

2022Q1 Online Bulletin

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CDBL Has Introduced Masking/Branded SMS Service for the Investors

Kindly be informed that Central Depository Bangladesh Limited (CDBL) has introduced Masking/Branded SMS Service (i.e. sender name will be displayed as CDBL) for Debit/Credit in BO account, BO account opening & closing as well as modification of BO Name, Bank A/C No., Bank Name, Mobile & Email address.

These SMS shall be sent to the concerned BO Accountholders Mobile number recorded in CDS. We hope that such initiative shall help in bringing more reliability and transparency in the capital market.

*Source: <u>CDBL, 2022/01/13</u>

CDC Launches a Brand New Centralized Service Portal and Mobile App!

CDC Pakistan has been serving its customers and stakeholders for the past two decades, devising support systems and platforms that would support the future. In line with this resolve for customer facilitation, CDC has taken another step towards investor facilitation by launching the revamped and ever-efficient Centralized Services Portal (CSP) and Mobile App.

The new launch of CSP entails key features of the CDC Service Portfolio that have been consolidated into one platform, making it a single stop-shop for the end-users and stakeholders and enabling greater efficiency, transparency and control for the investor.

The new CSP is a one-stop solution, with features embedded to fulfil the needs of the front-end investor. Some of the unique features that CSP offers are listed below:

- 1. Multi-faceted account detail with one-window platform;
- 2. Dividend Repository Access;
- 3. Electronic IPO Subscription;
- 4. Portfolio Transfer;
- 5. Online Account Opening;
- 6. Right Subscription; and
- 7. Pledge Request

The key benefits of the CSP application include:

- Single platform for all CDC Services.
- Hassle free registration process.
- Sub-account holder does not need to ask broker or CDC IAS to create login id.
- Anyone having CDS account (either IAS or sub-account) or even having physical shares can now avail all the benefits by registering themselves through a simple registration process.
- Customers who do not have CDS Account or Physical shares can also get themselves registered and create their login ids to avail unmatched benefits, such as digital subscription of IPO, Digital account opening, etc.
- Customers will be able to view latest details of all their account(s) where they are the principle account holder. This service will show all such account(s) to the customer.
- Dividend paid, unpaid and withheld (with reason) are also available through this single portal.
- Customers having physical shares for which registrar is CDCSRSL will now be able to view details of their physical shareholding.

CDC looks forward to serving its customers with agility and excellence. With the CSP application, CDC account-holders will have an elevated experience of the CSP application as CDC continues on its mission to serve investors with the best of services!

CDC account-holders can access this portal at https://csp.cdcaccess.com.pk

*Source: CDCPL, 2022/01/27

Inauguration of Monthly e-Statement Service for BO Account Holders

The Central Depository Bangladesh Limited (CDBL) launches monthly e-statement services to the BO (beneficiary owner) account holders at FREE of cost to ensure protection of investors securities held in CDBL.

Honorable Chairman of BSEC, Professor Shibli Rubayat-Ul-Islam has inaugurated the Service on 30th January 2022 at BSEC Multipurpose Hall.

In addition to other Value Added Services, CDBL VAS has developed this for bringing more transparency in the capital market.

*Source: <u>CDBL, 2020/01/30</u>

Bursa Malaysia Launches New Feature on Bursa Anywhere for Investors

Bursa Malaysia Berhad ("Bursa Malaysia" or the "Exchange") today rolled out a new feature on its Bursa Anywhere mobile application, enabling investors to participate for the Dividend Reinvestment Plan ("e-DRP") corporate exercise electronically. This new enhancement reinforces Bursa Malaysia's aim to democratise share investing and be more digitally inclusive.

The new e-DRP feature offers a one-stop solution for investors to participate in DRP corporate exercises. This Bursa Anywhere service is available for individual CDS accountholders. To use this service, investors need to register using the Bursa Anywhere app, which is available for download in the App Store and Google Play Store.

Other features of the Bursa Anywhere app includes transfer of shares among investor's own CDS accounts, easy access to statements, marked-to-market portfolio value display, remote Central Depository System ("CDS") account openings, e-Dividend subscriptions, reactivation of dormant and inactive CDS accounts, e-Right application and e-General Offer acceptance.

"Since its launch, Bursa Anywhere has garnered over 260,000 downloads. The new service is a continuation of Bursa Malaysia's ongoing efforts to delight our customers, by enabling easy and convenient access to CDS account with various features and functions available", said Tay Yu Hui, Director of Market Operations, Bursa Malaysia Berhad.

The Bursa Anywhere app was launched in June 2019, with the objective to digitalise the capital market industry and provide added convenience to the retail investors. The app was recognised with an Outstanding Project Award at the 4thRegulation Asia Awards for Excellence in December 2021.

*Source: Bursa Malaysia, 2022/03/21

HKEX to Launch New Investor Relations Portal, IR Connect

Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited (HKEX) today (Friday) is pleased to announce it will launch a new digital investor relations platform, IR Connect, to help link Hong Kong-listed issuers with their investors.

Targeting a 2022 third quarter launch, IR Connect will be an important investor engagement and intelligence portal, supporting HKEX's listed issuers as they look to build their connectivity with the regional and global investor and analyst community. The new portal will offer an accessible, professional and cost-effective way for Hong Kong-listed companies to maintain a regular dialogue with this important stakeholder group.

HKEX Chief Executive Officer Nicolas Aguzin said: "At HKEX, we are committed to supporting our issuers at every stage of their development. We are therefore delighted today to be announcing the launch of IR Connect later this year. The new portal will offer a brand new professional platform through which listed issuers can develop and manage their investor relations activities. As one of the world's premier listing venues, HKEX is committed to continuing to enhance its service offering, driving greater connectivity, accessibility and transparency across its markets."

IR Connect will be introduced in phases. When the platform is launched in the third quarter of 2022, it will provide listed issuers with free access to shareholding and market data, stock key statistics and research ratings. It will also provide functionality for free public access to listed companies' corporate profiles and some market data. More functions that support interaction between issuers and their investors will be made available on the platform in later phases.

Leading up to the launch of IR Connect, HKEX will host a series of corporate access events in 2022 to promote communication and interaction between listed issuers and their investors.

*Source: <u>HKEX, 2022/03/25</u>

Provision of Redirection Facility for eVoting of Listed Companies

Sebi, vide its circular no. SEBI/HO/CFD/CMD/CIR/P/2020/242, dated December 9, 2020, had decided to enable evoting of individual demat account holders through a single login credential, through the demat accounts or websites of depositories or depositary participants (DPs).

With a view to implement the aforesaid circular, CDSL is pleased to announce the provision of a facility that will enable its DPs to redirect its Beneficial Owners (BOs) from their own websites to the CDSL BO Centre and provide them a direct access to do e-Voting. Individual Shareholders having a demat account can logon to the online trading portals of their DPs/Brokers and get redirected to CDSL's BO centre. Upon redirection, an initial authentication will be done through the evoting menu of the BO Centre using an OTP. Individual demat account holders will then be able to cast their vote on the evoting portal of CDSL or any evoting service provider (ESP) without any further authentication.

CDSL has provided an API facility to its depository participants in this regard. For more information on onboarding process and technical specifications, DPs are requested to send their requests to helpdesk.evoting@cdslindia.com, paragb@cdslindia.com, shivdasb@cdslindia.com. Kindly refer to CDSL communique no. CDSL/OPS/DP/ POLCY/2021/472, dated October 20, 2021, for further details.

*Source: CDSL Infoline, January 2022

91% of investors receive dividends of "Refinery Fund I" through CSDI's CIGS

CSDI Head of Dividend Distribution Section, Mohsen Abdi, says: "Dividends of "Refinery Fund I" have been paid to 91 percent of shareholders through CSDI's CIGS system."

According to Abdi, the general meeting of the "Refinery Fund I" was held on 9 February 2022 approving the amount of dividends to be distributed among the unitholders and on February 19, CSDI wired the profits of 6,000 IR Rials per unit of this fund to the investors' bank accounts registered in CIGS.

The total number of investors in the "Refinery Fund I" was 2 million 27 thousand 137 people out of which 847 thousand and 151 people had already signed up in CIGS. This means in the morning of February 19, a dividend of more than 6,844 billion IR Rials (approximately €150 million) was distributed among this number of investors.

The funds belonged to those who had already registered in CIGS were received from the issuers and deposited into the investors' bank accounts and the final report on the dividend distribution obtained from the banking network was provided to the fund manager.

*Source: <u>CSDI, 2022/02/19</u>

Shareholder Voting Made Even Easier with the Updated Enhanced ProxyVote App

In its continued efforts to engage all shareholders in the corporate governance process, global Fintech leader Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. (NYSE: BR), announced new enhancements to its ProxyVote app. The enhancements make it easier than ever for investors to access and review proxy information in upcoming annual meetings of the companies and mutual funds they own, and to cast their votes this proxy season. The enhanced design of the app enables users to personalize their voting alerts and makes it easier than ever for individual investors to ask questions and vote in corporate elections.

"We are committed to making it easier for all investors—from individual to institutional – to have their voices heard by voting their shares each proxy season," said Martin Koopman, President, Bank Broker-Dealer, Investor Communication Solutions at Broadridge. "We are pleased to offer investors new capabilities that make participation in the corporate governance process more seamless from start to finish."

Key app features:

- One click links all accounts investors can link all their brokerage accounts to the app via a single, secure authentication process, eliminating the traditional process of entering a discrete control number each time they want to vote
- Personalized alerts and push notifications sign up for alerts for upcoming meetings and for customized notifications to reflect proposal categories of interest
- Streamlined dashboard a single consolidated view to vote all investments
- Biometric sign-in thumbprint and facial recognition

The coming proxy season peak, which runs from April-June, will involve voting at meetings of approximately 4,000 public companies. A record number of environmental, social and governance (ESG) proposals targeting climate change and diversity and inclusion are expected to be on the agenda (according to <u>ProxyPulse</u>), investors can update their preferences on must-attend meetings and corporate elections, at any time right from the app.

In addition to the ProxyVote app, Broadridge continues to provide investors with the flexibility to vote on whichever platform they choose, including through their

broker's app, on a desktop or mobile browser via mobileproxyvote.com, by phone, by mail or in-person at virtual annual meetings.

*Source: Broadridge, 2022/03/30

Fund Investment Made Easier with TDCC's FundClear

The global economy gradually recovered from the COVID-19 pandemic in 2021 and investors turned to risk-adjusted assets, creating a frenzy in stock and fund markets around the world. Enterprises have come to put more emphasis on sustainability, social responsibility and governance, and sped up their investment towards sustainable development.

As of February 21, TDCC's "Fund Clear"--an integrated portal site with extensive fund information--includes a section for onshore ESG funds, whose statistics are accessible with just a few clicks. The diverse information provided by the site helps investors make more informed decisions and grasp trends of ESG investment. The data on ESG can aid their investment strategies and involvement in the operation results of excellent enterprises. All these will lead to a better social environment and better sustainability.

Onshore ESG section promotes responsible investment

Having become more aware of the concept of sustainable operation, enterprises in recent years have been applying such ideas to their investments, particularly in ESG. Continuous refinement in their operation and business models not only bring about positive social changes, but also create value for their investors.

As more ESG-related products emerge, TDCC is working with the Financial Supervisory Commission's "Sustainable Finance" and "Green Finance Action Plan," among others, to help investors identify government-approved ESG funds. A dedicated ESG section on the Fund Clear website provides domestic investors with relevant information, which could bring ESG issues to their attention and help them make investment decisions with sustainable ideas in mind. This process could facilitate long-term benign cycles for enterprises, industries, society, and the environment.

Analyses of big data on funds for better grasp of investment trends

Despite the market being influenced by the pandemic in 2021, Western countries have begun to accept the new norm--coexist with COVID--and resumed normal economic activities. Overall, the global economy is showing growth, and stock markets performed surprisingly well--an overall 18.5% global growth in 2021 in spite of fluctuations, according to FTSE Global All Cap Index. According to the information from the Fund Clear website, In the past year, domestic investment has also reflected this trend, and the type of overseas fund subscription has gradually shifted to the equity type. As of December 2021, of all the funds that received more investment from investors in Taiwan, 8 out of the top 10 were equity funds. In terms of investment sum, more than half of the top 10 funds were equity funds. Also, 48.1% of the sum went to equity funds. Overall, it is obvious that investors are optimistic about the long-term return on investment of equities and favor risk-adjusted assets. Active asset allocation strategies are reflected in such preferences.

*Source: <u>TDCC, 2022/03/02</u>

Mandatory Updation of KYC Attributes of Investors in Demat Account

After due consultation with SEBI and other market infrastructure intermediaries (MIIs), it has been decided to make 6 KYC attributes mandatory in the demat account for all category of investors. The 6 KYC attributes that shall be sought mandatorily by your Depository Participants (DPs) are as follows:

- 1. PAN
- 2. Name
- 3. Address
- 4. Valid Phone Number
- 5. Valid email id
- 6. Income Range

The checks for the above attributes are as follows:

i. Checks for PAN

- a. The requirement of mandatory submission of PAN for transactions in the securities market shall continue to apply, with permitted exemptions.
- b. Your PAN shall be verified online by your DP using the Income Tax site.
- c. In case PAN is not seeded with AADHAAR before the date specified by the Government, it will not be considered as a valid AN.

ii. Checks for mobile number and email ID

- a. Investors are requested to update their mobile number and email address with their DPs. However, if investors wish to update mobile number and email address of their family members in the demat account, they may do so by submitting a written declaration. Family for this purpose has been defined as self, spouse, dependent parents and dependent children.
- b. If the same mobile number / email ID is captured in more than 1 demat account and family flag is also not updated, DP shall be sending a 15 days notice to such investors for submitting the Modification form /request letter. Failure to comply with which would result in classification of such accounts as non-complaint accounts.
- c. DPs shall ensure that the mobile numbers/ email addresses of DPs /their KMPs/ other employees etc. are not captured in an investor's demat account.

- d. In case DP has the mobile number and email ID of the client in its back office, or trading account or in the bank account provided by the client and account is KYC complied in such trading account / bank account, the DP may update the details in the demat account and intimate the investor by sending the Client Master Report [CMR] along with an intimation to complete the validation process.
- e. Investors are requested to check that the existing email id and mobile numbers in their demat account are valid and do not contain junk or invalid characters.

iii. Verification of mobile number and email ID

- a. CDSL shall take necessary steps to verify that mobile number and email ID updated in the demat account of the investor is accessible by sending an SMS and email directly to the demat account holder. Investors will be required to provide an electronic confirmation from the said mobile number and email ID after which such mobile number and/or the email ID will be considered as verified.
- b. CDSL will start sending such verification links to new accounts and subsequently, such links will also be sent for all existing accounts in a staggered manner.
- c. Accounts where the mobile number or email id cannot be verified shall be considered as non-complaint accounts.

iv. Income Range

Individual and non-individual demat account holders are requested to update their income range per annum as per the format provided by their depository participants (DPs). Income range shall be optional for the following category of clients.

- President of India, Central Government, State Government and the officials appointed by the courts e.g., Official liquidator, Court receiver etc. (under thecategory of Government).
- Bank Depository Receipt (Banking entity which does not fall under definition defined u/s 5 (1) (c) of Banking Regulations Act, 1949 and such accounts held in relation to the Depository Receipts issued by Indian companies abroad)

Implementation:

- a. All 6-KYC attributes shall be mandatory for new accounts opened from August 1, 2021.
- b. In respect of all existing demat accounts, all 6 KYC attributes was to be updated by December 31, 2021 which has been extended till March 31, 2022. Investors are requested to respond to any such communication sent to them by their DPs and update the details before the deadline.
- c. Investors shall be informed through both physical and electronic modes and also through the DP's website, if any, for updating the details and complete the validation process.
- d. Non-compliant demat accounts will be liable to be made Inactive i.e., no debit will be allowed in such demat account (except for settlement of already open positions).Investors are requested ensure compliance while opening a new demat account and filling KYC details. DPs are also advised to ensure adequate due diligence while on-boarding of new demat account holders and while conducting their KYC. For further details you may refer to CDSL communique no. CDSL/OPS/ DP/POLCY/2021/152, dated April 5, 2021.

*Source: CDSL Infoline, January 2022

CDSL's Subsidiary- CDSL Ventures Limited Receives Approval from SEBI to Set Up Accreditation Agency

Central Depository Services (India) Limited (CDSL) is pleased to announce that its wholly owned subsidiary - CDSL Ventures Limited ("CVL"), has received SEBI's approval to set up an Accreditation Agency for a period of 3 years with effect from February 01, 2022 for accreditation of eligible Investors.

SEBI had earlier in August-2021, introduced a concept of 'Accredited Investors' (AIs) in the Indian Securities market. Under the aforesaid framework covering Alternative Investment Funds, Portfolio Managers and Investment Advisors, AIs may avail flexibility in minimum investment amount ("Lower ticket size") or concessions from specific regulatory requirements applicable to investment products, subject to conditions applicable for specific products or services. Persons desirous of being reckoned as AIs shall approach an Accreditation Agency for accreditation.

Shri. Nehal Vora, MD & CEO, CDSL said, "It is a very happy and proud milestone for us as our wholly owned subsidiary - CVL receives the AI approval. We believe in providing ease of business to all market participants and that this approval will be a catalyst in further achieving our vision to build a financial eco-system that is convenient, secured and dependable for the investors. The core of the CDSL groups' ethos is to empower the investors to become self-sufficient i.e, an Atmanirbhar Niveshak."

*Source: <u>CDSL, 2022/01/12</u>

More than 330 Financial Institutions Nationwide Use Services of CSDI's e-KYC System

According to statistics that have been officially published, more than 330 financial institutions are currently using the services of the Comprehensive Information Gathering System (CIGS); a system that has been designed and put into use by Central Securities Depository of Iran.

Many financial institutions in the Iranian capital market including brokerage firms, investment bank, portfolio managers, investment funds, etc. are benefiting from the various services the CIGS offers.

Registration of clients, distribution of dividends, settlement operations, updating shareholders' information, including identification, banking, and contact information are among the most important features of the CIGS system that has been able to meet the diverse needs of capital market financial institutions.

That is why, the provision of services of the Comprehensive Information Gathering System (CIGS) witnessed a growth of 2 times compared to last year and exceeded offering services to more than 330 financial institutions.

Historical Records of CIGS

The details of the published information show that the highest number of registrations in the CIGS system from the beginning of its activity until today has been 424,573 people in one day and the highest number of authentications was 360,390 people in one day.

Total Number of People Registered and Authenticated in CIGS

According to the statistics published until mid-February 2022, the number of people registered in the CIGS system is 39 million 580 thousand 681 persons which accounts for about half of Iran's population.

Also, the total number of authenticated people in this system is 33 million 189 thousand 128 persons.

*Source: <u>CSDI, 2022/02/27</u>