INDIA FUND INC Form N-CSR March 03, 2009

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM N-CSR

## CERTIFIED SHAREHOLDER REPORT OF REGISTERED MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANIES

#### Investment Company Act file number <u>811-08266</u> The India Fund, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)
345 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10154
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip code)

Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP
425 Lexington Avenue

New York, NY 10017

(Name and address of agent for service)

Registrant s telephone number, including area code: 212-583-5000

Date of fiscal year end: <u>December 31</u> Date of reporting period: <u>December 31, 2008</u>

Form N-CSR is to be used by management investment companies to file reports with the Commission not later than 10 days after the transmission to stockholders of any report that is required to be transmitted to stockholders under Rule 30e-1 under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (17 CFR 270.30e-1). The Commission may use the information provided on Form N-CSR in its regulatory, disclosure review, inspection, and policymaking roles. A registrant is required to disclose the information specified by Form N-CSR, and the Commission will make this information public. A registrant is not required to respond to the collection of information contained in Form N-CSR unless the Form displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. Please direct comments concerning the accuracy of the information collection burden estimate and any suggestions for reducing the burden to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549. The OMB has reviewed this collection of information under the clearance requirements of 44 U.S.C. § 3507.

## Item 1. Reports to Stockholders.

The Report to Shareholders is attached herewith.

#### The India Fund, Inc.

February 25, 2009

#### Dear Fund Shareholder,

We are pleased to provide you with the audited financial statements of The India Fund, Inc. (the Fund ) for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008.

The Fund s net asset value (NAV) per share was \$17.38 on December 31, 2008, representing a decrease of (-61.3%), including the reinvestment of dividends, from the Fund s NAV per share on December 31, 2007, which was \$64.78. The Fund outperformed the S&P/IFC Investable India (USD) Index and the BSE-500 (USD) Index\*, which fell (-63.7%) and (-65.7%), respectively, during the same period.

Global equities suffered steep losses in 2008, recording their worst performance in recent memory, as the U.S. sub-prime mortgage crisis spread rapidly into a global credit crisis, sending shock waves through financial markets across the world and sparking a broad-based sell-off in emerging markets. India, of course, was no exception to the global meltdown, despite remaining one of Asia s most insular economies, with exports as a percentage of the gross domestic product (GDP) averaging only 17% compared to an average of 40% for the overall region. The fact that Asian markets were battered even more than developed markets appears to put to rest, at least for now, the theory that export-dependent Asia has the capability to de-couple from the U.S. economy.

The BSE Sensex actually started 2008 on a somewhat promising note, hitting an all time high of 21,206 in early January. However, the positive sentiment was short-lived, as subsequent global credit shocks, soaring commodity prices, and eventually, a sharp growth slowdown, all ensured that no global equity market would remain unscathed. Indeed, India underperformed the rest of Asia in 2008, plunging 64-65%, although we believe much of this had to do with the country s strong outperformance in 2007 (when it surged 65%), which helped put it at a 15% valuation premium to the region going into the year. For 2008, India saw a net outflow of \$13.4 billion of foreign investor portfolio investments compared to an inflow of \$17.4 billion in 2007. Other Asian markets saw similar reversals in portfolio flows.

The Indian government struggled with tough challenges all year as the first half of 2008 saw surging commodity prices, with oil hitting \$140 a barrel, that helped ignite inflation, which jumped from 4% to more than 13% by August, the highest in 16 years. The high oil price also helped worsen the country s already precarious fiscal position, which was aggravated further by large subsidies earmarked to help the agricultural sector cope with soaring prices.

At the same time India s fiscal position was weakening, the central bank, Reserve Bank of India (RBI), was also forced to dramatically tighten monetary policy, leading banks to impose curbs on credit growth and toughen lending standards. This action significantly impacted rate sensitive sectors such as consumer durables and real estate. With the global financial crisis squeezing liquidity, foreign currency outflows led to a sharp rupee depreciation, raising the cost of foreign loan exposure and negatively impacting a number of industries, including real estate (-86%) and consumer durables (-78%), both of which significantly underperformed the market. By contrast, India s rural economy was relatively stable, although to some degree this was aided by the government s aforementioned counter-cyclical spending programs.

Given the challenges faced in 2008, we believe the RBI did a reasonable job managing the rapidly deteriorating economic conditions, which prevented a bad situation from becoming worse. First, the RBI s tough risk control measures ensured that Indian banks had reasonable leverage ratios as well as minimal exposure to collateralized debt obligations, collateralized loan obligations, and other credit derivative instruments which have proven so damaging to global banks balance sheets. In addition, just as the RBI aggressively hiked rates to stem accelerating inflation in the first half of 2008, when commodity prices plunged in the face of looming recession fears, the RBI immediately began reversing its tightening policy.

The cash reserve ratio for banks was quickly slashed from 9% to eventually 5% while similarly the repo rate was cut from a peak of 9% to 5.5%. As in the rest of Asia, however, none of this was enough to prevent a sharp decline in India s exports or consumer demand. Industrial production growth decelerated sharply to only 4.8% in the 11 months ended November 2008 compared to 10.1% in the same period a year ago, as well as contracting month-on-month in October (the first month-on-month decline in 15 years). With the worsening outlook, India s GDP estimates have been scaled back to only 7% for the fiscal year ending March 2009 and 6.2% for the fiscal year ending March 2010, after growing at an 8-9% compound annual growth rate ( CAGR ) for the past four years. Earnings growth estimates also reflect a sharp deceleration from the 25% CAGR of the past four years, with 4% earnings per share growth forecast for the fiscal year ending March 2009 and 8% estimated for the fiscal year ending March 2010.

In addition to global macro developments and domestic corporate earnings, there should be at least two other drivers for Indian stocks this year. First, elections will be held in April or May 2009. Following the exit of far-Left parties, the current Congress-led coalition government has been able to push through significant progressive measures over the past few years, including the civilian nuclear deal, and the recent announcement of a \$5 billion stimulus package. We believe a win by any stable progressive coalition focused on responsible public spending and privatizing non-key sectors would be a big boost for investor confidence. Second, the Satyam Computers fraud has been a corporate governance embarrassment for India, and temporarily at least, has raised the equity risk premium for the entire market. How quickly corporate India recovers from this depends on the government s ongoing response as well as what new risk-management and disclosure regulations are put in place to avoid such problems in the future. We remain confident that Satyam is not representative of corporate India as a whole, and that market sentiment should gradually recover from this unfortunate episode.

THE INDIA FUND, INC.

Despite the continuing global macro headwinds we believe current conditions represent a cyclical downturn which does not diminish India s long-term investment potential. With its huge domestic economy and rapidly expanding middle class, India s structural growth story remains intact. Following the recent downgrades, Indian equities now trade on a price-earnings multiple of 8.8x forward 12 months earnings, basically at the Asian region s average. We believe valuations also look compelling from a historical perspective, trading at the lower end of the 7.1-29.2x range that Indian stocks have seen over the past 16 years (12.9x average). In our opinion at current levels, we would argue that investor risk is being amply rewarded, something that has not always been the case in the past.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, we thank you for your participation and continued support of the Fund. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to visit our website at www.blackstone.com or call our toll-free number, 1-866-800-8933.

Sincerely,

Prakash Melwani Director and President

\* Please note that the S&P/IFC Investable India Index and BSE-500 Index are unmanaged indices. Investors cannot directly invest in either index. The indices do not reflect transaction costs or manager fees.

**PAST PERFORMANCE IS NO GUARANTEE OF FUTURE RESULTS.** There is no guarantee that the Funds or any other investment technique will be effective under all market conditions.

#### **Fundamental Periodic Repurchase Policy**

The Fund has adopted the following fundamental policy regarding periodic repurchases:

- a) The Fund will make offers to repurchase its shares at semi-annual intervals pursuant to Rule 23c-3 under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended from time to time (Offers). The Board of Directors may place such conditions and limitations on Offers as may be permitted under Rule 23c-3.
- b) 14 days prior to the last Friday of the Fund s first and third fiscal quarters, or the next business day if such Friday is not a business day, will be the deadline (the Repurchase Request Deadline ) by which the Fund must receive repurchase requests submitted by stockholders in response to the most recent Offer.
- c) The date on which the repurchase price for shares is to be determined (the Repurchase Pricing Date ) shall occur no later than the last Friday of the Fund s first and third fiscal quarters, or the next business day if such day is not a business day.
- d) Offers may be suspended or postponed under certain circumstances, as provided for in Rule 23c-3.

(For further details, see Note F to the Financial Statements.)

**December 31, 2008** 

Schedule of Investments

INDIA (99.54% of holdings)

COMMON STOCKS (99.87% of holdings)

NUMBER	<i>5</i> /	PERCENT OF		
OF SHARES	SECURITY	HOLDINGS	COST	VALUE
	India	99.41%		
1 645 015	Apparel Manufacturers	0.27%	¢ 2.252.260	¢ 1.041.070
1,645,815	Provogue (India), Ltd.		\$ 3,352,269	\$ 1,841,070
			3,352,269	1,841,070
	Beverages Alcoholic	1.50%		
553,281	United Spirits, Ltd.		14,988,095	10,066,830
			14,988,095	10,066,830
	<b>Building &amp; Construction</b>	1.83%		
364,050	Gammon India, Ltd.		569,918	587,322
782,886	IVRCL Infrastructures and Projects, Ltd.		2,214,146	2,305,914
1,661,547	Jaiprakash Associates, Ltd.		2,493,406	2,830,632
307,419	KEC International, Ltd.		3,466,859	1,034,195
435,339	Madhucon Projects, Ltd.		2,490,015	763,541
2,178,200	Nagarjuna Construction Co., Ltd.		2,597,133	3,207,838
234,595	Titagarh Wagons, Ltd.**		3,985,505	1,574,849
			17,816,982	12,304,291
	Cement	1.39%		
4,898,000	Ambuja Cements, Ltd.		5,508,601	7,007,196
808,040	Sagar Cements, Ltd.		3,467,591	2,332,735
			8,976,192	9,339,931
	Chemicals	0.52%		
329,450	Tata Chemicals, Ltd.		1,145,422	1,113,043
1,074,600	United Phosphorus, Ltd.		3,850,838	2,373,296
			4,996,260	3,486,339
	Computer Software & Programming	9.83%		

14,000	Educomp Solutions, Ltd.	701,335	690,675
632,750	Everonn Systems India, Ltd.**+	6,844,133	2,756,231
2,512,262	Infosys Technologies, Ltd.	39,189,331	57,642,284
786,649	KPIT Cummins Infosystems, Ltd.	794,617	439,180
2,786	Satyam Computer Services, Ltd.	17,189	9,730
1,863,073	Tanla Solutions, Ltd.	7,548,977	2,739,926
172,000	Tata Consultancy Services, Ltd.	2,001,743	1,687,874
		57,097,325	65,965,900

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**December 31, 2008** 

Schedule of Investments (continued)

COMMON STOCKS	(continued)
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COMMON STO	CKS (continued)	DEDCENT		
NUMBER OF SHARES	SECURITY	PERCENT OF HOLDINGS	COST	VALUE
7,183,328	India (continued) Consumer Non-Durables ITC, Ltd.	3.77%	\$ 23,305,764	\$ 25,278,768
			23,305,764	25,278,768
2,743,950	Consumer Products Marico, Ltd.	0.47%	4,077,423	3,125,805
			4,077,423	3,125,805
404,154 6,592,365	Consumer Staples Colgate-Palmolive (India), Ltd. Hindustan Unilever, Ltd.	5.55%	3,073,837 33,436,603	3,385,370 33,861,645
			36,510,440	37,247,015
40,843 107,214 688,590 4,425,980 4,125,368 14,891 3,289,723	Diversified Financial Services Edelweiss Capital, Ltd. Future Capital Holdings, Ltd.+ Indiabulls Financial Service, Ltd. Infrastructure Development Finance Co., Lt Power Finance Corp. Reliance Capital, Ltd. SREI Infrastructure Finance, Ltd.	<b>3.37</b> % d.	548,386 406,458 1,659,035 6,854,419 14,317,474 164,279 7,657,513	237,496 396,441 1,885,425 6,068,462 11,261,780 165,568 2,616,518
			31,607,564	22,631,690
306,870	Electric Transmission Power Grid Corp. of India, Ltd.	0.08%	495,233	524,047
			495,233	524,047
52,398	Electronics & Electrical Equipment Bharat Electronics, Ltd.	9.86%	766,197	808,663

773,512	Bharat Heavy Electricals, Ltd.	7,725,221	21,630,393
6,882,400	Exide Industries, Ltd.	10,990,237	6,780,690
660,000	HBL Power Systems, Ltd.	2,857,900	1,977,155
672,006	Indo Tech Transformers, Ltd.	3,542,561	4,015,208
2,901,824	Jyoti Structures, Ltd.	3,991,456	4,467,094
929,596	Kei Industries, Ltd.	1,102,958	262,546
433,690	Lanco Infratech, Ltd.+	1,110,059	1,383,767
2,188,600	NTPC, Ltd.	10,101,265	8,130,882
1,320,961	Punj Lloyd, Ltd.	5,205,496	3,987,014
475,381	Reliance Infastructure, Ltd.	5,314,456	5,655,395
457,608	Tata Power Co., Ltd.	7,862,733	7,028,960
		60,570,539	66,127,767

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## THE INDIA FUND, INC.

**December 31, 2008** 

Schedule of Investments (continued)

COMMON STOCKS	(continued)
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COMMONDIO	ens (continued)	PERCENT		
NUMBER OF SHARES	•	PERCENT OF HOLDINGS	COST	VALUE
	India (continued) Energy Alternate Sources	0.15%		
390,973	Webel-Sl Energy Systems, Ltd.		\$ 3,247,755	\$ 1,020,767
			3,247,755	1,020,767
	Engineering	2.41%		
795,554	Larsen & Toubro, Ltd.		21,592,009	12,645,259
956,717	Thermax, Ltd.		702,209	3,507,177
			22,294,218	16,152,436
	Finance	18.04%		
312,313	Axis Bank, Ltd.		3,248,731	3,234,991
687,450	Bank of Baroda		3,461,811	3,957,212
958,213	HDFC Bank, Ltd.		18,647,905	19,620,552
1,062,648	Housing Development Finance Corp., Ltd.		16,620,217	32,445,444
1,277,159	ICICI Bank, Ltd.		8,555,498	11,753,166
700,000	India Infoline, Ltd.		727,332	734,195
72,993	Oriental Bank of Commerce		188,008	230,051
1,075,479	Punjab National Bank, Ltd.		11,678,427	11,615,703
5,097,675	South Indian Bank, Ltd.		6,558,369	5,937,870
952,746	State Bank of India		10,181,195	25,192,427
45,550	State Bank of India GDR		525,435	2,505,250
1,131,800	Union Bank of India, Ltd.		2,749,790	3,786,605
			83,142,718	121,013,466
	Financial Services	0.02%		
66,353	Network 18 Media & Investments, Ltd. PCC	CPS+	86,356	102,144
			86,356	102,144
	Food	0.95%		
1,577,539	Lakshmi Energy & Foods, Ltd.+		5,930,785	6,362,611

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			5,930,785	6,362,611
	Hotels & Leisure	0.54%		
9,256,950	Hotel Leelaventure, Ltd.		6,821,191	3,619,559
			6,821,191	3,619,559
	<b>Independent Power Producers</b>	0.08%		
219,000	Reliance Power, Ltd.		504,376	538,510
			504,376	538,510

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

**December 31, 2008** 

Schedule of Investments (continued)

COMMON STOCKS	(continued)	
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COMMON STC	OCKS (continued)			
NUMBER OF SHARES	SECURITY	PERCENT OF HOLDINGS	COST	VALUE
	India (continued) Metal Diversified	0.67%		
419,272	Hindustan Zinc, Ltd.		\$ 2,710,117	\$ 2,912,185
292,068	Sterlite Industries (India), Ltd.		1,563,547	1,563,151
			4,273,664	4,475,336
	Motorcycle/Motor Scooter	0.67%		
556,480	Bajaj Auto, Ltd.		5,599,475	4,468,288
			5,599,475	4,468,288
	Oil & Gas	0.00%		
520	Reliance Natural Resources, Ltd.+		496	611
			496	611
	Oil Integrated	0.23%		
864,250	Reliance Petroleum, Ltd.+		1,557,194	1,547,738
			1,557,194	1,547,738
	Petroleum Related	16.62%		
516,975	Gail India, Ltd.		3,154,516	2,185,896
514,700	Hindustan Petroleum Corp., Ltd.		2,056,283	2,880,925
137,039	Indian Oil Corp., Ltd.		952,593	1,198,951
1,730,705	Oil and Natural Gas Corp., Ltd.		23,518,926	23,717,259
3,226,506	Reliance Industries, Ltd.		37,395,375	81,473,912
			67,077,693	111,456,943
	Pharmaceuticals	4.57%		
384,250	Cipla, Ltd.		1,423,812	1,474,063
761,897	Dishman Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals, Ltd	<b>1</b> .	2,898,584	2,172,157
57,000	Dr. Reddy s Laboratories, Ltd.		503,358	549,584

1,619,050 724,715 342,712	Glenmark Pharmaceuticals, Ltd.+ Lupin, Ltd. Sun Pharmaceutical Industries, Ltd.		16,881,815 11,726,243 5,167,671	9,801,699 9,190,582 7,491,198
			38,601,483	30,679,283
	Publishing	0.02%		
600,000	Business India Publications (Preferential Shares)+		1,003,792	104,680
			1,003,792	104,680
	Retail Stores	0.03%		
251,640	Brandhouse Retails, Ltd.+		404,058	199,887
			404,058	199,887

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## THE INDIA FUND, INC.

**December 31, 2008** 

Schedule of Investments (continued)

COMMON	CTOCKC	(bornting)
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COMMON STO	OCKS (continued)	DEDCENT				
NUMBER OF SHARES	SECURITY	PERCENT OF HOLDINGS		COST		VALUE
4,700,000	India (concluded) Shipbuilding Pipavav Shipyard, Ltd.+	0.44%	\$	9,488,959	\$	2,978,017
1,700,000	Tipavav Sinpyara, Eta.		Ψ	9,488,959	Ψ	2,978,017
454,564	<b>Steel</b> Jindal Saw, Ltd.	2.60%		5,422,906		2,067,557
564,685 931,600 2,570,767	Jindal Steel & Power, Ltd. Monnet Ispat & Energy, Ltd. Sujana Towers, Ltd.+			3,118,416 7,457,015 3,088,983		10,569,299 2,974,351 1,126,557
150,000	Tata Steel, Ltd.			727,176 <b>19,814,496</b>		667,642 <b>17,405,406</b>
2 102 514	<b>Telecommunications</b> Bharti Airtel, Ltd.+	8.54%		, ,		
3,192,514 2,238,421	Reliance Communication, Ltd.			37,559,509 12,118,609		46,858,923 10,440,911
	Televisions	0.43%		49,678,118		57,299,834
3,929,572	Zee News, Ltd.			2,847,761		2,855,231
	Transport Marine	0.14%		2,847,761		2,855,231
224,470	Great Eastern Shipping Co.			1,033,564 1,033,564		934,831 <b>934,831</b>
	Transportation	0.19%				·
1,532,848	Transport Corporation of India, Ltd.			2,619,885 2,619,885		1,289,958 1,289,958

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	Vehicle Components	1.15%		
1,041,986	Amtek Auto, Ltd.		4,085,044	1,444,708
1,385,616	Cummins India, Ltd.		8,118,840	6,300,969
			12,203,884	7,745,677
	Vehicles	2.48%		
462,851	Hero Honda Motors, Ltd.		8,435,388	7,614,906
1,038,434	Mahindra & Mahindra, Ltd.		10,785,610	5,858,243
294,303	Maruti Suzuki India, Ltd.		5,336,804	3,141,769
			24,557,802	16,614,918
	TOTAL INDIA		626,583,809	666,805,584

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

December 31, 2008 Schedule of Investments (continued)								
COMMON STO NUMBER OF SHARES	OCKS (concluded) SECURITY	PERCENT OF HOLDINGS	COST	VALUE				
171,700	India (concluded) United States Computer Software & Programming Cognizant Technology Solutions, Inc.+	0.46% 0.46%	\$ 2,953,851	\$ 3,100,902				
	TOTAL UNITED STATES TOTAL COMMON STOCKS		2,953,851 2,953,851 629,537,660	3,100,902 3,100,902 669,906,486				
<b>WARRANTS</b> 94,902	(0.01% of holdings)  Computer Software & Programming  Everonn Systems India, Ltd.	0.00%	159,406	0				
66,353	Financial Services Network 18 Media & Investments, Ltd.	0.01%	159,406 116,248	51,753				
	TOTAL WARRANTS		116,248 275,654	51,753 51,753				
<b>EXCHANGE</b> 7 25,800	FRADED NOTE (0.12% of holdings) iPath MSCI India Index ETN+  TOTAL EXCHANGE TRADED NOTE	0.12%	801,123 <b>801,123</b>	816,312 <b>816,312</b>				
	TOTAL INVESTMENTS*	100.00%	\$ 630,614,437	\$ 670,774,551				

## **Footnotes and Abbreviations**

GDR Global Depository Receipts

<sup>+</sup> Non income producing.

\* As of December 31, 2008, the aggregate cost for federal income tax purposes was \$636,364,605.

Excess of value over tax cost	\$ 146,209,529
Excess of tax cost over value	(111,799,583)
	\$ 34,409,946

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#### THE INDIA FUND, INC.

**December 31, 2008** 

#### Schedule of Investments (concluded)

\*\* Denotes restricted shares. Sale of these shares is restricted for one year from the date of purchase. As of December 31, 2008, the Fund held the following restricted securities:

SECURITY	ACQUISITION DATES		COST	% OF NET ASSETS
Everonn Systems India, Ltd. Titagarh Wagons, Ltd.	06/11/08 02/29/08	\$ \$	5,579,199 3,985,505	0.22% 0.23% 11

Statement of Assets and Liabilities	De	cember 31, 2008
ASSETS Investments, at value (Cost \$630,614,437) Cash (including Indian Rupees of \$17,238,997 with a cost of \$17,599,138) Receivables: Dividends Securities sold	\$	670,774,551 30,291,935 667,491 1,788,621
Prepaid expenses  Total Assets		246,709
Total Assets		703,769,307
LIABILITIES Distributions payable Accrued tax and interest expense payable Due to Investment Manager Due to Administrator Accrued Custodian fees Accrued expenses		25,868,397 4,845,174 604,350 132,181 63,063 1,169,051
Total Liabilities		32,682,216
Net Assets	\$	671,087,091
NET ASSET VALUE PER SHARE (\$671,087,091 / 38,609,548 shares issued and outstanding)	\$	17.38
NET ASSETS CONSIST OF: Capital stock, \$0.001 par value; 48,775,906 shares issued (100,000,000 shares authorized) Paid-in capital Cost of 10,166,358 shares repurchased Distribution in excess of net investment income Accumulated net realized loss on investments Net unrealized appreciation in value of investments, foreign currency holdings and on translation of other assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currency		48,575 1,017,110,959 (360,379,763) (20,253) (25,472,174) 39,799,747
	\$	671,087,091

Statement of Operations			Year Ended aber 31, 2008
Investment Income Dividends (net of taxes withheld of \$16,376) Interest		\$	17,890,238 280,720
Total investment income			18,170,958
Expenses  Management fees Administration fees Foreign tax expense Custodian fees Printing Legal fees Insurance Directors fees Audit fees and tax fees ICI fees NYSE fees	15,099,979 3,150,653 586,323 532,868 429,344 321,053 289,247 224,500 172,446 48,171 33,775		
Transfer Agent fees Miscellaneous expenses	29,233 40,345		
Total expenses			20,957,937
Net investment loss			(2,786,979)
Net Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments, Foreign Currency Holdings and Translation of Other Assets and Liabilities Denominated in Foreign Currency: Net realized gain (loss) on:			
Security transactions Foreign currency related transactions			3,259,779 (9,489,315)
			(6,229,536)
Net change in unrealized appreciation in value of investments, foreign currency holdings and translation of other assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currency		(1	.,637,953,762)
Net realized and unrealized loss on investments, foreign currency holdings and translation of other assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currency		(1	,644,183,298)

Net decrease in net assets resulting from operations

\$ (1,646,970,277)

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Statements of Changes in Net Assets

	For the Year ended December 31, 2008		De	For the Year ended cember 31, 2007
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS Operations				
Net investment loss Net realized gain (loss) on investments and foreign currency related	\$	(2,786,979)	\$	(6,285,614)
transactions Net change in unrealized appreciation in value of investments,		(6,229,536)		594,368,400
foreign currency holdings and translation of other assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currency		(1,637,953,762)		791,935,835
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations		(1,646,970,277)		1,380,018,621
<b>Distribution to shareholders</b> Net investment income (\$0.26 per share, and \$0.13 per share,				
respectively)		(9,976,560)		(5,527,180)
Short term capital gains (\$0.52 per share, and \$0.82 per share, respectively)		(19,953,120)		(34,863,751)
Long term capital gains (\$6.34 per share, and \$8.66 per share, respectively)		(243,434,150)		(368,195,229)
Decrease in net assets resulting from distributions		(273,363,830)		(408,586,160)
Capital Share Transactions Reinvestments				
(238,163 shares and 98,828 shares at \$16.50 and \$42.94 per share, respectively)		3,929,673		4,243,663
Shares repurchased under Repurchase Offer (4,145,385 shares and 2,447,384 shares, respectively) (net of		3,929,073		4,243,003
repurchase fee of \$3,389,777 and \$2,749,918, respectively) (including expenses of \$533,804 and \$135,162, respectively)		(166,632,872)		(134,892,365)
Net decrease in net assets resulting from capital share transactions		(162,703,199)		(130,648,702)
Total increase (decrease) in net assets		(2,083,037,306)		840,783,759
NET ASSETS Beginning of year		2,754,124,397		1,913,340,638
End of year (including distribution in excess of net investment income of \$20,253 and \$2,162,924, respectively)	\$	671,087,091	\$	2,754,124,397

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## Financial Highlights

## For a Share Outstanding throughout Each Year

	For the Year Ended Dec. 31, 2008	For the Year Ended Dec. 31, 2007	For the Year Ended Dec. 31, 2006	For the Year Ended Dec. 31, 2005	For the Year Ended Dec. 31, 2004
Per Share Operating Perform Net asset value, beginning of year	<b>s</b> 64.78	\$ 42.65	\$ 34.07	\$ 28.47	\$ 23.76
Net investment income (loss) Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments, foreign currency holdings, and translation of other assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currency	(0.07) <sup>2</sup>	(0.14) <sup>2</sup>	$(0.14)^2$	0.04 <sub>2</sub> 11.35	0.08 <sub>2</sub> 6.14
Income tax (expense) reversal  Net increase (decrease) from investment operations after income taxes	(40.35)	31.68	0.56 <sub>3</sub>	$(0.80)^4$ $10.59$	6.22
Less: dividends and distributions Dividends from:					
Net investment income	(0.26)	(0.13)	(0.14)	(0.06)	(0.01)
Short term capital gains	(0.52)	(0.82)	(0.14)	(0.51)	(1.71)
Long term capital gains	(6.34)	(8.66)	(4.84)	(3.89)	(1.51)
Total dividends and					
distributions	(7.12)	(9.61)	(5.12)	(4.46)	(1.52)
Capital share transactions Anti-dilutive (dilutive) effect of Share Repurchase Program Anti-dilutive effect of Tender Offer	0.07	0.06	5	(0.01)	0.01

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Dilutive effect of Rights Offer				(0.55)	(0.52)	
Total capital share transactions		0.07	0.06	(0.55)	(0.53)	0.01
Net asset value, end of year	\$	17.38	\$ 64.78	\$ 42.65	\$ 34.07	\$ 28.47
Per share market value, end of						
year	\$	18.30	\$ 62.26	\$ 45.90	\$ 39.73	\$ 29.63
<b>Total Investment Return Base</b>	ed o	n:				
Market Value <sup>1</sup>		(57.63)%	59.57%	29.05%	49.32%	23.51%
Ratios/Supplemental Data						
Net assets, end of year						
(in 000s)	\$	671,087	\$ 2,754,124	\$ 1,913,341	\$ 1,083,714	\$ 644,672
Ratios of expenses after						
income taxes to						
average net assets		1.28%	1.21%	0.00%	4.13%	1.64%
Ratios of expenses before						
income taxes to						
average net assets		1.28%	1.21%	1.41%	1.49%	1.64%
Ratios of net investment						
income (loss) to						
average net assets		(0.17)%	(0.28)%	(0.34)%	0.12%	0.33%
Portfolio turnover		49.41%	29.39%	35.02%	50.28%	35.90%
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Financial Highlights (concluded)

#### For a Share Outstanding throughout Each Year

- Total investment return is calculated assuming a purchase of common stock at the market price on the first day and a sale at the market price on the last day of each period reported. Dividends and distributions, if any, are assumed, for purposes of this calculation, to be reinvested at prices obtained under the Fund s dividend reinvestment plan. Total investment return does not reflect brokerage commissions or sales charges and is not annualized. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results.
- <sup>2</sup> Based on average shares outstanding.
- A reversal of \$20,551,036 was made in 2006 to the prior year s tax provision described below (see Note B).
- A provision of \$25,507,350 was made for U.S. federal income tax purposes for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2005. This provision was made as, at that time, it was unclear whether the Fund qualified as a regulated investment company (a RIC) under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code for the taxable year ended December 31, 2004 (see Note B).
- 5 Less than \$0.01 per share.

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**December 31, 2008** 

Notes to Financial Statements

#### NOTE A: ORGANIZATION

The India Fund, Inc. (the Fund ) was incorporated in Maryland on December 27, 1993, and commenced operations on February 23, 1994. The Fund operates through a branch in the Republic of Mauritius. The Fund is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the 1940 Act ), as a non-diversified closed-end management investment company. The Fund s investment objective is long-term capital appreciation by investing primarily in Indian equity securities.

#### NOTE B: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following significant accounting policies are in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America (GAAP), which are consistently followed by the Fund in the preparation of its financial statements.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of increases and decreases in net assets from operations during the reported period. Actual results could differ from those estimates and those differences could be material.

#### Significant accounting policies are as follows:

**Portfolio Valuation.** Investments are stated at value in the accompanying financial statements. All securities for which market quotations are readily available are valued at:

- (i) the last sales price prior to the time of determination, if there was a sale on the date of determination,
- (ii) at the mean between the last current bid and asked prices, if there was no sales price on such date and bid and asked quotations are available, or
- (iii) at the last available closing price if no bid or asked price is available on such date.

Securities that are traded over-the-counter are valued, if bid and asked quotations are available, at the mean between the current bid and asked prices. Securities for which sales prices and bid and asked quotations are not available on the date of determination or for which the spread between the bid and asked prices is considered excessive may be valued at the most recently available prices or quotations under policies adopted by the Board of Directors. Investments in short-term debt securities having a maturity of 60 days or less are generally valued at amortized cost which approximates market value. Securities for which market values are not readily ascertainable are carried at fair value as determined in good faith by or under the supervision of the Board of Directors. The net asset value per share of the Fund is calculated weekly and at the end of each month.

**December 31, 2008** 

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

**Investment Transactions and Investment Income.** Investment transactions are accounted for on the trade date. The cost of investments sold is determined by use of the specific identification method for both financial reporting and income tax reporting purposes. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis; dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date or, using reasonable diligence, when known. The collectibility of income receivable from Indian securities is evaluated periodically, and any resulting allowances for uncollectible amounts are reflected currently in the determination of investment income.

**Tax Status.** No provision is made for U.S. federal income or excise taxes for 2008 as it is the Fund s intention to continue to qualify as a regulated investment company (a RIC) under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code) and to make the requisite distributions to its shareholders that will be sufficient to relieve it from all or substantially all federal income and excise taxes.

For the year ended December 31, 2005, a provision of \$25,507,350 was made for U.S. federal income tax purposes as, at that time, it was unclear whether the Fund qualified as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code for the taxable year ended December 31, 2004. In order to preserve the Fund s status as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code for the taxable year ended December 31, 2004, on April 20, 2006 the Fund distributed a deficiency dividend to shareholders in the amount of \$1.07 per share, of which \$0.95 per share was designated as a Capital Gain Dividend. Under the deficiency dividend procedure, the maximum amount that the Fund will be obligated to pay to the Internal Revenue Service in interest and penalties is approximately \$4,956,314. Accordingly, a reversal of \$20,551,036 was made in 2006 to the prior year s tax provision.

Income and capital gain distributions are determined in accordance with U.S. federal income tax regulations, which may differ from GAAP.

The tax character of distributions paid during the year ended December 31, 2008 were as follows:

 Ordinary income
 \$ 29,742,396

 Long term capital gains
 243,621,434

Total \$ 273,363,830

At December 31, 2008, the Fund had no tax basis undistributed income or gains.

Under federal tax law, capital losses realized after October 31 may be deferred and treated as occurring on the first day of the following year. For the year ended December 31, 2008, the Fund will defer post-October capital losses of \$19,263,104 to the year ended December 31, 2009.

The Fund files U.S. federal income tax returns and returns in various foreign jurisdictions in which it invests. While the statute of limitations remains open to examine the Fund s U.S. federal income tax returns filed for the fiscal years

2005 to 2008, no examinations are in progress or anticipated at this time. The Fund is not aware of any tax positions for which it is reasonably possible that the total amounts of unrecognized tax benefits will significantly change in the next twelve months.

**December 31, 2008** 

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

**Foreign Currency Translation.** The books and records of the Fund are maintained in U.S. dollars. Foreign currency amounts are translated into U.S. dollars on the following basis:

- (i) value of investment securities, assets and liabilities at the prevailing rates of exchange on the valuation date; and
- (ii) purchases and sales of investment securities and investment income at the relevant rates of exchange prevailing on the respective dates of such transactions.

The Fund generally does not isolate the effect of fluctuations in foreign exchange rates from the effect of fluctuations in the market prices of securities. However, the Fund does isolate the effects of fluctuations in foreign currency rates when determining the gain or loss upon the sale of foreign currency denominated debt obligations pursuant to U.S. federal income tax regulations; such amounts are categorized as foreign currency gains or losses for federal income tax purposes. The Fund reports certain realized foreign exchange gains and losses as components of realized gains and losses for financial reporting purposes, whereas such amounts are treated as ordinary income for U.S. federal income tax reporting purposes.

**Distribution of Income and Gains.** The Fund intends to distribute annually to shareholders substantially all of its net investment income, including foreign currency gains, and to distribute annually any net realized gains after the utilization of available capital loss carryovers. An additional distribution may be made to the extent necessary to avoid payment of a 4% U.S. federal excise tax.

Distributions to shareholders are recorded on the ex-dividend date. The amount of dividends and distributions from net investment income and net realized gains are determined in accordance with federal income tax regulations, which may differ from GAAP. These book/tax differences are either considered temporary or permanent in nature. To the extent these differences are permanent in nature, such amounts are reclassified at the end of each fiscal year with the capital accounts based on their U.S. federal tax-basis treatment; temporary differences do not require reclassification. Dividends and distributions which exceed net investment income and net realized capital gains for financial reporting purposes but not for tax purposes are reported as dividends in excess of net investment income and net realized capital gains. To the extent they exceed net investment income and net realized gains for tax purposes, they are reported as distributions of additional paid-in capital.

The following permanent difference is primarily attributable to net operating losses written off, foreign currency gains (losses), and investments in Passive Foreign Investment Companies and has been reclassified to the accounts in the chart below as of December 31, 2008. Net assets were not affected by this reclassification.

**Undistributed Net Investment Loss** 

Accumulated Net Realized Loss

Paid-in Capital

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(\$ 22,490,099) \$ 14,906,210 \$ 7,583,889

**December 31, 2008** 

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

## NOTE C: MANAGEMENT, INVESTMENT ADVISORY, ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND DIRECTORS

Blackstone Asia Advisors L.L.C. (Blackstone Advisors), an affiliate of The Blackstone Group L.P. (Blackstone), serves as the Fund s Investment Manager under the terms of a management agreement dated March 16, 2006 (the Management Agreement). Blackstone Fund Services India Private Limited (Blackstone India), an affiliate of Blackstone, serves as the Fund s Country Adviser under the terms of a country advisory agreement dated March 16, 2006 (the Country Advisory Agreement). Pursuant to the Management Agreement, Blackstone Advisors supervises the Fund s investment program and is responsible on a day-to-day basis for investing the Fund s portfolio in accordance with its investment objective and policies. Pursuant to the Country Advisory Agreement, Blackstone India provides statistical and factual information and research regarding economic and political factors and investment opportunities in India to Blackstone Advisors. For its services, Blackstone Advisors receives monthly fees at an annual rate of:
(i) 1.10% for the first \$500,000,000 of the Fund s average weekly net assets; (ii) 0.90% for the next \$500,000,000 of the Fund s average weekly net assets; (iii) 0.85% for the next \$500,000,000. Blackstone India receives from Blackstone Advisors a monthly fee at an annual rate of 0.10% of the Fund s average weekly net assets. For the year ended December 31, 2008, the Fund paid a total of \$15,099,979 in management fees to Blackstone Advisors.

Blackstone Advisors also serves as the Fund s Administrator pursuant to an administration agreement dated January 1, 2006. Blackstone Advisors provides certain administrative services to the Fund. For its services, Blackstone Advisors receives a fee that is computed monthly at an annual rate of: (i) 0.20% of the value of the Fund s average monthly net assets for the first \$1,500,000,000 of the Fund s average monthly net assets and (ii) 0.15% of the value of the Fund s average monthly net assets in excess of \$1,500,000,000 of the Fund s average monthly net assets. For the year ended December 31, 2008, the Fund paid a total of \$3,119,597 in administrative fees to Blackstone Advisors. Blackstone Advisors subcontracts certain of these services to PNC Global Investment Servicing (U.S.) Inc. (formerly known as PFPC Inc.).

In addition, Multiconsult Ltd. (the Mauritius Administrator) provides certain administrative services relating to the operation and maintenance of the Fund in Mauritius. The Mauritius Administrator receives a monthly fee of \$1,500 and is reimbursed for certain additional expenses. For the year ended December 31, 2008, fees and expenses of the Mauritius Administrator amounted to \$31,056.

The Fund pays each of its directors who is not a director, officer or employee of Blackstone Advisors, Blackstone India or any affiliate thereof (each Independent Director) an annual fee of \$20,000. The Fund pays an additional annual fee of \$10,000 to the Chairman of the Fund. The Fund also pays each Independent Director a fee of (i) \$2,000 for each in-person meeting, including each in-person committee meeting; (ii) \$4,000 for traveling to Mauritius to attend an in-person meeting; (iii) \$1,000 for each telephonic meeting of thirty minutes or less; and (iv) \$1,500 for each telephonic meeting lasting over thirty

**December 31, 2008** 

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

minutes. In addition, the Fund reimburses all directors for travel and out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with Board of Directors meetings. For the year ended December 31, 2008, the Fund paid \$224,500 in Directors fees.

#### NOTE D: PORTFOLIO ACTIVITY

Purchases and sales of securities, other than short-term obligations, aggregated \$793,950,781 and \$1,386,319,701, respectively, for the year ended December 31, 2008.

#### NOTE E: FOREIGN INCOME TAX

The Fund conducts its investment activities in India as a tax resident of Mauritius and expects to obtain benefits under the double taxation treaty between Mauritius and India (the tax treaty or treaty). To obtain benefits under the tax treaty, the Fund must meet certain tests and conditions, including the establishment of Mauritius tax residence and related requirements. The Fund has obtained a certificate from the Mauritian authorities that it is a resident of Mauritius under the tax treaty between Mauritius and India. Under current regulations, a fund which is a tax resident in Mauritius under the treaty, but has no branch or permanent establishment in India, will not be subject to capital gains tax in India on the sale of securities or to tax on dividends paid by Indian companies. The Fund is subject to and accrues Indian withholding tax on interest earned on Indian securities at the rate of 21.115%.

The Fund will, in any year that it has taxable income for Mauritius tax purposes, pay tax on its net income for Mauritius tax purposes at a rate of 15%. The Fund is not taxed on long-term capital gains for Mauritius tax purposes.

The Fund continues to: (i) comply with the requirements of the tax treaty between India and Mauritius; (ii) be a tax resident of Mauritius; and (iii) maintain that its central management and control resides in Mauritius, and therefore management believes that the Fund will be able to obtain the benefits of the tax treaty between India and Mauritius. Accordingly, no provision for Indian income taxes has been made in accompanying financial statements of the Fund for taxes related to capital gains or dividends.

The foregoing is based upon current interpretation and practice and is subject to future changes in Indian or Mauritian tax laws and in the treaty between India and Mauritius.

#### NOTE F: SEMI-ANNUAL REPURCHASE OFFERS

In February 2003, the Board of Directors approved, subject to stockholder approval, a fundamental policy whereby the Fund would adopt an interval fund structure pursuant to Rule 23c-3 under the 1940 Act. Stockholders of the Fund approved the policy on April 30, 2003. As an interval fund, the Fund makes semi-annual repurchase offers at net asset value (less a 2% repurchase fee) to all Fund stockholders. The percentage of outstanding shares that the Fund can repurchase in each offer is established by the Fund s Board of Directors shortly before the commencement of each semi-annual offer and is between 5% and 25% of the Fund s then-outstanding shares.

**December 31, 2008** 

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

During the year ended December 31, 2008, the results of the semi-annual repurchase offers were as follows:

	Repurchase Offer #10	Repurchase Offer #11
Commencement Date	February 22, 2008	August 22, 2008
Expiration Date	March 14, 2008	September 12, 2008
Repurchase Offer Date	March 24, 2008	September 19, 2008
% of Issued and Outstanding Shares of Common Stock	5%	5%
Shares Validly Tendered	4,071,660.2142	2,481,315.0000
Final Pro-ration Odd Lot Shares	53,998.2142	202,199.0271
Final Pro-ration Non-Odd Lot Shares	2,071,839.7858	1,817,347.9726
% of Non-Odd Lot Shares Accepted	51.5683%	79.7392%
Shares Accepted for Tender	2,125,838.0000	2,019,547.0000
Net Asset Value as of Repurchase Offer Date (\$)	44.92	36.64
Repurchase Fee per Share (\$)	0.8984	0.7328
Repurchase Offer Price (\$)	44.0216	35.9072
Repurchase Fee (\$)	1,909,853	1,479,924
Expenses (\$)	281,419	252,385
Total Cost (\$)	93,864,209	72,768,663
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# THE INDIA FUND, INC.

**December 31, 2008** 

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

During the year ended December 31, 2007, the results of the semi-annual repurchase offers were as follows:

	Repurchase Offer #8	Repurchase Offer #	<b>#9</b>
Commencement Date	February 23, 2007	August 24, 2007	
Expiration Date	March 16, 2007	September 14, 2007	
Repurchase Offer Date	March 23, 2007	September 21, 2007	
% of Issued and Outstanding Shares of Common Stock	5%	5%	
Shares Validly Tendered	209,659.0000	7,375,410.0000	
Final Pro-ration Odd Lot Shares	no proration	113,785.27	
Final Pro-ration Non-Odd Lot Shares	no proration	2,123,939.734	
% of Non-Odd Lot Shares Accepted	no proration	29.28000%	
Shares Accepted for Tender	209,659.0000	2,237,725.0000	
Net Asset Value as of Repurchase Offer Date (\$)	41.30	57.58	
Repurchase Fee per Share (\$)	0.8260	1.1515	
Repurchase Offer Price (\$)	40.4740	56.4285	
Repurchase Fee (\$)	173,178	2,576,740	
Expenses (\$)	51,039	84,123	
Total Cost (\$)	8,536,777	126,355,588	
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**December 31, 2008** 

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

#### **NOTE G: 2005 RIGHTS OFFER**

On December 17, 2004, the Fund commenced a rights offering and issued to stockholders as of December 17, 2004 one right for each share of common stock held. The rights were not transferable and, consequently, were not listed on any exchange. The rights entitled holders to subscribe for an aggregate of 7,546,991 shares of the Fund s common stock. In addition, the Fund had the option of issuing additional shares in an amount up to 25% of the shares that were available in the primary offering, or 1,886,747 shares, for an aggregate total of 9,433,738 shares. The offer expired on January 31, 2005. The Fund sold 9,433,738 shares at the subscription price per share of \$26.50 (representing 95% of the Fund s net asset value per share on the expiration date of the offer). The total proceeds of the rights offering were \$249,994,057, and the Fund incurred costs of \$572,549.

#### **NOTE H: 2006 RIGHTS OFFER**

On July 3, 2006, the Fund commenced a second rights offering and issued to stockholders as of July 3, 2006 one right for each share of common stock held. The rights were not transferable and, consequently, were not listed on any exchange. The rights entitled holders to subscribe for an aggregate of 10,565,220 shares of the Fund s common stock. In addition, the Fund had the option of issuing additional shares in an amount up to 25% of the shares that were available in the primary offering, or 2,641,305 shares, for an aggregate total of 13,206,525 shares. The offer expired on August 4, 2006. The Fund sold 13,206,525 shares at the subscription price per share of \$34.00 (representing 95% of the Fund s net asset value per share on the expiration date of the offer). The total proceeds of the rights offering were \$449,021,850, and the Fund incurred costs of \$1,127,708.

#### NOTE I: CONCENTRATION OF RISKS

At December 31, 2008, substantially all of the Fund s net assets were invested in Indian securities. The Indian securities markets are among other things substantially smaller, less developed, less liquid, subject to less regulation and more volatile than the securities markets in the United States. Consequently, and as further discussed above, acquisitions and dispositions of securities by the Fund involve special risks and considerations not present with respect to U.S. securities. At December 31, 2008, the Fund had a concentration of its investment in finance, industrial, and petroleum-related industries. The values of such investments may be affected by changes in such industry sectors.

Securities denominated in currencies other than U.S. dollars are subject to changes in value due to fluctuations in foreign exchange. Foreign security and currency transactions involve certain considerations and risks not typically associated with those of domestic origin as a result of, among other factors, the level of governmental supervision and regulation of foreign securities markets and the possibilities of political or economic instability, the fact that foreign securities markets may be smaller and less developed and the fact

**December 31, 2008** 

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

that securities, tax and corporate laws may have only recently developed or are in developing stages, and laws may not exist to cover all contingencies or to protect investors adequately.

In the normal course of business, the Fund may enter into contracts that contain a variety of representations and warranties and which may provide for general indemnifications. The Fund s maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown, as this would involve future claims that may be made against the Fund that have not yet occurred. However, based on experience, management expects the risk of loss to be remote.

#### NOTE J: FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

In September 2006, Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 157, Fair Value Measurements (SFAS 157), was issued and is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007 and interim periods within those fiscal years. SFAS 157 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. The Fund adopted SFAS 157 effective with the March 31, 2008 quarterly reporting on portfolio holdings. The three levels of the fair value hierarchy under SFAS 157 are described below:

- Level 1 price quotations in active markets/exchanges for identical securities
- Level 2 other significant observable inputs (including, but not limited to: quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, credit risk, etc.)
- Level 3 significant unobservable inputs (including the Funds own assumptions used in determining the fair value of investments)

The inputs or methodology used for valuing securities are not necessarily an indication of the risk associated with investing in those securities. A summary of the inputs used to value the Fund s net assets as of December 31, 2008, is as follows:

Valuation Inputs		In	vestments in Securities
Level 1 Level 2 Level 3	Quoted Prices Other Significant Observable Inputs Significant Unobservable Inputs	\$	664,418,504 3,073,463 3,282,584
Total		\$	670,774,551

**December 31, 2008** 

Notes to Financial Statements (concluded)

The following is a reconciliation of Level 3 investments for which significant unobservable inputs were used in determining fair value:

	Securities		
Balance, as of December 31, 2007	\$	10,695,081	
Realized gain (loss)		1,387	
Change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation)		(7,730,246)	
Net purchases (sales)		(4,854)	
Net transfers in/out of Level 3		321,216	
Balance, as of December 31, 2008	\$	3,282,584	

#### NOTE K: RECENT ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

In March 2008, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) released Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 161 Disclosures about Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities (SFAS 161). SFAS 161 requires qualitative disclosures about objectives and strategies for using derivatives, quantitative disclosures about fair value amounts of gains and losses on derivative instruments and disclosures about credit-risk-related contingent features in derivative agreements. The application of SFAS 161 is required for fiscal years and interim periods beginning after November 15, 2008. As of December 31, 2008, the Fund does not believe the adoption of SFAS 161 will impact the amounts reported in the financial statements; however, additional disclosures may by required.

#### **Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

To the Board of Directors and Shareholders of The India Fund, Inc.

In our opinion, the accompanying statement of assets and liabilities, including the schedule of investments, and the related statements of operations and of changes in net assets and the financial highlights present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of The India Fund, Inc. (the Fund ) at December 31, 2008, the results of its operations for the year then ended, the changes in its net assets for each of the two years in the period then ended and the financial highlights for each of the five years in the period then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. These financial statements and financial highlights (hereafter referred to as financial statements ) are the responsibility of the Fund s management; our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits of these financial statements in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits, which included confirmation of securities at December 31, 2008 by correspondence with the custodian, provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP Philadelphia, Pennsylvania February 20, 2009

The following sections of this Annual Report are not a part of the audited financial statements. Continuation of the Management Agreement

#### **Approval of Continuation of Management Agreement**

The Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the 1940 Act ), requires that the Fund s Board of Directors, including a majority of its Directors who are not affiliated with the Fund s investment adviser (the Independent Directors ) voting separately, approve the Fund s advisory agreements and the related fees for its initial term of two years and on an annual basis thereafter at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on the agreement s approval or continuation. At a meeting held in person on October 28, 2008, the Board, including the Independent Directors, considered the continuation of the management agreement (the Management Agreement ) dated March 16, 2006 between the Fund and Blackstone Asia Advisors L.L.C. ( Blackstone Advisors ) as well as the country advisory agreement (the Country Advisory Agreement ) dated March 16, 2006 between Blackstone Advisors and Blackstone Fund Services India Private Limited ( Blackstone India). The first annual continuation of the Management Agreement and the Country Advisory Agreement was approved at a meeting held in person on October 23, 2007. At the October 28, 2008 meeting, the Board, including the Independent Directors, unanimously approved the continuation of the Management Agreement for an additional one-year term through December 31, 2009. In making this decision, the Independent Directors were represented by independent counsel ( independent counsel ) who assisted them in their deliberations prior to and during the Board meeting and in an executive session with just the Independent Directors and their independent counsel present. The Board of Directors also approved the continuation of the administration agreement dated January 1, 2006 between the Fund and Blackstone Advisors, pursuant to which Blackstone Advisors serves as the Fund s administrator.

In considering the continuation of the Management Agreement and the Country Advisory Agreement, the Independent Directors, through their independent counsel, requested and received information prepared by Blackstone Advisors and Blackstone India, which included, among other things, information about Blackstone Advisors and Blackstone India is business, personnel and operations, services, compensation from and other benefits from its relation with the Fund and compliance activities. The materials provided by Blackstone Advisors and Blackstone India also included information regarding the Fund is investment performance and expenses compared to those of other funds determined by Blackstone Advisors to have investment objectives and policies similar to those of the Fund and to the Fund is comparative index as well as an analysis of the profitability of the investment advisory relationship to Blackstone Advisors. Fund counsel provided the Board a memorandum outlining its legal duties. Independent counsel separately provided a memorandum to the Independent Directors outlining their responsibilities with respect to approval of the Management Agreement and the Country Advisory Agreement. This information supplemented the information received by the Board at meetings throughout the past year and the Directors general knowledge and familiarity with the Fund, including their knowledge and familiarity with the investment management capabilities of Blackstone Advisors and Blackstone India and the scope and quality of their services to the Fund.

Continuation of the Management Agreement (continued)

In considering the continuation of the Management Agreement and the Country Advisory Agreement, the Board considered the following factors, among others:

1. The qualifications of Blackstone Advisors and Blackstone India, including the nature, extent and quality of the services to be provided and the investment performance of the Fund. Blackstone Advisors and Blackstone India. The Directors reviewed the services that Blackstone Advisors and Blackstone India provide to the Fund, including, but not limited to, making the day-to-day decisions for investing the Fund s assets in accordance with the Fund s objectives and policies and investment restrictions, subject to the supervision and direction of the Board. Blackstone Advisors also makes available research and statistical data to the Fund and monitors the performance of the Fund s outside service providers, including the Fund s sub-administrator, transfer agent and custodian.

In addition, the Directors considered the education, background and experience of the personnel and management teams at Blackstone Advisors and Blackstone India, and in particular, the performance record of Punita Kumar-Sinha, the Fund s portfolio manager. Among other things, they took into consideration the favorable history of Ms. Kumar-Sinha for the Fund. The Directors also discussed at length Blackstone Advisors and Blackstone India s employee turnover, compensation and budget structure and its ability and efforts to attract and retain quality and experienced personnel. They discussed at length the quality of the support provided by Blackstone Advisors, Blackstone India and their affiliates to the Fund. The Directors also discussed Blackstone Advisors investment outlook for the Fund and relevant financial and capital markets.

The Directors reviewed the past investment performance of the Fund, Blackstone Advisors and Blackstone India as well as the past investment performance of the Fund s peers. In particular, the Directors focused on the analysis of the Fund s performance in the materials provided by Blackstone Advisors and Blackstone India, noting that the Fund s performance was comparable to that of its peer group which consisted of the Fund and three other funds and exceeded performance of two of the three other funds in its peer group during the one-year period ended September 30, 2008. The Board noted that the small number and varying sizes of funds in the peer group made meaningful comparisons difficult. The Fund also outperformed the IFC Investable India Index for the one-year period ended September 30, 2008 and during the period commencing on July 31, 1997, the date Ms. Kumar-Sinha became the Fund s portfolio manager, and ended September 30, 2008. The Directors noted that the Fund underperformed the IFC Investable India Index, over the three-year and five-year periods ended September 30, 2008 and considered the explanation for such performance provided by Blackstone Advisors. However, the Fund s performance was strong over each of those periods in absolute terms. In assessing the Fund s performance for the one-year period ended September 30, 2008 the Board took into consideration the extraordinary market conditions during this period. The Directors recognized that past performance is not an indicator of future performance, but concluded that Blackstone Advisors has appropriate expertise to continue to manage the

Continuation of the Management Agreement (continued)

Fund in accordance with its investment objectives and strategies under current and anticipated market conditions.

2. The reasonableness of the advisory fees. The Directors considered the costs of the services provided by Blackstone Advisors and Blackstone India. As part of their analysis, the Directors gave substantial consideration to the comparisons of fees and expense ratios of the Fund as described in the materials provided by Blackstone Advisors. Under the Management Agreement, the Fund pays to Blackstone Advisors a monthly fee at an annual rate of:
(i) 1.10% for the first \$500,000,000 of the Fund s average weekly net assets; (ii) 0.90% for the next \$500,000,000 of the Fund s average weekly net assets; (iii) 0.85% for the next \$500,000,000 of the Fund s average weekly net assets; and (iv) 0.75% of the Fund s average weekly net assets in excess of \$1,500,000,000. Under the Country Advisory Agreement, Blackstone Advisors pays Blackstone India a monthly fee at an annual rate of 0.10% of the Fund s average weekly net assets.

In reviewing the investment advisory fees, the Directors reviewed the advisory fee and noted that the fees paid by the Fund on a twelve month trailing basis through September 30, 2008 were lower than all but one fund in its peer group. The peer group consisted of the Fund and three other funds. The Directors also noted that the Fund on a twelve month trailing basis through September 30, 2008 had the lowest expense ratio among the funds in its peer group. The Directors noted that the small number and the varying sizes of funds in the peer group made meaningful comparisons difficult. The Directors considered the other benefits to Blackstone Advisors, Blackstone India and their affiliates from the relationship with the Fund, including, among others, the administration fees paid to Blackstone Advisors. Further, the Directors considered the extent to which Blackstone Advisors believes economies of scale may be realized if the Fund grows and whether the fee levels reflect economies of scale for the benefit of the Fund s stockholders, noting that the fee structure would have the effect of lowering the Fund s fees paid at certain asset levels. The Board determined that the current amount and structure of the fee is appropriate in light of the nature, quality and scope of the investment advisory services provided by Blackstone Advisors and Blackstone India to the Fund.

- 3. The operating expenses of the Fund. The Directors reviewed the operating expenses of the Fund, on an absolute basis and as compared to those of its peer group. The Directors noted that, as described in the materials provided by Blackstone Advisors, the annualized expense ratio had slightly decreased in 2007 as compared to 2006. The Directors concluded that the expenses of the Fund have been reasonable under the circumstances.
- 4. Portfolio transactions. The Directors discussed the policies and practices of the Fund and Blackstone Advisors in effecting portfolio transactions. The Directors considered the Fund s general policies with respect to brokerage commissions, including payment levels, allocation policies among clients and use of soft dollars, as described in the materials provided by Blackstone Advisors, and discussed whether the 30

Continuation of the Management Agreement (continued)

transactions were carried out competently and within the scope of applicable governmental and Fund policy limitations. The Directors also discussed transactions with affiliates, portfolio turnover rates, the recapture of brokerage commissions and the consideration of research services in placing portfolio transactions. The Directors took into consideration other benefits derived by Blackstone Advisors in connection with the Management Agreement, noting particularly that Blackstone Advisors advised that soft dollars are not used in connection with portfolio transactions for the Fund. Although it may receive unsolicited proprietary research reports from brokers that execute transactions for the Fund, Blackstone Advisors advised the Board that brokers are not selected based on this research.

- 5. Blackstone Advisors and Blackstone India s management of other funds and other investments and fees paid. The Directors discussed Blackstone Advisors and Blackstone India s management of other funds and other investment products and the fees paid in those instances, noting that Blackstone Advisors manages one other registered fund and one unregistered fund that invest in Asia. The Directors compared both the services rendered and the fees paid under the Management Agreement and the Country Advisory Agreement to the services rendered to and fees paid by the other funds, and the Directors determined that the services and fees are comparable to those being offered to the other funds by Blackstone Advisors and Blackstone India.
- 6. The profitability of Blackstone Advisors and its affiliates with respect to their relationship to the Fund. The Directors reviewed information regarding the profitability to Blackstone Advisors of its relationship with the Fund. The Board considered the level of Blackstone Advisors profits and whether the profits were reasonable for Blackstone Advisors. The profitability analysis took into consideration fall-out benefits from Blackstone Advisors relationship with the Fund, including fees paid to Blackstone Advisors under the Management Agreement and under the Administration Agreement. The Directors found that, while profitability had increased by 9.3% in 2007 as compared to 2006, the profits realized by Blackstone Advisors from its relationship with the Fund were not unreasonable in light of the nature, scope and high quality of services provided by Blackstone Advisors and Blackstone India to the Fund.

In considering whether to approve the continuation of the Management Agreement and the Country Advisory Agreement, the Board did not identify nor was any single factor determinative to the decision of the Board. The Board also separately considered the operational, administrative and other services provided to the Fund under the Administration Agreement between the Fund and Blackstone Advisors. The Independent Directors were satisfied with the services provided by Blackstone Advisors and Blackstone India to the Fund and with the investment performance and expense levels (including the advisory fees). On that basis, the Independent Directors determined that the continuation of the Management Agreement and the continuation of the Country Advisory Agreement were in the best interests of the Fund and its stockholders.

## THE INDIA FUND, INC.

Annual Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer Certifications

The Fund s Chief Executive Officer has submitted to the New York Stock Exchange the required annual certification, and the Fund has included the certifications of the Fund s Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer required by Section 302 and Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act in the Fund s Form N-CSR filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission for the period of this report.

Information About Directors and Officers (Unaudited)

The business and affairs of the Fund are managed under the direction of the Board of Directors. Information pertaining to the Directors and executive officers of the Fund is set forth below.

				Number of Funds in Fund Complex	
		Term of Office	Principal	Overseen by	Other Board
	Position(s) Held	and Length of	Occupation(s)	Director (including	Memberships
Name, Address and Age	with Fund <sup>1</sup>	Time Served <sup>1</sup>	During Past 5 Years	the Fund)	Held by Director
			TED DIRECTORS	_	
Lawrence K. Becker	Director and Member of the	Since 2003	Private Investor, Real Estate Investment	2	Member of Board of Trustees or
c/o Blackstone Asia	Audit Committee		Management (July		Board of Managers
Advisors L.L.C.	and Nominating		2003 Present);		of four registered
345 Park Avenue	Committee,		Treasurer, France		investment
New York, N.Y. 10154	Class I		Growth Fund (2004-2008); Vice		companies advised by Advantage
Birth year: 1955			President, Controller/ Treasurer, National Financial Partners (2000 2003);		Advisers, L.L.C. or its affiliates ( Advantage )
			Managing Director, Controller/Treasurer, Oppenheimer Capital- PIMCO (1981 2000)		
Leslie H. Gelb	Director and Member of the	Since 1994	President Emeritus, The Council on	2	Director of 22 registered
c/o Blackstone Asia	Audit Committee		Foreign Relations		investment
Advisors L.L.C.	and Nominating		(2003 Present);		companies advised
345 Park Avenue	Committee,		President, The Council		by Legg Mason
New York, N.Y. 10154	Class II		on Foreign Relations (1993 2003); formerly		Partners Fund Advisers, LLC
Birth year: 1937			Columnist, Deputy Editorial Page Editor and Editor, Op- Ed Page, The New York Times		( LMPFA ) and its affiliates
J. Marc Hardy	Director and	Since 2002	Independent Financial	1	Director of the
a/a Multi agrault I imitad	Member of the		Advisor, ACMS Fund		Mauritius
c/o Multiconsult Limited Frere Felix de Valois Street Port Louis, Mauritius	Audit Committee and Nominating Committee, Class III		Management Ltd. (2003-Present)		Development Investment Trust Co. Ltd. and Hanover

Birth year: 1954

Reinsurance Ltd. Mauritius Ltd.

Information about Directors and Officers (continued)

Member of the Investment c/o Investment Audit Committee Professionals Ltd., Professionals Ltd. and Nominating (1998-Present) 6th Floor Committee, Harbour Front Class II John F. Kennedy Street Port Louis, Mauritius	(Partners) Ltd. and Foreign Colonial India Ltd.
Birth year: 1967	
Luis F. Rubio Director and Since 1999 President, Centro de  Member of the Investigacion para el	2 Member of Board of Trustees or
c/o Blackstone Asia Audit Committee Desarrollo, A.C.	Board of Managers
Advisors L.L.C. and Nominating (Center of Research	of four registered
345 Park Avenue Committee, for Development)	investment
New York, N.Y. 10154 Class II (2002 Present); frequent contributor of	companies advised by Advantage
Birth year: 1955 op-ed pieces to <i>The Wall Street Journal</i>	
Jeswald W. Salacuse Director, Since 1993 Henry J. Braker Chairman of the Professor of	2 Director of 22 registered
c/o Blackstone Asia Board and Commercial Law, The	investment
Advisors L.L.C. Chairman of the Fletcher School of	companies advised
345 Park Avenue Audit Committee Law & Diplomacy,	by LMPFA
New York, N.Y. 10154 and Nominating Tufts University (1986 Committee, Present); President	
Birth year: 1938 Class I Arbitration Tribunal, ICSID, World Bank (2003-Present)	
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Information about Directors and Officers (continued)

Position(s) Held with Fund <sup>1</sup>	Term of Office and Length of Time Served <sup>1</sup>	Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years	Number of Funds in Fund Complex Overseen by Director (including the Fund)	Other Board Memberships Held by Director
Director and			2	Pinnacle Foods
	Since 2003	~ ~	2	Group L.L.C.,
Class III		Equity Group, The Blackstone Group L.P. (May 2003 Present); Founder and Chief		Performance Foods Group LLC, RGIS Holdings L.L.C. and Kosmos Energy L.L.C.
		Vestar Capital Partners (1988 2003)		L.L.C.
Director, Class I	Since 2005	Senior Chairman, The Blackstone Group L.P.	1	Chairman, Council on Foreign
		-		Relations; Chairman
		· //		Institute for
		Reserve Bank of New		International
		York (2000 2004)		Economics
				(Washington, D.C.);
				President, Concord
				Coalition; Trustee,
				Committee for
				Economic
				Development;
				Trustee, Japan
				Society; Trustee,
				Museum of Modern
				Art; Director,
				National Bureau of
				Economic Research;
				Director, Public
				Agenda Foundation;
	with Fund <sup>1</sup> Director and President, Class III	Position(s) Held with Fund¹ and Length of Time Served¹ INTERESTE Since 2005 President, Class III	Position(s) Held with Fund¹ Time Served¹ During Past 5 Years INTERESTED DIRECTORS  Director and Since 2005 Senior Managing President, Class III  Class III  Equity Group, The Blackstone Group L.P. (May 2003 Present); Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Vestar Capital Partners (1988 2003)  Director, Class I  Since 2005 Senior Chairman, The Blackstone Group L.P. (since 1985); Chairman, Federal Reserve Bank of New	Position(s) Held with Fund¹  Principal Occupation(s)  Time Served¹ During Past 5 Years  INTERESTED DIRECTORS  Director and Since 2005 Senior Managing 2  President, Director, Private Class III Equity Group, The Blackstone Group L.P. (May 2003 Present); Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Vestar Capital Partners (1988 2003)  Director, Class I Since 2005  Senior Chairman, The Blackstone Group L.P. (since 1985); Chairman, Federal Reserve Bank of New

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>s</sup> Mr. Peterson resigned from the Board of Directors of the Fund effective December 31, 2008. Robert L. Friedman was appointed by he Fund s Board of Directors to serve as a Class I director of the Fund effective January 7, 2009 to fill the vacancy created by Mr. Peterson s resignation.

Director, The Nixon

Center

Information about Directors and Officers (continued)

Name, Address and Age	Position(s) Held with Fund <sup>1</sup>	Term of Office and Length of Time Served <sup>1</sup>	Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years	Number of Funds in Fund Complex Overseen by Director (including the Fund)	Other Board Memberships Held by Director
Daham I. Eriaduran			VHO ARE NOT DIREC		NT/A
Robert L. Friedman	Chief Legal Officer and Vice	Since 2005	Chief Administrative Officer and Chief	N/A	N/A
The Blackstone Group L.P. 345 Park Avenue New York, N.Y. 10154			Legal Officer, The Blackstone Group L.P. (2003 Present); Senior Managing Director,		
Birth year: 1943			Blackstone (1999 Present)		
Joshua B. Rovine	Secretary	Since 2005	Managing Director, Finance and	N/A	N/A
The Blackstone Group L.P.			Administration Group,		
345 Park Avenue			The Blackstone Group		
New York, N.Y. 10154			L.P. (2003 Present); Partner, Sidley Austin		
Birth year: 1965			Brown & Wood LLP (1994 2003)		
Joseph M. Malangoni	Treasurer and Vice President	Since 2007	Chief Financial Officer and	N/A	N/A
Blackstone Asia Advisors L.L.C.			Vice President, Blackstone Asia		
53 State Street Boston. M.A. 02109			Advisors L.L.C. (2007 Present); Controller		
Birth year: 1976			and Chief Compliance Officer, Steadfast Financial L.L.C. (2002 2007)		
Barbara F. Pires	Chief Compliance Officer and Vice	Since 2005	Chief Compliance Officer and Principal,	N/A	N/A
Blackstone Asia Advisors L.L.C. 345 Park Avenue New York, N.Y. 10154	President		Blackstone Asia Advisors L.L.C. (2006 Present); Managing Member, BFP		
Birth year: 1952			Consulting L.L.C. (2005 2006); Chief Compliance Officer, The Asia Tigers Fund, Inc. (2005-Present);		

Chief Compliance Officer, Oppenheimer Asset Management, Inc. (formerly CIBC World Markets) (1996 2005)

**Number of Funds** 

Information about Directors and Officers (concluded)

Name, Address and Age	Position(s) Held with Fund <sup>1</sup>	Term of Office and Length of Time Served <sup>1</sup>	Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years	in Fund Complex Overseen by Director (including the Fund)	Other Board Memberships Held by Director
Punita Kumar-Sinha	Portfolio	Since 1997	Senior Managing	N/A	N/A
	Manager Chief	Since 2005	Director, The		
Blackstone Asia Advisors	Investment		Blackstone Group L.P.		
L.L.C. 53 State Street	Officer		and Chief Investment		
Boston, M.A. 02109			Officer Blackstone		
			Asia Advisors L.L.C.		
Birth year: 1962			(2005 Present);		
			Managing Director		
			and Senior Portfolio		
			Manager, Advantage		
			Advisers, Inc., an		
			affiliate of		
			Oppenheimer & Co.,		
			Inc. (1997 2005);		
			Portfolio Manager,		
			The Asia Tigers Fund, Inc. (1999 Present);		
			Senior Portfolio		
			Manager and Chief		
			Investment Officer,		
			The Asia		
			Opportunities		
			Fund L.L.C.		
			(2007 Present)		
i			•		

The Fund s Board of Directors is divided into three classes: Class I, Class II, and Class III. The terms of office of the Class I, Class II, and Class III Directors expire at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders in the year 2009, year 2011, and year 2010, respectively, or thereafter in each case when their respective successors are duly elected and qualified. The Fund s executive officers are chosen each year at the first meeting of the Fund s Board of Directors following the Annual Meeting of Stockholders, to hold office until the meeting of the Board following the next Annual Meeting of Stockholders and until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

Dividends and Distributions

#### DIVIDEND REINVESTMENT AND CASH PURCHASE PLAN

The Fund intends to distribute annually to shareholders substantially all of its net investment income, and to distribute any net realized capital gains at least annually. Net investment income for this purpose is income other than net realized long and short-term capital gains net of expenses.

Pursuant to the Dividend Reinvestment and Cash Purchase Plan (the Plan), shareholders whose shares of Common Stock are registered in their own names will be deemed to have elected to have all distributions automatically reinvested by the Plan Agent in Fund shares pursuant to the Plan, unless such shareholders elect to receive distributions in cash. Shareholders who elect to receive distributions in cash will receive all distributions in cash paid by check in dollars mailed directly to the shareholder by the dividend paying agent. In the case of shareholders such as banks, brokers or nominees that hold shares for others who are beneficial owners, the Plan Agent will administer the Plan on the basis of the number of shares certified from time to time by the shareholders as representing the total amount registered in such shareholders—names and held for the account of beneficial owners that have not elected to receive distributions in cash. Investors that own shares registered in the name of a bank, broker or other nominee should consult with such nominee as to participation in the Plan through such nominee, and may be required to have their shares registered in their own names in order to participate in the Plan.

The Plan Agent serves as agent for the shareholders in administering the Plan. If the directors of the Fund declare an income dividend or a capital gains distribution payable either in the Fund s Common Stock or in cash, nonparticipants in the Plan will receive cash and participants in the Plan will receive Common Stock, to be issued by the Fund or purchased by the Plan Agent in the open market, as provided below. If the market price per share on the valuation date equals or exceeds net asset value per share on that date, the Fund will issue new shares to participants at net asset value; provided, however, that if the net asset value is less than 95% of the market price on valuation date, then such shares will be issued at 95% of the market price. The valuation date will be the dividend or distribution payment date or, if that date is not a New York Stock Exchange trading day, the next preceding trading day. If net asset value exceeds the market price of Fund shares at such time, or if the Fund should declare an income dividend or capital gains distribution payable only in cash, the Plan Agent will, as agent for the participants, buy Fund shares in the open market, on the New York Stock Exchange or elsewhere, for the participants accounts on, or shortly after, the payment date. If, before the Plan Agent has completed its purchases, the market price exceeds the net asset value of a Fund share, the average per share purchase price paid by the Plan Agent may exceed the net asset value of the Fund shares, resulting in the acquisition of fewer shares than if the distribution had been paid in shares issued by the Fund on the dividend payment date.

Because of the foregoing difficulty with respect to open market purchases, the Plan provides that if the Plan Agent is unable to invest the full dividend amount in open-market purchases during the purchase period or if the market discount shifts to a market premium during the purchase period, the Plan Agent will cease 38

#### **DIVIDEND REINVESTMENT AND CASH PURCHASE PLAN (continued)**

making open-market purchases and shareholders will receive the uninvested portion of the dividend amount in newly issued shares at the close of business on the last purchase date.

Participants have the option of making additional cash payments to the Plan Agent, annually, in any amount from \$100 to \$3,000, for investment in the Fund s Common Stock. The Plan Agent will use all such funds received from participants to purchase Fund shares in the open market on or about February 15.

Any voluntary cash payment received more than 30 days prior to this date will be returned by the Plan Agent, and interest will not be paid on any uninvested cash payment. To avoid unnecessary cash accumulations, and also to allow ample time for receipt and processing by the Plan Agent, it is suggested that participants send in voluntary cash payments to be received by the Plan Agent approximately ten days before an applicable purchase date specified above. A participant may withdraw a voluntary cash payment by written notice, if the notice is received by the Plan Agent not less than 48 hours before such payment is to be invested.

The Plan Agent maintains all shareholder accounts in the Plan and furnishes written confirmations of all transactions in an account, including information needed by shareholders for personal and tax records. Shares in the account of each Plan participant will be held by the Plan Agent in the name of the participant, and each shareholder s proxy will include those shares purchased pursuant to the Plan.

There is no charge to participants for reinvesting dividends or capital gains distributions or voluntary cash payments. The Plan Agent's fees for the reinvestment of dividends and capital gains distributions and voluntary cash payments will be paid by the Fund. There will be no brokerage charges with respect to shares issued directly by the Fund as a result of dividends or capital gains distributions payable either in stock or in cash. However, each participant will pay a pro rata share of brokerage commissions incurred with respect to the Plan Agent's open-market purchases in connection with the reinvestment of dividends and capital gains distributions and voluntary cash payments made by the participant. Brokerage charges for purchasing small amounts of stock for individual accounts through the Plan are expected to be less than the usual brokerage charges for such transactions, because the Plan Agent will be purchasing stock for all participants in blocks and prorating the lower commissions thus attainable.

#### **DIVIDEND REINVESTMENT AND CASH PURCHASE PLAN (continued)**

The receipt of dividends and distributions under the Plan will not relieve participants of any income tax that may be payable on such dividends or distributions.

Experience under the Plan may indicate that changes in the Plan are desirable. Accordingly, the Fund and the Plan Agent reserve the right to terminate the Plan as applied to any voluntary cash payments made and any dividend or distribution paid subsequent to notice of the termination sent to members of the Plan at least 30 days before the record date for such dividend or distribution. The Plan also may be amended by the Fund or the Plan Agent, but (except when necessary or appropriate to comply with applicable law, rules or policies of a regulatory authority) only by at least 30 days written notice to participants in the Plan. All correspondence concerning the Plan should be directed to the Plan Agent at P.O. Box 43027, Westborough, Massachusetts 01581.

We are providing this information as required by the Internal Revenue Code. The amounts shown may differ from those elsewhere in this report because of differences between tax and financial reporting requirements.

For taxable non-corporate shareholders, 29.61% of the Fund s ordinary income distributions paid during the year ended December 31, 2008, represent qualified dividend income subject to the 15% rate category.

THE INDIA FUND, INC.

# PRIVACY POLICY OF BLACKSTONE ASIA ADVISORS L.L.C.

#### YOUR PRIVACY IS PROTECTED

An important part of our commitment to you is our respect for your right to privacy. Protecting all the information we are either required to gather or which accumulates in the course of doing business with you is a cornerstone of our relationship with you. While the range of products and services we offer continues to expand, and the technology we use continues to change, our commitment to maintaining standards and procedures with respect to security remains constant.

#### **COLLECTION OF INFORMATION**

The primary reason that we collect and maintain information is to more effectively administer our customer relationship with you. It allows us to identify, improve and develop products and services that we believe could be of benefit. It also permits us to provide efficient, accurate and responsive service, to help protect you from unauthorized use of your information and to comply with regulatory and other legal requirements. These include those related to institutional risk control and the resolution of disputes or inquiries.

Various sources are used to collect information about you, including (i) information you provide to us at the time you establish a relationship, (ii) information provided in applications, forms or instruction letters completed by you, (iii) information about your transactions with us or our affiliated companies, and/or (iv) information we receive through an outside source, such as a bank or credit bureau. In order to maintain the integrity of client information, we have procedures in place to update such information, as well as to delete it when appropriate. We encourage you to communicate such changes whenever necessary.

#### DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION

We do not disclose any nonpublic, personal information (such as your name, address or tax identification number) about our clients or former clients to anyone, except as permitted or required by law. We maintain physical, electronic and procedural safeguards to protect such information, and limit access to such information to those employees who require it in order to provide products or services to you.

The law permits us to share client information with companies that are affiliated with us which provide financial, credit, insurance, trust, legal, accounting and administrative services to us or our clients. This allows us to enhance our relationship with you by providing a broader range of products to better meet your needs and to protect the assets you may hold with us by preserving the safety and soundness of our firm.

#### THE INDIA FUND, INC.

# PRIVACY POLICY OF BLACKSTONE ASIA ADVISORS L.L.C.

Finally, we are also permitted to disclose nonpublic, personal information to unaffiliated outside parties who assist us with processing, marketing or servicing a financial product, transaction or service requested by you, administering benefits or claims relating to such a transaction, product or service, and/or providing confirmations, statements, valuations or other records or information produced on our behalf.

It may be necessary, under anti-money laundering or other laws, to disclose information about you in order to accept your subscription. Information about you may also be released if you so direct, or if we or an affiliate are compelled to do so by law, or in connection with any government or self-regulatory organization request or investigation.

We are committed to upholding this Privacy Policy. We will notify you on an annual basis of our policies and practices in this regard and at any time that there is a material change that would require your consent.

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#### THE INDIA FUND, INC.

#### **Investment Manager:**

Blackstone Asia Advisors L.L.C., an affiliate of The Blackstone Group L.P.

#### **Administrator:**

Blackstone Asia Advisors L.L.C.

#### **Sub-Administrator:**

PNC Global Investment Servicing (U.S.) Inc.

#### **Transfer Agent:**

PNC Global Investment Servicing (U.S.) Inc.

#### **Custodian:**

Deutsche Bank AG

The Fund has adopted the Investment Manager s proxy voting policies and procedures to govern the voting of proxies relating to its voting securities. You may obtain a copy of these proxy voting procedures, without charge, by calling 1-866-800-8933 or by visiting the Securities and Exchange Commission s website at www.sec.gov.

Information regarding how the Fund voted proxies relating to portfolio securities during the most recent 12-month period ended June 30 is available without charge, upon request, by calling the Fund s toll-free number at 1-866-800-8933 or by visiting the Securities and Exchange Commission s website at www.sec.gov.

The Fund files its complete schedule of portfolio holdings with the Securities and Exchange Commission for the first and third quarters of its fiscal year on Form N-Q. You may obtain a copy of these filings by visiting the Securities and Exchange Commission s website at www.sec.gov or its Public Reference Room in Washington, D.C. Information on the operation of the Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling 1-800-SEC-0330.

This report is sent to shareholders of the Fund for their information. It is not a Prospectus, circular or representation intended for use in the purchase or sale of shares of the Fund or of any securities mentioned in this report.

Asia Advisors L.L.C. The India Fund, Inc.

December 31, 2008

Annual Report

The India Fund, Inc.

#### Item 2. Code of Ethics.

- (a) As of the end of the period covered by this report, the registrant has adopted a Code of Ethics (the Code of Ethics) that applies to the registrant s principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer or controller, or persons performing similar functions, regardless of whether these individuals are employed by the registrant or a third party.
- (b) Not Applicable.
- (c) There have been no amendments during the period covered by this report to any provisions of the Code of Ethics.
- (d) The registrant has not granted any waivers during the period covered by this report, including an implicit waiver, from any provisions of the Code of Ethics.
- (e) Not Applicable.
- (f) A copy of the registrant s Code of Ethics is filed as an exhibit hereto. The registrant undertakes to provide a copy of the Code of Ethics to any person without charge upon request to the registrant at its address at 345 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10154.

#### Item 3. Audit Committee Financial Expert.

The registrant s board of directors has determined that the registrant has at least one audit committee financial expert serving on its audit committee, Mr. Lawrence Becker, and that Mr. Becker is independent. Mr. Becker was elected as a non-interested Director of the audit committee at a meeting of the board of directors held on October 23, 2003.

#### Item 4. Principal Accountant Fees and Services.

#### **Audit Fees**

(a) The aggregate fees billed for each of the last two fiscal years for professional services rendered by the principal accountant for the audit of the registrant s annual financial statements or services that are normally provided by the accountant in connection with statutory and regulatory filings or engagements for those fiscal years are \$97,566 for 2008 and \$118,900 for 2007.

#### Audit-Related Fees

(b) The aggregate fees billed in each of the last two fiscal years for assurance and related services by the principal accountant that are reasonably related to the performance of the audit of the registrant s financial statements and are not reported under paragraph (a) of this Item are \$0 for 2008 and \$0 for 2007.

#### Tax Fees

(c) The aggregate fees billed in each of the last two fiscal years for professional services rendered by the principal accountant for tax compliance, tax advice, and tax planning are \$79,695 for 2008 and \$84,655 for 2007. Specifically, these fees were billed for preparation of the Fund s tax returns and tax services relating to the Fund s operations in India.

## All Other Fees

- (d) The aggregate fees billed in each of the last two fiscal years for products and services provided by the principal accountant, other than the services reported in paragraphs (a) through (c) of this Item are \$0 for 2008 and \$0 for 2007.
- (e)(1) Disclose the audit committee s pre-approval policies and procedures described in paragraph (c)(7) of Rule 2-01 of Regulation S-X.

# THE ASIA TIGERS FUND, INC. THE INDIA FUND, INC. AUDIT COMMITTEE PRE-APPROVAL POLICIES

As amended on November 29, 2005

The Audit Committee (the Committee ) of each of The Asia Tigers Fund, Inc. and The India Fund, Inc. (each, a Fund ) must pre-approve any independent accounting firm s engagement to render audit and/or permissible non-audit (including audit-related) services, as required by law. In evaluating a proposed engagement by the Fund s independent accountants, the Committee will evaluate the effect that the engagement might reasonably be expected to have on the accountant s independence. That evaluation will be based on several factors, including:

a review of the nature of the professional services expected to be provided;

the fees to be charged in connection with the services expected to be provided;

a review of the safeguards put into place by the accounting firm to safeguard independence; and

periodic meetings with the accounting firm.

#### I. Policy for Audit and Non-Audit Services to be Provided to the Fund

On an annual basis, the Fund s Committee will review and pre-approve the scope of the audits of the Fund and proposed audit fees and permitted non-audit services that may be performed by the Fund s independent accountants. At least annually, the Committee will receive a report of all audit and non-audit services that were rendered in the previous calendar year pursuant to this policy. The term of any pre-approval is twelve months from the date of pre-approval, unless the Committee specifically provides otherwise. The Committee may modify any pre-approval at its discretion. Fee levels for all services pre-approved under this policy will be established annually by the Committee.

In addition to the Committee s pre-approval of services pursuant to this policy, the engagement of the independent accounting firm for any permitted non-audit service provided to the Fund will also require the separate written pre-approval of the President of the Fund, who will independently confirm that the accounting firm s engagement will not adversely affect the firm s independence. All non-audit services performed by the independent accounting firm will be disclosed, as required, in filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC).

#### A. Audit Services

The categories of audit services and related fees to be reviewed and pre-approved annually by the Committee are:

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annual Fund financial statement audits (including applicable internal control reports);

seed audits (related to new product filings, as required);

semiannual financial statement reviews (if applicable); and

SEC and regulatory filings and consents issued in connection with any of the above;

#### **B.** Audit-Related Services

The following categories of audit-related services are considered to be consistent with the role of the Fund s independent accountants, and services falling under one of these categories will be pre-approved by the Committee on an annual basis if the Committee deems the services to be consistent with the accounting firm s independence: accounting consultations:

Fund merger support services;

agreed-upon procedure reports;

attestation reports;

SEC and regulatory filings and consents issued in connection with filings previously authorized by the Board of Directors;

comfort letters; and

internal control reports (other than issued pursuant to annual Fund financial statement audits).

Individual audit-related services that fall within one of these categories and are not presented to the Committee as part of the annual pre-approval process may be pre-approved, if deemed consistent with the accounting firm s independence, by the Committee Chairman (or any other Committee member who is a disinterested director under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the Investment Company Act ), to whom this responsibility has been delegated) so long as the estimated fee for the services does not exceed \$75,000. Any such pre-approval shall be reported to the full Committee at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

#### C. Tax Services

The following categories of tax and tax compliance services are considered to be consistent with the role of the Fund s independent accountants, and services falling under one of these categories will be pre-approved by the Committee on an annual basis if the Committee deems the services to be consistent with the accounting firm s independence:

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federal, state and local income tax compliance as well as sales and use tax compliance;

timely regulated investment company qualification reviews;

tax distribution analysis and planning;

tax authority examination services;

tax appeals support services;

accounting methods studies;

Fund merger support services; and

other tax consulting services and related projects.

Individual tax services that fall within one of these categories and are not presented to the Committee as part of the annual pre-approval process may be pre-approved, if deemed consistent with the accounting firm s independence, by the Committee Chairman (or any other Committee member who is a disinterested director under the Investment Company Act to whom this responsibility has been delegated) so long as the estimated fee for the services does not exceed \$75,000. Any such pre-approval shall be reported to the full Committee at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

#### C. Proscribed Services

The Fund s independent accountants will not render services in the following categories of non-audit services: bookkeeping or other services related to the accounting records or financial statements of the Fund;

financial information systems design and implementation;

appraisal or valuation services, fairness opinions or contribution-in-kind reports;

actuarial services;

internal audit outsourcing services;

management functions or human resources;

broker/dealer, investment adviser or investment banking services;

legal and other expert services unrelated to the audit; and

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any other service that the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board determines, by regulation, is impermissible.

# II. Pre-Approval of Non-Audit Services Provided to Other Entities within the Investment Company Complex

The Committee will pre-approve annually any permitted non-audit services to be provided to Blackstone Asia Advisors L.L.C. or any other investment manager to the Fund (but not including any sub-adviser whose role is primarily portfolio management and is sub-contracted by the investment manager) (the Investment Manager) and any entity controlled by or under common control with the Investment Manager that provides ongoing services to the Fund (including affiliated sub-advisers to the Funds), provided that, in each case, the engagement relates directly to the operations and financial reporting of the Fund (such entities, including the Investment Manager, shall be referred to herein as the Service Affiliates). Individual projects that are not presented to the Committee as part of the annual pre-approval process may be pre-approved, if deemed consistent with the accounting firm s independence, by the Committee Chairman (or any other Committee member who is a disinterested director under the Investment Company Act to whom this responsibility has been delegated) so long as the estimated fee for the services does not exceed \$100,000. Any such pre-approval shall be reported to the full Committee at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

The Committee will also receive an annual report from the Fund s independent accounting firm showing the aggregate fees for all services provided to the Service Affiliates.

#### III. <u>De Minimus Exception to Requirement of Pre-Approval of Non-Audit Services</u>

With respect to the provision of permitted non-audit services to a Fund or Service Affiliates, the pre-approval requirement is waived if each of the following requirements is met:

- (1) The aggregate amount of all non-approved permitted non-audit services provided constitutes no more than (i) with respect to such services provided to the Fund, five percent (5%) of the total amount of revenues paid by the Fund to its independent accountant during the fiscal year in which such services are provided and (ii) with respect to such services provided to Service Affiliates, five percent (5%) of the total amount of revenues paid to the Fund s independent accountant by the Fund and the Service Affiliates during the fiscal year in which such services are provided;
- (2) Such services were not recognized by the Fund at the time of the engagement for such services to be non-audit services; and
- (3) Such services are promptly brought to the attention of the Committee and approved prior to the completion of the audit by the Committee or by the Committee Chairman (or any other Committee member who is a disinterested director under the Investment Company Act to whom this responsibility has been delegated). Any approval by the Committee Chairman or other delegate shall be reported to the full Committee at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

- (e)(2) The percentage of services described in each of paragraphs (b) through (d) of this Item that were approved by the audit committee pursuant to paragraph (c)(7)(i)(C) of Rule 2-01 of Regulation S-X are as follows:
  - (b) N/A
  - (c) 100%
  - (d) N/A
- (f) The percentage of hours expended on the principal accountant s engagement to audit the registrant s financial statements for the most recent fiscal year that were attributed to work performed by persons other than the principal accountant s full-time, permanent employees was 0%.
- (g) The aggregate non-audit fees billed by the registrant s accountant for services rendered to the registrant, and rendered to the registrant s investment adviser (not including any sub-adviser whose role is primarily portfolio management and is subcontracted with or overseen by another investment adviser), and any entity controlling, controlled by, or under common control with the adviser that provides ongoing services to the registrant for each of the last two fiscal years of the registrant was \$0 for 2008 and \$0 for 2007.
- (h) The registrant s audit committee of the board of directors has considered whether the provision of non-audit services that were rendered to the registrant s investment adviser (not including any sub-adviser whose role is primarily portfolio management and is subcontracted with or overseen by another investment adviser), and any entity controlling, controlled by, or under common control with the investment adviser that provides ongoing services to the registrant that were not

pre-approved pursuant to paragraph (c)(7)(ii) of Rule 2-01 of Regulation S-X is compatible with maintaining the principal accountant s independence.

#### Item 5. Audit Committee of Listed registrants.

The registrant has a separately-designated audit committee consisting of all the independent directors of the registrant. The members of the audit committee are Lawrence K. Becker, Leslie H. Gelb, Luis F. Rubio, Jeswald W. Salacuse, J. Marc Hardy, and Stephane Henry.

#### Item 6. Investments.

- (a) Schedule of Investments in securities of unaffiliated issuers as of the close of the reporting period is included as part of the report to shareholders filed under Item 1 of this form.
- (b) Not applicable.

# Item 7. Disclosure of Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures for Closed-End Management Investment Companies.

The Proxy Voting Policies are attached herewith.

# APPENDIX F PROXY VOTING PROCEDURES: BLACKSTONE ASIA ADVISORS, LLC

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#### INTRODUCTION

Rule 206(4)-6 (the Rule ) adopted under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended (the Advisers Act ) requires all registered investment advisers that exercise voting discretion over securities held in client portfolios to adopt proxy voting policies and procedures.

Blackstone Asia Advisors, LLC (the Adviser) is a registered investment adviser under the Advisers Act and is therefore required to adopt proxy voting policies and procedures pursuant to the Rule.

When the Adviser has investment discretion over a client s investment portfolio, then the Adviser votes proxies for the Account pursuant to the policies and procedures set forth herein.

## CHAPTER 1 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Voting on Director Nominees In Uncontested Elections

These proposals seek shareholder votes for persons who have been nominated by a corporation s board of directors to stand for election to serve as members of that board. No candidates are opposing these board nominees.

- In each analysis of an uncontested election of directors you should review:
  - (1) Company performance
  - (2) Composition of the board and key board committees
  - (3) Attendance at board meetings
- (4) Corporate governance provisions and takeover activity We may also consider:
  - (1) Board decisions concerning executive compensation
  - (2) Number of other board seats held by the nominee
  - (3) Interlocking directorships

#### **Vote Recommendation**

It is our policy to vote **IN FAVOR** of the candidates proposed by the board.

We will look carefully at each candidate s background contained in the proxy statement. In the absence of unusual circumstances suggesting a nominee is clearly not qualified to serve as a member of the board, we will vote with management.

Chairman and CEO are the same person

Shareholders may propose that different persons hold the positions of the chairman and the CEO.

We would evaluate these proposals on a case by case basis depending on the size of the company and performance of management.

## Independence of Directors

Shareholders may request that the board be comprised of a majority of independent directors and that audit, compensation and nominating committees of the Board consists exclusively of independent directors. We believe that independent directors are important to corporate governance.

## **Vote Recommendation**

It is our policy to vote **FOR** proposals requesting that a majority of the Board be independent and that the audit, compensation and nominating committees of the board include only independent directors.

## Stock Ownership Requirements

Shareholders may propose that directors be required to own a minimum amount of company stock or that directors should be paid in company stock, not cash. This proposal is based on the view that directors will align themselves with the interest of shareholders if they are shareholders themselves. We believe that directors are required to exercise their fiduciary duty to the company and its shareholders whether or not they own shares in the company and should be allowed to invest in company stock based on their own personal considerations.

#### **Vote Recommendation**

Vote **AGAINST** proposals that require director stock ownership.

#### **Charitable Contributions**

Charitable contributions by companies are generally useful for assisting worthwhile causes and for creating goodwill between the company and its community. Moreover, there may be certain long-term financial benefits to companies from certain charitable contributions generated from, for example, movies spent helping educational efforts in the firm s primary employment areas. Shareholders should not decide what the most worthwhile charities are.

#### **Vote Recommendation**

(Shareholders Proposals)

Vote AGAINST proposals regarding charitable contribution.

Shareholders have differing and equally sincere views as to which charities the company should contribute to, and the amount it should contribute. In the absence of bad faith, self-dealing, or gross negligence, management should determine which contributions are in the best interest of the company.

#### **Director and Officer Indemnification And Liability Protection**

These proposals typically provide for protection (or additional protection) which is to be afforded to the directors of a corporation in the form of indemnification by the corporation, insurance coverage or limitations upon their liability in connection with their responsibilities as directors.

When a corporation indemnifies its directors and officers, it means the corporation promises to reimburse them for certain legal expenses, damages, and judgments incurred as a result of lawsuits relating to their corporate actions. The corporation becomes the insurer for its officers and directors.

## **Vote Recommendation**

Vote **AGAINST** proposals that eliminate entirely director and officers liability for monetary damages for violating the duty of care.

Vote **AGAINST** indemnification proposals that would expand coverage beyond just legal expenses to acts, such as negligence, that are more serious violations of fiduciary obligations than mere carelessness.

Vote **FOR** only those proposals providing such expanded coverage in cases when a director s or officer s legal defense was unsuccessful if: a) the director was found to have acted in good faith, and b) only if the director s legal expenses would be covered.

The following factors should be considered:

(A) The present environment in which directors operate provides substantial risk of claims or suits against them in their individual capacities arising out of the discharge of their duties.

(B) Attracting and retaining the most qualified directors enhances shareholder value.

#### Size of the Board

Typically there are three reasons for changing the size of the board. The first reason may be to permit inclusion into the board of additional individuals who, by virtue of their ability and experience, would benefit the corporation. The second reason may be to reduce the size of the board due to expiration of terms, resignation of sitting directors or, thirdly, to accommodate the corporation s changing needs.

#### **Vote Recommendation**

Vote **FOR** the board s recommendation to increase or decrease the size of the board.

The following factors should be considered:

- 1. These proposals may aim at reducing or increasing the influence of certain groups of individuals.
- 2. This is an issue with which the board of directors is uniquely qualified to deal, since they have the most experience in sitting on a board and are up-to-date on the specific needs of the corporation.

Voting on Director Nominees in Contested Elections

Votes in contested elections of directors are evaluated on a CASE-BY-CASE basis.

The following factors are considered:

- 1. management s track record
- 2. background to the proxy contest
- 3. qualifications of director nominees

#### **Term Of Office**

This is a shareholder s proposal to limit the tenure of outside directors. This requirement may not be an appropriate one. It is an artificial imposition on the board, and may have the result of removing knowledgeable directors from the board.

#### **Vote Recommendation**

Vote **AGAINST** shareholder proposals to limit the tenure of outside directors.

The following factors should be considered:

- 1. An experienced director should not be disqualified because he or she has served a certain number of years.
- 2. The nominating committee is in the best position to judge the directors terms in office due to their understanding of a corporation s needs and a director s abilities and experience.
- 3. If shareholders are not satisfied with the job a director is doing, they can vote him/her off the board when the term is up.

## **Compensation Disclosure**

These proposals seek shareholder approval of a request that the board of directors disclose the amount of compensation paid to officers and employees, in addition to the disclosure of such information in the proxy statement as required by the SEC regulations.

#### **Vote Recommendation**

(shareholders policy)

Vote **AGAINST** these proposals that require disclosure, unless we have reason to believe that mandated disclosures are insufficient to give an accurate and meaningful account of senior management compensation.

The following factors should be considered:

- 1. Federal securities laws require disclosure in corporate proxy statements of the compensation paid to corporate directors and officers.
- 2. Employees other than executive officers and directors are typically not in policy-making roles where they have the ability to determine, in a significant way, the amount of their own compensation.
- 3. The disclosure of compensation of lower-level officers and employees infringes upon their privacy and might create morale problems.

CHAPTER 2 AUDITORS 15

#### **Ratifying Auditors**

Shareholders must make certain that auditors are responsibly examining the financial statements of a company, that their reports adequately express any legitimate financial concerns, and that the auditor is independent of the company it is serving.

## **Vote Recommendation**

Vote **FOR** proposal to ratify auditors.

The following factors should be considered:

- 1. Although lawsuits are sometimes filed against accounting firms, including those nationally recognized, these firms typically complete their assignments in a lawful and professional manner.
- 2. Sometimes it may be appropriate for a corporation to change accounting firms, but the board of directors is in the best position to judge the advantages of any such change and any disagreements with former auditors must be fully disclosed to shareholders.
- 3. If there is a reason to believe the independent auditor has rendered an opinion which is neither accurate nor indicative of the company s financial position, then in this case vote **AGAINST** ratification.

## CHAPTER 3 TENDER OFFER DEFENSES

#### **Poison Pills**

Poison pills are corporate-sponsored financial devices that, when triggered by potential acquirers, do one or more of the following: a) dilute the acquirer—s equity in the target company, b) dilute the acquirer—s voting interests in the target company, or c) dilute the acquirer—s equity holdings in the post-merger company. Generally, poison pills accomplish these tasks by issuing rights or warrants to shareholders that are essentially worthless unless triggered by a hostile acquisition attempt.

A poison pill should contain a redemption clause that would allow the board to redeem it even after a potential acquirer has surpassed the ownership threshold. Poison pills may be adopted by the board without shareholder approval. But shareholders must have the opportunity to ratify or reject them at least every two years.

#### **Vote Recommendation**

Vote **FOR** shareholder proposals asking that a company submit its poison pill for shareholder ratification. Vote on a **CASE-BY-CASE** basis regarding shareholder proposals to redeem a company s poison pill. Vote on a **CASE-BY-CASE** basis regarding management proposals to ratify a poison pill.

#### Greenmail

Greenmail payments are targeted share repurchases by management of company stock from individuals or groups seeking control of the company. Since only the hostile party receives payment, usually at a substantial premium over the market, the practice discriminates against all other shareholders.

Greenmail payments usually expose the company to negative press and may result in lawsuits by shareholders. When a company s name is associated with such a practice, company customers may think twice about future purchases made at the expense of the shareholders.

## **Vote Recommendation**

Vote **FOR** proposals to adopt anti Greenmail or bylaw amendments or otherwise restrict a company s ability to make Greenmail payments

Vote on a **CASE-BY-CASE** basis regarding anti-Greenmail proposals when they are bundled with other charter or bylaw amendments.

The following factors should be considered:

1. While studies by the SEC and others show that Greenmail devalues the company s stock price, an argument can be made that a payment can enable the company to pursue plans that may provide long-term gains to the shareholders.

## **Supermajority Vote**

Supermajority provisions violate the principle that a simple majority of voting shares should be all that is necessary to effect change regarding a company and its corporate governance provisions. These proposals seek shareholder approval to exceed the normal level of shareholder participation and approval from a simple majority of the outstanding shares to a much higher percentage.

## **Vote Recommendations**

Vote **AGAINST** management proposals to require a Supermajority shareholder vote to approve mergers and other significant business combinations.

Vote **FOR** shareholder proposals to lower Supermajority vote requirements for mergers and other significant business combinations.

The following factors should be considered:

- 1. Supermajority requirements ensure broad agreement on issues that may have a significant impact on the future of the company.
- 2. Supermajority vote may make action all but impossible.
- 3. Supermajority requirements are counter to the principle of majority rule.

# CHAPTER 4 MERGERS AND CORPORATE RESTRUCTURING

#### **Changing Corporate Name**

This proposal seeks shareholder approval to change the corporation s name. It is probably better to vote for the proposed name change before management goes back to the drawing board and spends another small fortune attempting again to change the name.

## **Vote Recommendation**

Vote **FOR** changing the corporate name.

The following factors should be considered:

- 1. A name of a corporation symbolizes its substance.
- 2. There are many reasons a corporation may have for changing its name, including an intention to change the direction of the business or to have a contemporary corporate image.
- 3. The board of directors is well-positioned to determine the best name for the corporation because, among other reasons, it usually seeks professional advice on such matters.

## Reincorporation

These proposals seek shareholder approval to change the state in which a company is incorporated. Sometimes this is done to accommodate the company s most active operations or headquarters. More often, however, the companies want to reincorporate in a state with more stringent anti-takeover provisions. Delaware s state laws, for instance, including liability and anti-takeover provisions, are more favorable to corporations.

#### **Vote Recommendation**

Vote on a **CASE-BY-CASE** basis, carefully reviewing the new state s laws and any significant changes the company makes in its charter and by-laws.

The following factors should be considered:

- 1. The board is in the best position to determine the company s need to incorporate.
- 2. Reincorporation may have considerable implications for shareholders, affecting a company s takeover defenses, its corporate structure or governance features.
- 3. Reincorporation in a state with stronger anti-takeover laws may harm shareholder value.

# CHAPTER 5 PROXY CONTEST DEFENSES

#### **Board Structure: Staggered vs. Annual Elections**

A company that has a classified, or staggered, board is one in which directors are typically divided into three classes, with each class serving three-year terms; each class s reelection occurs in different years. In contrast, all directors of an annually elected board serve one year and the entire board stands for election each year.

Classifying the board makes it more difficult to change control of a company through a proxy contest involving election of directors. Because only a minority of the directors are elected each year, it will be more difficult to win control of the board in a single election.

## **Vote Recommendations**

Vote **AGAINST** proposals to classify the board. Vote **FOR** proposals to repeal classified boards and to elect all directors annually.

The following factors should be considered:

1. The annual election of directors provides an extra check on management s performance. A director who is doing a good job should not fear an annual review of his/her directorship.

## **Cumulative Voting**

Most companies provide that shareholders are entitled to cast one vote for each share owned, the so-called one share, one vote standard. This proposal seeks to allow each shareholder to cast votes in the election of directors proportionate to the number of directors times the number of shares owned by each shareholder for one nominee.

#### **Vote Recommendation**

Vote **AGAINST** proposals that permit cumulative voting.

The following factors should be considered:

- 1. Cumulative voting would allow a minority owner to create an impact disproportionate to his/her holdings.
- 2. Cumulative voting can be used to elect a director who would represent special interests and not those of the corporation and its shareholders.
- 3. Cumulative voting can allow a minority to have representation.
- 4. Cumulative Voting can lead to a conflict within the board which could interfere with its ability to serve the shareholders best interests.

## Shareholders Ability to Call Special Meeting

Most state corporation statutes allow shareholders to call a special meeting when they want to take action on certain matters that arise between regularly scheduled annual meetings.

## **Vote Recommendation**

Vote **AGAINST** proposals to restrict or prohibit shareholder ability to call special meetings.

Vote **FOR** proposals that remove restrictions on the right of shareholders to act independently of management.

## Shareholders Ability to Alter Size of the Board

Proposals which would allow management to increase or decrease the size of the board at its own discretion are often used by companies as a takeover defense.

Shareholders should support management proposals to fix the size of the board at a specific number of directors, preventing management from increasing the size of the board without shareholder approval. By increasing the size of the board, management can make it more difficult for dissidents to gain control of the board.

#### **Vote Recommendations**

Vote **FOR** proposal which seek to fix the size of the board.

Vote **AGAINST** proposals which give management the ability to alter the size of the board without shareholder approval.

# CHAPTER 6 MISCELLANEOUS CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PROVISIONS

#### **Confidential Voting**

Confidential voting, also known as voting by secret ballot, is one of the key structural issues in the proxy system. All proxies, ballots, and voting tabulations that identify individual shareholders are kept confidential.

#### **Vote Recommendations**

Vote **FOR** shareholder proposals requesting that corporations adopt confidential voting.

Vote **FOR** management proposals to adopt confidential voting.

The following factors should be considered:

- 1. Some shareholders elect to have the board not know how they voted on certain issues.
- 2. Should the board be aware of how a shareholder voted, the board could attempt to influence the shareholder to change his/her vote, giving itself an advantage over those that do not have access to this information.
- 3. Confidential voting is an important element of corporate democracy which should be available to the shareholder.

## **Shareholder Advisory Committees**

These proposals request that the corporation establish a shareholder advisory committee to review the board s performance. In some instances, it would have a budget funded by the corporation and would be composed of salaried committee members with authority to hire outside experts and to include reports in the annual proxy statement.

#### **Vote Recommendation**

Vote **AGAINST** proposals to establish a shareholder advisory committee.

The following factors should be considered:

- 1. Directors already have fiduciary responsibility to represent shareholders and are accountable to them by law, thus rendering shareholder advisory committees unnecessary.
- 2. Adding another layer to the current corporate governance system would be expensive and unproductive.

## **Foreign Corporate Matters**

These proposals are usually submitted by companies incorporated outside of the United States seeking shareholder approval for actions which are considered ordinary business and do not require shareholder approval in the United States (i.e., declaration of dividends, approval of financial statements, etc.).

#### **Vote Recommendation**

 $Vote \ \textbf{FOR} \ proposals \ that \ concern \ for eign \ companies \ incorporated \ outside \ of \ the \ United \ States.$ 

The following factors should be considered:

- 1. The laws and regulations of various countries differ widely as to those issues on which shareholder approval is needed, usually requiring consent for actions which are considered routine in the United States.
- 2. The board of directors is well positioned to determine whether or not these types of actions are in the best interest of the corporation s shareholders.

#### **Government Service List**

This proposal requests that the board of directors prepare a list of employees or consultants to the company who have been employed by the government within a specified period of time and the substance of their involvement. Solicitation of customers and negotiation of contractual or other business relationships is traditionally the responsibility of management. Compilation of such a list does not seem to serve a useful purpose, primarily because existing laws and regulations serve as a checklist on conflicts of interest.

#### **Vote Recommendation**

Vote **AGAINST** these proposals which request a list of employees having been employed by the government. The following factors should be considered:

- 1. For certain companies, employing individuals familiar with the regulatory agencies and procedures is essential and, therefore, is in the best interests of the shareholders.
- 2. Existing laws and regulations require enough disclosure and serve as a check on conflicts of interest.
- 3. Additional disclosure would be an unreasonable invasion of such individual s privacy.

# CHAPTER 7 SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

## **Energy and Environmental Issues**

## (CERES Principles)

CERES proposals ask management to sign or report on process toward compliance with ten principles committing the company to environmental stewardship. Principle 10 directs companies to fill out the CERES report. This report requires companies to disclose information about environmental policies, toxic emissions, hazardous waste management, workplace safety, energy use, and environmental audits.

#### **Vote Recommendation**

Vote **AGAINST** proposals requesting that companies sign the CERES Principles.

The following factors should be considered:

1. We do not believe a concrete business case is made for this proposal. In our opinion, the company will be best served by continuing to carry on its business as it did before the proposal was made.

#### **Northern Ireland**

## (MacBride Principles)

It is well documented that Northern Ireland s Catholic community faces much higher unemployment figures then the Protestant community. Most proposals ask companies to endorse or report on progress with respect to the MacBride Principles.

In evaluating a proposal to adopt the MacBride Principles, you must decide if the principles will cause the company to divest, and worsen unemployment problems.

#### **Vote Recommendation**

**REFRAIN** from voting on proposals that request companies to adopt the MacBride Principles.

The following factors should be considered:

- 1. We believe that human and political rights are of the utmost importance for their own sake as well as for the enhancement of economic potential of a nation.
- 2. We do not believe a concrete business case has been made for this proposal. We will refrain from making social or political statements by voting for these proposals. We will only vote on proposals that maximize the value of the issuers—status without regard to (i.e., we will not pass judgement upon) the non-economic considerations.

## Maquiladora Standards and

#### **International Operations and Policies**

Proposals in this area generally request companies to report on or to adopt certain principles regarding their operations in foreign countries.

The Maquiladora Standards are a set of guidelines that outline how U.S. companies should conduct operations in Maquiladora facilities just across the U.S.-Mexican border. These standards cover such topics as community development, environmental policies, health and safety policies, and fair employment practices.

#### **Vote Recommendation**

**ABSTAIN** from providing a Vote Recommendation on proposals regarding the Maquiladora Standards and international operating policies.

The following factors should be considered:

- 1. We believe that human rights are of the utmost importance for their own sake as well as for the enhancement of economic potential of a nation.
- 2. We do not believe that a concrete business case has been made for these proposals. We will refrain from making social statements by voting for these proposals. We will not only vote on proposals that maximize the value of the issuers—securities without regard to (i.e., we will not pass judgement upon) the non-economic considerations.

## **Equal Employment Opportunity**

#### **And Discrimination**

In regards to equal employment and discrimination, companies without comprehensive EEO programs will find it hard to recruit qualified employees and find them at a long-term competitive disadvantage. Companies who are not carefully watching their human resource practices could also face lawsuits.

## **Vote Recommendation**

**REFRAIN** from voting on any proposals regarding equal employment opportunities and discrimination. The following factors should be considered:

1. We feel that the hiring and promotion of employees should be free from prohibited discriminatory practices. We also feel that many of these issues are already subject to significant state and federal regulations.

# **Animal Rights**

A Corporation is requested to issue a report on its progress towards reducing reliance on animal tests for consumer product safety.

# **Vote Recommendation**

**REFRAIN** from making Vote Recommendations on proposals regarding animal rights.

The following factors should be considered:

- 1. Needless cruelty to animals should never be tolerated. However, the testing of products on animals may be very important to the health and safety of consumers.
- 2. We also feel that this issue is already subject to significant state and federal regulation.

# CHAPTER 8 CAPITAL STRUCTURE

#### **Common Stock Authorization**

The ability to increase the number of authorized shares could accommodate the sale of equity, stock splits, dividends, compensation-based plans, etc. The board can usually be trusted to use additional shares for capital-raising and other transactions that are in the corporation s best interests.

However, excessive escalation in the number of authorized shares may allow the board to radically change the corporation s direction without shareholder approval. Be careful to view that the increased number of shares will not enable the company to activate a poison pill.

# **Vote Recommendation**

Vote Case-By-Case on proposals to increase the number of shares of common stock authorized for issue.

Vote **AGAINST** proposed common share authorization that increase existing authorization by more then 100 percent unless a clear need for the excess shares is presented by the company.

The following factors should be considered:

- 1. Is this company going to make frequent business acquisitions over a period of time?
- 2. Is the company expanding its operations?
- 3. Within the company, are there any debt structuring or prepackaged bankruptcy plans?

#### **Blank Check Preferred Stock**

The terms of blank check preferred stock give the board of directors the power to issue shares of preferred stock at their discretion, with voting, conversion, distribution and other rights to be determined by the board at the time of the issue.

Blank check preferred stock can provide corporations with the flexibility to meet changing financial conditions. However, once the blank check preferred stock has been authorized, the shareholders have no further power over how or when it will be allocated.

#### **Vote Recommendation**

Vote **AGAINST** proposals authorizing the creation of new classes of preferred stock with unspecified voting, conversion, dividend distribution, and other rights.

The following factors should be considered:

1. Blank check preferred stock can be used as the vehicle for a poison pill defense against hostile suitors, or it may be placed in friendly hands to help block a takeover bid.

#### **Preemptive Rights**

These proposals request that the corporation provide existing shareholders with an opportunity to acquire additional shares in proportion to their existing holdings whenever new shares are issued. In companies with a large shareholder base and ease in which shareholders could preserve their relative interest through purchases of shares on the open market, the cost of implementing preemptive rights does not seem justifiable in relation to the benefits.

#### **Vote Recommendation**

Vote **AGAINST** proposals seeking preemptive rights.

The following factors should be considered:

- 1. The existence of preemptive rights can considerably slow down the process of issuing new shares due to the logistics involved in protecting such rights.
- 2. Preemptive rights are not necessary for the shareholder in today s corporations, whose stock is held by a wide range of owners and is, in most cases, highly liquid.

Stock Distributions: Splits and Dividends

Stock Splits

The corporation requests authorization for a stock split.

# **Vote Recommendation**

Vote **FOR** management proposal to authorize stock splits unless the split will result in an increase of authorized but unissued shares of more than 100% after giving effect to the shares needed for the split.

# Reverse Stock Splits

# **Vote Recommendation**

Vote **FOR** management proposal to authorize reverse stock split unless the reverse stock split results in an increase of authorized but unissued shares of more than 100% after giving effect to the shares needed for the reverse split.

# Adjustments to Par Value of Common Stock

The purpose of par value stock is to establish the maximum responsibility of stockholder in the event that a corporation becomes insolvent. It represents the maximum amount that a shareholder must pay the corporation if the stock is to be fully paid when issued.

The corporation requests permission to reduce the par value of its stock. In most cases, adjusting par value is a routine financing decision and should be supported.

#### **Vote Recommendation**

Vote **FOR** management proposals to reduce the par value of common stock.

The following factors should be considered:

- 1. State laws sometimes prohibit issuance of new stock priced below that of the outstanding shares.
- 2. A corporation may be unable to raise capital if the par value is overstated.

# Debt Restructurings

The corporation may propose to increase common and/or preferred shares and to issue shares as part of a debt restructuring plan.

# **Vote Recommendation**

It is our policy to vote **CASE-BY-CASE** on debt restructuring.

The following factors should be considered:

- 1. Dilution How much will ownership interest of existing shareholders be reduced and how extreme will dilution to future earnings be?
- 2. Change in Control Will the transaction result in a change of control of the company?
- 3. Bankruptcy Is the threat of bankruptcy, which would result in severe losses in shareholder value, the main factor driving the debt restructuring?

# CHAPTER 9 EXECUTIVE AND DIRECTOR COMPENSATION

# **Director Compensation**

Directors represent shareholders and are responsible for protecting shareholder interests. Companies state in the proxy material that they pay directors well in order to attract the most qualified candidates. All compensation packages for any executive, director or employee should include a pay-for-performance component.

# **Vote Recommendation**

Vote on a **CASE-BY-CASE** basis for director compensation.

The following factors should be considered:

1. As directors take an increasingly active role in corporate decision-making and governance, their compensation is becoming more performance-based.

# Shareholder Proposal to Limit Executive and Director Pay

Shareholder compensation proposals that set limits or reduce executive compensation should be closely scrutinized. Many of these proposals may be flawed in their emphasis on an absolute dollar figure in compensation.

# **Vote Recommendation**

Vote on a CASE-BY-CASE basis.

The following factors should be considered:

1. Executive compensation is established by a committee that consists of independent directors who have fiduciary responsibility to act in the best interest of the shareholders and who are best placed to make compensation decisions.

#### **Employee Stock Ownership Plans (ESOPs)**

These proposals ask for stockholder endorsement of compensation plans for key employees which involve the issuance of company shares by granting of stock options, SARs, restricted stock, etc. These plans help attract and retain best-qualified corporate personnel and tie their interests more closely to those of the shareholders.

#### **Vote Recommendation**

Vote **FOR** proposals to adopt share-based compensation plans when the following items are involved:

- 1. The exercise price for stock options is less than 85% of fair market value on the date of the grant.
- 2. It is an omnibus stock plan which gives directors broad discretion in deciding how much and what kind of stock to award, when and to whom.
- 3. The shares for issue exceed 8% of the company s outstanding shares; or, in the case of the evergreen plans, the amount of increase exceeds 1.5% of the total number of shares outstanding.

Vote **AGAINST** proposals adopting share based compensation plans when the following items are involved:

- 1. Re-load options (new options issued for any exercised).
- 2. The plan would allow for management to pyramid their holdings by using stock to purchase more stock, without having to lay out cash. Vote **YES** if this is for directors.

# **Options Expensing**

Shareholder proposal to expense options.

# **Vote Recommendation**

It is our policy to vote **FOR** proposals to expense options.

#### **Golden Parachutes**

Golden parachutes are designed to protect the employees of a corporation in the event of a change in control. The change in control agreement will specify the exact payments to be made under the golden parachutes. The calculation for payout is usually based on some multiple of an employee s annual or monthly compensation. Golden parachutes are generally given to employees whose annual compensation exceeds \$112,000.

Recent experience has shown a willingness of many managements to treat severance agreements as equal to equity investments and to reward themselves as if substantial amounts of equity were at risk.

#### **Vote Recommendation**

Vote **FOR** proposals which seek to limit additional compensation payments.

Vote **FOR** shareholder proposals to have golden parachutes submitted for shareholder ratification.

The following factors should be considered:

- 1. The stability of management may be affected by an attempted acquisition of the corporation.
- 2. There is a tendency on the part of an entrenched management to overstate the value of their continuing control of and influence on the day-to-day functions of a corporation.

# **Proposal to Ban Golden Parachutes**

Based on the foregoing information:

# **Vote Recommendation**

We are **FOR** this proposal, which essentially bans golden parachutes, because we feel management s compensation should be solely based on real-time contributions to the corporation while they are serving it. Deferred current compensation is viewed differently than future, contingent compensation for current services.

# **Outside Directors** Retirement Compensation

We believe that directors should only be compensated while serving the company.

# **Vote Recommendations**

Vote **AGAINST** proposals establishing outside directors retirement compensation.

Vote **FOR** proposals that revoke outside directors retirement compensation.

# CHAPTER 10 STATE OF INCORPORATION

# **Control Share Acquisition Statutes**

These proposals suggest that the board of directors solicit shareholder approval before committing acquisitions or divestiture of a business exceeding stipulated threshold levels. Such statutes function by denying shares their voting rights when they contribute to ownership in excess of certain thresholds.

# **Vote Recommendation**

Vote **AGAINST** proposals which request the board to seek shareholder approval before committing to an acquisition. The following factors should be considered:

- 1. These proposals deprive the board of directors of its ability to act quickly in propitious circumstances.
- 2. Conforming to these requirements can be expensive.
- 3. The board of directors is uniquely qualified and positioned to be able to make these decisions without prior shareholder approval.
- 4. The threshold levels usually imposed by these proposals are much more stringent than required by law.

#### **Opt-Out of State Takeover Statutes**

These proposals seek shareholder approval to opt-out (not be governed by) certain provisions of the anti-takeover laws of various states. Delaware law, for instance, dictates that a bidder has to acquire at least 85% of a company s stock before exercising control, unless he or she has board approval. This means that a company may thwart an otherwise successful bidder by securing 15% of its stock in friendly hands.

#### **Vote Recommendation**

Vote on a **CASE-BY-CASE** basis for these proposals.

The following factors should be considered:

- 1. It is the directors responsibility to act on behalf of the shareholders in opposing coercive takeover attempts.
- 2. Creating deterrents to corporate takeovers may allow for entrenchment of inefficient management.
- 3. These statutes strengthen the board s ability to deal with potential buyers on fair and reasonable terms.
- 4. Shareholders should have the final say on whether the company should be merged or acquired.

Corporate Restructuring, Spin-Offs Asset Sales, Liquidations Votes on corporate restructuring, spin-offs, asset sales and liquidations are evaluated on a **case by case** basis.

# CHAPTER 11 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

#### Conflicts

From time to time, proxy voting proposals may raise conflicts between the interests of the Advisers clients and the interests of the Adviser, its affiliates and its employees. Conflicts of interest may arise when:

- 1. Proxy votes regarding non-routine matters are solicited by an issuer that may have a separate account relationship with an affiliate of the Adviser.
- 2. A proponent of a proxy proposal has a business relationship with the Adviser or one of its affiliates or the Adviser or one of its affiliates has a business relationship with participants in proxy contests, corporate directors or director candidates.
- 3. An employee of the Adviser has a personal interest in the outcome of a particular matter before shareholders. If the Adviser receives a proxy that to the knowledge of the Proxy Manager raises a conflict of interest, the Proxy Manager shall advise the Governance Committee which shall determine whether the conflict is material to any specific proposal involved in the proxy. The Governance Committee will determine whether the proposal is material as follows:
  - 1. Routine proxy proposals are presumed not to involve a material conflict of interest.
  - Non-routine proxy proposals. Proxy proposals that are non-routine will be presumed to involve a material
    conflict of interest unless the Governance Committee determines that the conflict is unrelated to the proposal.
    Non-routine proposals would include a merger, compensation matters for management and contested elections
    of directors.

# Conflicts cont d

- 3. The Governance Committee may determine on a case-by-case basis that particular non-routine proposals do not involve a material conflict of interest because the proposal is not directly related to the Adviser s conflict vis-à-vis the issue. The Governance Committee will record the basis for any such determination. With respect to any proposal that the Governance Committee determines presents a material conflict of interest, the Adviser may vote regarding that proposal in any of the following ways:
  - a) Obtain instructions from the client on how to vote.
  - b) Use existing proxy guidelines if the policy with respect to the proposal is specifically addressed and does not involve a case-by-case analysis.
  - c) Vote the proposal that involves the conflict according to the recommendations of an independent third party such as Institutional Share Services Inc. or Investor Responsibility Research Center.

# CHAPTER 12 GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE AND PROXY MANAGERS

# Governance Committee

The Governance Committee is responsible for the maintenance of the Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures and will determine whether any conflict between the interest of clients and the Advisers in voting proxies is material. The Governance Committee includes the following: (1) Joseph Malangoni, (2) Barbara Pires, and (3) Punita Kumar-Sinha.

# **Proxy Managers**

The Proxy Manager for the Adviser is Punita Kumar-Sinha, Portfolio Manager. The Proxy Manager will determine how votes will be cast on proposals that are evaluated on a case-by case basis.

# CHAPTER 13 SPECIAL ISSUES WITH VOTING FOREIGN PROXIES

Special Issues with Voting Foreign Proxies

Voting proxies with respect to shares of foreign stock may involve significantly greater effort and corresponding cost than voting proxies in the U.S domestic market. Issues in voting foreign proxies include the following:

- 1. Each country has its own rules and practices regarding shareholder notification, voting restrictions, registration conditions and share blocking.
- 2. In some foreign countries shares may be blocked by custodian or depository or bearer shares deposited with specific financial institutions for a certain number of days before or after the shareholders meeting. When blocked, shares typically may not be traded until the day after the blocking period. Blackstone may refrain from voting shares of foreign stocks subject to blocking restrictions where in the Adviser s judgment the benefit from voting the shares is outweighed by the interest in maintaining client liquidity in the shares. This decision is made on a case-by-case basis based on a relevant factors including the length of the blocking period, the significance of the holding and whether the stock is considered by a long-term holding.
- 3. Time frames between shareholder notification, distribution of proxy materials, book closures and the actual meeting date may be too short to allow timely action.
- 4. In certain countries, applicable regulations require that votes must be made in person at the shareholder meeting. The Adviser will weigh the costs and benefits of voting on proxy proposals in countries that require in-person voting on a case-by-case basis and make decisions on whether voting on a given proxy proposal is prudent. Generally, the Adviser will not vote shares in countries that require in person voting on routine matters such as uncontested elections of directors, ratification of auditors.

# CHAPTER 14 RECORD KEEPING

#### Record Keeping

Blackstone will maintain the following records:

- 1. Copies of these policies
- 2. A copy of each proxy statement that the Adviser receives regarding client securities. The Adviser may satisfy this requirement by relying on a third party to keep copies of proxy statements provided that the Adviser has an undertaking from the third party to provide a copy of the proxy statement promptly upon request.
- 3. A record of each vote cast on behalf of a client. A third party may keep these voting records provided that the Adviser has an undertaking from the third party to provide a copy of the record promptly upon request.
- 4. A copy of any document created by the Adviser that was material to making a decision on how to vote proxies or that memorializes the basis for that decision.
- 5. A copy of each written client request for information on how an Adviser voted proxies on behalf of the client and a copy of written response by the Adviser to any client request for information on how the Adviser voted proxies on behalf of the client.

The above records shall be maintained for five years from the end of the fiscal year during which the last entry was made on such record, the first two years in an appropriate office of the Adviser.

#### Item 8. Portfolio Managers of Closed-End Management Investment Companies.

**Portfolio Manager.** As of December 31, 2008, the Fund is managed by Punita Kumar-Sinha, who has primary responsibility for the day-to-day implementation of the Fund s investment strategies. Ms. Kumar-Sinha has been the portfolio manager for the Fund since 1997. Ms Kumar-Sinha joined Blackstone Asia Advisors L.L.C. (the Investment Manager ) in December 2005 and is a Senior Managing Director. Prior to joining the Investment Manager, Ms. Kumar-Sinha was a Managing Director and Senior Portfolio Manager at Oppenheimer Asset Management Inc. and CIBC World Markets, where she was also the portfolio manager for the Fund.

Other Accounts Managed by Portfolio Manager. In addition to managing the Fund, Ms. Kumar-Sinha also is primarily responsible for the day-to-day portfolio management of one registered investment company, The Asia Tigers Fund, Inc., and one unregistered pooled investment vehicle. As of December 31, 2008, the total assets of The Asia Tigers Fund, Inc. were \$49,138,822, and the total assets of the unregistered pooled investment vehicle were approximately \$22,117,891. Ms. Kumar-Sinha manages no other registered investment companies, pooled investment vehicles or accounts. None of the accounts managed by Ms. Kumar-Sinha have fees based on performance.

**Portfolio Manager Compensation.** The portfolio manager s overall compensation is determined by Blackstone s Management Committee. Blackstone s compensation structure is designed

to pay competitive salaries to attract and retain top quality investment professionals. Ms. Kumar-Sinha s compensation consists of two elements base salary and bonus.

*Base salary*. The base salary is generally a fixed amount. The base salary is reviewed annually and may be adjusted based on a variety of factors, including competitive market factors and the skill, experience and responsibilities of the individual. While investment performance is a factor in determining the portfolio manager s compensation, it is not necessarily a decisive factor.

*Bonus*. Ms. Kumar-Sinha is also eligible to receive an annual cash bonus and Blackstone stock. The level of this bonus is based upon evaluations and determinations made by the portfolio manager s supervisor. These reviews and evaluations often take into account a variety of factors, including the effectiveness of the portfolio manager s investment strategies, the performance of the accounts for which she serves as portfolio manager relative to any benchmarks established for those accounts over the course of the year (currently the IFC Investable Index, the Dollex, the Bombay Stock Exchange 500 Index, the MSCI AC Asia Ex-Japan Index, the MSCI India Index and the MSCI AC Far East Ex-Japan Index), the amount of the Investment Manager s total assets under management, her ability to work with colleagues and to supervise her investment staff and her overall contribution to the Investment Manager in achieving its business objectives.

**Potential Conflicts of Interest.** Potential conflicts of interest may arise when a fund s portfolio manager has day-to-day management responsibilities with respect to one or more other funds or other accounts, as is the case for Ms. Kumar-Sinha. Ms. Kumar-Sinha s simultaneous management of the Fund, The Asia Tigers Fund, Inc. and an unregistered pooled investment vehicle may present actual or apparent conflicts of interest with respect to the allocation of Ms. Kumar-Sinha s time and attention as well as with respect to the allocation and aggregation of securities orders placed on behalf of these accounts. The Fund, The Asia Tigers Fund, Inc. and the unregistered pooled investment vehicle have, to varying degrees, overlapping investment objectives since all three accounts may invest in Indian securities. Potential conflicts may arise, for example, when there is a limited quantity of an investment that may be suitable for more than one of these accounts and the investment must be allocated between them. It is also possible that, in light of different objectives, benchmarks, industry and sector exposures and time horizons, the portfolio manager may take differing positions in the three accounts.

In the future, Ms. Kumar-Sinha may manage other funds or accounts that may also invest in the same or similar securities as the Fund, which may present similar or additional conflicts of interest. The Investment Manager believes that such potential conflicts are mitigated by the fact that the Investment Manager has adopted policies that address potential conflicts of interest, including strict adherence to investment objectives, policies and guidelines as well as best execution and trade allocation policies that are designed to ensure (1) that portfolio management is seeking the best price for portfolio securities under the circumstances, (2) fair and equitable allocation of investment opportunities among accounts over time and (3) compliance with applicable regulatory requirements. All accounts are treated in a non-preferential manner, such that allocations are not based upon account performance, fee structure or preference of the portfolio manager.

**Portfolio Manager Securities Ownership.** As of December 31, 2008, Ms. Kumar-Sinha beneficially owned between \$10,001 and \$50,000 in the common stock of the Fund.

(b) Not applicable.

Item 9. Purchases of Equity Securities by Closed-End Management Investment Company and Affiliated Purchasers.

# REGISTRANT PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES

	(a) Total	(b) Average	(c) Total Number of  Shares (or Units) Purchased as	(d) Maximum Number (or Approximate Dollar Value) of Shares (or Units) that
	Number of			
	Shares (or	Price Paid per Share	Part of Publicly	May Yet Be Purchased Under
	Units)	(or	Announced Plans or	the
Period	Purchased	Unit)	Programs	Plans or Programs
07/01/2008 to				
07/31/2008	None	None	None	None
08/01/2008 to				
08/31/2008	None	None	None	None
09/01/2008 to				
09/30/2008	2,019,547	\$35.9072	2,019,547(1)	None
10/01/2008 to				
10/31/2008	None	None	None	None
11/01/2008 to				
11/30/2008	None	None	None	None
12/01/2008 to				
12/31/2008	None	None	None	None
Total	2,019,547	\$35.9072	\$2,019,547	None

These shares were repurchased in connection with the Fund s regular, semi-annual repurchase offer announced on August 22, 2008 that expired on September 12, 2008. In connection with this repurchase offer, the Fund offered to repurchase up to 2.019.547 shares of its common stock, an amount equal

to 5% of its outstanding shares of common stock, for cash at a price approximately equal to the Fund s net asset value as of September 19, 2008.

# Item 10. Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders.

There have been no material changes to the procedures by which the shareholders may recommend nominees to the registrant s board of directors, where those changes were implemented after the registrant last provided disclosure in response to the requirements of Item 407(c)(2)(iv) of Regulation S-K (17 CFR 229.407) (as required by Item 22(b)(15) of Schedule 14A (17 CFR 240.14a-101)), or this Item.

#### Item 11. Controls and Procedures.

- (a) The registrant s principal executive and principal financial officers, or persons performing similar functions, have concluded that the registrant s disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 30a-3(c) under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the 1940 Act) (17 CFR 270.30a-3(c))) are effective, as of a date within 90 days of the filing date of this report, based on their evaluation of these controls and procedures required by Rule 30a-3(b) under the 1940 Act (17 CFR 270.30a-3(b)) and Rules 13a-15(b) or 15d-15(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (17 CFR 240.13a-15(b) or 240.15d-15(b)).
- (b) There were no changes in the registrant s internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rule 30a-3(d) under the 1940 Act (17 CFR 270.30a-3(d)) that occurred during the registrant s second fiscal quarter of the period covered by this report that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant s internal control over financial reporting.

#### Item 12. Exhibits.

- (a)(1) Code of ethics, or any amendment thereto, that is the subject of disclosure required by Item 2 is attached hereto.
- (a)(2) Certifications pursuant to Rule 30a-2(a) under the 1940 Act and Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 are attached hereto.
- (a)(3) Not applicable.
- (b) Certifications pursuant to Rule 30a-2(b) under the 1940 Act and Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 are attached hereto.

#### **SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

(registrant) The India Fund, Inc.

By (Signature and Title)\* /s/ Prakash A. Melwani

Prakash A. Melwani, President (principal executive officer)

Date February 27, 2009

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

By (Signature and Title)\* /s/ Prakash A. Melwani

Prakash A. Melwani, President (principal executive officer)

Date February 27, 2009

By (Signature and Title)\* /s/ Joseph M. Malangoni

Joseph M. Malangoni, Treasurer and Vice President

(principal financial officer)

Date February 27, 2009

\* Print the name and title of each signing officer under his or her signature.