

राज्य स्तरीय बैंकर्स समिति, पश्चिम बंगाल : STATE LEVEL BANKERS' COMMITTEE, WEST BENGAL

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Ref. No: SLBC/WB/Sub Committee Meeting on FI / 793 /2021

Date: 13.12.2021

### 1) The Members of the Sub Committee on Financial Inclusion

#### Re: Minutes of the SLBC Sub-Committee meeting on Financial Inclusion held on 10.12.2021.

A meeting of SLBC sub-committee on Financial Inclusion was held on 10.12.2021 to review the progress made in Financial Inclusion & Financial Literacy as on 30.09.2021 in the state of West Bengal. The meeting was participated through VC by Smt. Shubha Modi, DGM, RBI; Dr. Ashish Dongare, PFRDA and representatives of major member Banks.

Sri Sakshi Gopal Saha, General Manager, SLBC West Bengal, welcomed all the participants in the meeting and briefly narrated about the developments occurred in Financial Inclusion & Financial Literacy as on 30.09.2021 and as requested by Sri Saha, Smt. Shubha Modi kindly presided over the meeting.

The major points of discussions along with the action points emerged during the sub-committee meeting are as given below:

#### 1. Progress made in Social Security Schemes (PMJDY, PMSBY & APY etc.):

Sri S. G Saha appraised the house that out of total 42964828 no of PMJDY accounts, 52.28% accounts have been enrolled under Social Security schemes as on 30.09.2021. Out of total PMJDY accounts, 4395511 no are enrolled under PMJJBY, 15432064 no are enrolled under PMSBY and 2633232 no are enrolled under APY. He also narrated that out of all PMJDY Accounts, PMSBY has a coverage of 35.92%, PMJJBY has a coverage of 10.23% and APY has a coverage of 6.13%. Though the coverage under PMJSS has increased from June'2021 figure, it is still below from national average.

Smt. S. Modi highlighted that the fresh enrolment in PMJSS schemes during this FY against the allocated target is not satisfactory. Banks have achieved 9%, 19% and 41% of the allocated target in PMJJBY, PMSBY and APY respectively as on 30.09.2021. Again enrolment% is low in PMJJBY in comparison to PMSBY. The performance of Private banks need to be improved more, unless the state will represent a gloomy picture at the end of this FY. Sri S. G. Saha appraised that higher premium in PMJJBY may have attributed lower coverage. But bank branch people should strive their best to make common people understand that Rs.330/- premium per year is equivalent to less than Rs.1/- per day and this coverage will definitely help his/ her family in near future.

Dr. Ashish Dongare, PFRDA highlighted that, the performance of West Bengal state as a whole in APY campaign remains very impressive for last few years and has not only achieved its annual target but also surpassed the target in all the years. As on 31.10.2021, 67% of the state target have already been achieved. He requested all member banks to conduct outreach programmes and to focus on SHG members in assistance with SRLM of Panchayat & Rural Development Deptt to achieve the target. He also urged upon Private banks to make their performance better in coming days. Again, Urban and Rural Cooperative banks should come forward for extending their hands in this noble mission. Kolkata district having maximum number of branches so far branch network is concerned should take a lead in APY enrolment.

Sri S. G Saha highlighted that SLBC have already chalked out an action plan for bringing all eligible existing PMJDY customers under PMJSS by 31.12.2021, who are still left out. Again member banks have already been instructed to mandatorily register new customers under these schemes, who are



opening new accounts w.e.f 02.10.2021. Banks are also giving thrust to bring the PMMY borrowers under the ambit of PM Jan Suraksha Schemes. He again requested all member banks to put a focused attention in this field, so that the state can reach to National Average latest by 31.03.2021.

Smt. S. Modi requested SLBC to take up the issue separately with top management of Private banks for improvising their performance in this score.

**(Action Point 1: Member banks & SLBC)**

## **2. Financial Literacy Camps & Awareness Drive:**

Sri S.G.Saha narrated that during this quarter 411 camps have been organised by FLC where 25788 candidates attended. Again, rural branches have conducted 1103 number of camps during this quarter. The number have substantially increased from June quarter figure.

Smt.-S. Modi highlighted that though number of camps organised by rural branches have increased, but the number is very low in respect of number of rural branches in the state. She appraised the house that in many cases rural branch managers are not aware of that and hence they are not conducting camps. She requested the member banks specially RRBs to strive their best to sensitize the rural branch officials in this regard for organising more camps in coming days.

**(Action Point 2: Member banks)**

## **3. Expanding & Deepening of Digital Payments Ecosystem (Incl. Payment Banks etc.):**

Sri S. G. Saha appraised the house that, in terms of RBI directives, SLBC formed the Sub-Committee on Digital Payments and adopted the district of Nadia as Digital District with the objective of making it 100% digitally enabled within 31.03.2021. As on 30.09.2021, 93.63% of SB A/c's in the district are covered with at least one digital mode, whereas in case of Current A/c's the achievement stands at 94.10%. In addition, in case of on boarding of merchants through POS/QR, the district has achieved 99% of its annual target as on 31.03.2021. Smt. S. Modi requested to achieve 100% target in both case i.e. Savings account & Current account.

Sri S. G. Saha informed the house that many job card holders, LTI personnel, old age pensioners are maintaining a good number of accounts in rural branches, who are not well acquainted with digitization. Again, a number of borrowers are there who don't want to avail such facilities in spite of repeated request from branch people. So 100% digitization is a very tough task for bankers.

Smt. S. Modi requested SLBC to take data on ineligible number of accounts from member banks to check the percentage of such borrowers. Taking a self-declaration from those customers on non-willingness of taking such facility by branch people, these number of borrowers may be excluded from the report onwards in order to make the district fully digitized. Sri S. G. Saha requested member banks to carry on the exercise and submit the report on ineligible borrowers as on 31.12.2021 and to achieve 100% figure by excluding the same by 31.01.2022.

Sri S. G. Saha appraised the house that though Howrah district have been adopted in the Special SLBC Meeting on FI held on 27.09.2021 to make it a fully digital district, no progress report has yet been submitted by banks till time. Smt S. Modi requested LDM, Howrah and nodal officer of UCO Bank to take this matter seriously to collect the information from member banks at the earliest and to give a push to expedite the process in order to make Howrah district fully digitized in the stipulated timeframe. Sri S. G. Saha requested LDM, Howrah to collect the data as on 30.11.2021 at the earliest and submit the same by 17.12.2021 to access the position and to formulate an action plan thereon.

**(Action Point 3: Member Banks present in Nadia and Howrah, LDM Howrah, UCO Bank)**

## **4. Miscellaneous:**

Smt. S. Modi highlighted that in the last Special SLBC meeting on FI, it was highlighted that state has 78 BC outlets per lakh population vs national average of 130 BC outlets per lakh population. But, when it was compared with no of families along with family members covered by one BC, it was revealed that in





West Bengal the BC concentration was high. But during the September quarter, multiple BC points have been visited by RBI officials and some major deficits were found, which are enumerated below-

- i) BC remuneration is less and varying with different corporate BCs.
- ii) Proper infrastructure is not available in many cases like pass book printer is not available, transaction slip is not generating etc.
- iii) Fixed Deposit opening, Inter- bank transfer facility is not available in BC point.
- iv) Accounts opened in BC point are taking more than one month to be activated.

Sri S. G. Saha appraised the house that issues relating to corporate BC is the matter of individual bank and member banks at their own may take a call to resolve the remuneration issue. He requested member banks to look into other issues to ensure resolution at the earliest possible.

**(Action Point 4: Member banks)**

There being no other points of discussion, the meeting ended with vote of thanks to the chair & other participants by Sri S. G. Saha.



**(Sri Nabin Kumar Dash)**  
Chief General Manager &  
Convener, SLBC West Bengal



**List of participants in FI Sub Committee Meeting held on 10.12.2021**

<b>S No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Designation</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
1	Sri Sakshi Gopal Saha	General Manager	SLBC, West Bengal
2	Smt. Shubha Modi	Dy General Manager	RBI
3	Dr. Ashish Dongare	Assistant General Manager	PFRDA
4	Sri Aseem Kumar Mishra	Assistant General Manager	UCO Bank
5	Sri Subashis Bose	Assistant General Manager	State Bank of India
6	Sri Vikas Kumar	Assistant General Manager	Central Bank of India
7	Sri Mukesh Ranjan	Chief Manager	Union Bank of India
8	Sri Subrata Roy	Chief Manager	Indian Bank
9	Sri Deepak Kumar Sahoo	Chief Manager	Bank of Baroda
10	Sri Debojyoti Paul	Senior Manager	SLBC, West Bengal
11	Sri Santanu Banerjee	Divisional Manager	Canara Bank
12	Sri Man Singh	Manager	Bank of India
13	Sri Nagendra Singh Tewariya	Manager	Punjab National Bank
14	Sri Tathagat Moitra	Assistant Manager	BGVB
15	Sri Dipesh Chakraborty	Asstt. Vice President	Axis Bank
16	Sri Saikat Chatterjee	Regional Head	Bandhan Bank
17	Sri Sourav Rajguru	Regional Chief Manager	ICICI Bank

