

Minutes of the 76th State Level Bankers Committee (SLBC) Meeting, Sikkim for the First Quarter ended 30th June, 2023 held at Gangtok on 22.08.2023

The State Level Bankers' Committee Meeting of Sikkim State for the Quarter ended on June 30, 2023, was held at Gangtok on August 22, 2023.

The meeting was chaired by Shri M C P Pradhan, Secretary-cum-Controller, Finance Department, Govt. of Sikkim.

Shri Kishore Pariyar, Regional Director, Sikkim, Reserve Bank of India; Shri S K Gupta, GM-OIC, NABARD; Shri Nand Kishor Singh, SLBC Convenor Sikkim – cum–General Manager, State Bank of India were the other dignitaries on the dais.

The Meeting had the presence of Senior officials from various State Government Departments, banks, Officials from RBI, and other stakeholders.

At the outset, Shri Nand Kishor Singh, SLBC Convenor Sikkim–cum–General Manager, SBI extended warm welcome to all participants.

The Annual Credit Plan 2023-2024 was launched.

Shri Goda Ravishankar, DGM RBI, thereafter gave presentation on the performance and achievements of banks in the State of Sikkim for the quarter ended June 2023 which was discussed in seriatim as under:

Agenda No.1

Credit: Deposit Ratio / Credit + Investment: Deposit Ratio as on June 30, 2023

Regional Director, RBI thanked the banks for achieving CD ratio more than 60% for the first time for the State of Sikkim i.e. **60.91%** and appreciated the efforts. It was observed that the CD Ratio among the PSU banks was at 77.78% while that of CD Ratio among the Private banks stood at 31.41%. RD, RBI advised banks having CD ratio less than 40% to improve by the next quarter.

(Action: Central Bank of India, Bank of India, Indian Bank, UCO Bank, Axis Bank, Bandhan Bank, HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, IDBI Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank)

Agenda No. 2

Review of Performance under Annual Credit Plan 2023-2024 including NPS for the quarter ended June 30, 2023

The overall achievement of banks under Annual Credit Plan (ACP), during the firstQuarter of FY 2023-24 was 34.36%for the total priority sector. The achievements in other components of ACP for first quarter of 2023-2024 are as follows:

- a) Agriculture Sector: 23.79%
- b) MSME Sector: 46.24%
- c) Other Priority Sector: 19.76%
- d) Non Priority Sector: 29.07%

GM, NABARD stated that the achievement under Agriculture and Allied sector was lower than that of last year during the same quarter and urged the banks to focus more on Agriculture Sector, especially in the issuance of KCC Crop and credit to Animal Husbandry and Fisheries.

Regional Director, RBI asked the Private Sector banks to raise Priority Sector lending to the desired level since they also had an equal role to play in the development of the State. The Non-performing banks having low achievement in ACP in this quarter were asked to increase their achievement to more than 50% by the end of the second quarter of 2023-2024.

(Action: Bank of Maharashtra, Indian Bank, Indian Overseas Bank, PNB, Punjab& Sind Bank, UCO Bank, Bandhan Bank, ICICI Bank, IndusInd Bank, Karnataka, Kotak Mahindra Bank, South Indian Bank, Yes Bank, SISCO Bank, Jana SFB, North East SFB)

Agenda No.3

Review of Special Programmes as on 31.12.2022

3.1. Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP)

As against the total number of 316 sponsored proposals by all the banks, only 77 have been sanctioned and 87 rejected while 152 proposals still remaining pending under PMEGP.

Regional Director, RBI–cum–Chairman, Steering Committeeasked the banks to process the pending cases within the stipulated timeframe of 30 days. Further, he

indicated to incorporate an additional 'disbursement' column in PMEGP from next SLBC onwards in the following manner:

Sponsored	Sanctioned	Disbursement	Rejected	Pending
No.	No.	No.	No.	No.

Shri Gyurme Yousal, Pr CEO, SKVIB, requested the banks to ensure the following aspects while claiming Margin Money under PMEGP:

- a) Claim to be lodged only when the loan amount disbursed is greater than the margin Money/ Subsidy Amount.
- b) Disbursement Certificate to be attached.
- c) Photograph, EDP training Certificate of the borrower and signboard of all loaned units to be uploaded in the portal.

(Action: Banks concerned, SLBC)

3.2 PM – SVANidhi Scheme

Shri Dinker Gurung, Chief Town Planner from Department of Urban Development & Housing informed the house that out of total target of 375 set under the PM SVANIDHI scheme for the state of Sikkim, the Department has forwarded 186 eligible applications to the banks .Among those only 147 proposals had been sanctioned with 137 disbursements and 11 rejections. Thereafter, the banks were advised by the House to participate in the awareness camps conducted by them.

GM, SBI requested the banks to quickly process the pending applications and review the applications that were rejected.

3.3. Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana – PMMY (MUDRA)

The achievement under PMMY was reviewed and the performance of the Private Sector banks was found better as compared to Public Sector banks. The bifurcations of the total 1413 number of loans disbursed under MUDRA in the first quarter are as follows:

- a) Shishu (Loans upto Rs. 50,000/-) - 578
- b) Kishore (Loans upto Rs. 50,001/- to Rs. 5 lakh) - 623

c) Tarun (Loans upto Rs. 5 lakh to Rs. 10 lakh) - 212

The Chair urged the banks to pay special attention towards the disbursement of the loans under MUDRA and banks having low performance to increase the same.

(Action: Bank of Baroda, Bank of Maharashtra, Punjab and Sind Bank, South Indian Bank, IndusInd Bank, HDFC)

3.4 Stand – Up India

It was observed that the performance of Public Sector banks in achieving the targets under the Stand-Up India was adequate though improvement is required. Total of 517 loans were disbursed as against of 242 under Stand-Up India for the State of Sikkim. Private Sector banks were advised to take proactive initiative to achieve the target. RD, RBI exhorted the banks to extend credit facility as per the mandated targets of Stand-Up India.

(Action: HDFC Bank, IDBI Bank, Bank of India, Central bank of India, UCO Bank)

Agenda No.4

Promotion of Self-Help Groups

It was observed by the house that a total of 380 SHGs were credit linked to the tune of ₹781.35 lakhs during the first quarter of 2023-24. GM, NABARD outlined the responsibilities of the banks for promotion of SHGs in the State and highlighted that individual deserving members should also be promoted to an entrepreneur by providing PMMY loans as per eligibility.

Shri Sailesh Lepcha, DPM, SRLM sought cooperation from the banks for providing PMMY loans to 30-40 SHGs who were being trained for the conversion of SHGs to micro enterprises. Till date, there were 199 Bank Sakhis at the GPU level, out of which 12 were already working as BC/CSP. He said that the training for the same was also being conducted by SRLM.

RD, RBI advised the Banks to consider those candidates for BC/CSP as and when vacancy arises from among the Bank BCs.

GM, NABARD suggested for merging of both the sub-committees into one since the compositions of members for Agriculture Sub Committee and SHG Bank Linkage Sub –Committee were the same.

Agenda No.5

Kisan Credit Card (KCC)

RD, RBI informed the house that the decrease in the number of KCC was a matter of concern and advised the banks to track the expiry date of KCC so that they could be renewed on time. He further advised the State Government Departments to prepare a list of interested KCC farmers for the banks to provide them with KCC Loans. Branches who had not issued KCC till date were asked to issue 100 KCC loans per branch. After review it was decided that banks should achieve the following targets:

Bank of Maharashtra – **10 KCC**, Punjab and Sind Bank – **10 KCC**, Bandhan Bank – **80 KCC (Till 3rd QTR)**, ICICI Bank – **20 KCC (Till 3rd QTR)**, IndusInd Bank, Karnataka bank, Kotak Bank, South Indian Bank and YES Bank have all committed to provide atleast **10 KCC loans till the end of 2nd Qtr.**

GM, NABARD reminded the banks that all PM Kisan beneficiaries should be saturated with KCC Crop loans to improve the status of disbursement of the same.

(Action: Concerned Banks)

Agenda No.6

Housing Finance

The achievement under Housing Finance for the June quarter of FY-24 stood at 10.81%, which needs improvement. All the non-performing Banks were asked to explore various avenues under Housing Finance.

Agenda No.7

Education Loan

The achievement under the scheme was only 2.83% for the quarter. It was observed that the State Government was already providing education loans at a very low interest rate through its financing agencies SIDICO and SABBCO impeding lending by banks.

Agenda No. 8

SBI RURAL SELF EMPLOYMENT TRAINING INSTITUTE (RSETI)

It was observed that trainees under RSETI were continuously increasing, which was a good sign. It was also informed by Shri Atanu Bandopadhyay, AGM, SBI, that regular meetings to review RSETI were being held under the Chairmanship of District Collector. The data reveals that during the first quarter of FY 2023-2024, 142 candidates were trained under RSETI, out of which 136 trainees have settled.

RD, RBI further suggested the following for effective implementation of RSETI: -

- a) Bankers from various banks to be called on the last day of training so that the trainees could be provided with loans on the spot
- b) Speakers/Resource Persons from different banks may be invited to conduct classes
- c) Training Co-ordinators should be certified local people having knowledge of the local Nepali Language
- d) Widespread awareness of training under RSETI to be provided through bulk sms, hoardings, pamphlets, etc.
- e) Vehicle to be provided for RSETI and transportation of trainees to and from RSETI to the nearby town of Singtam to be explored on
- f) Availability of a doctor to be explored, especially during the days of training at the centre

Agenda 10

Miscellaneous

1. Enrolment under Social Security Schemes (PMJJBY, PMSBY, APY)

The importance of saturation of Social Security Schemes was discussed in the meeting. The banks were advised by the house to saturate the eligible population at the earliest.

Under PMJJBY & PMSBY, ICICI bank has committed to enroll 1000 members, Axis bank 1400 people, Bandhan bank 1000, Indusind Bank 1000, Karnataka Bank 200, Kotak Mahindra 300, South Indian Bank 300, Yes bank 200 and South Indian Bank 200. RD, RBI advised the banks to enrol as many as possible eligible people under APY.

(Action: ICICI bank, Axis bank, Bandhan bank, Indusind Bank, Karnataka Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank, South Indian Bank, Yes bank, South Indian

Bank)

2. Expanding and Deepening of Digital Payments Ecosystem

Along with Gyalshing District in the 1st Phase and Mangan District in the 2nd Phase of Deepening of Digital Payments Ecosystem and as per letter No **FIDD.CO.LBS.No.S705/02.01.014/2023-24** dated **August 09, 2023** received from RBI, it had been suggested to scale up the digitization by identifying more districts. Banks should make concerted efforts to make the identified district 100% digitally enabled. Hence, the following banks were chosen as the nodal banks for the remaining district.

1) Soreng District – SBI, 2) Namchi District – PNB, 3) Pakyong District – Central bank of India, 4) Gangtok District – SBI

The district-wise timelines for the completion of the programme was decided to be March 31, 2025 and the same was approved by the house. The Nodal banks were also given the responsibility of identification of collecting data from all the bank branches. Shri Goda Rvishankar, reminded the banks that along with savings A/c, all traders and merchants having current accounts should also be on-boarded for Digital Transactions.

3. Banking Services in Thangu Village, Mangan District

Axis bank has assured that they would come up with a feasibility report for opening branch in Thangu village by 30th September, 2023. Till then, SBI was asked to explore an option for appointing a BC/CSP at Lachen.

(Action: Axis bank, SBI)

4. Discussion regarding Warehousing Developing and Regulatory Act (WDRA)

It was informed by AGM, SBI that SLBC was in receipt of a letter from Warehousing Development Authority of India for inclusion of this Agenda item in SLBC. The main objective of this act was to set up Negotiable Warehousing Receipt System (NWRS) which would help farmers to store their produce in scientific warehouse and avail loan from banks against the pledge of NWR. This would save the farmers from distress sale during the harvesting season and provide an opportunity for better price discovery of their produce at a later date. Banks were advised to raise awareness among their customers.

5. Discussion on SVAMITVA Scheme

It was informed by the representative from Land Revenue Department, Shri Kaleon, that Svamitva Scheme under which legal ownership cards are issued to the rural abadi areas is not implemented in Sikkim due to the absence of a rural abadi population in the State.

6. 100 days 100 pays campaign of RBI

Smt. Swarnali Maity, AGM, RBI informed the house on the 100 days 100 pays campaign launched by RBI in all the districts of the country, wherein banks were supposed to trace and settle the top 100 unclaimed deposits in every district of the country within 100 days.

RD, RBI advised the banks to raise awareness regarding the scheme among the masses so that maximum number of unclaimed deposits can be settled.

7. Status of a Brick and Mortar Branch at Tashiding, Gyalshing District.

It was informed by AGM, SBI that confirmation of a connectivity had been issued by BSNL. They were exploring for more connection confirmation at other prospective sites as well.

(Action: SLBC)

8. Onboarding of SFB & UCB and Quarterly updation of data on SLBC portal

SLBC was advised to ensure the onboarding of Small Finance Banks and Urban Co-operative Banks in the SLBC Portal by the end of the next quarter/SLBC meeting.

(Action: SLBC)

9. NSFI recommendation on providing banking access

SLBC has confirmed that all 460 villages are either covered with bank branches or with BC network/services. However, respective banks are to ensure that BCs working in those areas or villages where there is no physical bank branch are active and working without fail. In case any BC leave the job, services to those villages without bank branch should not be affected, by appointing a new BC at the earliest and the same should be intimated to SLBC. Further LDMs may also look out for any gap of unserved areas/villages during DCC/DLRC meetings. All banks were urged to ensure the banking facilities and banking access are provided to the remotest part of the State. Further, all individuals were to be saturated with a bank account.

10. Financial Literacy by FLCs and Rural Branches-review of activities

DGM, RBI, informed the house on the Financial Literacy Initiatives taken by RBI, banks and Centre for Financial Literacy in the State. All banks with rural branches were advised to conduct 1 FLC per month in coordination with local authorities.

GM, NABARD informed the house that the Scale of Finance for 2023-24 had been prepared and circulated to all the banks. A booklet on Term Finance Activation in Agriculture and Allied Activities had been prepared by NABARD and circulated to all the banks. He also provided a summary of Agriculture Sub-Committee Meeting held for the Quarter ended on March 31, 2023. Finally, he advised that correct data should be reflected in the SLBC portal, through which the data was being extracted for DLCC/SLBC meetings.

On reviewing the quarterly performance of the banks, the Chairperson of the meeting stressed on the low CD ratio among the Private Sector Banks in the State. He said that the Finance Department would review CD ratios on a quarterly basis and ensure that Government deposits do not lie with banks whose CD ratio is below the desired levels or is not improving over the quarters. He reminded the Private Sector Banks that main focus should be given to Agriculture and Allied Activities Sector and the upliftment of the rural population. He urged banks to achieve 100% saturation of Social Security Schemes among the masses specially in the rural areas. He also raised concerns on the penetration of PMFBY in the State.

The Meeting ended with the vote of thanks by AGM, SBI.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS :: 76th SLBC MEETING :: 22.08.2023 :: SIKKIM		
SI	NAME OF THE	DESIGNATION / DEPARTMENT
1.	Shri M C P Pradhan	Secretary-cum-Controller, Finance Department, GoS
2.	Shri Kishore Pariyar	Regional Director, RBI
3.	Shri S K Gupta	GM-cum-OiC, NABARD
4.	Shri Nand Kishor Singh	SLBC Convenor, Sikkim –cum- GM, SBI, Kolkata
5.	Shri J W Bhutia	GM, DIC, Comm & Indus. Dept, GoS
6.	Shri Gyurme Yousal	Pr CEO, SKVIB, GoS
7.	Dr B M Chettri	Pr Director, AH & VS Dept, GoS
8.	Shri T T Kaleon	CEO, SRLM, RMDD, GoS
9.	Shri Mahendra Pradhan	Director, Finance Department, GoS
10.	Shri Dinker Gurung	Chief Town Planner, UD&HD, GoS
11.	Shri Tilak Gajmer	Pr Director, Agriculture Dept, GoS
12.	Shri S L Kaleon	PD, DILRMP, LR&DMD, GoS
13.	Shri Topden Zangpo	Dy Sec, MSME Div, GoS
14.	Shri Subrata Behera	Zonal Manganer, Bank of India
15.	Ms Swarnali Maity	AGM, RBI
16.	Shri Praveen Soreng	DGM, RBI
17.	Shri Virendra Singh	DGM, SBI
18.	Shri Atanu Bandopadhyay	AGM, SBI
19.	Shri K Nagar	RM, Canara Bank
20.	Shri Pramod Kumar	Zonal Head, Indian Bank
21.	Shri Tenzing Yeshe	Sr Manager, Indian Bank
22.	Shri Raj Lama	Chief Co-ordinator, SEED Cell
23.	Shri K S Bhutia	VIE (SKVIB)
24.	Shri G K Sudhkar Rao	GM, Union Bank
25.	Shri Biswajit Halder	Regional Head, Union Bank
26.	Shri Anil Kumar	AGM, Central Bank
27.	Shri Pradeep Ahmed	LDM, Pakyong District, Central Bank
28.	Shri Karma Jigme	GM, SISCO Bank
29.	Shri Santosh Chhetri	Cluster BM, IndusInd Bank
30.	Shri Rajesh Kumar	Sr RM, Indian Overseas Bank
31.	Shri Rajiv Pradhan	GM, Citizens Urban Co-operative Bank
32.	Shri Dain M Thomas	CH, NE, South Indian Bank
33.	Shri Ghazi Islam	GM, IDBI Bank
34.	Shri Gautam Kumar	DGM, IDBI Bank
35.	Shri Dipjyoti Borthakur	Dy RH, Bank of Baroda

36.	Shri P S Jha	GM, MSME, UCO Bank
37.	Shri Binod Kumar	AGM, DZM, UCO Bank
38.	Shri Sai Avinash K	CH, Karnataka Bank
39.	Shri P K Patnaik	DGM, PNB
40.	Shri Sumant Kumar	GM, PNB
41.	Shri Sailesh Lepcha	DPM, SRLM, RMDD
42.	Shri Abhishek Chettri	APM, SRLM, RMDD
43.	Shri Shovit Dikshit	BH, NESFB, Tadong
44.	Shri Mithlesh Kr Gupta	Dev Assistant, NABARD, Gangtok
45.	Shri Vijay Kr Singh	CM, Gangtok, Bank of Maharashtra
46.	Ms Numa Shrestha	AM, SIDBI, Gangtok
47.	Ms Rajkumari	RM, National Housing Bank
48.	Shri Nitesh Gurung	Dep Dir, Fisheries Dept, GoS
49.	Shri Paban Kanan	BM, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Gangtok
50.	Shri Suman Shekhar Prasad	BM, HDFC Bank, Gangtok
51.	Shri Super Prasad	BM, Punjab and Sind Bank, Gangtok
52.	Shri K Fabian Chingzo	BM, IPPB, Gangtok
53.	Shri Subhabrata Chakraborty	SVP, Cluster Head, Axis Bank
54.	Shri Sujit Talpatra	RH, Bandhan Bank
55.	Shri Pinaki Dey Biswas	CH, Bandhan Bank
56.	Ms Srijana Chettri	Dep Secretary, UD&HD, GoS
57.	Shri Surajit Sengupta	CH, ICICI Bank
58.	Shri Nirmal Choudhury	AD, MSME-DFO, Gangtok
59.	Ms geeta Chettri	BH, NESFB
60.	Shri Gadadhar Ray	CM, SLBC Sikkim, SBI
61.	Shri Anit Lamichaney	Manager, Lead Bank, SBI
62.	Ms Fairymit Lepcha	DM, SLBC Sikkim, SBI
63.	Shri Madhav Koirala	AM, Lead Bank, SBI
63.	Shri Madhav Koirala	AM, Lead Bank, SBI

