

# Dynamic import tariffs for edible oils mooted

CAPC recommends 10-15% duty differential between crude and refined oils

SANDIP DAS  
New Delhi, June 23

**TO CURB THE** surge in import of edible oils, which has adversely impacted domestic oilseed prices, the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) in the agriculture ministry has recommended a “dynamic import duty structure” for these farm goods. The proposed tariff system will be based on minimum support price (MSP) for oilseeds as well as domestic and global prices.

“In addition, the duty differential between crude and refined oils should be kept at 10%-15%,” CACP in the price policy report for kharif crops marketing season (2024-25) has stated.

Currently, crude palm, soybean and sunflower oil imports attract only a 5% agri infra cess and a 10% education cess, resulting in a total tax incidence of 5.5%. To bring down prices last year, the government had reduced the import duty on refined soybean and sunflower oils to 13.75% from 17.5%.

The Solvent Extractors Association of India (SEA) has

## DYNAMIC DUTY STRUCTURE

■ The proposed tariff system will be based on minimum support price for oilseeds as well as domestic and global prices

■ India imports about 60% of its annual consumption of edible oils from Indonesia, Ukraine, Malaysia & Argentina



urged the government to increase gap between import duty of crude and refined edible oil to at least 13% from current level of 8.25% for protecting domestic processing industry.

“With continuance of lower duty structure, India has become a dumping ground for cheap edible oil which would hurt farmers as well as processors,” BV Mehta, executive director, SEA had earlier said. India imports about 60% of its annual consumption of around 24 to 25 million tonne (MT) edible oils mostly from Indonesia, Malaysia, Ukraine and Argentina.

India’s import of edible oils – palm, soybean and sunflower – rose 17% on year to a record 16.47 MT in the 2022-23 oil year (October-Septemebr),

■ Unsustainable and uneconomical practice of offering bonus over and above the MSP for paddy procurement by state governments creates distortions in market

helped by lower import tariffs. Because of record imports, the domestic prices of edible oil varieties such as mustard and soybean have been impacted.

To reduce import dependence, the Commission, which recommends MSP for 23 odd crops, has suggested extending the national mission on edible oils to major oilseeds such as mustard, soybean, sunflower, groundnut, etc. and ensure higher participation of the private sector in procurement operations of oilseeds.

The commission has noted that despite an increase in pulse output, the country’s import dependence on masoor, tur and urad has been high. “Concerted efforts should be made for area expansion and yield improvement, and

procurement of pulses should be strengthened,” the commission noted.

According to CACP, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Uttar Pradesh account for more than two-third of the total tur production and 25 districts contribute 60% of the output of pulses varieties. India imports about 15% of its pulses consumption.

The CACP has stated that ‘unsustainable and uneconomical’ practice of offering bonus over and above the MSP for paddy procurement by the state governments creates distortions in the market.

“This restrains private trade participation and potentially discourages competition, which, otherwise could be advantageous for farmers,” the commission observed.

Chhattisgarh last season announced purchase of paddy at ₹3,100/quintal against the MSP of ₹2,183/quintal for the current marketing season (October-September). The BJP in its manifesto for Odisha as in case of Chhattisgarh, promised to buy paddy at ₹3,100/quintal while the government recently announced MSP for paddy at ₹2,300/quintal for 2024-25 season.

Typically, when a bonus over MSP is offered for a crop, the farmers tend to grow that in more areas, leading to surplus output.

# Slew of steps soon to boost output of pulses and onion

SANDIP DAS  
New Delhi, June 23

**AFTER IMPOSING STOCK** holding limits on key pulses varieties, the government is considering several measures, including increasing sales under the branded Bharat dal, rice and atta programme, and stepping up sowing of kharif pulses and onion to improve domestic supplies.

The focus of measures would be to curb rise in prices of commodities such as pulses, rice and vegetables in coming months.

“With the prices of pulses and onion at elevated levels, the farmers would be encouraged to increase kharif sowing and the prospects of adequate monsoon rainfall this season augurs well,”

## RAMPING UP KHARIF SOWING



■ The measures aim to curb rise in prices of commodities such as pulses, rice and key vegetables in coming months

■ Pulses prices are expected to soften due to imposition of stock holding limits

an official told FE.

The government last week hiked minimum support price of kharif grown tur and urad varieties of pulses by 8% and 6.5% to ₹7,550/quintal and urad ₹7,400/quintal, respectively, for 2024-25 season.

The government has initiated

registration by agencies such as cooperative Nafed and National Cooperative Consumers’ Federation of India (NCCF) of farmers well in advance for procurement of kharif crops – onion, tur and urad aimed at building the buffer stock and initiating mar-

ket intervention programme, when prices fall sharply.

After the advance registration, the department of consumer affairs can make an assessment of crop size, which would help prepare agencies in making logistical arrangements like storage and disposal mechanisms of commodities.

Against the target of building 0.5 million tonne (MT) of buffer under price stabilisation fund, the government has so far procured 71,000 tonnes of onion from farmers.

The official said pulses prices are expected to soften with the imposition of stock holding limits while, arrivals of tur dal from Africa next month and chana from Australia by October would ease supplies.

# ONGC offers stake in Deen Dayal field

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
New Delhi, June 23

**AFTER SPENDING CLOSE** to \$1.2 billion and seven years of little success, state-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) is seeking partners to rescue the Deen Dayal gas field in the KG basin in Bay of Bengal. ONGC on June 12 sought

expression of interest from “global oil and gas companies with requisite technical expertise and financial strength to join as partner (with participative interest) for firming up a viable strategy” for the field, according to tender document.

The field has produced negligible quantities of gas since ONGC in January 2017 acquired

Gujarat State Petroleum Corporation’s (GSPC) 80% interest in the KG-OSN-2001/3 block off the east coast of India.

The block contains the Deen Dayal West (DDW) gas/condensate field which was discovered by GSPC almost two decades back. The Gujarat government company had showcased the field as a

promising prospect when it sold its stake to ONGC in order to cut its debt.

The field, which was initially said to hold up to 20 trillion cubic feet of in place gas reserves – by far the biggest in any deepsea field in the country – but later trimmed to a tenth, has proved to be tougher than anticipated.

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INITIAL PUBLIC OFFERING OF EQUITY SHARES ON THE MAIN BOARD OF THE STOCK EXCHANGES (AS DEFINED IN THE DRHP) IN COMPLIANCE WITH CHAPTER II OF THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE BOARD OF INDIA (ISSUE OF CAPITAL AND DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS) REGULATIONS, 2018, AS AMENDED (“SEBI ICDR REGULATIONS”)

## PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT



(Please scan this QR Code to view the DRHP)



## ARMEE INFOTECH LIMITED

Our Company was originally incorporated as “Blossom Infospace Private Limited” a private limited company under the Companies Act, 1956 through a certificate of incorporation dated February 8, 2011, issued by the Registrar of Companies, Gujarat at Dadra and Nagar Haveli. On March 1, 2017, our Company was admitted into a partnership, namely, M/s ArMee Infotech (the “Partnership Firm”). Subsequently, through a deed of dissolution dated April 1, 2017, the Partnership Firm was dissolved, and the business of M/s ArMee Infotech was transferred to our Company. Pursuant to a resolution passed by our Board at its meeting held on March 31, 2017 and the special resolution passed by our Shareholders at their meeting held on April 8, 2017, the name of our Company was changed to “ArMee Infotech Private Limited” and a fresh certificate of incorporation consequent upon change of name was issued by the Registrar of Companies, Gujarat at Ahmedabad (“RoC”) on April 21, 2017. Upon conversion of our Company into a public limited company, pursuant to the approval accorded by our Shareholders at their extra-ordinary general meeting held on February 20, 2024, the name of our Company was changed to “ArMee Infotech Limited” and a fresh certificate of incorporation consequent upon change of name upon conversion to public limited company was issued to our Company by the RoC on April 24, 2024. For further details relating to the changes in the name of our Company and the Registered Office of our Company, please see the section titled “History and Certain Corporate Matters” on page 149 of the Draft Red Herring Prospectus dated June 21, 2024 (“DRHP”).

Registered and Corporate Office: 17, Goyal Intercity, B/h Drive in Cinema, Thaltej Road, Ahmedabad, Gujarat – 380058, India; Tel: + 91 79 4911 4911; Website: www.armeeinfotech.com; Contact Person: Purnima Jain, Company Secretary and Compliance Officer; E-mail: cs@armeeinfotech.com  
Corporate Identity Number: U72100GJ2011PLC063953

OUR PROMOTERS: AMI RIDHISH PATEL, KIRITKUMAR CHIMANBHAI PATEL AND RIDHISH KIRITBHAI PATEL

INITIAL PUBLIC OFFERING OF UP TO [●] EQUITY SHARES OF FACE VALUE OF ₹10 EACH (“EQUITY SHARES”) OF ARMEE INFOTECH LIMITED (“OUR COMPANY”) OR THE “ISSUER”) FOR CASH AT A PRICE OF ₹ [●] PER EQUITY SHARE (“ISSUE PRICE”) AGGREGATING UP TO ₹25,000 LAKHS (THE “ISSUE”). THE ISSUE COMPRISES OF A FRESH ISSUE OF UP TO [●] EQUITY SHARES BY OUR COMPANY AGGREGATING UP TO ₹25,000 LAKHS.

THE PRICE BAND AND THE MINIMUM BID LOT SIZE WILL BE DECIDED BY OUR COMPANY IN CONSULTATION WITH THE BRLMS AND WILL BE ADVERTISED IN [●] EDITIONS OF THE [●], AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE NATIONAL DAILY WITH WIDE CIRCULATION, [●] EDITIONS OF [●], A HINDI LANGUAGE NATIONAL DAILY WITH WIDE CIRCULATION, [●] EDITIONS OF [●], A GUJARATI LANGUAGE DAILY WITH WIDE CIRCULATION (GUJARATI BEING THE REGIONAL LANGUAGE OF GUJARAT WHERE OUR REGISTERED AND CORPORATE OFFICE IS LOCATED), AT LEAST TWO WORKING DAYS PRIOR TO THE BIDDING OPENING DATE AND SHALL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE STOCK EXCHANGES FOR THE PURPOSE OF UPLOADING ON THEIR RESPECTIVE WEBSITES, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SEBI ICDR REGULATIONS.

In case of any revision in the Price Band, the Bid/ Issue Period shall be extended for at least three additional Working Days after such revision of the Price Band, subject to the total Bid/ Issue Period not exceeding 10 Working Days. In cases of force majeure, banking strike or similar unforeseen circumstances, our Company in consultation with the Book Running Lead Managers, for reasons to be recorded in writing, extend the Bid/ Issue Period for a minimum of one Working Day, subject to the Bid/ Issue Period not exceeding 10 Working Days. Any revision in the Price Band, and the revised Bid/ Issue Period, if applicable, shall be widely disseminated by notification to the Stock Exchanges by issuing a public notice and also by indicating the change on the websites of the BRLMs and at the terminals of the Members of the Syndicate and by intimation to Designated Intermediaries and Sponsor Bank(s), as applicable.

The Issue is being made in terms of Rule 19(2)(b) of the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Rules, 1957 (the “SCRR”), read with Regulation 31 of the SEBI ICDR Regulations. The Issue is being made in accordance with Regulation 6(2) of the SEBI ICDR Regulations, through the Book Building Process wherein at least 75% of the Issue shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis to Qualified Institutional Buyers (“QIBs”) (such portion referred to as “QIB Portion”), provided that our Company, in consultation with the BRLMs may allocate up to 60% of the QIB Portion to Anchor Investors on a discretionary basis in accordance with the SEBI ICDR Regulations (the “Anchor Investor Portion”), out of which one-third shall be reserved for domestic Mutual Funds only, subject to valid Bids being received from domestic Mutual Funds at or above the price at which allocation is made to Anchor Investors (“Anchor Investor Allocation Price”), in accordance with the SEBI ICDR Regulations. In the event of under-subscription or non-allocation in the Anchor Investor Portion, the balance Equity Shares shall be added to the Net QIB Portion. Further, 5% of the Net QIB Portion shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis to Mutual Funds only, and the remainder of the Net QIB Portion shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis to all QIB Bidders (other than Anchor Investors), including Mutual Funds, subject to valid Bids being received at or above the Issue Price. However, if the aggregate demand from Mutual Funds is less than 5% of the Net QIB Portion, the balance Equity Shares available for allocation in the Mutual Fund Portion will be added to the remaining Net QIB Portion for proportionate allocation to all QIBs. Further, not more than 15% of the Issue shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis to Non-Institutional Bidders (“NIBs”) out of which (a) one-third of such portion shall be reserved for applicants with application size of more than ₹2,00,000 and up to ₹10,00,000; and (b) two-third of such portion shall be reserved for applicants with application size of more than ₹10,00,000, provided that the unsubscribed portion in either of such sub-categories may be allocated to applicants in the other sub-category of Non-Institutional Bidders and not more than 10% of the Issue shall be available for allocation to Retail Individual Bidders (“RIBs”) in accordance with the SEBI ICDR Regulations, subject to valid Bids being received at or above the Issue Price. All potential Bidders (except Anchor Investors) are required to mandatorily use the Application Supported by Blocked Amount (“ASBA”) process providing details of their respective ASBA accounts, and UPI ID in case of UPI Bidders, if applicable, in which the corresponding Bid Amounts will be blocked by the SCSBs or by the Sponsor Bank(s) under the UPI Mechanism, as applicable, to the extent of the respective Bid Amounts. Anchor Investors are not permitted to participate in the Issue through the ASBA process. For further details, see “Issue Procedure” on page 264 of the DRHP.

This public announcement is being made in compliance with the provisions of Regulation 26(2) of the SEBI ICDR Regulations to inform the public that our Company is proposing, subject to applicable statutory and regulatory requirements, receipt of requisite approvals, market conditions and other considerations, to make an initial public offering of its Equity Shares pursuant to the Issue and has filed the DRHP dated June 21, 2024 with the Securities and Exchange Board of India (“SEBI”) on June 22, 2024. Pursuant to Regulation 26(1) of the SEBI ICDR Regulations, the DRHP filed with SEBI shall be made public for comments, if any, for a period of at least 21 days from the date of such filing by hosting it on the website of SEBI at www.sebi.gov.in, websites of the Stock Exchanges i.e. BSE and NSE at www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com, respectively, on the website of the Company at www.armeeinfotech.com and the websites of the BRLMs i.e. Khandwala Securities Limited and Saffron Capital Advisors Private Limited at www.kslindia.com and www.saffronadvisors.com, respectively. Our Company invites the public to give their comments on the DRHP filed with SEBI, with respect to disclosures made in the DRHP. The public is requested to send a copy of the comments sent to SEBI, to the Company Secretary and Compliance Officer of our Company and/or the BRLMs at their respective addresses mentioned herein below in relation to the Issue on or before 5.00 p.m. on the 21st day from the aforesaid date of filing of the DRHP with SEBI.

Investments in equity and equity-related securities involve a degree of risk and investors should not invest any funds in this Issue unless they can afford to take the risk of losing their entire investment. Investors are advised to read the risk factors carefully before taking an investment decision in the Issue. For taking an investment decision, investors must rely on their own examination of the Company and the Issue, including the risks involved. The Equity Shares offered in the Issue have not been recommended or approved by SEBI, nor does SEBI guarantee the accuracy or adequacy of the contents of the Draft Red Herring Prospectus. Specific attention of the investors is invited to “Risk Factors” on page 24 of the DRHP.

Any decision whether to invest in the Equity Shares described in the DRHP may only be made after a Red Herring Prospectus (“RHP”) for the same has been filed with the RoC and must be made solely on the basis of the RHP.

The Equity Shares, when offered through the RHP, are proposed to be listed on the Stock Exchanges.

For details of the share capital and capital structure and the names of the signatories to the Memorandum of Association and the number of shares subscribed by them to the Company, see “Capital Structure” on page 63 of the DRHP. The liability of the members of our Company is limited. For details of the main objects of the Company as contained in the Memorandum of Association, see “History and Certain Corporate Matters” on page 149 of the DRHP.

BOOK RUNNING LEAD MANAGERS		REGISTRAR TO THE ISSUE
<b>Khandwala Securities Limited</b> Vikas Building, Ground Floor, Green Street, Fort, Mumbai – 400023, Maharashtra, India. Tel.: +91-22-4076 7373 E-mail : ipo@kslindia.com Website: www.kslindia.com Investor grievance e-mail: investors@grievances@kslindia.com Contact Person: Parika Shah/ Abhishek Joshi SEBI Registration Number: INM000001899	<b>Saffron Capital Advisors Private Limited</b> 605, Center Point, 6 <sup>th</sup> floor, Andheri Kurla Road, J. B. Nagar, Andheri (East), Mumbai - 400059, Maharashtra, India. Tel.: +91-22-4973 0394 E-mail: ipos@saffronadvisors.com Website: www.saffronadvisors.com Investor grievance e-mail: investors@grievances@saffronadvisors.com Contact Person: Gaurav Khandelwal/Pooja Jain SEBI Registration Number: INM000011211	<b>Cameo Corporate Services Limited</b> “Subramanian Building” No. 01, Club House Road, Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600002, India Tel: +91-44-4002 0700 E-mail: priya@cameoindia.com Website: www.cameoindia.com Investor grievance e-mail: arnee@cameoindia.com Contact Person: K. Sreepriya SEBI Registration No.: INR000003753

All capitalised terms used herein and not specifically defined shall have the same meaning as ascribed to them in the DRHP.

For ARMEE INFOTECH LIMITED  
On behalf of the Board of Directors  
Sa/-  
Purnima Jain  
Company Secretary and Compliance Officer

Place: Ahmedabad, Gujarat  
Date: June 22, 2024

ARMEE INFOTECH LIMITED is proposing, subject to applicable statutory and regulatory requirements, receipt of requisite approvals, market conditions and other considerations, to make an initial public offering of its Equity Shares and has filed the DRHP with SEBI and the Stock Exchanges on June 22, 2024. The DRHP shall be available on the website of SEBI at www.sebi.gov.in, as well as on the websites of the Stock Exchanges i.e. BSE and NSE at www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com, respectively, on the website of the Company at www.armeeinfotech.com and the websites of the BRLMs i.e. Khandwala Securities Limited and Saffron Capital Advisors Private Limited at www.kslindia.com and www.saffronadvisors.com, respectively. Any potential investors should note that investment in equity shares involves a high degree of risk and for details relating to such risk, see “Risk Factors” on page 24 of the DRHP. Potential Bidders should not rely on the DRHP filed with SEBI and the Stock Exchanges for making any investment decision.

This announcement does not constitute an invitation or offer of securities for sale in any jurisdiction. The Equity Shares offered in the Issue have not been, and will not be, registered under the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended (“U.S. Securities Act”) or any state securities laws in the United States, and unless so registered and may not be offered or sold within the United States, except pursuant to an exemption from, or in a transaction not subject to, the registration requirements of the U.S. Securities Act and in accordance with any applicable U.S. applicable state securities laws. Accordingly, the Equity Shares are only being offered and sold (a) in the United States only to “qualified institutional buyers” (as defined in Rule 144A under the U.S. Securities Act) in transactions exempt from, or not subject to the registration requirements of the U.S. Securities Act and (b) outside the United States in “offshore transactions” in reliance on Regulation S under the U.S. Securities Act and the applicable laws of the jurisdiction where those offers and sales occur. There will be no offering of securities in the United States.