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Bombay Mercantile Co-operative Bank Ltd.

Volume: VIII

(Scheduled Bank)

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Welcome to the **December 2023** edition of the **Newsletter.** The Newsletter, as you all know, is a trusted and reliable source to enhance and keep you up-to-date with the latest developments.

As we head towards the end of the third quarter of FY23/24, only one quarter remains for achieving the allotted targets. The banking industry is poised to grow as the economic activity is showing signs of improvement and inflation is showing a downward trend. It's time for all staff members to pull up your socks and go all out to achieve the results. We shall be launching the Insurance Business very shortly which will add to the non-interest fee-based income.



The bank conducted a written test for appointment of Junior Executive Assistants through IBPS in September 2023 and the interviews of the successful candidates were conducted during November 2023. The young team of JEAs will bring in fresh energy and enable enhancement in performance and customer service.

In furtherance of our objective to continuously monitor and improve the competency and skill levels of the staff and to meet the training needs of the newly designated Assistant Managers, a three-day "Managerial Excellence Programme" was conducted from the 14th to 16th of December 2023, by Bankers Quotient Learning Solutions Pvt Ltd. We look forward to a great quarter ending December 2023 and I wish you all the very best in achieving your business targets.

I wish all our staff members, their families, shareholders, our valued customers and all stakeholders a very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year 2024.

ZEESHAN MEHDI

BMC BANK NEWS

Customers and Staff Meet at Aurangabad on 16.12.203 by Dr. Shah Alam Khan Saheb Managing Director AT AURANGABAD





CUSTOMER and STAFF MEET AT MOULANA AZAD ROAD BRANCH ON 8.12.2023



BMCB VISION 18th December 2023



MANAGERIAL EXCELLENCE PROGRAMME" CONDUCTED AT MUMBAI FROM 14TH TO 16TH OF DECEMBER 2023







CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Mr. Firdous Ahmad Reshi of Srinagar Branch, achieving Rs. 2.00 crores deposit in Zain Daily Deposit scheme.



Congratulations to Mr. Mohd. Siddique Mohd. Amin of Moulana Azad Road Branch achieving Rs. 1.00 crores plus deposit in Zain Daily Deposit scheme.



REGULATORY UPDATES

Transaction limit for linked RuPay Credit Card on UPI

Since the launch of **RuPay Credit Card** on **UPI** in September 2022, it has gained high traction and growth in terms of volume and value. To further enhance customer experience and enable customers to carry out high value transactions on ecommerce, travel bookings (Flight, Hotel), health care services, educational institutes, etc., NPCI has approved following enhancement recently,

The limit for RuPay Credit Card on UPI transactions shall be the lowest of the following:

- a) RuPay Credit Card limit set by the issuer.
- b) The limit put in place by the issuer for 'RuPay Credit Card on UPI' transactions as per their risk management framework.
- c) Limit set by the customer, as per RBI circular on Enhancing Security of Card Transactions dated January 15, 2020.

Key changes in IMPS and UPI payment systems

NPCI has recently carried out following changes in the payment systems handled by it. The key changes are,

- a) Enablement of simplified IMPS: IMPS transactions can be currently carried out through P2A (Account number + IFSC) or P2P (Mobile number + MMID) transfer modes. NPCI has recently introduced "Simplified IMPS" facility in which funds can be transferred using Mobile Number + Bank name. All banks are instructed to enable simplified IMPS facility for their customers latest by 31st January 2024.
- **b) Revision in AePS Transaction limits:** As per the previous guidelines issued by NPCI dated 20th December 2021 on Aadhaar Enabled Payment System (AePS), banks were advised to implement a standardized limit of a minimum 5 approved cash withdrawal transactions per month, per customer.

Considering the profile of the customers using AePS, NPCI has recently advised issuer banks to review AePS monthly transaction limits set for their customers. It is advised to allow AePS cash withdrawal and BHIM Aadhaar pay transactions with a cumulative limit upto Rs. 50,000 per month. NPCI also recommended that the limit to be considered on rolling 30 days basis and banks to implement these limits by 30th November 2023.

INDUSTRY NEWS

Door step banking service

Introduced as a part of **EASE (Enhanced Access & Service Excellence) 2.0** reforms, Doorstep Banking Services is envisaged to provide convenience of banking services to the customers at their door step which can be booked through the universal touch points of Call Centre, Web Portal or Mobile Application.

Public sector banks have formed "PSB Alliance" to offer Door step banking services at 100 locations across the country with UCO Bank as Anchor bank. PSB Alliance has tied up with two service providers, "Atyati Technologies" and "Integra Microsystems" for offering the services. This arrangement is under review and following are the major updates on the arrangement.



- a) It is expected to commence Door step banking services in more than **6000 centres**. Presently the services are being offered in 100 locations. Next phase will be rolled out in 1000 additional centres by **January 2024**. Services in remaining 5000+ Centres will be rolled out in 3rd phase by **April 2024**.
- b) Earlier, Atyati and Integra had their own technology platform. Now PSB alliance is integrating and designing a **new single platform** which will be owned by PSB Alliance. Once new system is in place, PSB alliance will roll out PAN India services taking DSB Services to the last mile.
- c) As per Agreement different services have different charges in different Regions. Average cost per transaction is **45/-** and PSB Alliance will charge Rs. 5/- per transaction. So average total cost per transaction is **Rs. 50/-** However, banks are free to take their charges or forgo their charges.

Banks to be open for only 5 days a week? Finance ministry receives IBA proposal

Will banks be open for only 5 days soon? Numerous news sources state that the Indian Banks Association (IBA) has submitted a proposal to the Finance Ministry about the adoption of a five-day workweek, according to a Times of India (ToI) news report.

Bhagwat Karad, Minister of State for Finance, reportedly stated in Parliament that the IBA proposal had been received. He did not, however, clarify on the proposal's status or whether the Finance Ministry is contemplating accepting it, reports Times of India.

Banks write off Rs 10.57 lakh crore in five years, make NPA recovery worth Rs 7.17 lakh crore

Banks have written off Rs 10.57 lakh crore during the last five financial years, of which Rs 5.52 lakh crore was in respect of loans pertaining to large industries, the government informed the Parliament on Tuesday. "As per RBI data, scheduled commercial banks (SCBs) have written off an aggregate loan amount of Rs 10.57 lakh crore during the last five financial years," Minister of State for Finance Bhagwat Karad said in reply to a question in the Rajya Sabha.

The scheduled commercial banks have also recovered Rs 7.15 lakh crore of non-performing assets (NPAs) during the five-year period.

"Comprehensive steps have been taken to recover NPAs, enabled by which, SCBs have made an aggregate recovery of Rs 7,15,507 crore (RBI provisional data for FY 2022-23) in NPA accounts, including written-off loans, during the last five financial years," he said.

In reply to a separate question, Karad said: "Scheduled commercial banks have written off an aggregate amount of Rs 5.52 lakh crore in respect of loans pertaining to large industries and services during the last five financial years (FYs), i.e. from FY 2018-19 to FY 2022-23."

He also said that this includes Rs 93,874 crore written off by all the banks on account of fraud during the five-year period. Karad said banks regularly evaluate the impact of write-offs as part of the exercise to clean up their balance sheet, avail tax benefit and optimise capital, in accordance with the said guidelines and policies of the respective boards. "Such write-off does not result in waiver of liabilities of borrowers to repay and the refore, write-off does not benefit the borrowers. The borrowers of written-off loans continue to be liable for repayment and banks continue to pursue recovery actions initiated in written-off accounts through various recovery mechanisms available to them...," Karad said.

Extension of PIDF Scheme

The Payments Infrastructure Development Fund (PIDF) Scheme was operationalised by RBI in January 2021 for a period of three years. The objective was to incentivize the deployment of payment acceptance infrastructure such as physical Point of Sale (PoS), Quick Response (QR) codes in tier-3 to tier-6 centres, north eastern states and Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.

Beneficiaries of **PM SVANidhi Scheme** in **Tier-1** and **2 centers** were later included in August 2021. As at end-August 2023, over 2.66 crore new touch points have been deployed under the Scheme.

It is now proposed to **extend** the **PIDF Scheme** by a further period of **two years**, i.e., upto **December 31, 2025**. Also, it is proposed to include beneficiaries of **PM Vishwakarma Scheme** in all centre's under the PIDF Scheme. This decision to expand the targeted beneficiaries under the PIDF scheme will provide fillip to the Reserve Bank's efforts towards promoting digital transactions at the grassroots level.

Further, based on the feedback received from industry, deployment of **emerging modes** of payment acceptance, such as **soundbox devices** and **Aadhaar-enabled biometric devices** are proposed to be encouraged under the PIDF Scheme by the RBI.

KNOWLEDGE HUB

Digital banking frauds

There has been a surge in usage of **digital modes** of payment in the recent years. This gained further momentum during the Covid-19 induced lockdowns. While enhancing customer convenience, it also furthered the national objective of **financial inclusion**. However, as the **speed** and **ease** of doing financial transactions has improved, the number of **frauds** reported in retail financial transactions have also gone up. Fraudsters have been using **innovative methods** to defraud the common and



gullible people of their hard-earned money, especially the new entrants in the use of digital platforms who are not entirely familiar with the **techno financial** eco-system.

In **FY2023**, the total number of reported fraud cases in the banking system were **13,530**. Of this almost **49 per cent** or **6,659** cases were in the digital payment – card/internet – category. The instances of digital fraud cases & cyber security issues are in the raise. Government has recently advised banks to review their cyber security initiatives and suggest further measures on what further can be done such as more firewalls. The government is also considering deployment of a series of measures to curb the growing menace of cyber frauds in the financial sector, including blocking the **IMEI**, the unique number of mobile devices, and restricting withdrawals from suspicious accounts to prevent its use in future incidents.

The methods used by the fraudsters to commit frauds is not unique and variety of techniques are being used to defraud the customers. RBI has released a booklet in the name of **BE(A)WARE**, which lists modus operandi of various fraud incidents associated with digital transactions.

Win a prize of Rs.1000/- and a certificate of appreciation from the Managing Director for the correct answer with a beautiful slogan concerning banking activity. The slogan should not be more than 30 words. Send your reply with slogan in sealed envelope mentioning your Name, Code No. and branch to Treasury Department, 2nd Floor, 78 Mohammedali Road, Mumbai – 400 003.

QUESTIONAIRES

- Q.1 Customer meet was organized at following branches
- (a) Aurangabad & A R Street (b) M A Road & Nanded (c) MA Road & Aurangabad

Q.2 3 days Training program was conducted for Junior Executive Assistant

(a) True (b) False

Q.3 Banks to be open for only 5 days a week from January 2024

(a) False (b) True

Q.4 Door steps banking services EASE stand for Ans.

Q.5 Due to increase in digital mode of payment, number of **frauds** reported in retail financial transactions have also gone down.

DATIVE BANK I TO

(a) True (b) False

Quiz result of Issue 9 VOL VIII

Quiz Answer:
1. (b) 2. (c) 3. (a)
4. (d) 5. (b)

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WINNER'S NAME:

Haris Abdul Khallaq, Code No. 3994

Slogan: BMC BANK – WHERE EVERY INDIVIDUAL IS COMMITTED

Cash prize and Quiz Competition Certificate is ready and will be delivered to winner during staff function program or seminar by the hands of Managing Director.



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Your reply should reach us on or before 30th December 2023