

F.No. 21/13/2009-FI(Vol.II-Pt.)
Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Financial Services

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3rd Floor, Jeevan Deep Building,
Sansad Marg, New Delhi.
Dated the 20th January, 2014

To

1. The CMDs of all PSBs/ Chairman SBI
2. Chairman of all RRBs (through Sponsor Banks)
3. All SLBC Conveners

Subject: Mapping of Gram Panchayat and Planning for BCA/CSCs for Direct Benefit Transfer-Sub Service Area Approach- Partial Amendment of guidelines- regarding.

Sir/Madam,

This is regarding the coverage of those villages under Financial Inclusion Plan whose population is below 2000. The guidelines of the Government in this regard may be seen in the letter of even No. dtd. 20th December, 2012 wherein it was required that Sub Service Area (SSA) to be carved out through mapping of Gram Panchayats and such SSAs are to be allotted to banks for providing at least one banking facility (Branch/BCA).

2. RBI had in terms of Monetary Policy Statement 2012-13, issued guidelines for preparing of roadmap covering all unbanked villages of population less than 2000 for providing banking services in a time bound manner. In terms of these guidelines banks should endeavour to have a Business Correspondent (BC) touch point in each village, to start with, at least once a fortnight.

3. Some Banks have pointed out that there is divergence between the guidelines of the Government and RBI. In fact there is no divergence between RBI and Government guidelines. If read together, the Government guidelines stipulate a stationary Business Correspondent Agent (BCA) in an SSA who can also cater to the needs of the nearby villages by fixing certain days in a week/ fortnight to visit all other villages in the SSA. Thus the two guidelines supplement each other.

4. In view of the above, all banks are requested to complete the coverage of SSAs in a time bound manner. Also, for each SSA which has more than one village, a schedule could be worked out so that every village is visited atleast once in a fortnight.

5. This issues with the approval of Secretary (FS).

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

(Dr. Alok Pande)
Director (FI)

Copy to :

Principal CGM, RBI, RPCD for information and necessary action.