

MINUTES OF THE 4TH SLFIC MEETING HELD UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE CHIEF SECRETARY, ASSAM AT 10.00 AM ON 12TH DEC, 2016 IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE CHIEF SECRETARY.

The fourth meeting the SLFIC was held at 10.00 a.m. on 12th Dec, 2016 in the conference room of the Chief Secretary under the chairmanship of the Chief Secretary, Assam. All Deputy Commissioners of the Districts also participated in the meeting through video conference.

The officials present in the meeting is shown at Annexure-A.

2. At the outset, Chief Secretary welcomed the officials and informed the meeting that banks are yet to achieve 100% account opening in most of the tea gardens in the state although the stipulated date for 100% account opening was over on 5th Dec, 2016. He requested the bankers present to apprise the meeting on this. Chief Secretary also informed that many districts have raised the issue inadequate numbers of CSPs allotted to tea gardens which had caused delay in the account opening process and asked the bankers to rise to this occasion of national importance and gear up their efforts to facilitate transformation from a cash system to a less cash digital system. He also urged the bankers to immediately address the issue of inadequate availability of CSPs in Biswanath Chariali district and some other tea gardens and take urgent steps in this regard. He requested the SLBC Convener to issue suitable instruction to banks for this. Chief Secretary asked the banks to ensure availability of lower denomination currencies in the ATMs of all banks on the eve of Christmas and Magh Bihu. **(Action: SLBC Convener/All Banks)**.
3. Banks present in the meeting including SBI, UBI informed that although there is some shortage of small denomination currency notes, the banks have been able to manage the situation with the cooperation of the RBI. GM, RBI present in the meeting was requested to keep track of the availability of small denomination currency notes in the districts and take appropriate steps accordingly. **(Action: RBI)**
4. All banks were requested to look in to the availability of PoS machines in the districts especially in the tea gardens and ensure that adequate numbers of PoS machines are made available in the districts. **(Action: All banks)**.
5. ABITA had informed the meeting that some banks are insisting on pan card, Aadhaar card etc for opening of bank accounts. It was informed that accounts can be opened after the respective tea garden managers certify the tea garden employees' employment in the tea garden. ABITA was requested to bring specific cases of difficulties in opening of bank accounts, if any, so that they may be addressed in time. **(Action: All banks/ABITA)**
6. All banks were requested to resolve their issues in coordination with the tea garden managements and in case any assistance from the district administration/State Government is required, the same may be immediately intimated to the DCs/State Government. Chief Secretary reiterated that the assistance from the district administration and State Govt will be forthcoming in all such cases. **(Action: All DCs/Finance Deptt)**.

7. GM, SBI was requested to issue instruction to the SBI Branch at Kumbhirgram and Rajabazar in Cachar District to contact the DC, Cachar immediately and expedite the account opening process in these tea gardens. (Action : SLBC Convenor).

8. Digital literacy campaign will be started in all panchayats of the State which will be coordinated by the Panchayat & Rural Development Department. All DCs were requested to contact local SBI and arrange the digital literacy campaign in coordination with the Panchayat & Rural Development Department. The literacy programme should be held in each panchayat. Panchayat & Rural Development Department was requested to issue suitable instruction in this regard immediately. (Action : SLBC Convenor/SBI/Panchayat & Rural Development Department).

9. It was decided that treasuries in the state will allow space for storage of currencies wherever adequate space is available with adequate security arrangement for safe custody of the currencies. All DCs were requested to consult with GM, RBI and take appropriate action in this regard. (Action : All DC/RBI).

The meeting then ended with thanks from the chair.

Sd/-
(V.K.Pipersenia, IAS)
Chief Secretary, Assam
&
Chairman, SLFIC.

Memo No.FIF.17/2016/Pt/35-A,

Dated Dispur, the 15th December, 2016.

Copy forwarded to :-

1. S.O. to Chief Secretary to the Government of Assam for appraisal of Chief Secretary, Dispur for information.
2. The General Manager, (NW-I), State Bank of India (SLBC Convenor), Local Head Office, Dispur, Guwahati-6 for information and necessary action. He is requested kindly to forward the minutes to all the member banks from his end.
3. Members present.

By order etc.,


Director,
Finance(IF) Department.

96/
15/12