**Minutes of the 75th State Level Bankers Committee (SLBC) Meeting, Sikkim for the Fourth Quarter ended 31st March, 2023 held at the Conference Hall of Mayfair Hotels, Gangtok on 04.05.2023**

The State Level Bankers’ Committee Meeting of Sikkim State for the 4th Quarter ended on March 31st , 2023, was held at The Conference Hall of Mayfair Hotel & Resorts.

The meeting was chaired by **Shri Vivek Joshi,** Secretary, Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance, Govt. of India.

**Shri Mukesh Kumar Bansal,** Joint Secretary, DFS, MoS, Govt of India**, Shri MCP Pradhan,** Controller – cum - Secretary**,** Finance Department, Govt of Sikkim**, Shri Kishore Pariyar,** Regional Director - Sikkim**,** Reserve Bank of India**; Shri Prem Anup SInha**, Chief General Manager, Kolkata Circle, SBI, **Shri S K Gupta**, GM – cum- OiC, NABARD; **Shri Jogesh Chandra Sahu,** SLBC Convenor Sikkim – cum–General Manager, State Bank of India were the other dignitaries on the dais.

The Meeting also saw the presence of Secretary from Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services Dept, Senior officials from various State Govt Departments, Controllers from all the Banks, Officials from RBI, and other stakeholders were also present in the meeting.

**Shri Prem Anup Sinha**, Chief General Manager, Kolkata Circle, SBI, on behalf of SLBC Sikkim, welcomed the dignitaries on the dais as well as all the stakeholders present in the meeting. He also informed the house that this was another historic meeting as for the first time The Secretary, DFS, was chairing the SLBC Meeting.

He further informed the house that entire top rung of Ministry of Finance had visited the State and presided over the SLBC Meeting just within a span of three months. He thanked the Central Government for giving all the deserving attention to this tiny Himalayan State of Sikkim. He further mentioned that the visit of top dignitaries in the State would prove much needed fillip to the developmental activities in the State. Lastly, he gave a brief about the meeting and hoped that the same co-ordination and commitment would continue in the future among all the stakeholders of SLBC Sikkim.

**Shri Kishore Pariyar, CGM, RBI** in his address he welcomed the dignitaries to Sikkim on behalf of RBI and also mentioned that the visit of VVIPs to the state of Sikkim would give much needed motivation to work for the betterment of the State. He also briefed the house about National Strategy for Financial Inclusion (NSFI).

He further presented insightful presentation on the performance of banks in the State, which was discussed in seriatim as follows:

**Agenda No.1**

**Credit: Deposit Ratio / Credit + Investment: Deposit Ratio as on March 31, 2023**

Shri Pariyar, RD, RBI informed the house that the CD Ratio for the State of Sikkim as on March 31, 2023 stood at 54%. He further informed the house that this was the above the average among the North Eastern States which stands at 48%.It was observed that the CD Ratio was commendable among the PSU Banks at 68%, however, the CD Ratio among the Private Banks was poor at 30.84%. Shri Pariyar urged those Banks to up the ante and try to atleast bring the CD ratio to 40%.

**Agenda No. 2**

**Review of Performance under Annual Credit Plan 2022-2023 including NPS for the quarter ended March 31, 2023**

It was informed by Shri Pariyar that, the overall achievement of Banks under Annual Credit Plan, during the Fourth Quarter of FY 2022-23 was 120.23% including Non-priority sector. Under Priority Sector the achievement of the banks was 122.27% which was viewed as very satisfactory.

 The performance of Banks, under Agriculture Sector was 69% which was below the desired level; however, he mentioned that the achievements under this sector had never crossed 50% in the previous years. He also appealed to all the Banks to focus more on Agriculture and Allied Sector lending in the State.

It was seen that the achievement of the Banks in MSME Sector stood at 173.65% which highly appreciated by the house. He also mentioned here that growth in MSME was more in the Micro and Small Sectors, with less potential in Medium Sector. He appreciated the efforts of the Banks and as well as Commerce & Industries Dept, Govt of Sikkim in active participation in MSME Sector.

The Achievement under Other Priority Sector stood at 101.55% . The achievement under non – Priority Sector stood at 119.34%

Shri Pariyar appreciated the initiatives and efforts made by State Government through their respective departments for taking active part in Agriculture and MSME Sector in the State, due to which the achievements of the Banks had gone up considerably.

**Agenda No.3**

**Review of Special Programmes as on 31.12.2022**

**3.1. Prime Minister’s Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP)**

Shri Kishore Pariyar, informed the house that banks together had already sanctioned and disbursed 179 proposals out of the target of 98 which was 182% of the Target. He further informed that per lakh sanction under PMEGP in the State 29.31 was almost double of the national average of 12.62. This he said was great achievement on the part of the Banks.

Director, MSME, Govt of Sikkim, Shri M Ravi Kumar, in his suggestion to the Central Government said that Sikkim has a booming Tourism industry and is one of the main sources of income generation for the State of Sikkim. All major MSMEs are either Hotel Industries or Eco Tourism Industry including rural tourism and Homestays. However, he lamented on the fact that there was no provision of availing credit for Homestays under PMEGP scheme of the Govt. He suggested that there was a huge potential under credit to Homestays in the State of Sikkim.

**3.2**. **Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana – PMMY**

The achievement under PMMY was viewed as satisfactory by the house.

**3.3 Stand – Up India**

Shri Pariyar informed the house that achievement under Stand Up India stood at almost 200%.He further informed that the achievement has been positive among the Public Sector Banks and urged the private banks to take equal part. He also reminded that the target under Stand Up – India was two per bank branch which was quite achievable.

**Agenda No.4**

**Promotion of Self-Help Groups**

Shri Pariyar informed the house on the credit linkages provided by the Banks to the SHGs stood at 58%.He said that there was a gradual growth in the Savings and Credit linkages of SHG in the State. Secretary, DFS, Shri Vivek Joshi asked the banks to ensure that SHG Groups are being enabled with dual authentication feature so that they done have to visit the branch everytime they need to do transaction. He said Digital Transactions should be the way forward and SHGs should be the main target focus group.

**Agenda No.5**

**Kisan Credit Card (KCC)**

Shri Pariyar informed the house that 2276 farmers had been provided the benefit of KCC in the State. He further informed the house that this was a huge jump from around 15000 recorded last year. This he said was due to the continuous support and cooperation received from the Agriculture, Horticulture and the Animal Husbandry Departments of the Govt of Sikkim. Dr. P Senthal Kumar, Secretary, AH & VS advised the SLBC to include separate Data for Agriculture & Animal Husbandry.

**Agenda No.6**

**Housing Finance**

The achievement of Housing Finance for the 3rdquarter stood at 89.28%, which was viewed as satisfactory by the house

**Agenda No.7**

**Education Loan**

The achievement under the scheme was 8.78% for the 4th quarter.Here it was observed that The State Govt was already providing education loans at a very low interest rate through SIDICO and SABBCO Financing agencies of the State Government. Hence, the scope for education Loans Finance in the State was very low.

**Agenda No.8**

**Performance under MSME**

While discussing on the low enrolments under Udhyam Aadhar It was informed by Joint Secretary, DFS, that PAN Card is not mandatory for Udhyam Registration. The RD RBI appreciated this move of the Central Government as this was a hindrance in Udhyam registration in the State as most of the people here were exempted from paying income tax, hence they dint possess a PAN Card.

**Agenda No. 9**

**SBI RURAL SELF EMPLOYMENT TRAINING INSTITUTE (RSETI)**

Shri Pariyar informed the house that the State had currently one RSETI run by SBI at Ralap in Gangtok district. He enquired on the establishment f two more RSETIs in the State each by SBI and CBI. The representatives of both the Banks responded saying the paperwork for the same is being processed at their appropriate offices.

**Agenda 10**

**Miscellaneous**

**1. Enrolment under Social Security Schemes (PMJJBY, PMSBY, APY**)

Shri Pariyar informed the house under PMJJBY banks had together enrolled 91528 nos. which was 104% of the total PMJDY Accounts in the State. Under PMSBY banks had together enrolled 184980 nos. Under APY the Banks together had enrolled 33954 nos. Shri Pariyar congratulated all the banks for their achievement and thanked all the Stakeholders involved in making the enrolment under Social Security Schemes a grand success. However, he said there was still a long way to go as the ultimate target should be on saturation of these schemes in the State.

**2. Financial Literacy Initiatives**

Shri Pariyar informed the house that altogether 2000 nos. of Financial Initiatives had been undertaken by RBI, NABARD, Banks and Centre for Financial Literacy (CFL).

Shri Pariyar also briefed the house on the activities of the CFLs in the State. He also said that the 1st Phase of 5 CFLs covering 15 Blocks was established in the State funded 90% by RBI and 10% by SBI. Going by the success rate of these CFLs it was decided to further establish 6 more CFLs in the 2nd phase covering all the 34 Blocks in the State. The 2nd Phase would be funded 90% by NABARD and 10% by SBI and would be fully operational by March 2023.

Shri Pariyar further informed the house that Financial Literacy in the State was being carried out through innovative methods by conducting, Games, through Nukkad Natak, wide publicity on Social Media Platforms, through radio jingles, newspapers, hoardings, etc.

He also mentioned here the consumer grievances redressal has been working effortlessly in the State of Sikkim with 153 complain being addressed and resolved. He further stated that average uptime in the State of Sikkim Stood at 96% in the last three months.

Lastly, he stated that the contribution of Banks in the Credit Growth of Sikkim - Credit to GSPD ratio had jumped considerably from Rs 3,847 Crores as on March 21 to Rs 5,182 in March 22.He further stated that the percentage of credit growth of 31% was one of the highest in the country. This, he said was the contribution of Banks to the economy of the State

**The Chairperson of the Meeting, Secretary DFS, Ministry of Finance, Government of India, Shri Vivek Joshi** appreciated the work being done by the Banks in the State and noted that there was still scope for improvement. He reminded the banks on the various Jansuraksha Saturation schemes currently being run by the Central Government and requested all the banks to actively participate in the campaign. He suggested the banks to ensure that all eligible individuals are enrolled under Social Security Schemes. He also urged the Banks heads to open Banks Branches in Rural and remote parts of the State. He asked the Banks to focus more on Border districts of the State and to ensure that a Brick and Mortar Branch is available in all border areas where population is above 3000. He also asked the Bank Heads and all other stakeholders to visit the remotest parts of the State and listen to the concerns of the people living there. He said addressing small concerns would help the villagers in a big way. He reiterated the fact that Lachen Village was very dear to Madam Sitharaman and asked Banks to ensure that all eligible individuals in the village were enrolled under PMJJBY, PMSBY and APY schemes.

He also urged the Private Banks to increase the issuance of rupay cards. He asked the Banks and the State Government to focus on PMSvanidhi Scheme in the State. He suggested the State Government to improve connectivity in the State so that more people could come under the fold of Digital Banking in the State.

He further said that the back ground of his visit was to ensure that all govt sponsored schemes in the State are made successful and all eligible population receive benefits and social security schemes as directed by Hon’ble Minister for Finance, Smt Nirmala Sitharaman during her visit to Sikkim.He further mentioned that Madam visited Sikkim from 28th Feb, 2023 to 02nd March, 2023. During her visit to the State, Madam visited the stalls of various Self Help Groups being displayed at MG Marg on 28th Feb, 2023 and attended an outreach event conducted by NABARD and SBI – Convenor Bank for SLBC Sikkim. While visiting the stalls she was highly impressed with the quality of products displayed there and remarked that the ready-for-market products with high standards displayed at the stalls at MG Marg reflect the grit and resilience of the local women producers of the State. Later on she attended the Outreach event where sanction letters and cheques of developmental projects under NABARD for the State and credit facility by Banks were handed over to the beneficiaries under various schemes through the hands of the Union Minister. She also distributed cheques to over 1600 beneficiaries worth Rs 104.44 Crores Sanction letters amounting to Rs. 7.24 crores of various programmes implemented by NABARD were distributed to nine projects. Later in the afternoon she proceeded to visit the border town of Lachen, in North Sikkim. There she interacted with various stakeholders including Local Dzumsa Pipon, State and District Authorities and the general public in an programme organised by State bank of India. She also inaugurated a SBI ATM at Lachen. He appreciated the fact that since then, SBI has already opened the Branch at Lachen and the branch is already in operation.

Lastly, he concluded by thanking the SLBC for having him in the meeting.

The Meeting ended with the vote of thanks by Shri Jogesh Chandra Sahu, GM, SBI –cum SLBC Convenor Sikkim.

**ACTION POINTS THAT EMERGED FROM the 75th SLBC MEETING HELD ON 04th MAY, 2023**

1. As suggested by Shri Vivek Joshi, Secretary, DFS, Govt of India, all banks to ensure that maximum eligible population have been covered under the Social Security Schemes of the Central Government**. (Action Centre – All banks)**

2. Two more RSETIs are to be opened in the State, 1 by SBI at Border District and 1 by CBI in the Aspirational District. **(Action Centre – SBI and CBI)**

3. Private Banks whose CD ratio was below 40% to increase their CD Ratio to at least the minimum benchmark of 40%. (**Action Centre: Axis Bank, Bandhan Bank, HDFC bank, ICICI Bank, IDBI Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank**)

4. Controllers to ensure that sufficient man power has been posted in all the Bank branches in the State. **(Action Centre - Controller of all banks)**

5. Stakeholders to ensure that no part of the State remains unbanked. **(Action Centre – SLBC and Controllers of All Banks)**

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| **LIST OF PARTICIPANTS :: 75th SLBC MEETING :: 04.05.2023 :: SIKKIM** |
| **Sl no. NoNoR.** | **NAME OF THE OFFICIAL** | **DESIGNATION / DEPARTMENT** |
|  | Shri Vivek Joshi | Secretary, DFS, Govt of India |
|  | Shri Mukesh Kr Bansal | Joint Secretary, DFS, Govt of India |
|  | Shri MCP Pradhan | Controller – cum- Secy, Fin Dept, Govt of Sikkim |
|  | Shri Kishore Pariyar | Regional Director, Sikkim, RBI |
|  | Shri Prem Anup Sinha | CGM, Kolkata Circle, SBI |
|  | Shri S K Gupta | GM-cum-OiC, NABARD |
|  | Shri Jogesh Chandra Sahu | GM, SBI – cum – SLBC Convenor, Sikkim  |
|  | Shri P W Bhutia | MD, State Bank of Sikkim |
|  | Smt Pema Chezom | MD, SISCO Bank |
|  | Dr P Senthil Kumar | Secy, AH & VS Dept, Govt of Sikkim |
|  | Shri Mahendra Pradhan | Director, Finance, Govt of Sikkim |
|  | Shri T T Kaleon | CEO, SRLM,RMDD, Govt of Sikkim |
|  | Shri M Ravikumar | Director, MSME, Govt of Sikkim |
|  | Shri Goda Ravishankar | DGM, RBI |
|  | Shri Ritvij Sharma | Manager – cum – OiC, SIDBI |
|  | Shri Biswajit Halder | RH, Union Bank, Siliguri |
|  | Shri G K Sudhakar Rao | GM, Union Bank, Kolkata |
|  | Shri D R Sharma | Assistant Director, MSME- DFO, Govt of India |
|  | Shri Nirmal Choudhury | Assistant Director, MSME- DFO, Govt of India |
|  | Shri Dibyendu Chaudari | DGM, FI, SBI, Kolkata |
|  | Shri Santosh Kumar | SBM, Bank of India, Gangtok |
|  | Shri Nikhilesh Kr Singh | DGM & ZM, Bank of India, Siliguri |
|  | Shri M K Singh | GM, Bank of India |
|  | Shri Suresh Kumar | GM, Punjab National Bank |
|  | Shri Pulin Kr Patnaik | DGM, Punjab National Bank |
|  | Shri Alok Tarenia | RH, Central Bank of India |
|  | Shri Ajay Kr Singh | ZM, GM, Central Bank of India |
|  | Shri Kalyan Mukherjee | GM, Canara Bank, Kolkata |
|  | Shri Subhabrata Chakraborty | SVP, Axis Bank |
|  | Shri Diganta Baishya | ZH, ICICI Bank |
|  | Shri Sailesh Lepcha | DPM,SRLM,FI |
|  | Shri Abhishek Chettri | APM,SRLM,FI |
|  | Shri Tenzin Yeshi | Manager, Indian Bank |

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| **34.** | Shri Virendra Singh | DGM,SBI, Siliguri |
| **35.** | Shri K Nagar | RH, Canara Bank, Siliguri |
| **36.** | Shri Raj Lama | Chief Co-ordinator, SEEDS Cell |
| **37.** | Shri D Das | GM, Bank of Baroda |
| **38.** | Shri D K Prasad | RH, Bank of Baroda |
| **39.** | Shri S K Jha | DGM & ZH UCO Bank |
| **40.** | Shri S A Ahmed | SRM, IOB |
| **41.** | Shri B K Rajak | CRM, IOB |
| **42.** | Shri Pramod Kumar | ZH, Indian Bank, Siliguri |
| **43.** | Shri Rajesh Kr Singh | FGM, Indian Bank, Guwahati |
| **44.** | Shri Pravin Muley | DGM, NABARD |
| **45.** | Shri Gautam Kumar | RH, IDBI Bank |
| **46.** | Shri A K Jha | CGM,ZH, IDBI Kolkata |
| **47.** | Shri Debraj Banerjee | ZH, IDBI Bank |
| **48.** | Smt Yanki Bhutia | Director, SBI – RSETI, Ralap |
| **49.** | Shri Paramdip Basnet | SM, IDFC First Bank |
| **50.** | Shri Pradeep Ahmed | LDM, CBI, Pakyong District |
| **51.** | Shri Joy Ram Pait | GM, APRB, HO |
| **52.** | Shri A K Jha | BM, Kotak Mahindra Bank |
| **53.** | Shri Anup Thapa | AVP, IndusInd Bank |
| **54.** | Shri Prasenjit Pradhan | CH, HDFC Bank, Sikkim |
| **55.** | Smt Vidushree Lama | BM, Yes Bank |
| **56.** | Shri P S Singh | ZH, Punjab and Sind Bank |
| **57.** | Shri A K Chowdhury | ZM and AGM, bank of Maharashtra |
| **58.** | Shri Ramesh Bhat | GM, Karnataka Bank |
| **59.** | Shri Daw Mathew Thomas | CH, South Indian Bank |
| **60.** | Shri S D Lama | RM, SBI, Sikkim |
| **61.** | Shri Gopal Lama | CM, Lead Bank, SBI |
| **62.** | Shri Anit Lamichaney | LBO, Lead Bank, SBI |
| **63.** | Shri Madhav Koirala | AM, Lead Bank, SBI |