

Minutes of the 80th State Level Bankers' Committee (SLBC) Meeting for Sikkim State for the first Quarter ended 30th June, 2024 held at Hotel Ramada, Gangtok on 13.09.2024

The 80th State Level Bankers' Committee Meeting for Sikkim State for the Quarter ended 30th June 2024 was held at Hotel Ramada, Gangtok on Sept 13th, 2024. The meeting was chaired by Shri M.C.P. Pradhan, Secretary & Controller, Department of Finance, Government of Sikkim.

Shri Thotngam Jamang, Regional Director, RBI Sikkim, Shri Nand Kishor Singh, SLBC Convenor & GM SBI LHO Kolkata, Shri Ajay Kumar Sinha, GM, NABARD, Gangtok, were the other dignitaries present on the dais.

The Meeting had the presence of Secretaries and senior officials from few State Government Departments, banks, Officials from RBI, NABARD, SIDBI and other Stakeholders.

At the outset, Shri Nand Kishor Singh, SLBC Convenor-cum-General Manager, SBI extending warm welcoming the participants, congratulated the banks in achieving the CD ratio of 62.27% in the first quarter of 2024-25.

He further declared the launching of the Annual Credit Plan (ACP) of 2024-25 for the State of Sikkim. This year ACP plans to provide a credit of Rs.1351.73 Cr under Priority Sector with Rs.477.36 Cr under Agriculture and Allied Activities, Rs.771.18 Cr under MSME Sector and Rs.103.19 Cr under other Priority Sector.

He urged the banks with low CD ratio to improve their performance during the upcoming quarters. Further, he suggested all bankers to take utmost sincerity while sending the data to RBI and SLBC on time.

The Annual Credit Plan 2024-25 was launched by the dignitaries present on the dais and copy was distributed among the stakeholders present in the meeting.

Coordinator, SLBC Shri Gadadhar Ray, thereafter gave presentation on the performance of the banks during the first quarter of 2024-25, which was discussed in seriatim as under:

Agenda No.1

Credit: Deposit Ratio as on 30.06.2024

The overall CD ratio of the State stood at 62.27% at the end of first quarter of 2024-25.

Regional Director, RBI appreciated the Banks for achieving CD ratio more than 60% in the State of Sikkim.

Bank wise review was done by the Chairman of the Committee in respect of all banks having CD ratio below 40%. The Chairman of the Meeting asked Banks with low CD ratio to achieve minimum CD ratio of 40% in the second quarter of FY 2024-25.

(Action Centre – Banks having low CD ratio should achieve minimum 40% CD ratio in 2nd quarter of 2024-25: Central Bank of India, UCO Bank, Axis bank, Bandhan Bank, HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Jana Small Finance Bank, NE Small Finance Bank, Citizen Urban Coop Bank, IDFC First Bank)

Agenda No. 2

Review of Performance under Annual Credit Plan 2024-2025 including NPS for the quarter ended 30th June 2024

The overall achievement of the banks under Annual Credit Plan 2024-25 (ACP), during the first Quarter of FY 2024-25 was 42.98% for the Priority and Non-Priority Sector.

The Chairman of the Committee observed that performance of a few banks under Priority and Non-Priority sector was below the expected level. He asked banks to work in a focused manner to achieve the allotted target in the second quarter of FY 2024-25.

Shri Jamang appraised the house that as per instructions given in the last Steering Committee meeting held on 11th July 2024, banks with low priority and Non-priority sector advance met with the Officials at RBI and submitted their action plan to achieve the allotted targets in current FY 2024-25.

(Action Centre: Banks having low achievement under Priority and NonPriority sector advance during the first quarter of current FY 2024-25, should achieve minimum 50% by end of 2nd quarter of 2024-25: Indian Bank, Indian Overseas Bank, Punjab & Sind Bank, Punjab National Bank, UCO Bank, Axis Bank, IndusInd Bank, Karnataka Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank, South Indian Bank, Yes Bank, IDFC First Bank, SISCO Bank, North East Small Finance Bank, Citizen Urban Coop Bank)

Agenda No. 3

Performance under Priority Sector Advance under ACP 2024-25

The overall achievement under Priority sector advances stood at 36.85% at the end of first quarter of 2024-25.

The Chairman of the meeting took review of Banks, whose performance was below 10%. Officials from the banks assured the Chair that they would achieve the minimum threshold target of 50% by end of second quarter of FY 2024-25.

Shri Jamang, Regional Director, RBI, Sikkim asked all the banks to go through the ACP properly and anomaly, if any should be pointed out to SLBC.

3.1 Agriculture and Allied activities:

The performance of banks, under Agriculture Sector stood at 24.08% at the end of first quarter of 2024-25. The Chairperson of the Committee reviewed the performance of the Banks. He suggested that banks should improve financing under the Agriculture Sector individually in co-ordination with the Agriculture Department.

SLBC Coordinator submitted that SLBC SUB-Committee meeting on Agriculture & Allied Sector for June 2024 quarter was held on 21.08.2024 under the Chairmanship of Director, Agriculture Department, Government of Sikkim.

3.1.1 Kisan Credit Card (KCC):

3.1.2 KCC Animal Husbandry:

3.1.3 KCC Fisheries:

Shri Sinha, General Manager, NABARD, apprised the House upon that a special campaign had been launched by the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying from 15.09.2024-31.03.2025. Targets have been given under this campaign, and all the banks should work hard to achieve the same.

He further said that thrust should be given for Horticulture sector, as there is a huge demand for the fruits produced in Sikkim.

Shri Vishal Tiwari, Additional Director, AH & VS, GOS apprised the House that the Department of Rural Development (RDD) in coordination with the State Rural Livelihood Mission (SRLM) has identified and appointed one unemployed woman from each village in the State as a "PashuSakhi". These PashuSakhis are tasked with assisting livestock and poultry farmers in their village with animal health issues, in coordination with the veterinary institutes.

These PashuSakhis under A-HELP will be trained for 17 days for handling of Livestock and Poultry in giving First Aid and also on latest Schemes and programmes of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary by the Department of Animal

Husbandry & Veterinary services.

They will serve as the “Livestock Resource Person” (LRP) for their designated area or village, by maintaining records of all livestock and poultry in that area.

3.2. MSME Sector:

It was observed that the achievement of the banks in MSME Sector stood at **46.82%** at the end of first quarter of 2024-25.

3.3. Other Priority Sector:

The overall achievement under this sector recorded at **22.45%** at the end of first quarter of 2024-25.

Agenda No. 4

Achievement under Non-Priority Sector:

The overall achievement under this sector stood at 46.46% at the end of first Qtr of 2024-25.

Agenda No.5

Review of Government Sponsored Schemes as on 30.06.2024

5.1. Prime Minister’s Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP)

Agency Wise-Summary:

Agency Name	Budget for FY 2024-25	Sponsored	Sanctioned	Budget Achievement %	Rejection	Pending
D I C	50	15	8	16	0	7
SKVIB	38	78	47	60	0	31
KVIC	38	2	1	3	0	1
TOTAL	126	95	56	44	0	39

It was observed that a total of 95 proposals were forwarded to the Banks by the agencies (namely DIC, SKVIB, KVIC) out of which 56 proposals have been sanctioned and 39 proposal are pending. The achievement of target at the end of first quarter of 2024-25 stands at **44%**.

The Chairperson of the meeting told Banks to clear all pending proposal on priority basis notlater than 30.09.2024.

(Action Centre – Banks with pending proposals to clear all pendency by

5.2. PM Svanidhi Scheme

It was observed that total 1186 Nos. of applications have been sanctioned by the banks under the PM SVANIDHI scheme as on 30.06.2024. The house appreciated the banks for their good performance and achieving the target before time.

5.3. Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana – PMMY

The total achievement under PMMY (Mudra) was 1247 loan accounts amounting to **Rs.29.91 Cr**, which was viewed as satisfactory by the house.

The achievement under PMMY in the first quarter are as follows:

- (a) Shishu - **565**
- (b) Kishore - **513**
- (c) Tarun – **169**

The Chair urged the banks to pay special attention towards the disbursement of the loans under MUDRA and banks having low performance were advised to increase their performance in upcoming quarters.

5.4 Stand – Up India

It was observed that the performance of banks in achieving the targets under the Stand-Up India was not satisfactory. Total 27 loans were disbursed amounting to **Rs.5.43Cr** during the first quarter of 2024-25.

The Chairperson of the meeting asked all banks to take initiative to achieve the target as per the mandate of Stand-Up India Scheme.

(Action Centre: The following Banks with Zero performance, need to achieve budget in 2nd quarter of 2024-25: Bank of India, Bank of Maharashtra, Central bank of India, Indian bank, Indian Overseas bank, UCO Bank, Axis Bank, Bandhan Bank, IDBI Bank, Karnataka Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank, South Indian Bank, Yes bank)

Agenda No. 6

Promotion of Self-Help Groups (SHGs)

quarter was held under the Chairmanship of Director Finance, Govt of Sikkim on 22.08.2024.

Shri Mahendra Pradhan, Director Finance & Chairperson of SLBC Sub Committee on SHG Credit Linkage gave a brief on the discussions held in the said meeting. He further deliberated that thrust was given on activation of dormant SHGs with active support from SRLM. He further said that google drive have been created by SRLM for submission of Annexure-IV & V by all banks pertaining to data on SHGs.

CEO, SRLM submitted that the focus of the SHGs in Sikkim is more on non-farm activities. Further, the challenges faced by the SHGs are storage of their produce as many perishable items get wasted, which needs resolution. Further, few SHGs are finding it difficult in credit linkage with the banks, which may be discussed separately.

Shri Jamang advised SRLM to organize workshop with participation by SHGs and banks, and discuss all the issues faced by the SHGs and banks.

(Action Centre – Banks, SRLM)

Agenda No.7

Housing Finance (Priority Sector)

The overall achievement under this sector recorded at **8.53%** at the end of the first quarter of 2024-25. It was observed that under Housing loan-Non Priority Sector 851 loan proposals were sanctioned by the banks amounting to **Rs.91.21 Cr.**

Agenda No.8

Achievement under Education Loan (Priority Sector)

The achievement under this sector recorded at **3.77%** at the end of the first quarter of 2024-25.

It was observed that the State Government is providing education loans at a very low interest rate through its financing agencies viz., SIDICO and SABBCO, leading to poor uptake of education loans from banks.

Agenda

No.9 Miscellaneous:

9.1 SBI Rural Self Employment Training Institute (RSETI)

It was observed that 4664 trainees (Cumulative) were trained under RSETI out of which 3271 (Cumulative) had already been settled as on 30.06.2024. The percentage of settlement was **70.13%**.

9.2 Social Security Schemes-SSS (PMJDY, PMSBY, PMJJBY,APY)

Coordinator SLBC asked the banks to ensure that all eligible population has been covered under PMJDY, PMJJBY, PMSBY and APY. He also reminded the banks that saturation of SSS was the top most priority of Government of India.

9.3 Expanding and Deepening of Digital Payments Ecosystem:

SLBC SUB-Committee meeting on Digitization and Connectivity for June 2024 quarter was held on 21.08.2024 under the Chairmanship of Director, Information & Technology, Government of Sikkim with active participation from all stake holders.

RD, RBI Sikkim Shri Jamang asked banks to do 100% coverage in Digital Payment Ecosystem for Saving Bank and Current Account holders.

9.4 Financial Literacy Camps conducted by rural branches:

(A) FLCs conducted by the rural branches :

There are 105 rural branches in Sikkim and every branch need to conduct one Financial Literacy Camp every month. However,it was observed that 328 Financial Literacy Camps have been conducted till the end of June 2024. There was a shortfall of 13 camps, which need to be covered in the upcoming months.

(Action Centre: Rural branches to conduct one FLC every month: All rural branches)

(B) FLCs conducted by the Financial Literacy Centre:

Total Seven Financial Literacy Camps were conducted by the Centre for Financial Literacy (CFL) in different districts of the State till June 2024.

(C) Banking outlets/Banking Correspondences/Customer Service

pointsoperating in Sikkim:

As on 30th June 2024, there are 296 active CSPs operating in the State of Sikkim.

9.5 Central KYC records registry (CKYCR)

Banks showing below 100% onboarding were advised to ensure complete onboarding.

9.6 Status of opening of Brick and Mortar Branches in Sikkim/BC/CSP:

Banks who have been assigned for opening of branches need to comply with the same and submit status report on or before 30th Sept 2024 to SLBC Sikkim.

(Action Centre: Following Banks will submit present status report regarding opening of Bank branches/BC/CSP to SLBC on or before 30.09.2024: IDBI Bank, Central Bank of India, ICICI Bank, Axis Bank)

Conclusion:

In his address Shri Ajay Kumar Sinha, General Manager, NABARD advised banks to focus on financing to Priority sector especially to agriculture and allied activities. He further said that SHGs, JLGS are tools through which development in Agriculture sector could be achieved.

Banks/FIs should support the 18 FPOs in Sikkim by financing their business.

The dairy sector is quite enterprising as the returns start coming immediately. There is also good potential for fisheries as the Trout fish cultivated at high altitude has a good demand. There is also great scope in Horticulture as the organic fruits are in high demand all over the Country. Sectors such as dairy, fisheries and organic fruits and horticulture have good potential for bank financing.

In his address, Regional Director, RBI, Sikkim Shri Jamang, congratulated banks in achieving more than 60% CD ratio in the first quarter of FY 2024-25.

He further said that the average branch per person is quite high in Sikkim vis a vis all India average. The penetration of banks in the state of Sikkim is very high and all stake holders are working together for growth of the State. He

thanked all senior officials for coming all the way to attend the meeting and make it a great success.

Chairperson of the meeting, Shri MCP Pradhan, Secretary & Controller Finance, GOS thanked the SLBC for successfully conducting the 80th SLBC Meeting. He appreciated the role of banks in promoting the growth of economy of Sikkim. The performance of the banks in the first quarter is commendable in all segments. He also said that banks are the backbone of economy of Sikkim state.

He thanked RBI, SLBC, Central Government and State Government Departments for their coordinated efforts in promoting Sikkim state.

Mr Kumar Nitesh, RM, SBI, proposed Vote of thanks.