



Investor Charter – Stock Brokers

Annexure-A

VISION

To follow highest standards of ethics and compliances while facilitating the trading by clients in securities in a fair and transparent manner, so as to contribute in creation of wealth for investors.

MISSION

- To provide high quality and dependable service through innovation, capacity enhancement and use of technology.
- To establish and maintain a relationship of trust and ethics with the investors.
- To observe highest standard of compliances and transparency.
- To always keep 'protection of investors' interest' as goal while providing service.
- To ensure confidentiality of information shared by investors unless such information is required to be provided in furtherance of discharging legal obligations or investors have provided specific consent to share such information.

1. Services provided to Investors

- Execution of trades on behalf of investors
- Issuance of Contract Notes.
- Issuance of intimations regarding margin due payments.
- Facilitate execution of early pay-in obligation instructions.
- Periodic Settlement of client's funds.
- Intimation of securities held in Client Unpaid Securities Account (CUSA) Account.
- Issuance of retention statement of funds at the time of settlement.
- Risk management systems to mitigate operational and market risk.
- Facilitate client profile changes in the system as instructed by the client.
- Information sharing with the client w.r.t. relevant Market Infrastructure Institutions (MII) exchange circulars.
- Redressal of Investor's grievances.
- Provide a copy of Rights & Obligations document to the client
- Communicating Most Important terms and Conditions (MITC) to the client

Rights of Investors

- **Ask** for and receive information from a firm about the work history and background of the person handling your account, as well as information about the receive complete information about the risks, obligations, and costs of any investment before investing.
- **Receive** recommendations consistent with your financial needs and investment objectives.
- **Receive** a copy of all completed account forms and right & obligation document.
- **Receive a copy of "Most Important Terms & Conditions"(MITC).**
- **Receive** account statements that are accurate and understandable.
- **Understand** the terms and conditions of transactions you undertake.
- **Access** your funds in a timely manner and receive information about any restrictions or limitations on access.
- **Receive** complete information about maintenance or service charges, transaction or redemption fees, and penalties in form of tariff sheet.
- **Discuss** your grievances with compliance officer of the firm and receive prompt attention to and fair consideration of your concerns.
- Close your zero balance accounts online with minimal documentation
- Get the copies of all policies (including Most Important Terms and Conditions) of the broker related to dealings of your account
- Not be discriminated against in terms of services offered to equivalent clients
- Get only those advertisement materials from the broker which adhere to Code of Advertisement norms in place
- In case of broker defaults, be compensated from the Exchange Investor Protection Fund as per the norms in place
- Trade in derivatives after submission of relevant financial documents to the Broker subject to brokers' adequate due diligence.
- Get warnings on the trading systems while placing orders in securities where surveillance measures are in place
- Get access to products and services in a suitable manner even if differently abled



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- Get access to educational materials of the MIIs and brokers
- Get access to all the exchanges of a particular segment you wish to deal with unless opted out specifically as per Broker norms
- Deal with one or more stockbrokers of your choice without any compulsion of minimum business
- Have access to the escalation matrix for communication with the broker
- Not be bound by any clause prescribed by the Brokers which are contravening the Regulatory provisions.

Various activities of Stock Brokers with timelines

| S.No. | Activities | Expected Timelines |
|-------|---|--|
| 1. | KYC entered into KRA System and CKYCR | 03 Working days of account opening |
| 2. | Client Onboarding | Immediate, but not later than one week |
| 3. | Order execution | Immediate on receipt of order, but not later than the same day |
| 4. | Allocation of Unique Client Code | Before trading |
| 5. | Copy of duly completed Client Registration Documents to clients | 7 days from the date of upload of Unique Client Code to the Exchange by the trading member |
| 6. | Issuance of contract notes | 24 hours of execution of trades |
| 7. | Collection of upfront margin from client | Before initiation of trade |
| 8. | Issuance of intimations regarding other margin due payments | At the end of the T day |
| 9. | Settlement of client funds, securities and Commodities | 30 days / 90 days for running account settlement (RAS) as per the preference of client. If consent not given for RAS – within 24 hours of pay-out |
| 10. | 'Statement of Accounts' for Funds, Securities and Commodities | Weekly basis (Within four trading days of following week) |
| 11. | Issuance of retention statement of Funds/ Commodities | 5 days from the date of settlement |
| 12. | Issuance of Annual Global Statement | 30 days from the end of the financial year |
| 13. | Investor grievances redressal | 21 calendar days from the receipt of the complaint |

DOs and DON'Ts for Investors

| DOs | DON'Ts |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Read all documents and conditions being agreed before signing the account opening form. 2. Receive a copy of KYC, copy of account opening documents and Unique Client Code. 3. Read the product / operational framework / timelines related to various Trading and Clearing & Settlement processes. 4. Receive all information about brokerage, fees and other charges levied. 5. Register your mobile number and email ID in your trading, demat and bank accounts to get regular alerts on your transactions. 6. If executed, receive a copy of Demat Debit and Pledge Instructions (DDPI). However, DDPI is not a mandatory requirement as per SEBI / Stock Exchanges. Before granting DDPI, carefully examine the scope and implications of powers being granted. If executed, receive a copy of Power of Attorney. However, Power of Attorney is not a mandatory requirement as per SEBI / Stock Exchanges. Before granting Power of Attorney, carefully examine the scope and implications of powers being granted. 7. Receive contract notes for trades executed, showing transaction price, brokerage, GST and STT etc. as applicable, separately, within 24 hours of execution of trades. 8. Receive funds and securities / commodities on time as prescribed by SEBI or Exchanges from time to time. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Do not deal with unregistered stock broker. 2. Do not forget to strike off blanks in your account opening and KYC. 3. Do not submit an incomplete account opening and KYC form. 4. Do not forget to inform any change in information linked to trading account and obtain confirmation of updation in the system. 5. Do not transfer funds, for the purposes of trading to anyone other than a stock broker. No payment should be made in name of employee of stock broker. 6. Do not ignore any emails / SMSs received with regards to trades done, from the Stock Exchange and raise a concern, if discrepancy is observed. 7. Do not opt for digital contracts, if not familiar with computers. 8. Do not share trading password. 9. Do not fall prey to fixed / guaranteed returns schemes. |



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|---|---|
| <p>9. Verify details of trades, contract notes and statement of account and approach relevant authority for any discrepancies. Verify trade details on the Exchange websites from the trade verification facility provided by the Exchanges.</p> <p>10. Receive statement of accounts periodically. If opted for running account settlement, account has to be settled by the stock broker as per the option given by the client (30 or 90 days).</p> <p>11. In case of any grievances, approach stock broker or Stock Exchange or SEBI for getting the same resolved within prescribed timelines.</p> <p>12. Retain documents for trading activity as it helps in resolving disputes, if they arise.</p> | <p>10. Do not fall prey to fraudsters sending emails and SMSs luring to trade in stocks / securities promising huge profits.</p> <p>11. Do not follow herd mentality for investments. Seek expert and professional advice for your investments.</p> |
|---|---|

Stock & Commodity Exchanges- Important Links

Additionally, Investors may refer to Dos and Don'ts issued by MIs on their respective websites from time to time.

NSE (National Stock Exchange): <https://www.nseindia.com/static/invest/first-time-investor-fraud-dos-and-donts>

BSE (Bombay Stock Exchange): <https://www.bseindia.com/static/investors/invdosdonot.aspx>

MCX (Multi Commodity Exchange): https://www.mcxindia.com/docs/default-source/investor-grievance-arbitration/investors-charter/do's-of-investing.pdf?sfvrsn=84083191_2

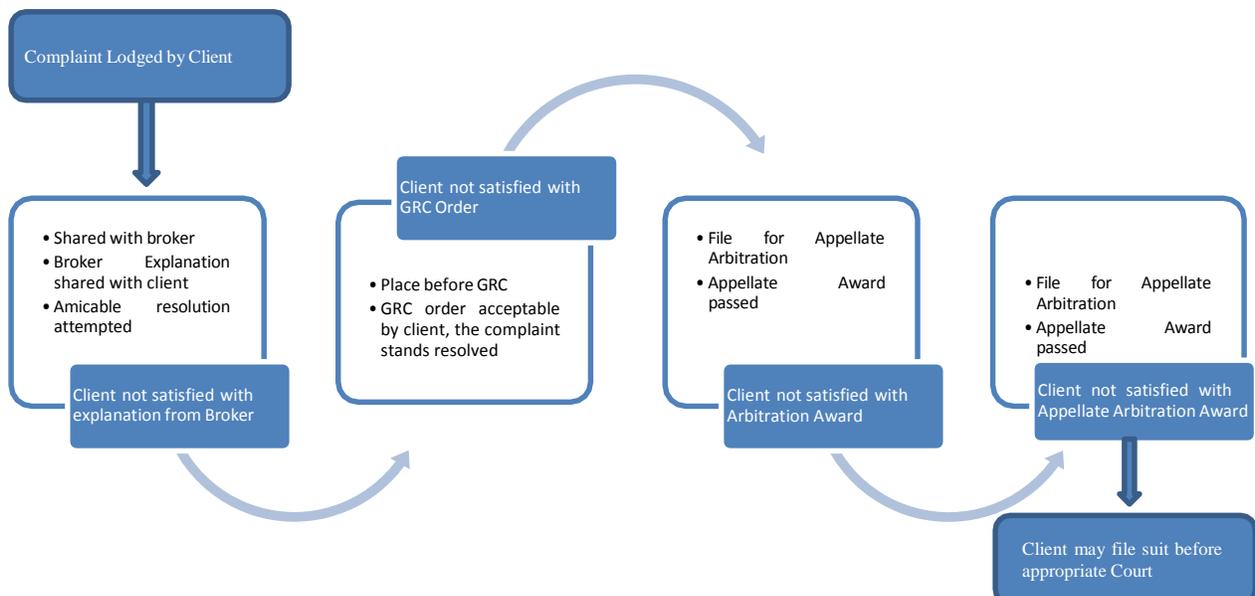
Grievance Redressal Mechanism

Level 1 – Approach the Stock Broker at the designated Investor Grievance e-mail ID of the stock broker. (helpdesk@fairinvest.co.in)

The Stock Broker will strive to redress the grievance immediately, but not later than 21 days of the receipt of the grievance.

Level 2 – Approach the Stock Exchange using the grievance mechanism mentioned at the website of the respective exchange.

Complaints Resolution Process at Stock Exchange explained graphically:



The Process of investor grievance redressal is as follows:

| | | |
|-----------------------|---|--|
| <p>Sr. No. 1.</p> | <p>Investor Complaint / Grievances</p> | <p>Investor can lodge complaint/ grievance against the Member Broker in the following ways:</p> <p><u>Mode of filling the complaint with the Member Broker</u> Investor can approach the Stock Broker at the designated Investor Grievance e-mail ID of the stockbroker helpdesk@fairinvest.co.in</p> <p>The Stock/Commodity Broker will strive to redress the grievance immediately, but not later than 21 days of the receipt of the grievance</p> <p><u>Mode of filing the complaint with stock/commodity exchanges</u></p> <p>(i) SCORES 2.0 (a web based centralized grievance redressal system of SEBI): https://scores.sebi.gov.in</p> <p>Two Level Review for complaint/grievance against Member Broker:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First review done by Designated Body/Exchanges • Second review done by SEBI <p>(ii) Emails to designated email IDs of Exchange</p> <p>BSE: is@bseindia.com</p> <p>NSE: ignse@nse.co.in</p> <p>MCX: grievance@mcxindia.com</p> |
| <p>2.</p> | <p>Online Dispute Resolution (ODR) platform for online Conciliation and Arbitration</p> | <p>If the Investor is not satisfied with the resolution provided by Market Participants, then the Investor has the option to file the complaint/grievance on SMARTODR platform for its resolution through by online conciliation or arbitration. https://smartodr.in/login</p> |
| <p>3.</p> | <p>Steps to be followed in ODR for Review, Conciliation and Arbitration</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Investor to approach Market Participant for redressal of complaint 2. If investor is not satisfied with response of Market Participant, he/she has either of the following 2 options: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. May escalate the complaint on SEBI SCORES portal. ii. May also file a complaint on SMARTODR portal for its resolution through online conciliation and arbitration. 3. Upon receipt of complaint on SMARTODR portal, the relevant MII will review the matter and endeavor to resolve the matter between the Market Participant and investor within 21 days. 4. If the matter could not be amicably resolved, then the matter shall be referred for conciliation. 5. During the conciliation process, the conciliator will endeavor for amicable settlement of the dispute within 21 days, which may be extended with 10 days by the conciliator with consent of the parties to dispute. 6. If the conciliation is unsuccessful, then the investor may request to refer the matter for arbitration. 7. The arbitration process to be concluded by arbitrator(s) within 30 days, which is extendable by 30 days with consent of the parties to dispute. |

Level 3 – The complaint not redressed at Stock Broker / Stock Exchange level, may be lodged with SEBI on SCORES 2.0 (A centralized web-based grievance redressal system of SEBI):-

<https://scores.gov.in/scores/Welcome.html>

Timelines for complaint resolution process at Stock Exchanges against stock brokers

| S. No. | Type of Activity | Timelines for activity |
|--------|---|--|
| 1. | Receipt of Complaint | Day of complaint (C Day). |
| 2. | Additional information sought from the investor, if any, and provisionally forwarded to stock broker. | C + 7 Working days. |
| 3. | Registration of the complaint and forwarding to the stock broker. | C+8 Working Days i.e. T day. |
| 4. | Amicable Resolution. | T+15 Working Days. |
| 5. | Refer to Grievance Redressal Committee (GRC), in case of no amicable resolution. | T+16 Working Days. |
| 6. | Complete resolution process post GRC. | T + 30 Working Days. |
| 7. | In case where the GRC Member requires additional information, GRC order shall be completed within. | T + 45 Working Days. |
| 8. | Implementation of GRC Order. | On receipt of GRC Order, if the order is in favour of the investor, debit the funds of the stock broker. Order for debit is issued immediately or as per the directions given in GRC order. |
| 9. | In case the stock broker is aggrieved by the GRC order, will provide intention to avail arbitration | Within 7 days from receipt of order |
| 10. | If intention from stock broker is received and the GRC order amount is up to Rs.20 lakhs | Investor is eligible for interim relief from Investor Protection Fund (IPF).The interim relief will be 50% of the GRC order amount or Rs.2 lakhs whichever is less. The same Shall be provided after obtaining an Undertaking from the investor. |
| 11. | Stock Broker shall file for arbitration | Within 6 months from the date of GRC recommendation |
| 12. | In case the stock broker does not file for arbitration within Six months | The GRC order amount shall be released to The investor after adjusting the amount released as interim relief, if any. |

Handling of Investor's claims / complaints in case of default of a Trading Member/Clearing Member (TM/CM)

As an investor in the Indian markets, your assets are protected by a robust regulatory framework overseen by SEBI. In the rare event that a brokerage firm (Trading Member) is unable to meet its financial obligations, the Exchanges (NSE, BSE, MCX) step in to protect you.

1. **Your Safety Nets (Compensation Limits)** If a broker defaults, the Investor Protection Fund (IPF) compensates genuine investors up to the following limits (as of 2026):
 - **NSE:** Up to ₹35 Lakhs per investor.
 - **MCX:** Up to ₹25 Lakhs per investor.
 - **BSE:** Up to ₹15 Lakhs per investor.
2. **The 3-Step Recovery Process**
 - i. **Notification:** You will receive an SMS/Email from the Exchange. A public notice will also be issued on the Exchange's website.
 - ii. **Claim Filing:** The Exchange will send a pre-filled claim form to your registered email. Verify the details, attach your ledger/contract notes, and submit it within the "specified period" (usually 90–180 days).
 - iii. **Settlement:** Once verified by the Exchange's Member Committee, funds are credited directly to your bank account within 60 days.
3. **Critical "Do's" for Every Investor**
 - **Keep Records:** Always save your monthly Ledger Statements and Contract Notes. These are your

primary evidence.

- **Update KYC:** Ensure your latest email and mobile number are registered with the Exchange to receive urgent alerts.
- **Verify Credits: Check your Consolidated Account Statement (CAS) from NSDL/CDSL monthly to ensure your stocks are actually in your Demat account.**

4. Quick Links for Help

| Requirement | Platform | Link |
|--------------------|-----------------|---|
| Lodge a Complaint | SEBI SCORES 2.0 | https://scores.sebi.gov.in/ |
| Dispute Resolution | SMART ODR | https://smartodr.in/login |
| Check Claim Status | NSE IPF Portal | https://www.nseindia.com/static/complaints/investor-protection-fund-trust |
| Commodity Claims | MCX Claims | https://www.mcxindia.com/Investor-Services/defaulters/register-claim-against-defaulter-expelled-members |

5. Quick Check: What to do if your broker defaults?

- **Stop Trading:** Do not transfer any further funds or securities to the broker.
- **Download Documents:** Immediately save your last 6 months of Ledger Statements, Contract Notes, and your Client Master Report (CMR).
- **Check Email:** Watch for the pre-filled claim form sent by the Exchange.
- **Transfer Securities:** Submit a 'closure-cum-transfer' request to your Depository (NSDL/CDSL) to move your stocks to a new demat account.

Following steps are carried out by Stock Exchange for benefit of investor, in case stock broker defaults:

Handling of Claims in Case of Default

In the event of a Trading Member (Stock Broker) being declared a 'Defaulter' by the Exchange, the following systematic steps are carried out to protect the interests of the investors:

- 1. Public Notification:** The Exchange issues a public notice in leading newspapers and on its website informing investors about the declaration of the broker as a defaulter and inviting claims.
- 2. Claim Filing Window:** Investors are provided a "specified period" (typically 90 days) to file their claims. Claims filed within this window are prioritized for processing.
- 3. Verification of Claims:** The Member Committee of the Exchange scrutinizes the claims against the broker's books of accounts and the Exchange's trade data.
- 4. Compensation from IPF:** If the broker's assets are insufficient to satisfy the admitted claims, compensation is paid from the Investor Protection Fund (IPF).
- 5. Direct Payout:** Once approved, the compensation is credited directly to the investor's bank account registered with the Exchange.

Following steps are carried out by Stock Exchange for benefit of investor, in case stock broker defaults:

- Circular is issued to inform about declaration of Stock Broker as Defaulter
- Information of defaulter stock broker is disseminated on Stock Exchange website.
- Public Notice is issued informing declaration of a stock broker as defaulter and inviting claims within specified period.
- Intimation to clients of defaulter stock brokers via emails and SMS for facilitating lodging of claims within the specified period.

Following information is available on Stock Exchange website for information of investors:

- Norms for eligibility of claims for compensation from IPF.
- Claim form for lodging claim against defaulter stock broker.
- FAQ on processing of investors' claims against Defaulter stock broker.
- Provision to check online status of client's claim.

Link: https://www.bseindia.com/static/investors/Claim_against_Defaulter.aspx

Link: <https://www.nseindia.com/static/complaints/about-defaulter-section>

Link: <https://www.mcxindia.com/Investor-Services/defaulters/register-claim-against-defaulter-expelled-members>

Investor Charter Link:

NSE:- <https://www.nseindia.com/invest/investor-charter>

BSE:- https://www.bseindia.com/static/investors/investor_charter.aspx

MCX COMMODITY:- <https://www.mcxindia.com/Investor-Services/grievances/client-awareness/investors-charte>



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Investor Charter for Depository Participants

1. Vision

Towards making Indian Securities Market - Transparent, Efficient, & Investor friendly by providing safe, reliable, transparent and trusted record keeping platform for investors to hold and transfer securities in dematerialized form.

2. Mission

- To hold securities of investors in dematerialized form and facilitate its transfer, while ensuring safekeeping of securities and protecting interest of investors.
- To provide timely and accurate information to investors with regard to their holding and transfer of securities held by them.
- To provide the highest standards of investor education, investor awareness and timely services so as to enhance Investor Protection and create awareness about Investor Rights.

3. Details of business transacted by the Depository and Depository Participant(DP)

A Depository is an organization which holds securities of investors in electronic form. Depositories provide services to various market participants - Exchanges, Clearing Corporations, Depository Participants (DPs), Issuers and Investors in both primary as well as secondary markets. The depository carries out its activities through its agents which are known as Depository Participants (DP). Details available on the link <https://www.cdslindia.com/DP/dplist.aspx>

4. Description of services provided by the Depository through Depository Participants (DPs) to investors

(1) **Basic Services**

| Sr. No. | Brief about the Activity / Service | Expected Timelines for processing by the DP after receipt of proper documents |
|---------|--|--|
| 01. | Dematerialization of securities | 7 days |
| 02. | Rematerialization of securities | 7 days |
| 03. | Mutual Fund conversion / Destatementization | 5 days |
| 04. | Re-conversion/ Restatementisation of Mutual fund units | 7 days |
| 05. | Transmission of securities | 7 days |
| 06. | Registering pledge request | 15 days |
| 07. | Closure of demat account | 02 days |
| 08. | Settlement Instruction | For T+1 day settlements, Depositories Participants shall accept instructions from the Clients, in physical form up to 4 p.m.(in case of electronic instructions up to 6.00 p.m.) on T day for pay-in of securities. For T+0 day settlements, Participants shall accept EPI instructions from the clients, till 11:00 AM on T day. Note: 'T' refers 'Trade Day' |

2. Depositories provide special services like pledge, hypothecation, internet-based services etc. in addition to their core services and these include

| Sr. No. | Type of Activity /Service | Brief about the Activity / Service |
|---------|--|---|
| 01. | Value Added Services | <p><u>Depositories also provide value added services such as</u></p> <p>a. <u>Basic Services Demat Account (BSDA)</u> (Detailed information is given below in Annexure-B "Part-2")</p> <p>b. <u>Transposition cum dematerialization</u> (Detailed information is given below in Annexure-B "Part-2")</p> <p>c. <u>Linkages with Clearing System</u> (Detailed information is given below in Annexure-B "Part-2")</p> <p>d. Distribution of cash and non-cash corporate benefits (Bonus, Rights, IPOs etc.), stock lending, demat of NSC / KVP, demat of warehouse receipts etc.</p> |
| 02. | Consolidated Account statement (CAS) | CAS is issued 10 days from the end of the month (if there were transactions in the previous month) or half yearly (if no transactions). |
| 03. | Digitalization of services provided by the depositories | Depositories offer below technology solutions and e facilities to their demat account holders through DPs: |
| 04. | Detailed information is given below in Annexure-B :Part-2" | <p>a. <u>E-account opening</u> (Detailed information is given below in Annexure-B "Part-2")</p> <p>b. <u>Online instructions for execution</u> (Detailed information is given below in Annexure-B "Part-2")</p> <p>c. <u>e-DIS / Demat Gateway</u> (Detailed information is given below in Annexure-B "Part-2")</p> <p>d. <u>e-CAS facility</u> (Detailed information is given below in Annexure-B "Part-2")</p> <p>e. <u>Miscellaneous services</u> (Detailed information is given below in Annexure-B "Part-2")</p> |

5. Details of Grievance Redressal Mechanism

The Process of investor grievance redressal

| | | |
|-----|---------------------------------|--|
| 01. | Investor Complaint / Grievances | <p>Investor can lodge complaint/ grievance against the Depository / DP in the following ways:</p> <p>1. Electronic mode -</p> <p>(iii) SCORES 2.0 (a web based centralized grievance redressal system of SEBI) https://scores.sebi.gov.in</p> <p><u>Two Level Review for complaint/grievance against DP:-</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First review done by Designated Body • Second review done by SEBI <p>(iv) Respective Depository's web portal dedicated for the filing of complaint <u>CDSL Portal</u></p> <p>(v) Emails to designated email IDs of Depository <u>complaints@cdslindia.com</u></p> <p>2. Offline mode:- The complaints/grievances lodged directly with the Depository shall be resolved within 21 days Investor can lodge complaint/grievance against the Depository/DP in the following ways:</p> <p>b. Emails to designated email IDs of Depository Participant- <u>helpdesk@fairinvest.co.in</u></p> <p>The complaints/ grievances lodged directly with the Depository shall be resolved within 21 days.</p> |
|-----|---------------------------------|--|

| | | |
|----|--|--|
| 2. | Online Dispute Resolution (ODR) platform for online Conciliation and Arbitration | If the Investor is not satisfied with the resolution provided by DP or other Market Participants, then the Investor has the option to file the complaint/grievance on SMARTODR platform for its resolution through by online conciliation or arbitration. https://smartodr.in/login |
| 3. | Steps to be followed in ODR for Review, Conciliation and Arbitration | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Investor to approach Market Participant for redressal of complaint ➤ If investor is not satisfied with response of Market Participant, he/she can escalate the complaint on SEBI SCORES portal. ➤ Alternatively, the investor may also file a complaint on SMARTODR portal for its resolution through online conciliation and arbitration. ➤ Upon receipt of complaint on SMARTODR portal, the relevant MII will review the matter and endeavour to resolve the matter between the Market Participant and investor within 21 days. ➤ If the matter could not be amicably resolved, then the Investor may request the MII to refer the matter case for conciliation. ➤ During the conciliation process, the conciliator will endeavour for amicable settlement of the dispute within 21 days, which may be extended with 10 days by the conciliator. ➤ If the conciliation is unsuccessful, then the investor may request to refer the matter for arbitration. ➤ The arbitration process to be concluded by arbitrator(s) within 30 days, which is extendable by 30 days |

- For the Multi-level complaint resolution mechanism available at the Depositories please refer to link <https://www.fairinvest.co.in/Escalation-Matrix.pdf>

6. Guidance pertaining to special circumstances related to market activities: Termination of the Depository Participant

| Sr. No. | Type of special circumstances | Timelines for the Activity/ Service |
|---------|---|--|
| 1. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Depositories to terminate the participation in case a participant no longer meets the eligibility criteria and/or any other grounds as mentioned in the bye laws like suspension of trading member by the Stock Exchanges. ▪ Participant surrenders the participation by its own wish. | Client will have a right to transfer all its securities to any other Participant of its choice without any charges for the transfer within 30 days from the date of intimation by way of letter/email. |

7. Dos and Don'ts for Investors

For Do's and Don'ts **(Detailed information is given below in Annexure-B "Part-2")**

8. Rights of investors

For rights of investors **(Detailed information is given below in Annexure-B "Part-2")**

9. Responsibilities of Investors

For responsibilities of investors **(Detailed information is given below in Annexure-B "Part-2")**

10. Code of Conduct for Depositories (Detailed information is given below in Annexure-B "Part-2")

11. Code of Conduct for Participants (Detailed information is given below in Annexure-B "Part-2")

INFORMATION CONTAINED IN LINKS TO THE INVESTOR CHARTER FOR DEPOSITORIES AND DPS <https://www.cdslindia.com/Investors/InvestorCharter.html>

This document contains the contents pertaining to the qualifier <https://www.cdslindia.com/Investors/InvestorCharter.html> in the Investor Charter main document. The same is to be made available by the Depositories on their websites and web-links to the same is to be provided for incorporation in the Investor Charter.

For reasons of convenience, the contents in main Charter and this document have been mapped with the same superscript.

Para 4 (2) of Investor Charter

Point 1: Value Added Services

- a. **Basic Services Demat Account (BSDA)**¹: The facility of BSDA with limited services for eligible individuals was introduced with the objective of achieving wider financial inclusion and to encourage holding of demat accounts. No Annual Maintenance Charges (AMC) shall be levied, if the value of securities holding is up-to Rs.4 LAKH. For value of holdings between Rs.4 LAKH – 10 LAKH, AMC not exceeding Rs.100 is chargeable. In case of debt securities, there are no AMC charges for holding value up-to Rs.4 LAKH and a maximum of Rs.100 as AMC is chargeable for value of holdings between Rs.4 LAKH-10 LAKH and value of holding above Rs.10 LAKH Normal AMC Charge Rs.300.
- b. **Transposition cum dematerialization**²: In case of transposition-cum- dematerialisation, client can get securities dematerialised in the same account if the names appearing on the certificates match with the names in which the account has been opened but are in a different order. The same may be done by submitting the security certificates along with the Transposition Form and Demat Request Form.
- c. **Linkages with Clearing System**³ for actual delivery of securities to the clearing system from the selling brokers and delivery of securities from the clearing system to the buying broker.

Point 3: Digitization of services provided by the depositories

- a. **E-account opening**⁴: Account opening through digital mode, popularly known as “On-line Account opening”, wherein investor intending to open the demat account can visit DP website, fill in the required information, submit the required documents, conduct video IPV and demat account gets opened without visiting DPs office.
- b. **Online instructions for execution**⁵: internet-enabled services like Easiest (CDSL) empower a demat account holder in managing his/her securities ‘anytime-anywhere’ in an efficient and convenient manner and submit instructions online without the need to use paper. These facilities allows Beneficial Owner (BO) to submit transfer instructions and pledge instructions including margin pledge from their demat account. The instruction facilities are also available on mobile applications through android, windows and IOS platforms.
- c. **e-DIS / Demat Gateway**⁶: Investors can give instructions for transfer of securities through e- DIS apart from physical DIS. Here, for on-market transfer of securities, investors need to provide settlement number along with the ISIN and quantity of securities being authorized for transfer. Client shall be required to authorize eache-DIS valid for a single settlement number / settlement date, by way of OTP and PIN/password, both generated at Depositories end. Necessary risk containment measures are being adopted by Depositories in this regard.
- d. **e-CAS facility**⁷: Consolidated Account Statements are available online and could also be accessed through mobile app to facilitate the investors to view their holdings in demat form.
- e. **Miscellaneous services**⁸: Transaction alerts through SMS & e-locker facilities for instantaneously responding to investor queries etc. have also been developed.

Para 5(1) of Investor Charter

Point 2 (Investor Grievance Redressal Committee of Depository)⁹: If no amicable resolution is arrived, then the Investor has the option to refer the complaint/ grievance to the Grievance Redressal Committee (GRC) of the Depository. Upon receipt of reference, the GRC will endeavor to resolve the complaint/ grievance by hearing the parties and examining the necessary information and documents.

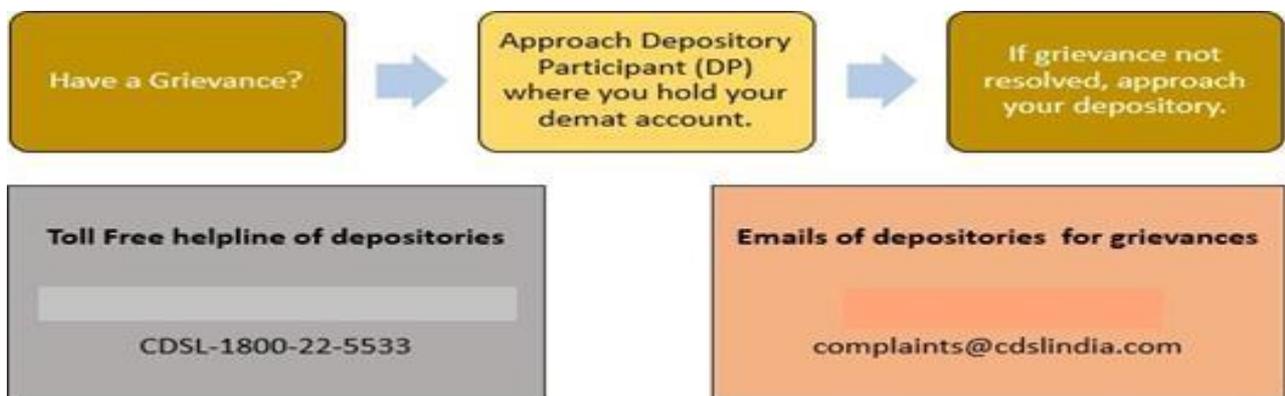
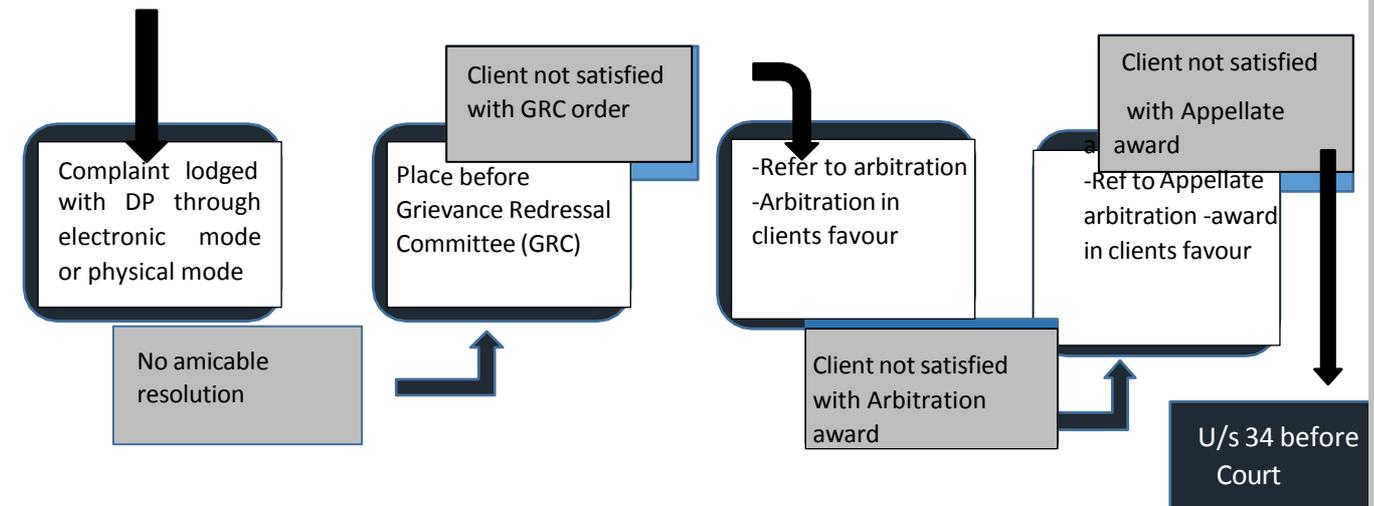
Point 3(Arbitration proceedings)¹⁰:

The Investor may also avail the arbitration mechanism set out in the Byelaws and Business Rules/Operating Instructions of the Depository in relation to any grievance, or dispute relating to depository services. The arbitration reference shall be concluded by way of issue of an arbitral award within 4 months from the date of appointment of arbitrator(s).

Para 5(2) of Investor Charter

Complaint Resolution process at Depositories¹¹

Complaint Resolution process at Depositories



Investor Helpline Details of Depositories

Process Flow on SMART ODR Step

Based on the operational guidelines of the SMART ODR portal, as per SEBI's new Master Circular for Online Dispute Resolution, a client (investor) can lodge a complaint through a structured three-tier process flow. The details for filing a complaint by a client are as follows:

Prerequisites for filing on SMART ODR: Investors cannot directly access the ODR platform. They must first complete the "Grievance Redressal Stack" below: Direct Complaint:

- First file a complaint with the stock broker/depository participant (DP). SCORES 2.0 Escalation: If the complaint is not resolved within the timeline (typically 21 days) or if the resolution is not satisfactory, the investor must escalate it through SEBI's SCORES 2.0 portal. ODR Portal: Only after completing these steps—or if the matter is not pending with another forum (court/consumer forum)—can an investor access SMART ODR.

Step-by-Step Process Flow on SMART ODR Step

- 1. Registration and Account Setup Access:** Visit <https://smartodr.in>.
 - 2. Sign-up:** Click on "Create Account" or "Investor Login."
 - 3. Required Information:** Enter name, PAN, mobile number, and email ID. OTP verification is usually required. Step
 - 4. Starting a Dispute File a New Dispute:** Select the "File a New Dispute" button on the dashboard.
 - 5. Select an Intermediary:** Select the required category (e.g., Stock Broker or Depository Participant) and search for the specific entity.
 - 6. Previous References:** You must provide the SCORES Complaint ID or the reference number of a complaint previously filed with the broker.
 - 7. Document Upload and Submission Details:** Enter complete dispute details. Evidence: Upload supporting documents (contract notes, ledger statements, DIS copies, emails, etc.).
 - 8. Limit:** Typically up to 20MB per dispute.
 - 9. Submit:** Upon submission, a unique Dispute ID is generated for tracking.
 - 10. MII Review (First 21 Days)** The relevant Market Infrastructure Institution (MII)—such as NSE, BSE, CDSL, or NSDL—reviews the dispute.
 - 11.** They attempt to resolve the matter amicably between the investor and the broker/DP within 21 calendar days.
 - 12. Online Conciliation:** If the MII review fails, the matter is referred to an independent ODR institution.
 - 13. A neutral conciliator is appointed. Process:** Conducted entirely online via video conferencing. Timeline: 21 days (extendable by 10 days if both parties agree).
 - 14. Cost:** Free for investors; The broker/DP pays the conciliation fee.
- Online Arbitration (if conciliation fails) If no settlement is reached, the investor can opt to initiate arbitration. An arbitrator is appointed to pass a "binding award."
 - Fees: For claims above ₹1,00,000, arbitration fees are charged as per SEBI's slab. For claims below ₹1,00,000, it is often a "documents only" process. Interim relief:
 - In some cases, the broker may be required to deposit the disputed amount with the MII, and the investor may receive interim relief (up to ₹5 lakh) until the final award is issued.
 - Summary of Timeline and Resolution Stage Responsible Body Standard Timeline Direct Complaint Broker / DP 21 days Score 2.0 SEBI / Broker 21 days MII Review (ODR) NSE/BSE/CDSL/NSDL 21 days Conciliation (ODR) ODR Institution 21 (+10) days Arbitration (ODR) Arbitrator 30 (+30) days

Para 7 of Investor Charter

Dos and Don'ts for Investor¹²

| Sr. No. | Guidance |
|----------------|---|
| 1. | Always deal with a SEBI registered Depository Participant for opening a demat account. |
| 2. | Read all the documents carefully before signing them. |
| 3. | Before granting Power of attorney to operate your demat account to an intermediary like Stockbroker, Portfolio Management Services (PMS) etc., carefully examine the scope and implications of powers being granted. |
| 4. | Always make payments to registered intermediary using banking channels. No payment should be made in name of employee of intermediary. |
| 5. | Accept the Delivery Instruction Slip (DIS) book from your DP only (pre-printed with a serial number along with your Client ID) and keep it in safe custody and do not sign or issue blank or partially filled DIS slips. Always mention the details like ISIN, number of securities accurately. In case of any queries, please contact your DP or broker and it should be signed by all demat account holders. Strike out any blank space on the slip and Cancellations or corrections on the DIS should be initialed or signed by all the account holder(s). Do not leave your instruction slip book with anyone else. Do not sign blank DIS as it is equivalent to a bearer cheque. |
| 6. | Inform any change in your Personal Information (for example address or Bank Account details, email ID, Mobile number) linked to your demat account in the prescribed format and obtain confirmation of updation in system |
| 7. | Mention your Mobile Number and email ID in account opening form to receive SMS alerts and regular updates directly from depository. |
| 8. | Always ensure that the mobile number and email ID linked to your demat account are the same as provided at the time of account opening/updation. |
| 9. | Do not share password of your online trading and demat account with anyone. |
| 10. | Do not share One Time Password (OTP) received from banks, brokers, etc. These are meant to be used by you only. |
| 11. | Do not share login credentials of e-facilities provided by the depositories such as e- DIS/demat gateway, SPEED-e/easiest etc. with anyone else. |
| 12. | Demat is mandatory for any transfer of securities of Listed public limited companies with few exceptions. |
| 13. | If you have any grievance in respect of your demat account, please write to designated email IDs of depositories or you may lodge the same with SEBI online at https://scores.gov.in/scores/Welcome.html |
| 14. | Keep a record of documents signed, DIS issued and account statements received. |
| 15. | As Investors you are required to verify the transaction statement carefully for all debits and credits in your account. In case of any unauthorized debit or credit, inform the DP or your respective Depository. |
| 16. | Appoint a nominee to facilitate your heirs in obtaining the securities in your demat account, on completion of the necessary procedures. |
| 17. | Register for Depository's internet-based facility or download mobile app of the depository to monitor your holdings. |
| 18. | Ensure that, both, your holding and transaction statements are received periodically as instructed to your DP. You are entitled to receive a transaction statement every month if you have any transactions. |
| 19. | Do not follow herd mentality for investments. Seek expert and professional advice for your investments |
| 20. | Beware of assured/fixed returns. |

Para 8 of Investor Charter

Rights of investors¹³

- Receive a copy of KYC, copy of account opening documents.
- No minimum balance is required to be maintained in a demat account.
- No charges are payable for opening of demat accounts.
- If executed, receive a copy of Power of Attorney/DDPI. However, Power of Attorney / DDPI is not a mandatory requirement as per SEBI / Stock Exchanges. You have the right to revoke any authorization given at any time.

- You can open more than one demat account in the same name with single DP/ multiple DPs.
- Receive statement of accounts periodically. In case of any discrepancies in statements, take up the same with the DP immediately. If the DP does not respond, take up the matter with the Depositories.
- Pledge and /or any other interest or encumbrance can be created on demat holdings.
- Right to give standing instructions with regard to the crediting of securities in demat account.
- Investor can exercise its right to freeze/defreeze his/her demat account or specific securities / specific quantity of securities in the account, maintained with the DP.
- In case of any grievances, Investor has right to approach Participant or Depository or SEBI for getting the same resolved within prescribed timelines. To reach us any DP related issues or queries, please contact our Fair Intermediate Investment Pvt. Ltd. help desk at 0522:-4052825,826 or E-mail us at dp.fair@fairinvest.co.in
- Every eligible investor shareholder has a right to cast its vote on various resolutions proposed by the companies for which Depositories have developed an internet based 'e-Voting' platform.
- Receive information about charges and fees. Any charges/tariff agreed upon shall not increase unless a notice in writing of not less than thirty days is given to the Investor.
- Right to indemnification for any loss caused due to the negligence of the Depository or the participant.
- Right to opt out of the Depository system in respect of any security.

Para 9 of Investor Charter

Responsibilities of Investors¹⁴

- Deal with a SEBI registered DP for opening demat account, KYC and Depository activities.
- Provide complete documents for account opening and KYC (Know Your Client). Fill all the required details in Account Opening Form / KYC form in own handwriting and cancel out the blanks.
- Read all documents and conditions being agreed before signing the account opening form.
- Accept the Delivery Instruction Slip (DIS) book from DP only (preprinted with a serial number along with client ID) and keep it in safe custody and do not sign or issue blank or partially filled DIS.
- Always mention the details like ISIN, number of securities accurately.
- Inform any change in information linked to demat account and obtain confirmation of updation in the system.
- Regularly verify balances and demat statement and reconcile with trades / transactions.
- Appoint nominee(s) to facilitate heirs in obtaining the securities in their demat account.
- Do not fall prey to fraudsters sending emails and SMSs luring to trade in stocks / securities promising huge profits.

10. Code of Conduct for Depositories

A Depository shall:

- ❖ Always abide by the provisions of the Act, Depositories Act, 1996, any Rules or Regulations framed thereunder, circulars, guidelines and any other directions issued by the Board from time to time.
- ❖ (b) Adopt appropriate due diligence measures.
- ❖ (c) Take effective measures to ensure implementation of proper risk management framework and good governance practices.
- ❖ (d) Take appropriate measures towards investor protection and education of investors.
- ❖ (e) Treat all its applicants/members in a fair and transparent manner.
- ❖ (f) Promptly inform the Board of violations of the provisions of the Act, the Depositories Act, 1996, rules, regulations, circulars, guidelines or any other directions by any of its issuer or issuer's agent.
- ❖ (g) Take a proactive and responsible attitude towards safeguarding the interests of investors, integrity of depository's systems and the securities market.
- ❖ (h) endeavour for introduction of best business practices amongst itself and its members.
- ❖ (i) Act in utmost good faith and shall avoid conflict of interest in the conduct of its functions.
- ❖ (j) Not indulge in unfair competition, which is likely to harm the interests of any other Depository, their participants or investors or is likely to place them in a disadvantageous position while competing for or executing any assignment.
- ❖ (k) Segregate roles and responsibilities of key management personnel within the depository including
 - ❖ a. Clearly mapping legal and regulatory duties to the concerned position
 - ❖ b. Defining delegation of powers to each position
 - ❖ c. Assigning regulatory, risk management and compliance aspects to business and support teams
- ❖ (l) Be responsible for the acts or omissions of its employees in respect of the conduct of its business.
- ❖ (m) Monitor the compliance of the rules and regulations by the participants and shall further ensure that their conduct is in a manner that will safeguard the interest of investors and the securities market.

11. Code of Conduct for Participants (Part A of Third Schedule of SEBI (D & P) regulations, 2018)

- ❖ A participant shall make all efforts to protect the interests of investors.
- ❖ 2. A participant shall always endeavour to—
- ❖ (a) Render the best possible advice to the clients having regard to the client's needs and the environments and his own professional skills;
- ❖ (b) Ensure that all professional dealings are effected in a prompt, effective and efficient manner;
- ❖ (c) Inquiries from investors are adequately dealt with;
- ❖ (d) Grievances of investors are redressed without any delay.
- ❖ 3. A participant shall maintain high standards of integrity in all its dealings with its clients and other intermediaries, in the conduct of its business.
- ❖ 4. A participant shall be prompt and diligent in opening of a beneficial owner account, dispatch of the dematerialisation request form, rematerialisation request form and execution of debit instruction slip and in all the other activities undertaken by him on behalf of the beneficial owners.
- ❖ 5. A participant shall endeavour to resolve all the complaints against it or in respect of the activities carried out by it as quickly as possible, and not later than one month of receipt.
- ❖ 6. A participant shall not increase charges/fees for the services rendered without proper advance notice to the beneficial owners.
- ❖ 7. A participant shall not indulge in any unfair competition, which is likely to harm the interests of other participants or investors or is likely to place such other participants in a disadvantageous position while competing for or executing any assignment.
- ❖ 8. A participant shall not make any exaggerated statement whether oral or written to the clients either about its qualifications or capability to render certain services or about its achievements in regard to services rendered to other clients.
- ❖ 9. A participant shall not divulge to other clients, press or any other person any information about its clients which has come to its knowledge except with the approval/authorisation of the clients or when it is required to disclose the information under the requirements of any Act, Rules or Regulations.
- ❖ 10. A participant shall co-operate with the Board as and when required.
- ❖ 11. A participant shall maintain the required level of knowledge and competency and abide by the provisions of the Act, Rules, Regulations and circulars and directions issued by the Board. The participant shall also comply with the award of the Ombudsman passed under the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Ombudsman) Regulations, 2003.
- ❖ 12. A participant shall not make any untrue statement or suppress any material fact in any documents, reports, papers or information furnished to the Board.
- ❖ 13. A participant shall not neglect or fail or refuse to submit to the Board or other agencies with which it is registered, such books, documents, correspondence, and papers or any part thereof as may be demanded/requested from time to time.
- ❖ 14. A participant shall ensure that the Board is promptly informed about any action, legal proceedings, etc., initiated against it in respect of material breach or noncompliance by it, of any law, Rules, regulations, directions of the Board or of any other regulatory body.
- ❖ 15. A participant shall maintain proper inward system for all types of mail received in all forms.
- ❖ 16. A participant shall follow the Maker—Checker concept in all of its activities to ensure the accuracy of the data and as a mechanism to check unauthorised transaction.
- ❖ 17. A participant shall take adequate and necessary steps to ensure that continuity in data and record keeping is maintained and that the data or records are not lost or destroyed. It shall also ensure that for electronic records and data, up-to-date back up is always available with it.
- ❖ 18. A participant shall provide adequate freedom and powers to its compliance officer for the effective discharge of his duties.
- ❖ 19. A participant shall ensure that it has satisfactory internal control procedures in place as well as adequate financial and operational capabilities which can be reasonably expected to take care of any losses arising due to theft, fraud and other dishonest acts, professional misconduct or omissions.
- ❖ 20. A participant shall be responsible for the acts or omissions of its employees and agents in respect of the conduct of its business.
- ❖ 21. A participant shall ensure that the senior management, particularly decision makers have access to all relevant information about the business on a timely basis.
- ❖ 22. A participant shall ensure that good corporate policies and corporate governance are in place.