

Cochin Stock Brokers Limited



INVESTOR CHARTER FOR DEPOSITORIES

AND

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
1.	Dematerialization of securities	7 days
2.	Rematerialization of securities	7 days
3.	Mutual Fund Conversion / Destatementization	5 days

Sr. no.	Brief about the Activity / Service	Expected Timelines for processing by the DP after receipt of proper documents
4.	Re-conversion / Restatementisation of Mutual fund units	7 days
5.	Transmission of securities	7 days
6.	Registering pledge request	15 days
7.	Closure of demat account	30 days
8.	Settlement Instruction	Depositories to accept physical DIS for pay-in of securities up to 4 p.m. and DIS in electronic form up to 6 p.m. on T+1 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
1.	Value Added Services	Depositories also provide value added services such as <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Basic Services Demat Account (BSDA) <i>[link to be provided by DPs]</i>¹ b. Transposition cum dematerialization <i>[link to be provided by DPs]</i>² c. Linkages with Clearing System <i>[link to be provided by DPs]</i>³ d. Distribution of cash and non-cash corporate benefits (Bonus, Rights, IPOs etc.), stock lending, demat of NSC / KVP, demat of warehouse receipts etc.
2.	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).
3.	Digitalization of services provided by the depositories	Depositories offer below technology solutions and e-facilities to their demat account holders through DPs:

Sr. no.	Type of Activity /Service	Brief about the Activity / Service
		a. <u>E-account opening</u> : Details available on the link [<i>link to be provided by DPs</i>] ⁴ b. <u>Online instructions for execution</u> : Details available on the link [<i>link to be provided by DPs</i>] ⁵ c. <u>e-DIS / Demat Gateway</u> : Details available on the link [<i>link to be provided by DPs</i>] ⁶ d. <u>e-CAS facility</u> : Details available on the link [<i>link to be provided by DPs</i>] ⁷ e. <u>Miscellaneous services</u> : Details available on the link [<i>link to be provided by DPs</i>] ⁸

4. Details of Grievance Redressal Mechanism

(1) The Process of investor grievance redressal

1.	Investor Complaint/ Grievances	Investor can lodge complaint/ grievance against the Depository/DP in the following ways: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Electronic mode - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) SCORES (a web based centralized grievance redressal system of SEBI) [https://www.scores.gov.in/scores/Welcome.html] (ii) Respective Depository's web portal dedicated for the filing of complaint [https://www.cdslindia.com/Footer/grievances.aspx] (iii) Emails to designated email IDs of Depository [complaints@cdslindia.com] b. Offline mode [details of link to the form to be provided by DPs] The complaints/ grievances lodged directly with the Depository shall be resolved within 30 days.
2.	Investor Grievance Redressal Committee of Depository	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.
3.	Arbitration proceedings	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).

(2) For the Multi-level complaint resolution mechanism available at the Depositories please refer to link [*link to be provided by DPs*]⁹

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

SI 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.

Annexure B - INFORMATION CONTAINED IN LINKS TO THE INVESTOR CHARTER FOR DEPOSITORIES AND DPS

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 upto Rs. 50,000. For value of holdings between Rs 50,001- 2,00,000, AMC not exceeding Rs 100 is chargeable. In case of debt securities, there are no AMC charges for holding value upto Rs 1,00,000 and a maximum of Rs 100 as AMC is chargeable for value of holdings between Rs 1,00,001 and Rs 2,00,000.
- b. Transposition cum dematerialization²: 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 System³ 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 opening⁴: 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 execution⁵: internet-enabled services like Speed-e (NSDL) & 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 each e-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 facility⁷: 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 services⁸: Transaction alerts through SMS, e-locker facilities, chatbots 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:

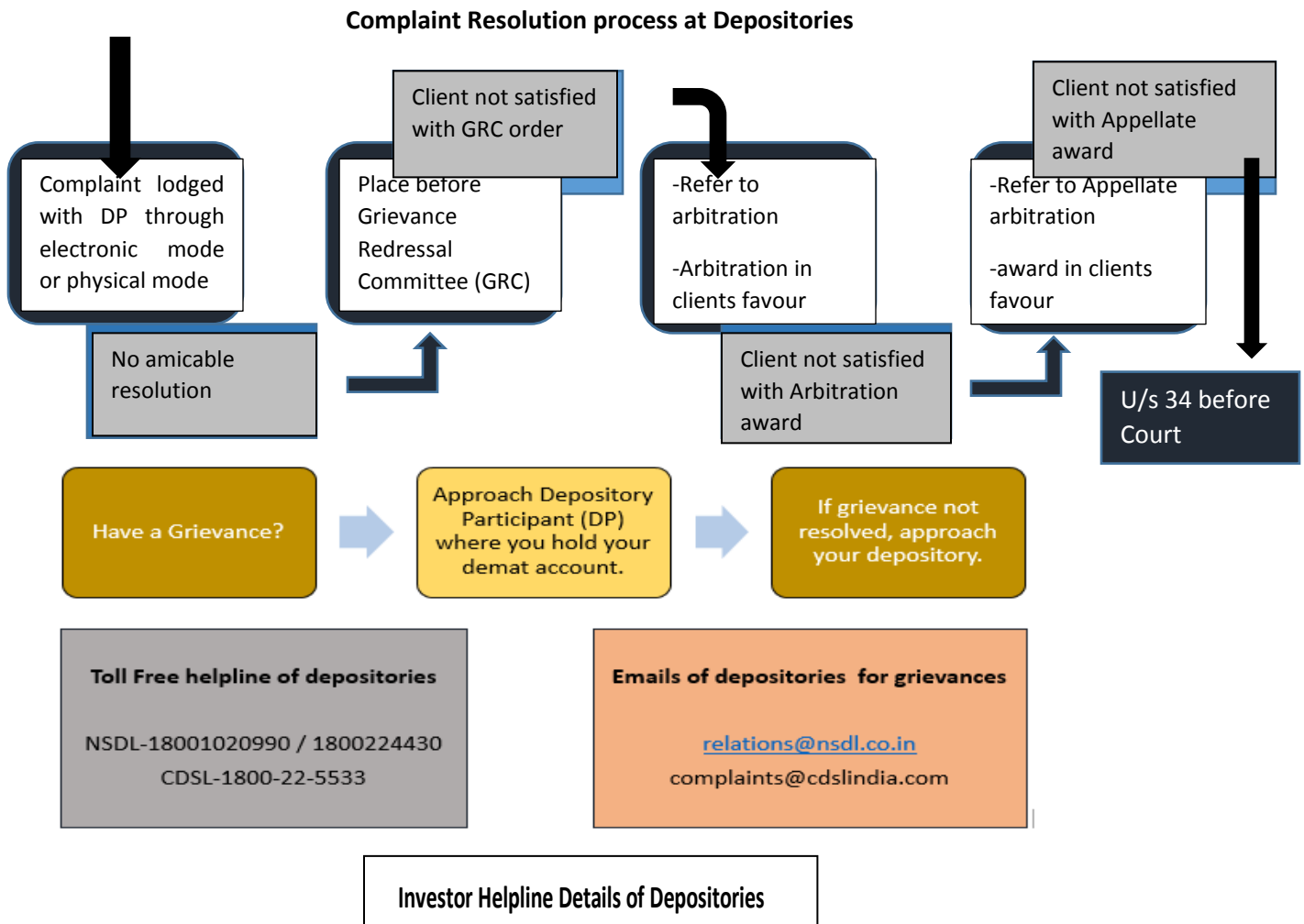
If no amicable resolution is arrived, then the Investor has the option to refer the complaint/ grievance to the Grievance Redressal Committee (GRC) of the Depository. Upon receipt of reference, the GRC will endeavor to resolve the complaint/ grievance by hearing the parties and examining the necessary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



Para 7 of Investor Charter**Dos and Don'ts for Investor¹²**

SI 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.

SI No.	Guidance
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. However, Power of Attorney 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.
- 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.

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.

Annexure C

Format for Investor Complaints Data to be displayed by Depository Participants on their respective websites

Data for every month ending

SN	Received from	Carried forward from previous month	Received during the month	Total Pending	Resolved*	Pending at the end of the month**		Average Resolution time^ (in days)
						Pending for less than 3 months	Pending for more than 3 months	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7		8
1	Directly from Investors							
2	SEBI (SCORES)							
3	Depositories							
4	Other Sources (if any)							
5	Grand Total							

Trend of monthly disposal of complaints

SN	Month	Carried forward from previous month	Received	Resolved*	Pending**
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	April -YYYY				
2	May-YYYY				
3	June-YYYY				
4	July-YYYY				
				
				
	March-YYYY				
	Grand Total				

*Should include complaints of previous months resolved in the current month, if any.

**Should include total complaints pending as on the last day of the month, if any.
^Average resolution time is the sum total of time taken to resolve each complaint in the current month divided by total number of complaints resolved in the current month.

Trend of annual disposal of complaints

SN	Year	Carried forward from previous year	Received during the year	Resolved during the year	Pending at the end of the year
1	2017-18				
2	2018-19				
3	2019-20				
4	2020-21				
5	2021-22				
	Grand Total				

VOLUNTARY

INVESTORS' RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS

1.1 You should familiarise yourself with the protection accorded to the money or other property you may deposit with your member, particularly in the event of a default in the Cash Market / F&O market / Currency Derivatives / Commodity Derivatives market or the broking firm's insolvency or bankruptcy.

1.1.1 Please ensure that you have a documentary proof of your having made deposit of such money or property with the member, stating towards which account such money or property deposited.

1.1.2 Further, it may be noted that the extent to which you may recover such money or property may be governed by the Bye-laws and Regulations of NSE/BSE/MCX and the scheme of the Investors' Protection Fund in force from time to time.

1.1.3 Any dispute with the member with respect to deposits, margin money, etc., and producing an appropriate proof thereof, shall be subject to arbitration as per the Rules, Byelaws/Regulations of NSE/BSE/MCX or its Clearing Corporation.

1.2 Before you begin to trade, you should obtain a clear idea from your member of all brokerage, commissions, fees and other charges which will be levied on you for trading. These charges will affect your net cash inflow or outflow.

1.3 You should exercise due diligence and comply with the following requirements of the NSE/BSE/MCX and/or SEBI:

1.3.1 Please deal only with and through SEBI registered members of the Stock Exchange and are enabled to trade on the Exchange. All SEBI registered members are given a registration no., which may be verified from SEBI. The details of all members of NSE/BSE/MCX and whether they are enabled to trade may be verified from NSE/BSE website (www.nseindia.com/www.bseindia.com, mcxindia.com).

1.3.2 Demand any such information, details and documents from the member, for the purpose of verification, as you may find it necessary to satisfy yourself about his credentials.

1.3.3 Furnish all such details in full as are required by the member as required in "Know Your Client" form, which may also include details of PAN or Passport or Driving License or Voters Id, or Ration Card, bank account and depository account, or any such details made mandatory by NSE/BSE/MCX/SEBI at any time, as is available with the investor.

1.3.4 Execute all documents in the form prescribed by SEBI and/or the Relevant Authorities.

1.3.5 Give any order for buy or sell of a security / derivatives contract in writing or in such form or manner, as may be mutually agreed. Giving instructions in writing ensures that you have proof of your intent, in case of disputes with the member.

1.3.6 Ensure that a contract note is issued to you by the member which contains minute records of every transaction. Verify that the contract note contains details of order number, trade number, trade time, trade price, trade quantity, details of the currency derivatives contract, client code allotted to you and showing the brokerage separately. Contract notes are required to be given/ sent by the member to the investors latest on the next working day of the trade. Contract note can be issued by the member either in electronic form using digital signature as required, or in hard copy. In case you do not receive a contract note on the next working day or at a mutually agreed time, please get in touch with the Investors Grievance Cell of NSE/BSE/MCX, without delaying.

1.3.7 Facility of Trade Verification is available on NSE/BSE/MCX website (www.nseindia.com/ www.bseindia.com), where details of trade as mentioned in the contract note may be verified from the trade date up to five trading

days. Where trade details on the website, do not tally with the details mentioned in the contract note, immediately get in touch with the Investors Grievance Cell of NSE/BSE/MCX.

1.3.8 Ensure that payment of funds against settlement is given to the concerned member within one working day prior to the date of pay-in announced by NSE/BSE/MCX or its Clearing Corporation. Payments should be made only by account payee cheque in favour of the firm/company of the trading member and a receipt or acknowledgement towards what such payment is made be obtained from the member.

1.3.9 In case pay-out of funds is not received on the next working day after date of pay-out announced by NSE/BSE/MCX or its Clearing Corporation, please follow-up with the concerned member for its receipt. In case pay-out is not received as above from the member within five working days, ensure that you lodge a complaint immediately with the Investors' Grievance Cell of NSE/BSE/MCX.

1.3.10 Every member is required to send a complete 'Statement of Accounts', for both settlements and margins, to each of its constituents, at such periodicity as may be prescribed from time to time. You should report errors, if any, in the Statement immediately, but not later than 30 calendar days of receipt thereof, to the member. In case the error is not rectified or there is a dispute, ensure that you refer such matter to the Investors Grievance Cell of NSE/BSE/MCX without delaying.

1.3.11 In case of a complaint against a member, you should address the complaint to the Office as may be specified by NSE/BSE/MCX from time to time.

1.4 In case where a member surrenders his membership, NSE/BSE/MCX gives a public notice inviting claims, if any, from investors. In case of a claim, relating to "transactions executed on the trading system" of NSE/BSE/MCX, ensure that you lodge a claim with NSE/BSE/MCX Clearing Corporation within the stipulated period and with the supporting documents.

1.5 In case where a member is expelled from trading membership or declared a defaulter, NSE/BSE/MCX gives a public notice inviting claims, if any, from investors. In case of a claim, relating to "transactions executed on the trading system" of NSE/BSE/MCX, ensure that you lodge a claim with NSE/BSE/MCX within the stipulated period and with the supporting documents.

1.6 Claims against a defaulter/expelled member found to be valid as prescribed in the relevant Rules/Bye - laws and the scheme under the Investors' Protection Fund (IPF) may be payable as prescribed by SEBI.

Notes:

1. The term 'constituent' shall mean and include a client, a customer or an investor, who deals with a trading member of NSE/BSE/MCX for the purpose of buying and / or selling of securities / F&O contracts / currency derivatives contracts through the mechanism provided by NSE/BSE/MCX.

2. The term 'member' shall mean and include a trading member or a broker or a stock broker, who has been admitted as such by NSE/BSE/MCX and who holds a registration certificate from SEBI.

3. The term 'contract' refers to a F&O / currency derivatives/ MCX derivatives contract and the term 'underlying' refers to the underlying index / stock / currency of such contract.

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Signature of the Client :