

No. 20(06)GS-I/2018-114
Government of Pakistan
Finance Division
Budget Wing

Islamabad, the 17th March, 2025.

From: **Mariah Nawaz Qaisrani**
Section Officer
(Borrowing Section).
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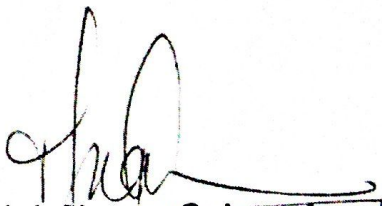
To: **Mr. Waqar Ali**
Assistant Director
Currency Management Department (CMD)
SBP Banking Service Corporation (Bank)
State Bank of Pakistan, Karachi.

SUBJECT: **DIGITAL PRIZE BONDS (REGISTERED) RULE, 2024**

Dear Sir,

I am directed to refer the Cabinet Division Memorandum No: 5/5/2025-Progress-II dated 18th February, 2025 on the subject noted above. As per instruction by Cabinet Committee for Disposal of legislative Cases (CCLC), please find enclosed herewith the draft rules of Digital Prize Bonds (Registered) Rule, 2024 with the request to offer comments / views on the subject matter.

2. An early action in this regard will be appreciated, please.


Mariah Nawaz Qaisrani
Section Officer
(Borrowing Section)

Copy to:

- I. DG CDNS, Islamabad for similar action, please as indicated in Para-1 & 2 above.
- II. ✓ Webmaster, Finance Division, with the request to kindly upload the attached draft rules of Digital Prize Bonds (Registered) Rule, 2024 on Finance Website to provide the comments/response from public at-large within stipulated time.
- III. PS to AFS (Budget), Finance Division, Islamabad.
- IV. APS to JS (B-III), Finance Division, Islamabad.

**GOVERNEMENT OF PAKISTAN
FINANCE DIVISION
(BUDGET WING)**

NOTIFICATION

Islamabad, the March, 2025

S.R.O. (1)/2025– The following draft Digital Prize Bonds(Registered) Rules, 2024, proposed to be made by the Federal Government in exercise of the powers conferred by section 28 of the Public Debt Act, 1944 (XVIII of 1944), are hereby published for information of all persons likely to be affected thereby and as required under sub-section (1) of the said section 28, notice is hereby given that objections or suggestions thereon, if any, may be sent to the Finance Division within seven days of the publication of the draft rules in the official Gazette. Objections or suggestions received from any person, if any, before the expiry of the aforesaid period, shall be taken into consideration by the Federal Government.

DRAFT RULES

1. Short title, application and commencement–(1) These rules shall be called the Digital Prize Bonds (Registered) Rules, 2024.

(2) These rules shall be applicable to Digital Prize Bonds (Registered) issued under these rules.

(3) These rules shall come into force at once.

2. Definitions–In these rules, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,

(a) “CDNS” means the Central Directorate of National Savings;

(b) “Digital Prize Bond(DPB)” means a digital bond issued by the Central Directorate of National Savings in scripless form that will be eligible for prize money, in case of winning in the periodic draws, and accessible through Digital Prize Bond Gateway available online;

(c) “Digital Prize Bond Gateway” or “DPB Gateway” means an online platform that will be accessible through CDNS’ Mobile Application, or any other digital channel approved or introduced by the CDNS, to the potential customers to register for

purchase and sale of Digital Prize Bond and manage their portfolio of Digital Prize Bonds;

- (d) "Fund Transfer" means any transaction carried out by financial institution on behalf of originator by way of electronic means or otherwise to make an amount of money available to beneficiary person at another beneficiary institution, irrespective of whether the originator and the beneficiary are the same person; and
- (e) "Prize Money" means the claim to be made by Prize Bond Holders when entitled, in accordance with the instructions issued by the CDNS.

3. Office of Issue—The office of issue is Central Directorate of National Savings (CDNS) and any other office authorized by the CDNS.

4. Denomination—(1) The bonds shall be issued in the denominations notified by the Finance Division in the official gazette.

(2) The bonds shall be issued in multiple of face value of each bond.

(3) The bonds shall be issued in a series of one less than a million numbers or such other numbers as the Finance Division may, by notification in the official Gazette, determine.

5. Investment Limit—There shall be no maximum limit for investment in the bonds.

6. Form of the Digital Prize Bonds —The bonds shall be issued in scrip-less form, means no physical instrument will be given to the customer. Only a system generated number will be provided to the customer.

7. Eligibility Criteria —(1) The bond may be purchased by any "single adult, citizen of Pakistan".

8. Purchase of Digital Prize Bonds— (1) The customer shall create his/her profile on Digital Prize Bond Gateway, available on CDNS Mobile Application or any other channel approved by the CDNS, by entering required information therein and link that profile with his/her respective CDNS' Savings Account or Bank Account (in IBAN format). Thereafter, customer can proceed for the purchase of bonds on the DPB Gateway.

(2) The payment for purchase of bonds is to be made through either the linked Bank account OR CDNS' Savings Account. The date of purchase of bonds will be considered as the date on which the payment is successfully made by the customer.

(3) Customer is liable to intimate CDNS through designated gateway of any change in his information or provide any other information or documentation whenever asked by the CDNS.

9. Redemption of Digital Prize Bonds—The redemption of bonds shall be made through the DPB Gateway and on successful redemption, the due amount shall be credited into the same CDNS' Savings Account or Bank Account of the customer that was used to purchase the Digital Prize Bond. However, in exceptional cases, CDNS may execute the payment through government cheque as well.

10. Withdrawal from Circulation—(1) The Finance Division may, by notification in the official Gazette, withdraw from circulation, any bond.

(2) No claim for prize money on bonds withdrawn under sub-rule (1) shall be admissible from the date of withdrawal.

11. Validity Period—(1) The bonds shall be issued for unlimited period and shall remain valid for principal payment and prize money thereof, if any, till such time it is encashed by the registered holder or withdrawn under these rules.

(2) The bonds may be redeemed any time after issuance.

12. Draw—(1) For the purpose of prize money, CDNS shall conduct the draw on quarterly basis or such other frequency as the Finance Division may determine by notification in the official Gazette.

(2) The CDNS shall, at the start of each calendar year and by notification in the official Gazette, determine schedule of the draw under sub-rule (1).

(3) For the information of general public, the date, time and place of each draw and the series of bonds eligible in respective draw shall, by notification in the official Gazette, be determined by the CDNS sufficiently in advance of the date of draw.

(4) A bond shall not qualify for prize money in such a draw which is held within:

(a) One month commencing from every date of purchase of the bond.

(5) The Central Directorate of National Savings shall, by notification in the official Gazette, notify draw results of the bonds under these rules.

13. Prize Money—(1) Prize money, if any, shall be credited to the linked Bank Account or CDNS' Saving Account of the registered bond holder. In case the National Savings Centre or financial institution returns the said prize money to the office of issue due to any reason, such amounts may, as per procedure prescribed under rule 4, be claimed from the office of issue by the registered bond holder within a period of six years from the date such amounts become due. After expiry of said period the liability of the Federal Government to pay such amounts shall be terminated, and no such claim shall be entertained.

(2) No profit shall be admissible on prize money for the period during which these amounts remain unclaimed due to any reason after the date of draw.

(3) Finance Division shall, by notification in the Official Gazette, determine the number of prizes and prize money from time to time, under these rules.

14. Transfer of Ownership—Transfer of ownership is not allowed in these bonds.

15. Pledging—Pledging is not allowed in these bonds.

16. Payment in Default—Any payment which may have been made in contravention of these rules or by mistake shall be refundable, and in the event of failure to refund may, in addition to other remedies for the recovery thereof, be deducted from any money payable by the Federal Government to the recipient person from his estate or be recovered as arrears of land revenue.

17. Nomination—The purchaser of these bonds may make nomination at the time of purchase or thereafter, in the DPB Gateway. The purchaser may change or cancel the previous nomination at any time through DPB Gateway.

18. Succession—In case of death of the bondholder, payment of principal and prize money, if any, in respect of the bond of the deceased shall be payable to his legal heirs according to succession certificate issued in accordance with the law enforced for the time being, in cases where –

(a) Total net payable amount does not exceed five hundred thousand rupees, payment shall be made to the nominee(s), as mentioned in DPB Gateway by the purchaser, upon furnishing duly verified and attested copy of Family Registration Certificate (FRC) issued by NADRA and affidavit as set out in the SOPs of DPBs, to the effect that he shall be bound to distribute the received amount among all the legal heirs according to their due share as per law of the land;

(b) The nominee is a minor, payment shall be made on provision of succession certificate issued in accordance with the law for the time being in force;

(c) The nomination has ceased to have effect due to death of the nominee before the death of bond holder or before he has received any sum there under or the purchaser had made no nomination, as the case may be, payment shall be made on provision of succession certificate issued in accordance with the law for the time being in force.

19. Zakat—Investments in bonds made under these rules, and prize money thereof, shall be exempted from compulsory deduction of zakat.

20. Applicable Tax—Prize money on the bonds shall be subject to tax in accordance with the applicable laws.

21. Procedure—CDNS shall, in relation to the Digital Prize Bonds, devise procedures for sale, encashment, payment of prize money and other allied matters to carry out the purpose of these rules.