August 31, 2016

**BSE** Limited

National Stock Exchange of India Limited.

# Kind Attn. Corporate Relationship Department

Dear Sirs,

# **Re: Disclosure of Material Event – Sale of Sports Broadcasting Business**

This is to inform you that the Board of Directors of the Company at the meeting held today i.e. on August 31, 2016, has approved the sale and transfer of the 'Sports Broadcasting Business' of the Company currently held under / through two (2) wholly owned non-material subsidiaries viz. Taj TV Ltd, Mauritius and Taj Television (India) Pvt Ltd to Sony Pictures Networks India Private Ltd and its affiliates at an aggregate all-cash consideration of USD 385 Million and in connection with this transaction, the Company and its subsidiaries have today executed relevant binding agreements.

Requisite details of the proposed transaction, as per Regulation 30 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 and SEBI Circular no. CIR/CFD/CMD/4/2015 dated September 9, 2015, are as mentioned herein:

# **Brief details of Sports Broadcasting Business:**

The 'Sports Broadcasting Business' of the Company is currently housed under:

- Taj TV Ltd, Mauritius, a step-down wholly owned overseas subsidiary of the Company which *inter alia* carries out the business of Distribution and Broadcasting of the Sports content through TEN brand of television channel(s) owned by it and has Broadcasting rights for various Sports events globally including Cricket rights from five (5) major Cricket Boards; and
- Taj Television (India) Private Limited, a domestic wholly owned subsidiary of the Company which acts as an exclusive agent in India for downlinking, distributing, marketing and sale of advertisement of the Sports Channels owned by Taj TV Ltd, Mauritius.

The Sports Broadcasting Business contributed INR 631 Crores (net of inter-company transactions) constituting 10.79% of the Consolidated Revenue and a loss of INR 37.20 Crores during the Financial Year 2015-16.





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#### **Rationale for Sale:**

The Company had grown the sports business over the last 10 years through acquisition of content at competitive prices. As a step towards strategic product portfolio shuffle, as part of growth in our general entertainment business - both in the domestic and overseas markets, and with the focus on transforming the Company into an all-round media and content company, comprising of five verticals, viz. broadcast, digital, films, live events, and international business, the Board has approved the sale of its Sports Broadcasting Business.

#### **Details of proposed transaction:**

As part of the proposed sale of Sports Broadcasting Business (a) the entire equity stake held by the Company in Taj Television (India) Pvt Ltd shall be sold to M/s Sony Pictures Networks India Pvt Ltd; and (b) Taj TV Ltd, Mauritius shall sell on a slump sale basis its Sports Broadcasting Business including TEN brand of television channels along with other assets to and in favour of Aqua Holding Investments Pvt Ltd, Mauritius and MSM Asia Limited, UK - affiliates of Sony Pictures Networks.

The transaction closing including receipt of sale consideration shall be subject to (i) requisite regulatory approvals and (ii) fulfilment of certain conditions precedent and is expected to be concluded within 4 to 5 months.

#### Interest of Promoters / Promoter Group if any:

The proposed sale of Sports Broadcasting Business is not to any related party and hence shall not be a related party transaction. Further none of the Promoter / Promoter Group entities are interested in the proposed transaction(s).

A press release in this regard is enclosed herewith.

Yours truly, **ZEE ENTERTAINMENT ENTERPRISES LIMITED** 

Encl : As above

M Lakshminarayanan Chief Compliance Officer & Company Secretary

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ZEE ENTERTAINMENT ENTERPRISES LIMITED

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# SONY PICTURES TO ACQUIRE TEN SPORTS FROM ZEE

#### <u>Press Release</u> <u>Mumbai, August 31, 2016</u>

**Sony Pictures Networks India (SPN)** today announced that SPN and its affiliates have entered into definitive agreements to acquire **TEN Sports Network** from **Zee Entertainment Enterprises Limited (ZEE)** and its subsidiaries for 385 million U.S. dollars. Completion of the acquisition is subject to regulatory approval. The acquisition will add South Asia's leading sports network to SPN's existing portfolio of channels.

The TEN Sports channels being acquired include TEN 1, TEN 1 HD, TEN 2, TEN 3, TEN Golf HD, TEN Cricket, TEN Sports that operate in several countries including the Indian sub-continent, Maldives, Singapore, Hong Kong, Middle East, Caribbean.

TEN Sports holds broadcast rights to major cricket boards (South Africa, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, West Indies and Zimbabwe). In addition, Ten Sports holds rights to wrestling (WWE), football (UEFA Champions League, UEFA Europa League, French League, English Football League Cup), tennis (WTA Events, ATP events), golf (European Tour, Asian Tour, Ryder Cup, US PGA Championship, LPGA Tour, Professional Golf Tour of India and Golf Channel Block), athletics (Asian Games, Commonwealth Games), motor sports (Moto GP) and cycling (Tour de France) events.

Long a television destination for sports fans, SPN sports properties include cricket (IPL, CPL, Ram Slam), football (FIFA 2018 World Cup Russia, UEFA Euro 2016, FIFA World Events including FIFA U-17 World Cup 2017 in India, European and South American Qualifiers for FIFA WC 2018, FIFA Confederations Cup, LaLiga, Serie A, FA Cup, Copa America Centenario, International Champions Cup), tennis (Australian Open, ATP 1000 and 500 World Tour Events, Champions Tennis League), fight sports (TNA, UFC, Pro Wrestling League), basketball (NBA) as well as NFL and Premier Futsal.

# **Comments**

# NP Singh, CEO, Sony Pictures Networks India:

"I welcome TEN Sports to the Sony family. The acquisition of TEN Sports Network will strengthen SPN's offering for viewers of cricket, football and fight sports, complementing our existing portfolio of international and domestic sporting properties. It also aptly demonstrates SPN's commitment to providing a broad range of sporting entertainment to fans across India and the sub-continent."

# Andy Kaplan, President, Worldwide Networks, Sony Pictures Television:

"India has been a strong driver of Sony Pictures' growing networks business for two decades, and sports continue to play a significant role in that growth. The acquisition of TEN Sports, following the launch of SONY ESPN channels, will mean that our Indian networks would reach over 800 million viewers and broadcast many of the most popular and prestigious sporting events in the world."

# Punit Goenka, Managing Director, Zee Entertainment Enterprises Limited (ZEE):

"This is a landmark deal for ZEE and a step towards a strategic portfolio shuffle as we grow our general entertainment business both in the domestic and overseas markets. While we have grown our sports business over the last 10 years through acquisition of content at competitive prices, our focus now is on transforming ourselves into an all-round media and content company, comprising of five verticals, viz. broadcast, digital, films, live events, and international business; and we continue to move rapidly





# towards our set business goals. While I have always been proud of our sports business, I strongly believe that Sony will add more value to it by taking it to even greater heights. I wish them all the success."

# About Sony Pictures Networks India

Sony Pictures Networks India (SPN) (formerly Multi Screen Media Private Ltd.), is a subsidiary of Sony Pictures Entertainment, which owns and operates the Sony Entertainment network of television channels.

As a leading television network in India, SPN comprises Sony Entertainment Television (SET), one of India's leading Hindi general entertainment television channels; MAX, India's premium Hindi movies and special events channel; MAX 2, a second Hindi movie channel showcasing great Indian Cinema; SAB, a family comedy entertainment channel; PIX, the English movie channel; AXN, the leader amongst English Entertainment Channels; AATH, the Bangla movie channel; MIX, a refreshing Hindi music channel; SIX, a sports channel ; SONY ESPN, the group of sports entertainment channels; LIV, the Digital Entertainment Channel; and SPN's Motion Pictures division, formerly MSM Motion Pictures.

Sony Pictures Networks India is in its 21<sup>st</sup> year in India.

#### **About Sony Pictures Television Networks**

Sony Pictures Television Networks operates branded entertainment channels reaching over one billion households around the world. Based in Culver City, Budapest, London, Madrid, Miami, Milan, Moscow, Mumbai, Munich, Singapore and Tokyo, Sony's linear and digital networks offer high-quality film and television content from Sony Pictures and third parties, as well as original content commissioned globally and locally. Sony Pictures Television Networks is a division of Sony Pictures Television Inc., a Sony Pictures Entertainment company.

#### About Zee Entertainment Enterprises Limited (ZEE)

Zee Entertainment Enterprises Limited is one of India's leading television media and entertainment companies. It is amongst the largest producers and aggregators of Hindi programming in the world, with an extensive library housing over 222,000 hours of television content. With rights to more than 3,818 movie titles from foremost studios and of iconic film stars, ZEE houses the world's largest Hindi film library. Through its strong presence worldwide, ZEE entertains over 1 billion viewers across 171 countries.

#### Media Contacts

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