

# Training Material on Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL)

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**XBRL INDIA**



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# FOREWORD

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In the recent times, XBRL has emerged as a popular, effective, alternative for effective reporting and analysis and being recognized as a global standard for exchanging business information. XBRL is now in India with a bang, presenting a lot of professional opportunities for Chartered Accountants.

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, the premier accounting and auditing standards setting body in India, recognizing the importance of XBRL in the reporting requirements, in the year 2007 had taken a lead on XBRL by constituting a group comprising of the regulators viz. SEBI/RBI/IRDA/MCA for undertaking the Development and promotion of XBRL in India.

Now, the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, the regulators of companies in India vide circular No. 09/2011 dated 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2011, has mandated the filing of financial statements in XBRL formats for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2011, covering more than 25000 Companies in their first phase of implementation. The circular, however, does not cover in its ambit Banking, Insurance, NBFCs and Power Sector Companies for filing their Financial Statements in XBRL formats.

This circular has brought into focus the role of Chartered Accountants. The developing of the taxonomies, the dictionary to all the elements and requirements as laid down by the accounting standards and the company law requirements, and to which the document to be filed are mapped cannot be developed without using the expertise of the accounting professional. The mapping of the document to be filed, (financial statements in case of MCA circular) to the most appropriate item of the taxonomy requires accounting knowledge. It is the most crucial part of the process of creating an XBRL statement. The MCA also requires the professionals to certify the forms which are required to be filed alongwith the financial statements including the ones filed in XBRL formats. This makes the professionals more accountable for the quality of the filings certified by them in the XBRL formats.

In order to equip the members for taking up this new opportunity, XBRL India, the local jurisdiction of the XBRL International in India, alongwith the CPEC and CMII Committees of ICAI, is organizing a series of workshops for providing hands on training on computers, taking the participants through the process of filing statements in XBRL formats. A training module giving an overview on XBRL alongwith the concepts involved in XBRL Taxonomy has been prepared by XBRL India, the local jurisdiction of XBRL International in India. We are thankful to IRIS, Ez XBRL and Fujitsu Consulting, which have provided their inputs for development of this training material.

I trust that the members would find the material useful and together with the hands on training, would make a complete package for the participants.

I wish the participants the very best for taking up this challenge.

**(CA. G. Ramaswamy)**  
Chairman,  
XBRL India

## **SCOPE OF THIS TRAINING MATERIAL**

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The Backgrounder is meant for providing an understanding on the stages involved in filing of financial statements in XBRL formats. It is for the beginners in XBRL. It provides a broad overview of the concepts in XBRL documents. It does not deal with the concepts involved in the development of taxonomies as such. This training material is supplemented by hands on experience on the computer with an XBRL tool which would take you through the process of creation of XBRL documents. To ensure that the required documents (Financial statements in case of MCAs mandate) are based on their respective taxonomy i.e. verifying that the financial statements have been filed, using the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) Taxonomy.

Certain validations are built by the regulators so as to ensure that the filings are as per the taxonomy laid down for the purpose. Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) has come out with certain business rules for creation of XBRL documents. They have divided their business rules into 2 categories viz. the Generic and specific to each of the line item of the taxonomy. If the information filed does not match the rules so laid, the document shall not accept or throw errors to the fillers asking them to refill the information.

The generic rules laid down of their taxonomy by (MCA) Ministry of Corporate Affairs for validating the documents filed to them, are annexed to this material as Annexure "A", which shall be taken up by the trainer during the practical classes.



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# **EXTENSIBLE BUSINESS REPORTING LANGAUGE (XBRL)**

## **An Introduction to XBRL**

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XBRL stands for eXtensible Business Reporting Language. It is one of a family of "XML" languages which is becoming a standard means of communicating information between businesses and on the internet.

XBRL is a language for the electronic communication of business and financial data which is revolutionising business reporting around the world. It provides major benefits in the preparation, analysis and communication of business information. It offers cost savings, greater efficiency and improved accuracy and reliability to all those involved in supplying or using financial data.

XBRL is being developed by XBRL International (XII) an international non-profit consortium of approximately 650 major companies, organisations and government agencies. It is an open standard, free of licence fees. It is already being put to practical use in a number of countries and implementations of XBRL are growing rapidly around the world.

The idea behind XBRL, eXtensible Business Reporting Language, is simple. Instead of treating financial information as a block of text - as in a standard internet page or a printed document - it provides an identifying tag for each individual item of data. This is computer readable. XBRL works in the similar way to bar coding of product, instead of bar coding product, we are bar coding line items (business concept) within the statements or schedules (notes to account) or other business information using a standard list/dictionary of business concepts (known as Taxonomy).

## Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL)

### Bar Code



Just like Bar Code, stores information about the product, such as:

1. Product Name
2. MRP
3. Manufacturing date
4. Expiry Date
5. Quantity
6. Any other information

### XBRL Tags (Equivalent of Bar Code)

Like Net Profit / Loss

Store following information:

1. Fact
2. **Entity name** – The profit / Loss belongs to what entity.
3. **Period**- What period that fact pertains to.
4. **Meaning of the concept** – The profit or loss derived after deducting all expenses, incurred for earning revenues from the total revenues. Such profit or loss is before any appropriation or write backs of reserves and also before distribution of any dividends, if any. Expenses and revenues include extraordinary and prior period items.
5. **Accounting reference**-
  - a. Companies Act, 1956; Schedule VI; Part II; 2(a)
  - b. SEBI Listing Agreement; Clause 41; Annexure I
6. **Scale factor** – Value reported as actual, in thousands , in lacs or crores
7. **Unit**- Whether a fact is monetary (i.e. INR, USD, GBP or EURO etc.) or a number, Shares, Ratio etc.

## **Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL)**

The information an XBRL offers following benefits:

1. Introduction of XBRL tags enables automated processing of business information by computer software, cutting out laborious and costly processes of manual re-entry and comparison. Computers can treat XBRL data “intelligently”: They can recognise the information in a XBRL document, select it, analyse it, store it, exchange it with other computers and present it automatically in a variety of ways for users.
2. XBRL greatly increases the speed of handling of financial data, reduces the chance of error and permits automatic checking of information.
3. Companies can use XBRL to save costs and streamline their processes for collecting and reporting financial information.
4. Consumers of financial data, including investors, analysts, financial institutions and regulators, can receive, find, compare and analyse data much more rapidly and efficiently if it is in XBRL format.

XBRL can handle data in different languages and accounting standards. There are taxonomies available for US GAAP, IFRS, Indian GAAP etc. It can flexibly be adapted to meet different requirements and uses. Data can be transformed into XBRL by suitable mapping tools or it can be generated in XBRL by appropriate software.

# Uses and Myths about XBRL

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## Uses

1. Company internal and external financial reporting.
2. Business reporting to all types of regulators, including tax and financial authorities, central banks and governments.
3. Filing of loan reports and applications; credit risk assessments (Capital adequacy requirements)
4. Exchange of information between government departments or between other institutions, such as central banks.
5. A wide range of other financial and statistical data which needs to be stored exchanged and analyzed.

## Myths

1. XBRL imposes reporting and regulatory burden on the reporting companies.
2. Taxonomies always make use of generic concepts; specific concepts cannot be tagged using taxonomies. Companies have an option to create their company specific concepts.
3. XBRL cannot disclose the information the way company reports.
4. XBRL is cure for all accounting problems.

## Benefits of XBRL to the organisations

1. **XBRL allows for the creation of interactive, intelligent data.** Each piece of business information has detailed descriptive and contextual information wrapped around it, so that the data becomes machine-readable and can be automatically processed and analyzed.
2. **XBRL allows business reporting information to be reused and repurposed.** A financial or business report created once can be used to create many documents in different formats—HTML, ASCII text, Microsoft Word or Excel—with no loss of accuracy or integrity.

## Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL)

**3. XBRL adds value to every step of an organization's business information reporting.** The entire reporting chain of business information — from data collection through internal reporting and external reporting — will be made more efficient and accurate and will contain more useful data.

**4. XBRL enhances the ability to compare information from one organization or entity to another,** because XBRL lays out a common set of definitions by which all organizations tag their data.

**5. XBRL allows for unique reporting situations,** because it can be extended by a single reporting entity by adding special elements that may be needed to best represent that company.

**6. Improving the Analytical Process with XBRL.** XBRL decreases the vulnerability of publicly disclosed financial information and reduces the likelihood of misinterpretation and misrepresentation. Improvements in data quality translate into better analytics for a firm and for its clients.

# XBRL Documents

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XBRL documents comprise two main sections:

1. Taxonomies and
2. Instance documents

**Taxonomies** are dictionaries used by XBRL. These taxonomies are based on accounting standards and other pronouncements on accounting including those contained in relevant legislations. The taxonomies are generally developed by the standard-setters. For instance, the International Accounting Standard Board (IASB), which issues International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), develops taxonomy based on IFRS.

Taxonomies are in turn made up of:

1. **Schema**-dictionary of business and financial term along with XBRL properties and
2. **Linkbases** – Inter relationship among the terms defined in the schema

XBRL Schema stores information about taxonomy elements viz. names, ids etc. It consists of a set of unrelated items. The schema file has an extension of .xsd. The schema file alongwith the link bases makes up the taxonomy.

**Linkbases** provide relationship between elements. They use the elements defined in the schema file and provide structure to those elements. Linkbases are of the following types:

<b>Presentation linkbase</b>	Controls the presentation of the XBRL data. Determines how the data should be presented and in what structure
<b>Calculation linkbase</b>	Defines the arithmetical relationship between concepts. These include simple addition and subtraction operations only.
<b>Definition linkbase</b>	Defines the dimensional relationship between concepts. Allows user to link additional information to the data.
<b>Reference linkbase</b>	Provides guidance to the users of the taxonomy, as it links the concepts to their statutory references.
<b>Label linkbase</b>	Stores the labels for XBRL Concepts.
<b>Formula linkbase</b>	Allows user the full customization and create custom relationships like Earnings Per Share Basic = Net Profit Loss/ Weighted Average Number of Shares

## Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL)

### Anatomy of Linkbases

<b>Calculation Linkbase:</b> Net Current Assets           +1 Current Assets            +1 Current Liabilities       -1	<b>Formula Linkbase:</b> Current Asset Ratio = Current Asset/ Current Liabilities
<b>Definition linkbase:</b> Net Current Assets by Region India Africa US UK	<b>Label Linkbase:</b> Current Assets: Current Assets (Standard Label) Current Assets: Current Assets (Terse Label) Current Assets: Total Current Assets (Total Label)
<b>Presentation linkbase:</b> Net Current Assets heading Current Assets                1 Current Liabilities            2 Net Current Assets            3	<b>Reference Linkbase:</b> Net Current Assets: Co's Act Sch VI (1) Current Assets: Co's Act Sch VI (1) Current Liabilities: Co's Act Sch VI (1)

## Creation of an Instance Document

As against the taxonomy which has only the definition and references, instance documents have actual values. It is generated by mapping the line items of the document to be reported with the taxonomy elements. The mapping is done through an XBRL tool.

Creation of instance document involves the following steps:

1. Mapping the line items of the documents to be filed viz. Balance Sheet, Profit and Loss Account to the most appropriate taxonomy elements.
2. Validation of the line items so mapped on the basis of the validation rules in place built in the taxonomy through its link basis, for example, the sum total of the cash and bank balances can be validated through calculation link base.

The resultant document arising out of the above two processes is the instance document.

### Instance Document

- Business report in electronic format
- Refers to a taxonomy
- Contains **facts** build on the basis of **elements** defined in the XBRL taxonomy, which have a certain **value**, **context** and **unit** assigned
- Stores values in Actuals
- Validating against taxonomy

<b>Balance Sheet</b>	<b>INR '000s</b>	<b>Income Statement</b>	<b>Other information</b>
Assets	5000	Sales	5000
C.A.	2000	Cost	2000
A/c Payable	1000	Profit	3000
			Accounting Policy Followed
			AS-3
			Number Of Employees
			4000
			Registered Office
			XYZ Lane,

## Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL)

### Instance Document: How does it look like...

```
4 <xbri:xbri xmlns:tcs="http://www.tcs.com/20090331" xmlns:in-gaap="http://www.xbri.in/in-gaap/2009-06-30" xmlns:lin
5 <link:schemaRef xlink:type="simple" xlink:href="tcs-20090331.xsd"/>
6 <xbri:context id="I2009">
7 <xbri:entity>
8 <xbri:identifier scheme="http://www.tcs.com/20090331">TCS</xbri:identifier>
9 </xbri:entity>
10 <xbri:period>
11 <xbri:instant>2009-03-31</xbri:instant>
12 </xbri:period>
13 </xbri:context>
14 <xbri:unit id="INR">
15 <xbri:measure>iso4217:INR</xbri:measure>
16 </xbri:unit>
17 <xbri:unit id="INRPerShare">
18 <xbri:divide>
19 <xbri:unitNumerator>
20 <xbri:measure>iso4217:INR</xbri:measure>
21 </xbri:unitNumerator>
22 <xbri:unitDenominator>
23 <xbri:measure>xbri:shares</xbri:measure>
24 </xbri:unitDenominator>
25 </xbri:divide>
26 </xbri:unit>
27 <in-gaap:ShareCapital id="TAB10" decimals="-5" contextRef="I2009" unitRef="INR">197860000</in-gaap:ShareCapital>
28 <in-gaap:ShareCapital id="TAB20" decimals="-5" contextRef="I2008" unitRef="INR">197860000</in-gaap:ShareCapital>
29 <in-gaap:ShareholdersFunds id="TAB50" decimals="-5" contextRef="I2009" unitRef="INR">157000100000</in-gaap:Shareh
30 <in-gaap:ShareholdersFunds id="TAB60" decimals="-5" contextRef="I2008" unitRef="INR">123001200000</in-gaap:Shareh
31 <tcs:FinanceLeaseReceivablesCurrentGross id="TAB3510" decimals="-5" contextRef="I2009" unitRef="INR">23900000</tc
32 <tcs:FinanceLeaseReceivablesCurrentGross id="TAB3520" decimals="-5" contextRef="I2008" unitRef="INR">32300000</tc
33 <tcs:ElectricalInstallationsNet id="TAB5480" decimals="-5" contextRef="I2008" unitRef="INR">1924400000</tcs:Elect
34 <tcs:ElectricalInstallationsNet id="TAB5490" decimals="-5" contextRef="I2009" unitRef="INR">2659700000</tcs:Elect
```

The XBRL processors typically validate an instance document for the following:

- Only non-abstract elements are present in the instance documents
- Mandatory items are necessarily reported.
- The data in reported conforms to the calculation relationships defined in the taxonomy



## Extensions in the Taxonomy

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In the initial phases, the relevant authorities usually develop a general purpose taxonomy which does not encompass industry specific elements in it. The companies usually create extensions to the taxonomy for tagging of their industry specific elements. However, over the years, the concerned authorities usually develop industry - specific taxonomies or build the industry - specific elements in the base taxonomy to cater to the industry requirements. For example, a company engaged in hospitality business like hotel may have specific line items in their profit and loss account and balance sheet which may not exist in general purpose taxonomies. Therefore, an extension needs to be created in the taxonomy.

However, it is the sole discretion of the regulator/ receiver of the XBRL data to allow/ restrict / allow limited extensions to the taxonomy. The additions of extensions make the XBRL attribute of '*comparability*' a concern, when allowed without any limitations. The regulator may also desire to have the XBRL taxonomy with extensions filed with them in addition to the instance documents.

## **Role of a Preparer of XBRL Financial Statements**

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We as accountants need to understand how to interpret the taxonomy, which does not necessarily include understanding the XML language and its semantics. As accountants we should be able to appropriately link each element of the financial statements to the relevant element in the taxonomy. In case suitable taxonomy elements are not available, company specific extensions have to be created within the taxonomy customized for the company, if permitted by the relevant regulator. Generally, softwares are available for facilitating the linking of financial statement items to the relevant elements in the taxonomy, which alleviates the need of hard coding by accountants. After tagging the financial statement items, the file is validated against a set of predefined XBRL validation rules and an Instance Document (XSD) is generated with the help of a tagging software.

## XBRL India

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In the year 2007, ICAI had constituted a Group for promotion and development of XBRL in India. The Group comprised of the regulators viz. Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) , Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) , Reserve Bank of India (RBI) , Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) , National Stock Exchange (NSE) , Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) and private players like Infosys and others who were supporting ICAI in its XBRL endeavours.

Later, in December 2008, spearheaded by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI), the standard setting body in India, the Indian XBRL Jurisdiction, i.e., XBRL India of XBRL International (XII), was constituted as a formal forum to encourage the adoption of XBRL as a standard for electronic business reporting in India. The jurisdiction was provisional in nature. The jurisdiction also developed and managed XBRL taxonomies, and facilitated education and training of XBRL. To govern XBRL India Jurisdiction, a Steering Committee out of the members of the XBRL Group was constituted, as per the requirements of XBRL International (XII). The XBRL Group continued to function as a General Body of members of XBRL India Jurisdiction.

In accordance with the requirements of XBRL International, XBRL India (provisional jurisdiction) applied for the status of an 'Established Jurisdiction' which was duly awarded in the year 2010. The status of 'established jurisdiction' bestowed a seat for XBRL India at the International Steering Committee (ISC), the governing body of XBRL International,

Now, Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL) India is a company registered under Section 25 of Companies Act, 1956. The company is facilitated by ICAI. It has been incorporated for managing the affairs of Indian Jurisdiction of XBRL International with the following objectives:

- To promote and encourage the adoption of XBRL in India as the standard for electronic business reporting in India
- To facilitate education and marketing of XBRL
- To develop and manage XBRL taxonomies
- To keep the developed XBRL taxonomies updated with regard to international developments
- To represent Indian interests within XBRL International
- To contribute to the international development of XBRL

## **Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL)**

A separate website dedicated to the XBRL India Jurisdiction to keep members and other users aware about the Indian XBRL Jurisdiction has also been set up by the ICAI. Its URL is [www.xbrl.org/in](http://www.xbrl.org/in).

The role of ICAI as a neutral facilitator of XBRL India Jurisdiction in India is to assist the regulators and users of the financial statements by:

- Developments of XBRL taxonomies.
- Maintenance and updation of the XBRL Taxonomies from time to time as per the requirements and any revisions in the Accounting Standards and changes in laws and regulations.
- Ensure compliance of taxonomies with Companies Act 1956.
- ICAI shall also update the existing taxonomies as per the requirements of the IFRSs on implementation of IFRSs in India.

## Indian Taxonomies

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As mentioned earlier, that the taxonomies are developed by the accounting standard setter. accordingly the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI), the accounting standard setter in India has developed two taxonomies viz., the Commercial and Industrial (C&I) Taxonomy and the Banking Taxonomy as of now. Taxonomy on NBFCs is also under development. These taxonomies are based on the I GAAP. As and when there are changes in the standards or in the company law, the taxonomy needs to be updated.

The Commercial & Industrial (C&I) Taxonomy is general purpose taxonomy (core taxonomy) and can be used by the entire Commercial & Industrial companies. This taxonomy has been developed to enable companies to prepare their financial statements, viz., Profit and Loss Statement, Balance Sheet and Cash Flow Statement in XBRL format, based on the requirements of the Accounting Standards and Indian company law while adopting the architectural features of the IFRS general purpose Taxonomy 2006. This taxonomy had been exposed for public comments and includes the requirements under Clause 41 of the Listing Agreement. This taxonomy has also been acknowledged by XBRL International. An expert group comprising of industry experts was also constituted to review the taxonomy.

Banking Taxonomy is an extension to the core Indian XBRL C&I taxonomy. The banking specific elements have been added to the core schema. The schema file contains all the element declarations along with the XBRL properties (including the elements of C&I taxonomy). The references for authoritative texts for the banking elements are maintained separately. Around 1200 elements (including abstract elements) have been additionally defined for banks. An Expert Group under the convenorship of the member from RBI on the Steering Committee of the erstwhile Jurisdiction was constituted to develop and review the taxonomy for Banks. The XBRL International (XII) has acknowledged XBRL banking taxonomy. This taxonomy also covers the Financial Statements, viz., Balance Sheet, Statement of Profit and Loss, Cash Flow Statement, accounting policies and disclosure requirements. The taxonomy has been developed conforming to Indian Accounting Standards, requirements of Clause 41 of Listing Agreement, Banking Regulation Act and RBI Circulars.

In order to provide access to the industry - specific requirements, an entry point is created in the taxonomy. This enables the user to access to the points which are relevant to ones area. For example, for SMC's a specific entry point has been created in C&I Taxonomy. This means that

## **Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL)**

the user shall go through the elements applicable to SMC's only rather than going through the whole taxonomy.

## **Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) Taxonomy**

The base taxonomy of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) is the C & I taxonomy developed by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI). It has been modified to meet the reporting requirements of MCA for the companies. The specific requirements of MCA have been added to the base taxonomy. The taxonomy was hosted on the MCA's website as an exposure draft open for public comments. The validation rules for the filler are still under preparation.

The Ministry of Corporate Affairs has issued a Circular (General Circular No. 09/2011) issued on March 31, 2011 to mandate financial reporting in XBRL format from the year 2010-2011.

The companies affected by the mandate are:

- Companies listed in India and their subsidiaries, and having a paid up capital of Rs. 5 crore and above or a Turnover of Rs 100 crore or above

However, Banking, Insurance, NBFCs and Power sector companies have been excluded from the preview of the above said circular.

## **Meeting the MCA Mandate**

1. Understanding the MCA taxonomy – Identifying the most suitable element of the taxonomy to the line item of the financial statement to be filled.
2. Creation of instance document – Mapping the taxonomy elements to the financial statements.

Submitting to MCA – The filing platform of the regulator would have some additional validation in place so as to ensure that the filer has submitted the required taxonomy.

# Regulators in India and XBRL

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## Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA)

As mentioned earlier in the material, the initiatives of XBRL in India have been supported by the regulators. However, the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) is the first regulator to mandate filings in XBRL formats from the companies. It has through a recent circular mandated filling in XBRL formats from a certain class of companies.

## Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) as a part of online filing of returns, also felt the need for adoption of best international technology solution for its reporting requirements from banks. The RBI embarked on a plan to migrate the entire bank regulatory reporting into an XBRL framework in a phased manner. The capital adequacy returns based on Basel II norms was the first return to be XBRLised. With the aim of keeping the reporting simpler for banks and at the same time leveraging the benefits of XBRL reporting, it was decided to develop a user friendly software (that does not expose the XBRL tags), which would be supplied by RBI itself, and used by the banks to file information i.e. the filers are not exposed to taxonomy rather they fill in the details in a normal Excel format. In the year 2008, RBI launched the XBRL based reporting system for Capital Adequacy returns. The XBRL reporting framework is now steadily being extended to encompass other returns. Some of the forms which are XBRLised are Form-RCA 2 (Liquidity Returns) and GPB Return (Gap Position and Balances).

As per the RBI press release dated August 14, 2008 and December 17, 2008, the RBI stated that it could bring down the number of returns from 291 to 225 with the use of XBRL. The taxonomies used for these returns have the core taxonomy as C&I developed by ICAI, which has been extended appropriately.

## Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI)

SEBI is putting in place a unified regulatory filing system for all listed companies and market entities in a standardized format to enable dissection of bulky documents for relevant information without any delay. Besides disseminating the information on real-time basis to investors and others, the XBRL technology-based new system will also help SEBI itself as also other regulatory and investigative agencies in monitoring any irregularities in the affairs of companies and market

## Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL)

intermediaries. In addition to mandatory regulatory filings to be made under listing agreements and other regulations, the entities would have to use the new XBRL-based platform for all their reporting purposes to the regulator. It is currently in the process of finalizing the technology provider for the system. It has also developed taxonomy for Mutual Funds.

## Stock Exchanges

The leading stock exchanges of India, Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) and National Stock Exchange (NSE) have migrated to XBRL from paper based model. They offer a unified electronic platform, popularly known as 'Corpfilings' system, which enables the Companies listed in either or both of the exchanges to electronically file their disclosures. The system helps the investors get real-time access.

## XBRL in India

2011	MCA mandates XBRL filing
2010	SEBI develops Mutual Fund taxonomy Indian taxonomies acknowledged by XII India attains the status of 'Established Jurisdiction' of XBRL International
2009	India becomes provisional jurisdiction of XBRL International
2008	RBI XBRL based filing platform for Capital Adequacy Returns ICAI develops XBRL taxonomy based on Indian GAAP
2007	XBRL based filing platform adopted by BSE and NSE ICAI constitutes XBRL High Level Group



## About XBRL International (XII)

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XBRL International is a not for profit consortium of approximately 650 companies and agencies worldwide working together to build the XBRL language and promote and support its adoption. The consortium members meet periodically in international conferences, conduct committee work regularly via conference calls, and communicate in email and phone calls throughout the week.

This collaborative effort began in 1998 and has produced a variety of specifications and taxonomies to support the goal of providing a standard, XML-based language for digitizing business reports in accordance with the rules of accounting in each country or with other reporting regimes such as banking regulation or performance benchmarking.

XBRL International has released the following specifications. These are rules which help in eradicating communication gap, so that the information is easily understood who hear or read about it.

1. XBRL 2.1 specification – it defines the syntax, how should XBRL documents be structured and in what format they should be. It is similar to HTML creation rules, every XBRL document must be constructed in compliance with 2.1 specifications. The XBRL International releases various version of the specification from time to time.
2. FRTA – Financial Reporting Taxonomy Architecture – Lays down the rules for construction of the taxonomies. The Indian taxonomy is based on IFRS architecture 2006.
3. FRIS – Financial Reporting Instance Standards – Lays down the rules for construction of instance documents.
4. Dimensions Specification 1.0 – Lays down the rules as to how the dimensional information is modelled and constructed.
5. Formula Specification 1.0 – How formulae's are created and rules including the syntax that has to be created.
6. Inline XBRL (Rendering) Specification – What will be the syntax rules for inline XBRL documents.

The XBRL international has local jurisdictions across the globe viz. USA, UK, Japan, China, Australia, India etc. which focus on the progress of XBRL in their region.

## Major XBRL Implementations

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### United States (US)

US Securities regulator, Securities and Exchange commission have mandated XBRL for corporate filers and mutual funds to submit information in interactive data in a phased manner. The phased manner for corporate filers is summarized in the below table.

Who will file?	What to be filed?
Domestic and Foreign Large Accelerated Filers Using U.S. GAAP with market capitalization above \$5 Billion	Form 10-Q or annual report on Form 20-F or Form 40-F containing financial statements for a fiscal period ending on or after June 15, 2009.
All Other Large Accelerated Filers Using U.S. GAAP with market capitalization above \$700 Million or more	Form 10-Q or annual report on Form 20-F or Form 40-F containing financial statements for a fiscal period ending on or after June 15, 2010.
All Remaining Filers Using U.S. GAAP	Quarterly report on Form 10-Q or annual report on Form 20-F or Form 40-F containing financial statements for a fiscal period ending on or after June 15, 2011.
Foreign Private Issuers with Financial Statements Prepared in Accordance with IFRS as Issued By the IASB	Annual reports on Form 20-F or Form 40-F for fiscal periods ending on or after June 15, 2011.

UGT (US GAAP Taxonomy) is the most comprehensive taxonomy in XBRL world available to the filers to comply with SEC Interactive Data Mandate, the current version of taxonomy i.e. 2011 (approved by SEC) has about 16,500 elements, and it has predefined hypercubes, dimensions, domain and members. In addition the taxonomy also allows the users to create custom elements and relationships.

Structure: Taxonomy has been modularized, it is broadly divided into GAAP and Non-GAAP, the GAAP is further subdivided into Statements (Financial Statements) and Disclosures (Notes to Accounts). Further the taxonomy also consists of five entry points, comprising of;

Commercial and Industrial

## Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL)

Banking and Saving Institutions

Broker and Dealer

Insurance

Real Estate

All the entry points are linked together with a master schema file, which allows users to select the elements of their choices in case the company has diversified business. It has wide variety of tags available for tagging numeric values, dates and narratives/textual information. Taxonomy is easy to use from the perspective, that each element has "Documentation" (definition of the concept) which gives users an idea as to whether the concept is appropriate or not. The concepts in US GAAP Taxonomy also contain the references with hyperlinks (for the exact reference, known as codification)

GAAP extended links are divided into "Statements" and "Disclosures" whereas Non-GAAP comprises of Document and Entity Information, Country, Currency, Exchanges, Industry classification etc.

### United Kingdom (UK)

XBRL UK Limited is the UK arm of the XBRL International consortium. It is dedicated to advancing the use of XBRL in the United Kingdom. In February 2006, Companies House, the official body which receives company financial statements in the UK, started receiving accounts in XBRL. After gaining experience of XBRL with this project for small company filing, both Companies House and the UK Revenue and Customs implemented XBRL in their reporting requirement. In December 2009, XBRL UK has released UK Banking taxonomy to support reporting in XBRL by financial organizations filing under IFRS regulations. The UK-Banking taxonomy was an extension to the main UK-IFRS taxonomy. The Banking taxonomy provides a presentation view of the taxonomy tailored to the needs of banking and finance companies. In January 2010, XBRL UK has released a final version of its UK-IFRS taxonomy with additional data for specific industry sectors. This includes a banking and finance extension which provides views of taxonomy content specifically adapted for the finance sector. The main taxonomy also contains sections for mining, oil and gas industry sectors as well as supporting the main reporting requirements for ordinary commercial and industrial companies under IFRS in the UK. The taxonomy covers primary statements and notes to accounts.

### Australia

While the history of XBRL development started in the US, the earliest XBRL implementation took place in Australia. The Australian Prudential Regulatory Authority (APRA) is the first banking regulator in the world to use XBRL to monitor the financial well being of 12,000 banks, credit unions, insurance companies, and superannuation funds in Australia. APRA adopted XBRL in

## **Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL)**

February 2002 and developed taxonomy for their-own needs. Standard Business Reporting (SBR) is an Australian Government initiative to reduce the business-to-government reporting burden by 25% or more by:

- removing unnecessary/duplicated information from government forms
- adopting a common reporting language, based on international standards and best practice providing business with a single secure online sign-on to the agencies involved
- utilizing business software to automatically pre-fill government forms
- providing an electronic interface to enable business to report to government agencies directly from their accounting software, which will provide validation and confirm receipt of reports – making financial reporting to government a by-product of natural business processes.

## **China**

The Ministry of Finance, jointly with the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, People's Bank of China, National Audit Office, State Assets Supervision and Administration Commission, State Administration of Taxation, China Banking Regulatory Commission, China Securities Regulatory Commission and China Insurance Regulatory Commission founded the XBRL China. China Securities Regulatory Commission (CSRC) uses XBRL to collect information from those they regulate. Shenzhen Stock Exchange has started using XBRL to collect financial information of listed companies. China started its voluntary XBRL filing program in 2003. China became the first country to mandate XBRL reporting, which affected about 1,400 companies listed on the Shanghai Stock Exchange (SSE) and on the Shenzhen Stock Exchange. Since 2007, SSE started a pilot program for XBRL-based information delivery for securities investment funds. Moreover, SSE recently launched "XBRL Online" on its website for users to access to XBRL-based information services to view annual reports of listed companies and compare with industry peers.

## **Japan**

XBRL filings are available with Bank of Japan, Tokyo Stock Exchange and Japan Tax agency. Taxonomy alignment program is underway between IASB, US SEC and Japanese Financial Services Agency on interoperability of Japanese taxonomy with IFRS and US GAAP taxonomies. Initiatives are underway for single filing solution between Bank of Japan, Tax Agency and Tokyo Stock Exchange to reduce compliance cost for filers. Since XBRL filing was made mandatory in April 2008, over 3,000 Japanese listed companies have provided the Financial Service Authority of Japan with their periodic statements through the EDINET system. Most of the filed information is also available on TDNet, the Tokyo Stock Exchange system.

## **Malaysia**

In September 2009, Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) has invited consulting firms to provide

## **Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL)**

consultancy services to develop strategy, approach, framework and roadmap for the implementation of the Integrated Statistical System (ISS). Propose a framework for the new statistical submission system that accommodates data submission by various types and sizes of FIs. The framework should cover, among others, the Adoption of the XML reporting language such as Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL)

### **Singapore**

The use of XBRL in Singapore is currently driven by the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority (ACRA). ACRA developed and launched the online tool called the "FS Manager" on 1 May 2007 to enable companies to prepare their financial statements in XBRL for mandatory filing with ACRA with effect from 1 November 2007. The FS Manager which essentially is a guided template, can also produce a Portable Document Format (PDF) version of the financial statements for tabling at the companies' annual general meetings or other purposes. In January 2010, ACRA (Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority) launched Open Analytics, an online financial analysis tool that provides business users with access to financial information from Singapore companies that has been filed using ACRA's online submission tool, FS Manager. Open Analytics also enables interactive analysis of large volumes of data using dynamic business intelligence to benchmark companies' performance. ACRA is currently in the process of implementing improvements to the ACRA Taxonomy and FS Manager. These improvements were completed in March 2010. This follows the completion of an independent review of submitted XBRL financial statements. ACRA is currently the only organization in Singapore to implement XBRL filing. Corporate financial statements filed using IFRS-aligned Singapore financial reporting standards have been submitted in XBRL format since November 2007 using the IFRS-based ACRA Taxonomy.

### **Belgium**

Belgian non-financial companies use XBRL for the drawing up of their statutory annual accounts to be filed with the National Bank (Central Balance Sheet Office - CBSO) in the form of XBRL-instance documents. The CBSO receives currently more than 95% of all the annual accounts filed in XBRL format. Since February 2010, XBRL instance documents are available for consultation on the website of the National bank of Belgium [www.nbb.be](http://www.nbb.be) The National Bank of Belgium (NBB) and the Banking, Finance and Insurance Commission (CBFA) have developed Belgian extensions to the European FINREP and COREP taxonomies. The NBB and the CBFA have mandated XBRL for Basle II, pillar I (COREP) and pillar II reporting started January 2008. FINREP reports filed since the 3rd quarter of 2007 with a quarterly frequency. In Oct 2009 Directorate-general Statistics and Economic Information of the Federal Public Service Economy, SMEs, independent Professions and Energy (former National Institute for Statistics) had developed an XBRL application and taxonomy allowing companies file Structural Business Statistics. In Nov 2009, Federal Public Service Finance published a draft taxonomy for income tax returns for Belgian and foreign companies and non-profit organizations. The new reporting system has also been introduced in 2011.

## Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL)

General Circular No. 09/2011

17/70/2011 –CL.V  
Government of India  
Ministry of Corporate Affairs

5th Floor, A Wing, Shastri Bhavan,  
Dr. R.P. Road, New Delhi  
Dated the 31.03.2011

To

All Regional Directors  
All Registrar of Companies

**Subject: Filing of Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Account in eXtensible  
Business Reporting Language( XBRL) mode.**

It has been decided by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs to mandate certain class of companies to file balance sheets and profit and loss account for the year 2010-11 onwards by using XBRL taxonomy. The Financial Statements required to be filed in XBRL format would be based upon the Taxonomy on XBRL developed for the existing Schedule VI, as per the existing, (non converged) Accounting Standards notified under the Companies (Accounting Standards) Rules, 2006. The said Taxonomy is being hosted on the website of the Ministry at [www.mca.gov.in](http://www.mca.gov.in) shortly. The **Frequently Asked Questions** ( FAQs ) about XBRL have been framed by the Ministry and they are being annexed as Annexure I with this circular for the information and easy understanding of the stakeholders.

### **Coverage in Phase I**

2. The following class of companies have to file the Financial Statements in XBRL Form only from the year 2010-2011 :-

- (i) All companies listed in India and their subsidiaries, including overseas subsidiaries;
- (ii) All companies having a paid up capital of Rs. 5 Crore and above or a Turnover of Rs 100 crore or above .

## **Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL)**

### **Additional Fee Exemption**

3. All companies falling in Phase -I are permitted to file upto 30-09-2011 without any additional filing fee.

### **Training Requirement**

4. Stakeholders desirous to have training on the XBRL or on taxonomy related issues, may contact the persons as mentioned in Annexure II.

(J.N. Tikku)  
Joint Director  
Tel: 011-23381295

## Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL)

### Annexure I

## Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. What is XBRL?

XBRL is a language for the electronic communication of business and financial data which is revolutionizing business reporting around the world. It provides major benefits in the preparation, analysis and communication of business information. It offers cost savings, greater efficiency and improved accuracy and reliability to all those involved in supplying or using financial data. XBRL stands for eXtensible Business Reporting Language. It is already being put to practical use in a number of countries and implementations of XBRL are growing rapidly around the world.

### 2. Who developed XBRL?

XBRL is an open, royalty-free software specification developed through a process of collaboration between accountants and technologists from all over the world. Together, they formed XBRL International which is now made up of over 650 members, which includes global companies, accounting, technology, government and financial services bodies. XBRL is and will remain an open specification based on XML that is being incorporated into many accounting and analytical software tools and applications.

### 3. What are the advantages of XBRL?

XBRL offers major benefits at all stages of business reporting and analysis. The benefits are seen in automation, cost saving, faster, more reliable and more accurate handling of data, improved analysis and in better quality of information and decisionmaking. XBRL enables producers and consumers of financial data to switch resources away from costly manual processes, typically involving time-consuming comparison, assembly and re-entry of data. They are able to concentrate effort on analysis, aided by software which can validate and process XBRL information. XBRL is a flexible language, which is intended to support all current aspects of reporting in different countries and industries. Its extensible nature means that it can be adjusted to meet particular business requirements, even at the individual organization level.

### 4. Who can benefit from using XBRL?

All types of organizations can use XBRL to save costs and improve efficiency in handling business and financial information. Because XBRL is extensible and flexible, it can be adapted to a wide variety of different requirements. All participants in the financial information supply chain can benefit, whether they are preparers, transmitters or users of business data.

### 5. What is the future of XBRL?

XBRL is set to become the standard way of recording, storing and transmitting business financial information. It is capable of use throughout the world, whatever the language of the country



## **Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL)**

concerned, for a wide variety of business purposes. It will deliver major cost savings and gains in efficiency, improving processes in companies, governments and other organisations.

### **6. Does XBRL benefit the comparability of financial statements?**

XBRL benefits comparability by helping to identify data which is genuinely alike and distinguishing information which is not comparable. Computers can process this information and populate both pre defined and customised reports.

### **7. Does XBRL cause a change in accounting standards?**

No. XBRL is simply a language for information. It must accurately reflect data reported under different standards – it does not change them.

### **8. What are the benefits to a company from putting its financial statements into XBRL?**

XBRL increases the usability of financial statement information. The need to re-key financial data for analytical and other purposes can be eliminated. By presenting its statements in XBRL, a company can benefit investors and other stakeholders and enhance its profile. It will also meet the requirements of regulators, lenders and others consumers of financial information, who are increasingly demanding reporting in XBRL. This will improve business relations and lead to a range of benefits.

With full adoption of XBRL, companies can automate data collection. For example, data from different company divisions with different accounting systems can be assembled quickly, cheaply and efficiently. Once data is gathered in XBRL, different types of reports using varying subsets of the data can be produced with minimum effort. A company finance division, for example, could quickly and reliably generate internal management reports, financial statements for publication, tax and other regulatory filings, as well as credit reports for lenders. Not only can data handling be automated, removing time-consuming, error-prone processes, but the data can be checked by software for accuracy.

### **9. How does XBRL work?**

XBRL makes the data readable, with the help of two documents – Taxonomy and instance document. Taxonomy defines the elements and their relationships based on the regulatory requirements. Using the taxonomy prescribed by the regulators, companies need to map their reports, and generate a valid XBRL instance document. The process of mapping means matching the concepts as reported by the company to the corresponding element in the taxonomy. In addition to assigning XBRL tag from taxonomy, information like unit of measurement, period of data, scale of reporting etc., needs to be included in the instance document.

## **Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL)**

### **10. How do companies create statements in XBRL?**

There are a number of ways to create financial statements in XBRL:

- XBRL-aware accounting software products are becoming available which will support the export of data in XBRL form. These tools allow users to map charts of accounts and other structures to XBRL tags.
- Statements can be mapped into XBRL using XBRL software tools designed for this purpose
- Data from accounting databases can be extracted in XBRL format. It is not strictly necessary for an accounting software vendor to use XBRL; third party products can achieve the transformation of the data to XBRL.
- Applications can transform data in particular formats into XBRL. The route which an individual company may take will depend on its requirements and the accounting software and systems it currently uses, among other factors.

### **11. Is India a member of XBRL International?**

India is now an established jurisdiction of XBRL International. A separate company, under section 25 has been created, to manage the operations of XBRL India. The main objectives of XBRL India are

- To create awareness about XBRL in India
- To develop and maintain Indian Taxonomies
- To help companies, adopt and implement XBRL.

For more information, visit [www.xbrl.org/in](http://www.xbrl.org/in)

### **12. Which taxonomies developed for Indian reporting requirements? Where can I find the taxonomies?**

Taxonomies for Indian companies are developed based on the requirements of

- Schedule VI of Companies Act,
- Accounting Standards, issued by ICAI
- SEBI Listing requirements.

Taxonomies for Manufacturing and service sector (referred as Commercial and Industrial, or C&I) and Banking sector, is acknowledged by XBRL International. These taxonomies are available at <http://www.xbrl.org/in/>

## Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL)

### 13. Where can I find more information about XBRL?

Please visit [www.xbrl.org](http://www.xbrl.org) . Also Ministry of Corporate Affairs would be shortly developing its webpage on XBRL with list of contact persons for training purposes.

### 14. What are XBRL Documents?

An XBRL document comprises the taxonomy and the instance document. Taxonomy contains description and classification of business & financial terms, while the instance document is made up of the actual facts and figures. Taxonomy and Instance document together make up the XBRL documents.

### 15. What is Taxonomy?

Taxonomy can be referred as an electronic dictionary of the reporting concepts. Taxonomy consists of all the data definitions, the basic XBRL properties and the interrelationships amongst the concepts. It includes terms such as net income, EPS, cash, etc. Each term has specific attributes that help define it, including label and definition and potentially references. Taxonomies may represent hundreds or even thousands of individual business reporting concepts, mathematical and definitional relationships among them, along with text labels in multiple languages, references to authoritative literature, and information about how to display each concept to a user.

### 16. What is meant by extending taxonomy?

Taxonomy is extended to accommodate items/relationship specific to the owner of the information. Taxonomy extension therefore can be

- a) Modification in the existing relationships
- b) Addition of new elements in the taxonomy
- c) Combination both a & b

### 17. Are Taxonomies based on any standards?

Yes, taxonomies are based on the regulatory requirements and standards which are to be followed by the companies. Accordingly, depending on the requirements of every country, there can be country-specific taxonomies.

### 18. What is an Instance document?

An XBRL instance document is a business report in an electronic format created according to the rules of XBRL. It contains facts that are defined by the elements in the taxonomy it refers to, together with their values and an explanation of the context in which they are placed. XBRL Instances contain the reported data with their values and "contexts". Instance document must be linked to at least one taxonomy, which defines the contexts, labels or references.

## **Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL)**

Thus, in order to concluded the usage and explain the XBRL technology which leads to more information exchanges that can be effectively automated by use. This one standard approach leads to the best interest of the company or more so for the international business interests globally that warrant the accuracy of all the financial data for the end users and early collaborative decisions by the companies or those whose interst is involved for acquisition/ rights etc.

## Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL)

### Annexure II

- (i) Smt. Nirupama Kotru, Director  
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Dr.R.P. Road, New Delhi  
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- (ii) Dr. Avinash Chandra, Technical Director  
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Email: avinash@icai.org
- (iii) Shri Pankaj Srivastava, Joint Director  
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- (iv) Dr. Surinder Pal,  
Secretary, Committee on Members in Industry (CMII),  
The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India,  
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Contact No. 011-30110450
- (v) Mr. N.K. Bansal, Secretary,  
Continuing Professional Education (CPE),  
The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India,  
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Contact No. 0120-3045957

**Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL)**

**General Circular No. 25/2011**

Corrigendum to Circular no. 09/2011 dated 31.03.2011

17/70/2011-CL.V  
Government of India  
Ministry of Corporate Affairs

5th Floor, A Wing, Shastri Bhavan,  
Dr. R.P. Road, New Delhi  
Dated the 12.05.2011

To

All Regional Directors  
All Registrar of Companies

**Subject: Filing of Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Account in eXtensible  
Business Reporting Language( XBRL) mode.**

The undersigned is to draw the attention on the Circular No. 9/2011 dated 31.3.2011 of this Ministry on the subject cited above. The following errata has been noticed which is rectified as under:-

2. In the said circular for clauses (i) and (ii) of paragraph 2 under the Heading Coverage in Phase I, the following shall be substituted and read as :-

"(i) All companies listed in India and their subsidiaries, having paid up capital of Rs. 5 Crore and above or a turnover of Rs. 100 crore or above, excluding banking companies, insurance companies, power companies, Non Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) and overseas subsidiaries of these companies."

(J.N. Tikku)  
Joint Director  
Tel: 011-23381295

**Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL)**

**General Circular 37/2011**

17/70/2011 -CI.V  
Government of India  
Ministry of Corporate Affairs

5<sup>h</sup> Floor, A Wing, Shastri Bhavan,  
Dr. R.P. Road, New Delhi  
Dated the 07.06.2011

To

All Regional Directors  
All Registrar of Companies

**Subject: Filing of Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Account in extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL) mode.**

In supersession of this Ministry's Circular no. 9/2011 dated 31.03.2011 and 25/2011 dated 12.05.2011, Ministry of Corporate Affairs hereby mandated certain class of companies to file Balance sheets and Profit and loss Account alongwith Director's and Auditor's Report for the year 2010-11 onwards by using XBRL taxonomy. The Taxonomy Business Rules, Validity tools etc required for preparation the above documents in XBRL format as the existing Schedule VI and Accounting Standards notified under the Companies (Accounting Standards) Rules, 2006 have been prepared and hosted on the website of the Ministry at [www.mca.gov.in](http://www.mca.gov.in). The **Frequently Asked Questions** ( FAQs ) about XBRL have been framed by the Ministry and they are being annexed as Annexure I with this circular for the information and easy understanding of the stakeholders. To enable filing on XBRL by stakeholders, MCA-21 portal will have XBRL filing module by July, 2011. Actual date will be informed separately.

**Coverage in Phase I**

2. The following class of companies have to file the Financial Statements in XBRL Form only from the year 2010-2011 :-

- (i) All companies listed in India and their Indian subsidiaries;
- (ii) All companies having a paid up capital of Rs. 5 Crore and above
- (iii) All companies having a turnover of Rs 100 crore and above.

However banking companies, insurance companies, power companies and Non Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) are exempted for XBRL filing, till further orders.

## **Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL)**

### **Additional Fee Exemption**

3. All companies falling in Phase -I whose Balance Sheets are adopted in the Annual General Meeting held before 30.09.2011 are permitted to file upto 30-09-2011 without any additional filing fee. However, where companies hold the Annual General Meeting in the month of September 2011, they will file the Balance Sheet within 30 days from the date of adoption in the General Meeting as per section 220 of the Companies Act, 1956.

### **Training Requirement**

4. Stakeholders desirous to have training on the XBRL or on taxonomy related issues, may contact the persons as mentioned in Annexure II.

(J.N. Tikku)  
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Annexure I

## Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. What is XBRL?

XBRL is a language for the electronic communication of business and financial data which is revolutionizing business reporting around the world. It provides major benefits in the preparation, analysis and communication of business information. It offers cost savings, greater efficiency and improved accuracy and reliability to all those involved in supplying or using financial data. XBRL stands for eXtensible Business Reporting Language. It is already being put to practical use in a number of countries and implementations of XBRL are growing rapidly around the world.

### 2. Who developed XBRL?

XBRL is an open, royalty-free software specification developed through a process of collaboration between accountants and technologists from all over the world. Together, they formed XBRL International which is now made up of over 650 members, which includes global companies, accounting, technology, government and financial services bodies. XBRL is and will remain an open specification based on XML that is being incorporated into many accounting and analytical software tools and applications.

### 3. What are the advantages of XBRL?

XBRL offers major benefits at all stages of business reporting and analysis. The benefits are seen in automation, cost saving, faster, more reliable and more accurate handling of data, improved analysis and in better quality of information and decisionmaking. XBRL enables producers and consumers of financial data to switch resources away from costly manual processes, typically involving time-consuming comparison, assembly and re-entry of data. They are able to concentrate effort on analysis, aided by software which can validate and process XBRL information. XBRL is a flexible language, which is intended to support all current aspects of reporting in different countries and industries. Its extensible nature means that it can be adjusted to meet particular business requirements, even at the individual organization level.

### 4. Who can benefit from using XBRL?

All types of organizations can use XBRL to save costs and improve efficiency in handling business and financial information. Because XBRL is extensible and flexible, it can be adapted to a wide variety of different requirements. All participants in the financial information supply chain can benefit, whether they are preparers, transmitters or users of business data.

### 5. What is the future of XBRL?

XBRL is set to become the standard way of recording, storing and transmitting business financial information. It is capable of use throughout the world, whatever the language of the country

## **Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL)**

concerned, for a wide variety of business purposes. It will deliver major cost savings and gains in efficiency, improving processes in companies, governments and other organisations.

### **6. Does XBRL benefit the comparability of financial statements?**

XBRL benefits comparability by helping to identify data which is genuinely alike and distinguishing information which is not comparable. Computers can process this information and populate both pre defined and customised reports.

### **7. Does XBRL cause a change in accounting standards?**

No. XBRL is simply a language for information. It must accurately reflect data reported under different standards – it does not change them.

### **8. What are the benefits to a company from putting its financial statements into XBRL?**

XBRL increases the usability of financial statement information. The need to re-key financial data for analytical and other purposes can be eliminated. By presenting its statements in XBRL, a company can benefit investors and other stakeholders and enhance its profile. It will also meet the requirements of regulators, lenders and others consumers of financial information, who are increasingly demanding reporting in XBRL. This will improve business relations and lead to a range of benefits.

With full adoption of XBRL, companies can automate data collection. For example, data from different company divisions with different accounting systems can be assembled quickly, cheaply and efficiently. Once data is gathered in XBRL, different types of reports using varying subsets of the data can be produced with minimum effort. A company finance division, for example, could quickly and reliably generate internal management reports, financial statements for publication, tax and other regulatory filings, as well as credit reports for lenders. Not only can data handling be automated, removing time-consuming, error-prone processes, but the data can be checked by software for accuracy.

### **9. How does XBRL work?**

XBRL makes the data readable, with the help of two documents – Taxonomy and instance document. Taxonomy defines the elements and their relationships based on the regulatory requirements. Using the taxonomy prescribed by the regulators, companies need to map their reports, and generate a valid XBRL instance document. The process of mapping means matching the concepts as reported by the company to the corresponding element in the taxonomy. In addition to assigning XBRL tag from taxonomy, information like unit of measurement, period of data, scale of reporting etc., needs to be included in the instance document.

## Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL)

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- To create awareness about XBRL in India
- To develop and maintain Indian Taxonomies
- To help companies, adopt and implement XBRL.

For more information, visit [www.xbrl.org/in](http://www.xbrl.org/in)

### 12. Which taxonomies developed for Indian reporting requirements? Where can I find the taxonomies?

Taxonomies for Indian companies are developed based on the requirements of

- Schedule VI of Companies Act,
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Taxonomies for Manufacturing and service sector (referred as Commercial and Industrial, or C&I) and Banking sector, is acknowledged by XBRL International. These taxonomies are available at <http://www.xbrl.org/in/>

## **Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL)**

### **13. Where can I find more information about XBRL?**

Please visit [www.xbrl.org](http://www.xbrl.org) . Also Ministry of Corporate Affairs would be shortly developing its webpage on XBRL with list of contact persons for training purposes.

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### **15. What is Taxonomy?**

Taxonomy can be referred as an electronic dictionary of the reporting concepts. Taxonomy consists of all the data definitions, the basic XBRL properties and the interrelationships amongst the concepts. It includes terms such as net income, EPS, cash, etc. Each term has specific attributes that help define it, including label and definition and potentially references. Taxonomies may represent hundreds or even thousands of individual business reporting concepts, mathematical and definitional relationships among them, along with text labels in multiple languages, references to authoritative literature, and information about how to display each concept to a user.

### **16. What is meant by extending taxonomy?**

Taxonomy is extended to accommodate items/relationship specific to the owner of the information. Taxonomy extension therefore can be

- a) Modification in the existing relationships
- b) Addition of new elements in the taxonomy
- c) Combination both a & b

### **17. Are Taxonomies based on any standards?**

Yes, taxonomies are based on the regulatory requirements and standards which are to be followed by the companies. Accordingly, depending on the requirements of every country, there can be country-specific taxonomies.

### **18. What is an Instance document?**

An XBRL instance document is a business report in an electronic format created according to the rules of XBRL. It contains facts that are defined by the elements in the taxonomy it refers to, together with their values and an explanation of the context in which they are placed. XBRL Instances contain the reported data with their values and "contexts". Instance document must be linked to at least one taxonomy, which defines the contexts, labels or references.

### **Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL)**

Thus, in order to concluded the usage and explain the XBRL technology which leads to more information exchanges that can be effectively automated by use. This one standard approach leads to the best interest of the company or more so for the international business interests globally that warrant the accuracy of all the financial data for the end users and early collaborative decisions by the companies or those whose interest is involved for acquisition/ rights etc.

## Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL)

### Annexure II

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- (iv) Dr. Surinder Pal,  
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- (v) Mr. N.K. Bansal, Secretary,  
Continuing Professional Education (CPE),  
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Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL)

**Annexure “A”**

S.No.	Generic validations
1	In tree structure, it shall be validated that the parent element is derived based on the value in child elements (applicable only if amount entered is not zero). It should be mandatory to enter atleast one child element if parent element is entered and vice-versa. This validation shall be applicable only for those elements where calculation link bases are applicable.
2	In case element for number of shares is entered then corresponding elements like face value, total value, value etc. should be mandatory to enter and vice-versa.
3	Inclusion of images/ charts/ graphs etc. shall not be allowed in the instance document.
4	If any financial element is entered in current year then it shall be mandatory to enter corresponding previous year. This rule shall not be applicable in case of the balance sheet/ profit and loss account in respect of first financial year of the company. In case any financial element is entered for the previous year then corresponding value for current year should be entered.
5	In elements having data type as 'Monetary'; values upto maximum 2 decimal places shall be allowed.
6	Reporting currency should be INR in case of all financial elements except for the elements in Details of subsidiary.
7	<p>All dates entered in the instance document should be greater than the date of incorporation of the filing company except for the following:</p> <p>Start Date Of Accounting Period Of Subsidiary</p> <p>End Date Of Accounting Period Of Subsidiary</p> <p>Date Of Birth Of Director</p>
8	<p>Following extended links shall not be applicable in case of previous financial year and consolidated instance document:</p> <p>Disclosures - Signatories of balance sheet</p> <p>Disclosures - Directors report</p> <p>Notes - Directors Remueration and Other Information</p>

## Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL)

S.No.	Generic validations
	<p>Notes - Subsidiary Information</p> <p>Notes - Amalgamation</p>
9	<p>Following extended links shall not be applicable in case of previous financial year:</p> <p>Disclosures - Auditors report</p> <p>Notes - Investments in Associates</p> <p>Notes - Investments in joint-ventures</p> <p>General Information About Financial Statements (Except for the following elements- Period Covered By Financial Statements; Date Of Start Of Reporting Period; Date Of End Of Reporting Period)</p>
10	<p>Extended link for GeneralInformationAboutFinancialStatements shall not be applicable in case of consolidated instance document except for the following elements :</p> <p>Disclosure Of Company Information Abstract</p> <p>Name Of Company</p> <p>Corporate Identity Number</p> <p>Type Of Industry</p> <p>Period Covered By Financial Statements</p> <p>Date Of Start Of Reporting Period</p> <p>Date Of End Of Reporting Period</p> <p>Nature Of Report Standalone Consolidated</p> <p>Content Of Report</p> <p>Description Of Presentation Currency</p> <p>Level Of Rounding Used In Financial Statements</p> <p>Type Of Balance Sheet</p> <p>Type Of Income Statement</p> <p>Type Of Cash Flow Statement</p>



**Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL)**

S.No.	Generic validations
	Values entered in these elements (except for Nature Of Report Stand alone Consolidated) should be same in standalone instance document and consolidated instance document.
11	<p>In case of Tuples, if any element is entered then other elements in that tuple shall be mandatory to enter. This shall be applicable to the following elements. However other elements may be entered if applicable.</p> <p>Details of directors-</p> <p>Name, DIN, Date of Birth, Designation, Qualification, Shares held by director, Total salary</p> <p>Details of investment in associates- Name, Country, proportion of ownership, proportion of voting power, description of associate</p> <p>Details of investment in Joint venture- Name, Country, percentage of ownership</p> <p>Details of balances with foreign banks- All elements</p> <p>Acquisition and Disposal of current investments- All elements</p> <p>Details of amounts due to microsmallmediumenterprises- All elements apart from CIN</p> <p>Details of Goods- All elements</p> <p>Details of raw material consumed- All elements</p> <p>Details of every class of share capital issued during period- Type, nature, Aggregate number of shares issued, aggregate amount of issues during period</p> <p>Details of every class of share capital- All elements</p> <p>Details of every class of debentures- All elements other than earliest dae of redemption</p> <p>Details of amalgamation- Name, country, effective date All elements other than CIN</p> <p>Details of secondary segments- All elements</p> <p>Details of primary segments- Name, revenue from segnment, profit and loss attributable to segment, asset attributable to segement, liabilities attributable to segments</p> <p>Details of related party transaction- All elements other than PAN, CIN, Identification number of foreign related party, Nature of issuing authority in country of incorporation or residence,</p> <p>Explanation Of Terms And Conditions Of Outstanding Balances For Related Party Transaction,</p>

## Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL)

S.No.	Generic validations
	<p>Explanation Of Details Of Guarantees Given Or Received Of Outstanding Balances For Related Party</p> <p>Details of manager signing balance sheet- All elements except Second name of manager</p> <p>Details of subsidiaries- Name Of Subsidiary, Country Of Incorporation Or Residence Of Subsidiary,</p> <p>Section Under Which Company Became Subsidiary, Whether Subsidiary Has Filed Balance Sheet,</p> <p>Whether Financial Year of Subsidiary Coincides With Financial Year of Holding Company, Financial Year of Subsidiary Abstract, Start Date Of Accounting Period Of Subsidiary, End Date Of Accounting Period Of Subsidiary, Date Of Becoming Subsidiary, Date Of Ceasing To Be Subsidiary,</p> <p>Number Of Shares Held Of Subsidiary, Face Value Of Shares Of Subsidiary</p> <p>Paid Up Value Of Shares Held Of Subsidiary, Percentage Of Share Holding In Subsidiary, Proportion Of Voting Power In Subsidiary, Key Information About Subsidiary Abstract, Reporting Currency Of Subsidiary,</p> <p>Exchange Rate As Applicable For Subsidiary, Share Capital Of Subsidiary, Reserves And Surplus Of Subsidiary,</p> <p>Total Assets Of Subsidiary, Total Liabilities Of Subsidiary, Investment Of Subsidiary, TotalIncome Of Subsidiary,</p> <p>Profit Before Tax Of Subsidiary, Provision For Tax Of Subsidiary, Profit After Tax Of Subsidiary,</p> <p>Proposed Dividend Of Subsidiary</p> <p>Details of directors signing balance sheet- All elements except Middle name and Last name</p> <p>Details of Principal Products and Services- All elements</p> <p>Details of directors signing Board report- All elements except Middle name and Last name</p> <p>Details regarding Auditors- All elements except name of Audit firm</p>