



भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक
RESERVE BANK OF INDIA

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December 22, 2023

RBI imposes monetary penalty on Bhabhar Vibhag Nagarik Sahakari Bank Limited, Bhabhar, District Banaskantha, Gujarat

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has, by an order dated November 30, 2023, imposed a monetary penalty of ₹50,000/- (Rupees Fifty thousand only) on Bhabhar Vibhag Nagarik Sahakari Bank Limited, Bhabhar, District Banaskantha, Gujarat (the bank) for non-compliance with the directions issued by RBI on 'Loans and advances to directors, relatives and firms/concerns in which they are interested' read with RBI directions on 'Loans and Advances to directors etc. - directors as surety/guarantors – Clarification'. This penalty has been imposed in exercise of powers conferred on RBI under section 47A(1)(c) read with sections 46(4)(i) and 56 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.

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.

Background

The statutory inspection of the bank conducted by RBI with reference to its financial position as on March 31, 2022, and examination of the Inspection Report, Risk Assessment Report and all correspondence related thereto revealed, *inter alia*, that the bank had sanctioned a loan where a relative of one of the directors of the bank stood as guarantor. Consequently, a notice was issued to the bank advising it to show cause as to why penalty should not be imposed on it for failure to comply with the said directions, as stated therein.

After considering the bank's reply to the notice and oral submissions made by it during the personal hearing, RBI came to the conclusion that the charge of non-compliance with the aforesaid RBI directions was substantiated and warranted imposition of monetary penalty on the bank.