

MINUTES OF THE 115TH SLBC MEETING HELD ON 14TH DECEMBER 2021

The 115th meeting of the State Level Bankers Committee, Goa State, was held at Hotel Fidalgo, on 14th December 2021 under the Chairmanship of Shri. Parimal Rai, (IAS) Chief Secretary, Govt. of Goa. State Bank of India was represented by Shri. Ajay Kumar Singh Chief General Manager Maharashtra Circle and Ms. Sukhvinder Kaur, General Manager (NW 1) & SLBC Convenor. The Other dignitaries present were Shri Punit Kumar Goel (IAS), Secretary Finance Govt. of Goa. Shri. Ajay Michyari Regional Director, RBI, Mumbai & Shri N. J. Nampoothiri, General Manager, (Officer-in-Charge), Reserve Bank of India Goa, Smt. Usha Ramesh, General Manager, NABARD & Shri. Aditya Sharma, AGM, NHB, Mumbai attended the meet. The meeting was attended by other Senior Officials from the State Government and sponsoring Agencies, Senior Executives of Commercial Banks and representatives of State Co-operative Bank and representatives from Payment Banks.

Highlights of the speeches are as under: -

Ms. Sukhvinder Kaur, General Manager and SLBC Convenor

Ms. Sukhvinder Kaur extended warm welcome to all the dignitaries on the dais and off the dais. She complemented the Bankers for their good work done in the last one and half year of pandemic. She informed the house that the good work done by the Bankers were appreciated by the Government Officials. Special drive for vaccinating Bank employee was also initiated by Government on priority basis. She informed that though the Pandemic situation is now under control, another variant Omicron has entered the country. It is good to note that Goa has achieved 100% vaccination status in the 1st dose of Covid vaccine, and it is yet to achieve the 100% penetration in the 2nd dose. She wished to draw the attention of the participants to three major areas:-

To step up priority sector lending so that we can support the poor and weaker section of the population as this segment is severely affected by the pandemic. Through this, we can achieve the priority sector targets.

As desired by the MOS for finance Dr. Bhagwat Karad in special SLBC, Goa should be a fully digital State and it should be the first state in the country. She also urged the banks on 100% digitisation of South Goa District.

To attend all the Government sponsored proposals like Stand up India and other priority loan proposals should be dealt with in the 15 day's timeline set.

SHRI. AJAY KUMAR SINGH, CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER, STATE BANK OF INDIA, MAHARASHTRA CIRCLE

Shri. Ajay Kumar Singh welcomed all the guests on the dais and off the dais. He congratulated the member banks for the overall achievement under ACP for September, 21 at 101.02% vis a vis the comparative performance of 59.70% as on September, 20. He informed the house that it is a good achievement. He urged the banks to cross the ACP targets for the financial year 2021-22 with good margin. He expressed his happiness that all the villages in the State of Goa has been covered

either by way of a branch or through CSP and no area is unbanked. So also North Goa District has achieved 100% digital penetration as on 30.09.2021 and now the banks to focus on South Goa digitisation so that Goa becomes the first State in the Country to achieve the fully digital state in the country.

He expressed concern on two counts One low priority sector lending and second the C.D. ratio. As total P.S.L. is at 35.63% as on 30.09.21 of the total advance is too low. Although, there is some improvement as compared to last year but still it is very low as it is below the benchmark of 40%. He expressed his confidence, that the banks must have been planning to achieve the benchmark soon. Secondly, the CD ratio has improved from 32.39% as on 30.09.20 to 32.70% as on 30.09.21. However, considering the National average and the other parameters, it is too low. He once again urged the banks to report the data on financing of units located in the State of Goa by branches located outside Goa.

He instructed SLBC that the member banks have to submit the details of the funding made by the Corporate branches of all the Banks to the units located in the State of Goa by 03.01.2022. If the data is not submitted by the deadline set, a letter should be written to the Chairman/M.D. of the respective banks.

He stated that Goa needs to finance the activities which are suitable for tourism. As there is good scope in these activities in the State of Goa like financing of Hotels, Vehicles etc. MSME financing is another area is a matter of concern. Although, people of Goa have the highest per capital income, there is a huge scope of further increase it. Government is giving special focus in these area by providing infra structures and timely finance from the banking sector will give the desired results. He asked bankers to focus on PMSVANidhi, Stand up India, SHG.

He urged the bankers to accept the challenge to penetrate financial inclusion in the State of Goa. He also informed the house that the member banks have undertaken 102 camps for the quarter ended September 21 against the target of 84. He urged the banks to increase the number of CSPs to be engaged which will assist us to achieve the goal of financial inclusion.

He reminded the member banks to hold one week drive in the State of Goa during the second week of January 2022 to open PMJDY account of those voters who have turned major from the year 2019 to 2021. He also urged the banks to cover the existing eligible PMJDY accounts with the Social Security schemes. He observed that there are few banks with very low performance which is not acceptable.

Shri. Ajay Michyari, Regional Director, RBI, (Mah & Goa)

Shri. Ajay Michyari welcomed all the guests on the dais and off the dais. He informed that he wish to flag to issues as raised by CGM, SBI that is Priority Sector Lending and C.D. ratio in the State of Goa. The level of 35.63% is lower than the benchmark of 40%. He instructed the bank to draw appropriate strategies to turn around the performance.

He referred to the credit disbursement of the Banks for the first six months, the performance of the banks seems to be better vis a vis the previous six months of the last financial year. Banks have achieved disbursement of Rs.2576 Cr's against the annual target of Rs.5500 Cr's which is 50.51%. Last year, the achievement was

29.85% during the same period. He hoped that the Banks will achieve the annual target of Rs.5500 Cr's for the period 21-22 and surpass the same. Agriculture infrastructure is one area which needs to be focussed. Also the Banks needs to focus on PMJDY. Referring to PSL, Banks needs to focus on revitalize handloom and handicraft industries as this sector is under stress. Also other categories under the weaker sections like artisans, Villages and Cottage industries. Considering the present situation, a focussed attention to this sector is called for so that credit is made available to this needy sector in time. Priority Sector Lending- Bank's lending to NBFCs for on lending – Extension of facility- The facility has been extended till March 31, 2022 keeping in view the increased traction observed in delivering credit to the underserved/unserved segments of the economy. Loans disbursed under the on-lending model will continue to be classified under Priority Sector till the date of repayment/maturity whichever is earlier.

He also informed about the CEGSSC which was launched by Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment on 6th May, 2015 with the objective to promote entrepreneurship amongst the Scheduled Castes (SCs), by providing Credit Enhancement Guarantee to Member Lending Institutions (MLIs), who shall be providing financial assistance to these entrepreneurs. IFCI Ltd. has been designated as the Nodal Agency under the scheme, to issue the guarantee cover in favour of MLIs, who shall be encouraged to finance SCs entrepreneurs to boost entrepreneurship amongst the marginal strata of the society. It is understood that as banks are not taking advantage of the scheme, banks are advised to use the scheme.

Shri. N. J. Nampoothiri, General Manager (OIC), RBI, Panaji Goa

Shri. Nampoothiri, welcomed all the guests on the dais and off the dais. He informed that all banks have completed 100% digital coverage for the savings accounts and the current accounts.

He informed that as stated in the previous SLBC, Central Office had also advised SLBCs/ UTLBCs to scale up the programme in one or two other districts as well, in consultation with the stakeholders concerned. Accordingly, banks are directed to do 100% coverage in South Goa district as well.

He informed the participants that CFLs have been established in Bicholim block in North Goa district (Pernem and Sattari adjoining blocks) and Sanguem block in South Goa district (Dharbhandora and Quepem adjoining blocks) on November 30, 2021 and November 29, 2021 respectively. Each CFL will cater to two adjoining blocks, thus covering 6 blocks of the State by December 2021. NGO identified for the purpose is Dhan Foundation.

He informed the participants that Due to the pandemic, handloom and handicraft sector has faced the brunt of the pandemic. PSL guidelines incentivize flow of bank credit to the Micro Enterprises with specified categories artisans, village and cottage industries. All banks are advised to make credit available to the handloom and handicraft industry.

As far as Social Security Scheme is concerned there is increase of 5430 in PMJJBY, in PMSBY, there is increase of 6,478. 12 banks have shown zero performance/Non reporting banks. In APY there is increase of 12,952. Banks should make efforts to increase.

He cautioned the Banks to take appropriate measures to ensure smooth movement of cash during the Code of conduct period as there are chances of Cash being confiscated by the Election Commission Squad.

Smt. Usha Ramesh, General Manager, NABARD, Panaji Goa.

Smt. Usha Ramesh welcomed the guest on the dais and off the dais. She informed the house that there is lack of knowledge and the expertise on the part of the bankers in lending to piggery activity. Similarly, she informed all the Bankers should have the basic knowledge of the rate of interest applicable to the KCC. She referred to the workshop held by them to educate the senior bankers on lending under Agriculture Infrastructure funds. She expressed her desire to hold 14 such camps to feel the lack of knowledge.

She admitted that Goa is well banked state. She also admitted that BC's have been appointed by Banks. She enquired if at any time the performance of these BC's have been analysed by any authority. Impacts of these BC's needs to be seen. She wanted to check if these BC's are doing their work as per the profile or being used for branch work.

Goa has been given the target of forming 12 FPO's. NABARD could locate only 5 FPO's so far. All the FPO's are in North Goa. She requested Government of Goa to give necessary approval to bring the farmers to make them members due to Code of Conduct, which will come in force in January 2022. To this, the Chief Secretary informed her that once the Code of conduct sets in, it will not be possible to give any approval in this regard.

Shri. Punnet Kumar Goel, (IAS) Principal Secretary (Finance), Govt. of Goa.

Shri. Puneet Kumar Goel welcomed the guests on the dais and off the dais. He specially thanked the Chief Secretary who attended the meet in spite of his tight schedule due to the visit of Hon'ble Prime Minister to the State on 19.12.2021.

While referring the agenda papers, he informed that the banks have achieved 50% of the ACP targets for the half year ending September 21. Considering that the first quarter of this year was covered by the 2nd waive of Covid, Banks have really performed well in the 2nd quarter and needs to be complimented for this performance. The economic impact of the covid was felt by the banks. Some of the setbacks have been cushioned by the various packages introduced by the Government under Atma Nirbhar Bharat, Emergency line of Credits to MSME and opening of the Priority sector basket to cover more activities. These have also helped the Banks to achieve its ACP. He opined that Crop loan performance is excellent as credit outgo has increased in this year. This has also resulted in better performance in the KCC (Fisheries and Animal Husbandry) sector. However, still more can be done by the Banks as only 553 KCC has been issued in Fishery and 1675 KCC in Animal Husbandry. Agriculture Infrastructure funds are yet to be used in Goa for which he requested Banks to make more efforts. Performance under Export Credit, Renewable energy also needs to be picked up. Banks also needs to focus on the Social Security Schemes and achieve the target set. Only if we perform in this area, we will achieve the PSL target of 40% as stipulated by RBI. Banks also needs to focus on the customer service and the simplification of the documentation and ensure that the visits of the customers to the branches are minimised. Banks have to gear up to meet the emerging challenges else there is threat of losing our relevance. He hoped that the all the targets set will be achieved by all the Banks.

Shri. Parimal Rai, (IAS) Chief Secretary, Govt of Goa.

Shri. Parimal Rai welcomed all the guests on the dais and off the dais. He informed the participants that the 3rd wave of Covid through Omicron is very much there and we should all take appropriate precaution. He appealed to all the bankers to ensure that they and their family members are vaccinated as Vaccination is the only long term solution to minimise the impact of the all other variants. As the virus starts muting the impact weakens but the speed increases. It also indicates that the pandemic is coming to an end. However, we cannot take a chance. However, we cannot stop working.

He informed the participants that he recently had three interactions with the Hon'ble Prime Minister and his emphasis has been on KCC & PMSVANidhi. Both the schemes are close to his heart. I urge you to focus on these two schemes so that more lending is done in these schemes. KCC is covering agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries. There is enough scope to maximise lending in these schemes. Though there is improvement in various parameters, he urged the Banks to achieve the yearly targets by end of this quarter as in the last quarter, elections are due in the State and all will be busy with the process of the election.

He thanked RBI, SBI and NABARD for supporting the Government during the time of pandemic. SBI for the CSR activity and NABARD for the various hand holding initiatives taken by them to support the economy. However, he warned all, not to let the complacency in. He also requested all the participants to introspect about the digitisation of North Goa District and to re assess the digitisation process and make random checks to ensure that the digitisation process is in order. If the Bankers are satisfied about the digitisation process, then they should focus on the South Goa District and make Goa State the first State in the country fully digitised.

He also warned the Banks to follow due legal process while moving the cash from one point to other by carrying appropriate authority letter, so that ATM's do not go dry due to seizure of the cash by the election squad. He also requested for a mechanism for reporting of such movement of cash to the appropriate authority, if possible, without compromising the security of the van. He informed the Banks that if the cash is confiscated, then it will take a long time to release the same from the authorities and this can be avoided by following the due process. He requested Banks to keep good communication on the movement of cash to avoid hardships as he expected heavy withdrawals from the ATMs in the days to come resulting in frequent cash loading. Finally, he cautioned the members to take all safety measures and ensure 100% vaccination amongst themselves and their relations

Shri. P. G. Kamat, AGM, SLBC then piloted the discussion on the agenda.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks by Shri. Naveen Kumar Gupta, Deputy General Manager (B&O) & Member Secretary, SLBC Goa. He assured the speakers that the issues raised during the deliberation, would be attended with utmost urgency and will be resolved at the earliest. This will not only result in pumping higher credit in the economy thereby resulting in revival of the lively hood of the common citizens of the State of Goa.

State Bank of India

SLBC, Goa

Date: 14.12.2021.



General Manager & SLBC Convenor

<i>Sr No</i>	<i>Agenda Items</i>	<i>Action Point</i>	<i>Action By</i>
1	Review of ACP – Step up Priority sector lending	Focus on priority sector lending to be increased	All Banks
2	Digitalisation of South Goa District	Ensure digital maximisation and achieve 100%.	All Banks/SLBC
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	All Banks
5	Application under PMSVANidhi scheme to be disposed immediately	All applications should be disposed of immediately.	All banks
6	Financial Literacy Camps	More camps to be held and the target to be achieved	All Banks/LDM
7	Finance to revitalise handloom and handicraft industry.	All Banks to focus on financing handloom and handicraft industry and sensitize all the Branch Manager in this regard.	All Banks
8	All the Banks to ensure that the credit exposures to the units located in Goa needs to be reported either by way of uploading in the portal or by way of mail to SLBC at the end of every quarter.	All the Banks to confirm having put the mechanism to report such exposure by 03.01.2022. Non confirmation will result in writing a letter by SLBC to the M.D./C.E. O of the defaulting Bank.	All Banks
9	Data uploaded by the Banks on the SLBC portal will be shared in Excel format for verification. Confirmation from the Bank for having verified the data and having found in order is required.	SLBC will share excel sheet of the business data uploaded by the Banks for verification. Banks are requested to go through the data and make necessary corrections, if any under confirmation to SLBC.	All Banks.