

August 22, 2024

RBI imposes monetary penalty on The Co-operative Bank of Rajkot Ltd., Rajkot, Gujarat

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has, by an order dated August 09, 2024, imposed a monetary penalty of ₹8.00 lakh (Rupees Eight lakh only) on The Cooperative Bank of Rajkot Ltd., Rajkot, Gujarat (the bank) for non-compliance with the directions issued by RBI on 'Interest Rate on Deposits' and '<u>Master Direction - Know</u> <u>Your Customer (KYC)</u>'. This penalty has been imposed in exercise of powers vested in RBI, conferred 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 by it during the personal hearing, RBI found, *inter alia*, that the following charges against the bank were sustained, warranting imposition of monetary penalty. The bank (i) maintained savings bank accounts of 37 institutions whose entire income was not exempted from payment of Income-Tax under the Income-Tax Act, 1961 and (ii) did not carry out risk based periodic updation of KYC as per the prescribed periodicity.

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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