



PRESS RELEASE

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State Level Bankers Committee (SLBC) Felicitates Lead District Managers for Excellence in Crop Financing

Shri A S Bhattacharya, C&MD, Bank of Maharashtra and Chairman, SLBC for Maharashtra State has informed in the 112th SLBC meeting convened on 20 September at Mumbai that banks in the state have achieved over 85% of Kharif lending target.

The meeting was co-chaired by Shri Ratnakar Gaikwad, Chief Secretary, Govt of Maharashtra. A detailed district-wise review for crop financing was taken from banks and LDMs. The CS applauded the role of banks and all the LDMs in implementing various policies of the government for balanced growth of various sectors of economy.

Ten Lead District Managers who have achieved 100% of kharif lending targets were felicitated at the hands of the Chief Secretary and CMD of Bank of Maharashtra who is convener of the SLBC. Such a felicitation of LDMs is a novel idea introduced by Bank of Maharashtra in this 112th SLBC.

The meeting was attended by senior officials from Govt of Maharashtra viz. Shri Gautam Chatterjee, Principal Secretary, Housing, Shri Rajgopal Deora, Secretary, Co-operation, Shri Sudhir Thakare, Secretary, RDD, Shri Madhukar Choudhary, Commissioner Co-op., from Reserve Bank of India Dr. Deepali Pant Joshi, Chief General Manager-in-charge, RPCD, CO, Shri J.B. Bhoria, Regional Director, Maharashtra & Goa, Smt. Phulan Kumar, Regional Director, Nagpur and Shri Ashok, CGM, NABARD, Shri S.D. Arya, General Manager & Convener SLBC, Shri VR Gupta, Adviser, FI & SLBC and shri H. N. Sukhdeve, DyGM & Secretary SLBC.



This year, for the first time, a separate target was given to banks for Kharif lending. Banks have so far financed Rs. 13224 crore against the target of Rs. 15508 crore for kharif lending. While there was close monitoring from the SLBC Chairman, State authorities, RBI and also Govt. of India; actual ground level work was monitored by the Lead District Managers (LDMs) of various Lead Banks i.e. Bank of Maharashtra, State Bank of India, Bank of India and Central Bank of India. SLBC felicitated nine LDMs who achieved over 100% of targets for their respective districts.

While the DCCBs in Maharashtra have been traditionally in forefront for crop lending, commercial banks for past few years are increasing their share. The pace of lending during current Kharif season has increased in the past two months by more than 50 % in respect of CBs & RRBs. They had disbursed ` 3532 crore till 11.07.2011 (table below) which has gone up to ` 5312 crore by 13.09.11.

Shri Bhattacharya informed about various measures initiated by the Govt. of India for electronic transfer of all kinds of subsidies, grants, etc. directly to the credit of bank accounts of the beneficiaries. He informed that RBI has recently issued detailed operational guidelines for Electronic Benefit Transfers (EBT) and sought to converge the Financial Inclusion plans and Aadhar number issued by UIDAI for the success of green initiative. He emphasized the need for success of green initiative through e-payments as initiated by the govt. of India and urged all SLBC member banks to play proactive role in this matter also like the one played in crop lending.

The SLBC reviewed progress in financing to various priority sectors like Micro & Small Enterprises, Education & Housing Loans, Minority Communities and Weaker Sections, etc.
