**Advanced Bank Management**

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**Introduction of Legal Entity Identifier for Cross-border Transactions**

RBI/2021-22/137  
A.P. (DIR Series) Circular No. 20

December 10, 2021

To

All Category-I Authorised Dealer Banks

Madam / Sir,

**Introduction of Legal Entity Identifier for Cross-border Transactions**

The Legal Entity Identifier (LEI) is a 20-digit number used to uniquely identify parties to financial transactions worldwide to improve the quality and accuracy of financial data systems. LEI has been introduced by the Reserve Bank in a phased manner for participants in the over the counter (OTC) derivative, non-derivative markets, large corporate borrowers and large value transactions in centralised payment systems.

2. In order to further harness the benefits of LEI, it has been decided that AD Category I banks, with effect from October 1, 2022, shall obtain the LEI number from the resident entities (non-individuals) undertaking capital or current account transactions of ₹50 crore and above (per transaction) under FEMA, 1999. As regards non-resident counterparts/ overseas entities, in case of non-availability of LEI information, AD Category I banks may process the transactions to avoid disruptions. Further, AD Category I banks may encourage concerned entities to voluntarily furnish LEI while undertaking transactions even before October 1, 2022. Once an entity has obtained an LEI number, it must be reported in all transactions of that entity, irrespective of transaction size.

3. AD Category-I banks shall have the required systems in place to capture the LEI information and ensure that any LEI captured is validated against the global LEI database available on the website of the Global Legal Entity Identifier Foundation (GLEIF).

4. AD banks may bring the contents of this circular to the notice of their constituents concerned and advise entities who undertake large value transactions (₹50 crore and above) under FEMA, 1999 to obtain LEI in time, if they do not already have one issued.

5. Entities can obtain LEI from any of the Local Operating Units (LOUs) accredited by the GLEIF, the body tasked to support the implementation and use of LEI. In India, LEI can be obtained from Legal Entity Identifier India Ltd. (LEIL) ([https://www.ccilindia-lei.co.in](https://www.ccilindia-lei.co.in/)), which is also recognised as an issuer of LEI by the Reserve Bank under the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007. The rules, procedures and documentation requirements may be ascertained from LEIL.

6. The directions contained in this circular are being issued under sections 10(4) and 11(1) of the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA), 1999 (42 of 1999) and are without prejudice to permissions/approvals, if any, required under any other law.

Yours faithfully

Ajay Kumar Misra  
Chief General Manager-in-Charge

Reference link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12206&Mode=0>

**Prudential norms on Income Recognition, Asset Classification and Provisioning pertaining to Advances – Clarifications**

RBI/2021-2022/125  
DOR.STR.REC.68/21.04.048/2021-22

November 12, 2021

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-India Financial Institutions (Exim Bank, NABARD, NHB and SIDBI)  
All Non-Banking Financial Companies (including Housing Finance Companies)

Madam/Dear Sir,

**Prudential norms on Income Recognition, Asset Classification and Provisioning pertaining to Advances - Clarifications**

Please refer to the [Master Circular on Prudential norms on Income Recognition, Asset Classification and Provisioning pertaining to Advances (IRACP norms) dated October 1, 2021](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_ViewMasCirculardetails.aspx?id=12171). With a view to ensuring uniformity in the implementation of IRACP norms across all lending institutions, certain aspects of the extant regulatory guidelines are being clarified and/or harmonized, which will be applicable *mutatis mutandis* to all lending institutions. Wherever references to circulars/instructions applicable to banks have been made, other lending institutions may refer to instructions as applicable to them. All the instructions in this circular cover aspects on:

**A. Specification of due date/repayment date**

**B. Classification as Special Mention Account (SMA) and Non-Performing Asset (NPA)**

**C. Clarification regarding definition of ‘out of order’**

**D. NPA classification in case of interest payments**

**E. Upgradation of accounts classified as NPAs**

**F. Income recognition policy for loans with moratorium on payment of interest**

**G. Consumer Education**

Details under each aspect may be referred from the below link

Reference link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12194&Mode=0>

**Priority Sector Lending- Banks’ lending to NBFCs for on-lending – Extension of facility**

RBI/2021-22/110  
FIDD.CO.Plan.BC.No.15/04.09.01/2021-22

October 8, 2021

The Chairman/ Managing Director  
Chief Executive Officer  
All Scheduled Commercial Banks  
(Excluding Regional Rural Banks, Small Finance Banks, Urban Co-operative Banks and Local Area Banks)

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Priority Sector Lending- Banks’ lending to NBFCs for on-lending – Extension of facility**

Please refer to para 22 of [Master Directions (MD) on PSL dated September 04, 2020](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_ViewMasDirections.aspx?id=11959) (updated as on June 11, 2021) wherein the facility of bank lending to NBFCs (other than MFIs) for on-lending was allowed to be classified as PSL up to September 30, 2021.

2. As announced in the ‘[Statement on Developmental and Regulatory Policies’ dated October 8, 2021](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_PressReleaseDisplay.aspx?prid=52368), the facility has been extended till March 31, 2022 keeping in view the increased traction observed in delivering credit to the underserved/unserved segments of the economy. Loans disbursed under the on-lending model will continue to be classified under Priority Sector till the date of repayment/maturity whichever is earlier. Further, bank loans to HFCs for on-lending for the purpose of housing, as prescribed in para 23 of our [MD on PSL dated September 4, 2020](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_ViewMasDirections.aspx?id=11959), will continue as hitherto.

3. All other guidelines as issued vide MD on PSL ibid will continue to apply.

Yours faithfully,

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

Reference link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12177&Mode=0>

**Master Circular - Prudential norms on Income Recognition, Asset Classification and Provisioning pertaining to Advances**

RBI/2021-2022/104  
DOR.No.STR.REC.55/21.04.048/2021-22

October 1, 2021

All Commercial Banks (excluding RRBs)

Madam/Dear Sir

**Master Circular - Prudential norms on Income Recognition, Asset Classification and Provisioning pertaining to Advances**

Please refer to the [Master Circular No. DBR.No.BP.BC.2/21.04.048/2015-16 dated July 1, 2015](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_ViewMasCirculardetails.aspx?id=9908) consolidating instructions / guidelines issued to banks till June 30, 2015 on matters relating to prudential norms on income recognition, asset classification and provisioning pertaining to advances.

2. This [Master Circular](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12171&Mode=0#MD) consolidates instructions on the above matters issued as on date. A list of circulars consolidated in this Master Circular is contained in the [Annex 6](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12171&Mode=0#AN6).

Yours faithfully

(Manoranjan Mishra)  
Chief General Manager

Encl.: As above

Reference link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12171&Mode=0>

**Master Direction – Reserve Bank of India (Transfer of Loan Exposures) Directions, 2021**

RBI/DOR/2021-22/86  
DOR.STR.REC.51/21.04.048/2021-22

September 24, 2021

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 All-India Financial Institutions  
All Non-Banking Financial Companies (including Housing Finance Companies)

**Master Direction – Reserve Bank of India (Transfer of Loan Exposures) Directions, 2021**

Please refer to the Draft Comprehensive Framework for Sale of Loan Exposures that was released on [June 8, 2020](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_PressReleaseDisplay.aspx?prid=49920) for comments from various stakeholders.

2. Based on the examination of the comments received, the Reserve Bank has issued the Master Direction – Reserve Bank of India (Transfer of Loan Exposures) Directions, 2021, which are [enclosed](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12166&Mode=0#MD). These directions have been issued in exercise of the powers conferred by the Sections 21 and 35A of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 read with Section 56 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949; Chapter IIIB of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934; and Sections 30A, 32 and 33 of the National Housing Bank Act, 1987.

3. These directions come into immediate effect replacing the existing instructions on the matter of sale / transfer of loan exposures. All lending institutions are advised to take necessary steps to ensure compliance with these directions.

Yours faithfully,

(Manoranjan Mishra)  
Chief General Manager

Reference link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12166&Mode=0>

**Notification as ‘Financial Institution’ under Section 2(1)(m)(iv) of Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (SARFAESI Act)**

RBI/2021-22/91  
DOR.FIN.REC.No.41/03.10.136/2021-22

August 25, 2021

All Housing Finance Companies (HFCs)

Dear Sir/ Madam,

**Notification as ‘Financial Institution’ under Section 2(1)(m)(iv) of Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (SARFAESI Act)**

Please refer to Para 105 of [Master Direction – Non-Banking Financial Company – Housing Finance Company (Reserve Bank) Directions, 2021](https://rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_ViewMasDirections.aspx?id=12030) wherein certain criteria have been prescribed for notification of HFCs as ‘Financial Institution’ under Section 2(1)(m)(iv) of the SARFAESI Act.

2. In this connection, Government of India (GoI) has, vide its Gazette Notification No. S.O. 2405(E) dated June 17, 2021 notified the HFCs registered under Section 29A(5) of National Housing Bank Act, 1987 and having assets worth ₹100 crore & above, as ‘Financial Institution’ under Section 2(1)(m)(iv) of SARFAESI Act, 2002. In view of revision of the criteria for notification as ‘Financial Institution’ as per the abovementioned Gazette notification of GoI, the criteria prescribed under Para 105 of the aforesaid Master Direction are withdrawn with immediate effect.

3. The [Master Direction – Non-Banking Financial Company – Housing Finance Company (Reserve Bank) Directions, 2021](https://rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_ViewMasDirections.aspx?id=12030) is being modified accordingly.

Yours faithfully,

(J.P. Sharma)  
Chief General Manager

Reference link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12151&Mode=0>

**Enhancement of collateral free loans to Self Help Groups (SHGs) under DAY-NRLM from ₹10 lakh to ₹20 Lakh**

RBI/2021-22/83  
FIDD.GSSD.CO.BC.No.09/09.01.003/2021-22

August 9, 2021

The Chairman/ Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer  
Public Sector Banks  
Private Sector Banks  
(including Small Finance Banks)

Madam/Dear Sir,

**Enhancement of collateral free loans to Self Help Groups (SHGs) under DAY-NRLM from ₹10 lakh to ₹20 Lakh**

Please refer to the [Master Circular FIDD.GSSD.CO.BC.No.04/09.01.01/2021-22 dated April 1, 2021](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_ViewMasCirculardetails.aspx?id=12062), on Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM).

2. In this connection, the Government of India, vide their [Gazette Notification S.O. 2668(E) dated July 1, 2021](https://rbidocs.rbi.org.in/rdocs/content/pdfs/CGFMUN01072021.pdf), has notified amendments in the Credit Guarantee Fund for Micro Units (CGFMU) Scheme in paragraph (2) sub-paragraph (xii) of the notification of the Government of India, Ministry of Finance (Department of Financial Services), [number S.O. 1443(E), dated the April 18, 2016](https://rbidocs.rbi.org.in/rdocs/content/pdfs/CGFMUN18042016.pdf), published in the Gazette of India.

3. In view of the above amendment, paragraph 7.4 of [RBI Master Circular FIDD.GSSD.CO.BC.No.04/09.01.01/2021-22 (on DAY-NRLM) dated April 01, 2021](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_ViewMasCirculardetails.aspx?id=12062) stands modified as under:

7.4 Security and Margin:

7.4.1 For loans to SHGs up to ₹10.00 lakh, no collateral and no margin will be charged. No lien should be marked against savings bank account of SHGs and no deposits should be insisted upon while sanctioning loans.

7.4.2 For loans to SHGs above ₹10 lakh and up to ₹20 lakh, no collateral should be charged and no lien should be marked against savings bank account of SHGs. However, the entire loan (irrespective of the loan outstanding, even if it subsequently goes below ₹10 lakh) would be eligible for coverage under Credit Guarantee Fund for Micro Units (CGFMU).”

4. All other provisions of the Master Circular remain unchanged.

Yours faithfully

(Kaya Tripathi)  
Chief General Manager

Reference link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12143&Mode=0>

**Resolution Framework for COVID-19-related Stress – Financial Parameters – Revised timelines for compliance**

RBI/2021-22/80  
DOR.STR.REC.38/21.04.048/2021-22

August 6, 2021

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 All-India Financial Institutions  
All Non-Banking Financial Companies (including Housing Finance Companies)

Madam / Dear Sir,

**Resolution Framework for COVID-19-related Stress – Financial Parameters – Revised timelines for compliance**

Please refer to the [circular DOR.No.BP.BC/13/21.04.048/2020-21 dated September 7, 2020](https://rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=11961&Mode=0) inter alia advising the key ratios and their sector specific thresholds to be considered by lending institutions while finalising the resolution plans in respect of eligible borrowers under Part B of the Annex to the [Resolution Framework for Covid-19 related stress issued on August 6, 2020](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=11941&Mode=0).

2. The key ratios consisted of four operational ratios, viz., Total Debt / EBITDA, Current Ratio, Debt Service Coverage Ratio (DSCR) and Average Debt Service Coverage Ratio (ADSCR), along with the ratio Total Outside Liabilities / Adjusted Tangible Net Worth (TOL/ATNW) representing the debt-equity mix of the borrower post implementation of the resolution plan.

3. In view of the resurgence of the Covid-19 pandemic in 2021 and recognising the difficulties it may pose for the borrowers in meeting the operational parameters, it has been decided to defer the target date for meeting the specified thresholds in respect of the four operational parameters, viz. Total Debt / EBIDTA, Current Ratio, DSCR and ADSCR, to October 1, 2022.

4. The target date for achieving the ratio TOL/ATNW, as crystallised in terms of the resolution plan, shall remain unchanged as March 31, 2022.

Yours faithfully,

(Manoranjan Mishra)  
Chief General Manager

Reference link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12140&Mode=0>

**Rating of Deposits of HFCs – Approved Credit Rating Agencies and Minimum Investment Grade Credit Rating**

RBI/2021-22/74  
DOR.FIN.REC.No.34/03.10.136/2021-22

July 29, 2021

All deposit taking Housing Finance Companies (HFCs)

Madam/ Dear Sir,

**Rating of Deposits of HFCs – Approved Credit Rating Agencies and Minimum Investment Grade Credit Rating**

A reference is invited to Para 25.2 of [Master Direction – Non-Banking Financial Company – Housing Finance Company (Reserve Bank) Directions, 2021](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_ViewMasDirections.aspx?id=12030), wherein the names of five approved credit rating agencies and their minimum investment grade credit rating for the purpose of accepting public deposits have been listed.

2. On a review, it has been decided to align the aforesaid provisions for HFCs with provisions on the subject prescribed for NBFCs which are contained in Para 9 of [Master Direction - Non-Banking Financial Companies Acceptance of Public Deposits (Reserve Bank) Directions, 2016](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_ViewMasDirections.aspx?id=10563). Accordingly, the names of credit rating agencies and their minimum investment grade ratings for the purpose of accepting public deposits by HFCs are listed in the [Annex](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12134&Mode=0#AN_1).

3. The [Master Direction – Non-Banking Financial Company – Housing Finance Company (Reserve Bank) Directions, 2021](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_ViewMasDirections.aspx?id=12030) is being modified accordingly.

Yours faithfully,

(J.P. Sharma)  
Chief General Manager

Reference link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12134&Mode=0>

**Loans and Advances – Regulatory Restrictions**

RBI/2021-22/72  
DOR.CRE.REC.No.33/13.03.00/2021-22

July 23, 2021

All Scheduled Commercial Banks (excluding RRBs)  
All Small Finance Banks  
All Local Area Banks

Madam / Dear Sir,

**Loans and Advances – Regulatory Restrictions**

Please refer to paragraphs 2.2.1.2, 2.2.1.4 and paragraph 2.2.1.5 of [Master Circular on Loans and Advances - Statutory and Other Restrictions dated July 01, 2015](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_ViewMasCirculardetails.aspx?id=9902).

2. On a review, it has been decided that

i) For personal loans granted to any director of other banks, the threshold of Rupees twenty-five lakh, as mentioned in para 2.2.1.2, stands revised to Rupees five crore.

ii) Paragraph 2.2.1.4 has been revised as under –

Unless sanctioned by the Board of Directors/Management Committee, banks should not grant loans and advances aggregating Rupees five crore and above to -

(a) any relative other than spouse (spouse as specified in para 2.2.1.3 above) and minor / dependent children of their own Chairmen/Managing Directors or other Directors;

(b) any relative other than spouse (spouse as specified in para 2.2.1.3 above) and minor / dependent children of the Chairman/Managing Director or other directors of other banks\*;

(c) any firm in which any of the relatives other than spouse (spouse as specified in para 2.2.1.3 above) and minor / dependent children as mentioned in (a) & (b) above is interested as a partner or guarantor; and

(d) any company in which any of the relatives other than spouse (spouse as specified in para 2.2.1.3 above) and minor / dependent children as mentioned in (a) & (b) above is interested as a major shareholder or as a director or as a guarantor or is in control.

Provided that a relative of a director shall also be deemed to be interested in a company, being the subsidiary or holding company, if he/she is a major shareholder or is in control of the respective holding or subsidiary company.

\*including directors of Scheduled Co-operative Banks, directors of subsidiaries/trustees of mutual funds/venture capital funds.

iii) Paragraph 2.2.1.5 has been revised as under -

The proposals for credit facilities of an amount less than Rupees twenty-five lakh or Rupees five crores (as the case may be) to these borrowers may be sanctioned by the appropriate authority in the financing bank under powers vested in such authority, but the matter should be reported to the Board.

Reference link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12132&Mode=0>

**New Definition of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises - Addition of Retail and Wholesale Trade**

RBI/2021-2022/67  
FIDD.MSME & NFS.BC.No.13/06.02.31/2021-22

July 7, 2021

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 - Addition of Retail and Wholesale Trade**

Please refer to the [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) on ‘Credit flow to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Sector’ and [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), on ‘New Definition of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises- clarifications’.

2. In this connection, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises vide [Office Memorandum (OM) No. 5/2(2)/2021-E/P & G/Policy dated July 2, 2021](https://rbidocs.rbi.org.in/rdocs/content/pdfs/OMTRADER07072021.pdf), has decided to include Retail and Wholesale trade as MSMEs for the limited purpose of Priority Sector Lending and they would be allowed to be registered on Udyam Registration Portal for the following NIC Codes and activities mentioned against them:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 45 | Wholesale and retail trade and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles |
| 46 | Wholesale trade except of motor vehicles and motorcycles |
| 47 | Retail trade except of motor vehicles and motorcycles |

3. The Enterprises having Udyog Aadhaar Memorandum (UAM) under above three NIC Codes are now allowed to migrate to Udyam Registration Portal or file Udyam Registration afresh.

Yours faithfully

(Kaya Tripathi)  
Chief General Manager

Reference link: <https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12126&Mode=0>