**Diploma in Retail Banking**

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| **S.No.** | **RBI Notification** |
|  | Restriction on Storage of Actual Card Data [i.e. Card-on-File (CoF)] |
|  | Extension of timeline for implementation of certain provisions of Master Direction – Credit Card and Debit Card – Issuance and Conduct Directions, 2022 |
|  | Processing of e-mandates for recurring transactions |
|  | Branches of Indian Banks operating in GIFT-IFSC – acting as Professional Clearing Member (PCM) of India International Bullion Exchange IFSC Limited (IIBX) |
|  | Bharat Bill Payment SYstem – Amendment to guidelines |
|  | Interoperable Card-less Cash Withdrawal (ICCW) at ATMs |
|  | New Definition of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises - Clarification |
|  | Kisan Credit Card Scheme - Eligibility criteria for farmers engaged in fisheries/ aquaculture |
|  | Modified Interest Subvention Scheme for Short Term Loans for Agriculture and Allied Activities availed through Kisan Credit Card (KCC) during the financial year 2021-22 |
|  | Legal Entity Identifier (LEI) for Borrowers |
|  | Master Direction – Credit Card and Debit Card – Issuance and Conduct Directions, 2022 |
|  | Issue and regulation of share capital and securities - State Co-operative Banks and District Central Co-operative Banks |
|  | Consolidated Circular on Opening of Current Accounts and CC/OD Accounts by Banks |
|  | Section 24 and Section 56 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 – Maintenance of Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) |
|  | Establishment of Digital Banking Units (DBUs) |
|  | Master Circular – Housing Finance |
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|  | Master Circular - Disbursement of Government Pension by Agency Banks |
|  | Master Circular on Conduct of Government Business by Agency Banks - Payment of Agency Commission |
|  | Master Circular – Detection and Impounding of Counterfeit Notes |
|  | Master Circular - Guarantees, Co-Acceptances & Letters of Credit – UCBs |
|  | Master Direction on Penal Provisions in deficiencies in reporting of transactions/ balances at Currency Chests |
|  | Master Direction on Framework of Incentives for Currency Distribution & Exchange Scheme for bank branches including currency chests based on performance in rendering customer service to the members of public |
|  | Master Circular – Scheme of Penalties for bank branches including Currency Chests for deficiency in rendering customer service to the members of public |
|  | Master Circular – Facility for Exchange of Notes and Coins |
|  | Master Direction - Classification, Valuation and Operation of Investment Portfolio of Commercial Banks (Directions), 2021 – Amendment |
|  | Cassette - Swaps in ATMs |
|  | Master Direction - Classification, Valuation and Operation of Investment Portfolio of Commercial Banks (Directions), 2021 – Amendment |
|  | Master Direction – Reserve Bank of India (Regulatory Framework for Microfinance Loans) Directions, 2022 |
|  | Issue and regulation of share capital and securities - Primary (Urban) Co-operative Banks |
|  | Master Circular – Housing Finance |
|  | New Definition of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises – Clarification |
|  | Retail Direct Scheme – Market Making |
|  | Framework for Facilitating Small Value Digital Payments in Offline Mode |

**Restriction on Storage of Actual Card Data [i.e. Card-on-File (CoF)]**

RBI/2022-23/77  
CO.DPSS.POLC.No.S-567/02-14-003/2022-23

June 24, 2022

All Payment System Providers and Payment System Participants

Madam / Dear Sir,

**Restriction on Storage of Actual Card Data [i.e. Card-on-File (CoF)]**

Reference is invited to [Reserve Bank of India (RBI) circulars DPSS.CO.PD.No.1810/02.14.008/ 2019-20 dated March 17, 2020](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=11822&Mode=0) and [CO.DPSS.POLC.No.S33/02-14-008/2020-2021 dated March 31, 2021](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12050&Mode=0) on “Guidelines on Regulation of Payment Aggregators and Payment Gateways”, and [CO.DPSS.POLC.No.S-516/02-14-003/2021-22 dated September 07, 2021](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12159&Mode=0) on “Tokenisation – Card Transactions: Permitting Card-on-File Tokenisation (CoFT) Services”.

2. In terms of these circulars, with effect from January 1, 2022, no entity in the card transaction / payment chain, other than the card issuers and / or card networks, shall store the CoF data, and any such data stored previously shall be purged. Subsequently, to allow more time to the industry stakeholders for devising alternate mechanism(s) to handle any use case or post-transaction activity, this timeline was extended to June 30, 2022, vide [circular CO.DPSS.POLC.No.S-1211/02-14-003/2021-22 dated December 23, 2021](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12211&Mode=0) on “Restriction on storage of actual card data [i.e. Card-on-File (CoF)]”.

3. On a review of the issues involved and after detailed discussions with all stakeholders, it is observed that considerable progress has been made in terms of token creation. Transaction processing based on these tokens has also commenced, though it is yet to gain traction across all categories of merchants. Further, an alternate system in respect of transactions where cardholders decide to enter the card details manually at the time of undertaking the transaction (commonly referred to as “guest checkout transactions”) has not been implemented by the industry stakeholders, so far.

4. Given the above, it has been decided to extend the timeline for storing of CoF data by three months, i.e., till September 30, 2022, after which such data shall be purged.

5. This directive is issued under Section 10 (2) read with Section 18 of Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007 (Act 51 of 2007).

Yours faithfully,

(P. Vasudevan)  
Chief General Manager

Reference Link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12345&Mode=0>

**Extension of timeline for implementation of certain provisions of Master Direction – Credit Card and Debit Card – Issuance and Conduct Directions, 2022**

RBI/2022-23/74  
DoR.AUT.REC.No.48/24.01.041/2022-23

June 21, 2022

All Scheduled Banks (excluding Payments Banks/State Co-operative Banks and District Central Co-operative Banks)  
All Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs)

Madam/Dear Sir

**Extension of timeline for implementation of certain provisions of Master Direction – Credit  
Card and Debit Card – Issuance and Conduct Directions, 2022**

Please refer to paragraph 1 (b) of the [Master Direction – Credit Card and Debit Card – Issuance and Conduct Directions, 2022](https://rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_ViewMasDirections.aspx?id=12300) (“Master Direction”) dated April 21, 2022, wherein the Reserve Bank had prescribed a timeline of July 01, 2022, for implementation of the provisions of the Master Direction.

2. Considering various representations received from the industry stakeholders, it has been decided to extend the timeline for implementation of the following provisions of the Master Direction to October 01, 2022:

1. Paragraph 6(a)(vi) - Card-issuers shall seek One Time Password (OTP) based consent from the cardholder for activating a credit card, if the same has not been activated by the customer for more than 30 days from the date of issuance. If no consent is received for activating the card, card-issuers shall close the credit card account without any cost to the customer within seven working days from date of seeking confirmation from the customer.
2. Paragraph 6(b)(v) - Card-issuers shall ensure that the credit limit as sanctioned and advised to the cardholder is not breached at any point in time without seeking explicit consent from the cardholder.
3. Paragraph 9(b)(ii) - No capitalization of unpaid charges/levies/taxes for charging/ compounding of interest.

3. The stipulated timeline for implementation of rest of the provisions of the Master Direction remains unchanged.

Yours faithfully

**(Prakash Baliarsingh)**  
Chief General Manager

Reference Link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12342&Mode=0>

**Processing of e-mandates for recurring transactions**

RBI/2022-23/73  
CO.DPSS.POLC.No.S-518/02.14.003/2022-23

June 16, 2022

The Chairman / Managing Director / Chief Executive Officer  
All Scheduled Commercial Banks, including Regional Rural Banks /  
Urban Co-operative Banks / State Co-operative Banks /  
District Central Co-operative Banks / Payments Banks /  
Small Finance Banks / Local Area Banks /  
Non-bank Prepaid Payment Instrument Issuers / Authorised Card Payment Networks /  
National Payments Corporation of India

Madam / Dear Sir,

**Processing of e-mandates for recurring transactions**

A reference is invited to our circulars [DPSS.CO.PD.No.447/02.14.003/2019-20 dated August 21, 2019](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=11668&Mode=0), [DPSS.CO.PD No.1324/02.23.001/2019-20 dated January 10, 2020](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=11784&Mode=0), [DPSS.CO.PD No.754/02.14.003/2020-21 dated December 04, 2020](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12002&Mode=0) and [CO.DPSS.POLC.No.S34/02-14-003/2020-2021 dated March 31, 2021](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12051&Mode=0) (collectively referred to as “e-mandate framework”). The e-mandate framework prescribed an Additional Factor of Authentication (AFA), inter alia, while processing the first transaction in case of e-mandates / standing instructions on cards, prepaid payment instruments and Unified Payments Interface. For subsequent transactions with transaction values up to ₹5,000/- (AFA limit), prescription of AFA was waived.

2. On a review of implementation of the e-mandate framework and the protection available to customers, it has been decided to increase the aforesaid AFA limit from ₹5,000/- to ₹15,000/- per transaction.

3. This circular is issued under Section 10 (2) read with Section 18 of the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007 (Act 51 of 2007), and shall come into effect immediately.

Yours faithfully,

(P. Vasudevan)  
Chief General Manager

Reference Link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12341&Mode=0>

**Branches of Indian Banks operating in GIFT-IFSC – acting as Professional Clearing Member (PCM) of India International Bullion Exchange IFSC Limited (IIBX)**

RBI/2022-23/62  
DoR.AUT.REC.41/24.01.001/2022-23

June 07, 2022

All Scheduled Commercial Banks

Madam/Dear Sir

**Branches of Indian Banks operating in GIFT-IFSC – acting as Professional Clearing Member (PCM) of India International Bullion Exchange IFSC Limited (IIBX)**

On a review, it has been decided to allow the branches of Indian banks operating in GIFT-IFSC to act as PCM of IIBX.

2. Accordingly, in exercise of the powers conferred on the Reserve Bank of India under Section 35A of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, the Reserve Bank, being satisfied that it is necessary and expedient in the public interest so to do, hereby, issues the instructions hereinafter specified.

**3. Applicability**

The instructions are applicable to domestic scheduled commercial banks (including foreign banks operating through a Wholly Owned Subsidiary incorporated in India), which are authorised to deal in foreign exchange and have a branch in GIFT-IFSC.

**4. Procedure for Application**

The parent bank (‘bank’) shall seek a No Objection Certificate (NoC) from the Reserve Bank of India prior to its branch in GIFT-IFSC seeking professional clearing membership of IIBX, subject to fulfilment of the prudential requirements as set out in Para 21 of the [Master Direction/DBR.FSD.No.101/24.01.041/2015-16 dated May 26, 2016](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_ViewMasDirections.aspx?id=10425). An eligible bank shall, with prior approval of its Board, make an application to the Department of Regulation, Reserve Bank of India with details of its proposed business plan as a PCM along with particulars of the risk management architecture instituted at its branch in GIFT-IFSC.

More details can be referred to in the below link.

Reference Link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12330&Mode=0>

**Bharat Bill Payment System – Amendment to guidelines**

RBI/2022-2023/58

CO.DPSS.POLC.No. S-253/02-27-020/2022-23

May 26, 2022

The Chairman and Managing Director / Chief Executive Officer

NPCI Bharat BillPay Ltd. / Bharat Bill Payment System Providers /

Participants and prospective Bharat Bill Payment Operating Units

Madam / Dear Sir,

Bharat Bill Payment System – Amendment to guidelines

This has reference to the guidelines on Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS) issued by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) vide circular DPSS.CO.PD.No.940/02.27.020/2014-2015 dated November 28, 2014. As announced in the Statement on Development and Regulatory Policies dated April 08, 2022, the minimum net-worth requirement for non-bank Bharat Bill Payment Operating Units (BBPOUs) stands reduced to ₹25 crore. The BBPS guidelines have been suitably amended.

2. This circular is issued under Section 10 (2) read with Section 18 of the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007 (Act 51 of 2007), and shall come into effect immediately.

Yours faithfully,

(P. Vasudevan)

Chief General Manager

Reference Link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12325&Mode=0>

**Interoperable Card-less Cash Withdrawal (ICCW) at ATMs**

RBI/2022-23/54  
CO.DPSS.POLC.No.S-227/02-10-002/2022-23

May 19, 2022

The Chairman and Managing Director / Chief Executive Officer  
Scheduled Commercial Banks including RRBs /  
Urban Co-operative Banks / State Co-operative Banks /  
District Central Co-operative Banks / Payment Banks / Small Finance Banks /  
National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) /  
ATM Networks / White Label ATM Operators (WLAOs)

Madam / Dear Sir,

**Interoperable Card-less Cash Withdrawal (ICCW) at ATMs**

Please refer to paragraph 7 of [Statement on Development and Regulatory Policies dated April 08, 2022](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_PressReleaseDisplay.aspx?prid=53536), wherein the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had announced introduction of ICCW.

2. All banks, ATM networks and WLAOs may provide the option of ICCW at their ATMs. NPCI has been advised to facilitate Unified Payments Interface (UPI) integration with all banks and ATM networks. While UPI would be used for customer authorisation in such transactions, settlement would be through the National Financial Switch (NFS) / ATM networks. The on-us / off-us ICCW transactions shall be processed without levy of any charges other than those prescribed under the circular on [Interchange Fee and Customer Charges](https://www.rbi.org.in/scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12111).

3. Withdrawal limits for ICCW transactions shall be in-line with the limits for regular on-us / off-us ATM withdrawals. All other instructions related to [Harmonisation of Turn Around Time (TAT) and customer compensation for failed transactions](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=11693) shall continue to be applicable.

4. This directive is issued under Section 10(2) read with Section 18 of the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007 (Act 51 of 2007).

Yours faithfully,

(P. Vasudevan)  
Chief General Manager

Reference Link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12321&Mode=0>

**New Definition of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises - Clarification**

RBI/2022-23/52  
FIDD.MSME & NFS.BC.No.7/06.02.31/2022-23

May 19, 2022

The Chairman/ Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer  
All Commercial Banks  
(including Small Finance Banks, Local Area Banks and Regional Rural Banks)  
All Primary (Urban) Co-operative Banks/State Co-operative Banks/  
District Central Co-operative Banks /All-India Financial Institutions/  
All Non-Banking Financial Companies

Dear Sir/Madam,

**New Definition of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises - Clarification**

Please refer to our [circulars FIDD.MSME & NFS.BC.No.3/06.02.31/2020-21 dated July 2, 2020](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=11934&Mode=0), [FIDD.MSME & NFS.BC.No.4/06.02.31/2020-21 dated August 21, 2020](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=11951&Mode=0) and [FIDD.MSME & NFS.BC.No.16/06.02.31/2021-22 dated February 18, 2022](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12233&Mode=0), regarding revised criteria for classification of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.

2. Government of India, vide [Gazette Notification S.O. 2134(E) dated May 06, 2022](https://rbidocs.rbi.org.in/rdocs/content/pdfs/GOIG19052022.pdf), has notified amendments in sub paragraph (3) paragraph (7) of the notification of Government of India, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises number [S.O. 2119 (E), dated June 26, 2020](https://rbidocs.rbi.org.in/rdocs/content/pdfs/IndianGazzate02072020.pdf), published in the Gazette of India.

3. In view of the above amendment, it is clarified that:

1. the existing Entrepreneurs Memorandum (EM) Part II and Udyog Aadhaar Memorandum (UAM) of the MSMEs obtained till June 30, 2020 shall remain valid till June 30, 2022 for classification as MSMEs; and
2. the validity of documents obtained in terms of O.M. No.12(4)/ 2017-SME dated March 8, 2017 ([RBI Circular FIDD.MSME & NFS.BC.No.10/06.02.31/2017-18 dated July 13, 2017](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=11050&Mode=0)), for classification of MSMEs upto June 30, 2020, has been extended upto June 30, 2022.

Yours faithfully

(Nisha Nambiar)  
Chief General Manager

Reference Link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12319&Mode=0>

**Kisan Credit Card Scheme - Eligibility criteria for farmers engaged in fisheries/ aquaculture**

RBI/2022-23/51  
FIDD.CO.FSD.BC.No.6/05.05.010/2022-23

May 18, 2022

The Chairman/Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer  
All Scheduled Commercial Banks  
(including Small Finance Banks and  
excluding Regional Rural Banks)

Madam/ Dear Sir,

**Kisan Credit Card Scheme - Eligibility criteria for farmers engaged in fisheries/ aquaculture**

Please refer to Para 3.1.1.2 of our [circular FIDD.CO.FSD.BC.12/05.05.010/2018-19 dated February 04, 2019](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=11462&Mode=0) on Kisan Credit Card (KCC) Scheme: Working Capital for Animal Husbandry and Fisheries. It has been brought to our notice that licensing/authorisation related requirements pertaining to fishing/aquaculture in inland water bodies vary across states. Accordingly, the eligibility criteria for inland fisheries and aquaculture under Para 3.1.1.2 of the circular stand modified as follows:

The beneficiaries must own or lease any fisheries related assets such as ponds, tanks, open water bodies, raceways, hatcheries, rearing units, boats, nets and such other fishing gear as the case may be and possess necessary authorisation/certification as may be applicable in respective states for fish farming and fishing related activities and for any other state specific fisheries and allied activities.

2. All other terms and conditions of the scheme remain unchanged.

Yours faithfully,

(Nisha Nambiar)  
Chief General Manager

Reference Link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12318&Mode=0>

**Modified Interest Subvention Scheme for Short Term Loans for Agriculture and Allied Activities availed through Kisan Credit Card (KCC) during the financial year 2021-22**

RBI/2022-23/35  
FIDD.CO.FSD.BC.No.3/05.02.001/2022-23

April 28, 2022

The Chairman / Managing Director / Chief Executive Officer  
All Public Sector Banks, Private Sector Banks and  
Small Finance Banks

Madam/Dear Sir,

**Modified Interest Subvention Scheme for Short Term Loans for Agriculture and Allied Activities availed through Kisan Credit Card (KCC) during the financial year 2021-22**

Please refer to our letter FIDD.CO.FSD.No.342/05.02.001/2020-21 dated October 16, 2020 conveying the decision of the Government of India for continuation of the Interest Subvention Scheme (modified) for short term loans for agriculture and allied activities for the year 2020-21 on interim basis.

2. In this regard, it is advised that Government of India has approved the continuation of the Interest Subvention Scheme (ISS) with modifications for the financial year 2021-22 with the following stipulations:

1. In order to provide short term crop loans and short term loans for allied activities including animal husbandry, dairy, fisheries, bee keeping etc. upto an overall limit of ₹3 lakh to farmers through KCC at concessional interest rate during the year 2021-22, it has been decided to provide interest subvention of 2% per annum to lending institutions viz. Public Sector Banks (PSBs) and Private Sector Banks (in respect of loans given by their rural and semi-urban branches only), Small Finance Banks (SFBs) and computerized Primary Agriculture Cooperative Societies (PACS) which have been ceded with Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs), on use of their own resources. This interest subvention of 2% per annum will be calculated on the loan amount from the date of disbursement/drawal up to the date of actual repayment of the loan by the farmer or up to the due date of the loan fixed by the banks, whichever is earlier, subject to a maximum period of one year. The applicable lending rate to farmers and the rate of interest subvention for the financial year 2021-22 will be as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Financial Year** | **Lending rate to farmers** | **Rate for Interest Subvention** |
| 2021-22 | 7% | 2% |

For more details, kindly refer to the link below.

Reference Link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12302&Mode=0>

**Legal Entity Identifier (LEI) for Borrowers**

RBI/2022-23/34  
DOR.CRE.REC.28/21.04.048/2022-23

April 21, 2022

All Scheduled Commercial Banks (Excluding Regional Rural Banks),  
All India Financial Institutions,  
Small Finance Banks, Local Area Banks,  
Primary (Urban) Co-operative Banks, and  
Non-Banking Financial Companies (including Housing Finance Companies)

Madam/Dear Sir,

**Legal Entity Identifier (LEI) for Borrowers**

Please refer to Para 3 of [DBR.No.BP.BC.92/21.04.048/2017-18 dated November 2, 2017](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=11154&Mode=0), on the captioned subject.

2. On a review, it has been decided that the guidelines on LEI stand extended to Primary (Urban) Co-operative Banks (UCBs) and Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs). It is further advised that non-individual borrowers enjoying aggregate exposure of ₹5 crore and above from banks[1](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12301&Mode=0#F1) and financial institutions (FIs)[2](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12301&Mode=0#F2) shall be required to obtain LEI codes as per the timeline given in the [Annex](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12301&Mode=0#AN_1).

“Exposure” for this purpose shall include all fund based and non-fund based (credit as well as investment) exposure of banks/FIs to the borrower. Aggregate sanctioned limit or outstanding balance, whichever is higher, shall be reckoned for the purpose. Lenders may ascertain the position of aggregate exposure based on information available either with them, or CRILC database or declaration obtained from the borrower.

c) Borrowers who fail to obtain LEI codes from an authorized Local Operating Unit (LOU) shall not be sanctioned any new exposure nor shall they be granted renewal/enhancement of any existing exposure. However, Departments/Agencies[3](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12301&Mode=0#F3) of Central and State Governments (not Public Sector Undertakings registered under Companies Act or established as Corporation under the relevant statute) shall be exempted from this provision.

3. These directions are issued under sections 21, 35A and 56 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, sections 45JA and 45L of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, section 30A of the National Housing Bank Act, 1987 and section 6 of the Factoring Regulation Act, 2011.

Yours faithfully,

(Manoranjan Mishra)  
Chief General Manager

Reference Link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12301&Mode=0>

**Master Direction – Credit Card and Debit Card – Issuance and Conduct Directions, 2022**

RBI/2022-23/92  
DoR.AUT.REC.No.27/24.01.041/2022-23

April 21, 2022

**Master Direction – Credit Card and Debit Card – Issuance and Conduct Directions, 2022**

In exercise of the powers conferred by Sections 35A and Section 56 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 and Chapter IIIB of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, the Reserve Bank of India being satisfied that it is necessary and expedient in the public interest so to do, hereby, issues the Directions hereinafter specified.

The direction details on the following:

**CHAPTER – I: PRELIMINARY**

**CHAPTER – II: CONDUCT OF CREDIT CARD BUSINESS**

**CHAPTER – III: ISSUE OF DEBIT CARD BY BANKS**

**CHAPTER – IV: CO-BRANDING ARRANGEMENT**

**CHAPTER – V: GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR CREDIT AND DEBIT CARDS**

**CHAPTER – VI: MISCELLANEOUS**

**CHAPTER – VII: EXEMPTIONS, INTERPRETATIONS AND REPEAL**

Details under each of the above chapters can be read from the below link

Reference Link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12300&Mode=0>

**Issue and regulation of share capital and securities - State Co-operative Banks and District Central Co-operative Banks**

RBI/2022-23/31  
DOR.CAP.REC.22/09.18.201/2022-23

April 19, 2022

The Chief Executive Officer  
All State and Central Co-operative Banks

Madam / Dear Sir,

**Issue and regulation of share capital and securities - State Co-operative Banks and District Central Co-operative Banks**

The Banking Regulation (Amendment) Act, 2020 (No. 39 of 2020), notified in the Gazette of India on September 29, 2020 (vide Notification No. 64 of that date), has come into force with effect from April 01, 2021 for Rural Co-operative Banks (RCBs), i.e. State Co-operative Banks (StCBs) and District Central Co-operative Banks (DCCBs).

2. The extant instructions for RCBs on issue and regulation of capital funds have been reviewed keeping in view, inter alia, the provisions of Section 12 read with Section 56 of the amended Banking Regulation Act, 1949 (BR Act).

For information on Augmentation of capital funds, Refund of share capital, Repeal and Effective Date refer to the link below.

Reference Link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12297&Mode=0>

**Consolidated Circular on Opening of Current Accounts and CC/OD Accounts by Banks**

RBI/2022-23/27  
DOR.CRE.REC.23/21.08.008/2022-23

April 19, 2022

All Scheduled Commercial Banks  
All Payments Banks

Madam / Dear Sir,

**Consolidated Circular on Opening of Current Accounts and CC/OD Accounts by Banks**

Please refer to [circular DOR.No.BP.BC/7/21.04.048/2020-21 dated August 6, 2020](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=11945&Mode=0) on Opening of Current Accounts by Banks - Need for Discipline and associated circulars thereon[1](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12293&Mode=0#F1). The [Annex](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12293&Mode=0#AN_1) consolidates all instructions/ guidelines issued on the subject till date.

Yours Faithfully,

(Manoranjan Mishra)  
Chief General Manager

Encl: Flowcharts

Reference Link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12293&Mode=0>

**Section 24 and Section 56 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 – Maintenance of Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR)**

RBI/2022-23/23  
DOR.RET.REC.15/12.01.001/2022-23

April 08, 2022

All Scheduled Commercial Banks (including Regional Rural Banks)  
Local Area Banks, Small Finance Banks, Payments Banks  
Primary (Urban) Co-operative Banks (UCBs)  
State and Central Co-operative Banks (StCBs / CCBs)

Madam/Sir,

**Section 24 and Section 56 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 –  
Maintenance of Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR)**

Please refer to [circular DBR.No.Ret.BC.10/12.02.001/2018-19 dated December 05, 2018](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=11427&Mode=0) and relative notification on the captioned subject.

2. As announced in the[Statement on Developmental and Regulatory Policies on April 08, 2022](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_PressReleaseDisplay.aspx?prid=53536), it has been decided to institute the Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) with immediate effect. Accordingly, it is decided that the balances held by banks with the RBI under the SDF shall be an eligible Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) asset and such balances shall form part of “Cash” for SLR maintenance. Banks shall report the SDF balances under "Cash in hand" in Form VIII or Form I, as applicable.

3. The balances held by banks with RBI under the SDF shall not be eligible for Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) maintenance.

4. A copy of the relative notification DOR.RET.REC.16/12.01.001/2022-23 dated April 08, 2022, is [enclosed](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12289&Mode=0#AN1).

Yours faithfully,

(Prakash Baliarsingh)  
Chief General Manager

For detailed notification, refer to the link below.

Reference Link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12289&Mode=0>

**Establishment of Digital Banking Units (DBUs)**

RBI/2022-23/19  
DOR.AUT.REC.12/22.01.001/2022-23

April 7, 2022

All Scheduled Commercial Banks  
(excluding Regional Rural Banks, Local Area Banks & Payments Banks)

Dear Sir / Madam,

**Establishment of Digital Banking Units (DBUs)**

In recent times, digital banking has emerged as the preferred banking service delivery channel in the country along with ‘brick and mortar’ banking outlets. Reserve Bank has been taking progressive measures to improve availability of digital infrastructure for banking services. In furtherance of this objective and as a part of efforts to accelerate and widen the reach of digital banking services, the concept of “Digital Banking Units” (DBUs) is being introduced by the Reserve Bank.

2. In pursuance of announcements made in the Union Budget 2022-23, guidelines have been prepared for setting up of Digital Banking Units (DBUs) by commercial banks on the basis of recommendations of a Working Group formed by RBI which included representatives of banks and Indian Banks' Association (IBA).

3. The guidelines for establishment of DBUs are detailed in the [ANNEX](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12285&Mode=0#AN).

Yours faithfully

(Prakash Baliarsingh)  
Chief General Manager

Encl: As above

Reference Link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12285&Mode=0>

**Master Circular – Housing Finance**

RBI/2022-23/16  
DOR.CRE.REC.No.06/08.12.001/2022-23

April 01, 2022

All Scheduled Commercial Banks (excluding RRBs)

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Master Circular – Housing Finance**

Please refer to the [Master Circular DOR.CRE.REC.No.87/08.12.001/2021-22 dated February 18, 2022](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_ViewMasCirculardetails.aspx?id=12243) consolidating the instructions / guidelines issued to banks till February 17, 2022 relating to Housing Finance. This[Master Circular](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12282&Mode=0#MC) consolidates instructions on the above matter issued up to March 31, 2022.

Yours faithfully,

(Manoranjan Mishra)  
Chief General Manager

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For more details on the headings mentioned above, refer to the link below.

Reference Link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12282&Mode=0>

**Master Circular – Lead Bank Scheme**

RBI/2022-23/11  
FIDD.CO.LBS.BC.No.02/02.01.001/2022-23

April 01, 2022

The Chairman/ Managing Director/ Chief Executive Officer  
SLBC/ UTLBC Convenor Banks / Lead Banks

Madam/ Dear Sir,

**Master Circular – Lead Bank Scheme**

The Reserve Bank of India has issued a number of guidelines/instructions on Lead Bank Scheme from time to time. This [Master Circular](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12277&Mode=0#MC) consolidates the relevant guidelines/ instructions issued by Reserve Bank of India on Lead Bank Scheme up to March 31, 2022 as listed in the [Appendix I](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12277&Mode=0#AP1).

2. This Master Circular has been placed on the RBI website [https://www.rbi.org.in](https://www.rbi.org.in/)

Yours faithfully,

(Sonali Sen Gupta)  
Chief General Manager-in-Charge

Encl.: As above

For the consolidated Master Circular on Lead Bank Scheme (upto 31st March, 2022) refer to the link below.

Reference Link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12277&Mode=0>

**Master Circular - Disbursement of Government Pension by Agency Banks**

RBI/2022-23/09  
DGBA.GBD.No.S2/31.02.007/2022-23

April 01, 2022

All Agency Banks

Dear Sir/Madam

**Master Circular - Disbursement of Government Pension by Agency Banks**

Please refer to our [Master Circular RBI/2021-22/08 dated April 01, 2021](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_ViewMasCirculardetails.aspx?id=12059) (updated as on May 17, 2021) on the above subject. We have now revised and updated the Master Circular which consolidates important instructions on the subject issued by the Reserve Bank of India till March 31, 2022.

2. A copy of the revised [Master Circular](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12275&Mode=0#MC) is enclosed for your information. This circular may also be downloaded from our website [https://mastercirculars.rbi.org.in](https://mastercirculars.rbi.org.in/).

Yours faithfully

(R. Kamalakannan)  
Chief General Manager

Encl.: As above

For the detailed ‘Master Circular–Disbursement of Government Pension by Agency Banks’ refer to the link below.

Reference Link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12275&Mode=0>

**Master Circular on Conduct of Government Business by Agency Banks - Payment of Agency Commission**

RBI/2022-23/08  
CO.DGBA.GBD.No.S-1/31.12.010/2022-23

April 1, 2022

All Agency Banks

Dear Sir / Madam

**Master Circular on Conduct of Government Business by Agency Banks - Payment of Agency Commission**

Please refer to our [Master Circular RBI/2021-22/07 DGBA.GBD.No.S-2/31.12.010/2021-22 dated April 1, 2021](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_ViewMasCirculardetails.aspx?id=12058) on the above subject. We have now revised and updated the Master Circular which consolidates important instructions on the subject issued by the Reserve Bank of India till March 31, 2022.

2. A copy of the revised [Master Circular](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12274&Mode=0#MC1) is enclosed for your information. This Circular may also be downloaded from our website [https://mastercirculars.rbi.org.in](https://mastercirculars.rbi.org.in/).

Yours faithfully

(R. Kamalakannan)  
Chief General Manager

Encl: As above

For the detailed ‘MASTER CIRCULAR ON AGENCY COMMISSION’, refer to the link below.

Reference Link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12274&Mode=0>

**Master Circular – Detection and Impounding of Counterfeit Notes**

RBI/2022-23/07  
DCM (FNVD) G –1/16.01.05/2022-23

April 1, 2022

The Chairman/ Managing Director /Chief Executive Officer  
All Banks

Dear Sir / Madam,

**Master Circular – Detection and Impounding of Counterfeit Notes**

Please refer to the [Master Circular DCM (FNVD) G - 1/16.01.05/2021-22 dated April 1, 2021](https://rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_ViewMasCirculardetails.aspx?id=12053) consolidating the instructions issued till April 1, 2021, relating to Detection and Impounding of Counterfeit Notes. The [Master Circular](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12273&Mode=0#MC) has since been updated by incorporating the instructions issued till date and has been placed on the RBI website [www.rbi.org.in](https://www.rbi.org.in/).

The Master Circular is a compilation of the instructions issued by RBI on the above subject which are operational as on the date of this Circular.

Yours faithfully,

(Sanjeev Prakash)  
Chief General Manager

Encl: As above

For the detailed circular, refer to the link below.

Reference Link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12273&Mode=0>

**Master Circular - Guarantees, Co-Acceptances & Letters of Credit – UCBs**

RBI/2022-23/06  
DoR.STR.REC.9/09.27.000/2022-23

April 01, 2022

The Managing Director/ Chief Executive Officers  
All Primary (Urban) Co-operative Banks

Dear Sir/ Madam,

**Master Circular - Guarantees, Co-Acceptances & Letters of Credit - UCBs**

Please refer to our [Master Circular DoR.STR.REC.65/09.27.000/2021-22 dated November 2, 2021](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_ViewMasCirculardetails.aspx?id=12187) on the captioned subject (available at RBI website [https://rbi.org.in/](https://www.rbi.org.in/)). The enclosed [Master Circular](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12272&Mode=0#MC) consolidates and updates all the instructions / guidelines on the subject issued up to March 31, 2022 as listed in the [Annex](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12272&Mode=0#AN).

Yours faithfully

(Manoranjan Mishra)  
Chief General Manager

For more details, refer to the link below.

Reference Link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12272&Mode=0>

**Master Direction on Penal Provisions in deficiencies in reporting of transactions/ balances at Currency Chests**

RBI/2022-23/91  
DCM (CC) No.G-4/03.35.01/2022-23

April 01, 2022

The Chairman/ Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer  
(All banks having Currency Chests)

Madam / Dear Sir

**Master Direction on Penal Provisions in deficiencies in reporting of transactions/ balances at Currency Chests**

In terms of the Preamble to & Section 45 of the RBI Act, 1934 and 35 A of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, the Bank issues guidelines / instructions for realising the objectives of Clean Note Policy as part of currency management. With a view to sustain these efforts and to ensure discipline among the banks for timely and accurate reporting of currency chest transactions, instructions on the subject have been issued from time to time.

2. The [Master Direction](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12270&Mode=0#MD) enclosed incorporates updated guidelines / circulars on the subject. The Direction will be updated as and when fresh instructions are issued.

Yours faithfully,

(Sanjeev Prakash)  
Chief General Manager

Encl : As above

Reference Link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12270&Mode=0>

**Master Direction on Framework of Incentives for Currency Distribution & Exchange Scheme for bank branches including currency chests based on performance in rendering customer service to the members of public**

RBI/2022-23/90  
DCM (CC) No.G-3/03.41.01/2022-23

April 01, 2022

The Chairman/Managing Director/Chief Executive Officers  
All banks

Madam / Dear Sir,

**Master Direction on Framework of Incentives for Currency Distribution & Exchange Scheme for bank branches including currency chests based on performance in rendering customer service to the members of public**

In terms of the Preamble to & under Section 45 of the RBI Act, 1934 and 35 A of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949; the Bank issues guidelines / instructions for realising the objectives of Clean Note Policy as part of currency management. With a view to furthering these objectives, the Bank has formulated a framework of incentives titled Currency Distribution and Exchange Scheme (CDES) to encourage all bank branches to provide better customer services to the members of public.

2. The [Master Direction](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12269&Mode=0#MD) enclosed incorporates updated guidelines / circulars on the subject. The Direction shall be updated from time to time as and when fresh instructions are issued.

Yours faithfully,

(Sanjeev Prakash)  
Chief General Manager

Encl: As above

Reference Link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12269&Mode=0>

**Master Circular – Scheme of Penalties for bank branches including Currency Chests for deficiency in rendering customer service to the members of public**

RBI/2022-23/04  
DCM (CC) No.G-5/03.44.01/2022-23

April 01, 2022

The Chairman/Managing Director/Chief Executive Officers  
All banks

**Master Circular – Scheme of Penalties for bank branches including Currency Chests for deficiency in rendering customer service to the members of public**

Please refer to the [Master Circular DCM (CC) No.G-3/03.44.01/2021-22 dated April 01, 2021](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_ViewMasCirculardetails.aspx?id=12054) on the scheme of penalties.

2. An updated version on the subject is [annexed](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12268&Mode=0#A_1) for information and necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

(Sanjeev Prakash)  
Chief General Manager

Encl: As above

Reference Link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12268&Mode=0>

**Master Circular – Facility for Exchange of Notes and Coins**

RBI/2022-23/01  
DCM (NE) No.G-5/08.07.18/2022-23

April 01, 2022

The Chairman/The Managing Director/  
The Chief Executive Officer  
All Banks

Madam/Dear Sir

**Master Circular – Facility for Exchange of Notes and Coins**

Please refer to the [Master Circular DCM (NE) No.G-4/08.07.18/2021-22 dated April 01, 2021](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_ViewMasCirculardetails.aspx?id=12052) containing instructions on the facility for exchange of notes and coins. A revised version of [Master Circular](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12265&Mode=0#MC) on the subject is annexed for your information and necessary action.

Yours faithfully

(Sanjeev Prakash)  
Chief General Manager

Encl: As above

For the detailed Master Circular, refer to the link below.

Reference Link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12265&Mode=0>

**Master Direction - Classification, Valuation and Operation of Investment Portfolio of Commercial Banks (Directions), 2021 – Amendment**

RBI/2021-22/191  
DOR.MRG.REC.98/21.04.141/2021-22

March 31, 2022

Dear Sir / Madam,

**Master Direction - Classification, Valuation and Operation of Investment Portfolio of Commercial Banks (Directions), 2021 - Amendment**

Please refer to the [Master Direction DOR.MRG.42/21.04.141/2021-22 dated August 25, 2021](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_ViewMasDirections.aspx?id=12153) – ‘Classification, Valuation and Operation of Investment Portfolio of Commercial Banks (Directions), 2021’ (hereinafter referred as ‘Master Direction’).

2. In terms of Section 9 of the Master Direction ibid, investments classified under HTM shall be carried at acquisition cost, with the premium over the face value being amortised over the tenor of the instrument. It is expected that the acquisition of such instruments shall be at the fair value of the security at the time of its acquisition. This instruction also applies to re-capitalisation bonds received from the Government of India towards banks’ recapitalisation requirement and held in the investment portfolio (cf. Section 6 of the Master Direction ibid).

3. It is clarified that investments in special securities received from the Government of India towards bank’s recapitalisation requirement from FY 2021-22 onwards shall be recognised at fair value / market value on initial recognition in HTM. The fair value / market value of these securities shall be arrived on the basis of the prices / YTM of similar tenor Central Government securities put out by Financial Benchmarks India Pvt. Ltd. (FBIL). Any difference between the acquisition cost and fair value arrived as above shall be immediately recognized in the Profit and Loss Account.

**Applicability**

4. This circular is applicable to all Commercial Banks (excluding Regional Rural Banks).

5. The relevant sections of the Master Direction are being amended to reflect the aforementioned changes. These instructions come into force with immediate effect.

Yours faithfully,

(Usha Janakiraman)  
Chief General Manager

Reference Link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12264&Mode=0>

**Cassette - Swaps in ATMs**

RBI/2021-22/190  
DCM (Plg.) No.S 1117/10.25.007/2021-22

March 31, 2022

The Chairman / Managing Director/  
Chief Executive Officer  
All Banks

Madam / Dear Sir,

**Cassette - Swaps in ATMs**

Please refer to the [circulars RBI/2017-18/162/ DCM (Plg.) No. 3641/10.25.007/2017-18 dated April 12, 2018](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=11256&Mode=0) and [RBI/2021-22/71/ DCM (Plg.) No.S39/10.25.007/2021-22 dated July 12, 2021](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12130&Mode=0) on the captioned subject wherein banks were advised to consider using lockable cassettes in their ATMs which shall be swapped at the time of cash replenishment. The same was advised to be implemented in a phased manner covering at least one third ATMs operated by the banks every year, such that all ATMs achieve cassette swap by March 31, 2021, which was later extended to March 31, 2022.

2. In this regard, representations have been received from various banks and Indian Banks’ Association expressing difficulties in meeting the timeline. Accordingly, it has been decided to extend the timeline for implementation of cassette swap in all ATMs till March 31, 2023.

3. Banks shall set a Board approved internal timeline to adhere to the extended deadline and submit quarterly status reports. Boards of the banks shall monitor the progress to ensure compliance.

4. All other instructions contained in the circulars ibid remain unchanged.

Yours faithfully,

(Suman Ray)  
Chief General Manager-in-Charge

Reference Link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12263&Mode=0>

**Master Direction - Classification, Valuation and Operation of Investment Portfolio of Commercial Banks (Directions), 2021 – Amendment**

RBI/2021-22/185  
DOR.MRG.REC.96/21.04.141/2021-22

March 23, 2022

Dear Sir / Madam,

**Master Direction - Classification, Valuation and Operation of Investment Portfolio of Commercial Banks (Directions), 2021 - Amendment**

Please refer to the [Master Direction DOR.MRG.42/21.04.141/2021-22 dated August 25, 2021](https://rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_ViewMasDirections.aspx?id=12153) – ‘Classification, Valuation and Operation of Investment Portfolio of Commercial Banks (Directions), 2021’ (hereinafter referred as ‘Master Direction’).

2. The Master Direction outlines the prudential treatment for investment in Venture Capital Funds (VCFs). We have received queries from banks regarding the applicability of these instructions for investment in Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs).

3. Accordingly, on a review, it has been decided that the investment in Category I and Category II AlFs, which includes VCFs, shall receive the same prudential treatment as applicable for investment in VCFs.

4. In addition, based on feedback from banks, clarifications / updates have been provided regarding section 4(a)(vii), 10(c)(ix), 12(ii)(b), 12(ii)(d)(ix), 13(iv)(b), 16(i), 16(ii), 18(ii)(e)(ii) and Annex II of the Master Direction.

5. The relevant sections of the Master Direction have been amended to reflect the aforementioned changes.

**Applicability**

6. This circular is applicable to all Commercial Banks (excluding Regional Rural Banks).

7. These instructions shall come into force with immediate effect.

Yours faithfully,

(Usha Janakiraman)  
Chief General Manager

Reference Link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12258&Mode=0>

**Master Direction – Reserve Bank of India (Regulatory Framework for Microfinance Loans) Directions, 2022**

RBI/DOR/2021-22/89  
DoR.FIN.REC.95/03.10.038/2021-22

March 14, 2022

All Commercial Banks (including Small Finance Banks,  
Local Area Banks and Regional Rural Banks) excluding Payments Banks  
All Primary (Urban) Co-operative Banks/ State Co-operative Banks/  
District Central Co-operative Banks  
All Non-Banking Financial Companies (including Microfinance Institutions  
and Housing Finance Companies)

Madam/ Dear Sir,

**Master Direction – Reserve Bank of India (Regulatory Framework for Microfinance Loans) Directions, 2022**

Please refer to paragraph 8 of the [Statement on Developmental and Regulatory Policies](https://rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_PressReleaseDisplay.aspx?prid=51078) announced as a part of the [Bi-monthly Monetary Policy Statement for 2020-21 dated February 5, 2021](https://rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_PressReleaseDisplay.aspx?prid=51077), regarding review of the regulatory framework for microfinance.

2. A consultative document on regulation of microfinance loans was issued for public comments on [June 14, 2021](https://rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_PressReleaseDisplay.aspx?prid=51725). Based on the feedback received, it has now been decided to put in place the directions for microfinance loans which are [enclosed](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12256&Mode=0#MD).

Yours faithfully,

(J.P. Sharma)  
Chief General Manager

For the detailed Master Circular, refer to the link below.

Reference Link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12256&Mode=0>

**Issue and regulation of share capital and securities - Primary (Urban) Co-operative Banks**

RBI/2021-22/179  
DOR.CAP.REC.92/09.18.201/2021-22

March 08, 2022

The Chief Executive Officer  
All Primary (Urban) Co-operative Banks

Madam / Dear Sir,

**Issue and regulation of share capital and securities - Primary (Urban) Co-operative Banks**

The Banking Regulation (Amendment) Act, 2020 (No. 39 of 2020), notified in the Gazette of India on September 29, 2020 (vide Notification No. 64 of that date), is deemed to have come into force with effect from June 29, 2020 for Primary (Urban) Co-operative Banks (UCBs).

2. The extant instructions for UCBs on issue and regulation of capital funds have been reviewed keeping in view, inter alia, the provisions of Section 12 read with Section 56 of the amended Banking Regulation Act, 1949 (BR Act).

For information on augmentation of capital funds, refund of share capital, repeal and effective date, refer to the link below.

Reference Link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12251&Mode=0>

**Master Circular – Housing Finance**

RBI/2021-22/171  
DOR.CRE.REC.No.87/08.12.001/2021-22

February 18, 2022

All Scheduled Commercial Banks (excluding RRBs)

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Master Circular – Housing Finance**

Please refer to the [Master Circular DBR.No.DIR.BC.13/08.12.001/2015-16 dated July 1, 2015](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_ViewMasCirculardetails.aspx?id=9851) consolidating the instructions / guidelines issued to banks till June 30, 2015 relating to Housing Finance. This [Master Circular](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12243&Mode=0#MC) consolidates instructions on the above matter issued up to February 17, 2022.

Yours faithfully,

(Manoranjan Mishra)  
Chief General Manager

For the detailed Master Circular, refer to the link below.

Reference Link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12243&Mode=0>

**New Definition of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises – Clarification**

RBI/2021-2022/161  
FIDD.MSME & NFS.BC.No.16/06.02.31/2021-22

February 18, 2022

The Chairman/ Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer  
All Commercial Banks  
(including Small Finance Banks, Local Area Banks and Regional Rural Banks)  
All Primary (Urban) Co-operative Banks/State Co-operative Banks/  
District Central Co-operative Banks /All-India Financial Institutions/  
All Non-Banking Financial Companies

Dear Sir/Madam,

**New Definition of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises - Clarification**

Please refer to the [circular FIDD.MSME & NFS.BC.No.12/06.02.31/2021-22 dated June 25, 2021](https://rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12122&Mode=0) on ‘New Definition of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises’.

2. In this connection, we inform that Government of India, vide their [Gazette Notification S.O. 278(E) dated January 19, 2022](https://rbidocs.rbi.org.in/rdocs/content/pdfs/GOIJan192022_18022022.pdf), has notified amendments in the paragraph (7) sub-paragraph (3) in the notification of Government of India, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises number [S.O. 2119 (E), dated June 26, 2020](https://rbidocs.rbi.org.in/rdocs/content/pdfs/IndianGazzate02072020.pdf), published in the Gazette of India.

3. In view of the above amendment, paragraph 3 of the said circular would stand modified as under:

“The existing Entrepreneurs Memorandum (EM) Part II and Udyog Aadhaar Memorandum (UAMs) of the MSMEs obtained till June 30, 2020 shall remain valid till March 31, 2022.”

4. Further, it is clarified that the validity of documents obtained in terms of O.M. No.12(4)/ 2017-SME dated March 8, 2017 ([RBI Circular FIDD.MSME & NFS.BC.No.10/06.02.31/2017-18 dated July 13, 2017](https://rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=11050&Mode=0)), for classification of MSMEs upto June 30, 2020, are also valid upto March 31, 2022.

5. All other provisions of the circular remain unchanged.

Yours faithfully

(Sonali Sen Gupta)  
Chief General Manager-in-Charge

Reference Link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12233&Mode=0>

**Retail Direct Scheme – Market Making**

RBI/2021-22/147  
IDMD.PDRD.No.S1617/03.64.023/2021-22

January 04, 2022

All Primary Dealers

Dear Sir/Madam

**Retail Direct Scheme – Market Making**

[RBI Retail Direct Scheme has been launched on November 12, 2021](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_PressReleaseDisplay.aspx?prid=52548) for providing one-stop access to facilitate investment in Government Securities by retail investors. In this connection, to provide liquidity in the secondary market, a market making arrangement, wherein the Primary Dealers shall be present on the NDS-OM platform (odd-lot and Request for Quotes segments) throughout market hours and respond to buy/sell requests from Retail Direct Gilt Account Holders (RDGAHs), is enclosed as [Annex](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12216&Mode=0#AN).

Yours faithfully

(Latha Vishwanath)  
General Manager

Encl: as above

For more details, refer to the link below.

Reference Link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12216&Mode=0>

**Framework for Facilitating Small Value Digital Payments in Offline Mode**

RBI/2021-22/146  
CO.DPSS.POLC.No.S1264/02-14-003/2021-2022

January 03, 2022

The Chairman / Managing Director / Chief Executive Officer  
Authorised Payment System Operators and Participants (Banks and Non-banks)

Madam / Dear Sir,

**Framework for Facilitating Small Value Digital Payments in Offline Mode**

Reserve Bank had, vide [circular dated August 06, 2020](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=11947&Mode=0), permitted a pilot scheme to encourage technological innovations that enable small value digital transactions in offline mode. It was stated therein that the decision on formalising such a system would be based on the experience gained.

2. Pilot testing was undertaken by some entities during the period from September 2020 to July 2021. With encouraging feedback from the pilots, it was announced in the [Statement on Developmental and Regulatory policies dated October 08, 2021](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_PressReleaseDisplay.aspx?prid=52368), that a framework for carrying out small value digital payments in offline mode across the country would be introduced.

3. Accordingly, the framework to enable small value digital payments in offline mode using cards, wallets, mobile devices, etc., is detailed in [Annex](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12215&Mode=0#AN1). Authorised Payment System Operators (PSOs) and Payment System Participants (PSPs) – Acquirers and Issuers (banks and non-banks) - shall ensure compliance with all the applicable instructions.

4. This directive is issued under Section 10 (2) read with Section 18 of Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007 (Act 51 of 2007) and shall come into effect immediately.

Yours faithfully,

(P Vasudevan)  
Chief General Manager

Reference Link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12215&Mode=0>