

## **INTRODUCTION OF ONLINE DISPUTE RESOLUTION PORTAL BY SEBI**

SEBI vide circular no. SEBI/HO/OIAE/OIAE\_IAD-1/P/CIR/2023/131 on July 31, 2023, has introduced a common Online Dispute Resolution ("ODR") mechanism to facilitate online resolution of all kinds of disputes arising in the Indian securities market. The ODR Portal (<u>https://smartodr.in/login</u>) allows investors with additional mechanism to resolve the grievances in the following manner:

• Level 1 – Raise with KFin Technologies Limited [Registrar and Transfer Agent ("RTA")]/ Company: Initially, all grievances/ disputes/ complaints against the Company are required to be directly lodged with the RTA/ the Company. Shareholders may lodge the same by sending an email to <u>einward.ris@kfintech.com</u> or by sending physical correspondence at:

KFin Technologies Limited Selenium, Tower B, Plot No – 31 and 32, Financial District Nanakramguda, Serilingampally Hyderabad, Rangareddi 500 032 Telangana, India

## • <u>Level 2 – SEBI SCORES:</u>

Grievances/ disputes/ complaints which are not resolved at Level 1, or if the shareholder is not satisfied with the resolution provided by the Company/ RTA, then a complaint may be raised on SEBI Complaints Redress System ("SCORES") which can be accessed at <u>https://www.scores.gov.in</u>.

## • Level 3 - ODR Platform:

In case the shareholder is not satisfied with the resolution provided at Level 1 or 2, then the online dispute resolution process may be initiated through the ODR portal within the applicable timeframe under law.

## • Important Notes:

- 1. This is to clarify that the shareholder(s) may initiate dispute resolution through the ODR Portal without having to go through SCORES Portal (i.e. From Level 1 to Level 3), if the grievance lodged with the Company is not resolved satisfactorily.
- 2. It may be noted that the dispute resolution through the ODR portal can be initiated only if such complaint/ dispute is not pending before any arbitral process, court, tribunal or consumer forum or if the same is non-arbitrable under Indian law.
- 3. There is no fee for registration of complaints/ disputes on the ODR Portal. However, the process of conciliation / arbitration through ODR portal may attract fee and the same shall be borne by the concerned investor/ listed entity/ its RTA (as the case may be).