

# **Central Depository Services (India) Limited**

CDSL/CS/NSE/AJ/2025/158

May 30, 2025

The Manager,
Listing Compliance Department,
National Stock Exchange of India Ltd.,
Exchange Plaza, Bandra Kurla Complex,
Bandra (East), Mumbai – 400051

Symbol: CDSL

**ISIN**: INE736A01011

Sub: Annual Secretarial Compliance Report for the year ended March 31, 2025.

Ref: Regulation 24A of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements)
Regulations, 2015.

Dear Sir/Madam,

In compliance with Regulation 24A of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, please find enclosed Annual Secretarial Compliance Report of Central Depository Services (India) Limited for the year ended March 31, 2025 issued by M/s. Vatsal Doshi & Associates, Practicing Company Secretaries.

The above information is also available on the Company's website **www.cdslindia.com** in terms of Regulation 46 of SEBI Listing Regulations.

Kindly take the same on record.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

For Central Depository Services (India) Limited

Nilay Shah Company Secretary & Compliance Officer ACS No. A20586

Encl: As Above

**Public** 

Regd. Office: Marathon Futurex, A Wing, 25th Floor, Mafatlal Mills Compound, N M Joshi Marg, Lower Parel (E), Mumbai - 400 013. Phone: 91-22-2302 3333 • Fax: 91-22-2300 2036 • CIN: L67120MH1997PLC112443 Website: www.cdslindia.com



# **VATSAL DOSHI & ASSOCIATES**

**Practicing Company Secretary** 

## SECRETARIAL COMPLIANCE REPORT OF CENTRAL DEPOSITORY SERVICES (INDIA) LIMITED FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2025

[Pursuant to Regulation 24A of Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015]

#### I have examined:

- (a) all the documents and records made available to us and explanation provided by the **Central Depository Services (India) Limited** ("the listed entity"),
- (b) the filings/ submissions made by the listed entity to the stock exchanges,
- (c) website of the listed entity,
- (d) any other document/ filing, as may be relevant, which has been relied upon to make this report,

for the financial year ended March 31, 2025 ("Review Period") in respect of compliance with the provisions of:

- (a) The Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992 ("SEBI Act") and the Regulations, circulars, guidelines issued thereunder; and
- (b) The Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956 ("SCRA"), rules made thereunder and the Regulations, circulars, guidelines issued thereunder by the Securities and Exchange Board of India ("SEBI");

The specific Regulations, whose provisions and the circulars/ guidelines issued thereunder, have been examined, include:

- (a) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015;
- (b) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Issue of Capital and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2018;
- (c) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Substantial Acquisition of Shares and Takeovers) Regulations, 2011;
- (d) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Buyback of Securities) Regulations, 2018; (Not applicable to the Company during the review period)
- (e) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Share Based Employee Benefits and Sweat Equity) Regulations, 2021; (Not applicable to the Company during the review period);
- (f) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Issue and Listing of Non-Convertible Securities) Regulations, 2021; (Not applicable to the Company during the review period)
- (g) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulations, 2015;
- (h) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Depositories & Participants) Regulations, 2018;
- (i) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Registrars to an Issue and Share Transfer Agents) Regulations, 1993 regarding the Companies Act and dealing with client;

and circulars/guidelines issued thereunder;

and based on the above examination, I/We hereby report that, during the Review Period:

I. (a) The listed entity has complied with the provisions of the above Regulations and circulars/ guidelines issued thereunder, except in respect of matters specified below:

Sr. No		Regulation/ Circular No.	Deviations	Action Taken by	Type of Action (Advisor y/ Clarificat ion/ Fine/ Show Cause Notice/ Warning etc.)		Fine Amount	Observations/ Remarks of the Practicing Company Secretary	Management Response	Remarks
1	SEBI Standard Operating Procedure ("SOP") dated August 28, 2019 - The Company should comply with the SEBI cyber securities policies and guidelines and also report Cyber Security breaches, incidents and deficiencies as per the aforesaid SEBI SOP.		The Company was not in compliance with SEBI's cyber security policies and guidelines and could not report Cyber Security breaches, incidents and deficiencies within the timelines stipulated by the SEBI.	SEBI	Financial Disincenti ve	1 2		The Company has transferred the amount to the IPEF during the review period on September 16, 2024.	The Management has submitted that the Root Cause Analysis ("RCA") which was approved by SCOT/Governing Board and also presented to SEBI HPSC. The forensic analysis for the same was carried out by M/s KPMG. All the actions from the RCA/forensic analysis have been completed thus ensuring that such instances do not repeat.	1
2	Circular No. SEBI/HO/MRD/MR D-PoD-2/P/CIR/ 2023/166 dated October 06, 2023 The Company should ensure that there is no delay in pay-in for rolling settlement.	RD/MRD- PoD- 2/P/CIR/ 2023/166 dated October 06, 2023	The Company could not complete the procedure for pay-in for rolling settlement within the timelines stipulated by the SEBI.	SEBI	Financial Disincenti ve	could not complete the procedure for pay-in for rolling settlement within the timelines stipulated by the SEBI on January 30, 2024.	₹50 Lakh	The Company has transferred the amount to the "Investor Protection Fund" during the review period on September 23, 2024.	The Management has submitted that the RCA which was approved by SCOT/Governing Board and also presented to SEBI TAC. All the actions from the RCA have been completed thus ensuring that such instances do not repeat.	-
3	SEBI Master Circular No. SEBI/HO/MRD/MR D-PoD-2/P/CIR/ 2023/166 dated October 06, 2023 The Company should ensure not to have any Technical glitches i.e. malfunction in the systems of the Company.		The Company could not prevent technical glitches occurred in its systems.	SEBI	Financial Disincenti ve	Technical glitches occurred in the systems of the CDSL between years 2021 to 2024.	₹3 Crore	The Company has transferred the amount to CDSL IPF on April 15, 2025.	The Management has submitted that the RCA which was approved by SCOT/Governing Board and also presented to SEBI TAC. All the actions from the RCA have been completed thus ensuring that such instances do not repeat.	-

4.	SEBI Circular No.	Clause 1.2	Please refer Note	SEBI	Settlement	Please refer	Settlement	The Company paid	The Management	
	SEBI/HO/DDHS/CI	and 4.1 of	No. i below.		Order	Note No. i	Amount	the settlement	has submitted	
	R/P/103/2020	the SEBI				below.	₹ 1,30,04,	amount to SEBI	that the SCN was	
	dated June 23, 2020	Circular No.					550/-	during the review	issued on	
		SEBI/HO/D						period.	November 13,	
(	Operational Circular	DHS/CIR/P/						-	2023 and replied	
	dated August 10,	103/2020							on December 04,	
	2021	dated June							2023.	
		23, 2020							Subsequently,	
		and Clause							Settlement	
		2.2 and 5.1							payment was	
		of the							done on August	
		Chapter XI							12, 2024 and	
		of							Settlement order	
		Operational							was issued on	
		Circular							August 27, 2024.	
		dated								
		August 10,							The above-	
		2021							mentioned case	
									details were	
									placed before the	
									ROC and the	
									Governing Board.	
									It may be noted	
									that CDSL has	
									implemented	
									necessary	
									changes in its	
									system to avoid	
									recurrence.	

#### **Notes:**

- i. The adjudication proceedings were initiated against the Company vide Show Cause Notice (SCN) dated November 13, 2023 for the alleged violations of Clause 1.2 and 4.1 of the SEBI Circular dated June 23, 2020 and Clause 2.2 and 5.1 of the Chapter XI of Operational Circular dated August 10, 2021. Pending adjudication proceedings, the Company had filed a settlement application with SEBI in terms of the SEBI (Settlement Proceedings) Regulations, 2018 proposing to settle, without admitting or denying the finding of facts and conclusions of law, the adjudication proceedings initiated against the Company and the Company paid the settlement amount of Rs. 1,30,04,550/- (Rupees One Crore Thirty Lakh Four Thousand Five Hundred and Fifty Only). Subsequently, the SEBI had passed the Settlement Order dated August 27, 2024 and the adjudication proceedings initiated against the Company vide SCN dated November 13, 2023, have been disposed of.
- ii. The SEBI has issued warning letters dated March 25, 2025 and March 26, 2025 pursuant to the SEBI Onsite inspection conducted for the period from July 01, 2023 to June 30, 2024 and pursuant to DR site inspection conducted for the period from April 01, 2023 to March 30, 2024 respectively, inter-alia to be careful in the future and strengthen internal systems and has advised the Board of CDSL to take its letter into consideration. Upon completion of the aforesaid onsite inspections by SEBI, the SEBI had observed instances of aberration in compliance with the SEBI circulars and regulations. The Company has duly intimated the Stock Exchange regarding the same on March 26, 2025.
- **(b)** The listed entity has taken the following actions to comply with the observations made in previous report:

 r. Observations/ Remarks of the Practicing Company Secretary in the previous report)	Observations Made in the secretarial compliance report for the year ended	Compliance Requirement (Regulations/ circulars /guidelines including specific clause)	Details of violation/ deviations and Actions taken / penalty imposed, if any, on the listed entity	Remedial actions, if any, taken by the listed entity	Comments of the PCS on the actions taken by the listed entity
Nil					

II. I hereby report that, during the Review Period the compliance status of the listed entity is with the following requirements:

Sr. No.	Particulars	Compliance Status (Yes/No/NA)	Observations / Remarks by PCS
1.	Secretarial Standard:	Yes	
	The compliances of the listed entity are in accordance with the applicable Secretarial Standards (SS) issued by the Institute of Company Secretaries India (ICSI).		
2.	Adoption and timely updation of the Policies:		
	All applicable policies under SEBI Regulations are adopted with the approval of board of directors of the listed entities	Yes	
	• All the policies are in conformity with SEBI Regulations and have been reviewed & updated on time, as per the regulations/circulars/ guidelines issued by SEBI	Yes	
3.	Maintenance and disclosures on Website:		
	<ul> <li>The Listed entity is maintaining a functional website</li> <li>Timely dissemination of the documents/ information under a separate section on the website</li> </ul>	Yes Yes	 
	<ul> <li>Web-links provided in annual corporate governance reports under Regulation 27(2) are accurate and specific which redirects to the relevant document(s)/ section of the website</li> </ul>	Yes	
4.	Disqualification of Director:	Yes	
	None of the Director of the listed entity are disqualified under Section 164 of Companies Act, 2013 as confirmed by the listed entity.		
5.	Details related to Subsidiaries of listed entities have been examined w.r.t.:	Yes	
	<ul><li>(a) Identification of material subsidiary companies</li><li>(b) Disclosure requirement of material as well as other subsidiaries</li></ul>		
6.	Preservation of Documents:	Yes	
	The listed entity is preserving and maintaining records as prescribed under SEBI Regulations and disposal of records as per Policy of Preservation of Documents and Archival policy prescribed under SEBI LODR Regulations, 2015.		

Sr. No.	Particulars	Compliance Status (Yes/No/NA)	Observations / Remarks by PCS
7.	Performance Evaluation:	Yes	
	The listed entity has conducted performance evaluation of the Board, Independent Directors and the Committees at the start of every financial year/during the financial year as prescribed in SEBI Regulations.		
8.	Related Party Transactions:	Yes	The Audit Committee of
	(a) The listed entity has obtained prior approval of Audit Committee for all Related party transactions; or  (b) In case no prior approval has been obtained, the listed entity shall provide detailed reasons along with confirmation whether the transactions were subsequently approved/ratified/rejected by the Audit Committee.		the listed entity has subsequently approved/ratified related party transactions in all such cases where no prior approvals of the Audit Committee were obtained during the review period.
9.	Disclosure of events or information:	Yes	
	The listed entity has provided all the required disclosure(s) under Regulation 30 along with Schedule III of SEBI LODR Regulations, 2015 within the time limits prescribed thereunder.		
10.	Prohibition of Insider Trading:	Yes	
	The listed entity is in compliance with Regulation 3(5) & 3(6) SEBI (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulations, 2015.		
11.	Actions taken by SEBI or Stock Exchange(s), if any:		
	No actions taken against the listed entity/ its promoters/directors/subsidiaries either by SEBI or by Stock Exchanges (including under the Standard Operating Procedures issued by SEBI through various circulars) under SEBI Regulations and circulars/guidelines issued thereunder (or) The actions taken against the listed entity/ its promoters/ directors/subsidiaries either by SEBI or by Stock Exchanges are specified in the last column.	No	No actions were taken against the listed entity/ its promoters/ directors/ subsidiaries either by SEBI or by Stock Exchanges during the review period except to the extent as mentioned below:  (i) The Company had filed a sottlement
			filed a settlement application with SEBI in terms of the SEBI (Settlement Proceedings) Regulations, 2018 proposing to settle, without admitting or denying the finding of facts

Sr. No.	Particulars	Compliance Status	Observations / Remarks by PCS
		(Yes/No/NA)	
			and conclusions of law, the
			adjudication proceedings
			initiated against the
			Company in view of the
			Show Cause Notice (SCN)
			dated
			November 13, 2023
			("SCN") issued by the SEBI
			for the alleged violations of
			Clause 1.2 and 4.1 of the
			SEBI Circular dated June
			23, 2020 and Clause 2.2
			and 5.1 of the Chapter XI of
			Operational Circular dated
			August 10, 2021. The
			Company paid the
			settlement amount of Rs.
			1,30,04,550/- (Rupees One
			Crore Thirty Lakh Four
			Thousand Five Hundred
			and Fifty Only) and
			subsequently, the SEBI had
			passed the Settlement
			Order dated August 27,
			2024 and the aforesaid
			adjudication proceedings
			initiated against the
			Company vide SCN dated
			November 13, 2023, have
			been disposed of.
			(ii) The SEBI vide its
			letter dated September 06,
			2024, has advised the
			Company to deposit
			₹ 10,00,000/- (Rupees Ten
			Lakhs Only) into to the
			Investor Protection and
			Education Fund ("IPEF")
			administered by SEBI as
			financial disincentive in
			the matter of the malware
			incident occurred on
			November 18, 2022 as per
			Para 12(a)(i) of the SEBI
			Standard Operating
			Procedure ("SOP") dated
			August 28, 2019 and the
			Company has transferred
			the amount to IPEF on
			September 16, 2024.

Sr. No.	Particulars	Compliance Status (Yes/No/NA)	Observations / Remarks by PCS
			(iii) Pursuant to the SEBI Master Circular No. SEBI/HO/MRD/MRD-PoD-2/P/CIR/2023/166 dated October 06, 2023, the Company has transferred ₹ 50,00,000/- (Rupees Fifty Lakhs Only) into the "Investor Protection Fund" on September 23, 2024 as financial disincentive for the delay in pay-in on January 30, 2024.
			(iv) The SEBI vide its letter dated April 07, 2025, has advised the Company to deposit ₹ 3,00,00,000/-(Rupees Three Crores Only) into the "CDSL Investor Protection Fund" as financial disincentive for some past technical glitches between years 2021 to 2024 and the Company has transferred the amount to CDSL IPF on April 15, 2025.
12.	Resignation of statutory auditors from the listed entity or its material subsidiaries:  In case of resignation of statutory auditor from the listed entity or any of its material subsidiaries during the financial year, the listed entity and / or its material subsidiary(ies) has / have complied with paragraph 6.1 and 6.2 of section V-D of chapter V of the Master Circular on compliance with the provisions of the LODR Regulations by listed entities.	NA	There was no instance of resignation/ appointment/ reappointment of the statutory auditor during the review period.
13.	Additional Non-compliances, if any:  No any additional non-compliance observed for any SEBI regulation/ circular/ guidance note etc. except as reported above.	NA	No additional non- compliances observed during the review period.

We further, report that the listed entity is in compliance/not in compliance with the disclosure requirements of Employee Benefit Scheme Documents in terms of regulation 46(2)(za) of the LODR Regulations. - NA

### III. The listed entity is a Market Infrastructure Institution (MII) and

- Is in conformity with SEBI circulars/guidelines while utilizing IPF.
- Is in compliance of whistle blower policy.
- iii. No whistle blower complaints were received against the Company/MII or its management during the review period.

## Assumptions & Limitation of scope and Review:

- 1. Compliance of the applicable laws and ensuring the authenticity of documents and information furnished, are the responsibilities of the management of the listed entity.
- 2. Our responsibility is to report based upon our examination of relevant documents and information. This is neither an audit nor an expression of opinion.
- 3. We have not verified the correctness and appropriateness of financial Records and Books of Accounts of the listed entity.
- 4. This Report is solely for the intended purpose of compliance in terms of Regulation 24A(2) of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 and is neither an assurance as to the future viability of the listed entity nor of the efficacy or effectiveness with which the management has conducted the affairs of the listed entity.
- 5. Wherever required, we have obtained the Management representation about the compliance of laws, rules and regulations and happening of events etc.
- 6. I have followed the audit practices and processes as were appropriate to obtain reasonable assurance about the correctness of the contents of the Secretarial records. The verification was done on test basis to ensure that correct facts are reflected in the Secretarial records. I believe that the processes and practices, I followed provide a reasonable basis for my opinion.

# For Vatsal Doshi & Associates **Company Secretaries**

VATSAL Digitally signed by VATSAL KUMUDCHANDRA KUMUDCHANDRA DOSHI Date: 2025.05.30 16:20:29 DOSHI

> Vatsal K. Doshi FCS No.: 12399 CP No.: 22976

UDIN: F012399G000509775

PR No.: 3191/2023 FRN: S2020MH725700

Date: May 30, 2025 Place: Mumbai