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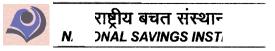
Smt. L.M.Vas, IAS, Jt. Secretary (Budget), Govt. of India, Ministry of Finance lighting the traditional lamp to mark the inauguration of Seminar on "Access to Finance" organized by NSI, India in collaboration with WSBI & FNCE at New Delhi during 11-12 December, 2006. Also seen (L to R) Mr. Chris De Noose, Chairman, Management Committee, WSBI, Shri S.K.Tripathi, Dy, NSC, Smt. Anuradha Prasad, Director (Budget), Govt. of India & Shri Anil Bhattacharya, Director, NSI, India.

NSI Organizes Seminar in collaboration with WSBI & FNCE

The International Seminar on "Savings Banks Access to Finance, Enlarging and Deepening the outreach worldwide" was organized by National Savings Institute, Govt. of India, Ministry of Finance in collaboration with World Savings Banks Institute and French Federation of Savings Bank at New Delhi during 11-12 December, 2006. The objective of the Seminar was to understand the role of Savings Banks in access to finance and contribute to a better understanding and cross regional exchange of best practices and increase financial literacy.

Smt. L.M.Vas, IAS, Jt. Secretary (Budget) inaugurated the seminar. During her inaugural address, she said that the great challenge for all of us is to make the access to financial services available to the people who are unbankable and appealed to the member countries for better integration of economic activities and contribution for the economic growth. Mr. Chris De Noose, Chairman, Management Committee, WSBI said that the seminar will provide insight to the working of different financial institutions, dealing with micro finance worldwide and develop a platform for interaction and mutual cooperation.

In his welcome address, Shri. Anil Bhattacharya, Director, NSI, India stressed the need for organizing such International programmes. In all 52 delegates from Asian & African Countries i.e. Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Uganda, Thailand, Korea and Department of Posts, State Bank of India and NSI, India participated in the seminar



http://nsiindia.gov.in.

राष्ट्रीय बचत संस्थान, सी.जी.ओ. कॉम्पलेक्स, सेमिनरी हिल्स, नागपुर National Savings Institute, CGO Complex, Seminary Hills, Nagpur



Mr. Chris DE Noose, Chairman, Management Committee, WSBI addressing the delegates on the occasion of inauguration of Seminar on "Access to Finance" organized by NSI, India in collaboration with WSBI & FNCE at New Delhi. Also seen (L to R) Smt. L.M.Vas, IAS, Jt. Secretary (Budget), Smt. Anuradha Prasad, Director (Budget) and Shri Anil Bhattacharya, Director, NSI, India.

Importance of Access to Finance

Access to Finance is an essential driver for economic growth in developing and transition economies. It is also important in developed economies where it stimulates markedly the social inclusion of certain groups of the population. Access to finance empowers people, gives them the opportunity to save and invest, to insure their homes or to take a loan and, in many cases, to break the chains of poverty and exclusion.

One of the major conclusions of the Access to Finance studies commissioned by WSBI was that the percentage rate of access in poorer developing economies is about equal to the percentage rate of exclusion in richer advanced industrial economies. A second major conclusion pointed out that savings banks reach out to the largest body of people in offering financial services around the world, providing more than three quarters of the 1.4 billion low cost and easily accessible accounts in the world. This conclusion implies that savings banks have a big responsibility in building and strengthening accessible local banking structures by :

- 1. Maintaining and further extending their accessible distribution network;
- 2. Co-operating with local specialized microfinance and development institutions to complete the distribution network to further, remote areas;
- 3. Continue providing targeted, accessible, low cost, low risk products in a fully transparent way, accompanying this provision of products with financial literacy efforts;
- 4. Make available, on an ongoing basis, data on achieved results in expanding access.



Ms. Clarie Perriot Mathonna, Head of Training Department, FNCE addressing the delegates during Seminar on "Access to Finance" organized by NSI, India in collaboration with WSBI & FNCE at New Delhi.



The dignitaries (L to R) Ms. Laurie Dufays, Deputy Director, WSBI, Ms. Clarie Perriot Mathonna, , Head of Training Department, FNCE, Mr. Chris De Noose, Chairman, Managing Committee, WSBI, Smt. L.M.Vas, IAS, Jt. Secretary (Budget), Smt. Anuradha Prasad, Director (Budget) and Shri Anil Bhattacharya, Director, NSI, India seen during the plenary session of the seminar.

WSBI organizes group exercise for designing new financial products

A group exercise for designing the new financial products keeping into consideration the needs of the target group was carried out during the seminar by Ms. Laurie Dufays, Deputy Director, WSBI. The exercise aimed at defining the product and special features of the product for the younger generation of rural as well as urban areas. Six groups were formed among the participants attending the seminar. The topics namely - fixed interest rate for the product for the people in urban area, non-fixed interest rate for the product for the people in urban area, fixed interest rate for the product for the people in rural area and non-fixed interest rate for the product for the people in rural area and fixed interest rates for the products for youngsters and non-fixed interest rate for the product for the product

The participants deliberated on these topics and the final outcome on the designing of the product was presented by the leader of each group. The presentations made by the group leaders which included the limit of deposit, tenure, liquidity for the product and other special features like providing insurance, internet banking, ATM, other e-banking services and product promotion policy for the target group were highly appreciated.



The delegates attending the International Seminar on Access to Finance held at New Delhi during 11-12 December, 2006.

SMALL SAVINGS COLLECTIONS FROM APRIL TO SEPTEMBER 2006

| (Rs. | in | Crore) |
|------|----|--------|
|------|----|--------|

| Sr. | | Gross | Net | Gross | Net |
|----------|-------------------------------------|----------|------------|--|------------|
| No. | Region | | ember 2005 | and a second | ember 2006 |
| 1. | Andhua Duadaah | | | | |
| 1. 2. | Andhra Pradesh Arunachal Pradesh | 5157.55 | 2214.56 | 4792.54 | 1540.19 |
| 2. 3. | | 34.76 | 16.57 | 35.87 | 14.80 |
| | Assam | 1071.67 | 87.97 | 745.68 | -281.37 |
| 4. | A&N Island | 15.52 | 7.45 | 10.00 | 5.02 |
| 5. | Army Post Offices | 157.72 | 44.12 | 127.33 | 0.78 |
| 6. | Bihar | 3047.81 | 1168.41 | 2566.41 | 934.36 |
| 7. | Jharkhand | 1476.36 | 701.41 | 1283.76 | 607.37 |
| 8. | Chandigarh | 289.80 | 53.20 | 204.43 | -18.24 |
| 9. | Daman & Diu | 19.61 | 8.49 | 168.90 | 72.66 |
| 10. | Delhi | 3810.60 | 1747.66 | 3380.75 | 1144.24 |
| 11. | Goa | 396.23 | 273.30 | 323.52 | 205.92 |
| 12. | Gujarat | 8318.93 | 3546.63 | 6880.88 | 2193.11 |
| 13. | Haryana | 2567.76 | 780.45 | 2387.26 | 534.77 |
| 14. | Himachal Pradesh | 1211.48 | 398.42 | 1146.33 | 334.52 |
| 15. | Jammu & Kashmir | 802.87 | 279.09 | 727.36 | 209.74 |
| 16. | Karnataka | 3998.52 | 1668.01 | 3443.31 | 826.21 |
| 17. | Kerala | 2936.21 | 1236.38 | 2421.21 | 727.36 |
| 18. | Lakshdweep | 0.70 | 0.32 | 1.24 | 0.88 |
| 19. | Madhya Pradesh | 2638.31 | 1041.03 | 2218.71 | 754.25 |
| 20. | Chhattisgarh | 820.14 | 393.56 | 725.71 | 285.49 |
| 21. | Maharashtra | 9917.98 | 4650.93 | 7990.37 | 2554.09 |
| 22. | Manipur | 39.70 | 8.79 | 36.84 | 5.62 |
| 23. | Meghalaya | 83.67 | 23.43 | 69.98 | 1.64 |
| 24. | Mizoram | 50.84 | 15.21 | 37.33 | 3.19 |
| 25. | Nagaland | 21.00 | 8.63 | 19.51 | 7.37 |
| 26. | Orissa | 1475.63 | 612.42 | 1305.75 | 460.34 |
| 27. | Pondicherry | 55.46 | 18.09 | 55.19 | 3.70 |
| 28. | Punjab | 4634.67 | 1329.51 | 4313.95 | 932.07 |
| 29. | Rajasthan | 4163.88 | 1484.56 | 3410.67 | 628.55 |
| 30. | Sikkim | 37.54 | 8.99 | 20.30 | 1.31 |
| 31. | Tamilnadu | 5682.58 | 2588.27 | 4884.39 | 1563.88 |
| 32. | Tripura | 228.20 | 93.84 | 189.06 | 66.39 |
| 33. | Uttar Pradesh | 8585.86 | 3108.96 | 7345.99 | 2315.67 |
| 34. | Uttaranchal | 1136.66 | 436.93 | 1043.57 | 327.43 |
| 35. | West Bengal | 10805.80 | 4924.58 | 8581.07 | 3498.44 |
| | Total | 85692.01 | 34980.15 | 72895.17 | 22461.76 |

Note THE PRELIMINARY FIGURES RECEIVED FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF POSTS, NEW DELHI ARE SUBJECT TO RECONCILATION. THE FIGURES DO NOT INCLUDE PPF & SCSS (BANK) COLLECTIONS.