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March 23, 2021

Division of Corporation Finance U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission 100 F Street, N.E. Washington, D.C. 20549 U.S.A.

Attn: Ted Yu, Esq., Chief, Office of Mergers and Acquisitions

Christina E. Chalk, Esq., Senior Special Counsel, Office of Mergers and Acquisitions

David Plattner, Special Counsel, Office of Mergers and Acquisitions

## Re: <u>Issuer Tender Offer for Shares of NIIT Limited</u>

Dear Mr. Yu, Ms. Chalk, Mr. Plattner:

We are writing on behalf of NIIT Limited, a public limited company incorporated under the laws of India (the "Company"), to request that the staff of the Division of Corporation Finance (the "Staff") of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") grant exemptive relief with respect to Rule 14e-1(a) ("Rule 14e-1(a)") under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"). The exemptive relief requested will permit the Company's proposed issuer partial tender offer for cash (the "Issuer Tender Offer") to remain open for a fixed period of 10 working days¹ in compliance with the applicable laws of India, including the Companies Act, 2013, as amended and Securities and Exchange Board of India (Buy-Back of Securities) Regulations, 2018, as amended (the "Buy-Back Regulations"), that unfortunately conflict with Rule 14e-1(a).

The Issuer Tender Offer concerns the proposed repurchase by the Company of a small portion of its fully paid outstanding equity shares (the "Shares") (up to 6.978% computed on the basis of audited financial statements as of and for the year ended March 31, 2020). The Issuer Tender Offer will not result in a change of control or lead to other corporate transformation of the Company. The Company has appointed JM Financial Limited as the manager for the Issuer Tender Offer (the "Manager") in accordance with the Buy-Back Regulations. The Company is being advised by Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co concerning Indian legal matters for the Issuer Tender Offer and Squire Patton Boggs (US) LLP concerning U.S. legal matters for the Issuer Tender Offer.

In accordance with the Buy-Back Regulations and applicable Indian law and circulars issued by Securities and Exchange Board of India ("SEBI") from time to time, the Company respectfully submits that all holders of the Shares, including those in the U.S., will be provided with information of the Issuer Tender Offer by e-mail or expedited commercial courier service/ registered post at the address maintained by the depositories/ Transfer Agent (defined below) in advance of the 10 working day period during which the Issuer Tender Offer will be open pursuant to the Buy-Back Regulations.

The Company's board of directors approved the Issuer Tender Offer by its resolution dated December 24, 2020 (the "**Board Resolution**") and on January 11, 2021, the Company disseminated a notice via email to all holders of the Shares, including holders of the Shares in the U.S., seeking requisite approval

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Any reference herein to "working days" means a working day of the Securities and Exchange Board of India and reference to "business days" has the meaning set forth in Exchange Act Rule 14d-1(g)(3).

<sup>45</sup> Offices in 20 Countries

of the Company's shareholders for the Issuer Tender Offer (the "Notice"). The shareholders of the Company approved the Issuer Tender Offer on February 10, 2021, i.e., the last date of remote e-voting (the "Shareholders' Approval"). Further, in accordance with the Buy-back Regulations, the Company made the public announcement dated February 15, 2021 which was published on February 16, 2021 in the Financial Express, an English national daily newspaper, and Jansatta, a Hindi national daily newspaper (Hindi also being the regional language where the Company's registered office is located) (the "Public Announcement"). The Company, through the Manager to the Buy-back filed the Public Announcement and draft letter of offer dated February 24, 2021 (the "Draft Letter of Offer") with SEBI. The following matters have been made publicly available on the websites of the National Stock Exchange of India Limited and the BSE Limited (collectively, the "Indian Stock Exchanges"): (i) the outcome of the board meeting held on December 24, 2020 (the "Board Outcome"); (ii) the Notice; and (iii) the Public Announcement. The Public Announcement and the Draft Letter of Offer confirmed that the Issuer Tender Offer will be for up to 9,875,000 Shares at a price of Rs. 240 per Share payable in cash for an aggregate consideration not exceeding Rs. 2,370 million.

In terms of the Buy-Back Regulations, the letter of offer (along with the tender form) for the Issuer Tender Offer (the "Letter of Offer") shall be dispatched to all holders of the Shares by expedited commercial courier service (with delivery expected 48-72 hours) / registered post or email within five working days from the date of receipt of final comments from the SEBI on the Draft Letter of Offer. As per the proposed timeline, the dispatch of the Letter of Offer is expected to occur on or about April 5, 2021, subject to receipt of approval from SEBI. The Company confirms that the Issuer Tender Offer will open on the fifth working day from the date of such dispatch of the Letter of Offer to the holders of the Shares. The opening of the Issuer Tender Offer is expected to occur on or about April 12, 2021. The closure of the Issuer Tender Offer is expected to occur on or about April 28, 2021. Accordingly, between the date of Shareholders' Approval and closure of the Issuer Tender Offer, approximately 48 working days, 52 business days and 77 calendar days are expected to lapse.

## I. Background

- a) The Company is a leading skills and talent development company that operates two lines of business, (i) corporate learning; and (ii) skills and careers training. The Company has footprint in over 30 countries and offers training and development solutions to enterprises, individuals and institutions.
- b) The Shares are listed and traded on the Indian Stock Exchanges. The Company is a "foreign private issuer" as defined in Rule 3b-4(c) under the Exchange Act and is not subject to the reporting requirements of the Exchange Act.
- Prior to making investments in India, every foreign portfolio institutional investor is required c) to register itself with SEBI and obtain a SEBI registration number. The application form prescribed by SEBI for registration of foreign portfolio institutional investors requires it to specify its country of residence or incorporation, establishment or registration. The Company submits that the SEBI registration number includes a code indicating the foreign portfolio institutional investor's country of residence or incorporation, establishment or registration, which is publicly available and is recorded with the name of the foreign portfolio institutional investor in the shareholder records maintained by depositories. Under Regulation 31 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, as amended, the Company is required to submit a breakdown of its holders of Shares by category, including the percentage of Shares held by foreign portfolio institutional investors, to the Indian Stock Exchanges on a quarterly basis. This information is publicly disclosed on the website of the Company and on the websites of the Indian Stock Exchanges and is compiled by the Company's registrar and transfer agent, Alankit Assignments Limited (the "Transfer Agent") on the basis of beneficial shareholding positions provided by the depositories.

- d) As of February 24, 2021, the record date for the Issuer Tender Offer, U.S. holders did not hold more than 40% of the Shares that are the subject of the Issuer Tender Offer, as determined pursuant to Instruction 2 to Exchange Act Rule 14d-1(d) ("Instruction 2"). The Company has calculated the level of U.S. ownership of the Company in accordance with Instruction 2 to Exchange Act Rule 14d-1(d). To ascertain the holders of Shares resident in the U.S. as provided under Exchange Act Rule 12g3-2(a) and Exchange Act Rule 12g5-1, the Company has made inquiries (as explained below) with the Transfer Agent and the depositories to "look through" the shareholding of custodians, brokers and other nominees located in the U.S., India and other jurisdictions to ascertain the amount of Shares held by beneficial holders of Shares resident in the U.S. According to the Company's shareholders list dated as of February 24, 2021 (the "Shareholders List"), the Company had 142,344,984 Shares outstanding (which excludes employee stock options granted by the Company to its employees pursuant to the Company's stock option plan) (the "Undiluted Share Capital"). As of February 24, 2021, the Company's controlling shareholders, held a total of 48,604,637 Shares (amounting to 34.146% of the Undiluted Share Capital). The Company's controlling shareholders are Indian residents who are not U.S. persons. On the basis of information available, a review of the individual shareholders listed on the Company's Shareholders Lists revealed a total of 651,766 Shares held by individuals with U.S. addresses (amounting to 0.46% of the Undiluted Share Capital) and the Company has assumed such holders to be U.S. holders within the meaning of Instruction 2. The depositories have also provided the Company and the Manager with details of the beneficial shareholders, including the number of Shares held by beneficial shareholders resident in India and the identities and number of Shares held by each of the beneficial shareholders designated as foreign portfolio institutional investors. The Company and the Manager have reviewed the country of residence indicated in the relevant foreign portfolio institutional investor's registration number to determine that, as of February 24, 2021, U.S. portfolio institutional investors held 19,225,868 Shares amounting to 13.51% of the Undiluted Share Capital while non-U.S. portfolio institutional investors held 14,027,321 Shares amounting to 9.85% of the Undiluted Share Capital. Aggregating the shareholding percentages of U.S. individual and portfolio institutional shareholders (based on the ownership analysis and on the assumption regarding ownership as described above), the Company estimates that the ownership of Shares by U.S. residents as of February 24, 2021 was an aggregate of 19,877,634 Shares (or 13.96% of the Undiluted Share Capital).
- e) The Company is also a foreign private issuer, as defined in the Exchange Act Rule 3b-4, and meets all other conditions of Exchange Act Rule 14d-1(d)(1). In addition, the Company will comply with all applicable U.S. federal securities laws other than those for which an exemption has been provided. Accordingly, the Company is proceeding on the basis that the Issuer Tender Offer is eligible for the "Tier II" exemption under Exchange Act Rule 14d-1(d).

## II. Discussion

- a) As the Staff knows, Rule 14e-1(a) provides that a tender offer must remain open for a minimum of 20 business days. By contrast, Regulation 9(vi) of the Buy-Back Regulations requires that an issuer tender offer shall remain open for a fixed period of 10 working days. Moreover, Regulation 9(vi) of the Buy-Back Regulations does not allow any reduction or increase of the fixed 10 working days period.
- b) If exemptive relief is granted under Rule 14e-1(a), the Issuer Tender Offer will comply with all Exchange Act requirements applicable to a tender offer eligible (other than those for which an exemption has been provided) under the Tier II exemption. In 2012, SEBI reduced the period for which an issuer tender offer must be held open from 15 30 days to a fixed period of 10

- working days.<sup>2</sup> Now, under Regulation 9(vi) of the Buy-Back Regulations, the Issuer Tender Offer must remain open for public shareholders to accept and tender for a fixed period of 10 working days ("**Tendering Period**") which cannot be reduced or increased.
- c) Pursuant to Regulation 28 of the Buy-Back Regulations ("Regulation 28"), SEBI has the power to relax the strict enforcement of the requirements prescribed under the Buy-Back Regulations, if such requirement is procedural in nature or may cause undue hardship to investors. The Company's Indian counsel has advised that, to the best of their knowledge, SEBI has not granted relaxation from the Tendering Period requirement so as to permit a tender offer to be open for 20 business days in compliance with Rule-14e-1(a) under the Exchange Act. The Company's Indian counsel has further confirmed that, apart from Regulation 28, there is no other applicable legal process in the Buy-Back Regulations under which an applicant may approach SEBI for grant of relaxation from the Tendering Offer Period.
- d) While a request for such an exemption from SEBI has not been made by the Company or the Manager, with respect to the Issuer Tender Offer, based on the fact that SEBI has previously not granted such a relaxation in response to previous requests and has not granted any procedural exemptions in recent years in relation to this aspect of the buyback process as set out under the Buy-Back Regulations, the Company has no reason to expect that SEBI would grant a relaxation in connection with the Issuer Tender Offer, if one were requested.
- e) The Staff has previously issued exemptive relief relating to Rule 14e-1(a) in the case of Indian tender offers. Other instances include: Majesco Limited (available October 30, 2020) Just Dial Limited (available July 24, 2020), Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Limited (available August 1, 2019), Hulst B. V. (available June 13, 2019), Indian Energy Exchange Limited (available March 1, 2019), KPIT Technologies Limited (available June 27, 2019), Just Dial Limited (available November 30, 2018), Mphasis Limited (available November 5, 2018), Redington (India) Limited (available October 16, 2018), HCL Technologies Limited (available September 4, 2018), Mphasis Limited (available April 7, 2017), Sun Pharmaceutical Industries Limited (available July 19, 2016), Marble II Pte. Ltd (available June 28, 2016), Patni Computer Systems Limited (available February 9, 2011) and Satyam Computer Services Limited (available April 28, 2009).
- f) Further, in accordance with Section 68(5) of the Companies Act, 2013, as amended, read with Regulation 4(iv)(a) and Regulation 9(viii) of the Buy-Back Regulations and Regulation 4(2)(c)(i) of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, as amended, the Issuer Tender Offer has to be made to all shareholders of the Company (as on the record date to be notified by the Company) and has been made on equal terms in terms of price per Share payable as part of the Issuer Tender Offer.
- g) In view of paragraph (f) above, U.S. holders of the Shares cannot be excluded from the Issuer Tender Offer or be offered different terms from those offered to non-U.S. holders, including with respect to the fixed period of 10 working days for which the Issuer Tender Offer must be open under the Buy-Back Regulations.
- h) As the Company is required to provide all holders of Shares with the opportunity to participate in the Issuer Tender Offer on equal terms in terms of price per Share payable as part of the Issuer Tender Offer, the Company intends to structure the Issuer Tender Offer as a single worldwide tender offer, including the United States. On December 24, 2020, the Company's board of directors approved the Issuer Tender Offer for cash of up to Rs. 2,370 million with a price of Rs. 240 per Share, representing a 19.76% premium on the closing price of the Shares

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The amendment was pursuant to the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Buy-back of Securities) (Amendment) Regulations, 2012 which came into effect in February 7, 2012.

on the BSE Limited (being Rs. 200.40), and a 19.73% premium on the closing price of the Shares on the National Stock Exchange of India Limited (being Rs. 200.45) as on the date when the board of directors' meeting regarding the proposed Issuer Tender Offer was held and the outcome was communicated to the Indian Stock Exchanges. The Company has fixed the Issuer Tender Offer for up to 9,875,000 equity Shares at a price of Rs. 240 per Share, which the Company undertakes not to change (whether as to price or number of Shares sought). The price of Rs. 240 per Share for Issuer Tender Offer has been determined after considering various factors including, but not limited to the trends in the volume weighted average prices and closing price of the Shares on the Indian Stock Exchanges where the Shares are listed and traded and the impact of the Issuer Tender Offer on the earnings per Share.

- On January 11, 2021, the Company disseminated the Notice to all holders of Shares seeking approval of the shareholders, including holders of Shares in the U.S., to seek the requisite shareholder approval of the Issuer Tender Offer. The Notice contained, amongst other things, information relating to the purposes of the Issuer Tender Offer, the main terms of the Issuer Tender Offer (including the price per Share, the maximum number of Shares sought and summary procedural information), and the source and amount of funds for the Issuer Tender Offer, and Share ownership information, which is similar to the information that would otherwise be provided to U.S. shareholders in connection with a tender offer pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 13e-4. The Notice was provided by e-mail to 66,296 holders of Shares (including U.S. holders of Shares) who had previously registered their e-mail ID with the depositories. On account of the COVID-19 pandemic and in terms of the circulars issued by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India, the Company sent the Notice in electronic form only and physical copies of Notice were not sent to the holders of Shares. Holders of Shares who had not registered their email address with the Company and as a result did not receive the Notice, had an option to have their email address registered by completing the registration process. The procedure for registering an email address was set out in the Notice. All U.S. holders of Shares other than four U.S. holder have registered their email address with the Company. The Notice is also available on the website of the Company and the Indian Stock Exchanges. Further, in accordance with the Buy-Back Regulations and applicable Indian law and circulars issued by SEBI from time to time, the Company respectfully submits that all holders of the Shares, including those in the U.S., will be provided with information of the Issuer Tender Offer by e-mail or expedited commercial courier service/ registered post at the address maintained by the depositories/ Transfer Agent in advance of the 10 working day period during which the offer will be open pursuant to the Buy-Back Regulations.
- Under the Buy-Back Regulations, the Issuer Tender Offer has to open within 24 working days from the declaration of results of the postal ballot for the Issuer Tender Offer, subject to any additional time taken by SEBI for regulatory review of the draft letter of offer to shareholders. As required in terms of Regulation 7(i) of the Buy-Back Regulations, the Company made the Public Announcement of the Issuer Tender Offer within two working days from the declaration of results of the postal ballot for the Issuer Tender Offer. In the Public Announcement, the Company disclosed the price per Share of the Issuer Tender Offer (being, Rs. 240 per Share) and the maximum number of Shares sought in the Issuer Tender Offer (being, up to 9.875.000) Shares). As required, the Public Announcement was published in Financial Express, an English national daily newspaper, and Jansatta, a Hindi national daily newspaper (Hindi also being the regional language where the Company's registered office is located). The Public Announcement is available on the websites of the Company, SEBI and the Indian Stock Exchanges and the Issuer Tender Offer is expected to be the subject of coverage by various news agencies, including Reuters and Bloomberg. On the date the Letter of Offer is dispatched to the shareholders, the Company undertakes to publish a legal notice in the national print edition of a widely circulated publication in the United States, being the Wall Street Journal, disclosing the identity of the Company, price per Share of the Issuer Tender Offer, the maximum number of Shares sought in the Issuer Tender Offer, the 10 working days during

which the Issuer Tender Offer will remain open, that the letter of offer has been sent to shareholders by e-mail or expedited commercial courier service / registered post, and that the Letter of Offer will be available on the website of SEBI at www.sebi.gov.in, the Company at www.niit.com, the Indian Stock Exchanges at www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com and the Tender Offer Transfer Agent at www.linkintime.co.in. As the Issuer Tender Offer will have been publicly announced, it cannot be withdrawn by the Company.

- k) The Company has set February 24, 2021 as the record date for the Issuer Tender Offer and the notice of such record date has been disseminated to the Indian Stock Exchanges and disclosed in the public announcement of the Issuer Tender Offer. Following the Public Announcement of the Issuer Tender Offer, the Company has submitted the Draft Letter of Offer to SEBI for its review on February 24, 2021. Pursuant to Regulation 8(ii) of the Buy-Back Regulations, SEBI may provide its comments on the draft letter of offer no later than seven working days from the date of submission, which time period may be extended should SEBI seek any clarifications or additional information. SEBI has, by its letter dated March 5, 2021, shared certain observations to the Draft Letter of Offer. The Company and the Manager are currently in the process of responding to such observations.
- 1) After SEBI's review of the Draft Letter of Offer has been completed, the Company will provide the Letter of Offer to all holders of Shares at the address registered with the depositories by email or expedited commercial courier service/ registered post or any other permissible mode of communication (wherever e-mails are not available), including holders of Shares in the U.S., within five working days from the date of receipt of communication of final comments from SEBI. As with the Notice provided to the holders of Shares of the Company seeking approval of the Issuer Tender Offer, the Letter of Offer will be provided by e-mail to all holders of Shares, including through custodians in India, where applicable, who have elected to electronically receive shareholder materials from the Company, otherwise a copy of the Letter of Offer will be sent to holders of Shares by expedited commercial courier service/ registered post or any other permissible mode of communication (wherever e-mails are not available). As mentioned in paragraph II(h) above, based on the e-mail addresses available with the Company, it will separately e-mail the Letter of Offer to the remaining individual U.S. holders of Shares and a copy of the Letter of Offer will also be sent to such U.S. holders of Shares by expedited commercial courier service/ registered post or any other permissible mode of communication (wherever e-mails are not available). Based on feedback received from custodians operating in India, the Company understands that such custodians would typically use electronic means of communication, such as e-mail, to promptly forward such shareholder material to beneficial holders of Shares in the U.S.
- m) The Issuer Tender Offer will be opened on the fifth working day from the date of dispatch of the Letter of Offer in accordance with Regulation 9(v) of the Buy Back Regulations. The Company confirms that the Issuer Tender Offer will not open prior to the fifth working day from the date of dispatch of the Letter of Offer. Accordingly, between the dispatch of the Letter of Offer to the shareholders and the closure of the Issuer Tender Offer, approximately 14 working days (or approximately 17 business days and 23 calendar days) will elapse. Further, between the date of publication of the Company's public announcement of the Issuer Tender Offer and closure of the Issuer Tender Offer, approximately 44 working days (or approximately 51 business days and 71 calendar days) are expected to elapse.
- n) The board of directors of the Company approved the Issuer Tender Offer on December 24, 2020. The results of voting in relation to the shareholders' approval were declared on February 12, 2021. The Letter of Offer will include a statement that the Company expresses no opinion as to whether holders of Shares should participate in the Issuer Tender Offer and, accordingly, that holders of Shares are advised to consult their own advisors to consider participation in the Issuer Tender Offer.

- o) In terms of the Buy-Back Regulations, shareholders are required to be categorized into two categories, (i) reserved category for small shareholders, and (ii) general category for other shareholders. The Buy-Back Regulations define "small shareholder" as "a shareholder of a company, who holds shares or other specified securities whose market value, on the basis of closing price of shares or other specified securities, on the recognized stock exchange in which highest trading volume in respect of such securities, as on record date is not more than two lakh rupees". In accordance with the provisions of the Buy-Back Regulations, 15% of the Shares that the Company proposes to buy-back, or the actual percentage of Shares held by small shareholders, whichever is higher, shall be reserved for "small shareholders" in the Issuer Tender Offer. For the purposes of determining the entitlement of each shareholder to participate in the Issuer Tender Offer, based on the number of Shares held by such shareholder, the Company has fixed February 24, 2021 as the record date, providing an advance notice of seven working days for the record date. The Shares will be bought back from the existing shareholders on a proportionate basis, determined for each category, as prescribed under the Buy-Back Regulations. Additionally, the ratio at which the Company shall buy-back the Shares from the shareholders in the Issuer Tender Offer, in each of the reserved category for small shareholders, and in the general category for other shareholders, will also be disclosed in the Letter of Offer.
- All purchases pursuant to the Issuer Tender Offer will be paid for in Indian Rupees, including holders of Shares who are resident outside India. Payment of consideration must be made within seven working days of the closure of the Issuer Tender Offer as required by the Buy-Back Regulations. Accordingly, the Transfer Agent will process the bids under the Issuer Tender Offer as promptly as practicable after the close of the Issuer Tender Offer, and the Company expects to start making payments for accepted bids as promptly as practicable and within seven working days after the Issuer Tender Offer is closed (as prescribed under the Buy-Back Regulations). The Company is proceeding on the understanding that, pursuant to the exemption granted by Exchange Act Rule 14d-1(d)(2)(iv), payment within this time period will satisfy the "prompt payment" requirements of Exchange Act Rule 14e-1(c). As the Company undertakes not to change the offer price per Share or to increase or decrease the number of the Shares being sought from what is set out in the letter of offer, the Company is not seeking exemptive relief from Exchange Act Rule 14e-1(b).

#### III. Conclusion

Issuer tender offers in India, including the Company's proposed Issuer Tender Offer, are subject to the Indian regulatory regime as prescribed under the Companies Act, 2013, as amended, and the rules made thereunder, and the Buy-Back Regulations. Due to the conflict between Rule 14e-1(a) and mandatory Indian law requirements, in the absence of exemptive relief the Issuer Tender Offer cannot be implemented without violating either the U.S. or Indian regulatory regimes. The Company, accordingly respectfully requests exemptive relief from Rule 14e-1(a) to permit the Company to hold the Issuer Tender Offer open for a period of 10 working days in accordance with applicable Indian laws and regulations. The exemptive relief requested will enable the Company to avoid issues arising out of inconsistencies between Rule 14e-1(a) and Indian legal requirements with respect to the Issuer Tender Offer.

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If you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact the undersigned or Biswajit Chatterjee at +971 4 447 8743 of Squire Patton Boggs (US) LLP.

Sincerely,

Aaron A. Seamon

Partner, Squire Patton Boggs (US) LLP

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Biswajit Chatterjee

Partner, Squire Patton Boggs (MEA) LLP

cc: Deepak Bansal Company Secretary and Compliance Officer NIIT Limited

Inder Mohan Partner, Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas



## **Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas**

March 23, 2021

Division of Corporation Finance U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission 100 F Street, N.E. Washington, D.C. 20549 U.S.A.

Attn:

Ted Yu, Esq., Chief, Office of Mergers and Acquisitions

Christina E. Chalk, Esq., Senior Special Counsel, Office of Mergers and Acquisitions

David Plattner, Special Counsel, Office of Mergers and Acquisitions

Re: <u>Issuer Tender Offer for Shares of NIIT Limited</u>

Dear Mr. Yu, Ms. Chalk, Mr. Plattner:

- We refer to the letter, dated March 23, 2021 (the "Letter"), sent to the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") by Squire Patton Boggs (MEA) LLP, on behalf of NIIT Limited, a public limited company incorporated under the laws of India (the "Company") with respect to the proposed partial tender offer for cash (the "Issuer Tender Offer"). In the Letter, the Division of Corporation Finance of the SEC (the "Staff") has been requested to grant exemptive relief to the Company from certain rules under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), that may be applicable to the Company at the time of undertaking the Issuer Tender Offer.
- 2. We are acting as advisers to the Company concerning Indian legal matters in connection with the Issuer Tender Offer. In such capacity we have been requested to review the Letter prepared by Squire Patton Boggs (MEA) LLP from an Indian law, regulation and practice perspective and to provide you with this letter confirming statements relating to Indian laws as set out in the Letter (the "Support Letter").
- 3. We have reviewed the statements relating to Indian laws, regulations and practice (the "Indian Statements") as set out in the Letter and confirm that, in our opinion, the Indian Statements are fair and accurate summaries of such Indian laws, regulations and practice and in our opinion complete in all material respects.
- 4. Further this Support Letter is subject to the following qualifications:
  - a) For the purposes of this Support Letter, we have only examined an electronic copy of the Letter and no documents have been reviewed by us in connection with this Support Letter other than the Letter. Accordingly, we shall limit the views expressed in this Support Letter to the Letter and Indian legal matters described therein.

Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co

Advocates & Solicitors

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# Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co

- b) The Indian Statements consist of summaries of relevant matters of Indian law and should not be construed as a comprehensive description of all laws, rules, regulations and practice. Such laws and regulations are subject to interpretation by the competent authorities, including Securities and Exchange Board of India.
- c) Many provisions in the law are principle based and application thereof implies discretion. In the absence of explicit statutory law, we base our opinion and view solely on our independent professional judgment. This Support Letter is further confined to the matters stated herein and the Letter, and is not to be read as extending, by implication or otherwise, to any other matter.
- d) The Support Letter may be attached to the Letter being filed with SEC. However, except the above, this Support Letter shall not be reproduced, referred to, or quoted in any offering materials, disclosure materials or printed matter related to the Issuer Tender Offer or quoted or referred to in any public document or filed with any person or authority without our express written consent. No part of this Support Letter may be copied, or duplicated, in any form by any means or distributed in any way.
- e) The views and interpretations provided herein are confined solely to the laws of the Republic of India, as we considered relevant and necessary, and we have not made any investigation of, and do not express any opinion on, the laws of any jurisdiction other than the laws of India as applicable on the date of this Support Letter.
- f) We have no responsibility to update this Support Letter for events or circumstances occurring after the date of this Support Letter.
- g) This Support Letter is governed by and shall be construed in accordance with the laws of India. Any dispute relating to or arising from this document shall be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the High Court of Judicature at Delhi.

Sincerely,

For Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co.

Inder Mohan Singh

Justigh

Partner