

ANNUAL REPORT 2000-2001

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SINCLAIRS HOTELS & TRANSPORTATION LIMITED



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mr Navin Suchanti, Chairman Dr Niren Suchanti Mr P. K. Goenka Mr S. M. Borar Mr Prabir Chakravarti

AUDITORS

Messers Mookherjee, Biswas & Pathak Chartered Accountants

BRANCH AUDITOR

Messers R. Ramakrishnan & Co. Chartered Accountants

REGISTERED OFFICE

56A, Mirza Ghalib Street Kolkata 700 016

HOTELS & RESORT

Hotel Sinclairs, Siliguri Hotel Sinclairs, Darjeeling Hotel Sinclairs Bayview, Port Blair Hotel Sinclairs, Ooty Sinclairs Retreat Dooars, Chalsa, West Bengal Notice

Notice is hereby given that the Twenty-ninth Annual General Meeting of the company will be held at Kala Hunj, 48 Shakespeare Sarani, Kolkata 700 017 on Saturday, 29th September, 2001 at 1.00 p.m. to transact the following business:

AS ORDINARY BUSINESS

- To receive, consider and adopt the Profit & Loss Account for the year ended 31st March, 2001 and the Bulance Sheet as at that date and the Reports of the Directors and the Auditors thereon.
- 2. To appoint a Director in place of Mr Navin Suchanti who retires by rotation and being eligible offers himself for reappointment.
- 3. To appoint a Director in place of Mr S M Borar who retires by rotation and being eligible offers himself for reappointment.
- 4. To appoint M/s Mookherjee, Biswas & Pathak, Chartered Accountants as Auditors of the company and to authorise the Board to fix their remuneration.
- 5. To appoint M/s R Ramakrishnan & Co., Chartered Accountants as Branch Auditors of the company and to authorise the Board to fix their remuneration.

Regd. Office: 56A, Mirza Ghalib Street Kolkata 700 016 Date: 30th June, 2001 By order of the Board

Navin Suchanti Chairman

Notes:

- A member entitled to attend and vote is entitled to appoint a proxy to attend and on poll to vote in his stead.
 The proxy need not be a member. Proxies in order to be valid should be lodged at the registered office of the company not less than 48 hours before the meeting.
- 2. The Register of Members and Share Transfer Register of the Company will remain closed from Tuesday, 18th September, 2001 to Saturday, 29th September, 2001 (both days inclusive).
- 3. Members are requested to intimate the company regarding any change in their address quoting their folio numbers.

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Directors' Report

DIRECTORS' REPORT

To the members.

Your Directors present their Twentyninth Annual Report together with the Audited Accounts for the year ended 31st March, 2001.

Financial Results

	(Rs. in lacs)	
	Year ended	Year ended
	31.03.2001	31.03.2000
Gross Income	1055.70	901.05
Profit for the year before		
interest and depreciation	193.45	130.58
Less: Finance charges	77.29	56.68
Depreciation	104.02	65.64
Profit before tax	12.14	8.26
Provision for taxation		
Profit after tax	12.14	8.26
Profit brought forward	15.86	15.00
Profit available for		
appropriation	28.00	23.26
Appropriations		
Transfer to Lease		
Equalisation Reserve		1.52
Transfer to General Reserve	20.00	5.00
Dividend –		
On Preference shares		0.79
Corporate Dividend Tax		0.09
Balance carried to		
Balance Sheet	8.00	15.86
	28.00	23.26
	20.00	
0		

Operations

After a long closure, the Management was able to reach a settlement with the union at Siliguri Hotel and in terms of the settlement, the operations at Siliguri commenced from 17th October, 2000.

Since then the operations at the unit have substantially stabilised but it will still take some time for the unit to reach the desired occupancy levels. On account of the deterioration of the property, extensive renovation and refurbishing work has been undertaken and one block of rooms, the front office, the restaurant and the

swimming pool complex have been fully renovated. Refurbishing and renovation work in other areas is continuing.

The company's resort at Chalsa which commenced operations last year is slowly getting popular and the intensive marketing efforts has resulted in better occupancy levels in the unit. The resort is the only one of its kind in the entire eastern region and your Directors are confident that in the coming years it will offer good returns. The operations at Darjeeling, Ooty and Port Blair units were satisfactory. However, the operational costs at the units needs to be reduced and the company is taking necessary steps in this regard.

During the year, the company has been awarded the contract to run the snack bar at Bagdogra airport and restaurant at Port Blair airport and both these units have commenced operations.

The company's travel agency at Calcutta and Mumbai have fared satisfactorily.

Future Prospects

With the operations at Siliguri being stabilised, the prospects for the current year is much better. Also the intensive marketing efforts coupled with the cost reduction exercise should result in better performance. However, slowdown in the inland tourist traffic movement continues as a result of which there is tremendous pressure on the realisation.

Dividend

In order to conserve resources, your Directors do not recommend any dividend on the equity shares for the year under review.

Performance

The financial performance of the current year shows a marginal surplus of Rs.12.14 lacs. The performance suffered on account of the long closure of Siliguri unit. There is also a higher outgo on interest and depreciation. During the year, the company prepaid West Bengal Financial Corporation's loan and the banking overdraft facility was also extinguished. The secured borrowings have thus reduced to Rs.336.61 lacs.

Directors' Report

Dematerialisation of Shares

Your company has signed necessary agreements with the National Securities Depository Limited and the Central Depository Services Limited for dematerialisation of its equity shares. Consequently shareholders can now hold the equity shares in the electronic form. The Securities and Exchange Board of India has notified that the shares of your company will now have to be compulsorily traded in the demat form. The shareholders are requested to dematerialise their holdings.

Particulars of Conservation of Energy, Technology Absorption, Foreign Exchange Earnings and Outgo

The operations of your company do not require energy consumption of any significant level. The company also does not use any imported technology. Therefore, information regarding conservation of energy and technology absorption as required under section 217(1)(e) of the Companies Act, 1956 read with the Companies (Disclosure of Particulars in the Report of the Board of Directors), Rules 1988 are not annexed.

During the year, your company earned Rs.3,97,388/- in foreign exchange (Previous year Rs. 3,19,961). There was expenditure in foreign currency of Rs.12,220/-.

Particulars of Employees

There were no employees as required of the category mentioned in Section 217(2A) of the Companies Act, 1956 read with the Companies (Particular of Employees) Rules, 1975 as amended.

Listing Requisites

The equity shares of the company are listed at the Calcutta and Mumbai Stock Exchanges and the annual listing fees for each of these stock exchanges have been paid upto 2001-2002.

Directors

Mr Navin Suchanti and Mr S M Borar retire by rotation and being eligible offer themselves for re-appointment.

<u>Auditors</u>

M/s Mookherjee, Biswas and Pathak, Chartered Accountants, Auditors of the company who retire at the ensuing Annual General Meeting offer themselves for re-appointment.

It is also proposed to re-appoint M/s R Ramakrish in & Co., Chartered Accountants as Branch Auditors in respect of the company's hotel at Ooty.

Directors' Responsibility Statement

As stipulated in Section 217(2AA) of the Companies Act, 1956, your Directors subscribe to the Directors' Responsibility Statement and confirm as under:

- (i) that in the preparation of the annual accounts, the applicable accounting standards have been followed.
- (ii) that the Directors have selected such accounting policies and applied them consistently and made judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent so as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company at the end of the financial year and of the profit and loss of the company for the period;
- (iii) that the Directors have taken proper and sufficient care of maintenance of adequate accounting records in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act for safeguarding the assets of the company and for preventing and detecting fraud and other irregularities;
- (iv) that the Directors have prepared the annual accounts on a going concern basis.

Acknowledgement

The Directors place on record their appreciation for the co-operation extended by the Government of West Bengal in particular the Ministry of Tourism, the Andaman & Nicobar Islands Administration, the Government of Tamil Nadu and by other authorities, financial institutions and banks and look forward to their continued support.

The Directors also wish to thank all the shareholders for their continued support.

Regd. Office:

56A, Mirza Ghalib Street Kolkata 700 016 Dated: 30th June, 2001 On behalf of the Board

Navin Suchanti Chairman



AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Members of Sinclairs Hotels and Transportation Limited

We have audited the attached Balance Sheet of Sinclairs Hotels and Transportation Limited as at March 31, 2001 and the annexed Profit and Loss Account for the year ended on that date and report that:

- As required by the Manufacturing and Other Companies (Auditors' Report) Order, 1988 dated 7 September 1988 issued by the Central Government of India to the extent applicable to this Company and on the basis of such examination of the books and records of the Company as we considered appropriate and according to the information and explanations given to us during the course of our audit, we give in the attached Annexure a statement on the matters specified in the paragraphs 4 & 5 of the said Order.
- 2. Further to our comments in the Annexure referred to in paragraph (1) above :
 - (a) The Report of the Branch Auditors of Ooty Division, has been received and considered by us in the preparation of this Report.
 - (b) We have obtained all the information and explanations which, to the best of our knowledge and belief, were necessary for the purposes of our audit.
 - (c) In our opinion, proper books of account as required by law have been kept by the company so far as appears from our examination of the books.
 - (d) The Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Account dealt with by this Report are in agreement with the books of account.
 - (e) In our opinion the Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Account comply with the Accounting

- Standards referred in Section 211 (3C) of the Companies Act, 1956 to the extent applicable.
- (f) On the basis of our review of the confirmations received from the companies in which the directors of the company are directors and the information and explanations given to us, none of the directors of the company are prima-facie, as at March 31, 2001 disqualified from being appointed as directors of the company under Clause (g) of Sub-Section (1) of Section 274 of the Companies Act, 1956.
- (g) In our opinion, and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us the said Balance sheet and Profit and Loss Account, read in conjunction with Notes and Schedules annexed thereto, give in the prescribed manner, subject to Note XI Schedule 20 regarding non ascertainment of quantitative details of turnover and consumption of provisions and stores, the information required by the Companies Act, 1956, in the manner so required and also give a true and fair view:
 - (i) in the case of the Balance Sheet, of the state of affairs of the Company as at March 31, 2001; and
 - (ii) in the case of the Profit and Loss Account, of the profit of the Company for the year ended on that date.

For MOOKHERJEE, BISWAS & PATHAK CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Kolkata June 30, 2001 (S K Pathak) Partner

The shareholders holding their shares in physical form are requested to convert their shares in dematerialised form. The ISIN No. of the company is INE985A01014.