



# Shivalik Mercantile Co-operative Bank Ltd.

## Shivalik Mercantile Co-operative Bank receives in-principle approval from RBI to transition into a Small Finance Bank

**Saharanpur, January 06, 2020**

Shivalik Mercantile Co-operative Bank Ltd. (hereafter referred to as Shivalik Bank) received in-principle approval from the Reserve Bank of India on 6 January, 2020, to transition itself into a Small Finance Bank. The in-principle approval was granted under the scheme for Voluntary transition of Urban Co-operative Banks into Small Finance Banks as released by the RBI in September 2018. The bank will have 18 months from the date of in-principle approval to comply with the norms prescribed in the guidelines for on-tap SFB licensing released in December 2019.

The **MD & CEO** of the bank, **Mr. Suveer Kumar Gupta** added "It is a privilege and an honour for Shivalik to be the first UCB in the country to receive in-principle approval from the RBI for transitioning into a Small Finance Bank. The significant efforts put in by the team at Shivalik over a period of time have led us to this momentous day and I'm excited by the motivation this provides us to move forward to furthering our growth ambitions. We will continue to service our goals of financial inclusion and supporting the growth of small businesses through a differentiated technology focus. We believe these are essential to the growth of our nation and technology adoption is allowing us to leap frog into previously under explored segments. The Bank and the Board of Directors extend their gratitude to the Reserve Bank of India for their guidance and support, our customers, our business partners and all our employees."

This is a significant milestone in the journey of the bank which has been serving customers for the last 21 years. The transition to a SFB will allow the bank to usher in the next phase of growth by being able to raise additional capital, expand geographically and benefit from the added customer trust that would come with being a scheduled commercial bank.

Shivalik Bank is the largest multi-state Urban Co-operative Bank in Uttar Pradesh and has been at the forefront of financial inclusion accompanied with effective use of technology to assist all types of customers. It serves its approximately 3.5 lakh unique customers through a number of customer touch points such as its branch and ATM network, internet banking, mobile banking and doorstep services through micro-ATM devices. The bank is already live on almost all significant payment platforms and prides itself in providing the best in class digital experience to our customers. The bank is already live on a state of the art core banking

solution and digital product suite. As on 31 March 2019, it had a total business size of Rs. 1766.44 Crores comprising of Rs. 1051.20 Crores of customer deposits and Rs. 715.24 Crores of advances.

In addition, the bank is well placed with respect to compliance to the operating guidelines for Small Finance Banks with a large proportion of its existing loan portfolio being classified as priority sector and below Rs. 25 lakh in ticket size. Being an existing bank with a strong history and franchise in retail banking, the bank's management team is extremely confident of being able to achieve this transition within the stipulated timeline.

### **About Shivalik Mercantile Co-operative Bank Ltd.**

Incorporated in 1997, Shivalik Mercantile Co-operative Bank Ltd. commenced its journey as a district level urban cooperative bank (UCB) on 5th Sept. 1998 with a single branch in Saharanpur. Expanding and growing steadily, the bank first got permission from RBI to open its branches anywhere in U.P. In 2010, SMCB acquired a loss-making small bank in Dhar (M.P.) and converted it into a profit-making branch for the bank within a year. This successful acquisition also helped the bank in attaining Multi-state Cooperative Bank status, a first for any UCB in the State of U.P. Encouraged with the success of the acquisition, the bank successfully acquired another cooperative bank at Indore (M.P.). Today, SMCB has emerged as the largest multi-state UCB in U.P. associated with approximately 11,500 self-help groups & operates through 31 branches and over 250 banking agents across U.P., M.P., Delhi and Uttarakhand.

Pioneering the benchmark for its excellence in banking services, SMCB provides a gamut of banking solutions to its valued customers including Loan Products (personal, professional, business & microfinance), Deposit products (Savings A/C, Current A/C, Fixed Deposit), services like remittances, lockers, ATM Cards, Insurance, Forex, Modern Payment system etc. The bank is also digitally focused and offers Internet and Mobile Banking services. The Bank has been instrumental in meeting the credit requirements of its clients via demand loans, term loans, overdraft & financial guarantees against tangible assets.

The Bank also holds corporate agency for New India Assurance Co. Ltd. (General Insurance), Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Co. Ltd., Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance Co. Ltd., Star Health & Allied Insurance Company (Health Insurance) and Life Insurance Corporation of India.

To know more, visit [www.shivalikbank.com](http://www.shivalikbank.com)