

Learning Sessions

20 One-Liners | ADR vs GDR for JAIIB: Complete 2026 Guide to Depository Receipts (LRAB

IIBF - Revision - ADR vs GDR for JAIIB: Complete 2026 Guide to Depository Receipts (LRAB

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20 One-Liners to Remember

Quick-fire facts for last-minute revision.

- 1 ADR (American Depository Receipt) lets a foreign company's shares be offered to US investors via a US depository bank.**

The US depository bank issues the ADR against shares it holds in the foreign company.

- 2 GDR (Global Depository Receipt) lets companies raise capital from investors in multiple countries outside the US.**

GDRs are commonly listed on exchanges like London or Luxembourg.

- 3 A depository receipt is a negotiable instrument issued by a bank representing shares of a foreign company, traded locally.**

The issuing bank holds the actual shares and issues receipts against them for local investors.

- 4 ADRs are always denominated in US Dollars.**

This is a fixed feature that distinguishes ADRs from GDRs, which can use any convertible currency.

- 5 GDRs can be denominated in any freely convertible currency.**

This multi-currency feature makes GDRs accessible to investors worldwide.

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6 ADRs trade only in the United States, mainly on the NYSE or NASDAQ.

The ADR market scope is limited to the US, unlike the GDR's global scope.

7 GDRs trade in global markets outside the US, commonly in London and Luxembourg.

GDR scope covers multiple countries simultaneously, not just one.

8 A sponsored ADR involves a formal agreement between the foreign company and one US depository bank.

This formal, contractual arrangement is a key exam distinction from non-sponsored ADRs.

9 Non-sponsored ADRs are created by brokers or dealers without the foreign company's formal involvement.

This lack of formal agreement is the defining feature examiners test.

10 Non-sponsored ADRs trade over the counter and generally do not require full SEC registration.

This contrasts with sponsored ADRs, which are exchange-listed and SEC-regulated.

11 Sponsored ADRs fall under the oversight of the US Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC).

SEC oversight enforces disclosure and compliance for sponsored ADRs.

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12 Multiple depository banks may issue non-sponsored ADRs for the same foreign stock.

This is unlike sponsored ADRs, which involve just one depository bank.

13 For Indian issuers, the RBI and SEBI govern depository receipt issuance and conversion.

Indian companies raising funds abroad via ADR or GDR must comply with RBI and SEBI rules.

14 A simple memory hook for the exam is: ADR means America, GDR means Global.

This hook helps candidates quickly recall the market scope of each instrument.

15 In a GDR, the underlying shares stay in the issuer's home currency even though the receipt may use another currency.

For Indian companies, the underlying shares remain denominated in Indian Rupees.

16 GDR holders can typically convert receipts into equity shares through a local custodian after a specified period from issue.

Conversion timelines can change, so candidates should verify current scheme rules.

17 GDR holders are entitled to dividends and bonus shares declared on the underlying shares.

This entitlement is one of the key features of holding a GDR.

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18 **Depository receipts let companies raise foreign capital without listing directly on a foreign stock exchange.**

A depository bank acts as an intermediary, issuing receipts against the shares it custodies.

19 **Banks act as custodians in ADR and GDR arrangements, holding the underlying shares safely.**

Banks also handle dividend remittance and foreign-exchange conversion in these arrangements.

20 **ADR and GDR are high-yield topics under capital markets and cross-border finance in the JAIIB LRAB syllabus.**

Examiners commonly test their types, features, currency, regulators, and key differences.

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