

### Aberdeen New India Investment Trust PLC

### Half Yearly Report 30 September 2022

Seeking world-class, well governed companies at the heart of India's growth

# aberdeen-newindia.co.uk



# Why Aberdeen New India Investment Trust PLC?

### Diversification

Single country funds offer diversification benefits at times when alternative investments are highly sought after.

### Aspiration

India has a young, aspirational population, which is expected to become the largest in the world by the 2030s.

### Global reach

India has a growing number of international companies.

India is highly rated in the World Bank's ranking by "ease of doing business".

### **Building India**

Urbanisation and an infrastructure boom is set to benefit property developers and producers of materials such as cement.

### Renewables

India has committed to meeting half of its energy needs from renewable sources by 2030.

### **Exporting talent**

India's giant tech services sector is helping global companies go digital and cloud-ready.



### Why abrdn?

### Experience

abrdn has been investing in India since 1990 and is one of the largest foreign investors in the country.

### Engagement

abrdn's investment team regularly engages with current and potential investments.

### Commitment

abrdn emphasises Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) principles in its investment process.

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# **Performance Highlights**

### Performance (total return in Sterling terms)

	Six months ended 30 September 2022 %	Year ended 31 March 2022 %
Share price <sup>A</sup>	+2.8	+3.7
Net asset value per Ordinary Share <sup>A</sup>	+5.9	+11.2
Adjusted net asset value per Ordinary Share <sup>A</sup>	+6.0	N/A
MSCI India Index (Sterling adjusted)	+8.9	+23.9

<sup>A</sup> Considered to be an Alternative Performance Measure. See pages 28 and 30 for further information. Source: abrdn, Morningstar & Factset

### Performance (total return in Sterling terms) for year(s) ended 30 September 2022

	1 year % return	3 year % return	5 year % return	10 year % return
Share price <sup>4</sup>	-12.2	+17.0	+30.0	+163.3
Net asset value per Ordinary Share <sup>A</sup>	-1.0	+30.8	+50.4	+193.2
MSCI India Index (Sterling adjusted)	+9.3	+54.7	+78.3	+195.0

 $^{\rm A}$  Considered to be an Alternative Performance Measure. See page 30 for further information.

Source: abrdn, Morningstar & Factset

# Financial Highlights and Financial Calendar

### **Financial Highlights**

	30 September 2022	31 March 2022	% change
Total shareholders' funds (£'000)	423,478	403,995	+ 4.8
Share price (mid-market)	578.00p	562.00p	+ 2.8
Net asset value per share	738.57p	697.30p	+ 5.9
Adjusted net asset value per share <sup>A</sup>	738.87p	697.30p	+ 6.0
Discount to net asset value <sup>A</sup>	21.7%	19.4%	
Net gearing <sup>A</sup>	5.7%	5.5%	
Ongoing charges ratio <sup>A</sup>	1.07%	1.06%	
Rupee to Sterling exchange rate	90.8	99.8	+ 9.0

<sup>A</sup> Considered to be an Alternative Performance Measure. Further details can be found on pages 28 and 29.

### **Financial Calendar**

Financial year end	March 2023
Expected announcement of annual results for the year ending 31 March 2023	June 2023
Annual General Meeting (London)	September 2023

## Chairman's Statement

### **Dear Shareholder**

This is my first statement as Chairman of the Company following Hasan Askari's retirement at the Annual General Meeting on 28 September 2022. I should like to thank him for his leadership over ten years, together with Stephen White, who also stepped down, for their valuable contributions to the Company.

Stephen's successor as Chairman of the Audit Committee is Andrew Robson, who was appointed as a Director of the Company on 1 August 2022, while David Simpson succeeded me as Senior Independent Director. Rebecca Donaldson has been appointed Chairman of the Management Engagement Committee.

### Performance

In a turbulent six months ended 30 September 2022, your Company's net asset value ("NAV") increased by 5.9% in total return terms. By comparison the MSCI India Index, the Company's Benchmark, generated 8.9% in sterling total returns terms. The Company's share price total return was 2.8% over the period as the Company's share price discount to NAV widened as investors took a risk-off attitude.

The Investment Manager's Report on pages 6 to 8 provides details on the portfolio's performance and how the Investment Manager is adapting to changing market trends, including finding opportunities where valuations of stocks appear overly low.

It is worth stating that, over the six months, one corporate group has had a sizeable impact on the Company's relative underperformance. The Adani Group of companies has dominated market returns in 2022, but the Company avoids holding Adani stocks as they fail to meet your Investment Manager's stringent quality criteria. Performance was also held back by the exposure to Azure Power Global, which saw its value decline due to a series of events which severely undermined market confidence. Delays in filing financial statements, a whistle-blower report and the subsequent resignation of the (still new) CEO, led the Investment Manager to sell the stock. This was an unfortunate and unexpected outcome considering the comprehensive due diligence undertaken prior to purchase. On a positive note, your Investment Manager's decision to avoid industry bellwether Reliance Industries proved rewarding, while your Company's defensive quality stocks in sectors such as consumer staples performed well against a volatile market backdrop.

### Environmental, Social and Governance

I am pleased to note that the Company's portfolio was recently rated "A" under the MSCI ESG Rating. This reflects well on your Investment Manager's consistent efforts to engage with the companies held within your Company's portfolio and efforts to drive improvements on various issues. More details on your Investment Manager's ESG process can be found in the Investment Manager's Report and Case Studies, as well as in the latest Annual Report. A Sustainable Investment Report is also published every six months and is available at: **aberdeen-newindia.co.uk**.

### Gearing

The Company announced on 5 August 2022 that it had entered into a new £30 million three-year bank loan facility (the "Facility") with The Royal Bank of Scotland International Limited (London Branch), which expires in August 2025. At 30 September 2022, the Facility was fully drawn down (31 March 2022 - £30 million drawn down), which resulted in net gearing of 5.7% (31 March 2022 -5.5%). The ability to gear is one of the advantages of the closed ended company structure and your Investment Manager continues to make use of this Facility in seeking to add value.

### Conditional tender offer

On 24 March 2022 the Board announced the introduction of a five-yearly performance-related conditional tender offer. The Board was concerned about the relative underperformance of the Company's NAV, as compared to its Benchmark. Following discussions with the Investment Manager, the Board decided that, should the Company's NAV total return underperform the Company's Benchmark over the five year period from 1 April 2022, then shareholders should be offered the opportunity to realise up to 25 per cent of their investment for cash at a level close to NAV. For these purposes, the Company's NAV per share will be adjusted for Indian capital gains tax (the "Adjusted NAV" - for further information see page 28) to enable a like for like comparison with the Benchmark. The Board monitors closely the performance of the Company's portfolio and over this short period since 1 April 2022 to 30 September 2022 the Adjusted NAV has increased by 6.0% versus the Benchmark's increase of 8.9% (further details are on page 28).

### Shareholder Engagement

The Board encourages shareholders to visit the Company's website (**aberdeen-newindia.co.uk**) or other social media channels for the latest information and access to podcasts, thought-leadership articles and monthly factsheets. The Board is seeking to improve the information available to shareholders and to encourage greater interaction. Further to this, the Board has supported the enhancement of the website, alongside more frequent updates by the Investment Manager.

### **Discount and Share Buybacks**

The Board continues to monitor actively the discount of the Ordinary share price to the NAV per Ordinary share and pursues a policy of selective buybacks of shares where to do so, in the opinion of the Board, is in the best interests of shareholders, whilst also having regard to the overall size of the Company.

Over the six months under review, the discount to NAV widened from 19.4% to 21.7%. The Company bought back into treasury 559,372 Ordinary shares (year ended 31 March 2022 - 448,201 shares), resulting in issued share capital of 57,337,755 Ordinary shares with voting rights and an additional 1,732,385 shares in treasury. Between the period end and the date of this Report a further 575,672 shares were bought back into treasury resulting in 56,762,083 shares in issue with voting shares and 2,308,057 shares held in treasury.

The Board believes that a combination of stronger longterm performance and effective marketing communication should increase demand for the Company's shares and reduce the discount to NAV at which they trade, over time.

### Outlook

A relatively high pool of foreign currency reserves and low levels of public debt leave India's central bank and its government in a good position to withstand any further macroeconomic shocks. Over the longer term, India's attractiveness remains intact. As one of the largest consumer markets outside the US and China, India has a predominantly young population. The middle class is expanding, accumulating more wealth and enjoying higher levels of disposable income. Business-friendly policies facilitate opportunities for domestic corporations and multinational companies alike. After performing below its potential over the last decade, due to a multitude of painful but necessary reforms, together with the effect of the pandemic, India is poised for a cyclical rebound.

A promising development is the relocation of manufacturing operations to India by an increasing number of multinational corporations. The country's desire to become a global manufacturing hub is well-known. This has been promoted by the 'Make in India' campaign to incentivise companies to relocate through businessfriendly polices such as production-linked incentive schemes, favourable corporate tax rates and the repealing of a controversial retrospective tax law. For example, Apple has decided to manufacture its new iPhone 14 at Foxconn's Sriperumbudur factory just outside Chennai. Such investments demonstrate important steps along India's path towards becoming the third-largest economy and stock market in the world by the end of the decade. Insulated more than other countries from prevailing geopolitical complications, this all points to India being on a healthier footing versus other emerging markets.

The Board appreciates the Investment Manager's ability to identify quality companies that will benefit from favourable long term trends but is also keen to ensure that new opportunities within the Indian market are not overlooked. The Board is very conscious that the Company's recent performance has not matched its longer-term record and we are engaging actively with the Investment Manager on this issue.



**Michael Hughes** Chairman 2 December 2022

### Investment Manager's Report

#### Market review

Indian equities proved resilient over the six months under review, with the market being one of the few global bourses outside of the Middle East to remain in positive territory. The size of the domestic economy, moreover, provided a buffer against any weakness in global demand. However, against a backdrop of post-pandemic economic recovery, spurred on by growing consumer appetite for goods, services and travel, rising prices became a cause for concern. It was exacerbated by the ongoing conflict in Ukraine that sent oil and commodity prices soaring. Despite being a net importer of oil and certain commodities, India has been able to withstand the impact of inflation aided by supportive measures from the government and the central bank. With high frequency data showing signs of steady improvement over the period, India's relatively stable position in an increasingly tense geopolitical landscape has further provided relief to investors.

#### Portfolio overview

While the portfolio delivered a positive absolute return, it lagged the Benchmark as positive allocation did not fully offset negative stock selection.

Principally, we believe in investing in businesses that are backed by reputable promoter groups, with a track record of delivering value to all shareholders. Hence, the Company's portfolio does not hold positions in any of the Adani Group companies, which has held back relative performance. We view the Adani entities as lower quality stocks, given their weak financial track records, highly over-leveraged balance sheets and major ESG concerns, which make them extremely risky bets in our view, and ones that we are not prepared to expose the portfolio to. These entities, unfortunately, have contributed to over half of the portfolio's relative underperformance of the Benchmark over the six months. Shares of Adani Enterprises, Adani Transmission, Adani Total Gas and Adani Green Energy - most of which are classified under the utilities sector - outperformed the Benchmark as the group announced a series of aggressive expansion plans and corporate actions spanning multiple industries.

Drilling into the attribution, additional underperformance was due to several factors that we outline below.

Weak stock selection in utilities also negatively impacted through the portfolio's holding in Azure Power Global. A series of increasingly concerning events through August relating to late filing of the annual financials, an abrupt resignation of the recently-appointed CEO and a whistle blower led to our rapid exit in the stock. While this was a small position in the portfolio, it has been disappointing, not least because the company had high quality investors on the register, and we had undertaken significant due diligence on the company ourselves and viewed it as a high-quality exposure to the Indian renewables sector. Following this episode, ReNew Energy Global will be our sole renewables exposure. We have had a preference for ReNew given its operational execution, scale and funding status and this has been reflected in our relative positioning. After our detailed discussion with the company and others in the industry, there are reasons to believe what happened with Azure Power Global is an isolated case that surprised many. ReNew has strong checks and balances in its internal controls and there are few levers for manipulation in operating assets, which makes up the bulk of its portfolio. Fundamentally, ReNew has been executing in line with our expectations since initiation. We have also been encouraged by the Central Government releasing new rules to address the receivables issues in the sector, which is incrementally positive for the cashflows of ReNew.

Another contributing factor to the relative underperformance has been the growing fears of a global recession that would likely have an impact on technology spending. While we had taken some profits from our IT services holdings, our overall overweight exposure to the sector detracted from performance during the period. Despite near-term challenges, India's technology sector remains attractive, owing to robust demand for knowledge-based IT services both at home and abroad and we judge our core IT services holdings Infosys, Tata Consultancy Services and Mphasis to be high quality names, with clearly articulated sources of competitive advantage, healthy balance sheets, impressive management teams and excellent corporate governance standards. As India continues to re-open in a post-pandemic world and as the alobal supply chain disruptions ease. cyclical discretionary stocks, such as those in the automobiles sector, have rallied as new car sales rose steadily in response to pent-up demand. Your Company holds Maruti Suzuki, which outperformed on the back of a strong orderbook and new model launches, including a next generation of compact SUV, the Vitara Brezza. However, not holding Mahindra & Mahindra in the early part of the review period proved costly as its share price rose following a set of robust results. We had favoured Maruti Suzuki as the undisputed market leader in the passenger vehicle market with strong support from its parent company. Through the period, we had been adding to our position in the company that should benefit from the cyclical recovery. With our positive view on the sector's long-term outlook, we added Mahindra & Mahindra as a complement to our holding in Maruti Suzuki. Mahindra & Mahindra has a stronger position in SUVs, a new line-up of electric vehicles and has demonstrated better capital allocation that should drive an increase in its valuation.

Finally, your Company's allocation to the financials sector did not fully offset stock selection as the portfolio's exposure to Piramal Enterprises weighed on performance. Piramal disappointed on a weak set of results though, in more positive developments, the group has now de-merged its pharma business to create a cleaner corporate structure, with two listed companies, a financial services business and a healthcare business. The portfolio now holds shares in both entities. Notwithstanding the near-term weakness in both businesses, we believe this structure will provide greater clarity and transparency to investors, and pave the way for a re-rating in both stocks over the medium term. Elsewhere, PB Fintech, which operates the online insurance platform Policybazaar, sold off on negative sentiment towards pre-profit companies in India, and across the region.

The portfolio's core, well-capitalised holdings in ICICI Bank and Kotak Mahindra Bank outperformed in a rising interest rate environment and amid expectations of an improving credit cycle. Both lenders delivered good results that were underpinned by healthy loan and fee-income growth. Among insurance names, SBI Life Insurance also outperformed after posting strong quarterly results that demonstrated insurance premium growth and margin uplift, driven by improvements in the company's product mix and through good execution from management. On a positive note, your Company's underweight to the energy sector was also the biggest contributor to relative returns. Global energy prices came under pressure as even a relatively strong US dollar could not compensate for investors' mounting fears over a global recession and its impact on energy demand. Not holding industry bellwether Reliance Industries was beneficial as its share price pulled back following recent outperformance. We do not hold Reliance for similar reasons as the Adani group (see above). Your Company's exposure to oil and gas logistics company, Aegis Logistics staged a strong share price rebound during the period on robust gas distribution sales. Meanwhile, the portfolio's more defensive holdings. particularly in the consumption sectors, fared well despite increasing volatility in the market. The share price of Hindustan Unilever, the largest, fast-moving consumer goods company in India, recovered from its March lows with resilient margins, thanks to a strong balance sheet, wide distribution channels and its ability to pass on costs. A benign monsoon and the festival season further supported solid demand growth. Likewise, Crompton Greaves Consumer Electricals also saw its share price rise on resilient demand, which added to your Company's relative gains.

### **Portfolio Activity**

We have taken steps to reposition and refresh the portfolio to keep up with changing market trends in the near-term, while staying true to our philosophy of investing in the highest quality companies that are fundamental to India's long-term growth. Aside from Mahindra & Mahindra, we introduced Delhivery, the largest, fastest-growing and fully integrated logistics player in India, with all verticals exhibiting very healthy growth. The company is disrupting the domestic logistics industry through its uniquely successful network design, tech and automation capabilities, business integration and significant time and data advantage.

We also initiated ABB India, the listed subsidiary of Zurichbased multinational corporation, ABB. It designs, manufactures and distributes industrial equipment to a diversified base of industries in India. ABB India has a strong management team and technology know-how and it is very familiar with the local market, which positions it well for the recovery in India's industrial capex as the economy recovers from two years of weakness related to Covid-19 (see the case study on page 9 for further details).

# Investment Manager's Report

### Continued

To allocate funds to more compelling opportunities elsewhere we divested from Zomato and Star Health and Allied Insurance. At the same time, we took profit from our positions in ITC and Larsen & Toubro (L&T). Finally, we also sold Azure Power Global for reasons that we discussed above.

### Environmental, Social and Governance

Over the six months, we continued our engagement with companies on various ESG matters. Holding discussions with Affle India on aspects of labour management, human rights and corporate governance. Further, we spoke with Godrej Properties about its green strategy for its residential development projects, firm-wide safetymanagement certification and various board issues. We encouraged both companies to take the necessary actions to improve their ESG credentials, and will follow up with them on progress. Lastly, in a meeting with UltraTech Cement, we noted improvements on the company's decarbonisation efforts. The company was planning to reduce its carbon (CO2) emissions from 580kg per tonne of cement to 462kg per tonne by 2032, with the main focus on using green energy as a fuel source.

### Outlook

India remains one of the fastest-growing countries in the world, and is expected to deliver one of the highest earnings growth stories this year, supported by a progrowth budget for the 2023 fiscal year. With the Covid-19 pandemic under control, India's economy is showing signs of recovery: credit growth is accelerating, the real estate market is seeing momentum, infrastructure is being built and consumer spending is gradually improving. Some of the domestic headwinds, including rising inflationary pressure, appear to have moderated slightly in recent months. That said, prices remain above the central bank's upper tolerance limit, and if interest rates continue to rise, it would eventually have the effect of weighing on the consumption recovery trend. Further, international developments, including the potential onset of a global recession, as well as geopolitical escalations would have an impact and test the resilience of the domestic economy.

We expect our core quality holdings to continue to deliver resilient compounding earnings growth over the medium term, come what may in terms of macro conditions. The consistency of earnings growth within the portfolio remains healthy and fundamentals, including pricing power, strong balance sheets and the ability to sustain margins, remain solid. We maintain confidence in the experienced management teams in place at these companies and in time expect these factors to once again be reflected in favourable share price performance.



Kristy Fong and James Thom Investment Manager 2 December 2022

### **Investment Case Studies**

# ABB India - committed to sustainability by 2030

As the local listed subsidiary of Switzerland-based ABB Group, ABB India undertakes engineering and construction projects and manufactures heavy engineering and industrial equipment. It has four main business segments in motion, robotics and discrete automation, electrification and process automation.

The company's orderbook has been growing as activity levels in India are on the rise again. We like the company because it is prudent, well-managed and feeds into a wide variety of industrial and power sectors. Its strong balance sheet and ability to generate cash is likely to weather future economic disruptions, while the high quality of its product and technology portfolio will benefit from an increasing demand for energy efficiencies from customers and regulators. ABB India's solid reputation and technology support also mean that the company is able to charge a premium for its products and services in a niche market.

More broadly, we expect ABB India to be among the beneficiaries of rising government capital expenditure. This reflects the government's continued focus on improving infrastructure, evident in developments such as the launch of the National Infra Pipeline and National Monetization Pipeline to fund infrastructure projects.

On the ESG front, ABB India is not rated by MSCI but its parent – ABB – holds an AA rating. As part of its 2030 sustainability strategy, ABB India aims to support customers and suppliers to reduce greenhouse gas emissions while achieving carbon neutrality in its own operations. ABB's emissions reduction targets have been validated by the Science Based Targets initiative as being in line with the 1.5°C scenario of the Paris Agreement.

ABB India's involvement in industrial automation, robotics and motion also means that it is providing industry solutions to help boost productivity, which aligns it with UN sustainable development goals to achieve a more productive and sustainable future through technological upgrading and innovation.



# Investment Case Studies

### Continued

# Kotak Mahindra Bank - an unconventional road to becoming one of India's top lenders

As one of India's top private banks, Kotak Mahindra Bank has had an unconventional start.

Compared with established peers, it is a relatively new entrant into India's banking sector. In 2003, the Kotak Mahindra Group's flagship company, Kotak Mahindra Finance, received a banking licence from the Reserve Bank of India. It became the first non-banking finance company in the country to convert into a full-service private sector bank with good asset quality and a relatively low level of non-performing loans. Today, there are over 1,300 branches across India where Kotak provides a comprehensive portfolio of products and services such as working capital financing, transaction banking, debt capital markets, forex and treasury services.

Kotak is well-positioned in an industry that offers higher growth potential than most markets in Asia, given the low levels of financial penetration in India. For its part, the Indian banking sector had for years been saddled with bad debt that needed to be tackled to spur lending in a growing economy – the Reserve Bank of India and the government in recent years have taken various measures to clean up balance sheets of lenders and consolidate the weaker public sector banks. That has allowed top private lenders like Kotak, with strong fundamentals, to step up provisioning and collectively gain a greater share of corporate loans from the state-owned banks.

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We like Kotak because of its strong current account savings account (CASA) franchise, credit quality, capital and core fees, and exceptional risk management capabilities. The lender has solid financials, superior cash generation ability, and it is led by a capable and experienced management team that is exceptionally disciplined. For example, at the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, Kotak was early in pulling back on lending as it saw potential credit risks due to the widespread economic disruption. Having stayed away from riskier lending and shored up its balance sheet, the management is now more confident to start lending again as green shoots of recovery have emerged. Kotak also plans to grow its customer franchise in non-credit risk areas such as advisory, insurance, securities and wealth management.

Furthermore, Kotak has excellent environmental, social and governance (ESG) credentials. In April, MSCI upgraded the lender's rating from A to AA, driven largely by an assessment of the bank's loan portfolio where exposure to environmentally sensitive industries was only about 10%. MSCI noted that Kotak leads industry peers on consumer protection and superior governance practices due to the presence of a majority independent board as well as separate CEO and chairman roles.

Kotak has also instituted an ESG policy framework to evaluate credit and portfolio composition and align its business strategy, processes and disclosures with national and international standards. It has also demonstrated strong efforts to mitigate risks associated with potential unethical corporate behaviour, with regular audits of its ethic controls and robust policies against money laundering.

# Kotak Kotak Mahindra Bank कोटक महिंद्रा बँक



∞ kotak

# **Ten Largest Investments**

#### As at 30 September 2022

### **HDFC**

#### Housing Development Finance Corporation

A steady, well-managed financial services conglomerate with leading positions in mortgage finance, retail banking, life insurance and asset management, supported by a broad distribution network, efficient cost structure and balance sheet quality.



#### ICICI Bank

Delivering superior growth and returns improvement without compromising on asset quality. It has leveraged on its scale as well as retail and digital franchises to increase its mortgage book and also growing off a low base in business banking and SMEs.



#### Bharti Airtel

The leading telecom service provider with a pan-India reach and sophisticated customer base with higher average mobile spending.



#### Power Grid Corporation of India

Forming the backbone of India's electricity infrastructure. It plans and manages the national grid network, along with several regional ones, and transmits about half of the electricity that is used domestically.



#### UltraTech Cement

A clear industry leader in India's cement industry, backed by strong brand recognition, a good distribution and sales network and solid product quality. Its focus on cost efficiency and an improving energy mix have given UltraTech a cost advantage.



#### Infosys

One of India's best software developers, it continues to impress with its strong management, solid balance sheet and sustainable business model.



#### Hindustan Unilever

The largest fast-moving consumer goods company (FMCG) in India, with an unrivalled portfolio of brands, an extensive nationwide distribution network, and a long and successful operational track record in the country.



#### Tata Consultancy Services

A top-class Indian IT services provider with the most consistent execution and lowest attrition rates. It is a long-term compounder with a decent outlook for revenue growth and order wins over the medium term.



#### Kotak Mahindra Bank

A full-service private-sector bank in India that has good asset quality and a relatively low level of non-performing loans compared to many of its peers. It is well positioned in an industry that offers higher growth than most markets in Asia, given the low level of financial penetration.

#### S MARUTI SUZUKI Maruti Suzuki India

India's largest passenger vehicle company is a subsidiary of Japan's Suzuki and boasts a dominant market share in the four-wheeler market in India. Its distribution network and business scale are unparalleled in the market, supported by strong research and development capabilities.

# Portfolio

### As at 30 September 2022

Company	Sector	2022 Valuation £'000	Total assets %
Housing Development Finance Corporation	Financials	38,372	8.4
Infosys	Information Technology	38,200	8.4
ICICI Bank	Financials	38,009	8.4
Hindustan Unilever	Consumer Staples	31,600	7.0
Bharti Airtel	Communications Services	24,403	5.4
Tata Consultancy Services	Information Technology	24,368	5.3
Power Grid Corporation of India	Utilities	18,969	4.2
Kotak Mahindra Bank	Financials	16,216	3.6
UltraTech Cement	Materials	15,358	3.4
Maruti Suzuki India	Consumer Discretionary	15,355	3.4
Top ten investments		260,850	57.5
SBI Life Insurance	Financials	14,913	3.2
Asian Paints	Materials	14,404	3.2
HDFC Bank	Financials	14,152	3.1
Container Corporation of India	Industrials	14,032	3.1
Crompton Greaves Consumer Electricals	Consumer Discretionary	11,191	2.5
Fortis Healthcare	Healthcare	11,117	2.5
Aegis Logistics	Energy	9,577	2.1
Nestlé India	Consumer Staples	9,032	2.0
Affle India	Communications Services	8,820	1.9
MphasiS	Information Technology	8,692	1.9
Top twenty investments		376,780	83.0

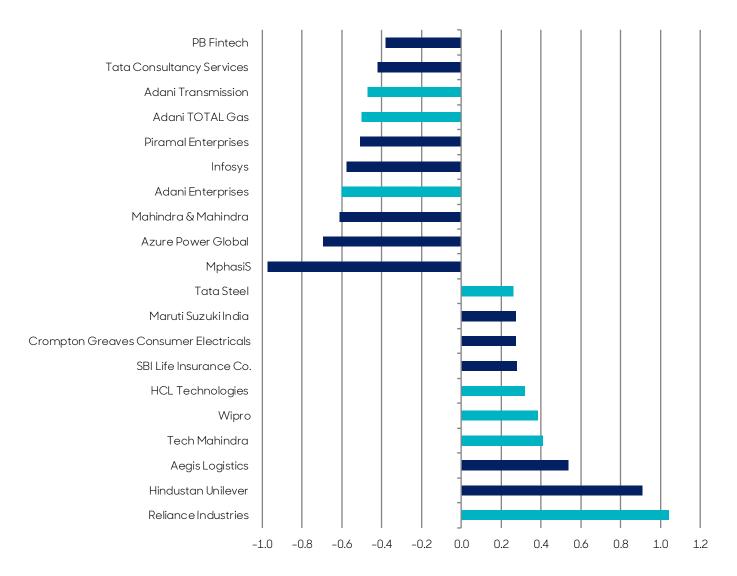
### As at 30 September 2022

		2022	
Company	Sector	Valuation £'000	Total assets %
Prestige Estates Projects	Real Estate	8,064	1.8
Vijaya Diagnostic Centre	Healthcare	7,606	1.7
Syngene International	Healthcare	7,486	1.7
Hindalco Industries	Materials	7,270	1.6
ReNew Energy Global	Utilities	6,787	1.5
Delhivery	Industrials	6,179	1.4
ABB India	Industrials	5,688	1.3
Godrej Properties	Real Estate	5,369	1.2
Fsn E-Commerce Ventures	Consumer Discretionary	5,332	1.1
PB Fintech	Financials	4,493	1.0
Top thirty investments		441,054	97.3
Info Edge India	Communication Services	4,107	0.9
Piramal Pharma	Healthcare	3,868	0.9
Piramal Enterprises	Financials	3,820	0.8
Sanofi India	Healthcare	3,760	0.8
Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd	Consumer Discretionary	3,239	0.7
Aptus Value Housing Finance	Financials	2,313	0.5
Total portfolio investments		462,161	101.9
Net current assets (before deducting prior charges) <sup>A</sup>		(8,782)	(1.9)
Total assets <sup>A</sup>		453,379	100.0

<sup>A</sup> Excluding loan balances.

# Top 10 Contributors/(Detractors) to Relative Performance

Six months ended 30 September 2022 (%)



Held in Portfolio Not Held in Portfolio

# **Other Matters**

### Investment Objective

The investment objective of the Company is to provide shareholders with long term capital appreciation by investment in companies which are incorporated in India, or which derive significant revenue or profit from India, with dividend yield from the Company being of secondary importance.

### Investment Policy

The Company primarily invests in Indian equity securities.

### **Principal Risks and Uncertainties**

The principal risks and uncertainties associated with the Company are set out in detail on pages 16 to 18 of the Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2022, which is published on the Company's website. The principal risks and uncertainties may be summarised under the following headings:

- Market risk
- Foreign Exchange risk
- Discount risk
- Depositary risk
- Financial and Regulatory risk
- Gearing risk

In addition the Board has identified, as an emerging risk which it considers is likely to become more relevant for the Company in the future, the implications for the Company's investment portfolio of a changing climate. The Board assesses this emerging risk as it develops, including how investor sentiment is evolving towards climate risk within investment portfolios and will consider how the Company may mitigate this risk, together with any other emerging risks, if and when they become material.

These principal risks and uncertainties, and emerging risk, are not expected to change materially for the remaining six months of the Company's financial year ending 31 March 2023, as they have not done for the period under review, other than the Board continues to assess the ongoing implications for the Company of the geopolitical instability associated with the Russian invasion of Ukraine and the threat posed by rising inflation and rising interest rates.

### **Going Concern**

In accordance with the Financial Reporting Council's guidance on Going Concern and Liquidity Risk, the Directors have reviewed the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. The Company's assets consist of a diverse portfolio of listed equity shares which in most circumstances are realisable within a short timescale.

The Directors are conscious of the principal risks and uncertainties disclosed on pages 16 to 18 and in Note 17 to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022.

In August 2022, the Company announced that it had entered a three year, £30 million revolving credit facility with The Royal Bank of Scotland International Limited (the "Facility") which was fully drawn down at 30 September 2022. The Board has set limits for borrowing and regularly reviews the level of any gearing and compliance with banking covenants.

In advance of expiry of the Facility in August 2025, the Company will enter into negotiations with its bankers. If acceptable terms are available from the existing bankers, or any alternative, the Company would expect to continue to access a facility. However, should these terms not be forthcoming, any outstanding borrowing would be repaid through the proceeds of equity sales.

After making enquiries, including a review of revenue forecasts, the Directors have a reasonable expectation that the Company possesses adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and for at least 12 months from the date of this Report. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

# **Other Matters**

### Continued

### Statement of Directors' Responsibilities

The Directors are responsible for preparing the Half Yearly Financial Report, in accordance with applicable law and regulations. The Directors confirm that, to the best of their knowledge:

- the condensed set of Financial Statements has been prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 104 (Interim Financial Reporting);
- the Half Yearly Board Report includes a fair review of the information required by rule 4.2.7R of the Disclosure Guidance and Transparency Rules (being an indication of important events that have occurred during the first six months of the financial year and their impact on the condensed set of Financial Statements and a description of the principal risks and uncertainties for the remaining six months of the financial year); and
- the Half Yearly Board Report includes a fair review of the information required by 4.2.8R of the Disclosure Guidance and Transparency Rules (being related party transactions that have taken place during the first six months of the financial year and that have materially affected the financial position of the Company during that period; and any changes in the related party transactions described in the last Annual Report that could do so).

The Half Yearly Financial Report for the six months ended 30 September 2022 comprises the Interim Board Report, including the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities and a condensed set of Financial Statements.

For and on behalf of the Board Michael Hughes Chairman 2 December 2022

# **Condensed Statement of Comprehensive Income**

		30 Sep	onths enc otember 2 naudited)	022	30 Se	nonths en ptember unauditec	2021	311	ear ended 1arch 202 audited)	
	Notes	Revenue £'000	Capital £'000	Total £'000	Revenue £′000	Capital £'000	Total £'000	Revenue £'000	Capital £'000	Total £'000
Income										
Income from investments and other income	3	3,461	-	3,461	2,936	_	2,936	4,904	155	5,059
Gains on investments held at fair value through profit or loss		-	22,570	22,570	-	78,990	78,990	_	45,078	45,078
Currency gain/ (losses)		8	(15)	(7)	-	(64)	(64)	-	(342)	(342)
		3,469	22,555	26,024	2,936	78,926	81,862	4,904	44,891	49,795
Expenses										
Investment management fees		(1,681)	-	(1,681)	(1,637)	-	(1,637)	(3,328)	-	(3,328)
Administrative expenses		(529)	-	(529)	(441)	-	(441)	(927)	-	(927)
Profit before finance costs and taxation		1,259	22,555	23,814	858	78,926	79,784	649	44,891	45,540
Finance costs		(466)	-	(466)	(134)	_	(134)	(290)	_	(290)
Profit before taxation		793	22,555	23,348	724	78,926	79,650	359	44,891	45,250
Taxation	4	(310)	(176)	(486)	(303)	(9,966)	(10,269)	(525)	(4,140)	(4,665)
Profit/(loss) for the period		483	22,379	22,862	421	68,960	69,381	(166)	40,751	40,585
Return/(loss) per Ordinary share (pence)	5	0.84	38.84	39.68	0.72	118.13	118.85	(0.28)	69.92	69.64

The Company does not have any income or expense that is not included in profit/(loss) for the period, and therefore the "Profit/(loss) for the period" is also the "Total comprehensive income for the period".

The total columns of this statement represent the Condensed Statement of Comprehensive Income, prepared in accordance with IFRS. The revenue and capital columns are supplementary to this and are prepared under guidance published by the Association of Investment Companies. All items in the above statement derive from continuing operations.

All of the profit/(loss) and total comprehensive income is attributable to the equity holders of Aberdeen New India Investment Trust PLC. There are no non-controlling interests.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

# **Condensed Statement of Financial Position**

	Notes	As at 30 September 2022 (unaudited) £'000	As at 30 September 2021 (unaudited) £'000	As at 31 March 2022 (audited) £'000
Non-current assets				
Investments held at fair value through profit or loss		462,161	482,119	439,881
Current assets				
Cash at bank		5,927	5,655	9,772
Receivables		1,218	1,297	2,160
Total current assets		7,145	6,952	11,932
Current liabilities				
Bank loan	7	(29,901)	(30,000)	(30,000)
Other payables		(2,162)	(564)	(3,287)
Total current liabilities		(32,063)	(30,564)	(33,287)
Net current liabilities		(24,918)	(23,612)	(21,355)
Non-current liabilities				
Deferred tax liability on Indian capital gains	4	(13,765)	(23,132)	(14,531)
Net assets		423,478	435,375	403,995
Share capital and reserves				
Ordinary share capital	8	14,768	14,768	14,768
Share premium account		25,406	25,406	25,406
Special reserve		6,553	12,516	9,932
Capital redemption reserve		4,484	4,484	4,484
Capital reserve		371,841	377,671	349,462
Revenue reserve		426	530	(57)
Equity shareholders' funds		423,478	435,375	403,995
Net asset value per Ordinary share (pence)	10	738.57	745.95	697.30

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

# Condensed Statement of Changes in Equity

### Six months ended 30 September 2022 (unaudited)

	Share capital £'000	Share premium account £'000	Special reserve £'000	Capital redemption reserve £'000	Capital reserve £'000	Revenue reserve £'000	Total £'000
Balance at 31 March 2022	14,768	25,406	9,932	4,484	349,462	(57)	403,995
Profit for the period	-	-	-	-	22,379	483	22,862
Buyback of share capital to treasury	-	-	(3,379)	-	_	-	(3,379)
Balance at 30 September 2022	14,768	25,406	6,553	4,484	371,841	426	423,478

### Six months ended 30 September 2021 (unaudited)

	Share capital £'000	Share premium account £'000	Special reserve £'000	Capital redemption reserve £'000	Capital reserve £'000	Revenue reserve £'000	Total £'000
Balance at 31 March 2021	14,768	25,406	12,628	4,484	308,711	109	366,106
Profit for the period	-	-	-	-	68,960	421	69,381
Buyback of share capital to treasury	-	-	(112)	-	-	-	(112)
Balance at 30 September 2021	14,768	25,406	12,516	4,484	377,671	530	435,375

### Year ended 31 March 2022 (audited)

	Share capital £'000	Share premium account £'000	Special reserve £'000	Capital redemption reserve £'000	Capital reserve £'000	Revenue reserve £′000	Total £'000
Balance at 31 March 2021	14,768	25,406	12,628	4,484	308,711	109	366,106
Profit/(loss) for the year	-	-	-	-	40,751	(166)	40,585
Buyback of share capital to treasury	-	-	(2,696)	-	_	_	(2,696)
Balance at 31 March 2022	14,768	25,406	9,932	4,484	349,462	(57)	403,995

The Special reserve and the Revenue reserve represent the amount of the Company's distributable reserves.

# **Condensed Cash Flows Statement**

	Six months ended 30 September 2022 (unaudited) £'000	Six months ended 30 September 2021 (unaudited) £'000	Year ended 31 March 2022 (audited) £'000
Cash flows from operating activities			
Dividend income received	3,398	2,515	3,983
Interest income received	(4)	_	-
Investment management fee paid	(1,350)	(2,119)	(3,573)
Overseas withholding tax	631	(646)	-
Other cash expenses	(421)	(420)	(921)
Cash inflow/(outflow) from operations	2,254	(670)	(511)
Interest paid	(262)	(149)	(283)
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities	1,992	(819)	(794)
Purchase of investments Sales of investments	(49,401) 47,895	(35,968) 34,507	(130,909) 139,176
Indian capital gains tax on sales	(910)	(477)	(3,251)
Net cash (outflow)/inflow from investing activities	(2,416)	(1,938)	5,016
Cash flows from financing activities			
Buyback of shares	(3,307)	(112)	(2,696)
(Repayment)/ drawdown of Ioan	(99)	6,000	6,000
Net cash (outflow)/inflow from financing activities	(3,406)	5,888	3,304
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents	(3,830)	3,131	7,526
Cash and cash equivalents at the start of the period	9,772	2,588	2,588
Casif and easif equivalents at the start of the period			
Effect of foreign exchange rate changes	(15)	(64)	(342)

There were no non-cash transactions during the period (six months ended 30 September 2021 – fini); year ended 31 March 2022 – fini).

# Notes to the Financial Statements

For the six months ended 30 September 2022

### 1. Principal activity

The principal activity of the Company is that of an investment trust company within the meaning of Section 1158 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010.

### 2. Accounting policies

The Company's financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Accounting Standard ('IAS') 34 – 'Interim Financial Reporting', as adopted by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB), and interpretations issued by the International Reporting Interpretations Committee of the IASB (IFRIC). The Company's financial statements have been prepared using the same accounting policies applied for the year ended 31 March 2022 financial statements, which received an unqualified audit report.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. In accordance with the Financial Reporting Council's guidance on 'Going Concern and Liquidity Risk' the Directors have undertaken a review of the Company's assets which primarily consist of a diverse portfolio of listed equity shares which, in most circumstances, are realisable within a short timescale.

#### 3. Income

	Six months ended 30 September 2022 £′000	Six months ended 30 September 2021 £'000	Year ended 31 March 2022 £'000
Income from investments			
Overseas dividends	3,461	2,936	5,059
Total income	3,461	2,936	5,059

# Notes to the Financial Statements

### Continued

### 4. Taxation

		Six months ended 30 September 2022		Six months ended 30 September 2021		Year ended 31 March 2022		2	
	Revenue £′000	Capital £'000	Total £'000	Revenue £′000	Capital £'000	Total £'000	Revenue £′000	Capital £'000	Total £'000
Analysis of charge for the period									
Indian capital gains tax charge on sales	-	942	942	-	477	477	_	3,251	3,251
Overseas taxation	310	-	310	303	-	303	525	-	525
Total current tax charge for the period	310	942	1,252	303	477	780	525	3,251	3,776
Movement in deferred tax liability on Indian capital gains	-	(766)	(766)	-	9,489	9,489	-	889	889
Total tax charge for the period	310	176	486	303	9,966	10,269	525	4,140	4,665

The Company is liable to Indian capital gains tax under Section 115 AD of the Indian Income Taxes Act 1961.

On 1 April 2018, the Indian Government withdrew an exemption from capital gains tax on investments held for twelve months or longer. The Company has recorded a deferred tax liability of £13,765,000 (30 September 2021 – £23,132,000; 31 March 2022 – £14,531,000 deferred tax liability) on capital gains which may arise if Indian investments are sold.

On 1 April 2020, the Indian Government withdrew an exemption from withholding tax on dividend income. Dividends are received net of 20% withholding tax and an additional charge of 4%. A further surcharge of either 2% or 5% is applied if the receipt exceeds a certain threshold. Of this total charge, 10% of the withholding tax is irrecoverable with the remainder being shown in the Condensed Statement of Financial Position as an asset due for offset against Indian capital gains or reclaim.

(b) Factors affecting the tax charge for the year or period. The tax charged for the period can be reconciled to the profit per the Condensed Statement of Comprehensive Income as follows:

		onths end otember 2			Six months ended 30 September 2021			Year ended 31 March 2022		
	Revenue £′000	Capital £'000	Total £'000	Revenue £′000	Capital £'000	Total £'000	Revenue £′000	Capital £'000	Total £'000	
Profit before tax	793	22,555	23,348	724	78,926	79,650	359	44,891	45,250	
UK corporation tax on profit at the standard rate of 19%	151	4,285	4,436	138	14,996	15,134	68	8,529	8,597	
Effects of:										
Gains on investments held at fair value through profit or loss not taxable	-	(4,288)	(4,288)	-	(15,008)	(15,008)	-	(8,594)	(8,594)	
Currency losses not taxable	-	3	3	-	12	12	_	65	65	
Deferred tax not recognised in respect of tax losses	501	-	501	419	_	419	857	-	857	
Expenses not deductible for tax purposes	5	-	5	1	-	1	6	-	6	
Indian capital gains tax charged on sales	-	942	942	-	477	477	-	3,251	3,251	
Movement in deferred tax liability on Indian capital gains	-	(766)	(766)	-	9,489	9,489	-	889	889	
Irrecoverable overseas withholding tax	310	-	310	303	-	303	525	-	525	
Non-taxable dividend income	(657)	-	(657)	(558)	-	(558)	(931)	-	(931)	
Total tax charge	310	176	486	303	9,966	10,269	525	4,140	4,665	

At 30 September 2022, the Company has surplus management expenses and loan relationship debits with a tax value of  $\pounds7,608,000$  (30 September 2021 –  $\pounds6,375,000$ ; 31 March 2022 –  $\pounds6,949,000$ ) based on enacted tax rates, in respect of which a deferred tax asset has not been recognised. No deferred tax asset has been recognised because the Company is not expected to generate taxable income in the future in excess of the deductible expenses of those future periods. Therefore, it is unlikely that the Company will generate future taxable revenue that would enable the existing tax losses to be utilised.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

### Continued

### 5. Return per Ordinary share

	Six months ended 30 September 2022 £'000	Six months ended 30 September 2021 £'000	Year ended 31 March 2022 £'000
Based on the following figures:			
Revenue return	483	421	(166)
Capital return	22,379	68,960	40,751
Total return	22,862	69,381	40,585
Weighted average number of Ordinary shares in issue	57,619,248	58,373,678	58,276,006

### 6. Transaction costs

During the year, expenses were incurred in acquiring or disposing of investments classified as fair value through profit or loss. These have been expensed through the capital column of the Condensed Statement of Comprehensive Income, and are included within gains on investments at fair value through profit or loss in the Condensed Statement of Comprehensive Income. The total costs were as follows:

	Six months ended 30 September 2022 £′000	Six months ended 30 September 2021 £'000	Year ended 31 March 2022 £'000
Purchases	68	41	167
Sales	63	52	211
	131	93	378

The above transaction costs are calculated in line with the AIC SORP. The transaction costs in the Company's Key Information Document, provided by the Manager, are calculated on a different basis and in line with the PRIIPs regulations.

### 7. Bank loan

In August 2022, the Company entered into a three year £30 million multi-currency revolving credit facility with The Royal Bank of Scotland International Limited (London Branch). At 30 September 2022 £30 million (30 September 2021 – £30 million; 31 March 2022 – £30 million) had been drawn down at an all-in interest rate of 5.321% with a maturity date of 3 November 2022. Subsequent to this the Ioan has been rolled over and at the date of this report the Company had drawn down £30 million at an all-in interest rate of 6.5632%.

The bank loan recognised in the Condensed Statement of Financial Position is net of amortised costs.

### 8. Ordinary share capital

During the period 599,372 Ordinary shares were bought back by the Company for holding in treasury (period to 30 September 2021 – 20,000; year to 31 March 2022 – 448,201), at a cost of £3,379,000 (30 September 2021 – £112,000; 31 March 2022 – £2,696,000). As at 30 September 2022 there were 57,337,755 (30 September 2021 – 58,365,328; 31 March 2022 – 57,937,127) Ordinary shares in issue, excluding 1,732,385 (30 September 2021 – 704,812; 31 March 2022 – 1,133,013) Ordinary shares held in treasury.

Following the period end a further 575,672 Ordinary shares were bought back for treasury by the Company at a cost of £3,262,000 resulting in there being 56,762,083 Ordinary shares in issue, excluding 2,308,057 Ordinary shares held in treasury at the date this Report was approved.

### 9. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At			At
	31 March 2022	Currency	Cash	30 September
		differences	flows	2022
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£,000
Cash and short term deposits	9,772	(15)	(3,830)	5,927
Debt due within one year	(30,000)	-	99	(29,901)
	(20,228)	(15)	(3,731)	(23,974)

	At			At	
	31 March	Currency	Cash	31 March	
	2021	2021	differences	flows	2022
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
Cash and short term deposits	2,588	(342)	7,526	9,772	
Debt due within one year	(24,000)	_	(6,000)	(30,000)	
	(21,412)	(342)	1,526	(20,228)	

A statement reconciling the movement in net funds to the net cash flow has not been presented as there are no differences from the above analysis.

### 10. Net asset value per Ordinary share

The net asset value per Ordinary share is based on a net asset value of  $\pounds$ 423,478,000 (30 September 2021 –  $\pounds$ 435,375,000; 31 March 2022 –  $\pounds$ 403,995,000) and on 57,337,755 (30 September 2021 – 58,365,328; 31 March 2022 – 57,937,127) Ordinary shares, being the number of Ordinary shares in issue at the period end.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

Continued

### 11. Fair value hierarchy

IFRS 13 'Fair Value Measurement' requires an entity to classify fair value measurements using a fair value hierarchy that reflects the subjectivity of the inputs used in making measurements. The fair value hierarchy has the following levels:

Level 1: quoted (unadjusted) market prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;

Level 2: valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is directly or indirectly observable; and

Level 3: valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is unobservable.

The financial assets and liabilities measured at fair value in the Condensed Statement of Financial Position and are grouped into the fair value hierarchy at the Condensed Statement of Financial Position date are as follows:

As at 30 September 2022	Note	Level 1 £'000	Level 2 £′000	Level 3 £′000	Total £'000
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss					
Quoted equities	a)	462,161	-	-	462,161
Net fair value		462,161	-	-	462,161

As at 30 September 2021	Note	Level 1 £′000	Level 2 £′000	Level 3 £'000	Total £'000
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss					
Quoted equities	a)	482,119	_	_	482,119
Net fair value		482,119	_	_	482,119

As at 31 March 2022	Note	Level 1 £'000	Level 2 £′000	Level 3 £'000	Total Total
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss					
Quoted equities	a)	439,881	-	-	439,881
Net fair value		439,881	_	_	439,881

a) Quoted equities. The fair value of the Company's investments in quoted equities has been determined by reference to their quoted bid prices at the reporting date. Quoted equities included in Fair Value Level 1 are actively traded on recognised stock exchanges.

### 12. Related party transactions

The Company has an agreement with abrdn Fund Managers Limited (the "Manager") for the provision of management, secretarial, accounting and administration services and for carrying out promotional activity services in relation to the Company.

During the period, the management fee was payable monthly in arrears and was based on 0.85% per annum up to £350m and 0.7% thereafter of the net assets of the Company (period ended 30 September 2021 and year ended 31 March 2022 the management fee payable was based on 0.85% per annum up to £350m and 0.7% per annum thereafter of the net assets of the Company). The management agreement is terminable by either the Company or the Manager on six months' notice. The amount payable in respect of the Company for the period was £1,681,000 (six months ended 30 September 2021 – £1,637,000; year ended 31 March 2022 – £3,328,000) and the balance due to the Manager at the period end was £863,000 (period end 30 September 2021 – £294,000; year end 31 March 2022 – £532,000). All investment management fees are charged 100% to the revenue column of the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

The Company has an agreement with the Manager for the provision of promotional activities in relation to the Company's participation in the abrdn Investment Trust Share Plan and ISA. The total fees paid and payable under the agreement during the period were \$83,000 (six months ended 30 September 2021 – \$83,000; year ended 31 March 2022 – \$166,000) and the balance due to the Manager at the period end was \$42,000 (period ended 30 September 2021 – \$83,000; year ended 31 March 2022 – \$166,000); year ended 31 March 2022 – \$42,000).

### 13. Segmental information

For management purposes, the Company is organised into one main operating segment, which invests in equity securities. All of the Company's activities are interrelated, and each activity is dependent on the others. Accordingly, all significant operating decisions are based upon analysis of the Company as one segment. The financial results from this segment are equivalent to the financial statements of the Company as a whole.

### 14. Half-Yearly Report

The financial information contained in this Half-Yearly Report does not constitute statutory accounts as defined in Sections 434 - 436 of the Companies Act 2006. The financial information for the six months ended 30 September 2022 and 30 September 2021 has not been audited.

The information for the year ended 31 March 2022 has been extracted from the latest published audited financial statements which have been filed with the Registrar of Companies. The report of the Independent Auditor on those accounts contained no qualification or statement under Section 237 (2), (3) or (4) of the Companies Act 2006.

The Half-Yearly Report has not been reviewed or audited by the Company's Independent Auditor.

### 15. Approval

This Half-Yearly Report was approved by the Board on 2 December 2022.

# **Alternative Performance Measures**

Alternative performance measures are numerical measures of the Company's current, historical or future performance, financial position or cash flows, other than financial measures defined or specified in the applicable financial framework. The Company's applicable financial framework includes International Financial Reporting Standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice issued by Association of Investment Companies. The Directors assess the Company's performance against a range of criteria which are viewed as particularly relevant for closed-end investment companies.

### Adjusted net asset value per Ordinary share<sup>A</sup>

This performance measure is used to provide a like for like comparison with the Company's Benchmark for the purposes of the potential five-yearly performance-related conditional tender offer announced on 24 March 2022. Further details may be found in the Chairman's Statement on page 4.

	30 September 2022	31 March 2022
Net assets attributable ( $\pounds'000$ )	423,478	N/A
Indian CGT charge for the period ( $\pounds'000$ )	176	N/A
Net assets attributable excluding Indian CGT charge ( $\pounds'000$ )	423,654	N/A
Number of Ordinary shares in issue	57,337,755	N/A
Adjusted net asset value per Ordinary share <sup>A</sup>	738.87p	N/A

<sup>A</sup> Adjusted NAV is the Company's NAV after adding back all Indian capital gains tax paid or accrued in respect of realised and unrealised gains made on investments.

### Discount to net asset value per Ordinary share

The discount is the amount by which the share price is lower than the net asset value per share with debt at fair value, expressed as a percentage of the net asset value.

		30 September 2022	31 March 2022
NAV per Ordinary share	a	738.57p	697.30p
Share price	b	578.00p	562.00p
Discount	(a-b)/a	21.7%	19.4%

### Net gearing

Net gearing measures the total borrowings less cash and cash equivalents divided by shareholders' funds, expressed as a percentage. Under AIC reporting guidance cash and cash equivalents includes amounts due to and from brokers at the period end.

		30 September 2022	31 March 2022
Borrowings (£′000)	a	29,901	30,000
Cash (£'000)	b	5,927	9,772
Amounts due to brokers (£'000)	с	116	2,019
Amounts due from brokers (£'000)	d	-	211
Shareholders' funds (£'000)	e	423,478	403,995
Net gearing	(a-b+c-d)/e	5.7%	5.5%

### Ongoing charges

The ongoing charges ratio has been calculated in accordance with guidance issued by the AIC as the total of annualised investment management fees and administrative expenses and expressed as a percentage of the average daily net asset values with debt at fair value published throughout the year. The ratio for 30 September 2022 is based on forecast ongoing charges for the year ending 31 March 2023.

	30 September 2022	31 March 2022
Investment management fees (£'000)	3,421	3,328
Administrative expenses (£'000)	1,021	927
Less: non-recurring charges (£'000) <sup>A</sup>	(30)	(28)
Ongoing charges (£′000)	4,412	4,227
Average net assets (£'000)	412,380	399,442
Ongoing charges ratio	1.07%	1.06%

<sup>A</sup> Professional fees unlikely to recur.

The ongoing charges ratio provided in the Company's Key Information Document is calculated in line with the PRIIPs regulations which amongst other things, includes the cost of borrowings and transaction costs.

# Alternative Performance Measures

### Continued

### **Total return**

NAV and share price total returns show how the NAV and share price has performed over a period of time in percentage terms, taking into account both capital returns and dividends paid to shareholders. Share price and NAV total returns are monitored against openended and closed-ended competitors, and the Benchmark, respectively.

Six months ended 30 September 2022		NAV	Adjusted NAV	Share Price
Opening at 1 April 2022	a	697.30p	697.30p	562.00p
Closing at 30 September 2022	b	738.57p	738.87p	578.00p
Price movements	c=(b/a)-1	5.9%	6.0%	2.8%
Dividend reinvestment <sup>A</sup>	d	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total return	c+d	+5.9%	+6.0%	+2.8%

				Share Price
Year ended 31 March 2022		NAV	Adjusted NAV	
Opening at 1 April 2021	a	627.05p	N/A	542.00p
Closing at 31 March 2022	b	697.30p	N/A	562.00p
Price movements	c=(b/a)-1	11.2%	N/A	3.7%
Dividend reinvestment <sup>A</sup>	d	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total return	c+d	+11.2%	N/A	+3.7%

<sup>A</sup> NAV total return involves investing the net dividend in the NAV of the Company with debt at par value on the date on which that dividend goes ex-dividend. Share price total return involves reinvesting the net dividend in the share price of the Company on the date on which that dividend goes ex-dividend.

# Keeping you Informed

#### Investors may receive information about the Company via email by registering at the foot of the homepage of the website: aberdeen-newindia.co.uk.

The website also includes current and historic Annual and Half-Yearly Reports, performance data, the latest monthly factsheet issued by the Manager together with links to the Company's share price and recent London Stock Exchange announcements.

If you have any general questions about the Company, the Manager or performance, please call the Customer Services Department on **0808 500 0040** (Freephone), send an email to **inv.trusts@abrdn.com** or write to:

#### abrdn Investment Trusts PO Box 11020 Chelmsford Essex CM99 2DB

Information about the Company, and other investment companies managed by the Manager, may also be found on social media, as follows:

#### Twitter: @abrdnTrusts

LinkedIn: abrdn Investment Trusts

# Investor Warning: Be alert to share fraud and boiler room scams

abrdn has been contacted by investors informing it that they have received telephone calls and emails from people who have offered to buy their investment company shares, purporting to work for abrdn or for third party firms. abrdn has also been notified of emails claiming that certain investment companies under its management have issued claims in the courts against individuals. These may be scams which attempt to gain your personal information with which to commit identity fraud or could be 'boiler room' scams where a payment from you is required to release the supposed payment for your shares. These callers/senders do not work for abrdn and any third party making such offers/claims has no link with abrdn.

abrdn does not 'cold-call' investors in this way. If you have any doubt over the veracity of a caller, do not offer any personal information, end the call and contact our Customer Services Department using the details on page 37.

The Financial Conduct Authority provides advice with respect to share fraud and boiler room scams: fca.org.uk/consumers/scams

### Alternative Investment Fund Managers Directive ("AIFMD") and Pre-Investment Disclosure Document ("PIDD")

The Company has appointed abrdn Fund Managers Limited (the "Manager") as its alternative investment fund manager and BNP Paribas Trust Corporation UK Limited (formerly BNP Paribas Securities Services, London Branch) as its depositary, under the AIFMD.

The AIFMD requires the Manager, as the Company's alternative investment fund manager, to make available to investors certain information around leverage and risk policies prior to such investors' investment in the Company. This information is contained in the PIDD which may be viewed on the Company's website.

The periodic disclosures required to be made by the Manager under the AIFMD are set out on page 89 of the Company's Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2022.

### Benchmark

The Company's Benchmark is the MSCI India Index (Sterling-adjusted).

### Suitability for Retail/NMPI Status

The Company's Ordinary shares are intended for investors primarily in the UK (including retail investors), professionally-advised private clients and institutional investors who are seeking long term capital appreciation from investment in Indian equities, via an investment company, and who understand and are willing to accept the risks of exposure to equities within a single emerging country fund. Private investors should consider consulting a financial adviser who specialises in advising on the acquisition of shares and other securities before acquiring shares. Investors should be capable of evaluating the risks and merits of such an investment and should have sufficient resources to bear any loss that may result.

The Company currently conducts its affairs, and intends to continue to do so for the foreseeable future, so that its shares can be recommended by a financial adviser to ordinary retail investors in accordance with the FCA's rules in relation to non-mainstream pooled investments ("NMPIs").

The Company's shares are excluded from the FCA's restrictions which apply to NMPIs because they are shares in an investment trust.

# Keeping you Informed

Continued

### **Direct Investment**

Investors can buy and sell shares in the Company directly through a stockbroker or indirectly through a lawyer, accountant or other professional adviser. Alternatively, for retail clients, shares can be bought directly through the abrdn Share Plan, abrdn Investment Trusts ISA or the abrdn Investment Plan for Children.

### Online dealing

There are a number of online dealing platforms for private investors that offer share dealing, ISAs and other means to invest in the company. Real-time execution-only stockbroking services allow you to trade online, manage your portfolio and buy UK listed shares. These sites do not give advice. Some comparison websites also look at dealing rates and terms.

### Discretionary private client stockbrokers

If you have a large sum to invest, you may wish to contact a discretionary private client stockbroker. They can manage your entire portfolio of shares and will advise you on your investments. To find a private client stockbroker visit The Personal Investment Management & Financial Advice Association at: pimfa.co.uk.

### **Financial advisers**

To find an adviser who recommends on investment trusts, visit **unbiased.co.uk** 

### **Regulation of stockbrokers**

Before approaching a stockbroker, always check that they are regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority:

#### Tel: **0800 111 6768** or at **fca.org.uk/firms/financial-services-register** Email: **consumerqueries@fca.org.uk**

#### Note

Please remember that past performance is not a guide to the future. Stock market and currency movements may cause the value of shares and the income from them to fall as well as rise and investors may not get back the amount they originally invested.

As with all equity investments, the value of investment trusts purchased will immediately be reduced by the difference between the buying and selling prices of the shares: the market maker's spread.

Investors should further bear in mind that the value of any tax relief will depend on the individual circumstances of the investor and that tax rates and reliefs, as well as the tax treatment of ISAs, may be changed by future legislation.

# How to Invest in Aberdeen New India Investment Trust PLC

### Shareholder Enquiries

For queries regarding shareholdings, lost certificates, dividend payments, registered details and related matters, shareholders holding their shares directly in the Company are advised to contact the registrar, Computershare (see Contact Addresses on page 37). Changes of address must be updated online or notified to the registrar in writing.

If you have any general questions about your Company, the Manager or performance, please call the Customer Services Department on **0808 500 0040**, send an email to **inv.trusts@abrdn.com** or write to **abrdn Investment Trusts**, **PO Box 11020, Chelmsford, Essex, CM99 2DB**.

### Literature Request Service

For literature and application forms the abrdn Share Plan, abrdn Investment Trusts ISA and the abrdn Investment Plan for Children or abrdn ISA Transfer, please contact abrdn Investment Trusts at the above address or call **0808 500 4000** (Freephone).

Terms and conditions for the abrdn Share Plan, abrdn Investment Trusts ISA and the abrdn Investment Plan for Children can be found under the 'Literature' section of **invtrusts.co.uk**.

### abrdn Investment Trusts ISA

abrdn offers an Investment Trust ISA (the "ISA") through which an investment may be made of up to  $\pounds20,000$  in tax year 2022/23.

There are no brokerage or initial charges for the ISA, although investors will suffer the bid-offer spread, which can, on some occasions, be a significant amount. Investors only pay Government Stamp Duty (currently 0.5%) on purchases. Selling costs are  $\pounds 15 + VAT$ . The annual ISA administration charge is  $\pounds 24 + VAT$ , calculated annually and applied on 31 March (or the last business day in March) and collected soon thereafter either by direct debit or, if there is no valid direct debit mandate in place, from the available cash in the ISA prior to the distribution or reinvestment of any income, or, where there is insufficient cash in the ISA, from the sale of investments held under the ISA. Under current legislation, investments in ISAs can grow free of capital gains tax.

### abrdn ISA Transfer

You can choose to transfer previous tax year investments to us which can be invested in the Company while retaining your ISA wrapper. The minimum lump sum for an ISA transfer is £1,000 and is subject to a minimum per investment trust of £250.

### abrdn Share Plan

abrdn operates a Share Plan through which shares in the Company can be purchased. There are no dealing charges on the initial purchase of shares, although investors will suffer the bid-offer spread, which can, on some occasions, be a significant amount. Lump sum investments start at £250, while regular savers may invest from £100 per month. Investors only pay Government Stamp Duty (currently 0.5%) on purchases. Selling costs are £10 + VAT. There is no restriction on how long an investor need invest in a Share Plan, and regular savers can stop or suspend participation by instructing abrdn in writing at any time.

### abrdn Investment Plan for Children

abrdn operates an Investment Plan for Children which covers a number of investment companies under its management including the Company. Anyone can invest in the Investment Plan for Children, including parents, grandparents and family friends (subject to the eligibility criteria as stated within terms and conditions). All investments are free of dealing charges on the initial purchase of shares, although investors will suffer the bidoffer spread, which can, on some occasions, be a significant amount. Lump sum investments start at £150 per trust, while regular savers may invest from £30 per month. Investors simply pay Government Stamp Duty (currently 0.5%) on purchases. Selling costs are £10 + VAT. There is no restriction on how long an investor need invest in the Investment Plan for Children, and regular savers can stop or suspend participation by instructing abrdn in writing at any time.

### Nominee Accounts and Voting Rights

In common with other schemes of this type, all investments in the abrdn Share Plan, abrdn Investment Trusts ISA and the abrdn Investment Plan for Children are held in nominee accounts and investors are provided with the equivalent of full voting and other rights of share ownership.

### Key Information Document (`KID')

The KID relating to the Company, published by the Manager, can be found on the Company's website.

The information on pages 31 to 33 has been approved for the purposes of Section 21 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (as amended by the Financial Services Act 2012) by abrdn Investment Managers Limited (formerly Aberdeen Asset Managers Limited) which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. General Information

### **Contact Addresses**

#### Directors

Michael Hughes, Chairman David Simpson, Senior Independent Director Andrew Robson, Chairman of the Audit Committee Rebecca Donaldson, Chairman of the Management Engagement Committee

#### **Company Secretaries**

abrdn Holdings Limited (formerly Aberdeen Asset Management PLC)

#### **Registered Office**

280 Bishopsgate London EC2M 4AG

Registered in England and Wales under company number 02902424

### Website

aberdeen-newindia.co.uk

#### **Points of Contact**

The Chairman, Senior Independent Director or Company Secretaries c/o the Registered Office of the Company

Email: new.india@abrdn.com

#### Legal Entity Identifier 549300D2AW66WYEVKF02

### United States Internal Revenue Service FATCA Registration Number (GIIN)

U2I09D.9999.SL.826

#### Alternative Investment Fund Manager

abrdn Fund Managers Limited

Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority

### **Investment Manager**

abrdn Asia Limited

### Customer Services Department and abrdn Children's Plan, Share Plan and ISA enquiries

abrdn Investment Trusts PO Box 11020 Chelmsford Essex CM99 2DB

#### Freephone: 0808 500 0040

(Open from 9.00am to 5.00pm, Monday to Friday, excluding public holidays in England & Wales)

Email: inv.trusts@abrdn.com

Twitter : @abrdnTrusts LinkedIn:

abrdn Investment Trusts

### Registrar (for direct shareholders)

Computershare Investor Services PLC The Pavilions Bridgwater Road Bristol BS99 6ZZ

#### Telephone: 0370 707 1153

(Lines are open Monday to Friday from 8.30am – 5.30pm, excluding public holidays in England & Wales. Charges for '03' numbers are determined by the caller's service provider. Calls may be recorded and monitored randomly for security and training purposes.)

#### Website: uk.computershare.com/investor

E-mail is available via the website

#### Independent Auditor

KPMG LLP

#### Depositary

BNP Paribas Trust Corporation UK Limited

#### Stockbrokers

Winterflood Securities Limited



For more information visit **aberdeen-newindia.co.uk** 

