



भारतीय प्रतिभूति और विनियम बोर्ड
Securities and Exchange Board of India

CIRCULAR

SEBI/HO/IMD-II/IMD-II_DOF10/P/CIR/2021/00677

December 10, 2021

To,

**All Mutual Funds (MFs)/
Asset Management Companies (AMCs)/
Trustee Companies/ Board of Trustees of Mutual Funds/
Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI)**

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Subject: Publishing Investor Charter and disclosure of Investor Complaints by
Mutual funds on their websites and AMFI website**

- 1) SEBI vide Circular No. Cir/IMD/DF/2/2010 dated May 13, 2010 has advised AMCs to disclose details of investor complaints on annual basis in a prescribed format within 2 months of the close of the financial year.
- 2) In partial modification to the aforesaid circular, it has been decided that all the Mutual Funds shall disclose the details of investor complaints on their respective websites as well as on AMFI website on a monthly basis, as per the format enclosed at Annexure - 'A' to this circular. The information shall be made available within 7th of succeeding month.
- 3) Further, in order to facilitate awareness of investors about various activities which an investor deals with, SEBI has prepared an **Investor Charter for Mutual Funds**, inter-alia, detailing the services provided to Investors, Rights of Investors, various activities of Mutual Funds with timelines, DOs and DON'Ts for Investors and Grievance Redressal Mechanism which is placed at Annexure 'B'.



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- 4) In this regard, Mutual Funds are advised to bring the **Investor Charter for Mutual Funds** to the notice of their unit holders (existing as well as new unit holders) through disclosing the Investor Charter on their websites, making them available at prominent places in the office, etc.
- 5) Further, Mutual Funds are advised to display link/option to lodge complaint with them directly on their websites and mobile apps. Additionally, link to SCORES website/ link to download mobile app (SEBI SCORES) shall also be provided on their website.
- 6) These disclosure requirements are in addition to those already mandated by SEBI. The provisions of this circular shall come into effect from **January 01, 2022**.
- 7) This circular is issued in exercise of powers conferred under Section 11(1) of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992, read with the provision of Regulation 77 of SEBI (Mutual Funds) Regulations, 1996 to protect the interests of investors in securities and to promote the development of, and to regulate the securities markets.

Yours faithfully,

Vikash Narnoli
Deputy General Manager
Investment Management Department

Annexure A

Redressal of Complaints received during the period: DD/MM/YYYY to DD/MM/YYYY

Name of the Mutual Fund:

Total Number of Folios:

Data for every month ending**Part A: Total complaints report (including complaints received through SCORES)**

Complaint code	Type of complaint#	(a) No. of complaints pending at the beginning of the period	(b) No of complaints received during the period	Action on (a) and (b)									
				Resolved					Non Actionable *	Pending			
				Within 30 days	30-60 days	60-180 days	Beyond 180 days	Average time taken ^ (in days)		0-3 months	3-6 months	6-12 months	Beyond 12 months
I A	Non receipt of amount declared under Income Distribution cum Capital Withdrawal option												
I B	Interest on delayed payment of amount declared under Income												

Complaint code	Type of complaint#	(a) No. of complaints pending at the beginning of the period	(b) No of complaints received during the period	Action on (a) and (b)									
				Resolved					Non Actionable *	Pending			
				Within 30 days	30-60 days	60-180 days	Beyond 180 days	Average time taken ^ (in days)		0-3 months	3-6 months	6-12 months	Beyond 12 months
	Distribution cum Capital Withdrawal option												
I C	Non receipt of Redemption Proceeds												
I D	Interest on delayed payment of Redemption												
II A	Non receipt of Statement of Account/Unit Certificate												
II B	Discrepancy in Statement of Account												
II C	Data corrections in Investor details												
II D	Non receipt of Annual Report/Abridged Summary												
III A	Wrong switch between Schemes												

Complaint code	Type of complaint#	(a) No. of complaints pending at the beginning of the period	(b) No of complaints received during the period	Action on (a) and (b)									
				Resolved					Non Actionable *	Pending			
				Within 30 days	30-60 days	60-180 days	Beyond 180 days	Average time taken ^ (in days)		0-3 months	3-6 months	6-12 months	Beyond 12 months
III B	Unauthorized switch between Schemes												
III C	Deviation from Scheme attributes												
III D	Wrong or excess charges/load												
III E	Non updation of changes viz. address, PAN, bank details, nomination, etc												
III F	Delay in allotment of Units												
III G	Unauthorized Redemption												
IV	Others												

including against its authorized persons/ distributors/ employees. etc.

*Non actionable means the complaint that are incomplete / outside the scope of the mutual fund

^ Average Resolution time is the sum total of time taken to resolve each complaint in days, in the current month divided by total number of complaints resolved in the current month.

Part B: Report on complaints received through SCORES

Complaint code	Type of complaint#	(a) No. of complaints pending at the beginning of the period	(b) No of complaints received during the period	Action on (a) and (b)									
				Resolved					Non Actionable *	Pending			
				Within 30 days	30-60 days	60-180 days	Beyond 180 days	Average time taken ^ (in days)		0-3 months	3-6 months	6-12 months	Beyond 12 months
I A	Non receipt of amount declared under Income Distribution cum Capital Withdrawal option												
I B	Interest on delayed payment of amount declared under Income Distribution cum Capital Withdrawal option												
I C	Non receipt of Redemption Proceeds												
I D	Interest on delayed payment of Redemption												
II A	Non receipt of Statement of Account/Unit Certificate												
II B	Discrepancy in Statement of Account												
II C	Data corrections in Investor details												
II D	Non receipt of Annual												

Complaint code	Type of complaint#	(a) No. of complaints pending at the beginning of the period	(b) No of complaints received during the period	Action on (a) and (b)									
				Resolved					Non Actionable *	Pending			
				Within 30 days	30-60 days	60-180 days	Beyond 180 days	Average time taken ^ (in days)		0-3 months	3-6 months	6-12 months	Beyond 12 months
	Report/Abridged Summary												
III A	Wrong switch between Schemes												
III B	Unauthorized switch between Schemes												
III C	Deviation from Scheme attributes												
III D	Wrong or excess charges/load												
III E	Non updation of changes viz. address, PAN, bank details, nomination, etc												
III F	Delay in allotment of Units												
III G	Unauthorized Redemption												
IV	Others												

including against its authorized persons/ distributors/ employees. etc.

*Non actionable means the complaint that are incomplete / outside the scope of the mutual fund

^ Average Resolution time is the sum total of time taken to resolve each complaint in days, in the current month divided by total number of complaints resolved in the current month.

Part C: Trend of monthly disposal of complaints (including complaints received through SCORES)

SN	Month	Carried forward from previous month	Received	Resolved*	Pending**
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	April- YYYY				
2	May- YYYY				
3	June- YYYY				
4	July- YYYY				
5					
6					
	March- YYYY				
	Grand Total				

*Should include complaints of previous months resolved in the current month. If any.

** Should include total complaints pending as on the last day of the month, if any.

Part D: Trend of annual disposal of complaints (including complaints received through SCORES)

SN	Year	Carried forward from previous year	Received during the year	Resolved during the year	Pending at the end of the year
1	2017-18				
2	2018-19				
3	2019-20				
4	2020-21				
5	2021-22				
	Grand Total				

Annexure- B

INVESTOR CHARTER FOR MUTUAL FUNDS

VISION

- To develop the Indian Mutual Fund Industry and bring a high degree of professionalism transparency and ethics by enacting regulations to govern the functioning of mutual funds in order to enhance and maintain standards to protect and promote the interests of unit holders of mutual funds.

MISSION

- To support the development of a vibrant, transparent, ethical and globally competitive asset management industry.
- To enact and enforce rules and regulations that promote the maintenance of high professional and ethical standards in all areas of operation of the mutual fund industry.
- To work closely with the mutual fund industry in order to recommend and promote good business practices and a code of conduct to be followed by all asset management companies engaged in the activities of investment management in the best interests of unitholders / investors.
- To recommend standardized operational processes to be followed by the Mutual Fund industry for the convenience and benefit of the investors..
- To undertake nationwide investor awareness programmes, so as to inform and educate existing and prospective investors about mutual funds as an asset class and to educate the public about the concept and working of mutual funds.
- To protect the interest of investors/unit holders.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES / BUSINESS OF THE ENTITY

- To offer investment opportunities to the investors through various schemes.
- To pool money by issuing units to the investors at the applicable Net Asset Value (NAV).
- Deploy the monies pooled from investors in various securities and manage the portfolio in accordance with objectives as disclosed in offer document and in compliance with all applicable regulations.
- Disclose various information including NAV on daily basis, Risk-o-meter of schemes, portfolio of the schemes, performance of the schemes, annual report or abridged annual report etc.
- Pay redemption proceeds, dividends etc. to the investors.
- Process investor's financial and non – financial transactions / service requests.

SERVICES PROVIDED FOR INVESTORS

Non-Financial Transaction		
Sr. no.	Description of Service / Activity	Time taken for providing service
1	Providing Consolidated Account Statement (CAS) for each calendar month	by 15 th of succeeding month
2	Providing Consolidated Account Statement (CAS) for the half year	By 21 st of succeeding month
3	Request for Dematerialisation of units	2 Days *
Financial Transactions (Commercial Transactions)		
Sr. no.	Description of Service / Activity	Time taken for providing service*
1	Pay-out of redemption proceeds	10 Days
2	Pay-out of dividend from the record date	15 Calendar days
3	Pay-out of proceeds on maturity of a close-ended scheme	10 Days
4	Issue of statement of accounts specifying the number of units allotted or issue units in the dematerialized form	5 days from the date of closure of the initial subscription list or from the date of receipt of the application
5	Refund of subscription Money in case of New Fund Offer	5 days from the date of closure of the initial subscription list
Complaints/Requests		
Sr. no.	Description of Service / Activity	Time taken for providing service*
1	Submission of ATR to SEBI in respect of complaint received from investor through SCORES	30 days
Disclosure / Reports		
Sr. no.	Description of Service / Activity	Time taken for providing service
1	Intimation regarding change in TER of schemes	3 days in advance of TER effective date
2	Intimation regarding change in Fundamental Attributes of schemes (Exit Window)	30 days prior to the effective date of Fundamental Attribute change
3	Intimation regarding Merger of schemes	30 days prior to the effective date of Merger
4	Intimation regarding Conversion of Close Ended Scheme to Open Ended Scheme	30 days prior to the effective date of conversion

Sr. no.	Description of Service / Activity	Time taken for providing service
5	Disclosure of Daily NAV other than FOF Schemes	Daily by 11 pm
6	Disclosure of Daily NAV of FOF Schemes	T+1 by 10 am
7	Disclosure of Fortnightly Portfolio of Schemes (Debt Schemes)	within 5 calendar days.
8	Disclosure of Monthly Portfolio of Schemes	within 10 calendar days
9	Disclosure of half Yearly Portfolio of Schemes	within 10 calendar days
10	Disclosure of Risk-o-meter	by 10th of calendar day
11	Disclosure of TER of scheme	Every day
12	Disclosure of Annual report of Schemes / abridged scheme wise Annual Report	Every year before July 31
13	Disclosure of Annual report of AMC	Within 4 months from the end of the financial year
14	Disclosure of half Yearly Unaudited Financials	within 1 month
15	Disclosure of notice in respect of Dividend declaration	5 calendar days prior to declaration of dividend
16	Disclosure of Complaints redressal report	2 months of the close of the financial year
17	Disclosure of Asset Under Management	7 days from the end of the month
18	Disclosure of transactions in debt and money market securities	15 days from each transaction day
19	Disclosure of half yearly updated scheme information document	1 month from the end of the half-year
20	Disclosure of half yearly updated Key Information Memorandum	1 month from the end of the half-year
21	Disclosure of statement of additional information	3 months from end of financial year
22	Disclosure of Executive Remuneration	1 month from the end of financial year.

Notes:

- * All the above mentioned time taken for providing service (Financial & Non-Financial) will be subject to receipt of complete documentation/information from the investor.
- Day refers to working day unless otherwise specified.
- The Asset Management Companies which fail to meet the stipulated timelines maybe liable for suitable action as deemed fit in terms of SEBI Act, 1992 or regulations framed thereunder.

GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL MECHANISM FOR INVESTORS

1. In case of any grievance / complaint, an investor should approach the concerned Mutual Fund / Investor Service Centre of the Mutual Fund. If the complaint remains unresolved, the investor may write to the designated Investor Relations Officer of the mutual fund. The name of the Investor Relations Officer / contact person is generally mentioned in the Scheme Information Document (SID) of the mutual fund scheme, and also on the website of the concerned mutual fund, whom one may approach / write to in case of any query, complaints or grievance.
2. If the investor's complaint is not redressed satisfactorily, one may lodge a complaint with SEBI on SEBI's portal, named , 'SCORES', which is a centralized web based complaints redress system. SEBI takes up the complaints registered via SCORES (<https://scores.gov.in/scores/Welcome.html>) with the concerned mutual fund / intermediary for timely redressal. SCORES facilitates tracking the status of the complaint.
3. Investors may send their physical complaints to: Office of Investor Assistance and Education, Securities and Exchange Board of India, SEBI Bhavan. Plot No. C4-A, 'G' Block, Bandra-Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai - 400 051

DO's and DON'Ts FOR INVESTORS

Do's

1. Check registration status of the Mutual Fund on SEBI website before transacting with them.
2. Read all Scheme related documents and understand the scheme features and the risks involved and suitability of the scheme to the investor's risk profile.
3. Provide and keep updated KYC details including address, tax status, residency, and other key information such as PAN & bank account details.
4. Provide own email address and mobile number and to promptly notify changes to this information, if any.
5. Check Account Statement & Common Account Statements for discrepancy, if any and promptly bring any such discrepancies to the notice of the Asset Management Company

6. Read communications / notices / addendums / press releases, etc. sent / or published by the mutual fund via newspapers, email, etc.
7. Consider availing nomination facility in respect of investments made in Mutual Funds.
8. Choose the plan for investments i.e. Direct Plan or Regular Plan.
9. Invest through registered and regulated entities
10. Keep confidential critical information such as user ID, password, etc.
11. Invest by issuing payments in the name of the Mutual fund / scheme only and not in the name of any other entity.

Don'ts

1. Do not invest based on speculation, rumor or informal advice.
2. Do not fall for the promise of indicative or exorbitant or assured returns.
3. Do not issue blank cheques or blank signed transaction instructions.
4. Do not use third-party bank accounts for fund flows for subscription or redemption of units.

RIGHTS OF INVESTORS

1. Right to receive information and details about the scheme including about its investment philosophy, risk profile, portfolio holdings, fees, charges and expenses and such other information as may be required under SEBI regulations to enable investors to make an informed decision about investing in a scheme, prior to making any such investment.
2. Right to timely receipt of account statement evidencing a transaction as specified in the SEBI Mutual Funds Regulations, or to receive such statements on request.
3. Right to receive Consolidated Account Statement (CAS) at a periodic frequency as specified by SEBI.
4. Right to timely disclosure of daily Net Asset Values (NAV), Portfolio and Performance of each scheme including scheme's AUM, investment objective, expense ratios on mutual fund website.
5. Right to receive Annual report / abridged annual report of the scheme(s) invested in,

6. Right to timely receipt of redemption proceeds / dividend payments / refunds, as applicable.
7. Right to be notified about any change in the fundamental attributes (features) of a mutual fund scheme in which the investor has investments and to be provided a right to exit the scheme without cost, if so desired, as a result of the fundamental attribute change.
8. Right to be informed about such disclosures which may have a material bearing on their investments in mutual fund schemes.
9. Right to privacy of information in accordance with the applicable laws of the land.
10. Right to security of, and access to, information provided to Asset Management Companies and their service providers in relation to investments in mutual funds. Right to have such information corrected and receive confirmation of such correction.
11. Right to information about how complaints are handled and can be escalated in the event investors are not satisfied with the resolution provided.
12. Right to timely redressal of grievances and complaints within the timelines specified by regulations and the right to escalate complaint not resolved satisfactorily to the Investor Grievance Officer of the respective Asset Management Company.
13. Right to escalate unresolved complaints to SEBI via the SCORES portal.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF INVESTORS

1. To check registration status of the Mutual Fund on SEBI website before transacting with them.
2. To read all Scheme related documents and understand the scheme features and the risks involved and suitability of the scheme to the investor's risk profile.
3. To provide and keep updated KYC details including address, tax status, residency, and other key information such as PAN & bank account details.
4. To provide own email address and mobile number and to promptly notify changes to this information, if any.
5. To check Account Statement & Consolidated Account Statements for discrepancy, if any and promptly bring any such discrepancies to the notice of the Asset Management Company

6. To read communications / notices / addendums / press releases, etc. sent / or published by the mutual fund via newspapers, email, etc.
7. To consider availing facility to nominate in respect of investments made in Mutual Funds.
8. To choose the plan for investments i.e. Direct Plan or Regular Plan.
9. To invest through registered and regulated entities and not to invest based on speculation, rumor or informal advice.
10. To keep confidential critical information such as user ID, password, etc.
11. To invest by issuing payments in the name of the Mutual fund / scheme only and not in the name of any other entity.
12. To protect oneself by not falling for the promise of indicative or exorbitant or assured returns.
13. To protect oneself by not issuing blank cheques or blank signed transaction instructions.
14. To avoid using third-party bank accounts for fund flows for subscription or redemption of units.
