

ASCENT CIRCUITS PRIVATE LIMITED



CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY ("CSR") POLICY

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1. CONTEXT

Ascent Circuits Private Limited (“**ASCENT**”) is a comprehensive manufacturer of Printed Circuit Board, with a focus on creating the ultimate customer satisfaction with the supply of the best quality products at a competitive cost. Ascent has developed a CSR Policy (hereinafter referred to as “**Policy**”) in alignment with its objective, principles and values, for delineating its responsibility as a socially and environmentally responsible corporate citizen. The Policy lays down the principles and mechanisms for undertaking various programs in accordance with Section 135 of the Companies Act 2013.

ASCENT firmly believes that a business can only be successful if we understand our responsibility and accountability towards the environment and society at large in which we function and is committed to maintaining the highest standards of corporate social responsibility in its business activities. We aspire to high standards of practice through a process of continual improvement and focus has always been to contribute to the sustainable development of the society and environment and to make the world a better place for future generations. The Company’s focus has always been committed to ensure environmental sustainability, ecological balance, protection of flora and fauna, and conservation of natural resources.

2. OBJECTIVE

- 2.1 This policy shall be called “Policy on Corporate Social Responsibility” (hereinafter referred to as “**Policy**”);
- 2.2 This Policy is framed in accordance with the requirements of Companies Act, 2013 and rules made there under from time to time (hereinafter referred to as “**Act**”);
- 2.3 This Policy will be effective from 06 September 2021.
- 2.4 This Policy is adopted by the Board of Directors (defined hereinafter) of the Company (defined hereinafter) to establish the scope, CSR goals of the Company, principles for selection, funding approval, implementation and monitoring of activities as well as formulation of the annual action plan .



3. DEFINITIONS

- 3.1 “**Board of Directors**” or the “**Board**” shall mean the Board of Directors of the Company, as constituted from time to time;
- 3.2 “**Company**” means Ascent Circuits Private Limited;
- 3.3 “**CSR Committee**” means Corporate Social Responsibility Committee constituted by the Board pursuant to Section 135 of the Companies Act, 2013 and rules made there under from time to time;
- 3.4 “**CSR Projects/ Activities**” means programmes, projects and activities carried out in this regard that are the subject matter of this Policy and shall include all CSR activities as defined under the Act and CSR Rules from time to time.

- 3.5 **“Administrative Overheads”** means only the expenses incurred by the Company for ‘general management and administration’ of Corporate Social Responsibility functions classified as Administrative overheads.

The expenses directly incurred for the designing, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of a particular Corporate Social Responsibility project or programme specifically excluded.

The administrative overheads not to exceed five percent of the total CSR expenditure of the Company for the financial year.

- 3.6 **“Activities not considered as CSR” means**

- ❖ Activities undertaken in pursuance of normal course of business of the Company (except COVID 19 related R & D up to the financial year 2022-23, subject to certain conditions);
- ❖ Any activity undertaken by the Company outside India (except for training of Indian sports personnel representing any State or Union territory at national level or India at international level);
- ❖ Contribution of any amount directly or indirectly to any political party under section 182 of the Act.
- ❖ Activities that significantly benefit the employees of the Company as defined in clause (k) of section 2 of the Code on Wages, 2019 (29 of 2019);
- ❖ Activities supported by the Companies on sponsorship basis for deriving marketing benefits for its products or services;
- ❖ Activities carried out for fulfillment of any other statutory obligations under any law in force in India;

- 3.7 **“Ongoing Project”** means a multi-year project having timelines not exceeding three years excluding the financial year in which it was commenced.

Project that was initially not approved as a multi-year project can be made ongoing by extending the duration beyond one year by the Board based on reasonable justification.

CSR Project duration cannot be more than three years.

4. SCOPE & FOCUS AREAS FOR CSR ACTIVITIES

In accordance with the requirements under the Act, CSR Projects/activities include the following:

1. **PROMOTING AND PREVENTING HEALTH CARE, SANITATION AND MAKING AVAILABLE SAFE DRINKING WATER :** Eradicating hunger, poverty and malnutrition, promoting preventive health care and sanitation and making available safe drinking water;
2. **PROMOTING EDUCATION:** Promoting education, including special education and employment enhancing vocation skills especially among children, women, elderly, and the differently abled and livelihood enhancement projects;
3. **PROMOTING GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT:** 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;

4. **PROMOTING SPORTS:** Construction of Sports Stadium, Training to promote rural sports, nationally recognised sports, Paralympic sports and Olympic sports;
5. **CONTRIBUTION TO PRIME MINISTER' NATIONAL RELIEF FUND:** Contribution to the Prime Minister's National Relief 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;
6. **PROMOTING RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS:** Strengthening rural areas by improving accessibility, housing, drinking water, Sanitation, power and livelihoods, thereby creating sustainable villages;

Every Project to be undertaken by the Company under above said focus area shall be approved by the CSR Committee. For the purpose of carrying out the CSR Projects, preference will be given to the local area and the areas around which the Company operates.

5. UNDERTAKING CSR ACTIVITIES

The Company may carry out the CSR activities in accordance with the terms of this Policy, either on its own, or through a registered trust or registered society or through a company registered under Section 8 of the Act, whether established by the Company, a subsidiary of the Company, an Associate Company of the Company or by a third party. The Company may also collaborate with other companies to undertake projects, programs or CSR activities in such a manner that the CSR Committees of the respective companies are in a position to report separately on such projects or programs in accordance with the Policy and the applicable CSR regulations from time to time in force. If the Company chooses to carry out the CSR Activities through a registered trust or registered society or a Section 8 company incorporated under the Act, which is established by a third party ("CSR Partner"), guidelines mentioned in this policy are required to be followed in choosing such CSR Partner.

6. GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE OF CSR PROJECTS

The Company is presently operating through its unit located in Northern Region of India, the Company at present decided to undertake its CSR Projects/Activities in the local areas around which the Company operates.

7. CSR COMMITTEE

7.1 The CSR Committee shall consist of the following members:

Ms. Simran Singh	:	Chairperson
Mr. Prakash Iyer	:	Member
Mr. Sanjay Kumar Arora	:	Member
Mr. Manjunath Punyamurthy	:	Member

The Committee may authorize any member or members the job of implementation of the projects approved by the CSR Committee.

7.2 The responsibilities of the Committee include:

- ❖ Formulating and recommending to the Board, a Corporate Social Responsibility Policy of the Company, including any amendments thereto in accordance with Schedule VII of the Act;
- ❖ Ensuring that the corporate social responsibility policy shall include/ indicate the activities to be undertaken by the companies as specified in Schedule VII of the Act excluding the activities undertaken in pursuance of its normal course of business;
- ❖ Identifying corporate social responsibility policy partners and corporate social responsibility policy programmes;

CSR Partner shall be either a registered trust or a registered society under the applicable laws or a company incorporated under Section 8 of the Act with an established track record of 3 years in undertaking activities in the focus areas in which the Company intends to carryout CSR Activities.

The Company shall satisfy itself of the legal, financial and regulatory aspects of the CSR Partner to ensure ability to carry out CSR Activities on behalf of the Company.

The Company shall procure a project report from the shortlisted CSR Partners regarding the course of action that they intend to undertake, if chosen to implement a particular CSR Activity on behalf of the Company.

The Company shall, before executing the projects with CSR Partners, ensure that the specifications for the project or programs to be undertaken through the CSR Partners, the utilization of funds on such projects and programs and the monitoring and reporting mechanism are made clear.

- ❖ Recommending the amount of corporate social responsibility policy expenditure for the corporate social responsibility activities and the distribution of the same to various corporate social responsibility programmes undertaken by the Company;
- ❖ Identifying and appointing the corporate social responsibility team of the Company including corporate social responsibility manager, wherever required;
- ❖ Delegating responsibilities to the corporate social responsibility team and supervise proper execution of all delegated responsibilities;
- ❖ Assistance to our Board to ensure that our Company spends towards the corporate social responsibility activities in every Fiscal, such percentage of average net profit/ amount as may be prescribed in the Act;
- ❖ Reviewing and monitoring the implementation of corporate social responsibility programmes and issuing necessary directions as required for proper implementation and timely completion of corporate social responsibility programmes;
- ❖ Providing explanation to the Board if our Company fails to spend the prescribed amount within the financial year;
- ❖ Providing updates to our Board at regular intervals of six months on the corporate social responsibility activities;

- ❖ Regulation of its own proceedings subject to the terms of reference;
- ❖ Reviewing and recommending the corporate social responsibility annual action plan for the ensuing Fiscal to our Board;
- ❖ Approval of any project that may come during the year and which is not covered in the corporate social responsibility plan up to such amount as may be prescribed by our Board from time to time; and
- ❖ Performing such other duties and functions as the Board may require the corporate social responsibility committee to undertake to promote the corporate social responsibility activities of the Company.

7.3 Frequency of the Meetings of the Committee:

The Committee shall meet at least twice in a year or whenever they desire. Members of the Committee can agree upon mutually, regarding time and place for the said meetings. Quorum for the meeting should be in accordance with Companies Act, 2013. The Members of the Committee may participate in the meeting either in person or through video conferencing or other audio visual means in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 and rules made thereunder from time to time. Other Members of the Senior Management may attend the Committee Meetings as may be appropriate, subject to the approval of the Committee. Minutes of the Committee shall be placed before the Board for noting.

8. CSR BUDGET

The total budget for the CSR projects will be decided by the CSR Committee. The Act mandates companies meeting the qualification criteria to allocate certain portion of its annual net profits (before tax) during the three immediately preceding financial years to be spent on CSR Activities that fall under purview of Schedule VII of the Act.

9. CSR EXPENDITURE

- ❖ Net profit means profit more fully described under CSR Rules.
- ❖ The CSR expenditure shall include all expenditure including contribution to projects or programs relating to CSR activities approved by the Board of Directors on the recommendation of its CSR Committee but does not include any expenditure on an item not in conformity or not in line with activities stated under Schedule VII of the Act.
- ❖ However, if in any financial year, the actual expenditure is less than the budget for that financial year but not less than the minimum expenditure limit (more fully described under CSR Rules) the unspent CSR amount for the ongoing projects shall be deposited in the unspent CSR Account in accordance with the Act, Rules, and the Guidelines.

10. GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR SELECTION, IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING ACTIVITIES

- 10.1 Baseline/ need assessment survey should be carried out prior to the selection of any CSR activity.
- 10.2 If needed, the company may interact with the Government Organizations/Agencies for finalization of Schemes, etc. Concerned District authorities may also be contacted before taking up CSR activities in local areas.

- 10.3 Funding shall mean the disbursements that are to be made to any organization(s) /project (s) pursuant to this CSR Policy, with the prior approval of the CSR Committee in accordance with the Act and Rules.
- 10.4 The Members of CSR Committee will discuss the matter related to funding and amount of expenditure to be done by the Company on the proposed CSR projects/activities.
- 10.5 The CSR Projects will be monitored on a continuous basis. The Members of the Committee will regularly report to the Board on all significant matters it has addressed and with respect to such other matters that are within its responsibilities.

11. ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN

11.1 Annual Action Plan

The CSR Committee shall formulate and recommend to the Board, an Annual Action Plan in pursuance of its CSR policy.

Annual Action Plan shall comprise of:-

- List of CSR Projects approved;
- Manner of execution;
- Tentative Timeline for completion;
- Benefits to the sectors of the Society.
- Modalities of utilization of funds and implementation schedules;
- Monitoring and reporting mechanism;

On recommendation of the CSR Committee Annual Action Plan may be altered by the Board.

12. FAILURE TO SPEND THE CSR FUNDS

- In case the Company fails to spend the targeted amount in that particular financial year, the Committee shall 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 Directors' Report for that particular financial year.
- Surplus arising out of the CSR initiatives shall not form part of the business profits of the Company and shall be used in development of the CSR Projects in next financial year.

13. REPORTS

The format of the Report shall be the format prescribed under the Companies (Corporate Social Responsibility Policy) Rules, 2014 ("CSR Rules") stated hereunder:

1.	Brief outline of the Company's CSR policy	:					
2.	The Composition of the CSR Committee	:	Sl. No.	Name of the Director	Designation/Nature of Directorship	Number of meetings of CSR Committee held during the year	Number of meetings of CSR Committee attended during the year
3.	Provide the web-link where Composition of CSR committee, CSR Policy and CSR projects approved by the board are disclosed on the website of the company.	:					
4.	Provide the details of Impact assessment of CSR projects carried out in pursuance of sub-rule (3) of rule 8 of the Companies (Corporate Social Responsibility Policy) Rules, 2014, if applicable (attach the report).	:					
5.	Details of the amount available for set off in pursuance of sub-rule (3) of rule 7 of the Companies (Corporate Social Responsibility Policy) Rules, 2014 and amount required for set off for the financial year, if any	:	Sl. No.	Financial Year	Amount available for set-off from preceding financial years (in Rs)	Amount required to be setoff for the financial year, if any (in Rs)	
6.	Average net profit of the company as per section 135(5).	:					
7.	(a) Two percent of average net profit of the company as per section 135(5) (b) Surplus arising out of the CSR projects or programmes or activities of the previous financial years. (c) Amount required to be set off for the financial year, (d) Total CSR obligation for the financial year (7a+7b7c).	:					

8. (a) CSR amount spent or unspent for the financial year:

Total Amount Spent for the Financial Year. (in Rs.)	Amount Unspent (in Rs.)				
	Total Amount transferred to Unspent CSR Account as per section 135(6).		Amount transferred to any fund specified under Schedule VII as per second proviso to section 135(5).		
	Amount	Date of transfer	Name of the Fund	Amount	Date of transfer

(b) Details of the CSR amount spent ongoing projects for the financial year:

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
S. No	Name of the Project.	Item from the list of activities in Schedule VII to the Act.	(1) Local area (Yes/No).	Location of the project. State/District	(1) Project duration.	Amount allocated for the project (in Rs.).	Amount spent in the current financial Year (in Rs.).

	(9)	(10)	(11)
S. No	Amount transferred to Unspent CSR Account for the project as per Section 135(6) (in Rs.).	Mode of Implementation – Direct (Yes/No)	Mode of Implementation - Through Implementing Agency
			Name CSR Registration Number

(c) Details of CSR amount spent against other than ongoing projects for the financial year:

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
S. No	Name of the Project.	Item from the list of activities in Schedule VII to the Act.	(2) Local area (Yes/No).	Location of the project. State/District	(2) Project duration.	Amount allocated for the project (in Rs.).	Amount spent in the current financial Year (in Rs.).

	(9)	(10)	(11)
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S. No	Amount transferred to Unspent CSR Account for the project as per Section 135(6) (in Rs.).	Mode of Implementation - Direct (Yes/No)	Mode of Implementation - Through Implementing Agency Name and CSR Registration Number

(d) Amount spent in Administrative Overheads

(e) Amount spent on Impact Assessment, if applicable

(f) Total amount spent for the Financial Year (8b+8c+8d+8e)

(g) Excess amount for set off, if any

Sl. No.	Particular	Amount (in Rs.)
1	Two percent of average net profit of the company as per section 135(5)	
2	Total amount spent for the Financial Year	
3	Excess amount spent for the financial year [(ii)-(i)]	
4	Surplus arising out of the CSR projects or programmes or activities of the previous financial years, if any	
5	Amount available for set off in succeeding financial years [(iii)-(iv)]	

9. (a) Details of Unspent CSR amount for the preceding three financial years:

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)			(6)
S. No	Preceding Financial Year	Amount transferred to Unspent CSR Account under section 135 (6) (in Rs.)	Amount spent in the reporting Financial Year (in Rs.)	Amount transferred to any fund specified under Schedule VII as per section 135(6), if any.			Amount remaining to be spent in succeeding financial years. (in Rs.)
				Name of the Fund	Amount (in Rs.)	Date of transfer	

(b) Details of CSR amount spent in the financial year for ongoing projects of the preceding financial year(s)

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
S. No	Project ID.	Name of the Project	Financial Year in which the project was commenced.	Project duration.	Total amount allocated for the project (in Rs.)	Amount spent on the project in the reporting	Cumulative amount spent at the end of reporting Financial	Status of the project - Completed /Ongoing.

						Financial Year (in Rs)	Year. (in Rs.)	

10. In case of creation or acquisition of capital asset, furnish the details relating to the asset so created or acquired through CSR spent in the financial year (asset-wise details).
- (a) Date of creation or acquisition of the capital asset(s).
- (b) Amount of CSR spent for creation or acquisition of capital asset.
- (c) Details of the entity or public authority or beneficiary under whose name such capital asset is registered, their address etc.
- (d) Provide details of the capital asset(s) created or acquired (including complete address and location of the capital asset).
11. Specify the reason(s), if the company has failed to spend two per cent of the average net profit as per section 135(5).

Sd/- (Chief Executive Officer or Managing Director or Director).	Sd/- (Chairman CSR Committee).	Sd/- [Person specified under clause (d) of sub-section (1) of section 380 of the Act] (Wherever applicable).
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14. DISCLOSURE

As per the CSR Rules, the contents of the CSR Policy shall be included in the Directors' Report and the same shall be displayed on the Company's website in the prescribed format as per provisions of the Act/Rules/Guidelines.

15. RESPONSIBILITY OF A BOARD AND CFO

The Board shall be responsible to:

- ❖ Satisfy itself that the funds so disbursed have been utilised for the purposes and in the manner as approved by it;
- ❖ Monitor the implementation of the project with reference to the approved timelines and year-wise allocation;
- ❖ To make modifications, if any, for smooth implementation of the project within the overall permissible time period;
- ❖ CFO of the holding Company i.e. Ascent or the person responsible for financial management shall certify to the effect.

16. POLICY REVIEW AND AMENDMENT

- 16.1 The Committee shall review its CSR Policy from time to time and make suitable changes as may be required and submit the same for the approval of the Board.

- 16.2 Any changes or modification on the policy as recommended by the Committee would be placed before the Board of Directors of the Company for their approval.
- 16.3 The Board of Directors of the Company may, subject to the applicable law, is entitled to amend, modify, suspend or rescind this policy, at any time.
- 16.4 Any ambiguities, interpretative issues, difficulties will be resolved by the Board of Directors of the Company in line with the broad intent of this policy read with the applicable provisions of the Act, rules and regulations made thereunder.

“This Policy has been framed in compliance of the Companies (Corporate Social Responsibility Policy) Rules, 2014 as amended from time to time”

END OF POLICY

