

RBI/2018-19/138 DPSS.CO.OD.No.1916 /06.07.011/2018-19

March 7, 2019

The Chairman and Managing Director / Chief Executive Officer All Scheduled Commercial Banks including RRBs / Urban Co-operative Banks / State Co-operative Banks / District Central Co-operative Banks / Authorised ATM Network Operators / Card Payment Network Operators / White Label ATM Operators

Madam / Dear Sir,

## White Label ATMs (WLAs) in India – Review of Guidelines

Please refer to our circulars DPSS.CO.PD.No.2298/02.10.002/2011-2012 dated June 20, 2012, DPSS.CO.PD.No.1088/02.10.003/2013-14 dated November 14, 2013, DPSS.CO.PD.No.1025/02.10.003/2014-2015 dated December 5, 2014 and DPSS.CO.PD.No.1621/02.10.002/2016-17 dated December 30, 2016 prescribing the guidelines / instructions for setting up, owning and operating White Label ATMs (WLAs) in the country.

- 2. On a review of operations of WLAs and representations received from stakeholders, as also to enhance the viability of WLAs, it has been decided to allow the WLA Operators to :
  - a. buy wholesale cash, above a threshold of 1 lakh pieces (and in multiples thereof) of any denomination, directly from the Reserve Bank (Issue Offices) and Currency Chests against full payment.
  - b. source cash from any scheduled bank, including Cooperative Banks and Regional Rural Banks.
  - c. offer bill payment and Interoperable Cash Deposit services, subject to technical feasibility and certification by National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).
  - d. display advertisements pertaining to non-financial products / services anywhere within the WLA premises, including the WLA screen, except the main signboard. It shall be ensured that the advertisements running on the screen disappear once the customer commences a transaction.

- 3. The permission to WLA Operators to source cash from retail outlets, accorded vide circular DPSS.CO.PD.No.1621/02.10.002/2016-17 dated December 30, 2016, stands repealed.
- 4. Further, banks may issue co-branded ATM cards in partnership with the authorised WLA Operators and may extend the benefit of 'on-us' transactions to their WLAs as well.
- 5. All guidelines, safeguards, standards and control measures applicable to banks relating to (a) currency handling, and (b) cyber-security framework for ATMs, shall also be applicable to the WLA Operators.
- 6. This directive is issued under Section 10(2) read with Section 18 of Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007 (Act 51 of 2007).

Yours faithfully,

(P Vasudevan) Chief General Manager