting (“**SS-2**”), read with General Circular No. 14/2020 dated April 08, 2020, General Circular No. 17/2020 dated April 13, 2020 and General Circular No. 39/2020 dated December 31, 2020, issued by Ministry of Corporate Affairs of India (the “**MCA Circulars**”) (including any statutory modification(s) or re-enactment(s) thereof, for the time being in force) and all other applicable laws and regulations, if any, the approval of the Members of IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (the “**Bank**”) is being sought for the following special resolution as mentioned in the Postal Ballot Notice dated February 18, 2021 (“**Notice**”), through remote electronic voting (“**E-voting**”) only.

Item No.	Description of the Resolution
1	To approve Raising of Capital through issuance of Equity Shares and/or other Equity-linked Securities

Pursuant to MCA Circulars, the Bank has completed the dispatch of Postal Ballot Notice on Friday, February 19, 2021, electronically to all the Members of the Bank, who have registered their e-mail addresses with the Depositories through the concerned Depository Participants and/or with the Bank’s Registrar and Share Transfer Agent (“**RTA**”) i.e. KFin Technologies Private Limited (“**KFin**”) as on cut-off date i.e. **Friday, February 12, 2021**.

Postal Ballot Notice, together with Explanatory statement and instructions for E-voting is available on website of the Bank www.idfcfirstbank.com, on the website of RTA viz. KFin: <https://evoting.kfintech.com> and at relevant sections of the websites of the Stock Exchanges on which the shares of the Bank are listed i.e. BSE Limited (“**BSE**”) and National Stock Exchange of India Limited (“**NSE**”).

In view of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and in compliance with the guidelines and requirements of the MCA Circulars, kindly note that no hard copy of Postal Ballot Notice along with Postal Ballot Forms and pre-paid business envelope will be sent to the Members and Members are required to communicate their assent or dissent through ‘E-voting’ system only.

Members whose names appear on the Register of Members/list of Beneficial Owners as on **Friday, February 12, 2021**, will be considered for the purpose of E-voting and the voting rights shall be reckoned on the paid-up Equity Share registered in the name of the Members as on that date. A person who is not a Member as on the cut-off date shall treat this Notice for information purposes only.

The Bank has engaged the services of KFin for providing E-voting facility to all its members. Members are requested to note the following:

Commencement of E-voting: **9:00 a.m. IST on Saturday, February 20, 2021**

End of E-voting: **5:00 p.m. IST on Sunday, March 21, 2021**

Once vote on a resolution is cast by the member, he/she shall not be allowed to change it subsequently or cast the vote again. The members are requested to note that E-voting shall not be allowed beyond the aforesaid date & time and the E-voting module shall be forthwith disabled upon expiry of the aforesaid period. Please read the instructions given in the attached Postal Ballot Notice carefully before exercising the vote.

The Bank has made temporary arrangements for registration of e-mail addresses and receipt of User ID & Password for the members whose e-mail addresses are not registered with the Depositories or with KFin. For detailed information in relation to e-mail registration and E-voting, you may refer to the Notes of E-voting instruction provided in Postal Ballot Notice. The members can access the said facility by visiting the link <https://ris.kfintech.com/clientservices/postalballot/> and follow the process mentioned therein.

The Board of Directors of the Bank has appointed Ms. Manisha Maheshwari, Practicing Company Secretary [Membership No. ACS 30224 and CP: 11031] of M/s. Bhandari & Associates, Company Secretaries, as **Scrutinizer** for conducting the Postal Ballot E-voting process in a fair and transparent manner. In case of any failure/inability to scrutinize E-voting by Ms. Manisha Maheshwari, Mr. S. N. Bhandari, Practicing Company Secretary [Membership No. FCS. 761 and CP 366] of M/s. Bhandari & Associates, Company Secretaries shall be alternate Scrutinizer to her.

Results of the Postal Ballot shall be declared on or before **Tuesday, March 23, 2021** and shall also be posted on the Bank’s website: www.idfcfirstbank.com & on the KFin’s <https://evoting.kfintech.com>, besides being communicated to the Stock Exchanges where the Bank’s shares are listed. The Bank shall display the results of the Postal Ballot at its Corporate Office and Registered Office.

In case of any queries/grievance pertaining to E-voting, please refer to the “Help” & “FAQ” sections / E-voting user manual available in the “Downloads” section of KFin website: <https://evoting.kfintech.com> or contact Ms. Krishna Priya, Manager at KFin Technologies Private Limited [Unit: IDFC FIRST Bank Limited], Selenium Tower B, Plot 31 & 32, Financial District Nanakramguda, Serilingampally Mandal, Hyderabad 500 032, Telangana, India, e-mail: einward.ris@kfintech.com, Contact No.: +91 40 6716 1500, +91 40 3321 1000 and Toll Free No.: 1800-345-4001.

By order of the Board of Directors
For IDFC FIRST Bank Limited
Sd/-
Satish Gaikwad
Place : Mumbai
Date : February 19, 2021
Head - Legal & Company Secretary

