

**MINUTES OF THE 39th SLBC MEETING, SIKKIM HELD ON 3rd DECEMBER 2013,
AT MAYFAIR RESORT, RANIPOOL, GANGTOK**

The Thirty Ninth State Level Bankers Committee Meeting for the State of Sikkim was held at Mayfair Resort, Gangtok on 3rd December 2013. The meeting was chaired by Shri S B Patwardhan, DGM, SBI, Siliguri.

2. Shri D.R. Nepal, Secretary, RMDD, Govt. of Sikkim, Shri R.P. Bhargava, GM, NABARD, Shri A.K. Yadav, DGM, Reserve Bank of India, Gangtok were present in the meeting on the dias. Other officials from Banks and Govt. Departments were also present

3. Shri Abhijit Kumar Ghosh, Regional Manager, State Bank of India, Gangtok, and also the SLBC Convenor, heartily welcomed Shri D.R. Nepal, Secretary, RMDD, Govt. of Sikkim, Shri S.B. Patwardhan, DGM, SBI, Shri R.P. Bhargava, General Manager, NABARD, and Shri A.K. Yadav, DGM, RBI, Gangtok and other dignitaries present and invited to participate in the meeting with their valued deliberation in the SLBC meeting.

4. Speaking on the occasion as Chairman of SLBC, Sikkim, Shri S.B. Patwardhan, DGM, State Bank of India in his opening deliberation said that it was his debut SLBC meeting in Sikkim as he had recently taken over the charge.

He informed the House about the performance and achievement by Lead bank in Sikkim in terms of FLC, Financial Inclusion, DBT/DCT, Aadhaar seeding etc. He added that SBI's proposal for opening of 9 new ATMs in the state within the current financial year. He also appreciated the performance of RSETI for conducting numerous training programmes on various activities successfully. It was informed that ground level preparation and survey for opening of a branch at Dzongu (Hee Gyathang) will be done in due process.

5. Shri D.R. Nepal, Secretary, RMDD, Govt. of Sikkim, in his deliberation, said that his department is associated with banks since the inception of SGSY scheme in the state and expressed his satisfaction over the role of banks in the state. He informed the house about the launch of new scheme under

National Rural Livelihood Programme(NRLP) by Govt. of India in place of SGSY in North and East districts of Sikkim and simultaneously for South and West district. The same programme is being launched by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Sikkim and it is funded by the World Bank. He also added that National Livelihood Mission (NRLM) under Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of India will be launched in Sikkim very soon. He emphasized over the role of the Banks in promotion of SHGs and providing financial assistance to bring them above the poverty level. He urged banks to initiate necessary steps in implementing the new scheme successfully in the state.

Shri Nepal also appreciated the performances of RSETI, Gangtok for conducting number of trainings to the unemployed youths during the year but at the same time advised to have close co-ordination with the trainees and the departments so that the purpose of training is fulfilled. Lastly, he advised Lead bank to expedite the setting up of a permanent RSETI building at Ralap (Khamdong) and said that Govt. of India is having numerous flagship programmes in the state through the department and setting up of training centres would be very much helpful for successful implementation of the schemes.

7. Shri R. P. Bhargava, GM, NABARD, expressed concern over the low CD ratio of the state. He informed that un-utilized subsidy, allocated under Animal Husbandry schemes for the state is being returned back to the Govt. of India due to tardy implementation of the scheme. He advised that strategic action plan has to be drawn on Animal Husbandry sector so that subsidies allocated for the state are being fully utilized.

8. Sri Bhargava also expressed concern over the absence of line departments in the DCC meetings due to which most of the issues are not being solved. He requested Shri D.R. Nepal to advise the line departments for their regular attendance in the DCC/SLBC meetings. It was also suggested that line departments and GPUs may source and viable feasible loan applications for the banks and said that close co-ordination between banks and the line departments is very much necessary for effective results.

Shri Bhargava further felt that achievement in KCC in terms of targets was very poor and said that banks has to make serious efforts to achieve keeping in view of the guidelines of Govt. of India for coverage of all eligible farmers by way of issuing KCC and said that all crop loans are to be financed under KCC. To this Banks responded to dispel with simultaneous Govt. of Sikkim subsidized projects in Agri. Sector as it is an impediment to grow in KCC exposure from Banks leading to double finance. He also expressed concern over the performance of SISCO bank and advised that they should finance Weavers' Credit Card through Co-operative societies.

9. It was reported that interest subvention is not being implemented properly by the banks though awareness programmes/workshops were conducted at all districts. Lastly, he apprised the house regarding number of schemes and subsidies provided by NABARD and urged banks to avail the opportunities.

10. Shri Anil Kumar Yadav, DGM, Reserve Bank of India, Gangtok in his opening remarks, apprised the House about the recent developments of RBI in the State. He informed the House regarding the recent visit of Dy. Governor, Shri Anand Sinha in Sikkim to attend the "Financial Outreach Programme" at Mangshila, North Sikkim and thanked all the participating Banks in making the programme successful. He said that Mangshila village has to be converted into "Model Village" where all the basic banking facilities are has to be provided and informed that Union Bank of India has declared to open its branch with ATM at Mangshila shortly.

11. Shri Yadav informed the house about the mis-reporting in the local newspaper regarding deadline on receipt of currency notes with scribble/writings etc and apprised that no such circulars were issued by RBI in this regards. He also emphasised that Banks should adhere to the "Clean Note Policy" initiative of RBI and advise all the dealing officials and staffs to follow the norms and urged them to sensitise their customers also in this matter.

12. He reported about the reference from The DC/ADC of North District, Govt. of Sikkim, Mangan regarding non-functioning of ATMs of SBI in North Sikkim and requested SBI to sort out the problems and expedite its functioning. In reply, the Regional Manager, SBI, RBO, Gangtok informed the house the issues

relating to non-functioning the ATM in details, assuring speedy resolution. It was in view of the position of Outsourcing Agency involved seized to service the ATM's in North Sikkim due to their internal reasons.

12. Lastly, Sri Yadav said that senior level attendance from line departments in SLBC meetings were continuously poor despite having written to the Chief Secretary of the State as a result of which progress/reviews with regards to govt. sponsored schemes could not be discussed with positive outcome. Shri Yadav requested Secretary, RMDD to take up the issue with the appropriate authorities to improve the position during the coming meetings.

Discussion held on Agenda seriatim and resolved that :

Agenda No.1

Confirmation of the proceedings of the 38th State Level Banker's Committee (SLBC) Meeting held at Gangtok (Sikkim) on 01st October 2013 at Mayfair Resort, Gangtok

As there were no suggestions/queries on the minutes of the 38th SLBC meeting, already circulated to the members, the minutes of the said meeting was considered unanimously as confirmed.

Agenda No.2

Follow-up of the Action Points that emerged from the 38th SLBC Meeting held on 01st October 2013 at Gangtok

1. Adequate representation from Govt. departments/Banks in the SLBC meeting

In this regard, SLBC convenor informed that although invitations/agenda papers were forwarded to all the senior level functionaries of the Govt. Departments as well as the Controllers of Banks, most of them are not present in the meeting. However, it was once again requested to the Secretary, RMDD to take up the issue with the appropriate authorities and Banks concerned to ensure suitable representation.

2. RBI, Gangtok office to follow up and expedite the obtention of license for Currency chest at Mangan

Shri A.K. Yadav, DGM, RBI, Gangtok apprised the house regarding the latest position in this matter. He informed that permission to set up a currency chest in border states has to be obtained from Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. Of India, and as in case of SBI Mangan, the matter is still lying at the Ministry and is expected to be cleared from their end soon.

3. SBI to provide Forex facility at Pelling branch by 30.10.2013

Shri A.K. Ghosh, Regional Manager, informed the House that SBI had already provided C-1 category forex facility at Pelling branch and said that hand holding trainings will be given to the branch officials soon.

4. Banks with high CD ratio to furnish separate data on credit from outside Sikkim with year-on-year comparison

Lead bank reported that most of the banks having high CD ratio like ICICI bank, IndusInd bank etc did not furnish the required data despite reminders, as a result of which the sector wise advance given from the Banks cannot be ascertained.

5. Time bound submission of financial data by member banks by 20.10.2013 for smooth conduct of next SLBC meeting on 15.11.2013

LDM reported that despite numerous reminders some Banks defaulted in submitting the data. The Chairman of the meeting advised Lead bank to prepare a calendar of SLBC meetings and urged banks to strictly adhere to the RBI guidelines on conduct of SLBC meeting. It was also told that Banks should submit their Lead bank returns within stipulated time frame failing which their figures will not be compiled in the SLBC papers and further instructed Lead bank to conduct the meeting without their data. However, Lead Bank apprised the house that a workshop on compilation of LBR proposed to be done on 15.12.2013 for Banks/Branches of South and West District, arising out of importance of error free compilation and timely submission.

6. Monitoring/Review of Agriculture advances, PMEGP and SJSRY schemes

In this regard, officials from UD&HD department apprised the House regarding discontinuation of SJSRY scheme and launch of new scheme by the name of National Urban Livelihood Mission (NULM). It was informed that the department is drawing up preparatory action plan prior to its full implementation in the state.

Brief introduction about the schemes were discussed and brochures /handouts were also distributed to all. It was requested to include HUDCO, Gangtok unit as SLBC member since it is one of the implementing agencies.

It was proposed to organize a sensitization/awareness/workshop programmes by Deptt. of UD & HD, GoS on newly launched schemes soon for all the stakeholders.

7. Recovery of Banks' dues in Agri sector and Govt. sponsored schemes through co-ordinated action

Shri A.K. Ghosh, Regional Manager, SBI expressed concern over decline in recovery and increase in NPA in this sector. He said that defaulter's list with GPU wise would be forwarded to all the district authorities for their immediate action for recovery. The house also discussed the possibility of creating charge on land parcha kept at the branches, like lien noting, with the Land Revenue department, till the recovery of banks dues.

GM, NABARD, in this context suggested that banks should seek the help of the departments/village level authorities for better recovery.

With reference to SARFAESI Act 2002, Shri Ghosh said that the Act will not be applicable in case of agriculture loans and govt. sponsored schemes due to which the recovery in this sector is very low.

Speaking in this context, Shri P. Wangdi, GM, State Bank of Sikkim, stated that registered mortgages are done in the state which is a safe method and banks can apply the same. He said that once the mortgage is registered and noted in the parcha, the land cannot be mutated/transferred until it is vacated by the bank.

Secretary, RMDD, with reference to the poor recovery in agri sector said that banks may seek the help of District Authorities, Village Level authorities like District Development Officers, Gram Vikas Adhikary, Panchayats for effective recoveries since most of the agri loanees are marginal and small farmers. He

advised Banks to endorse a copy of sanction letter in case of KCC loans so that proper follow up could be done from his side for effective recovery.

Agenda No.3

Credit: Deposit Ratio / Credit + Investment: Deposit Ratio as on 30.09.2013

The agenda item was already discussed earlier, however, banks having low CD ratio were advised to make efforts to increase their CD ratio during the remaining period of 2013-14. Lead bank once again requested Banks to furnish the data on credit from outside state.

Agenda No.4

Recovery of Bank's dues:

The House skipped the agenda item as it was discussed already.

Agenda No. 5

Review of Performance under Annual Credit Plan 2013-14 including NPS for the quarter ended 30th September 2013:

A. Agriculture and allied activities:

GM, NABARD expressed his dissatisfaction in connection with overall performance in this sector by the Banks during the quarter. He said that proper awareness is to be created at the ground level in case of KCC where village level authorities, agriculture extension officers, panchayats are to be involved. The Chairman also felt concern over the low achievement in agriculture sector and urged banks and concerned departments to work out the gaps.

B. Industry Sector:

Except few Banks, the performance of others were reported NIL. The Chairman appealed the Line Department for sponsoring the viable project as well as individual sourcing. The position will be reviewed in the next SLBC Meeting.

C. Tertiary sector:

The House discussed over the achievements under the sector which is satisfactory but expressed concern for other Banks with NIL performance even

upto the end of September quarter and advised to take necessary steps towards achievements. On being observed that some of the banks have very poor performances in Priority Sector lending, the Chairman of the meeting advised the Banks to fulfill the targeted level during the remaining months of this financial year, that in 2013-14.

D. Non-priority sector:

The Chairman expressed satisfaction on overall achievement of the Annual target but at the same time expressed concern over the banks whose performance is reported NIL and advised to achieve the target.

Agenda No.6

Review of other Priority Sector Advances and other Special Programmes as on 30th Sept. 2013

1. Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY):

The scheme has been rechristened with NRLM and the target for the same is yet to be allotted by the concerned department.

2. Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme:

General Manager, DIC, Govt. of Sikkim, appealed banks to dispose off the pending cases within the stipulated time frame and advised the same to their Line Department. He also requested concerned banks to dispose off the pending cases pertaining to the year 2012. The house was also appraised regarding E-tracking of loan proposals under PMEGP schemes.

Official from KVIC also urged bank to dispose the pending cases and appraise the status to their office.

While discussion on SKVIB, the official enquired on status of 4 loan proposals pending, sponsored by them and requested to appraise the latest status.

The Chairman also advised the concerned banks to dispose off the pending cases at the earliest with an intimation to Lead bank and the overall position will be reviewed in the next SLBC Meeting.

Swarna Jayanti Sahari Rojgar Yojana (SJSRY):

The officials from the concerned department informed that the existing scheme has been changed to NULM and the targets would increase as compared to the previous scheme.

Agenda No.7

Promotion of Self Help Groups:

During the discussion, The GM NABARD Gangtok Office, requested SBI to go for more credit linkage for WSHGs. For promotion of women SHGs in North and East districts – The authorized Bank, NABARD and the NGO has to work together. It was also advised that for credit linkage, NABARD will forward the applications only after screening of those WSHGs.

Agenda No.8

Kisan Credit Card (KCC):

The House decided to skip the agenda item as it was already discussed.

Agenda No.9

Housing Finance

The House discussed over the low level of achievement under this sector and advised the Banks to recover the position during remaining period.

Agenda No.10

Education Loan

During the discussion it was revealed that achievement under Education Loan is low due to sponsorships/financial assistance by the State Govt. to

meritorious students for higher studies within and outside the country. However, Banks are being requested to improve the position through individual sourcing.

Agenda No.11

Performance under MSE

The House appreciated the performance of some Bank but expressed concern for those Banks, whose performance were reported NIL during the quarter and advised to recover the position.

Agenda No.12

National Horticulture Board Scheme:

The House decided to continue the agenda for next meeting, as there was no sponsored application received by the Banks

Agenda No.13

Artisan Credit Card:

It was found that the concerned Department was yet to furnish information with respect to sponsoring cases under the scheme and sanction of loan by Banks.

Agenda No.14

Financial Inclusion by Extension of Banking Services with opening of "BSB" account

While discussing in this issue, it was revealed that some of the banks did not reported their data as a result of which correctness of the report could not be ascertained. RBI advised that banks should recheck their data prior to coming to the meeting and confirm the correctness of the same to Lead bank.

Agenda No.15

Weavers Credit Card Scheme

As per the report 43 proposals were pending with the banks for disposal. RBI advised the concerned bank to dispose off the pending cases at the earliest and intimate the status to the concerned department. The position will be reviewed in the next SLBC Meeting.

MISCELLANEOUS:

1. Evolving Action Plan for Remaining Un-banked villages :

The agenda item was already discussed earlier. However, Lead Bank informed the House regarding change of SBI BCs from Zero Mass to SAVE and said that the new BC has already started their operations.

2. Direct Cash Transfer:

The Chairman has already informed the House regarding the performance by banks in this regard in his opening deliberation.

3. Sharing of cost among Banks for DCT/DBT Advertisement

The Convenor shared the list of defaulting banks with the member banks and requested to make payments at the earliest to continue the notification. It was decided that Lead bank will forward the list to the controllers of Banks on non-payment of advertisement cost in Media.

Shri P. Wangdi, GM, State Bank of Sikkim suggested to open a currency chest branch at Geyzing for which Union Bank of India was requested to explore the possibilities for opening of currency chest branch thereat.

On his closing remarks, the Convenor reported that banks are opening their branches in the state without any official intimation to Lead bank resulting in under-reporting of data relating to Lead bank schemes. It was requested that an official intimation with full postal address etc to be forwarded to Lead District Manager, whenever a bank branch is opened in the state.

It was also requested that banks should submit their Lead Bank returns within 10th January 2013 strictly to enable Lead bank to convene the SLBC meeting within 15th February 2013. The House was informed about the schedule of calendar for SLBC meeting for the year 2014.

The Meeting ended with vote of thanks by Sri A.K. Ghosh, Convenor, SLBC (Regional Manager, State Bank of India, RBO, Gangtok) to all the members present for their valued participation and meaningful deliberation.

ACTION POINT THAT EMERGED FROM THE MEETING

1. Lead Bank to conduct SLBC meeting within 45 days from the end of December 2013 quarter.
2. Lead Bank to forward the GPU wise defaulter's list to DC office within December 2013.
3. Concerned Banks to dispose off all 4 pending cases of SKVIB
4. Lead bank to forward the list of defaulting bank to their Controllers regarding non-payment of advertisement/notification cost in Media.
5. RBI to confirm issue of Currency Chest License for SBI Mangan.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS		
Sl. No.	NAME OF THE OFFICIAL	DESIGNATION / DEPARTMENT
1	Shri Satish B. Patwardhan	Dy.General Manager,SBI, AO, Siliguri (Chairman)
2	Shri D. R. Nepal	Secretary, RMDD, Govt. of Sikkim
3	Shri Anil Kumar Yadav	Dy.General Manager, RBI, Gangtok
4	Shri R. P. Bhargava	General Manager, NABARD, Gangtok
5	Shri Abhijit Kr. Ghosh	Regional Manager, SBI, RO, Gangtok (Convenor)
6	Shri A. T. Bhutia	Chief Manager(Rural), SBI, RO, Gangtok
7	Shri Soumen Ghosh	LDM, SBI, RO, Gangtok
8	Shri Arup Kr. Das	Director, RSETI, Gangtok
9	Shri T. Chakraborty	Regional Manager, Union Bank of India
10	Shri B. Mohapatra	Chief Manager, Union Bank of India
11	Shri Nataraj Mishra	Chief Manager, Bank of India, Gangtok
12	Shri Ananda Mohan Halder	Chief Manager, Allahabad Bank, Gangtok
13	Shri B. Pongener	Chief Manager, Vijaya Bank, Gangtok
14	Shri D. P. Swain	Regional Manager, Central Bank of India, Gangtok
15	Shri Sridutta Kumar	Manager, Canara Bank, Gangtok
16	Shri Rahul Jaiswal	Branch Manager, Indian Bank, Gangtok
17	Shri S. K. Bibhuty	Manager-in-Charge, SIDBI
18	Shri P.L. Sherpa	Branch Manager, Punjab & Sind Bank, Gangtok
19	Abhishek Kumar	Asstt. Manager, Axis Bank, Gangtok
20	Shri L.N. Bhutia	Branch Manager, Punjab & Sind Bank, Gangtok
21	Ms. Hishey C. Bhutia	Manager, IDBI Bank Ltd.
22	Ms. Sweta Pradhan	Cluster Head, HDFC Bank Ltd.
23	Mrs. Pema Chenzom	DGM, SISCO Bank, Gangtok
24	Shri D. Targain	Sr. Branch Manager, UCO Bank
25	Shri A.K. Mondal	Chief Manager, Bank of Baroda, Gangtok
26	Mrs. Nishalina Pathak	Sr. Manager, Bank of Maharashtra, Gangtok
27	Shri G.S. Upadhyay	Chief Manager, Dena Bank, Gangtok
28	Shri N. Poddar	Branch Manager, Syndicate Bank
29	Shri A. Sadhukhan	Asstt. Manager, Corporation Bank
30	Shri P. Wangdi Bhutia	General Manager (O), State Bank of Sikkim
31	Shri P.P. Basu	AGM, Central Bank of India, Gangtok
32	Shri Ugresh Kumar	Sr. Manager, Oriental Bank of Commerce
33	Shri Debasish Dutta	ICICI Bank, Gangtok
34	Shri Simon Bara	Sr. Manager, Andhra Bank, Gangtok
35	Shri Bikas Kr. Jha	Sr. Manager, Indian Overseas Bank, Gangtok

Sl. No.	NAME OF THE OFFICIAL	DESIGNATION / DEPARTMENT
36	Shri C. T. Lepcha	Dy. Director, DHH, Govt. of Sikkim
37	Shri S. N. Bhutia	Asstt. Director, DHH, Govt. of Sikkim
38	Shri Dadul P. Lepcha	CEO, SKVIB, Govt. of Sikkim
39	Shri B.P. Upreti	DGM, SIDICO, Govt. of Sikkim
40	Shri Sudip Khutia	Officer, SICON, Gangtok
41	Dr. N.K. Pradhan	Sikkim Milk, Gangtok
42	Shri S.K. Pradhan	Addl. Gen. Manager, Sikkim Milk Union
43	Shri D.K. Tamang	Addl.RCS, Cooperation Deptt. Govt.of Sikkim
44	Shri Dinker Gurung	Jt.PD (NULM), UD&HD Deptt. Govt of Sikkim
45	Shri R.N. Pradhan	State Nodal Officer, RAY, UD&HD
46	Shri D.R. Sharma	AD, MSME-DI, Govt. of India, Gangtok
47	Mrs. Mamrata Thapa	Project Director, SRDA, RMDD, GoS
48	Shri B. Guha	Nodal Officer, PMEGP, KVIC
49	Shri K.S. Rai	General Manager (S/W), DIC, Jorethang
50	Shri S.K. Pradhan	General Manager (E/N), DIC, Gangtok
51	Shri Debashish Ganguly	AGM, NABARD, Gangtok
52	Shri D.P. Lepcha	RBI, Gangtok
53	Shri Shantanu	Manager, Bank of India, Gangtok
54	Shri Debojyoti De	Manager, SBI, Regional Office, Gangtok
55	Shri T.D. Bhutia	Dy.LDM, Lead Bank, Gangtok