

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL STATE LEVEL BANKERS COMMITTEE (SLBC)
MEETING TO REVIEW THE PREPAREDNESS FOR DELIVERY OF BANKING
SERVICES IN VIEW OF COVID-19 LOCKDOWN HELD ON 24-04-2020 AND REVIEW
OF QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE OF BANKS FOR SEPTEMBER & DECEMBER, 2019**

The Special State Level Bankers Committee (SLBC) Meeting in view of COVID-19 lockdown was held on 24-04-2020 in the Conference Hall Main Secretariat, Shillong under the Chairmanship of Shri M. S. Rao, IAS, Chief Secretary, Government of Meghalaya to review the preparedness for delivery of banking services to enable farmers and other Stake holders to start agriculture and rural sectors activities during COVID 19 Pandemic.

The Chairman requested SLBC Convener to initiate the discussion agenda wise. After a thorough deliberation, the following decisions were taken:

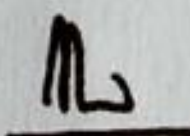
1. Cash availability in Bank branches/ ATMs/ CSPs: Asst. General Manager & SLBC Convener informed the House that there is no shortage of cash either in the branch/ CSP or ATMs. General Manager of RBI, Shillong supplemented that there is enough cash in all the Currency Chests in Meghalaya. In the meantime, the customers were encouraged to use digital transactions as it is convenient, safe and time saving. The Chief Secretary informed that in few minor cases where cash replenishment in ATM is delayed, the same was settled immediately. In future banks are to ensure that there is no shortage of cash in branches and ATMs
(Action Point – All Banks)

2. The House was assured that the Bank branches are opened across the state and all the pending proposals of Agricultural loans/ KCC, MSME will be disposed off within one week time by the concerned Banks. In view of COVID-19, MSME borrowers are provided with 10% extra loan amount over the existing limit to facilitate emergency credit needs. The Banks are requested to facilitate availability of short-term credit needs to farmers. **(Action point-All Banks)**

i. Bottlenecks in Credit Linkage to PM-Kisan beneficiaries: SLBC Convener informed that there are around 2,00,032 PM-Kisan beneficiary accounts, out of which around 1,10,000 are already covered, but the remaining 50% are not coming to the Banks. Banks have published the campaign for saturation of PM-Kisan with KCC Loan in the local news-paper, but the response so far has been poor. The Banks are expecting that more PM-Kisan beneficiaries may turn up for KCC Loans in the month of June July 2020. He also assured to continue with the campaign of KCC saturation to PM Kisan beneficiaries.
(Action Point -All Banks).

- ii. Dr Shakil P. Ahammed, IAS, Principal Secretary, Agriculture Department pointed out that the ex-gratia amount to PM-Kisan beneficiaries is transferred directly into their bank accounts. Out of the registered and verified 1,07,000 beneficiaries under PM-Kisan, due to account discrepancies, fund transfer to about 6,000 accounts is not successful and requested the Banks to rectify the same. **(Action point -All Banks)**
3. The SLBC Convener informed that the problem of power supply shortage has been resolved.
4. In Meghalaya, the stamp duty to facilitate execution of Loan documents during the Covid 19 lockdown period has been waived by the Government vide Letter No.FEA 55/2020/55 dated 22-04-2020.
5. There are some cases where the Deputy Commissioners have denied issuing of car passes to some bank employees. The SLBC Convener requested the Chairman to intervene and ensure that passes are issued so as not to disrupt the banking duties. The SLBC Convener also requested the State Government for help by providing Police personnel in maintaining social distance, particularly in rural branches where the turn-out for Bank transactions is very high. (Action point- Finance Department)
6. The SLBC convener requested the Chairman that in view of the prevailing lockdown situation, the pending SLBC for September-2019 and December-2019 may be considered as reviewed and approved. The same was approved by the Chairman.

The Meeting ended with a vote of thanks from the Chair.


Chief Secretary
Government of Meghalaya &
Chairman, State Level Bankers Committee (SLBC),
Meghalaya

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