

No. 21(23)/2014-FI (Mission)
Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Financial Services

3rd floor, Jeevan Deep Building
Sansad Marg, New Delhi – 110 001
Dated: 26.3.2020

To

1. Chairman, State Bank of India
2. MD & CEOs of Public Sector Banks and major Private Sector Banks
3. CE, Indian Bankers' Association

Subject: Direct cash transfer in the light of COVID-19 pandemic and logistics for withdrawal by account-holders

Sir/Madam,

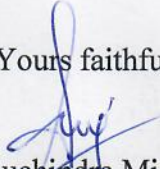
As announced by the Hon'ble Finance Minister in a Press Briefing today (on 26.3.2020), an amount of Rs. 500/- per month for the next three months, is to be credited to the accounts of all women account holders under Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY).

2. You are requested to ensure that the said amount is transferred smoothly, to the targeted accounts, so that the beneficiaries can get access to the funds during this difficult time to carry on their livelihood without facing any hardship. In this context it is requested that the list of beneficiaries viz. unique (within the bank) women PMJDY account holders, may be drawn up. Further, the number of such beneficiaries may be intimated to this Department at missionfi-dfs@nic.in by 26 March 2020. After receiving this data, the date of transfer of funds would be intimated at the earliest.

3. In advance preparation of the above, you are also requested to immediately prepare a detailed plan, in consultation with the State Governments and District authorities through the State Level Bankers' Committees (SLBCs) and Lead District Managers (LDMs) to ensure that withdrawal of the amount by individual beneficiaries from their respective bank accounts, is done while also following the restrictions required under the on-going lock down and maintaining the prescribed social distancing and sanitization. In this context, the following may also, inter alia, be ensured:

- i. Adequate liquidity at the bank branches and with the Business Correspondents
- ii. Regular replenishment of ATMs to meet the requirement
- iii. Where required, Mobile ATMs with sufficient cash may be arranged
- iv. SMSs are sent to the beneficiaries regarding time schedule for withdrawal
- v. SMSs may also be sent to the beneficiaries requesting them to utilize digital payment modes with a view to comply with the prescribed safeguards.

Yours faithfully,


(Suchindra Misra)
Joint Secretary
Tel no 011-23745151

Copy to:

1. Chief Secretaries of all State / UT Governments – with the request to ensure all necessary assistance is provided to the banks to ensure effective arrangements
2. Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs – with the request to issue instructions to State police authorities to make necessary security arrangements.
3. GM, SLBC Convener Banks – to make comprehensive advance arrangements for implementing the above.