**Minutes of the State Level Bankers Committee Meeting, Sikkim for the Third Quarter ended 31st December, 2021 held on 06th April, 2022 at the Conference Hall of Hotel Yangthang Heritage, Gangtok**

The State Level Bankers’ Committee Meeting of Sikkim State for the 3rd Quarter ended 31st December, 2021, was held at The Conference Hall of Hotel Yangthang heritage, Gangtok, on 06th April, 2022

The meeting was chaired by **Shri H K Sharma,** Secretary, Commerce and Industries Department, Govt of Sikkim,

**Shri Kishore Pariyar,** GM – cum - OiC**,** Reserve Bank of India**,Dr. Diwaker Hegde,** GM-Cum-OiC NABARD, and **Shri S D Lama**, Regional Manager, State Bank of Indiawere the other dignitaries on the dais.

Rpresentatives from all Banks, RBI, IPPB, State Government, were also present in the meeting.

**Shri Gopal Lama, Lead District Manager,** State Bank of India welcomed the dignitaries on the dais as well as all the stakeholders present in the meeting and briefed about the State Level Banker’s Steering Committee.

With the permission of the Chair, Shri S D Lama, AGM, SBI started the discussion of the Agenda items in seriatim as follows:

**Agenda No.1**

**Credit: Deposit Ratio / Credit + Investment: Deposit Ratio as on 31.12.2021**

The overall CD ratio of the State stood at 49.45%. In this regard, the General Manager-cum-OIC, RBI, Shri Pariyar, appreciated the bankers for a marked improvement in the C D Ratio, similarly he also urged all the poor performing Banks to expedite their lending in the state for overall growth in the CD ratio to at least 40% in the upcoming quarters.

**Agenda No. 2**

**Review of Performance under Annual Credit Plan 2021-2022 including NPS for the quarter ended 31st December, 2021**

During the Third quarter of FY 2021-22, the overall achievement of Banks under Annual Credit Plan was 202.55% including Non-priority sector. The house appreciated the overall achievement in the third quarter. Under Priority Sector the achievement of the banks was 99.60% which was viewed as very satisfactory.

The performance of Banks, under Agriculture Sector was 49.63% only, however it had shown a marked improvement from the 2nd Qtr where it was recorded at 30.02% only. RBI GM cum OiC reviewed individually with all the non performing banks whose achievement is below 10% and advised all controllers to take this note seriously and to improve the lending by next quarter.

GM-Cum-OiC NABARD D. Diwaker Hegde, expressed his displeasure with the non performing banks and said it was disheartening to see the low achievement in the Agriculture and Allied Sector. He pressed upon all the banks to leave no stone unturned in exploring all the avenues for providing credit to the Agriculture Sector. He also requested the Agriculture Department to take stock of the situation and plan for better credit under Agriculture Sector.

The Regional Manager, SBI, Shri S D Lama informed the house on the initiatives taken by Agriculture Department for launching of the programme “ Development through Credit” through which the State Government is providing KCC Proposals to the Banks. He also urged the bankers to come forward and accept proposals under this scheme. All the non performing Banks were advised to increase their priority sector lending in the next Quarter.

It was seen that the achievement of the Banks in MSME Sector which stood at 204.21%. The Achievement under Other Priority Sector stood at 56.25% , which had scope for improvements in the coming quarter. The achievement under non – Priority Sector stood at 510.56%

**Agenda No.3**

**Review of Special Programmes as on 31.12.2021**

**3.1. Prime Minister’s Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP)**

It was informed by Shri B N Roy, State Director, KVIC, Gangtok that a total of 31 proposals are pending with bank branches. The House advised the banks to dispose off all 31 Nos of pending applications. He also urged the bankers to update on the portal after its disposal. He also appreciated the work done by the bankers in bringing down the number of pending proposals under PMEGP.

**3.2**. **Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana – PMMY**

The achievement under PMMY was viewed as satisfactory by the house. However, Banks were asked to explore all avenues.

**3.3 Stand – Up India**

The Convenor, SLBC, Shri Lama informed the house that achievement under Stand Up India has been positive among the Public Sector Banks and urged the private banks to take equal part in the economic development of the State.

**Agenda No.4**

**Promotion of Self Help Groups**

It was seen that 862 SHGs had been credit linked so far. Shri Pariyar, urged all banks to come forward and provide credit to SHGs. He appreciated the initiatives taken by SLRM in promoting the SHGs and also mentioned that the recovery was good in the loans given to SHGs.

**Agenda No.5**

**Kisan Credit Card (KCC)**

The GM-cum-OiC, NABARD, Dr. Hegde, informed the house that as per circular of Department of Financial Services, KCC saturation has to be achieved, hence during the Financial Literacy Camps more focus should be given on KCC and repayment of the credit by the farmers. He further suggested the banks to provide KCC to all the PM-Kisan beneficiaries in the State. He also informed the house that a campaign for the issuance of KCC in Animal Husbandry & Allied Activties Sector had been started by the Government of India and requested for participation from all the Banks in the State.

**Agenda No.6**

**Housing Finance**

The achievement of Housing Finance for the 3rd quarter stood at 57.13% .

**Agenda No.7**

**Education Loan**

The achievement under the scheme was 30.51% for the 3rd quarter.

**Agenda No.8**

**Performance under MSME**

This agenda item was already discussed under Agenda 2

**Agenda No. 9**

**SBI RURAL SELF EMPLOYMENT TRAINING INSTITUTE (RSETI)**

The Director, RSETI, Shri Tshering Lama informed the house that RSETI is functioning with a non-commercial and social objective for skill development of the unemployed youth of Sikkim to take up profitable self –employment ventures. Hence trainings, including Hostel facilities to the trainees is being provided free of cost. He also informed the house that the new RSETI building at Ralap, East Sikkim is already completed and the shifting of the premises has also been done.

**Agenda No. 10**

**Miscellaneous**

**1. Opening of a new SBI brick and mortar branch at Tashiding, West Sikkim.**

The LDM, Shri Gopal Lama informed the house that the proposal for opening of a new brick and mortar branch of SBI at Tashiding, West Sikkim is under consideration. Tenders have already been for leasing out the premises for the branch.

**2. Establishment of Centers for Financial Literacy in the State**

The LDM, Shri Gopal lama informed the house that as of now, 5 blocks have been identified in the State for the establishment of Centre of Financial Literacy (CFL) Project in Sikkim. These are Rheenock, Soreng, Yuksom, Chungthang and Jorethang..

The CRISIL Foundation has also been identified as the nodal agency for the establishment of CFL in the State, and the MoU has also been signed on 07/09/2021.The manpower required for running the centres have also been identified and appointed, the centres have been functioning since the end of November 2021.

**3.Skilled Youth Start Up Scheme(SYSS)**

The Under Secretary, Commerce and Industries Department, Shri Jigme Wangdi informed the house on the status of SYSS proposals. Further, he requested all the banks to process the application at the earliest. The LDM, Shi Gopal Lama also urged the banks not to keep the files pending for a long time.

**4. Status of opening of banking outlets in unbanked villages,**

With a network of 159 Bank Branches,220 ATMs ,108 CSPs and around 90 CBS enabled India Post Payment Bank Branches, the State of Sikkim has achieved considerable amount of coverage in terms of providing banking facilities to the masses. As per the latest data received from Government of India, only one Lingdem Village in North Sikkim remains unbanked in the State of Sikkim. However, Lingdem Village has been covered by a BC appointed by Axis Bank. Since there are no phone networks in the Lingdem Village area, the appointed BC operates from a nearby village Sangkalang, where there is enough network to carry out banking transactions. The house approved for the banked status of Lingdem Village.

**5. Review of operations of BCs**

Shri Gopal Lama, LDM informed the house that as of now there are 108 number of BCs operating in the state of Sikkim. However, due to scattered villages and low emoluments given to them, less number of people are coming forward to enrol themselves as BCs. To overcome this problem the SLBC in is consultations with SRLM to appoint Banks Sakhis as BCs and also suggested the Controllers of banks to re consider the emoluments and commission of BCs fr the state of Sikkim

**6. Progress in increasing digital modes of payments**

It was informed that West Sikkim has been declared as the district for 100% Digitisation of Banking transaction. Till date 98% of it has been covered. Moreover, in the last SLBC , North Sikkim has also been chosen as another district for 100% Digitization.

**7. Review of inclusion of financial education in school curriculum and financial literacy initiatives by banks (particularly digital financial literacy), etc.**

As we all are aware that today’s students are the future of tomorrow. Hence, to make the future Financially Capable and sustainable , we need to educate them about financial literacy from the grass root level. The SLBC with the approval of the house may convey to the Education Department, Government of Sikkim for the inclusion of Financial Education in school curriculum. In addition to conducting FLCs in schools and colleges, inclusion of financial education in school curriculum will come a long way in making the future generations of Sikkim Financially Capable and Sustainable resulting in the overall economic development of the state.

**8. Doubling of farmers Income by 2022**

It was seen that under The guidance of Hon’ble Minister Agriculture, Shri L N Sharma, the Government and the Banks are working tirelessly to provide as much credit to Agriculture Sector. The Department has launched a state wide campaign under the theme “Development through Credit”, whereby, Agriculture Credit proposals are being sourced and forwarded to the Banks. As of now around 903 proposals have been sanctioned to the tune of Rs 12.80 crores.

Under Skilled Youth Start Up Scheme, there has been an increase in the number of Agriculture related proposals being sanctioned by the Banks.

Dr. Diwaker Hegde, GM- cum – OiC , NABARD in his concluding remark urged the banks to focus more on Agriculture Lending and requested the banks to take all assistance from NABARD in this regard. He appreciated the achievement under MSME and also informed the house that MSME was the special focus of Government of India. He suggested that the RSETI should be used to its fullest potential so that more people get benefitted from it. He advised the banks to not lose steam in the last quarter and continue with the great performance.

 In his concluding remark Shri Kishore Pariyar, GM – cum- OiC, RBI, appreciated the banks for their performance and similarly urged all the non – performing banks to improve on their lendings in the next quarter. He also requested all the controllers to ensure that all the Bank Branches are strengthened with sufficient staff. He further said that the excuse of shortage of staff will not be entertained in the future for non – performance of banks. He hoped that the same momentum of achievement would carry on in the future also acknowledged the efforts of the banks towards the economic development of the State.

Shri H K Sharma, IAS, Secretary, Commerce and Industries Department, Govt of Sikkim lamented on the low achievement of banks in the Agriculture Sector and urged both the department and the bankers to come up with a plan to increase the lending in this sector. However, he also mentioned here that the State Government itself is providing a lot of assistance to the farmers in the State, as a result of which farmers do not depend much on the banks for credit. He also appreciated the achievement of the Banks in MSME Sector and hoped that the same momentum would continue in the future as well. He also briefed the house on the various central government schemes like, PMFME, NEEDS, ODOP, and sought cooperation from the banks for the proper implementation and success of these schemes.

The Meeting ended with the vote of thanks by Shri Gopal Lama, LDM, SBI.

**ACTION POINTS THAT EMERGED FROM SLBC STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 06/04/2022**

**1. Banks whose CD ratio was below 40%in the last qtr to increase their CD Ratio to atleast the minimum benchmark of 40%**

**2. Controllers to ensure that sufficient man power has been posted in all the Bank branches in the State**

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| **LIST OF PARTICIPANTS :: SLBC COMMITTEE MEETING :: 06.04.2022 :: SIKKIM** |
| **Sl no. NoNoR.** | **NAME OF THE OFFICIAL** | **DESIGNATION / DEPARTMENT** |
|  | Shri H K Sharma, IAS | Secretary, C&I Dept, Govt of Sikkim |
|  | Shri Kishore Pariyar | GM – cum – OiC, Reserve Bank of India |
|  | Dr Diwaker Hegde | GM – cum – OiC, NABARD |
|  | Shri S D Lama | AGM, SBI |
|  | Shri I Y T Namchu | AGM, RBI |
|  | Shri Gopal Lama | LDM, Lead Bank |
|  | Shri Santosh Kumar | SBM, Bank of India |
|  | Shri Abhishek Chettri | SRLM/RMDD |
|  | Shri Tilak Gajmer | Director, Agriculture Dept, Govt of Sikkim |
|  | Dr. Sanjay M Gajmer | Additional Director, AH&VS Dept |
|  | Shri Himanshu Dhara | BM, Kotak Mahindra Bank |
|  | Shri Anup Thapa | BM, Yes Bank |
|  | Shri Wangdi Sherpa | BM , Bandhan Bank |
|  | Shri Phaomei Thomas | BM, IOB, Gangtok |
|  | Shri Sailesh Lepcha | SRLM.RMDD |
|  | Shri Chandrakant Sajan | BM, Indian Bank, Gangtok |
|  | Shri Vijayudu Nakkala | BM, India Post Payment Bank |
|  | Shri L T Sherpa | BM, Union Bank, Gangtok |
|  | Shri Karma Dorjee Lepcha | Sr Manager, Punajb National Bank |
|  | Shri Suraj Lal | CM, Bank of Baroda, Gangtok |
|  | Shri Anirban Mukherjee | BM, Karnataka Bank |
|  | Shri Anil Kumar | BM, CBI, Gangtok Branch |
|  | Shri Jigme Wangdi | US, DIC (E&N) |
|  | Shri Shovit Dixit | BM, NESFB, Tadong Branch |
|  | Shri Amit Trikhatri | HDFC Bank |
|  | Shri Ayan Das | Assistant, RBI, Gangtok |
|  | Shri Sanganath | BM, South Indian Bank |
|  | Shri Tshering Lama | Director, SBI RSETI |
|  | Ms Hishey Choden Bhutia | AGM, IDBI , Gangtok Branch |
|  | Shri Moirangthem Amarjeet Singh | Manager, RBI, Gangtok |
|  | Shri Mani Kr Chettri | BM, HDFC, Gangtok Branch |
|  | Shri Passang D Rumba | CM BDSR, SBI |
|  | Shri Shyam Chettri | IndusInd Bank, Gangtok Branch |

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|  | Shri Anit Rai | SR Manager, UCO Bank, Ranipool Branch |
| **35.** | Shri Santosh Roy | RM, ICICI Bank Ltd, Gangtok |
| **36.** | Shri Subhabrata Chakraborty | Cluster Head, DVP, Axis Bank |
| **37.** | Shri Rinchen D Kaleon | Manager, SISCO Bank |
| **38.** | Shri Madhav Koirala | Assistant Manager, Lead Bank, SBI |