



Press Release

Constitution of an Expert Committee on REITs and InvITs in IFSC

India's infrastructure spending, both at the central and state levels, has witnessed substantial growth in the last few years. The Government of India has taken various initiatives, including National Infrastructure Pipeline, "Gati Shakti" programme etc., to build world class infrastructure across various sectors in the country.

The Hon'ble Prime Minister of India has also laid down the vision of achieving the goal of becoming a developed nation by 2047, as mentioned below:

"The goal of the country is Viksit Bharat, Sashakt Bharat. We cannot stop until this dream of a developed India is fulfilled"

– Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India

India will need huge investments in the infrastructure projects in the coming years to achieve the 2047 target of Viksit Bharat. The infrastructure financing cannot be met solely by domestic capital. The funding gap in the infrastructure projects in India can be bridged through steady and sustained influx of patient capital from global investors.

The structures such as Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) and Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InvITs) play an important role in monetizing the real estate and infrastructure projects respectively and attracting investments from several classes of investors including foreign investors such as pension funds, sovereign wealth funds, insurance companies and other global funds.

GIFT IFSC can play an instrumental role in emerging as a gateway for international capital flows into the infrastructure and real estate projects in India and the region. With this vision, IFSCA has constituted an Expert Committee for development of a robust and vibrant ecosystem for REITs and InvITs in GIFT IFSC.

The Expert Committee will be chaired by Shri Ananta Barua, Former Whole Time Member, SEBI. The Committee comprises of leaders and experts from various stakeholders such as issuers, investment bankers, consultancy firms, law firms, stock exchange, etc.

The Terms of Reference (ToR) of the Expert Committee are as under:

- 1) To provide recommendations on policy measures to facilitate the development of REITs and InvITs in GIFT IFSC
- 2) To study the global best practices for Business Trusts and make recommendations for GIFT IFSC
- 3) To make recommendations for amendments in the various legal, taxation and regulatory frameworks for setting up of REITs and InvITs in GIFT IFSC
- 4) To make recommendations for listing of foreign currency denominated securities issued by Indian REITs and InvITs on the stock exchanges in GIFT IFSC
- 5) To make recommendations on enabling the regulatory framework for Micro, Small and Medium REITs in GIFT IFSC
- 6) To make suggestions for promoting innovation in REITs and InvITs at GIFT IFSC
- 7) To suggest a roadmap for establishing GIFT IFSC as a preferred gateway for financing real estate and infrastructure projects of India and the region
- 8) Any other matter related to REITs and InvITs

The constitution of the committee can be accessed through the following weblink:

<https://ifsc.gov.in/IFSCACommittees>

Gandhinagar
January 19, 2024