

Mumbai, February 13, 2021:- Central Depository Services (India) Limited (CDSL), first and only listed depository in India, is pleased to announce its noteworthy milestone today as it becomes the first depository to open three crore plus (30 million) active demat accounts.

Celebrating the new milestone, CDSL remembers its journey:

August 2015: CDSL demat accounts cross 1-crore mark
January 2020: CDSL demat accounts cross 2-crore mark
January 2021: CDSL demat accounts cross 3-crore mark

CDSL is currently the **largest depository** in the country in terms of active demat accounts.

A celebration event was organised to commemorate the achievement for 3 crore demat accounts. The celebration event was graced by the Chief Guest, Shri G Mahalingam, Whole Time Member, SEBI and other senior dignitaries from SEBI, the top officials of the Market Infrastructure Institutions (MIIs), Members of the CDSL Board, a large number of Depository participants, RTAs and other stakeholders.

On this momentous occasion, Shri G Mahalingam highlighted on the importance of the capital markets and stated *"I congratulate CDSL and its employees for the significant achievement of 3 crore demat accounts and its markets share of 59%. This event will be the beginning of the positive turn towards the growth of the eco-system and also to the new normal.*

Of the new accounts, around 98.4% comes from the retail investor and with an outreach of 97% pin-codes. Demat accounts are opened with colossal efforts of all participants of the eco-system. This celebration also brings in the responsibility to sustain these accounts and there is an immense opportunity of growth given that a large part of the population of our country is yet outside the securities markets." He complimented CDSL for being one of the few listed MIIs. Further, he also focused on the need to create an awareness for the market for government securities, the role of MIIs, investor protection and importance of corporate governance systems and the regulatory responsibility for a strong sustainable ecosystem amongst the market infrastructure institutions.

Expressing his joy and pride on the moment, Mr. B V Chaubal, Chairman, CDSL said: *"It is heartening to note that the focus of registration of new demat accounts is shifting from metros to tier II and tier III cities, which is indicative of the deepening and widening of the Indian Capital Market. In the 21st century, riding on financial technology, this crisis has brought opportunity to accelerate digital innovations. CDSL has been working towards strengthening its digital footprint and providing various digital solutions for the investors.*

In conclusion, these 3 crore demat accounts are the testimony of the convenience offered by CDSL to its customers”

Commenting on the occasion, Mr. Nehal Vora, MD & CEO of CDSL stated: *“We are proud to have crossed the 3-crore milestone within a year of reaching the 2 crore milestones. The trust bestowed upon us by the new investors, existing investors and all our partners inspires us to do better, every day. CDSL will continue to provide services for the progress of the securities markets, for the valued investors in line of our vision of “Empowering the Atma-nirbhar Niveshak” through our digital services. I would also like to emphasize on the visionary leadership of SEBI to transform the securities market from a physical mode to a digital mode and the creation of a coordinated eco-system of Market Infrastructure Institutions comprising of Stock Exchanges, Clearing Corporations and Depositories which have collectively driven the ecosystem of digitisation forward. This landmark is a celebration of this coordinated effort of the MIIs under the able leadership of SEBI.”*

About CDSL:

Central Depository Services (India) Limited (CDSL) is India’s leading and only listed depository, with an objective of providing convenient, dependable and secure depository services at affordable cost to all market participants. CDSL received its certificate of commencement of business from SEBI in February 1999 and it facilitates holding and transacting in securities in the electronic form and facilitates settlement of trades on stock exchanges.

CDSL maintains and services 3 crore Demat accounts of Investors or Beneficial Owners (BOs) spread across India. These BOs are serviced by CDSL’s 580+ Depository Participants (DPs) from over 20,600 locations.

CDSL’s enduring focus on delivering quality services and innovative products has propelled it on a high-growth path in recent years. Since the financial services industry has become increasingly IT-reliant, cutting-edge technology is at the heart of CDSL’s strategic vision.

Major shareholders of CDSL include BSE, Canara Bank, HDFC Bank, LIC and Standard Chartered Bank.

CDSL along with its subsidiaries also provides a host of services to the financial intermediaries and markets, these include:

- **CDSL Ventures Limited (CVL)** looks after "Customer profiling and Record Keeping" for issuance of Know Your Client (KYC) acknowledgement to mutual fund investors. It is the first and largest KYC Registration Agency (KRA) in India with over 2 crore KYC records. The KRA enables a KYC compliant investor to avoid duplication of KYC process while opening an account for the purpose of trading / investment through multiple intermediaries in the securities market. CVL also provides eKYC and is registered as AUA/KUA with UIDAI.

- **CDSL Insurance Repository Limited (CDSLIR)** is a company registered under the Companies Act, 1956. CDSL IR has received registration certificate from Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) to act as an 'Insurance Repository' under the Guidelines on Insurance repositories and electronic issuance of insurance policies dated 29th May 2015.
- **CDSL Commodity Repository Limited** allows the Farmer, Farmers Producer Organizations (FPOs), Manufacturers, etc., to obtain electronic warehouse receipts (negotiable or non-negotiable) [eNWRs or eNNWRs] in a demat account against deposit of commodities in any of the warehouses registered with Warehousing Development and Regulatory Authority (WDRA).

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