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RBI imposes monetary penalty on Motiram Agrawal Jalna Merchants Cooperative Bank Limited, Jalna, Maharashtra

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has, by an order dated July 16, 2025, imposed a monetary penalty of ₹6 lakh (Rupees Six Lakh only) on Motiram Agrawal Jalna Merchants Co-operative Bank Limited, Jalna, Maharashtra (the bank) for non-compliance with certain directions issued by RBI on 'Loans and advances to directors, relatives and firms / concerns in which they are interested' and 'Limits on exposure to single and group borrowers / parties and large exposures and Revision in the target for priority sector lending - UCBs'. This penalty has been imposed in exercise of powers conferred on RBI under the provisions of Section 47A(1)(c) read with Sections 46(4)(i) and 56 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.

The statutory inspection of the bank was conducted by RBI, with reference to its financial position as on March 31, 2024. Based on supervisory findings of noncompliance with RBI directions and related correspondence in that regard, a notice was issued to the bank advising it to show cause as to why penalty should not be imposed on it for its failure to comply with the said directions. After considering the bank's reply to the notice, additional submissions made by it and oral submissions made during the personal hearing, RBI found, *inter alia*, that the following charges against the bank were sustained, warranting imposition of monetary penalty:

The bank had sanctioned:

- i) director related loans; and
- ii) loans and advances to certain connected borrowers beyond the applicable group exposure limit.

This action is based on deficiencies in regulatory compliance and is not intended to pronounce upon the validity of any transaction or agreement entered into by the bank with its customers. Further, imposition of this monetary penalty is without prejudice to any other action that may be initiated by RBI against the bank.