

#### NOTICE TO THE MEMBERS

**NOTICE** is hereby given that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Extra-Ordinary General Meeting ("EGM") (FY-2023-24) of the members of Dredging Corporation of India Limited will be held at 12:00 Hrs. on Wednesday, the 28<sup>th</sup> June, 2023 through Video conferencing ("VC")/Other Audio-Visual Means (ÖAVM") to seek the consent of the shareholders of the Company ("Members"), on the agenda herein below through remote electronic voting ("E-voting"):-

#### SPECIAL BUSINESS

**Item No.1:** To remove Shri. G.Y.V. Victor, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (Under Suspension) of the Company, to consider and if thought fit, to pass, with or without modifications(s) the following resolution as an **Ordinary Resolution**:-

"RESOLVED THAT pursuant to the provisions of the Conduct Disciplinary and Appeal Rules of the Company, proceedings and report of the Enquiry Officer in the disciplinary proceedings initiated against Shri. G.Y.V. Victor (DIN No.09084442) as well as the conclusions of the Disciplinary Authority, pursuant to the provisions of the Articles of Association of the Company, recommendations of the Nomination and Remuneration Committee (NRC) and Board of Directors of the Company and Section 169 & other applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 and Rules framed thereunder and SEBI LODR, 2015 and the Rules framed thereunder, approval of the members of the Company be and are accorded for removal of Shri. G.Y.V. Victor (DIN No.09084442) from the office of Director as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Company with effect from 31st March'2023."

"RESOLVED FURTHER THAT the Board of Directors of the Company and Company Secretary, be and are hereby authorized to attend any question, difficulty or doubt that may arise in giving effect to this resolution and to do all such acts, deeds and things as may necessary, expedient and desirable for the purpose of giving effect to this resolution."

**Item No.2:** Extension of Directorship of Capt.S.Divakar (DIN No.: 09675405) as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (A/C) of the Company, and if thought fit, to pass, with or without modifications(s) the following resolution as an **Ordinary Resolution**:-

"RESOLVED THAT pursuant to Section 152, Section 196, Section 203 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Rules, 2014 Companies (Appointment and Remuneration of Managerial Personnel) Rules, 2014 and other applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013, (including any statutory modifications or re-enactment thereof), provisions of the Articles of Association of the Company, SEBI (LODR) 2015 and as per the recommendations of the Nomination and Remuneration Committee dated 14/07/2022, approval of the Board of Directors of the Company dated 14/07/2022 and Shareholders approval vide Postal Ballot dated 13/10/2022, Capt.S.Divakar who has been appointed as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (A/C) on the Board of the Company with effect from 15/07/2022, shareholders of the company be and



hereby accorded for approval of extension of his term of appointment till a new incumbent joins the post of Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer for a period of one year effective from 31/03/2023 i.e. upto 30/03/2024, whichever is earlier."

**Item No.3:** Appointment of Dr. Madhaiyaan Angamuthu (DIN No.: 06549030) as Additional Director and Chairman of the Company, and if thought fit, to pass, with or without modifications(s) the following resolution as an **Ordinary Resolution**:-

"RESOLVED THAT pursuant to Article 71 of the Articles of Association of the Company, Section 152, 161(1) of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Rules, 2014 and other applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013, (including any statutory modifications or re-enactment thereof), and provisions of the Articles of Association of the Company and the recommendation of the Nomination and Remuneration Committee by circulation vide Ref No. DCI/CS/U.1/CIR-NRC-2-2023-24 dated 19/05/2023, Dr. Madhaiyaan Angamuthu, IAS, who has been appointed as Chairperson, Visakhapatnam Port Authority upto 13.10.2027 or until further orders, whichever is earlier, and approval of the Board of Directors of the Company; shareholders of the company be and hereby approves appointment of Dr. Madhaiyaan Angamuthu as Director (Director from promoter group) on the Board of the Company."

By Order of the Board of Directors

Place : Visakhapatnam (P.Chandra Kalabhinetri)
Date : 05/06/2023 Company Secretary

- In view of the continuing COVID-19 pandemic, the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) has vide its General Circular No. 02/2022 dated May 05, 2022, read with General Circular No.02/2021 dated January 13, 2021, General Circular No. 20/2020 dated May 5, 2020, General Circular Nos. 17/2020 dated April 13, 2020 and Circular and 14/2020 dated April 8, 2020 number SEBI/HO/CFD/CMD1/ CIR/P/2020/79 dated May 12, 2020, SEBI/HO/CFD/CMD2/CIR/P/2021/11 dated January 15, 2021, SEBI/HO/CFD/CMD2/CIR/P/2022/62 dated May 13, 2022 issued by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) (collectively referred to as Circulars), has further allowed companies to conduct the Annual General Meeting (AGM) through Video Conferencing (VC) or Other Audio Visual Means(OAVM) without the physical presence of the Members at a common venue. In compliance with the aforesaid Circulars, the 2<sup>nd</sup> EGM of the Company is being held through VC/OAVM.
- The Register of Members and Share Transfer Books of the Company shall remain closed from 21<sup>st</sup> June'2023 to 28<sup>th</sup> June'2023 (both days inclusive), for annual closing (for EGM). The Company's Registrar and Transfer Agents for its Share Registry Work (Physical and Electronic) are M/s. Alankit Assignments Private Limited having their office at Alankit House, Jhandewalan Extension, New Delhi- 110055.



- A statement pursuant to Section 102 (1) of the Act relating to the special business to be transacted at the EGM is annexed hereto.
- In accordance with the Secretarial Standard-2 on General Meetings issued by the Institute of Company Secretaries of India ("ICSI") read with Clarification/Guidance on applicability of Secretarial Standards- 1 and 2 dated 13<sup>th</sup> April'2020 issued by the ICSI, the proceedings of the EGM shall be deemed to be conducted at the Registered Office of the Company which shall be the deemed venue of the EGM.
- This EGM Notice is being sent to all the Members, whose names appear in the Register of Members / List of Beneficial Owners as received from National Securities Depository Limited ("NSDL") / Central Depository Services (India) Limited ("CDSL") as on or before 5th June'2023. In compliance with the aforesaid MCA Circulars and SEBI Circular, EGM Notice is being sent only through electronic mode to those Members whose email addresses are registered with the Company/ M/s. Alankit Assignments Limited/ Depositories. Members may note that the EGM Notice will also be available on the Company's website www.dredge-india.com, websites of the Stock Exchanges (www.bseindia.com), NSE (www.nseindia.com) and CSE (www.cseindia.com) respectively. For any communication, the Members may also send request to the Company rta@alankit.com; а at kalabhinetri@dcil.co.in.
- Pursuant to the provisions of Section 105 of the Companies Act, a Member entitled to attend and vote at the EGM is entitled to appoint a Proxy to attend and vote on his/ her behalf and the Proxy need not be a Member of the Company. However, since this EGM is being held through VC/OAVM, pursuant to the applicable MCA Circulars and SEBI Circulars as mentioned herein above, physical attendance of Members has been dispensed with, the facility for appointment of Proxies by the Members will not be available for the EGM and hence the Proxy Form and Attendance Slip are not annexed to this EGM Notice.
- Pursuant to the provisions of Section 108 of the Companies Act read with Rule 20 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014 (as amended) and Regulation 44 of the Listing Regulations and the MCA Circulars, the Company is providing the facility of remote e-voting to its Members in respect of the business to be transacted at the EGM. The facility of casting votes by a Member using remote e-voting system as well as e-voting during the EGM will be assisted by M/s. Alankit Assignments Limited.
- Since the EGM will be held through VC/OAVM, the route map is not annexed to this EGM Notice.
- The Board of the Directors of the Company has appointed Mr. Sachin Agarwal of M/s.Agarwal S & Associates, Practicing Company Secretary (Membership No.5774) as a Scrutinizer to scrutinize the remote e-voting process in a fair and transparent manner.
- Corporate/Institutional Members (i.e. other than Individuals, HUF, NRIs, etc.) are required to send a scanned certified true copy (PDF Format) of the Board Resolution/ Authority Letter, etc., authorizing their representative to attend the EGM through VC/OAVM on their behalf and to vote through remote e-voting or during the AGM. The said Resolution/Authorization shall be sent to the Scrutinizer by e-mail through its registered email address to <a href="mailto:kalabhinetri@dcil.co.in">kalabhinetri@dcil.co.in</a> with a copy marked to <a href="mailto:rta@alankit.com">rta@alankit.com</a>.



- The Member's login to the Video Conferencing platform using the remote evoting credentials shall be considered for record of attendance at the EGM and such Member attending the Meeting will be counted for the purpose of reckoning the quorum under Section 103 of the Companies Act.
- EGM THROUGH VC/OAVM:
  Members will be provided with a facility to attend the EGM through video conferencing platform provided by NSDL / CDSL / M/s. Alankit Assignments Limited. Members can join the EGM 15 minutes before and after the scheduled time of commencement of the EGM. The facility of participation at the EGM through VC/OAVM will be made available to at least 2,000 Members on first come first serve basis, in accordance with the MCA Circulars. Instructions for Members for attending the EGM through VC/OAVM are as under:
  - i. Attending the EGM: Members will be provided with a facility to attend the EGM through video conferencing platform provided by NSDL / CDSL / M/s. Alankit Assignments Limited.
  - ii. Please note that Members who do not have the User ID and Password for evoting or have forgotten the User ID and Password may retrieve the same by following the instructions provided in notes below.
  - iii. Members may join the Meeting through Laptops, Smartphones, Tablets and iPads for better experience. Further, Members will be required to use Internet with a good speed to avoid any disturbance during the Meeting. Members will need the latest version of Chrome, Safari, Internet Explorer 11, MS Edge or Firefox. Please note that participants connecting from Mobile Devices or Tablets or through Laptops connecting via mobile hotspot may experience Audio/Video loss due to fluctuation in their respective network. It is therefore recommended to use stable Wi-Fi or LAN connection to mitigate any glitches.
  - iv. Members who need assistance before or during the EGM may contact Mr. Virender Sharma, Manager (RTA), M/s. Alankit Assignments Limited at Landline No. +91-11-42541234 or send an email request at the email id: <a href="mailto:rta@alankit.com">rta@alankit.com</a>.

#### 13 PROCEDURE FOR REMOTE E-VOTING

- i. In compliance with the provisions of Section 108 of the Act, read with Rule 20 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014, as amended from time to time, Regulation 44 of the SEBI Listing Regulations and in terms of SEBI vide circular no. SEBI/HO/CFD/CMD/ CIR/P/2020/242 dated December 9, 2020 in relation to e-Voting Facility Provided by Listed Entities, the Members are provided with the facility to cast their vote electronically, through the e-Voting services provided by NSDL/ CDSL / M/s. Alankit Assignments Limited, on all the resolutions set forth in this Notice. The instructions for e-Voting are given herein below
- ii. However, in pursuant to SEBI Circular No. SEBI/HO/CFD/CMD/CIR/P/2020/242 dated December 9, 2020 on "e-Voting facility provided by Listed Companies", e-Voting process has been enabled to all the individual demat account holders, by way of single login credential, through their demat accounts / websites of Depositories / DPs in order to increase the efficiency of the voting process.
- iii. Individual demat account holders would be able to cast their vote without having to register again with the e-Voting service provider (ESP) thereby not only facilitating seamless authentication but also ease and convenience of participating in e-Voting process. Shareholders are advised to update their mobile number and e-mail ID with their DPs to access e-Voting facility.
- iv. The remote e-Voting period:



•					From:			on	Sunday,
Comme	encemen	it of rem	ote e-vo	oting		25.06.	2023		
Day, date and time of end of remote e-voting beyond which remote e-voting will not be allowed				To:	5:00 27.06.	P.M. 2023	on	Tuesday,	

- v. The voting rights of Members shall be in proportion to their shares in the paid-up equity share capital of the Company as on the cut-off date.
- vi. Any person holding shares in physical form and non-individual shareholders, who acquires shares of the Company and becomes a Member of the Company after sending of the Notice and holding shares as of the cut-off date, may obtain the login ID and password by sending a request at rta@alankit.com.
- vii. In case of Individual Shareholders holding securities in demat mode and who acquires shares of the Company and becomes a Member of the Company after sending of the Notice and holding shares as of the cut-off date may follow steps mentioned below under "Login method for remote e-Voting and joining virtual meeting for Individual shareholders holding securities in demat mode."
- viii. The details of the process and manner for remote e-Voting and e-EGM are explained herein below:

**Step**: Access to Depositories e-Voting system in case of individual shareholders holding shares in demat mode.

#### Details are mentioned below:

Login method for remote e-Voting for Individual shareholders holding securities in demat mode.

	lat mode.
Type of	Login Method
shareholders	
Landbard at the fi	User already registered for IDeAS facility:
<u>Individual</u>	I. Visit URL: <a href="https://eservices.nsdl.com">https://eservices.nsdl.com</a>
Shareholders	II. Click on the "Beneficial Owner" icon under "Login" under
holding .	'IDeAS' section.
securities in	III. On the new page, enter User ID and Password. Post
demat mode	successful authentication, click on "Access to e-Voting"
with NSDL	IV. Click on company name or e-Voting service provider and you
	will be re-directed to e-Voting service provider website for
	casting the vote during the remote e-Voting period.
	2. User not registered for IDeAS e-Services
	I. To register click on link: <a href="https://eservices.nsdl.com">https://eservices.nsdl.com</a>
	II. Select "Register Online for IDeAS" or click at
	https://eservices.nsdl.com/SecureWeb/IdeasDirectReg.jsp
	III. Proceed with completing the required fields.
	IV. Follow steps given in points 1
	3. Alternatively by directly accessing the e-Voting website of
	NSDL
	I. Open URL: <a href="https://www.evoting.nsdl.com/">https://www.evoting.nsdl.com/</a>
	II. Click on the icon "Login" which is available under
	'Shareholder/Member' section.
	III. A new screen will open. You will have to enter your User ID
	(i.e. your sixteen digit demat account number held with NSDL),
	Password / OTP and a Verification Code as shown on the
	screen.



	IV.	Post successful authentication, you will requested to select the
		name of the company.
	V.	On successful selection, you will be redirected to e-Voting
		page for casting your vote during the remote e-Voting period.
	1. Exis	sting user who have opted for Easi / Easiest
Individual	I.	Visit URL: <a href="https://web.cdslindia.com/myeasi/home/login">https://web.cdslindia.com/myeasi/home/login</a> or
Shareholders		URL: www.cdslindia.com
holding	II.	Click on New System Myeasi
securities in	III.	Login with your registered user id and password.
demat mode	IV.	The user will see the e-Voting Menu. The Menu will have links
with CDSL		of ESP i.e. e-Voting portal.
	V.	Click on e-Voting service provider name to cast your vote.
	2. <b>Us</b>	er not registered for Easi/Easiest
	I.	Option to register is available at:
		https://web.cdslindia.com/myeasi/Registration/EasiRegistration
	II.	Proceed with completing the required fields.
	III.	Follow the steps given in point 1
	3. Alte	ernatively, by directly accessing the e-Voting website of
	CDSL	
	I.	Visit URL: www.cdslindia.com
	II.	Provide your demat Account Number and PAN No.
	III.	System will authenticate user by sending OTP on registered
		Mobile & Email as recorded in the demat Account.
	IV.	After successful authentication, user will be provided link for e-
		voting, where the e-Voting is in progress.
	I.	You can also login using the login credentials of your demat
Individual		account through your DP registered with NSDL /CDSL for
Shareholder		e-Voting facility.
<u>login</u> through	II.	Once logged-in, you will be able to see e-Voting option.
their demat		Once you click on e-Voting option, you will be redirected to
accounts /		NSDL / CDSL Depository site after successful
Website of		authentication, wherein you can see e-Voting feature.
Depository Participant		
	1	

Important note: Members who are unable to retrieve User ID / Password are advised to use Forgot user ID and Forgot Password option available at respective websites.

Helpdesk for Individual Shareholders holding securities in demat mode for any technical issues related to login through Depository i.e. NSDL and CDSL.

Login type		Helpdesk details
Securities with NSDL	held	Please contact NSDL helpdesk by sending a request at <a href="mailto:evoting@nsdl.co.in">evoting@nsdl.co.in</a> or call at toll free no.: <b>1800 1020 990</b> and <b>1800 22 44 30</b>
Securities with CDSL	held	Please contact CDSL helpdesk by sending a request at <a href="helpdesk.evoting@cdslindia.com">helpdesk.evoting@cdslindia.com</a> or contact at <b>022- 23058738</b> or <b>022-23058542-43</b>

#### **OTHER INSTRUCTIONS**

I. **Speaker Registration:** The Members who wish to speak during the meeting may register themselves as speakers for the EGM to express their views. They can send the mail to M/s. Alankit Assignments Limited <a href="mailto:rta@alankit.com">rta@alankit.com</a> and <a href="mailto:kalabhinetri@dcil.co.in">kalabhinetri@dcil.co.in</a>. Members shall be provided a 'queue number' before the



- meeting. The Company reserves the right to restrict the speakers at the EGM to only those Members who have registered themselves, depending on the availability of time for the EGM.
- II. **Post your Question:** The Members who wish to post their questions prior to the meeting can do the same by sending the mail to M/s. Alankit Assignments Limited <a href="mailto:rta@alankit.com">rta@alankit.com</a> and <a href="mailto:kalabhinetri@dcil.co.in">kalabhinetri@dcil.co.in</a>.
- III. In case of any query and/or grievance, in respect of voting by electronic means, Members may contact to Mr. Virender Sharma, Manager (RTA), M/s. Alankit Assignments Limited at Landline No. +91-11-42541234 or send an email request at the email id: <a href="mailto:rta@alankit.com">rta@alankit.com</a> for any further clarifications.
- IV. The Members, whose names appear in the Register of Members / list of Beneficial Owners as on Wednesday, 21st June 2023, being the cut-off date, are entitled to vote on the Resolutions set forth in this Notice. A person who is not a Member as on the cut-off date should treat this Notice for information purposes only. Once the vote on a resolution(s) is cast by the Member, the Member shall not be allowed to change it subsequently.
- V. In case a person has become a Member of the Company after dispatch of EGM Notice but on or before the cut-off date for E-voting, he/she may obtain the User ID and Password in the manner as mentioned below:
  - i. If the mobile number of the member is registered against Folio No./ DP ID Client ID, the member may send SMS: MYEPWD <space> E-Voting Event Number+Folio No. or DP ID Client ID to 9212993399
    - 1. Example for NSDL:
    - 2. MYEPWD <SPACE> IN12345612345678
    - 3. Example for CDSL:
    - 4. MYEPWD <SPACE> 1402345612345678
    - 5. Example for Physical:
    - 6. MYEPWD < SPACE > XXXX1234567890
  - ii. If e-mail address or mobile number of the member is registered against Folio No. / DP ID Client ID, the member may click "Forgot Password" and enter Folio No. or DP ID Client ID and PAN to generate a password.
- VI. The results of the electronic voting shall be declared to the Stock Exchanges after the EGM. The results along with the Scrutinizer's Report, shall also be placed on the website of the Company.

#### PROCEDURE FOR INSPECTION OF DOCUMENTS:

The Register of Directors and Key Managerial Personnel and their shareholding maintained under Section 170 of the Act, the Register of Contracts or Arrangements in which the directors are interested, maintained under Section 189 of the Act, and the relevant documents referred to in the Notice will be available electronically for inspection by the members during the EGM. All documents referred to in the Notice will also be available electronically for inspection without any fee by the members from the date of circulation of this Notice up to the date of EGM. Members seeking to inspect such documents can send an email to kalabhinetri@dcil.co.in.

#### OTHER INFORMATION

As per Regulation 40 of SEBI Listing Regulations, as amended, securities of listed companies can be transferred only in dematerialized form with effect from, April 1, 2019, except in case of request received for transmission or transposition of securities. In view of this and to eliminate all risks associated with physical shares and for ease



of portfolio management, members holding shares in physical form are requested to consider converting their holdings to dematerialized form. Accordingly, the Company / M/s. Alankit Assignments Limited has stopped accepting any fresh lodgement of transfer of shares in physical form. Members holding shares in physical form are advised to avail of the facility of dematerialisation. Members can contact the Company or Company's Registrar and Transfer Agent M/s. Alankit Assignments Limited for assistance in this regard.

- Relevant documents referred to in the accompanying notice are open for inspection by the members at the Registered Office of the Company on all working days i.e., Monday to Friday, between 10:30 A.M. to 05:00 P.M. upto the date of the Extra-Ordinary General Meeting (EGM).
- Share transfer documents and all correspondence relating thereto, should be addressed to the Registrar and Transfer Agent (RTA), Mr. Virender Sharma, Manager (RTA), M/s. Alankit Assignments Limited, 205-208, Anarkali Complex, Jhandewalan Extension, New Delhi-110055, Landline No. +91-11-42541234 or send an email request at the email id: <a href="mailto:rta@alankit.com">rta@alankit.com</a>.
- Members may send the requests for inclusion /change /updation of Address, Bank A/c details, ECS mandate, Email address, Nominations:
  - i) For shares held in dematerialized form-to the irrespective Depository Participant.
  - ii) For shares held in physical form to the RTA, M/s. Alankit Assignments Limited or to the Company.
- Non-Resident Indian members are requested to inform the RTA, M/s. Alankit Assignments Limited immediately about:
  - i) Change in the residential status on return to India for permanent settlement.
  - ii) Particulars of their bank account maintained in India with complete name, branch, account type, account number and address of the bank with pin code number, if not furnished earlier.
- The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has mandated the submission of Permanent Account Number (PAN) by every participant in securities market failing which the demat account / folio no. would be suspended for trading. Members holding shares in electronic form are, therefore, requested to submit the PAN to their Depository Participants with whom they are maintaining their demat accounts. Members holding shares in physical form can submit their PAN details to the Company or its RTA.
- Members who hold shares in physical form can nominate a person in respect of all the shares held by them singly or jointly. Members who hold shares in single name are advised, in their own interest to avail of the nomination facility. Shareholders desirous of making nominations are requested to send their requests in Form 2B (which will be made available on request) to the Registrar and Transfer Agents/ Company. Members holding shares in dematerialized form may contact their respective depository participant(s) for recording nomination in respect of their shares.

By Order of the Board of Directors

Place: Visakhapatnam (P.Chandra Kalabhinetri)
Date: 05.06.2023 Company Secretary



#### ANNEXURE TO NOTICE

(ITEM-I EXPLANATORY STATEMENT SETTING OUT THE MATERIAL FACTS RELATING TO THE ORDINARY BUSINESS UNDER SECTION 102 OF THE COMPANIES ACT 2013)

# <u>ITEM NO.1 – TO REMOVE SHRI. G.Y.V. VICTOR, MANAGING DIRECTOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (UNDER SUSPENSION) OF THE COMPANY</u>

Pursuant to the provision of the conduct Disciplinary and appeal Rules of the Company, proceedings and report of the Enquiry officer in the disciplinary proceedings initiated against Shri GVY Victor (DIN No. 09084442) as well as the conclusions of the Disciplinary authority, pursuant to the provisions of the Article of association of the company, recommendations of the Nominations and Remuneration committee and section 169 and other applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 and Rules framed thereunder and SEBI LODR, 2015 and the Rules made thereunder, the board of directors approved the removal of Shri GVY Victor (DIN No. 09084442) from the services of the Company with effect from 31st March 2023, subject to the approval of the shareholders in the general meeting as required as per the provisions of the companies Act. Details of the charges and Inquiry proceedings are briefed in the below mentioned table for perusal of the members of the Company.

None of the Directors, Key managerial Personnel of the Company or their relatives is, in any way concerned or interested, financially or otherwise, in the resolution set out as Item No.1 of the Notice.

The Board Recommends the Ordinary Resolution set out as Item No.1 of the Notice for the approval of the shareholders.

The Article of charges of the Charged Officer are as under:

SI.	Article of charges		CO's Reply on IA's findings
No.		Authority	
1.	Article of Charge-I:	(i) The period of service of	
		CO on regular rolls of DCI	conditions joined "and / or".
	As per the advertisement	from 05.04.1996 to	Charge I was framed based on
	dtd.09.09.2020, Sri	17.12.1999 (3 Years 8	only one condition reading the
	G.Y.V. Victor should	months 11 days) can only	clause as "and" is illegal with
	possess 25 years of	be counted as experience	indefinite and vague 4
	working experience. He	as against 8 years 5	different assessments.
	has only 20 years 5	months and 22 days, as	
	months 26 days (without	claimed by Sri Victor.	2. Condition 2 - Fulfilled as
	giving benefit of doubt) or		having worked independently
	23 years 7 months 24	(ii) In his online application	as Executive Director / Deputy
days (after giving benefit		form, the CO claimed	CEO / President / Alt Highest
	of doubt) as work	experience in Amareena	Management (OR)
	experience. Hence, Sri	Consults from 01.01.2000	O Candition 1 Fulfilled as
	Victor has not fulfilled the	to 06.08.2001.As the CO	
	required "Work	claimed to have worked in	having more than 25 years of
	experience" criteria. Whereas he has claimed	an organization while being on rolls of DCI, the	experience in consonance with CAT Tribunal, Madras
	to have 28 years 5	period from 02.11.2000 to	High Court, Supreme Court
	months 4 days.	06.08.2001 (9 months and	orders held in the matter of
	Thereby, he failed to	3 days) can only be	Nautical Surveyor recruitment
	maintain absolute	considered as experience	by UPSC / DG Shipping.
	integrity and deliberately	in Amareena Consults as	
	furnished false	against claimed	4. Committee of Directors /
	information regarding	experience of 1 year 7	Board relaxed eligibility criteria
	information regarding	caponence of 1 year 7	board relaxed eligibility criteria



	previous service at the time of employment or during the course of employment and committed misconduct under Rule 4(1)(i) and 5(4) of Conduct, Discipline and Appeal Rules of the Corporation.	months and 6 Days i.e from 01.01.2000 to 06.08.2001.  (iii) Accordingly, it is concluded that the CO has only 23 years 4 months 25 days of experience as against the required 25 years of experience as stated in the advertisement.  Accordingly, Article of	of less than 25 years for internal candidate (if applicable to other is unknown).
2.	Article of Charge – II:  As per the advertisement dtd.09.09.2020, Sri G.Y.V. Victor should work in a listed company in the preceding 3 years from the date of advertisement. The last organization M/s Amareena in which Sri G.Y.V. Victor worked at the time of submission of application is not Listed in stock exchange. Hence, Sri G.Y.V. Victor has not fulfilled the "Listed Company" criteria. He has also not mentioned the status of listing of his company in the application with malafide intention.  Thereby, he failed to maintain absolute integrity and committed misconduct under Rule 4(1)(i) of the Conduct, Discipline and Appeal Rules of the Corporation.	i) It is established beyond doubt that the Amareena Group is not an entity that is incorporated under Companies Act 2013. As such the said entity cannot be listed on a stock exchange. ii) Therefore, it is clear that Sri G.Y.V. Victor has not worked in a listed company for full 3 years preceding the date of advertisement.  Accordingly, Article of Charge—II stands proved.	1. Facts notable and admitted facts need not be proved by management own admission of its document.  2. Mercator Limited (09/2017) and Granules India Limited (01/2021) was notably mentioned in the Cover Letter claiming qualification under Clause 7.2 (d). Certificate from promoter directors certifying organization is listed in stock exchange in the preceding three years is a notable, unambiguous proof (> INR 2100 Cr/Yr).  3. CVO inquiry with Granules India Limited confirmed the certificate, listing in stock exchange and service period is undisputable proof is ignored and not considered.  4. Committee of Directors / Board relaxed eligibility criteria for an external candidate having NO work experience since 08/03/2019 (if applicable to other is unknown)
3.	Article of Charge – III:  As per the advertisement dtd.09.09.2020, Sri G.Y.V. Victor should work in a company having a turnover of more than Rs.500 Cr. The last organization M/s	<ul> <li>i) M/s Amareena Group is neither a listed Company nor having turner of more than Rs 500 Cr.</li> <li>ii) In order to fulfil the turnover criteria, the Charged Officer's claim during the course of</li> </ul>	Facts notable and admitted facts need not be proved by management own admission of its document.      Mercator Limited and Granules India Limited was notably mentioned in the Cover Letter claiming



Amareena in which he worked at the time of submission of application is having Nil turnover for last 2 years. Hence, Sri Victor has not fulfilled the "Turn Over" criteria. He has also not mentioned the turnover of this company though the same is one of eligibility criterion.

Thereby, he failed to maintain absolute integrity at the time of employment or during the course of employment and committed misconduct under Rule 4(1)(i) of the Conduct, Discipline and Appeal Rules of the Corporation.

Enquiry that he had also worked as advisor in Granules India Limited is not acceptable, as, there was no employer employee relationship in granules India and the CO has not mentioned about Granules India in online application form.

Accordingly, Article of Charge-III stands proved.

- qualification under Clause 7.2 (d). Certificates from promoter directors certifying the annual turnover more than 2100 Cr / annum and listed in stock exchange in the preceding three years is a notable and unambiguous proof.
- 3. CVO inquiry with Granules India Limited confirmed the certificate, annual turnover of INR 2100 Cr/Yr, service period undisputable proof is ignored and not considered.
- 4. Committee of Directors / Board relaxed eligibility criteria for an external candidate having not worked in INR 500 Cr listed company 08/03/2019 (if applicable to other is unknown).

4. Article of Charge - IV:

> As per online application submitted by Sri G.Y.V. Victor at SI. No.1 of works experience details, he said to have worked as a "Director" in M/s Amareena Group. Whereas he worked as "Partner" in the said company and thus misrepresented the fact deliberately.

> Thereby, he failed to maintain absolute integrity and furnished false information regarding previous service at the time of employment or during the course of employment and committed misconduct under Rule 4(1)(i) and 5(4) of the Conduct, Discipline and Appeal Rules of the Corporation.

- i) The unincorporated M/s Amareena Group, is not a company under Companies Act. which CO claims to be a partnership firm (no proof submitted) and having knowledge that partnership would contain 'partners' it is inappropriate for CO to mention himself as 'Director' of the entity. ii) It is clear that the CO has deliberately furnished misleading information that he worked as 'Director' in M/s Amareena Group for giving false impression of having worked as 'Director' in a listed firm i.e Director mentioned in Section 2 (34) of Companies Act 2013. Accordingly, Article of
- Charge-IV stands proved.

- 1. Facts notable from the application and management own admission of document is having worked in Amareena Group.
- 2. Charges are misleading with mischief to mention contrary to the contents in application and service submitted certificate on 30/09/2020. Supporting document relied by management is not а document submitted in the application / mentioned.
- Charges based on unrelated, unconnected and inappropriate supporting documents and the same is not proved and sustained, the charges do not have any merit as the management failed to documents prove the sustain the charges based on such frivolous documents.
- 4. CVO inquiry with Amareena Group confirmed the certificate, service period and functional responsibility and



			also confirmed DIN is not required, is ignored and not considered.
5.	Article of Charge – V:  Sri G.Y.V. Victor has suppressed the information of his Dismissal from service from DCI which is supposed to be declared in the attestation form against column No.10(a) & HRD Checklist SI.No.8 since the same is mandatory to declare at the time of submitting attestation forms.  Thereby, he failed to maintain absolute integrity at the time of employment or during the course of employment and committed misconduct under Rule 4(1)(i) and 5(4) of the Conduct, Discipline and Appeal Rules of the Corporation.	i) The contention of the Charged officer that 'his signature must have been taken at a later stage' is not tenable. The Charged Officer himself has admitted his signature in the attestation form and HRD Checklist. ii) In fact, the MD & CEO of a listed Company who is entrusted with exercising substantial financial/statutory powers is not expected to affix his signature in official documents without reading/ leaving blank those documents. (iii) It is clear the charged officer has supressed the information of his dismissal from the services of DCI, which is supposed to be declared in the attestation form against column 10 (a) and SI. No 8 of HRD Checklist Accordingly, Article of Charge—V stands proved.	1. Attestation form is forged and false as the handwriting is not of Charged Officer proved by comparison with HRD form. Annexure 2 is fabricated from online application (cut and paste)  2. Details mentioned in the Attestation form are incorrect and Inquiry Authority refused to consider passport copies to prove the details are wrong.  3. Clause 164 (g) of Maritime Union Agreement "do not bar" future employment that was categorically mentioned in the table that was replaced by the cut paste online application by management.  4. Management failed to prove the handwriting is NOT forged by any handwriting expert opinion and the annexure is not fabricated from online application.  5. The obligation to prove and sustain the charge is by the management and since it is not proved by the management the charges stands as not proved.
6.	Article of Charge – VI:  Sri G.Y.V. Victor has submitted a false certificate issued by M/s Amareena dtd.10.09.2004 for the period 01/01/2000 to 06/08/2001 & 15/02/2002 to 10/09/2004 and deliberately misled the selection committee.  Thereby, he failed to maintain absolute	i) No Company/Firm engages an employee from other Company/Firm without the express permission/relieving order from the previous employer. The certificate under question specifies experience from 01.01.2000 to 06.08.2000 under Amareena Consults, is the period when he was the employee of DCI ii) Considering that the CO was granted permission to	1. Inquiry Authority did not record or observe any adverse inference on the genuineness of the certificate or the issuing authority of the certificate, in Article of Charge I, and accounted the period in the certificate as service. The certificate was proved by corroboration with undisputable government documentary evidence.  2. Management failed to prove by any scientific means that
	integrity and furnished false information	undertake Phd, the certificate is apparently	the certificate was false, while the Inquiry Authority did not



	regarding previous service at the time of employment or during the course of employment and committed misconduct under Rule 4(1)(i) and 5(4) of the Conduct, Discipline and Appeal Rules of the Corporation.	found to have furnished false information.  iii) The certificate issued by an alleged unregistered normal partnership firm giving the CO's own address can't be independently verified for its authenticity.  iv) The fact that the CO's address is the same as that of Amareena Consults would show that the document is false document for the purpose of gaining employment in DCI.  Accordingly, Article of Charge–VI stands proved.	record any adverse inference on the certificate but alleged that the paper does not look old.  3. Management did not prove the certificate as false but counted for its service, the same cannot be considered as false in the later charge without undisputable proof and evidence and not be speculation that the certificate is false (estopped).  4. Even otherwise, without admitting the allegations, disregarding this certificate, still 25 years (or) worked in senior managerial position is fulfilled under Clause 7.2 (b).
7.	Article of Charge – VII:  Sri G.Y.V. Victor has submitted attestation forms without declaring his status about conviction etc. in attestation form thereby suppressing the information deliberately. Further, no references are also given and date of submission of attestation form is also not evident.  Thereby, he failed to maintain absolute integrity and committed misconduct under Rule 4(1)(i) of the Conduct, Discipline and Appeal Rules of the Corporation.	i) The contention of the Charged officer that 'his signature must have been taken at a late stage' is not tenable. The Charged Officer himself has admitted his signature in the attestation form and HRD Checklist. ii) Infact, the MD & CEO of a listed Company who is entrusted with exercising substantial financial/statutory powers is not expected to affix his signature in official documents without reading/ leaving blank those documents. iii) It is clear the charged officer has supressed the information of his dismissal from the services of DCI, which is supposed to be declared in the attestation form against column 10 (a) and SI. No 8 of HRD Checklist. Accordingly, Article of Charge–VII stands proved.	1. Attestation form is forged and false as the handwriting is not of Charged Officer proved by comparison with HRD form. Annexure 2 is fabricated from online application (cut and paste).  2. Management failed to prove the handwriting is NOT forged by any handwriting expert opinion and the annexure is not fabricated from online application. Management failed to prove why antecedents verification
8.	Article of Charge – VIII:	i) The CO's claim that the charge which was based on LLP form No 8 (which	Advertisement did not stipulate any minimum salary or CTC. Charges are



Sri G.Y.V. Victor has claimed an over inflated CTC of Rs.50 lakhs in the last company whereas the total expenditure of the company including salaries was only Rs.6.53 lakhs and hence, he furnished false information.

Thereby, he failed to maintain absolute integrity and furnished false information deliberately regarding previous service at the time of employment or during the course of employment and committed misconduct under Rule 4(1)(i) and 5(4) of the Conduct, Discipline and Appeal Rules of the Corporation.

that the shows aross turnover of M/s Amareena Infra was zero and total expenditure was 6.53 lakh), is an unconnected document that has no merit, as CO himself claimed that Amareena Group is an unincorporated entity and consists of M/s Amareena Infra and Amareena Law Office. ii)Further the CO has

produced no document to substantiate his claim of having 50 lakh CTC Accordingly, Article of Charge–VIII stands

proved.

misleading with mischief to mention contrary to the contents in application and service certificate submitted on 30/09/2020. Supporting document relied by management is not a document submitted in the application / mentioned.

- 2. Charges based on unrelated, unconnected and inappropriate supporting documents and if the same is not proved and sustained, the charges do not have any merit as in the case management failed to prove the documents or sustain the charges based on such frivolous documents.
- 3. CVO inquiry with Amareena Group confirmed the certificate, service period and functional responsibility as unregistered entity the work can be taken on individual management name. But reliance on inappropriate and unrelated certificate submitted in the application or mentioned is ultra vires.
- 4. Therefore personal IT returns establish Gross Income tax filled on various heads were mentioned for AY 2019 - 20 and 2020 -21 to be and 4.4 8.7 Mio Mio respectively. Due to peak pandemic the business plan and revenue could not be achieved.



# ITEM NO.2 - EXTENSION OF DIRECTORSHIP OF CAPT.S.DIVAKAR (DIN NO.: 09675405) AS MANAGING DIRECTOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (A/C) OF THE COMPANY

The Board of Directors has appointed Capt.S.Divakar as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (A/C) w.e.f. 15th July'2022 for a period of one year or till the effect of the consequences of disciplinary proceedings of Shri G.Y.V. Victor, who was suspended on 13/07/2022 whichever is earlier. The disciplinary proceedings of Shri G.Y.V. Victor completed on 30th Mar'2023. After that Board of Directors vide Resolution by Circulation Ref No. DCI/CS/U.1/CIR -2-2023-24/ dated 06/04/2023 approved extension of Directorship of Capt.S.Divakar as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (A/C) upto 30th Mar'2024 or till new incumbent joins whichever is earlier. As per SEBI (LODR), the appointment of Directors by Board is to be approved by the Shareholders within three months from the date of appointment. The General Meeting is scheduled to be held only in Sept'2023. However, since the Board accorded extension of Directorship of Capt.S.Divakar, the process of approval of shareholders for Capt.S.Divakar is required to be completed by 30th June'2023. It is not possible to hold the AGM by these dates as the Government Audit will not be complete by that date. As such, the approval for extension of Directorship of Capt.S.Divakar is sought in this Extra-Ordinary General Meeting as per the provisions of the Companies Act and Rules made thereunder.

In the opinion of the Board, Capt.S.Divakar fulfils the conditions as set out in Section 149(6) read with Schedule IV of the Companies Act, 2013 and Regulation 16(1)(b) of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, being eligible for extension of Directorship. Capt.S.Divakar is not disqualified from being appointed as a Director in terms of Section 164 of the Companies Act, 2013 and under Para C (10) (i) of Schedule V to SEBI LODR, 2015. He has given his consent to act as Director of the Company.

Accordingly, regularisation of extension of Directorship of Capt.S.Divakar as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (A/C) of the Company / Executive Director on the Board is being put up to the shareholders for seeking their approval. Capt.S.Divakar, if appointed, shall not be liable to retire by rotation.

His brief resume, inter-alia, giving nature of expertise in specific functional area, shareholding in the Company, other Directorship, Membership/ Chairmanship of Committees and other particulars are enclosed with this Notice.

In order to comply with the provisions of Regulation 17(1) of the SEBI LODR, 2015 and keeping in view his background and vast experience, it will be in the interest of the Company that he continues as Director of the Company.

Except Capt.S.Divakar, being an appointee, none of the Directors or Key Managerial Personnel of the Company or their relatives is concerned or interested, financially or otherwise, in the resolution set out at Item No.2 of the Notice. The Board recommends the Ordinary resolution set out at Item No.2 for the approval of Members.



# <u>ITEM NO.3 – APPOINTMENT OF DR. MADHAIYAAN ANGAMUTHU (DIN NO.: 06549030) AS ADDITIONAL DIRECTOR AND CHAIRMAN OF THE COMPANY</u>

Our Board of Directors has appointed Dr. Madhaiyaan Angamuthu, as an Additional Director and Chairman of the Company (Category Promoters group- Non-Executive Director) with effect from 19<sup>th</sup> May'2023.

Dr. Madhaiyaan Angamuthu has been appointed as an Additional Director and Chairman of the Company by the Board of the Directors of the Company with effect from 19<sup>th</sup> May'2023. As per SEBI (LODR), the appointment of Director by Board is to be approved by the Shareholders within three months from the date of appointment. Company is required to hold its upcoming Annual General Meeting before end of September 2023. However, since the Board accorded appointment of Dr. Madhaiyaan Angamuthu as Additional Director and Chairman of the Company w.e.f. 19<sup>th</sup> May'2023, the process of approval of shareholders is required to be completed by 18<sup>th</sup> Aug'2023. Since, it is not possible to hold the Annual General Meeting by 18<sup>th</sup> Aug'2023 as the Government audit will not be complete by that date. So for that purpose the Company need to have approval for the appointment of Additional Director and Chairman of the Company and the same is sought in this Extra-Ordinary General Meeting as per the provisions of the Companies Act, LODR and Rules made thereunder.

In the opinion of the Board, Dr. Madhaiyaan Angamuthu fulfils the conditions as set out in Section 149(6) read with Schedule IV of the Companies Act, 2013 and Regulation 16(1)(b) of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, being eligible for appointment as Additional Director and Chairman of the Company. Dr. Madhaiyaan Angamuthu is not disqualified from being appointed as a Director in terms of Section 164 of the Companies Act, 2013 and under Para C (10) (i) of Schedule V to SEBI LODR, 2015. He has given his consent to act as Director of the Company.

Accordingly, regularisation of appointment of Dr. Madhaiyaan Angamuthu as an Additonal Director and Chairman on the Board is being put up to the shareholders for seeking their approval. Dr. Madhaiyaan Angamuthu, if appointed, shall not be liable to retire by rotation.

His brief resume, inter-alia, giving nature of expertise in specific functional area, shareholding in the Company, other Directorship, Membership/ Chairmanship of Committees and other particulars are enclosed with this Notice.

In order to comply with the provisions of Regulation 17(1) of the SEBI LODR, 2015 and keeping in view his background and vast experience, it will be in the interest of the Company that he appointed as Director of the Company.

Except Dr. Madhaiyaan Angamuthu, being an appointee, none of the Directors or Key Managerial Personnel of the Company or their relatives is concerned or interested, financially or otherwise, in the resolution set out at Item No.3 of the Notice. The Board recommends the Ordinary resolution set out at Item No.3 for the approval of Members.

By Order of the Board of Directors

Place: Visakhapatnam (P.Chandra Kalabhinetri)
Date: 05.06.2023 Company Secretary



## **Annexure to explanatory statement for Notice**

Additional information on Directors being appointed / re-appointed as required under Regulation 36(3) the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 and Secretarial Standard -2 issued by the Institute of Company Secretaries of India, in the order of the items mentioned in the Notice:

Capt.S.Divakar

Age	54 Years
Date of first appointment on Board	15.07.2022
Qualification	He holds Dredge Master Grade-I Certificate of
	Competency
Brief Resume including experience	<ul> <li>Capt.S.Divakar holds the post of Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (Additional Charge) of the Company.</li> <li>Capt.S.Divakar, Chief General Manager who is also taken the additional charge of Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of the company, started his career in DCI as a cadet in the year 1987 and served onboard dredgers in different capacities about 22 years from Cadet to Captain and rose to the position of "Master of Dredger". On gaining rich knowledge and experience on complete operations of different type of dredgers, he joined in shore service and served for about 12 years in senior management level, having worked for 34 years in both onboard dredgers as well as onshore in responsible positions, gained unique expertise of both operations as well as techno commercial aspects of business acumen.</li> </ul>
Nature of expertise in specific	Dredging Business
functional areas Other Directorships along with listed entities from which the person has resigned in the past three years.	NIL
Chairmanship/Membership of Committees in companies in which position of Director is held	NIL
Relationship with other Directors, Managers and other Key Managerial Personnel of the Company	NIL
No. of equity shares held in the Company	99
No. of board meetings attended during the year	05



Terms and conditions of appointment or reappointment including remuneration	Re-appointment as per the followings:- 1) 26 <sup>th</sup> NRC Meeting dated 06/04/2023 2) Resolution by Circulation of Board of Directors vide Ref No. DCI/CS/U.1/CIR-2-2023-24/ dated 06/04/2023
Skills and capabilities required for the role and the manner in which the proposed person meets such requirements	35 years of experience in the field of Dredging.



## **Annexure to explanatory statement for Notice**

Additional information on Directors being appointed / re-appointed as required under Regulation 36(3) the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 and Secretarial Standard -2 issued by the Institute of Company Secretaries of India, in the order of the items mentioned in the Notice:

## Dr. Madhaiyaan Angamuthu

Age	48 Years
Date of first	19.05.2023
	Ph.D. in Agriculture
appointment on Board Qualification Brief Resume including experience	Ph.D. in Agriculture  Dr. Madhaiyaan Angamuthu, is an Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer of the Assam-Meghalaya Cadre 2002 Batch, who has ample experience in several key sectors of public administration.  A native of Dharmapuri district, Tamil Nadu, he started his career as an Assistant Collector in Jorhat district of Assam. During his terms as District Collector in five districts across Assam, he has initiated several positive transformations that have garnered widespread admiration and public acclaim. His ideation and execution of GINFED (Ginger Growers Cooperative Marketing Federation) in Karbi Anglong district that initiated a focused campaign towards introducing and promoting organic ginger in the National and International markets, is one of the key highlights.  In his short span of career, he has had a distinction of engaging in diverse areas of work, from public centric initiatives to building infrastructure. He was appointed as VC and CEO Guwahati Metropolitan Development Authority. He has held charge of portfolios like CEO-Guwahati Bio-tech Park, MD, Guwahati Smart City Limited, Project Director-Assam Urban Infrastructure Investment Programme (an Asian Development Bank Funded project) and Secretary to the Govt. of Assam-Planning and Development Department, Commissioner, Guwahati Municipal Corporation.  As Commissioner and Secretary to the Government of Assam, he has headed departments like Welfare of Tribes and Backward Classes Department, General Administration Department, Secretariat Administration Department, Urban Development Department, Tourism Department, Sports and Youth Welfare Department, and Divisional Commissioner, North Assam Division, Tezpur, Assam.  Prior to assumption of charge as Chairperson of Visakhapatnam Port Authority, he was the Chairman, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority, an apex organisation
	of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, created specifically for export promotion of agro and allied products from India. APEDA's export basket includes-fresh and processed
	fruits and vegetables, other processed foods, cereals and cereal products, livestock products, floriculture and Organic products. He holds a Doctorate Degree in Agriculture with specialization in Horticulture from the Indian Agriculture Research Institute (IARI)
	and Master Degree in Horticulture from Punjab Agricultural



	University, Ludhiana; and Graduation in Agriculture from Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore. Dr. Angamuthu has also undergone various training programmes within the country and overseas in areas of programme and project implementation, leadership development, urban transportation, urban water management, public policy management and e-governance.
Nature of expertise in specific functional areas	NIL
Other Directorships along with listed entities from which the person has resigned in the past three years.	NIL
Chairmanship/Membe rship of Committees in companies in which position of Director is held	NIL
Relationship with other Directors, Managers and other Key Managerial Personnel of the Company	NIL
No. of equity shares held in the Company	NIL
No. of board meetings attended during the year	NIL
Terms and conditions of appointment or reappointment including remuneration	Re-appointment as per the followings:-  1) Resolution by Circulation of NRC Members vide Ref No. DCI/CS/U.1/CIR-NRC-2-2023-24/ dated 19/05/2023  2) Resolution by Circulation of Board of Directors vide Ref No. DCI/CS/U.1/CIR-4-2023-24/ dated 19/05/2023
Skills and capabilities required for the role and the manner in which the proposed person meets such requirements	Chairperson of Visakhapatnam Port Authority (VPA)