



Ref No. NB.HO.DFIBT/ 20827-20855 / DFIBT-67/ 2016-17
22 March 2017

Circular No. 64 / DFIBT - 14 / 2017

The Convener
State Level Bankers' Committee
All States

Dear Sir,

**Solar Powered V-SAT Connectivity to Kiosk/Fixed CSPs in the SSAs –
Revision of Scheme**

Please refer to our Circular No.72/DFIBT-05/2016 dated 07 April 2016 on the captioned subject extending support for implementing Solar Powered V-SAT connectivity to Kiosk/Fixed CSPs in the Sub-Service Areas(SSAs) to the Banks which have been allotted SSAs.

2. As advised by the Advisory Board for Financial Inclusion Fund (FIF) during the XIXth meeting held on 27 February 2017, it has been decided that the Scheme for Solar powered VSAT connectivity to kiosks / Fixed CSPs in SSAs will continue only for “dark areas” (Areas having no connectivity as per the list of 894 locations circulated by DFS, GoI) till further review.
3. No fresh sanctions will be granted from 01 April 2017 for the SSAs mentioned at the para no. 2 (b) & (c) of the circular ibid, which are:
 - i. Areas not listed by DFS but have no connectivity; and
 - ii. Areas having intermittent connectivity creating a major problem in the transactions by BCs/BCAs

However, sanctions already granted to the banks under these activities will be eligible for reimbursement under the FIF.

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4. Further, we advise that the following schemes will continue till further review:
- i. Solar Powered V-SAT connectivity to Kiosk/Fixed CSPs in the Sub-Service Areas- for Cooperative Banks in North East (including Sikkim and Andaman & Nicobar) [Ref: Circular No. 232 / DFIBT- 27 / 2016 dated 04 October 2016]
 - ii. Support from FIF for setting up of solar powered V-SAT connectivity- Expansion of banking network in the most affected LWE districts [Ref: Circular No. 78/ DFIBT- 08/2016 dated 25 April 2016]
5. **Installation of V-SATs:-** Banks may ensure that the installation of V-SATs at the SSAs may be completed by 30 September 2017 against the existing sanction.

You may circulate this to all the bank representatives in the State Level Bankers' Committee.

Yours faithfully



(Subrata Gupta)
Chief General Manager