प्रेस प्रकाशनी PRESS RELEASE



भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक BESERVE BANK OF INDIA

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August 07, 2025

RBI imposes monetary penalty on Andaman & Nicobar State Co-operative Bank Limited

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has, by an order dated August 05, 2025, imposed a monetary penalty of ₹16 lakh (Rupees Sixteen Lakh only) on Andaman & Nicobar State Co-operative Bank Limited (the bank) for contravention of provisions of Section 26A read with Section 56 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 (BR Act) and non-compliance with directions issued by RBI on 'Know Your Customer (KYC)'. 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 BR Act.

The statutory inspection of the bank was conducted by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) with reference to its financial position as on March 31, 2024. Based on supervisory findings of contravention of statutory provisions / non-compliance 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 provisions and directions. After considering the bank's reply to the notice 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 failed to:

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- i) transfer eligible unclaimed amounts to the Depositor Education and Awareness Fund within the prescribed time; and
- ii) carry out periodic review of risk categorisation of accounts with such periodicity being at least once in six months.

This action is based on deficiency 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.

(Puneet Pancholy) Chief General Manager