



United Bank of India , Lead Bank Division & Convener of SLBC,West Bengal

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Re : Minutes of the 144th SLBC,West Bengal meeting on 12-03-2019

The performance review meeting for the quarter ending on December,2018 was held at 11.30 AM on 12-03-2018 at Hotel Lalit Great Eastern, Kolkata under the Co-Chairmanship of Sri A K Pradhan, MD & CEO, United Bank of India and Sri H K Dwivedi, Addl Chief Secretary, Finance, GoWB. Other dignitaries included Sri A K Das,Executive Director,United Bank of India,Sri M V Rao,Addl Chief Secretary,Cooperation & RD,GoWB, Sri A K Agrawal, Principal Secretary,SHG & SE, Sri S Mondal, Chief General Manager, NABARD.

After welcoming the dignitaries and the participating officials from Banks & other financial institutions and Government Departments, Sri M R Ray, Convener of SLBC briefed the House regarding the agenda and requested Sri Pradhan to deliver his key note address and guide the banks for next course of action. In a brief but comprehensive address, Sri Pradhan analyzed the performance of the banks in various parameters which are given hereunder.

- CD Ratio has improved to 64.48% . With only 4 banks remaining under PCA restrictions, he exhorted the banks to focus more on credit growth.
- Banks have been able to deploy 64% of their annual outlay so far but still need to deploy Rs.53314 crore in the March,19 quarter to achieve the target. Agriculture, MSME , SHG & Housing sectors were signaled out as the thrust area
- Sri Pradhan opined that banks need to accelerate the pace of credit to agriculture and suggested that in addition to the saturation in KCC loans with coverage of the left out farmers, thrust should be more on Allied Activities, Farm Mechanization, Agri Infrastructure, Ancilliary Activities.
- Reference was also made to recent guidelines on extension of working capital loans under KCC scheme for fishery & animal husbandry schemes and increase in collateral free loan in agriculture sector upto Rs.1.60 lacs.
- Sri Pradhan opined that the provision of extension of credit solely by WBSCBL to the cold store owners for 15% of the capacity under Potato Procurement Scheme, 2019, since adopted by SLBC, could have been extended to other banks as well.
- Marked improvement has been observed in MSME sector in the last quarter where banks have been able to step up the credit delivery and with deployment of Rs. 37898 crore upto Dec,19 quarter ,75% of the annual target has been achieved .
- Sri Pradhan also urged the banks to undertake the restructuring in eligible MSME units with diligence and also pass on the benefit of interest subvention as per recent RBI guidelines.



- Sri Pradhan lauded the banks and WBSRLM for the commendable performance in SHG credit linkage and expected that it will be the driving force in rural credit
- While the decrease in NPA from 15.44% to 13.52% in the current fiscal is noteworthy, Sri Pradhan requested for prompt resolution under institutional support mechanism.
- Sri Pradhan rounded off his address with the commitment of the banks to extend banking facilities to the people of the State through opening of more banking outlets in tandem with the suggestions received from the authorities.

Taking the cue, Sri Dwivedi, ACS, Finance and & Co-Chairman of the meeting opined that the performance in the last quarter has markedly improved and also suggested the following valuable inputs inter alia for better performance in the coming days.

- The Sub-Committees of the SLBC should be strengthened with appropriate representation by all the members of the Committee.
- Action plans are to be initiated with proper roadmap for achieving the desired result with active participation of all concerned. Line Departments are to provide more support to SLBC and co-operate for successful implementation of the schemes.
- The main SLBC forum is to be utilized primarily for review and taking proper policy decisions along with initiating corrective measures for the unresolved issues.

After confirmation of the minutes of the 143rd SLBC meeting dated 11-12-2018 and action taken report on the adopted resolution as placed by SLBC Convener, the House proceeded with review and discussion on the agenda items. The major points of discussion with action points thereof are,

A) C D Ratio :

5 districts (Howrah, Hooghly, Birbhum, Paschim Midnapore and 24 Parganas North) are below 40% Hooghly and 24 Parganas North district in particular are to draw up a time-bound action plan for improvement in CD Ratio and inform the House accordingly.

(Action point 1: Lead District Managers are to prepare the plan in consultation with the DCOs under the guidance of DCC)

B) Agriculture :

Both Sri Dwivedi & Sri Pradhan observed that credit to Agri sector has remained the area of concern and at 52% of annual credit deployment in the 3 quarters it has not been able to keep pace with MSME advances. Sri M Dhar, Advisor to GoWB on Institutional Finance expressed that with pick up in cold storage loans and tea finance in the March quarter the situation will improve. Sri M V Rao, ACS, Cooperation informed of the progress made by WBSCBL and confirmed that the allocated target will be achieved.

- Krishak Bandhu :Sri Dhar also requested the banks to complete the task of compiling the data on land records for the existing KCC loans and submit the same to SLBC on urgent basis .This will enable the banks to identify the 16 lacs odd famers actively associated with agri activities but yet to be covered under KCC loans. Convener of SLBC also requested the banks with high number of KCC loans, WBSCBL & SBI for early submission of the data.

(Action point 2 : Member banks)



- Animal Husbandry and Fishery loans: Sri Dwivedi advised SLBC to form a special Committee to formulate strategy for accelerating credit in these segments and monitoring the development in conjunction with NABARD, Animal Resource Deptt and Directorate of Fisheries, etc. The operational issues regarding fishery loans are to be sorted out as well.

(Action point 3 : SLBC,NABARD and respective line Departments)

- Sri S K Mondal,CGM, NABARD stated that Scale of Finance for Fishery & Animal Husbandry loans under KCC is to be finalized/approved by Dist Level Task Force for respective districts. Also, the Dist Credit Plan for 2019-20 should be finalized as scheduled.

(Action point 4 : The LDMs should complete the process & inform NABARD/SLBC)

- NLM-EDGE and DEDS : Sri Mondal informed the features and subsidy available under National Livestock Mission & Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Schemes with a request to the banks to expedite the sanction /disbursement process and immediately lodge/block the subsidy through the designated portal.

(Action point 5 : Member banks)

- Advances to FPO : During the discussion it was gathered from Agri Marketing Department & NABARD that around 400 FPOs are operating in the State. Some of the FPOs are running businesses with turnover of Rs.3 crore or so with import to other countries as well. It was suggested by both the Co-Chairmen that necessary details will be provided by the Department & NABARD to SLBC for preparing a roadmap with support from LDMs regarding need based credit linkage to the FPOs,

(Action point 6 : Agri Marketing Department , NABARD & SLBC)

C) SHG Credit Linkage

Sri Pradhan and Sri Dwivedi expressed satisfaction in the performance of the banks with lowest incidence of NPA in SHGs across the country which has helped the State to receive accolades at national level. It was opined that with the return of Ms C D Lama, Chief Mission Coordinator to WBSRLM, the SHG movement will get further momentum.

It was reiterated that need based enhanced limit should be provided to the eligible SHGs with proper grading exercise and the SHGs should be encouraged to undertake enterprise type activities with increased drawl of fund .This will contribute to the increase in CD Ratio also.

- NRLM Portal data is to be updated on monthly basis for reflecting up to date status of sanction/disbursement. IOB & Syndicate Bank to improve disbursement position. Sri Dwivedi suggested for convening a special meeting on SHG finance in the month of April, 2019.

(Action point 7 : Member banks & SLBC)

- Ms Lama informed that the banks should accept the uniform standardized Application Form for urban based SHGs under NULM also in line with NRLM norms. Also, WBSRLM has arranged for training of performing SHG members at RSETIs. After successful completion of the certification course, they may be enrolled as Bank Sakhis /Mitras

(Action point 8 : Member banks)

D) MSME

The deployment of credit to the extent of 75% of the yearly target was appreciated. It was opined by Sri Pradhan that MSME sector has the requisite credit absorption capacity and should be the driving force for attaining 70% C D Ratio in the State.



- Sri Ray, Convener of SLBC informed about the identification of 24 MSME Clusters by SLBC for adoption and accelerated credit linkage after ratification by MSME & Textiles Deptt. Sri V Bharti, Director of MSME & T Deptt suggested for setting up of more specialized MSME branches in the cluster areas along with proactive action by banks with lower disbursement status while Sri Dwivedi advocated for bankable action plans in the potential clusters.

(Action point 9 : SLBC , member banks and MSME & T Deptt)

- It was gathered that the banks are proceeding with the one time restructuring of eligible MSME loans as per RBI circular dt 01-01-19. It should be reported to RBI/SLBC accordingly.

(Action point 10 : Member banks)

E) Standardization of Data Flow & Data Management

Sri Ray apprised the House of the development of the SLBC portal and also about the formation of a Working Group by RBI for developing an uniform system of MIS generated data reporting system. Both the Co-Chairmen urged SLBC to proceed with the task of making the system online for onward reporting by the banks & advised for a live demonstration to the banks immediately. Sri A K Agrwal, Principal Secretary, SHG & SE Deptt also spoke on the need for convergence of data available in various portals for better implementation and monitoring of the schemes undertaken by the banks and other agencies.

(Action Point 11: SLBC)

F) Banking Outlets

The House was apprised of the development w.r.t. opening of Banking Outlets for the unbanked centres identified by DFS & RBI. The process for the 72 URCs as per list sent by DFS is to be completed by March,19. As to the 204 allocated URCs in terms of RBI list, the allottee banks are to complete the process by 1st half of 2019-20.

The survey for the 651 GOHQ centres as per GoWB list is also nearing completion. SLBC will convene a special meeting for identification of the unbanked centres and allocation among the members by June, 19 quarter.

(Action Point 12 : SLBC & member banks)

G) Calender & Reporting of DCC/BLBC meetings

All the members banks and line departments of the BLBC & DCC must attend the quarterly meetings at appropriate levels. LDMS are to prepare a calendar of such meetings in advance and submit to all the members and stakeholders accordingly. The Advisor, Institutional Finance, GoWB has been entrusted with the task of developing a portal for reporting the calendar and meeting details so as to enable the authorities to track the development thereof.

(Action Point 13 : Advisor, Institutional Finance and LDMS)

With most of the listed major agenda items discussed and covered with drawing up of action plan for further improvement, the meeting ended with vote of thanks by Convener, SLBC.


General Manager

Prisec-Agri & Convener of SLBC, West Bengal

