



United Bank of India
Convener of State level Bankers' Committee, Tripura

Minutes of the 129th Meeting of SLBC, Tripura held on 18-06-19 at Pragya Bhawan, Agartala.

The 129th SLBC meeting of Tripura State was held at Pragya Bhawan, Hall No.4, Agartala on 18th June, 2019 to review the performance of Banks for and up to quarter March 2019. Dignitaries in the meeting included,

Shri Biplab Kumar Deb, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tripura,
Shri Ashok Kumar Pradhan, MD & CEO, United Bank of India
Dr. U Venkateswarlu, Chief Secretary, Govt. of Tripura
Shri Kumar Alok, Principal Secretary to Chief Minister
Shri B.K. Sahu, Principal Secretary, Revenue,
Shri S.R. Kumar, Principal Secretary Industries & Commerce

A list of participants is annexed.

After felicitation of Shri Biplab Kumar Deb, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tripura, the meeting commenced with the Action Taken Report for the Action Points raised in the last (128th) SLBC meeting and discussion on agenda items.

The gist of the deliberations and the emerging Action Points are as follows.

Achievement under ACP : All the banks put together disbursed Rs 8268.33 crore which was 155% of the Annual Target of Rs 5331.57 crore under ACP for 2018-19. The achievement under Agriculture sector was 123%, where as it was 149% and 88% under MSME and Other Priority Sector respectively.

ACP for 2019-20 : SLBC observed that the PLP prepared by NABARD needs to be suitably altered to ensure 20% increase in ACP 2019-20 over the achievement of previous year in the respective key sectors in view of the potential. SLBC is to finalize the ACP and allocate District-wise & Bank wise targets. **(Action Point 1: SLBC)**

CD Ratio: CD ratio of the banks in the state improved to 54% as on 31.03.2019 from 48% as on 31.03.2018, registering a YOY growth of 12.5%. All the 8 districts achieved CD Ratio above 50%. Allahabad Bank, Canara Bank, UCO Bank and Tripura Gramin Bank, among others, with low CD ratio were advised to improve performance in 2019-20. Dr. U Venkateswarlu suggested that the targeted CD Ratio of the State should be 65% although this level of 65% would be much lower than the national average of 77-78%. **(Action Point 2: All Banks)**

Agriculture:

- Dr. U Venkateswarlu, Chief Secretary, Govt of Tripura advised the Agriculture Dept to furnish the details of identified farmers, including those of PM-KISAN in the State to the SLBC/ Banks, so that the left out farmers can be covered for Saturation of KCC.
- SLBC desk stated that in the absence of State wide list on uncovered farmers under Farm Loans, Gomati district has been selected on Pilot basis for ensuring 100% KCC coverage and the process would start from the ensuing Kharif season.
- Process of Identification of uncovered farmers in other Districts should be initiated by the concerned Dept. of Govt. of Tripura.
- Shri Sunil Kumar, GM, NABARD suggested for segregated data on new and Renewed KCCs loans.
- Shri Kumar Alok, Principal Secretary, suggested conducting of campaigns to create awareness on KCC coverage. Department of Agriculture, Fishery, ARDD, Banks and NABARD are advised to work cohesively in this direction so as to start the campaign by 29th July, 2019. Publicity through Print and Electronic media be undertaken. **(Action Point 3: Banks/SLBC/NABARD & Line Departments)**



PMFBY: The banks to cover all eligible farmers under PMFBY for the Kharif, 2019 crop with support from line departments. **(Action Point 4: Banks & Deptt of Agriculture, Fisheries, ARDD)**

Self Help Groups (SHGs):

- The achievement against the ACP (2018-19) stood 109% under DAY-NRLM for FY 2018-19.
- While the achievement of Tripura Gramin Bank and Tripura State Co-operative Bank Ltd was appreciated, the rest of the Banks were advised to focus more in this segment to improve their performance.
- Smt Saumya Gupta, Secretary Rural Development, stated that all out efforts be made to achieve the target for FY 2019-20 for TRLM comprising 4489 credit linked SHGs with aggregate amount of Rs.62.13 crore.
- TRLM has arranged for posting of Bank Sakhis at the linked branches. The effective Community Based Recovery Mechanism (CBRM) is also to be activated by the branches for monitoring, recovery and hassle free loan to SHGs. **(Action Point 5: All Banks)**

Rubber Production & Smoke Houses:

- Shri S.R. Kumar, Principal Secretary Industries & Commerce, asked the Banks to provide adequate finance for production of quality rubber in the State; Also advocated for protection of the interests of all by way of a tripartite agreement between Rubber Producing Societies, Rubber Board and Banks for facilitating loans to beneficiaries under Rubber production as well as Smoke House Projects. Suitable mechanism to be devised to reach out to the farmers undertaking rubber plantation to extend hassle free loans with repayment schedules matching to the cash flows.
- The House opined that these projects should be financed under the ambit of PMEGP, Swavalamban, Stand up India, etc. depending upon the quantum of the loan. Sri Kumar suggested that this is a State specific scheme and direct finances by the Banks should be given priority over finance under other Central or State Govt. sponsored schemes. Targets should be allocated under the scheme among the Banks under ACP, 19-20 according to the purpose irrespective of the sponsored scheme/ programme under which they are covered.

(Action Point 6 : All Banks & Industry Dept)

Dairy Development Scheme:

- The House was apprised on the Dairy Development Scheme of Govt of Tripura, in line with the existing Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme (DEDS) of NABARD, which will be circulated to all Banks for implementation.
- The issue of availability/ supply of quality breed of cattle in large numbers was raised by Banks. It was suggested that awareness be created about "E-pashuhat" portal to facilitate the purchase of good quality breed cows. ARDD department to coordinate for procurement of quality milch cows by prospective dairy entrepreneurs and define ways of passing subsidy via DEDS scheme.
- Shri Sunil Kumar, GM NABARD informed that the subsidy component allocated under DEDS scheme in the State for the current fiscal year stood at Rs.4.60 crore and requested Bankers to book subsidy in eligible cases from the available subsidy fund.

(Action Point 7: All Banks, ARDD & NABARD)

Opening of Banking Outlets in unbanked centres:

- **On the issue of opening of Outlets in five (5) centers which were pending for long:**
 - ICICI Bank is said to have initiated the process of opening of Branch at Nabincherra.
 - Canara Bank, Union Bank & Axis Bank opted for fixed point Banking Outlets.
 - As regard opening of branch in Ishan Chandra Nagar (by erstwhile Vijaya Bank), Bank of Baroda would do the needful resolution shortly.
 - Banking outlets in all the five (5) locations must be completed by 31st July, 2019.

(Action Point 8: Concerned 5 allottee banks)

- **Opening of new branches at Fatikroy Bazar & Kanchanbari Bazar**

- State Bank of India and Bank of India by August, 2019 (preferably before the commencement of Rabi Season 2019-20). Appropriate letter to Bank of India concern office for their absence in the SLBC meeting.



• **Opening of new branches at five (5) villages identified recently:**

- SBI to open branches at Ranir Bazar, Kathalia and Bagma.
- Tripura Gramin Bank will open branch at Manikpur and Tripura State Co-operative Bank at Karamcherra.
- Respective LDMs will undertake a survey at these locations and submit Report to respective Banks under intimation to SLBC. **(Action Point 9: SBI, BOI, TGB, TSCB, SLBC)**

Interest subvention on KCC/Fishery Loans by four (4) Banks:

- It was observed that Banks like Bandhan Bank, HDFC Bank, Ujjivan Small Finance Bank, IndusInd Bank, etc. had registered high performance under Agriculture credit, but farmers were deprived of the subsidy under the scheme.
- The issue of interest subvention to those farmers availing loan from such Banks may be verified by NABARD, as these banks are charging more than 7% interest to the loanee-farmers.

(Action Point 10 : NABARD)

Government Sponsored Loan Schemes:

- Disbursement figures in sanctioned cases were found to be very low and require immediate improvement.
- Achievement under Swavalamban scheme is expected to give better results in its new format where applications will be submitted online through a dedicated portal, with shift in preference to skilled entrepreneurs.

(Action Point 11 : All Banks)

Education Loans:

- Smt Saumya Gupta, Secretary Higher Education, requested banks to increase the number of education loans provided to students for pursuing higher education.
- Target for 2019-20 is fixed at 1500 by number under Chief Minister's B.Ed Anuprerana Yojana.
- The banks are to claim interest subvention for loans under Chief Minister's B.Ed Anuprerana Yojana in eligible cases. Banks should put in place appropriate mechanism on monitoring of providing interest subvention to eligible students.

(Action Point 12: All Banks)

PMMY and SUI loans:

- Convenor of SLBC highlighted the Banks' performance under MUDRA covering 4.41 lakh beneficiaries during the period up to March 2019 and hoped that the trend will continue and the banks will surpass the last year performance in 2019-20.
- The House observed that the performance of Banks in Stand up India needs substantial improvement. Banks need to identify eligible borrowers under guidance of Govt. authorities for credit linking of new entrepreneurs.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tripura stated that some of the banks are insisting on guarantors and securities for sanctioning Mudra loans, which violates the scheme guidelines. He advised the banks to desist from such irregular practices and ensure strict adherence to the scheme guidelines.

(Action Point 13: All Banks)

NPA and Recovery:

- Convenor of SLBC observed that the amount of NPA of all Banks taken together was Rs.684.75 crores as on March, 2019 which showed a marginal increase over that of March 2018 (Rs. 684.43 crores). The overall reduction in percentage terms from 5.32 to 3.98 could be attributed to the corporate loan by SBI in 2018-19. In essence, recovery remained a concern area for the Bank.
- The State Govt. authorities were requested to provide necessary co-operation in the process of recovery from NPA borrowers, particularly in personal loans to State Govt employees and other Govt. sponsored schemes and speedy disposal of PDR & SARFAESI cases.
- Smt Aparna Debbarma, MD TSCB and Shri Mahendra Mohan Goswami, Chairman TGB drew the attention of the State Govt authorities on the high number of NPA loans of State Govt employees.
- Shri Tamal Biswas, GM RBI requested the State Govt to take action against defaulting State Govt employees as defined by the Service Rules of Govt of Tripura. Dr. U Venkateswarlu, Chief Secretary, assured to look into the matter.

(Action Point 14: State Government Deptts)



Tourism: Banks to participate in development of tourism by way of extension of credit to registered tour operators/service providers sponsored by Tourism Department with provision of interest subvention.

(Action Point 15: SLBC)

Participation in SLBC meetings: Shri Biplab Kumar Deb, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tripura, demanded the presence of high ranking officials (preferably in the rank of DGM or so) of member Banks of SLBC and other institutions in SLBC meetings.

(Action Point 16: All Banks & SLBC)

Other Issues:

- In line with the decision taken in 126th SLBC meeting, to foster a healthy competition among the Banks in 3 Key business verticals, namely, MSME Support & Outreach Program-SAMVEG, PMMY-2018-19 and SHG Finance under NRLM, the following performing banks were felicitated,

Programme	Performing Banks
MSME Support & Outreach Program	TGB, UBI & SBI
PMMY sanction 2018-19	Bandhan Bank, TGB, UBI & SBI
NRLM-SHG, 2018-19	TGB, TSCBL & UBI

- Shri Biplab Kumar Deb, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tripura, suggested the following.
 - (i) Bankers should take more pro-active role in the development of the State and therefore the credit culture in the State has to improve for which the role of the Govt. machinery is very important.
 - (ii) Bankers to guide the prospective entrepreneurs through appropriate hand holding support for setting up new units with financial assistance
 - (iii) Banks to take note of the various policies implemented by the State Govt and align their credit scheme to sectors like Fisheries, Agriculture, Dairy production, area specific sectors like Rubber industry, Black Pepper, Ginger, betel nut, and Tourism among others. The seasonality of sowing, harvest and cash flow in these sectors should be understood by the Banks so as to extend appropriate and timely credit linkage to the producers to prevent distressed sale to the intermediaries.

He expressed his displeasure that some of the PSBs were not providing loans in a time bound and hassle free manner, particularly in KCC and SHG finance, for which borrowers were compelled to avail credit at high rate of interest from private banks. This needed immediate intervention from competent authorities of the concerned Banks. Banking channel should be an effective source of employment generation.

Conclusion: Summing up the discussion, Shri Ashok Kumar Pradhan, MD & CEO, United Bank of India, thanked Shri Biplab Kumar Deb, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tripura for his august presence in the SLBC meeting, providing guidance to the SLBC to propel the State towards all round growth. The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.


General Manager
Prisec-Agri & Convener of SLBC

