

MINUTES OF THE 125th SLBC MEETING HELD ON 17th May 2024

The 125th meeting of the State Level Bankers Committee, Goa, was held at Hotel Vivanta, Panaji, on 17th May 2024 under the Chairmanship of Dr. V. Candavelou, Principal Secretary (Finance), Government of Goa. State Bank of India was represented by Mr. Shri Ram Singh, General Manager and convenor of SLBC. RBI was represented by Mr. Prabhakar Jha, Regional Director, Panaji – Goa. NABARD was represented by Dr. Milind Bhirud, General Manager, Panaji Goa. The meeting was attended by Senior Executives of RBI, NABARD, Commercial Banks, Representative of Co-operative banks and Senior representatives of Government departments of the Government of Goa.

Mr. Shri Ram Singh, General Manager and convenor of SLBC.

Mr. Shri Ram Singh welcomed Dr. V. Candavelou, Principal Secretary (Finance), Government of Goa, Shri. Prabhakar Jha, Regional Director, Reserve Bank of India, Goa & Dr. Milind Bhirud, General Manager, NABARD Regional Office, Goa.

He also welcomed Senior Executives of RBI, NABARD, Commercial Banks, Representative of Co-operative banks, and Senior representatives of Government departments, Government of Goa, and all other participants for the **125th SLBC meeting**.

Focusing on the achievement for the quarter ended **March 2024**:

The digital penetration of the South Goa District stands at **99.45%** in Savings Bank accounts and **98.55%** in Current accounts. He stressed upon the Banks to achieve 100% digitisation of the South Goa district at the earliest to make Goa a digital state.

Coming to the performance under Social Security Schemes, Banks have shown a net growth under all the 3 schemes like Atal Pension Yojana, PMJJBY and PMSBY. **72.74%** of the accounts opened under PMJDY are seeded with Aadhar.

The Financial Literacy Centres (FLCs) of Banks have conducted **191 Financial Literacy camps** against the target of 84 camps on educating the depositors on Government schemes and to avoid frauds. Also, the rural branches of Banks have conducted **828 camps** for awareness of social security schemes. All Banks have to coordinate with the Government departments as and when the camps are held in their respective blocks.

Annual Credit Plan (ACP)

Banks have achieved the ACP of **Rs 8724.58 crs** against the annual target of Rs **6400.00 crs**. He congratulated all the member banks for the overall achievement under ACP for the year ended March 2024 at **136%** of the yearly target. The comparative performance for the year ended March 2023 was **121%**.

Priority Sector Lending

The total Priority Sector Lending stands at **43.77 %** of total advances as on **March 24 as compared to 49.90% as on March 23**. The priority sector lending stood at **45.20% as on Dec. 23**. He congratulated all the Member Banks for achieving the benchmark



target of 40% for all the 4 quarters during the year and hope to improve the performance in the current Financial Year.

Credit Deposit Ratio (CD Ratio)

The C.D. ratio has improved from 30.95% as on March 23 to 32.83 % as on March 2024 with an increase of 188 bps. The Total Advances have increased from Rs 33213 crs as on March 23 to Rs 38571 crs as on March 24 registering a growth of Rs 5358 crs.(16%).

The Total Deposits have increased from **Rs 107314 crs** as on March 23 to **Rs 117502 crs** as on March 24 registering a growth of **Rs 10188 crs.(9.49%)**.

The Government of India have undertaken several initiatives by launching various schemes for the benefit of the people. Applications received under the Agri/Dairy/Fisheries and other Government sponsored schemes to be given top priority. There are around **46 applications** pending under the PMEGP scheme with various Banks. Banks to dispose off these applications immediately. LDMs to follow up with respective Banks for quick disposal of these applications. Applications received under Government sponsored schemes should be immediately dealt with in a timeline of 15 days. Applications scrutinised and forwarded by the Government Departments to be attended without delay and should not be returned except for genuine reasons like adverse CIBIL etc.

Few areas of concern:

1. Credit to Exporters- Against the target of Rs.35.00 Crs, banks have achieved only Rs 3.33 crs (9.51% achievement)
2. Social Infrastructure - Against the target of Rs.15.00 Crs, banks have achieved only Rs 2.18 crs (14.53% achievement)

Banks to focus on the above 02 areas and also make correct reporting, so that lending to these sectors is reported correctly.

It has also been observed that most of the Branch Managers are not attending the BLBC meetings in their respective blocks. Regional Heads and District coordinators of all the banks may please ensure to depute the Branch Managers, to attend the BLBC meetings without exception.

He urged the Banks to give more focus on

1. PM Vishwakarma scheme for rural artisans. This is a new scheme launched by the Government of India. Member banks are requested to extend full cooperation to the Nodal Agency of the State and disburse maximum loans.
2. Social security schemes of the GOI like PMJJBY, PMSBY, APY.
3. Finance to Self Help Groups
4. Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana and Stand Up India etc

With these few words, he concluded his speech.



Shri. Prabhakar Jha, Regional Director, RBI, Goa.

Shri. Jha welcomed all the participants present on the dais and off the dais.

He highlighted on the following points:

1. Priority Sector Lending in the State

As per SLBC data for the State, as a percentage of total advances, the priority sector lending (PSL) reported has decrease from 45.20% to 43.77% compared to previous quarter. However, if we compare year on year data, it has reduced from 49.90% to 43.77%. The position of PSL advances has remained above 40% for the last four quarters. I request all banks to maintain the same in the future.

2. CD Ratio

The CD ratio has slightly reduced from 32.98% in previous quarter (December 2023) to 32.83% in the current quarter. The CD ratio for the state is below the prescribed 40%. Banks having CD ratio lower than 40% need to put sincere efforts towards increasing their credit portfolio.

3. Review of Credit Disbursements by Banks

In terms of ACP 2023-24, Annual target was ₹6400 crores and achievement stand at ₹8724.60 crores i.e.136.32% as on end of March 2024. I congratulate all banks for their achievement of ACP targets.

4. Zero Balance Accounts in PMJDY:

The number of zero balance accounts has slightly reduced from 21,988 at the end of December 2023 to 21,423 as on March 2024. I request all banks need to put efforts in funding to all the remaining accounts wherever feasible and bring down the number of such accounts.

5. Digitization of South Goa District

Recently RBI conducted a meeting on this matter on May 02, 2024. Digitization position of South Goa District stands at 99.45% in Saving Banks and 98.55% in Current Accounts as on March 2024. There are six banks viz. Union Bank of India, Punjab National Bank, IDBI Bank, Indian Bank, ICICI Bank and DCB Bank, who are yet to achieve 100% digitization of bank accounts. I advise these banks to put sincere efforts and complete this task on or before May 31, 2024.

6. Business Correspondents / Customer Service Point (BC/CSP)

Recently RBI undertook Field Survey on Assessment of the Operations of Business Correspondents. It is observed that the data provided by the banks and the data available on BC Registry website is not in harmony. Further, it was also observed that the number of inactive BCs is quite high. In some cases the branches are not even aware of the BCs attached to them. I request all banks to encourage inactive BCs to provide their services actively.

7. Account opening of SHG

At multiple instances, it has come to notice that banks are insisting certificate of registration from SHGs for opening a bank account. All banks are advised to be guided by RBI Master Circular on SHG-Bank Linkage Programme (RBI/2024-25/05 - FIDD.CO.FID.BC.No.1/12.01.033/2024-25) dated April 01, 2024. Para 4 of the circular states that "*The SHGs, registered or unregistered, which are engaged in promoting savings habit among their members are eligible to open savings bank accounts with banks*".



8. Non-attendance of Bankers in BLBC meetings

In last SLBC meeting for quarter ended March 2024 this issue was raised, and all banks were requested to strictly ensure attendance of branch managers for all the BLBC meetings in the respective block. Although, in this quarter the attendance of bankers was not up to the mark. I again advise all the banks to strictly ensure attendance of branch managers for all the BLBC meetings.

9. Creating awareness about various schemes, subsidies, facilities, e.g., crop insurance, renewable energy

RBI Panaji Office is preparing a compendium of various schemes of Central Government as well as respective State Government which shall be shared with SLBC shortly. I request SLBC to create awareness about such schemes through appropriate fora in order to bridge the knowledge gap among bankers and end users

He then informed about one of the more important development in the field of foreign exchange. Government and the Reserve Bank of India are taking many steps to internationalise the Indian rupees. The Prime Minister in a recent speech has emphasised that "efforts should be made to make the rupee more accessible and acceptable all over the world". I am sure all of you would be aware of the several benefits that would accrue from internationalisation of rupees, which include reduction in the costs (like hedging costs, conversion costs, intermediary payments), faster settlements, limiting of exchange rate risk, reduction in requirement of maintaining large forex reserves and so on and so forth. Reserve Bank has already taken several steps in this direction – such as facilitating Local Currency Settlement framework with some countries, opening of Special Rupee Vostro Account (SRVA) etc. However, to bring the Prime Minister's vision to fruition, all of us must play our part in promoting the use of INR for trade settlement among the exporters & importers. In the coming months, I look forward to engaging with all of you on this very important issue.

With these few words, he concluded his speech.

Dr. Milind Bhirud, General Manager, NABARD, Panaji Goa.

Dr. Bhirud welcomed all the participants present on the dais and other dignitaries.

He highlighted on the following points:

1. At the outset, He congratulated all the bankers for achieving 136% of the yearly target of Annual Credit Plan (ACP) for 2023-24. Continuously for the last three years banks are overachieving the ACP targets. This shows there is more credit potential in the state which needs to be tapped. Under Crop loan disbursements, there is an overall achievement of more than 200% of the targets.

Wherein Canara Bank has reported much exponential achievement against the target of Rs.24 Cr. He requested Canara Bank to share their strategy of such good performance.

Similarly, under Agri Term Loan, BOI, CBI, UBI, BOB, Axis Bank, ICICI and IndusInd Bank reported an impressive performance during the year. He said agriculture term lending can be further enhanced in the State which will lead to Capital formation in Agriculture and allied sectors.



2. Under SHG Bank Linkage, there is very good improvement seen in credit linkage. There is three times growth observed in credit disbursed to SHGs in 2023-24 as compared to the corresponding figures in previous year.

Similarly, the average loan outstanding per SHG has also increased to Rs.0.93 lakh on 31 March 2024, as against Rs.0.83 lakh on 31 March 2023.

With the help of SRLM, banks may explore financing of more number of SHGs and its members for livelihood activities. NABARD also has signed an MoU with NRLM on national level to collaborate with SRLMs for convergence for enhancing livelihood and Income generating activities of SHGs & JLGs.

3. ACABC scheme has been extended by one more year. There is a scope for encouraging agri-graduates to avail benefit under the Scheme. Banks need to scout good proposals.

Likewise other central government schemes PMFME, AIF, etc., provide ample opportunities for banks to enhance their credit portfolio under the priority sector.

4. Under Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI), Government of India with the aim to **organize the traditional industries and artisans and producers into collectives** and provide them with support to make quality and competitive products to ensure long-term sustainability of the sector and its artisans. Bankers are requested to extend credit to the clusters identified in the State.

5. NABSanrakshan provided credit guarantee for financing to FPCs and AHIDF proposals. We expect that such credit guarantee offered will lead to enhancement of the credit worthiness of FPOs, which provide a cushion for bankers to lend to these activities.

6. Recently, e-Kisan Upaj Nidhi portal was launched by the Hon'ble Minister, Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Commerce & Industry and Textiles. It is an online platform for obtaining post-harvest loans against electronic Negotiable Warehouse receipt (e-NWRs) from various financial institutions for the stocks kept in WDRA registered warehouse. Banks are requested to undertake pledge financing through e-NWRs

Once again, congratulations to all bankers for their stupendous achievement of ACP targets in 2023-24. Our collective actions will play a crucial role in promoting sustainable growth and development in the State.

With these few words, he concluded his speech.



Dr. V. Candavelou, Principal Secretary (Finance), Govt. of Goa.

Dr Candavelou welcomed all the dignitaries on the dais and off the dais.

At the outset, he extended his greetings for all the participating Banks for the 125th SLBC and achievements made. He made the following observations after going through the agenda of the 125th SLBC meeting:

1.He congratulated all the bankers for achieving the **Annual Credit Plan** target for the last 3 years. Banks have achieved ACP of **Rs 8724 crs** against the yearly target of **Rs 6400 crs**. Overall yearly achievement is at **136%**. The achievement is as per the target set for the Financial Year 2024-25. Within the overall target, there has been some sectors which underperformed like Agricultural Infrastructure, Export Credit, Education Loans, Social Infrastructure. All Banks to achieve their budget for the Financial Year.

2.The improvement in **Credit Deposit ratio** from **31%** to **32.83%** in March 2024 is a marginal improvement and needs to be improved further. Banks having low CD ratio to work out strategies to improve their performance. Banks to give more focus to increase their credit disbursal.

3.The decline in the percentage of **Priority sector lending** is a concern and all the Banks to ascertain the reasons and take corrective action. The priority sector lending should always show an increasing trend and hope that the performance on this parameter will improve in the coming year.

4.The digitisation of South Goa district is progressing well and has reached 99% and requested all the Bankers in South Goa district to put in more efforts and achieve 100% digitisation at the earliest so that Goa can be declared as a 100% digitised banking state. The zero balance accounts in PMJDY have decreased slightly over the previous quarter. The percentage of zero balance accounts have to be brought down to 5-6%.

5.The performance under the Social security schemes of Prime Minister Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojna (PMJJBY) and Prime Minister Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) is good compared to the last year. However, a few banks have performed pathetically. These banks have to conduct outreach programmes to cover the eligible beneficiaries. The achievement in APY is 33%. Banks which are below par to put in efforts to improve their performance.

6.The performance under Stand Up India and KCC schemes has been good, however the proposals received under Government Sponsored schemes like PMEGP needs improvement. He complimented all the banks for the achievement of ACP and look forward to continue the best performance this financial year also.

With these few words, he concluded his speech.

Shri. Carlos Rodrigues, AGM SLBC then piloted the discussion on the agenda. Few observations/directions during presentation:

- Dr. V. Candavelou, Principal Secretary (Finance) Govt. of Goa informed the remaining banks to achieve 100% digitisation of South Goa district at the earliest. He instructed the sponsoring agencies like KVIC to source more proposals under PMEGP scheme. He also urged the bankers to do correct



reporting in the SLBC portal to reflect correct figures and give thrust to the PM Vishwakarma and PM Surya Ghar Yojana.

- Dy. Director, KVIC Panaji congratulated the bankers and implementing agencies for achieving more than 100% margin money subsidy targets during 2023-24. He informed that there are 44 applications pending with the branches and advised the Bankers to sanction these applications in the current year. He also requested the Bankers to identify successful units sanctioned for more than 3 years under PMEGP scheme to take the benefit of 2nd loan facility.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks by Shri. Bikash Basumatary, Dy. General Manager & SLBC Member Secretary. He assured the dignitaries that the issues raised during the deliberations would be attended by all the Bankers and they will percolate down to their respective branches.

State Bank of India
SLBC, Goa
Date: 17.05.2024.




Dy. General Manager
& SLBC Member Secretary

Sr No	Agenda Items	Action Point	Action By
1	Review of ACP – Step up Priority sector lending	Focus on priority sector lending to be increased on quarter on quarter basis.	All Banks
2	Digitalisation of South Goa District	Ensure 100% digitisation of South Goa by 31st May 2024.	All Banks/SLBC/LDM South Goa
3	Data flow at LBS for migration to standardised data system.	All Banks are advised to ensure timely submission of data by uploading on the portal.	All Banks
4	Financial inclusion – Zero balance accounts	To be totally funded wherever feasible.	All Banks
5	Applications under KCC Fisheries/Dairy to be disposed immediately.	Status of applications of Fisheries department to be updated by the Banks.	All Banks
6	Financial Literacy Camps	More camps to be held and the target to be achieved.	All Banks/LDMs
7	RBI requested to reduce the frequency of DLRC meetings from quarterly to half yearly.	To seek the view of the concerned MPs before taking it up in the SLBC meeting.	LDMs