

Introduction of Voluntary Lock-in / Debit freeze facility to Mutual Fund folios

Circular Reference

1. SEBI Circular HO/24/12/12(5)2026-IMD-SEC-1/1/6373/2026, dated Mar 06, 2026
2. AMFI BP Circular No. 124/2026-27 dated Apr 10, 2026

Date of Implementation – Apr 30, 2026

Applicability

1. The online facility shall be enabled in MFCentral platform
2. Locking and unlocking can be done only through MFCentral
3. Applicable only for Non demat folios (Units held in Non demat mode)
4. Applicable only for Individual investors (having PAN 4th character as P) Including Minor Folios and Sole proprietorship
5. Applicable to Resident and Non-Resident Individual investors
6. Facility to Lock / Unlock shall be available only to the First Holder registered in the folio.

Prerequisites

1. Folios should have the KYC status as “Registered” or “Validated” for all the holders available in the folio
2. Folios should have both – Email id and an Indian Mobile Number already registered in RTA’s records
3. Folios should have the mode of holding as “Single” or “Anyone or survivor”

Option for Locking and Unlocking

Two options are given to the investors – which are applicable only to the *Investor Initiated Transactions*

- Lock Only Debit Transactions
- Lock Debit + Non-Financial Transactions

S. No.	Lock Type	Restrictions
1	Lock for all non-financial transactions	Following investor initiated non-financial transactions would not be allowed in any mode – <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Change/addition of bank mandate• Change of broker code• Change of Email ID and/or Mobile number

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nominee registration/cancellation • Change in IDCW option • Lien marking • Change in signature • Consolidation of folios • Transfer of units • Change of tax status • SOA to Demat
2	Lock for all debit transactions	<p>All debits in the folios based on the investor-initiated transactions in any mode (Physical/Online/Channel etc).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Redemption (including Insta) • Switch • New STP Registration • New SWP Registration • New DTP Registration

Allowed Transactions / activities during the Lock in period

1. All non investor initiated transactions will be allowed
2. Online SOA generation / Capital Gain statement generation will be allowed
3. New Registration of SIP
4. Existing Lien invocation/revocation, if raised by the financier, and the underlying redemption will be allowed during the lock-in period.
5. Transmission (given that the Lock instruction becomes void post demise of the investor, will be allowed irrespective of lock-in status of the folio)
6. Triggers from systematic transactions like SIP, SWP, STP which are registered prior to date of Locking the folio will be allowed
7. Corporate actions like IDCW payout / reinvestment, scheme merger, face value change, maturity payout etc., will continue to get processed in the folio during the lock-in period.
8. Reporting to regulatory authorities/LEA would continue
9. KRA KYC updation will be allowed
10. Brokerage, wherever applicable, will continue to get processed and paid to distributors during the lock-in period.
11. Consolidated account statement or any other regulatory communication will continue to get triggered during the lock-in period.
12. Request received from LEA / SEBI / AMFI / CBDT / Court or other legal entities will continue to get shared during the lock-in period.
13. Irrespective of lock-in status, these folios will be considered for all regulatory reporting purposes and for sending regulatory communications.

Process flow for locking the Transactions

1. Investors will login MFCentral with the existing validations / credentials
2. MFCentral will display only active folios., i.e, folios having unit balance, having free units, which are not locked earlier due to any reason.
3. Fund name, Folio, outstanding free units, and Valuation based on the latest available NAV will be displayed

4. Investor can select multiple folios / AMCs.
5. The lock in date -
 - a. From date (by default System date),
 - b. To date → “Until Revoked”
6. On selecting any one of the lock option, investor has to read and accept the disclaimer, post which Two different OTPs will be sent to the email id and mobile number
7. After successful OTP validations, selected folios will be *Immediately locked* in RTA’s records.
8. Once a folio is locked, *investors will not be allowed to unlock for next 48 hours.*
9. Email / SMS confirmation will be triggered confirming the folio lock
10. Lock reason, Lock Remarks, Lock period (From date/ Until revoked), Type of lock) – will be displayed in Kbolt enquiry screen.

Process for unlocking the Folios

1. Unlocking will not be allowed for 48 hours from the time/date of locking the folios
2. On logging into MFCentral, Investor will be allowed to choose single / multiple folios / funds to unlock.
3. Unlocking will be allowed by sending different OTPs to the registered mobile and email and both should get validated- by the first holder.
4. On the successful validations of the above two factors, the selected folios should be immediately unlocked in RTA’s systems.
5. Confirmation Email / SMS will be sent to the Investor

Other Points

1. Information on Folios locked / unlocked will be made available to the respective MFD / RIA / Source (Channel / MFU) for them to have corresponding updates done at their end and restrict further transactions on locked folios. → Auto mail back will be enabled
2. For Demat accounts, MFCentral will redirect the investors to the online services offered by the respective depositories.