

CDSL/OPS/DP/POLCY/2024/266

May 15, 2024

COMPLIANCE WITH RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES ACT, 2016

SEBI vide its email dated May 02, 2024 has advised the Depository to issue advisory to DPs for the necessary compliance with regard to the provisions given under Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 and rules thereunder (wherever applicable) specifically the following provisions:

• Section 42: Access to information and communication technology.

The appropriate Government shall take measures to ensure that,-

- (i) all contents available in audio, print and electronic media are in accessible format to the disabled persons.
- (ii) persons with disabilities have access to electronic media by providing audio description, sign language interpretation and close captioning.
- (iii) electronic instructions which are meant for everyday use are available in universal design.
- Section 46: Time limit for accessibility by service providers.

The service providers whether Government or private shall provide the services in accordance with the rules on accessibility formulated by the Central Government under section 40 within a period of two years from the date of notification of such rules:

Provided that the Central Government in consultation with the Chief Commissioner may grant extension of time for providing certain category of services in accordance with the said rules

- Rule 15 of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Rules, 2017: Rules for Accessibility
- (1) Every DPs shall comply with the following standards relating to physical environment and information and communication technology, namely:-
 - (a) standard for public buildings as specified in the Harmonized Guidelines and Space Standards for Barrier Free Built Environment for Persons With Disabilities and Elderly Persons as issued by the Government of India, Ministry of Urban Development in March, 2016;
 - (b) standard for Bus Body Code for transportation system as specified in the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, vide number G.S.R. 895(E), dated the 20th September, 2016;



Central Depository Services (India) Limited

(c) Information and Communication Technology-

 (i) DPs shall design the website standard as specified in the guidelines for Indian Government websites, as adopted by Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, Government of India.

(ii) necessary documents to be placed on websites of the DPs in Electronic Publication (ePUB) or Optical Character Reader (OCR) based pdf format:

Provided that the standard of accessibility in respect of other services and facilities shall be specified by the Central Government within a period of six months from the date of notification of these rules. DPs are required to comply with the above mentioned Acts and the Rules, wherever applicable.

Queries regarding this communiqué may be addressed to: **CDSL – Helpdesk** Emails may be sent to: <u>helpdesk@cdslindia.com</u> and telephone number 08069144800.

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

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Nilesh Shah Asst. Vice President