



सत्यमेव जयते

GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY

Speech by

Thiru **N. RANGASAMY**

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Puducherry

at the

MEETING OF UNION FINANCE MINISTER WITH
CHIEF MINISTERS OF SOUTH ZONE STATES /
UNION TERRITORIES AND CEOs OF
SELECTED PUBLIC SECTOR BANKS /
FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

at

Bengaluru

on

20th November 2012

Hon'ble Union Finance Minister,

Hon'ble Chief Ministers of South Zone States,

Governor of Reserve Bank of India,

Chief Executive Officers of Public Sector

Banks / Financial Institutions / Senior Officials

from South Zone present in the august forum.

At the outset, I thank Hon'ble Union Finance Minister for convening this meeting of South Zone States and providing an opportunity to present our views on the banking related issues.

2. As regards Financial Inclusion, I would like to inform this Forum that Puducherry has taken the initiative and covered 1.93 lakh household under

this project which works out to 64% of the total households. Smart Cards are provided to account holders to facilitate operation of the accounts through hand held machines operated under Business Correspondent Agents. Under Swabhimaan 2012-13, the target stipulated has been achieved in the territory. Based on the Ministry of Finance guidelines, banks are conducting drive for opening of accounts to street vendors and hawkers in urban areas. A Call Center for this purpose in Puducherry is being explored. Apart from this, the seeding of Aadhaar number in the bank accounts of the customers have been taken up as this would help in the implementation of Electronic Beneficiary Transfer (EBT) under various welfare schemes.

3. Based on the request put forth in the State Level Banker's Committee meeting, the amendment to the Revenue Recovery Act has been taken up

by the administration and is under process. As soon as the amendment is incorporated, it would help the bankers to collect over dues in the Government Sponsored Schemes so that the recovery rate would improve. The land records in the Union Territory has been fully computerised and uploaded on the official website. The spatial data digitisation is nearing completion. The request of the bankers to provide online integration of the compiled land record involves integration of registration with land records which is presently not available with our system and mandated under the scope of National Land Records Modernisation Programme (NLRMP) which is under implementation.

4. Under the Electronic Benefit Transfer Programme, out of the 32 schemes notified by the Government of India, e-payment facility is already available for 21 schemes. Out of the remaining

11 schemes, action has been initiated for four schemes only since there are no identified beneficiaries in respect of remaining schemes.

5. As per the data available with SLBC, the flow of Agricultural credit in respect of Puducherry for the year 2011-12 is ` 579.74 crores instead of ` 129.97 crores reported. For the financial year 2009-10 and 2010-11, we have achieved ` 347.77 crores and ` 357.94 crores respectively under agricultural credit. The Credit Deposit Ratio as per SLBC in respect of Puducherry is 74%. This increase is due to the advances to the crop loan and investment credit sectors. Advances to the priority sector have been released to the extent of ` 3,602 crores. The disbursement made under the Annual Credit Plan (ACP) for agriculture sector in the year 2011-12 is ` 580 crores against the target of ` 612 crores which is 95%. Under non-farm sector, the disbursement is ` 232 crores

as against the target of ` 220 crores. Under Micro and Small Enterprises credit, our Union Territory has achieved 60.07%.

6. The State Government has released ` 2.02 crores being the state share for the Puducherry Bharathiar Grama Bank, the Regional Rural Bank set up at Puducherry. The Bank has opened 27 branches catering to the regional requirements.

7. Under SJSRY, during 2011-12, 214 Self Help Groups have been given revolving fund for business promotion and 161 Self Help Groups given loan assistance. Similarly, the performance of SGSY in Puducherry is also very good. We have 2,536 Self Help Groups operating under this programme. 478 individual loan assistance, 56 Self Help Groups were given subsidies and 28 Self Help Groups were given revolving fund for Annual Plan 2011-12.

8. In order to look into the welfare of the unorganised workers, there is an Unorganised Labour Welfare Society registered under Societies Act to take up welfare measures of unorganised workers. The unorganised workers have been issued identity cards and 22,500 members have enrolled in the society. The building and other construction welfare board, another registered organization with 37,000 members looks after the interest of building and construction workers belonging to 37 categories. Action is being taken to bring the board and society under Swabhimaan Pension Scheme of Government of India and modalities are being worked out with the Life Insurance Corporation of India and will be implemented shortly.

9. Rajiv Gandhi Janashree Beema Yojana Scheme was implemented for the BPL families as a social security scheme through LIC from 2010. The yearly agreement for the above policy was not

renewed with LIC due to certain field level problems. In lieu of this, a new scheme namely Rajiv Gandhi Social Security Scheme 2012 is being implemented for targeted group by the Union Territory Administration through ECS.

10. I would like to inform Hon'ble Union Finance Minister that Puducherry has become an educational hub with the setting up of a number of professional and technical institutions. Government of Puducherry provides 100% reimbursement of tuition fee to the students selected through centralised admission. However we are not able to cover the student population fully. In response to my plea during the last meeting, the advances under the education sector has increased to ` 269.43 crores for the year ending March' 2012. However, I would request the banking institutions to come forward to issue more educational loans to help these students. Tourism promotional activities are also given higher

priority in the territory and advances for development of the sector would also help Puducherry to have better resources and revenue.

11. I once again express my sincere thanks for giving this opportunity to place my views for the kind consideration of this forum.

VANAKKAM !