



# Central Depository Services (India) Limited

Convenient + Dependable + Secure

## COMMUNIQUÉ TO DEPOSITORY PARTICIPANTS

CDSL/OPS/DP/GENRL/2024/234

April 30, 2024

### COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY TO ADDRESS SCAMS SOLICITING INVESTMENTS IMPERSONATING AS RECOGNIZED INTERMEDIARIES

Depository Participants (DPs) are advised to note that SEBI vide email dated April 10, 2024, has informed about the “Comprehensive strategy to address scams soliciting investments impersonating as recognized intermediaries”.

SEBI has been receiving complaints from investors/intermediaries about fraudulent trading activities in the name of prominent SEBI registered financial institutions. Impersonators carry out their activities via social media platforms and messaging apps, such as Facebook, WhatsApp etc. making enticing promises of guaranteed high returns. Investors, believing they are dealing with legitimate registered intermediaries, download these apps and invest through it. However, their investments never actually occur with the Depository and instead, these transactions remain paper-based within the App. Subsequently, when investors try to withdraw the securities, these apps suddenly become non-functional.

It is observed from the complaints that majority of the victims of these transacting scheme/App frauds are retail investors who have knowledge of transacting and participated in the Indian securities market. Such impersonation not only poses a threat to the trust and confidence of investors but also damages the credibility of the entire Indian capital market.

In view of the above, on order to increase awareness regarding fraudulent trading schemes/Apps DPs are advised to:

1. Regularly monitor the web portal and social media platforms to check for any instances of impersonation or unauthorized use of the respective DP's name / logo, or branding etc.
2. Take steps to take down such App/website/social media posts etc. by filing police complaints/public notices and report such instances to Depositories periodically.

Queries regarding this communiqué may be addressed to: **CDSL – Helpdesk** Emails may be sent to: [helpdesk@cdslindia.com](mailto:helpdesk@cdslindia.com) and telephone number 08069144800.

**For and on behalf of  
Central Depository Services (India) Limited.**

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**Nilesh Shah  
Asst. Vice President – Operations**