

Minutes of 4th meeting of UTLBC Ladakh held on 12th January 2022

The 4th meeting of the Union Territory Level Banker's Committee (UTLBC) Ladakh to review performance of banks and financial Institutions operating in UT Ladakh for quarter ended 30th June 2021 and 30th September 2021 was held on 12th January 2022 through virtual mode following the Covid-19 guidelines.

The meeting was chaired by Sh. Umang Narula (IAS) Advisor to Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of UT Ladakh. The meeting was attended by Mr. Ajay Kumar Jha, General Manager, State Bank of India (Convenor, UTLBC Ladakh), Dr.Pawan Kotwal (IAS) Principal Secretary, Sh. Ajeet Kumar Sahu (IAS) Commissioner/Secretary, Sh. Saugat Biswas (IAS) Divisional Commissioner, Ms. Padma Angmo (IIS) Secretary Education & Skill Development, Sh. Ravinder Kumar (IAS) Administrative Secretary, Sh. D.C Rajat Kumar (IDAS) Additional Secretary Finance, Sh. Shrikant Balasaheb Suse (IAS) DC Leh, Sh. Santosh Sukhadeve (IAS) DC Kargil and Sh. Surinder Singh General Manager NABARD. Sh. Sandeep Mittal General Manager, Reserve Bank of India Jammu, Sh. Ajitav Parashar, Deputy General Manager, SBI Jammu and Sh. Fayaz Ahmed Wani, Regional Manager through virtual mode. The senior functionaries of the line departments as well as representatives of various banks, Director RSETIs and LDMs also attended the meeting. The detailed list of participants is enclosed as **Annexure –A**

At the outset, Mr. Tsering Morup, Assistant General Manager, State Bank of India, Convenor UTLBC of UT Ladakh welcomed and expressed gratitude to Hon'ble Advisor to the Lieutenant Governor UT Ladakh for his consent to preside over the meeting on virtual mode (VC). He also extended warm welcome to all the dignitaries and other participants of the meeting and expressed optimism that the deliberations in the meeting will be meaningful and result oriented. Subsequently, he delivered a Power Point Presentation regarding performance of banks covering all items of the agenda.

The discussions ensued as under:

Agenda Item No: A

All the banks were advised for timely submission of Action Taken Report (ATR). It was also mentioned that the delay in conducting UTLBC Meeting was due to non submission of ATR by few banks. RBI directed all the banks for timely submission of ATR within a month after circulating the Minutes of meeting among the member banks.

(Action By: All concerned Dept. & All Banks)

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Agenda Item No 1.01

(a) Performance of Bank under KCC

Discussing the performance under KCC, the UTLBC advised the bankers to reach out for extending KCC loan to the deserving farmers. Sh. Surinder Singh, General Manager NABARD mentioned that term Loan activities under agriculture sector is low as NABARD has target of Rs. 137 Cr, out of which only 1.75 Cr have been achieved so far .He urged all the banks and agriculture departments to loan more on term loan lending activities like Dairy, Agro processing, Sea buckthorn, Poultry etc. The Chairperson directed all the banks to achieve the target fixed for Nationwide AHDF KCC Campaign from 15th November 2021 to 15th February 2022 for providing of KCC Credit facility to all eligible Animal Husbandry and Fisheries farmers. The target fixed for UT is 600.

(Action By: All concerned Dept. & All Banks)

Agenda Item no 2.01

Progress under Street Vendor Scheme (PM SVANidhi)

The house noted that the banks have extended credit to 294 beneficiaries under PM SVANidhi Scheme out of which 273 are accepting payment digitally. All the bankers were directed to cover the remaining accounts under digital payment system.

(Action by: All Banks)

Agenda Item no 3.01

Progress Achieved under PMAY

Noting the low figures under PMAY, the Chairperson stressed that more efforts are required to put in identifying beneficiaries under this scheme. Sh. Ajeet Kumar Sahu (IAS) Commissioner Secretary suggested that banks need to encourage the eligible customers under this scheme and extend credit to all eligible applicants.

(Action by: All Banks)

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Agenda Item No 4.01

Bank wise/sector wise/region wise Achievement in lending to priority and non-priority sector under Annual Credit Plan.

The House noted that the banks have extended credit to the tune of Rs.717.69cr in favour of 20889 beneficiaries in both priority and non-priority sectors thereby registering achievement of 71.53% in financial terms and 45.20%in physical terms.

a) Agriculture Sector

It was decided to constitute a committee of all the participating banks along with the NABARD, and Department of Agriculture to work on bankable projects to increase the agriculture infrastructure and ancillary activities under Animal and Horticulture sector. NABARD assured the house that it will open its office in the Ladakh at the earliest.

(Action By: NABARD, Agri. Dept. & All Banks)

b) Education loans:

The low figures in this sector were noted with concern. Banks were advised that more sensitization is required to improve credit off take in this sector. Ms. Padma Angmo, Secretary, Technical Education & Skill Dev. Department suggested that all the banks should conduct Camps in colleges and also to conduct financial awareness programmes at Polytechnic colleges.

C) Social Infrastructure.

It was decided that a separate meeting be convened between banks and Secretary Social Welfare Department so that sensitization can be carried out for better credit linkages.

d) Renewable Energy:

Chairperson advised the house that there is a very large scope in renewable energy projects and the banks should come forward and take active part in financing to such projects.

(Action By: All concerned Dept. & All Banks)

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Agenda Item No 5.01

Credit under Major Govt. Sponsored Scheme :

The performance of banks under major government sponsored schemes was analyzed and concern was expressed over the low disbursal under NRLM and NULM Schemes during the quarter. All concerned government departments and banks were directed to set specific targets under the various Govt. Sponsored Schemes and review them periodically at district level.

(Action By: All concerned Dept. & All Banks)

Agenda Item No 6.01

Bank Credit at a Glance:

The Chairperson expressed concern over the low CD ratio which stood at 42% as on September 2021 against the benchmark of 60%. He pointed out that there is decline in figures of J&K Bank, HDFC Bank, AXIS Bank and YES Bank. He directed the Banks with subdued CD Ratio (less than 40%) to increase this ratio in the next quarter, especially those which have reported CD Ratio of less than 20%. The representatives of HDFC and Axis Bank assured the house that the CD Ratio will be improved in the next quarter.

(Action By: All Banks)

Agenda Item No 6.03:

NPA POSITION IN UT OF LADAKH:

No remarks were made regarding NPA position, however the overall NPA percentage of UT Ladakh stood at 1.42%.

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Agenda Item No 7.01:

Financial Inclusion Plan:

The Chairperson emphasized that extension of banking facilities to all the remote / Un-banked villages should remain top priority and the option of mobile van banking services with VSAT connectivity should be explored where internet connectivity is a major challenge. He also suggested exploring the option of involving Common Service Centre set up under every Gram Panchayat to boost financial inclusion in the UT of Ladakh. Sh. Fayaz Ahmad Wani, Regional Manager, State Bank of India informed the house that SBI is opening 9 Branches in UT of Ladakh by end of this financial year. He assured that the SBI will explore the option of two mobile vans for banking services. The J&K bank was asked to cover all the allocated un-banked 10 villages by this month. Sh. Tsewang Dorji, Zonal Head J&K Bank stated that J&K Bank will explore the option of mobile van banking services and will take up the matter with their higher authorities for providing mobile van banking services to unbanked areas. SBI & J&K Bank were asked to upload the covered villages on Jan Dhan Darshak Apps.

(Action By: Convenor Bank UTLBC Ladakh & All Banks)

Agenda Item No 7.02

Financial Literacy Initiative by FLCs and Rural Branches of Bank:

Chairperson emphasized on organizing more financial literacy camps by rural branches. All banks were asked to conduct financial literacy camps to increase awareness about the Centrally Sponsored Schemes, PM Social Security Schemes and digital payment system.

(Action By: All Banks)

Agenda Item No 7.03

Rural Self Employment Training Institute (RSETIs):

RSETIs were directed to explore the possibilities of training programme in food processing, Brass Craft, Handicraft and Handloom sectors besides their regular courses.

(Action By: Director RSETI Leh & Kargil)

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Agenda Item No 8.01 and 8.02

Performance of bank under MUDRA & SUI:

Concern was expressed over the low performance in this scheme as with the exception of SBI & J&K Bank, other banks are not financing under this scheme. The performance need to be monitored very closely by the Government departments and banks must strive to improve their performance under MUDRA and SUI. Chairperson also directed all the banks to enhance credit facilities under MUDRA & SUI and other priority sector lending thereby contributing in the development of the economy of UT Ladakh. The Chairperson directed all banks to take active part and advised target of minimum one case for each branch under SUI Scheme.

(Action By: All Banks)

Agenda Item No 8.03 & 8.04:

Social Security Schemes:

The participants expressed their concern over the low achievement by the banks in Social Security Schemes and it was decided that all the banks should cover maximum number of beneficiaries under these Schemes and all eligible customers under Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Accounts (PMJDY) to be saturated under Saturation Drive on Jansuraksha Scheme. The Chairperson directed all the banks operating in UT to cover all eligible beneficiaries of PMJDY accounts under these Social Security Schemes viz PMJJBY, PMSBY and APY. Bank wise targets for Social Security Scheme for the financial year 2021-2022 as tabulated below.

Sr. No	Name of Banks	Targets for the Financial Year 2021-22		
		PMJJBY	PMSBY	APY
1	State Bank of India	1700	1700	910
2	Punjab National Bank	400	400	280
3	Central Bank of India	100	100	-
4	Canara Bank	100	100	70
5	IDBI Bank	100	100	70
6	J&K Bank	3500	3500	1050
7	ICICI Bank	400	400	140

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8	HDFC Bank	200	200	140
9	Axis bank	300	300	210
10	Yes bank	100	100	-
11	J&K Grameen bank	200	200	140
12	J&K Cooperative Bank	700	700	-
	Total	7800	7800	3010

He directed to all the banks to achieve the targets of Social Security Schemes by 31st, March 2022. He suggested the Deputy Commissioners of both districts to cover all eligible employees of the government departments and conduct camps for registering additional beneficiaries. Ms. Priyanka Gupta, Deputy General Manager (PFRDA) informed the house that out of allocated target of 3010 APY, only 18% have been achieved and she mentioned that the main objective is to cover eligible PMJDY account under APY and advised all the bank need to gear up to enrol more under Atal Pension Scheme. Sh. Fayaz Ahmed Wani RM SBI assured the house that SMS alerts will be sent to all eligible customers under these three Schemes.

(Action By: All Banks)

Agenda Item No 8.05

Status of Business Correspondents / Bank Mitra in UT Ladakh:

Sh. Sunil Kumar, Chief Manager, India Post Payment Bank informed the house that India Post Payment Bank have sent 64 access point proposal to RBI out of which 46 are for Kargil District and 18 for Leh District. Sh. Sandeep Mittal, General Manager Reserve Bank of India was requested to take note of India Post Payment Bank proposal for ensuring operationalization of these access points. Sh. Udaram Vasudev Regional Manager, Bank of India informed the house that they have already registered 25 BCs to cover unbanked villages.

(Action By: All Banks & IPPB)

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Agenda Item No 8.06:

Expanding and Deepening of Digital Payment Ecosystem of Leh district:

Chairperson emphasized extension of the digital enabled ecosystem in UT Ladakh. Sh. Sandeep Mittal, General Manager, Reserve Bank of India instructed all the banks that all customers be on boarded on at least one digital platform to make Leh district a 100% digitally enabled ecosystem by March 2022. Regional Manager State Bank of India mentioned that they have provided approximately 700 QR Code. Sh. D C Rajat Kumar, Additional Secretary Finance suggested all banks to make more effort to accelerate the adoption of digital payment option in the UT of Ladakh.

(Action By: All Banks & IPPB)

The meeting concluded with vote of thanks presented by Mr. Fayaz Ahmad Wani Regional Manager, SBI (Convenor Bank)

Sd/-

(Assistant General Manager)

Convenor

UTLBC of UT Ladakh

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Annexure-A

List of participants of 4th meeting of UTLBC of UT Ladakh held at LEH on 12.01.2022

<u>S.No</u>	<u>Name of Participant</u>	<u>Designation</u>	<u>Organization/Department</u>
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Chief Guest

1. Sh.Umang Narula, IAS Advisor to Hon'ble Lt. Governor

Convenor, UTLBC Ladakh

2. Sh. Ajay Kumar Jha General Manager SBI LHO Chandigarh

3. Sh. Ajitav Parashar Dy. General Manager SBI AO Jammu

4. Sh. Fayaz Ahmad Wani Regional Manager Region-V, Jammu

Administration of UT Ladakh

5. Dr. Pawan Kotwal, IAS Principal Secretary

6. Sh. Ajeet Kumar Sahu, IAS Commissioner Secretary

7. Sh. Saugat Biswas, IAS Divisional Commissioner

8. Ms. Padma Angmo IIS Secretary

9. Sh. Ravinder Kumar IAS Administrative Secretary

10. Sh. D.C Rajat Kumar IDAS Additional Secretary Finance

11. Sh. Shrikant Balasaheb Suses IAS DC Leh

12. Sh. Santosh Sukhadeve IAS DC Kargil

13. Sh. Moses Kunzang KAS Director Industries & Commerce

14. Sh. Tahir Hussian KAS Director Mission Director NRLM

15. Dr. Zahida Bano KAS Director Urban Local Bodies Leh

16. Dr. Mohd Iqbal CAHO Animal Husbandry Department

