

**MINUTES OF THE STATE LEVEL BANKERS' COMMITTEE (SLBC)**  
**MEETING OF MEGHALAYA FOR THE QUARTER ENDED DECEMBER, 2021**  
**HELD ON 06.04.2022 AT 11:00 A.M IN YOJANA BHAVAN AUDITORIUM,**  
**SECRETARIAT, SHILLONG**

The SLBC Meeting of Meghalaya for the quarter ended December, 2021 was held on 06.04.2022 in Yojana Bhavan Auditorium, Main Secretariat Building, Shillong, under the Chairmanship of Mrs. R.V. Suchiang, IAS & Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya. The Meeting was also attended by Shri P. Gangte, General Manager of RBI, Mrs. N.Guite, General Manager NABARD, Shillong, Shri Amit Kumar, Deputy General Manager, SBI, Shillong, Shri S.K Sahoo, Deputy General Manager, SLBC, Guwahati and senior officials from the State Government and the Banks.

2. At the outset Shri Amit Kumar, Deputy General Manager, SBI, Administrative Office, Shillong welcomed all the participants who attended the meeting and advised that with the receding of pandemic, banks have to step up credit linkage to rejuvenate economic growth in the State. He highlighted the available banking networks of 420 Bank branches, 467 ATMs and 802 BCs/CSPs as on 31.12.2021 in the State of Meghalaya. He informed the house about the challenges being faced by banks on account of poor connectivity and requested BSNL, DoT and State Government to resolve the issue. He requested banks to improve performance under Investment Credit for Agriculture for long term and sustainable growth in Agriculture. He impressed upon the Banks to make use of available resources in the State like Lakadong turmeric, Gingers, Pineapples, Honey, Rubber plantation, Pepper which are abundantly available across the State as raw materials. The State being one of the major tourist destination in India, has great potential for promotion of MSME schemes.

2. Shri P Gangte, GM (OIC) of RBI welcomed all the dignitaries present in the meeting. He informed that the potential linked plan for 2022-23 was constituted with credit flow of Rs.2771 crore, out of which Rs.1407 crore was for Agriculture. During the last four years on an average, the total achievement was 60%, while achievement in agriculture was 40%. He noted with concern the declining trend of agriculture performance in the State. While fixing ACP target, he suggested SLBC to rationalize judiciously taking into consideration the capacity of bank branches, past performances and contribution by all member banks in priority sector lending for better implementation.

**(Action-SLBC and Banks)**

In regulatory and operational developments, RBI internal working Group under the Dy. Governor has recommended allocation of larger portion of the RIDF to Agriculture infrastructures - to improve credit flow to Agriculture sectors

RBI has conducted FLC in February 2022 under the theme "Go Digital Go Secure" to boost financial inclusion activities. Similarly in March 2022, UPI123pay was launched by RBI for digital payments. UPI123pay is also provided with the helpline "DigiSaathi" to assist the users in their queries. This will go a long way to accelerate the process of digital adoption by the larger section of the population.

RBI have also informed that East Jaintia Hills District have been identified as the next District to make it 100% digitally enabled.

3. Smt. R.V Suchiang, Chief Secretary welcomed all the participants and request Banks and Financial Institutions to focus on the following points:

- (a) To improve services rendered by single man branches operating in rural areas. Banks particularly Meghalaya Rural Bank to increase man power in those branches.

**(Action – All Banks & MRB)**

- (b) Banks to ensure that banking outlet is available within 5 Kilometers radius for financial inclusion and credit linkage of villages. She pointed out the number of covered and uncovered villages mapped under Jan Dhan Darshak app are not matching with those villages under RBI Roadmap. She called upon the Banks and the Government department to ensure that all villages are covered with banking outlets.

**(Action- All Banks and Finance Department)**

- (c) Meghalaya Rural Bank and MSRLS for close coordination on bank Sakhi / BC deployment. MRB to ensure that BC points meant for Rongara block are operating from and around Rongara villages. Mrs Tshering Diki, chairperson of MRB confirmed that three BCs are operating within Rongara block.

**(Action- MRB and MSRLS)**

- (d) Canara Bank, MCAB, Axis Bank, NESFB, MRB and PNB to ensure that Branch & ATM as per allocation by SLBC should be opened within the stipulated time.

**(Action- Allotted Banks)**

- (e) Banks are to give the details of the PMJDY account holders who have availed / access to credit / loans from the banks, number of PMJDY account holders who have done transaction using debit/rupay cards, numbers of debit/rupay cards that are yet to be issued and activated etc.

**(Action – All Banks)**

#### **4. DISCUSSION ON AGENDA:**

**(a) Status of opening of banking outlets in unbanked villages, CBS-enabled banking outlets at the unbanked rural centres (URCs)**

- (I) MCAB assured to open a branch at Demdema by May, 2022. On the issue of connectivity faced by the bank for opening its branch at Ranikor, MCAB may take up with BSNL and resolve this issues so that the proposed branch is opened at the earliest. Regarding opening of branch at Purakasia, Finance Department to take up with the Deputy Commissioner of the concerned District for acquiring/renting of land or

building in the proposed area. On the issues faced by PNB for opening of branches allotted at Ampati, Resubelpara and Baghmara, Finance Department, Government of Meghalaya, to take up the matter with the concerned Deputy Commissioner of the respective Districts.

**(Action- MCAB, BSNL, PNB and Finance Department)**

- (II) NESFB have assured to open a branch at Chokpot within June-2022. The Canara bank and Axis bank have assured to start the process of branch opening at Gasuapara and Baghmara respectively by the Financial Year 2022-23.

**(Action- NESFB, Canara & Axis Bank)**

- (III) **Remaining uncovered villages in Jandhan Darshak App-** MCAB assured to cover remaining five villages within June-2022 with the help of Integrated Village Cooperative Society (IVCS). ICICI bank assured to cover remaining villages and update the status in Jan Dhan Darshak app under Samanda block within June 2022.

**(Action-MCAB and ICICI Bank)**

- (IV) **Business Correspondent (BC)** - The Chief Secretary requested the banks to increase the remuneration to all the BCs and maintain uniformity. Mr R.Chitturi, IAS & Joint Secretary, Finance to sort out the BC issues in the Sub-Committee meeting. IPPB with the highest number of BCs which are either inactive or having nil transactions have to address the issues or problems faced by them with RBI.

**(Action – All Banks, IPPB, RBI and Finance Department)**

- (V) To increase debit Card activation and payment through new RBI UPI123pay - Banks are to hand over the debit cards in the monthly melas to be conducted shortly as decided in the Sub-Committee meeting held on 05-04-2022. Banks are also to ensure that these cards are activated.

**(Action- All Banks)**

- (VI) **Farmers ID card:** Chief Secretary informed that the progress of implementing the Farmers ID card in the State will be reviewed in the next SLBC Meeting.

**(Action: NIC, Agriculture Department and all banks)**

- (VII) **Banks with less than 20% CD ratio-** Kotak Mahindra Bank (KMB) and IDFC will open banking hub for loans and advances to improve CD ratio. On the issue of KMBs business policy for not providing loans and advances that restricts the bank from improving their CD ratio, the matter was taken up with the CEO of the Bank for which the reply is still awaited. It has been decided that Finance Department will send reminder to the CEO of the concerned bank and also RBI to take up the issue with the KMB. Chief Secretary noted with concern the six banks with CD ratio of less than 20%. She informed the house that the performance of the bank's CD ratio will be reviewed quarterly as usual. However, withdrawing government funds parked with banks whose CD

ratio less than 20% will be based on the bank's performance in the past four quarters. If the banks CD ratio remains below 20% in all the past 4 quarters, then the government departments are to withdraw their funds parked in such banks. If the banks can ensure that their CD ratio is more than 20% in at least one of the four quarters, then the funds need not be withdrawn.

**(Action- KMB, IDFC, SIB, RBI & Finance Department)**

**(b) PRIORITY SECTOR LENDING:**

- (I) **Shri P.K Agrahari, Secretary, Finance** noted with concern the poor achievement of ACP target in priority Sector lending and compared banks performance under Non-priority sectors at 139%, while Priority sector achievement is only 34%. More focus is needed on the priority sector.

**Action- SLBC /All Banks**

- (II) **Shri G.H.P Raju, IAS & Principal Secretary, Government of Meghalaya** advised the Banks to segregate the ACP target of Agriculture and Allied activities and pointed out the tremendous demand for Agri-allied produces like Mushrooms, Dairy, Piggery and Honey in the market. He called upon the banks to step up bank loans to farmers and entrepreneurs under allied activities in the state in view of potential demand in the market. He suggested to include PMAY beneficiaries with bank loans for house construction in rural areas as it is covered with substantial amount of subsidy.

Shri Pranjal Phatowali, AGM & SLBC Convener reiterated the need for big ticket size loan for Lakadong turmeric and Ginger growing in the State in view of tremendous demand in domestic and foreign markets.

**(Action-SLBC/ All Banks)**

- (III) **PMEGP** – Shri A.D Kamble, Director of KVIC appreciated the banks for sanctioning 531 PMEGP loans in 2021-22 constituting 39% of the target and called upon the banks to disburse the remaining sanctioned PMEGP loans, since PMEGP performance is gauged on the amount of Margin Money (MM) utilized.

**(Action- All Banks)**

- (IV) **SHG Bank linkage implemented by MSRLS** – Shri R. Chitturi, IAS noted with appreciation the effort of banks in sanctioning around 1000 SHG loans on Meghalaya Day. HE also pointed that there is low NPA in SHGs. As such, he requested the banks to link all the remaining SHGs without SB account in FY 2022-23..

**(Action- All Banks)**

- (V) **RSETI**- Shri P Gangte, GM (OIC) RBI requested the RSETI and the sponsored banks to increase the number of training programs and to step up the credit linkage of trainees. He also advised the RSETI directors to give publicity to the training programs conducted by RSETI.

directors to give publicity to the training programs conducted by RSETI. The pending reimbursement of training expenses conducted by RSETI was discussed in the meeting. MSRLS assured to follow up and pay once it is received through PFMS.

Chief Secretary requested SLBC to provide information as to how many trainees have passed since last one year and how many of these passed out trainees have availed loans.

**(Action - Directors of RSETIs, MSRLS and SLBC)**

On the opening of RSETI in Jaintia Hills by PNB, the bank has assured to set up this long pending RSETI by the month of September, 2022.

**(Action-PNB)**

(VI) **National Housing Board** – Mr. Alok Sharma, AGM NHB informed about the available refinance scheme and concession for North Eastern States in Credit linked Subsidy Schemes under PMAY.

**(Action- All Banks)**

(VII) **Agriculture Skill Council of India (ASCI)**-Shri Nirod Chakravorty in his presentation showed that ASCI acts as a capacity builder to bridge the gap of skill development of farmers, entrepreneurs, self-employed etc. In India, skilled workforce constituted only 4.69% compared to 75% and 80% in UK and Germany respectively. He called upon the banks to increase bank linkage to skilled workforce.

**(Action- All Banks)**

  
**Chief Secretary**  
**Government of Meghalaya**