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## RBI imposes monetary penalty on The Kamaraj Co-operative Town Bank Limited, Tamil Nadu

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has, by an order dated January 03, 2025, imposed a monetary penalty of ₹2.00 lakh (Rupees Two lakh only) on The Kamaraj Cooperative Town Bank Limited, Tamil Nadu (the bank) for non-compliance with specific directions issued by RBI under 'Supervisory Action Framework (SAF)', certain directions on 'Prudential Norms on Capital Adequacy - UCBs', and 'Know Your <u>Customer (KYC)</u>'. 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, 2023. 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 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 loans beyond the eligible single borrower exposure limit and fresh loans and advances carrying risk weights more than 100%, in non-adherence to directions issued under SAF;
- (ii) sanctioned certain loans without complying with the share linking to borrowings norms, despite its CRAR being less than regulatory minimum;
- (iii) allowed the refund of share capital to its members, despite its CRAR being less than the regulatory minimum; and
- (iv) failed to upload the KYC records of customers onto Central KYC Records Registry (CKYCR) within the prescribed timeline.

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.

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