

## **STATE LEVEL BANKERS' COMMITTEE, UTTARAKHAND**

### **MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF SLBC, UTTARAKHAND** **HELD ON 19<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2016**

Consequent upon the notification No. 1025/XVIII-(2)/16-15(34)/2013 issued by the Government of Uttarakhand on May 16, 2016, wherein seven districts viz. Almora, Bageshwar, Champawat, Nainital, Pauri, Pithoragarh and Rudraprayag were declared drought-affected between October, 2015 to April, 2016, a special meeting of SLBC, Uttarakhand was convened on September 19, 2016, to review the status of the same and chalk out a detailed action plan for providing relief to drought-affected loanee farmers, as per the prescribed guidelines. The meeting was presided over by Shri Amit Negi, Secretary (Finance), Govt. of Uttarakhand and attended by Addl. Secretary (Finance), Govt. of Uttarakhand, General Manager (OIC), RBI, and representatives from RBI, NABARD, SLBC and banks operating in the state.

Deputy General Manager, State Bank of India, Dehradun, welcomed the members to the meeting and requested all fellow bankers to ensure effective implementation of the decisions taken in the meeting.

Secretary (Finance) exhorted all banks to ensure that concerns of the distressed farmers are duly affected by conveying the decisions of the Committee to the ground level functionaries.

Taking objection to the delay in conducting the said meeting, GM (OIC), RBI, advised all banks to keep themselves apprised of their revised board approved policies for dealing with natural calamity and confirm having shared the same with the state government and district administration. He stated that specific steps may be taken to publicize the scheme among the farmers and ensure that consent letters are obtained from the drought affected farmers before extending relief to them through restructuring or otherwise.

The agenda items were discussed in detail and following action points were accepted for implementation by all banks:

I. **Action Plan for providing relief to farmers affected by drought in seven districts:**

1. Lead District Managers of calamity affected seven districts should immediately convene a Special DCC meeting and ascertain bank-wise number of farmers affected and amount of loan involved therein to ensure speedy implementation of suitable relief measures by banks.

2. The following measures will be applicable in these affected seven Districts of the State by all banks including RRBs and Cooperative Banks:

i) Re-structuring of crop loans and other dues, which are Standard in the books of the bank as on 30.04.2016, including grant of moratorium, as prescribed in bank's approved policy.

ii) Sanction of need-based additional finance to the farmers as per extant instructions and eligibility.

iii) Grant of need-based consumption loans as per bank's approved policy.

3. In addition to the above, banks may follow-up with the state government for release of the insurance claims of the affected farmers, wherever insurance premiums for the affected crops had been paid.

4. SLBC would provide a weekly reporting format to all banks to monitor the implementation of measures outlined for providing relief to the affected farmers.

5. Secretary (Finance) desired that a meeting be held after 10 days to review the action taken in this regard.

II. **Progress in Installation of Solar V-SATs in Dark & Grey Areas**

While reviewing the position of Solar VSATs installation by banks in dark & grey areas in the state, Secretary (Finance) instructed all banks to take necessary steps to ensure that online banking facilities are extended to all remote locations in the State by installing VSATs positively by October 31, 2016. All banks were advised to provide their roadmap for installation of VSATs within a week which would be reviewed in the next meeting.

### **III. Special Drive for Financial Inclusion Initiative**

Addl. Secretary (Finance), Govt. of Uttarakhand instructed all banks to carry out special drive during 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2016 to 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2016 to ensure maximum coverage under all six Social Security Schemes i.e. PMJDY, PMSBY, PMJJBY, PMMY, SUI and APY. He also instructed banks to increase the pace of seeding Aadhaar / Mobile Nos with bank accounts and ensure issuance of RuPay Debit Cards to all accountholders. All Lead District Managers with the help of District Administration and bankers will organize at least three events per District during the period of special drive.

During the campaign the progress under MUDRA and Stand Up India Scheme may also be significantly improved to achieve the target. Banks should organize Financial Literacy Camps at different locations to spread awareness among the masses. He suggested that banks should make proper arrangement for counseling & sensitization programme for their BCs / Bank Mitras.

The meeting concluded with the vote of thanks by GM, Uttarakhand Gramin Bank, Dehradun.