

ATTENTION

Transfer of shares only in dematerialised form

Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has recently issued a notification which states that the shares of the listed companies shall be transferred only in dematerialised form, effective March 31, 2019. Consequently, shares cannot be transferred in physical form on and from March 31, 2019. With a view to facilitate seamless transfer of shares in future and as advised by the Stock Exchange(s), shareholders holding shares in physical form are requested to dematerialise their shareholding in the Company.

Such shareholders may, accordingly, get in touch with any Depository Participant. Depository Participant is a SEBI registered intermediary (like banks and broking firms) having registration with one of the two depositories, viz. National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL) and Central Depository Services (India) Ltd. (CDSL). Depository Participant (DP) provides services such as dematerialisation of shares, facilitating holding and trading the shares in dematerialised form, etc.

The shareholders holding physical shares can dematerialise their physical share certificates by opening a demat account with a DP. After the shares are dematerialised and credited to their demat account, the shareholders can hold/buy/sell their shares in the dematerialised form.

For ease of reference, the procedure of dematerialisation of shares is provided below.

Procedure for Dematerialisation of Shares

1. The shareholder needs to submit a request to the concerned DP in the Dematerialisation Request Form (DRF) for dematerialisation, along with the certificates of shares to be dematerialised. Before submission, the shareholder has to deface the certificates by writing "SURRENDERED FOR DEMATERIALISATION"
2. The DP will verify the DRF and certificates and shall issue an acknowledgement slip, duly signed and stamped, to the shareholder if the same is in order.
3. The DP will thereafter scrutinise DRF and certificates. In case the DRF/certificates are not in order, the same will be returned to the shareholder for removing deficiencies. In case DRF/certificates are in order, a Dematerialisation Request Number (DRN) will be generated.
4. The DRF, with the DRN mentioned on it, will then be released electronically to the Registrar & Share Transfer Agent (RTA). The DP will then dispatch the certificates along with the DRF to the RTA for verification and approval.
5. The RTA will, after due verification of DRF and certificates, confirm acceptance of the request for dematerialisation.
6. The Depository will then electronically create and credit appropriate number of shares in the shareholder's demat account.
7. The RTA may reject dematerialisation request in some cases and will send an objection memo to the DP, with or without DRF and certificates depending upon the reason for rejection. The DP/shareholder has to remove reasons for objection within 15 days of receiving the objection memo. If the DP/shareholder fails to remove the objections within 15 days, the RTA may reject the request and return DRF and accompanying certificates to the DP. The DP, if the shareholder so requires, may generate a new dematerialisation request and send the certificates again to the RTA for dematerialisation. No fresh request can be generated for the same securities until the RTA has rejected the earlier request and informed the Depository and DP about it.

The process of dematerialisation is completed within 21 days from the date of submission of a valid dematerialisation request.