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RBI/2025-26/20

A.P. (DIR Series) Circular No. 01

April 03, 2025

To.

All Authorized Persons

Madam / Sir

## Limits for investment in debt and sale of Credit Default Swaps by Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs)

Attention of Authorised Dealer Category-I (AD Category-I) banks is invited to Schedule 1 to the Foreign Exchange Management (Debt Instruments) Regulations, 2019 notified *vide* Notification No. FEMA. 396/2019-RB dated October 17, 2019 as amended from time to time and the relevant Directions issued thereunder.

- 2. Reference is also invited to the following directions issued by the Reserve Bank:
  - a) A.P. (DIR Series) Circular No. 23 dated February 10, 2022;
  - b) A.P. (DIR Series) Circular No. 03 dated April 26, 2024; and
  - c) <u>Master Direction Reserve Bank of India (Non-resident Investment in Debt Instruments) Directions, 2025 dated January 07, 2025.</u>

## 3. Investment Limits for the financial year 2025-26:

- a) The limits for FPI investment in Government Securities (G-Secs), State Government Securities (SGSs) and corporate bonds shall remain unchanged at 6 per cent, 2 per cent and 15 per cent respectively, of the outstanding stocks of securities for 2025-26.
- b) As hitherto, all investments by eligible investors in the 'specified securities' shall be reckoned under the Fully Accessible Route (FAR) in terms of <u>Master Direction Reserve Bank of India (Non-resident Investment in Debt Instruments)</u>
  <u>Directions, 2025 dated January 07, 2025</u>.

- c) The allocation of incremental changes in the G-Sec limit (in absolute terms) over the two sub-categories 'General' and 'Long-term' shall be retained at 50:50 for 2025-26.
- d) The entire increase in limits for SGSs (in absolute terms) has been added to the 'General' sub-category of SGSs.
- 4. The revised limits (in absolute terms) for the different categories, are in Table 1:

| Table - 1: Investment limits for FY 2025-26           |                  |                       |                |                     |                    |            |
|---|------------------|-----------------------|----------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------|
| all figures in ₹ Crore                                |                  |                       |                |                     |                    |            |
|   | G-Sec<br>General | G-Sec<br>Long<br>Term | SGS<br>General | SGS<br>Long<br>Term | Corporate<br>Bonds | Total Debt |
| Current FPI limits                                    | 2,68,984         | 1,37,984              | 1,17,752       | 7,100               | 7,63,503           | 12,95,323  |
| Revised limit<br>for the HY<br>Apr 2025-<br>Sept 2025 | 2,79,236         | 1,48,236              | 1,26,248       | 7,100               | 8,22,169           | 13,82,989  |
| Revised limit<br>for the HY<br>Oct 2025-<br>Mar 2026  | 2,89,488         | 1,58,488              | 1,34,744       | 7,100               | 8,80,835           | 14,70,654  |

- **5**. In terms of A.P. (DIR Series) Circular No. 23 dated February 10, 2022, the aggregate limit of the notional amount of Credit Default Swaps sold by FPIs shall be 5 per cent of the outstanding stock of corporate bonds. Accordingly, an additional limit of ₹2,93,612 crore is set out for 2025-26.
- **6.** AD Category I banks may bring the contents of this circular to the notice of their constituents and customers concerned.
- **7.** The Directions contained in this circular have been issued under sections 10(4) and 11(1) of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (42 of 1999) without prejudice to permissions/approval, if any, required under any other law.

Yours faithfully

(Dimple Bhandia) Chief General Manager