

संचार विभाग, केंद्रीय कार्यालय, एस.बी.एस.मार्ग, मुंबई-400001

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December 16, 2020

Reserve Bank announces opening of Second Cohort under the Regulatory Sandbox

Post announcement of commencement of Test Phase under the First Cohort on Retail Payments vide <u>Press Release dated November 17, 2020</u>, the Reserve Bank now announces opening of Second Cohort under the Regulatory Sandbox (RS) with *'Cross Border Payments*,' as its theme.

2. India is the largest recipient of inbound remittances across the globe accounting for 15% of global share; in the year 2019, India received \$83 bn and in the first half year of 2020, has received \$27.4 bn. Further, the daily average turnover of OTC foreign exchange instruments in India is approximately \$40 bn. The Cohort is expected to spur innovations capable of recasting the cross-border payments landscape by leveraging new technologies to meet the needs of a low cost, secure, convenient and transparent system in a faster manner.

3. To encourage innovation and broad base the eligibility criteria, the enabling framework has been modified by reducing net worth requirement from the existing ₹25 lakh to ₹10 lakh, as also including Partnership firms and Limited Liability Partnership (LLPs) to participate in the RS. Entities meeting the eligibility criteria (as laid out in the <u>updated framework published today, i.e., on December 16, 2020</u>) and having product technologically ready for testing in the RS and / or deployment in the broader market, as per the theme of the Cohort, may apply.

4. The window for submission of <u>applications</u> for the Cohort shall be open from December 21, 2020 to February 15, 2021. A scanned copy of the application, together with enclosures (maximum size 10 MB), may be forwarded through <u>email</u>.

5. It has also been decided to select '*MSME Lending*' as the theme for the Third Cohort, details of which shall be announced in due course.

Press Release: 2020-2021/787

(Yogesh Dayal) Chief General Manager