



**BLS INTERNATIONAL SERVICES LIMITED**



**CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (CSR) POLICY**  
**For BLS International Services Limited**

## **1. Introduction**

### **1.1. BLS Philosophy**

At BLS International Services Limited (BLS), we are committed to the BLS Group's 'Good & Green' vision of creating a more inclusive and greener India. We never lose sight of our responsibility to the environment and society. Our commitments towards Corporate Social Responsibility include but not limited to, promotion of education and healthcare, energy and climate change, and betterment of the society through respect for universal human rights and the environment, acting with integrity and accountability and operating responsibly and sustainably.

### **1.2. CSR in India**

Corporate bodies' involvement in CSR activities is not a new concept in India. Industrial majors are engaged in social development activities since long back. However, the Companies Act, 2013 has brought it under the legal purview. It mandates qualifying companies to constitute Corporate Social Responsibility Committee to effectively monitor CSR activities of the Company. Further the Companies (Corporate Social Responsibility Policy) Rules, 2014 (hereinafter referred to as "the CSR Rules") lay down the framework and modalities for carrying out CSR activities which are specified in Schedule VII of the Act.

## **2. Objective and Scope**

### **2.1. Objective**

The main objective of the CSR Policy is to lay down guidelines for BLS International Services Limited (hereinafter referred to as 'the Company') to make CSR as one of the key focus areas to adhere to BLS's global interest in environment and society that focuses on making a positive contribution to society through effective impact and sustainable development programs.

This Policy covers the proposed CSR activities to be undertaken by the Company and ensuring that they are in line with Schedule VII of the Act as amended from time to time. It covers the CSR activities which are being carried out in India only and includes strategy that defines plans for future CSR activities.

### **2.2. Scope & Coverage**

In line with the objective defined above, the Company would have freedom and flexibility to choose from any of the activities specified in Annexure 1 hereto. The CSR projects and programs to be undertaken by the Company shall include activities falling within the purview of Schedule VII to the Companies Act, 2013 ("the Act"); as amended from time to time. Thus, with any change in the statutory provisions governing the activities, the Annexure 1 shall be deemed to include/exclude such activities as permissible under law.

## **3. Definitions**

**In this Policy unless the context otherwise requires**

**3.1 'Act'** means Companies Act, 2013

**3.2 'Corporate Social Responsibility'** means Corporate Social Responsibility as defined in Section 135 of the Companies Act, 2013 and Companies (Corporate Social Responsibility Policy) Rules, 2014

**3.3 'Net Profit'** means the net profit computed for a financial year in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Act, but shall not include the following namely:

- i. any profit arising from any overseas branch or branches of the Company, whether operated as a separate Company or otherwise; and
- ii. any dividend received from other companies in India, which are covered under and complying with the provisions of Section 135 of the Act

**3.4 “Ongoing Project”** means a multi-year project undertaken by a Company in fulfilment of its CSR obligation having timelines not exceeding three years excluding the financial year in which it was commenced, and shall include such project that was initially not approved as a multi-year project but whose duration has been extended beyond one year by the board based on reasonable justification.

Words and expressions used in this CSR Policy and not defined herein but defined in the Act shall have the meaning respectively assigned to them in the Act.

#### **4. Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Committee**

##### **4.1. Constitution**

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 135 of the Act, the Board of Directors shall constitute the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Committee. The Members of CSR shall be appointed by the Board of Directors of the Company which must consist of at least two or more Directors.

##### **4.2. Functions and Powers of Committee**

To effectively implement the objectives of the Company with respect to CSR, the Committee is vested with the following functions and powers:

- a. Formulate CSR Policy and recommend the same to the Board of Directors of the Company for approval
- b. Recommend CSR activities to be undertaken by the Company as stated under Schedule VII of the Act
- c. To recommend the amount of expenditure to be incurred on the activities referred above
- d. to undertake CSR activities, if necessary, in collaboration with BLS group companies/other Companies/firms/NGOs etc., and to separately report the same in line with the CSR Rules
- e. Recommend the CSR Budget and annual action plan
- f. Spend the allocated CSR amount on the CSR activities once it is approved by the Board of Directors of the Company in accordance with the Act and the CSR Rules
- g. Create transparent monitoring mechanism for implementation of CSR initiatives in India
- h. Submit the Reports to the Board in respect of the CSR activities undertaken by the Company
- i. Monitor CSR Policy, as approved by the Board of Directors, from time to time
- j. Monitor activities/charter of Internal Working and Monitoring Group (WG) who are authorized to ensure that the CSR activities of the Company are implemented effectively
- k. Authorize executives of the Company to attend the CSR Committee Meetings, if necessary

##### **4.3. Meetings of the Committee**

For smooth functioning of the Committee, the members shall meet as below to discuss such matters and to take such decisions as may be necessary;

- a. The CSR Committee shall hold meeting of CSR Committee as and when the requirement arise in accordance with the provision of the Act
- b. The members of the Committee may mutually agree between them regarding time and place for the said meetings.
- c. The quorum for the CSR Committee Meeting shall be one-third of its total strength (any fraction contained in that one-third be rounded off as one) or two members, whichever is higher.
- d. The Members of the Committee may participate in the meeting either in person or through videoconferencing or other audio visual means as may be convenient.

## **5. CSR Implementation**

The CSR Committee will be responsible for overseeing the approval, execution, implementation and monitoring of the project.

These programs will be executed by the Company and where appropriate, in partnership with other corporate bodies, local government, various NGO partners, service providers and others.

In case the Company undertakes to carry any of the projects through any implemented agency like trust, society or company not established by the Company or its holding or subsidiary or associate company, the CSR Committee shall ensure that:

- such trust, society, company / entity has an established track record of three years in undertaking similar programs or projects and is eligible to undertake the projects under Section 135 of the Act and CSR Rules.
- such trust, society, or company / entity is registered with the Central Government with effect from April 01, 2021 by filing e-form CSR -1, providing details like nature of the entity, constitution of executive committee etc. However, this requirement shall not affect the CSR projects or programmes approved prior to April 01, 2021.

The Company may also engage international organizations for designing, monitoring and evaluation of the CSR projects or programmes as per this CSR Policy as well as for the capacity building of their own personnel for CSR.

The Company may also collaborate with other companies for undertaking projects or programmes or CSR activities in such a manner such that the CSR committees of the respective companies are in a position to report separately on such projects or programmes in accordance with the Companies (Corporate Social Responsibility Policy) Rules, 2014, as amended from time to time ("the Rules").

## **6. CSR Budget**

The CSR Committee will approve yearly budget on the basis of the action plan and shall try to ensure that the Company spends in each financial year ("FY"), at least the amount specified under Section 135 of the Act and rules made thereunder, from time to time. (CSR Budget).

## **7. CSR Expenditure**

The CSR amount may also be spent by the Company for creation or acquisition of a capital asset, which shall be held by:

- Company established under section 8 of the Act, or a Registered Public Trust or Registered Society, having charitable objects and CSR Registration Number; or

- Beneficiaries of the said CSR project, in the form of self - help groups, collectives, entities; or
- Public authority.

**Guidelines with respect to expenditure on CSR activities:**

The Board shall ensure that the administrative overheads shall not exceed 5% of the total CSR expenditure of the Company for the financial year.

In case the Company spends an amount in excess of requirement provided under sub-section (5) of Section 135 of the Act, such excess amount may be set off against the requirement to spend under sub-section (5) of Section 135 of the Act up to immediate succeeding three FYs subject to the conditions that

- The excess amount available for set-off shall not include the surplus arising out of the CSR activities if any,
- The Board of the Company shall pass a resolution to that effect.

The surplus, if any, arising out of CSR initiatives of the Company shall not form part of its business profits and shall be:

- ploughed back into the same project or
- transferred to the unspent CSR Account and spent in pursuance of this CSR Policy and Annual Action Plan of the Company or to a Fund specified in Schedule VII, within six months from the end of the financial year.

**The following activities / contributions shall not constitute CSR expenditure:**

- (i) Activities undertaken in the normal course of business, except for research and development (R&D) activities for new vaccines, drugs and medical devices in their normal course of business to undertake and include R&D activities for new COVID- 19-related vaccines, drugs and medical devices for the financial years 2020-21, 2021- 22 and 2022-23 under the CSR policy subject to conditions that: R&D activities are undertaken in collaboration with institutes or organizations mentioned in item (ix) of Schedule VII to the Act and details of such activity are disclosed in annual CSR report.
- (ii) Any activity undertaken outside India except for training of Indian sports personnel representing any State or Union territory at the national level or India at international level.
- (iii) Contribution of any amount directly or indirectly to any political party under Section 182 of the Act.
- (iv) Activities benefitting employees of the Company as defined in clause (k) of Section 2 of the Code on Wages, 2019.
- (v) Activities supported by companies on a sponsorship basis for deriving marketing benefits for its products or services.
- (vi) Activities carried out for fulfilment of any other statutory obligations under any law in force in India.

**8. Failure to spend the CSR Money**

If the Company fails to spend the required amount in a particular financial year, it is the duty of the Committee to submit a report in writing to the Board of Directors specifying the reasons for not spending the amount, which in turn shall be reported by the Board of Directors in their Annual Report pertaining to that particular Financial Year.

The Company will report reasons for not spending the entire Budget outlay for CSR allocated in any FY. The Company has to provide reason for not spending such amount in that FY. Further, it will not dilute the fund allocation requirement for such next FY.

Any amount remaining unspent under sub-section (5) of Section 135 of the Act, pursuant to any ongoing project, fulfilling such conditions as may be prescribed under law, undertaken by the Company in pursuance of this CSR Policy, shall be transferred by the Company within a period of thirty days from the end of the FY to a special account to be opened in that behalf for that FY in any scheduled bank to be called the Unspent Corporate Social Responsibility Account, and such amount shall be spent in pursuance of its obligation towards this CSR Policy within a period of three FYs from the date of such transfer, failing which, the amount shall be transferred to a Fund specified in Schedule VII, within a period of thirty days from the date of completion of the third FY.

And if the unspent amount does not relate to any ongoing project, such amount is to be transferred to a Fund specified in Schedule VII, within a period of six months of the expiry of the financial year.

#### **9. Annual Action Plan**

The Committee shall formulate and recommend to the Board, an Annual Action Plan in pursuance of this CSR Policy, which shall include the following:

- The list of CSR projects or programmes that are approved to be undertaken in areas or subjects specified in Schedule VII of the Act;
- The manner of execution of such projects or programmes
- The modalities of utilization of funds and implementation schedules for the projects or programmes;
- Monitoring and reporting mechanism for the projects or programmes;
- Details of need and impact assessment, if any, for the projects undertaken by the Company.

#### **10. Disclosure**

##### **a. Disclosure in the Annual Report of the Company**

The details about the Policy developed and implemented by the Company on CSR, initiatives taken during the year and details of CSR spent during the FY shall be disclosed in the Annual Report of the Company, pursuant to the provisions of the Act.

This policy shall be subject to amendments under the Act or any other applicable law or regulation, and the Chairman of the CSR Committee is authorised to make the incidental changes to this Policy.

##### **b. Disclosure on the Website of the Company**

The Board shall ensure mandatorily disclosure of the following on the website of the Company:

- Composition of the CSR Committee
- Projects approved by the Board
- CSR policy

## **11. Mandatory Impact Assessment**

- If the Company's average CSR obligation exceeds INR 10 Crore in the three immediately preceding FYs, the Company is required to undertake impact assessment through an independent agency for CSR projects of INR 1 crore or more and which have been completed not less than one year before undertaking the impact study.
- The impact assessment reports are to be placed before the Board and annexed to the Annual CSR Report.
- Expenditure on impact assessment may be accounted for towards CSR of that financial year, which shall not exceed five percent of the total CSR expenditure in the relevant financial year or INR 5 million, whichever is less.

## **12. Monitoring Mechanism**

The CSR Projects shall be monitored at various levels as follows:

### At the CSR Committee Level:

The CSR Committee will be monitoring the CSR Policy periodically and among other agenda shall consider the following:

- Ensure that the Company undertakes to carry CSR projects by the Company or through implemented agency like trusts, society, company or any other entity that are registered with the Central Government (by filing form CSR-1 w.e.f. April 01, 2021);
- Monitoring the utilization of funds towards approved CSR Activities;
- Evaluate actual CSR performance and impact such activities are making on the people, society and environment;
- Corrective measures to be taken to rectify deviations (if any) and
- Reporting requirements under the CSR provisions, if any.

### At the Board Level:

The Board of the Company shall ensure the following:

- Review that all CSR spends including their utilization and any amount remaining unspent, if any, are in accordance with the guidelines defined in the CSR Policy and the CSR Rules under the Act.
- Compliance with disclosure requirements with respect to information to be disclosed on the website of the Company.
- The Board shall monitor smooth implementation of ongoing projects within the approved timelines/ year-wise allocations and shall have the power to make modifications in the on-going projects to ensure implementation within the permissible time limit.

### Certification of utilisation of CSR funds

The Board shall satisfy itself that the funds of CSR have been utilized for the purposes and in the manner as approved by it and the Chief Financial Officer or the person responsible for financial management shall certify to the effect.

## **13. Review of Policy:**

The Board of Directors may revise/ amend this CSR Policy based on the recommendations of the CSR committee or to bring the same in line with the guidelines or amendments issued from time to time by Government on the subject. Notwithstanding anything contrary contained in this Policy, the provisions of Companies Act, 2013 shall always supersede this Policy.

**BLS INTERNATIONAL SERVICES LIMITED****CSR Activities as provided in Schedule VII**

- (i) eradicating hunger, poverty and malnutrition, promoting health care including preventive health care and sanitation including contribution to the Swachh Bharat Kosh set-up by the Central Government for the promotion of sanitation and making available safe drinking water;
- (ii) promoting education, including special education and employment enhancing vocation skills especially among children, women, elderly, and the differently abled and livelihood enhancement projects;
- (iii) promoting gender equality, empowering women, setting up homes and hostels for women and orphans; setting up old age homes, day care centres and such other facilities for senior citizens and measures for reducing inequalities faced by socially and economically backward groups;
- (iv) ensuring environmental sustainability, ecological balance, protection of flora and fauna, animal welfare, agroforestry, conservation of natural resources and maintaining quality of soil, air and water including contribution to the Clean Ganga Fund set-up by the Central Government for rejuvenation of river Ganga;
- (v) protection of national heritage, art and culture including restoration of buildings and sites of historical importance and works of art; setting up public libraries; promotion and development of traditional arts and handicrafts;
- (vi) measures for the benefit of armed forces veterans, war widows and their dependents, Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) and Central Para Military Forces (CPMF) veterans, and their dependents including widows;
- (vii) training to promote rural sports, nationally recognised sports, paralympic sports and Olympic sports;
- (viii) contribution to the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund or Prime Minister's Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations Fund (PM CARES Fund) or any other-fund set up by the Central Government for socio-economic development and relief and welfare of the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes, other backward classes, minorities and women;
- (ix) (a) Contribution to incubators or research and development projects in the field of science, technology, engineering and medicine, funded by the Central Government or State Government or Public Sector Undertaking or any agency of the Central Government or State Government; and (b) Contributions to public funded Universities; Indian Institute of Technology (IITs); National Laboratories and autonomous bodies established under Department of Atomic Energy (DAE); Department of Biotechnology (DBT); Department of Science and Technology (DST); Department of Pharmaceuticals; Ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH); Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and other bodies, namely Defense Research and Development Organisation (DRDO); Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR); Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), engaged in conducting research in science, technology, engineering and medicine aimed at promoting Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- (x) rural development projects.
- (xi) slum area development.

Explanation.— For the purposes of this item, the term 'slum area' shall mean any area declared as such by the Central Government or any State Government or any other competent authority under any law for the time being in force."



- (xii) disaster management, including relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction activities
- (xiii) Any other activities in relation of the above and all other activities which forms part of CSR as per Schedule VII of the Act, 2013 (the "Act") as amended from time to time. (Collectively referred to as "CSR Activities")