POLICY

ON

BANK DEPOSITS

Approved by Board vide agenda item O-2 in its meeting dated 19.03.2012

Operations & Services Dept.
Head Office, Baroda
Date: 01.03.2012
POLICY ON BANK DEPOSITS

1. PREAMBLE

One of the important functions of the Bank is to accept deposits from the public for the purpose of lending. In fact, depositors are the major stakeholders of the Banking System. The depositors and their interests form the key area of the regulatory framework for banking in India and this has been enshrined in the Banking Regulation Act 1949. The Reserve Bank of India is empowered to issue directives / advices on interest rates on deposits and other aspects regarding conduct of deposit accounts from time to time. With liberalization in the financial system and deregulation banks are now free to formulate deposit products within the broad guidelines issued by RBI.

This policy document on deposits outlines the guiding principles in respect of formulation of various deposit products offered by the Bank and terms and conditions governing the conduct of the account. The document recognizes the rights of depositors and aims at dissemination of information with regard to various aspects of acceptance of deposits from the members of the public, conduct and operations of various deposits accounts, payment of interest on various deposit accounts, closure of deposit accounts, method of disposal of deposits of deceased depositors, etc., for the benefit of customers. It is expected that this document will impart greater transparency in dealing with the individual customers and create awareness among customers of their rights. The ultimate objective is that the customer will get services they are rightfully entitled to receive without demand.

While adopting this policy, the bank reiterates its commitments to individual customers outlined in Bankers’ Fair Practice Code of Indian Banks’ Association. This document is a broad framework under which the rights of common depositors are recognized. Detailed operational instructions on various deposit schemes and related services will be issued from time to time.

2. TYPES OF DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS

While various deposit products offered by the Bank are assigned different names. The deposit products can be categorized broadly into the following types. Definition of major deposits schemes are as under:-

I. “Demand Deposits” means a deposit received by the Bank which is withdrawable on demand;

II. “Savings Deposits” means a form of demand deposit which is subject to restrictions as to the number of withdrawals as also the amounts of withdrawals permitted by the Bank during any specified period;
III. “Term Deposit” means a deposit received by the Bank for a fixed period withdrawable only after the expiry of the fixed period and include deposits such as Recurring / Double Benefit Deposits / Short Deposits / Fixed Deposits / Flexi Deposits / Monthly Income Certificate / Quarterly Income Certificate etc.

IV. Notice Deposit means term deposit for specific period but withdrawable on giving at least one complete banking day’s notice.

V. “Current Account” means a form of demand deposit wherefrom withdrawals are allowed any number of times depending upon the balance in the account or upto a particular agreed amount and will also include other deposit accounts which are neither Savings Deposit nor Term Deposit.

3. ACCOUNT OPENING AND OPERATION OF DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS

A. The Bank before opening any deposit account will carry out due diligence as required under “Know Your Customer” (KYC) guidelines issued by RBI Anti –Money laundering rules and regulations and or such other norms or procedures as per the Customer Acceptance Policy of the bank adopted by the Bank if the decision to open an account of a prospective depositor requires clearance at a higher level, reasons for any delay in opening of the account will be informed to him and the final decision of the Bank will be conveyed at the earliest to him.

B. The bank is committed to providing basic banking services to disadvantaged sections of the society. Banking services will be offered to them thorough small accounts. Such accounts will be opened with relaxed customer acceptance norms as per regulatory guidelines.

C. The account opening forms and other material would be provided to the prospective depositor by the Bank. The same will contain details of information to be furnished and documents to be produced for verification and or for record, it is expected of the Bank official opening the account, to explain the procedural formalities and provide necessary clarifications sought by the prospective depositor including information to prepare a profile for Risk categorization of the Customer into High /Medium /Low when he approaches for opening a deposit account. The bank may not open account where the prospective customer is unable to furnish information and or in the event of non-cooperation by him.

D. For Deposit products like Savings Bank Account and Current Deposit Account, the Bank will normally stipulate certain minimum balances to be maintained as part of terms and conditions governing operation of such accounts. Failure to maintain minimum balance in the account will attract levy of charges as specified by the Bank from time to time. For Savings Bank Account the Bank may also place restrictions on number of transactions, cash withdrawals, etc., for given period. Similarly, the Bank may specify charges for issue of cheques books, additional statement of accounts, duplicate pass book, folio charges etc. All such details, regarding terms and conditions for operation of the accounts and schedule of charges for various services provided will be communicated to the prospective depositor by way of public notice/on Bank’s Website while opening the account.
E. Savings Bank Accounts can be opened for eligible persons and certain organizations/ agencies (as advised by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) from time to time).

Current Accounts can be opened by individuals/partnership firms/Private and Public Limited Companies/HUFs/ Specified Associates/ Societies, Trusts, Departments of authority created by Government (Central or State), Limited Liability Partnership, etc.

Term Deposits Accounts can be opened by individuals/partnership firms/Private and Public Limited Companies/HUFs/ Specified Associates/ Societies/ Trusts, Departments of authority created by Government (Central or State), Limited Liability Partnership, etc.

F. The due diligence process, while opening a deposit account will involve satisfying about the identity of the person, verification of address, satisfying about his occupation and source of income by obtaining documents such as Passport, PAN CARD, Voter’s Identity card, Driving License, Utility Bills, Job card issued by NREGA duly signed by an officer of the State Government, The letter issued by UIDAI containing details of name, address and Aadhaar number, letter from public authority or public servant verifying the identity and residence of customer to the satisfaction of bank etc.

Persons those belonging to low income group both in urban and rural areas and are not able to produce documents to satisfy the bank about their identity and address and intend to keep balances not exceeding Rs.50000/- in all their accounts taken together and the total credit in all accounts taken together is not expected to exceed Rs.100000/- in a year, in such cases, if a person who wants to open and account and is not able to produce documents as mentioned above bank will open an account for him subject to introduction from another holder who has been subjected to full KYC procedure. The introducer’s account with the bank should be at least six months old and should show satisfactory transactions. Photograph of the customer who proposes to open the account and also his address need to be certified by the introducer.

Or any other evidence as to the identity and address of the customer to the satisfaction of the bank.

G. In addition to the due diligence requirements, under KYC norms the Bank is required by law to obtain Permanent Account Number (PAN) or General Index Register (GIR) Number or alternatively declaration in Form No.60 or 61 as specified under the Income Tax Act / Rules from time to time.

H. Deposit accounts can be opened by an individual in his own name (status: known as account in single name) or by more than one individual in their own names (status: known as Joint Account). Savings Bank Account can also be opened by a minor jointly with natural guardian/Legal guardian( appointed by the Court) or with mother as the guardian (Status: known as Minor’s Account). Minors above the age of 10 will also be allowed to open and operate Savings Bank Account independently provided the minor should be able to read and write and be capable in the opinion of Branch Manager/ Joint Manager of understanding what he/she does. However, no overdraft/loan will be granted to such minors.
SB account can also be opened by a minor represented by guardian/ legal guardian (appointed by Court) or jointly with a major, where minor is represented by natural guardian/legal guardian. Minors above the age of 10 will also be allowed to open and operate SB account subject to restrictions on transactions and no cheque books will be provided to such accounts.

I. Operation of Joint Account – The Joint Account opened by more than one individual can be operated by single individual or by more than one individual jointly. The mandate for operating the account can be modified with the consent of all account holders. The Savings Bank Account opened by minor jointly with natural guardian/legal guardian can be operated by natural guardian/legal guardian only.

J. The joint account holders can give any of the following mandates for the disposal of balance in the above accounts:

a. Either or Survivor: If the account is held by two individuals say, A & B, the final balance along with interest, if applicable, will be paid to survivor on death of anyone of the account holders.

b. Anyone or Survivor/s: If the account is held by more than two individuals say, A, B and C, the final balance along with interest, if applicable will be paid to the survivor on death of any two account holders.

c. Former or Survivor: If the account is held by two individuals A & B, the clause “Former or Survivor” becomes effective only in case of death of the original depositor and the second named account holder does not have right to revoke the instructions during the lifetime of the first named account holder.

The above mandates will be applicable to or become operational only on or after the date of maturity of term deposits. This mandate can be modified by the consent of all the account holders.

K. At the request of the depositors, the Bank will register mandate / power of attorney given by him authorizing another person to operate the account on his behalf.

L. The term deposit account holders at the time of placing their deposits can give instructions with regard to closure of deposit account or renewal of deposit for further period on the date of maturity. In absence of such mandate, the Bank will automatically renew the deposit as under. (i) If deposit is placed for more than one year it will be automatically renewed for one year at the prevailing rate on due date.(ii) if deposit is placed for less than one year it will be automatically renewed for same period at the prevailing rate on due date.

M. Nomination facility is available on all deposit accounts opened by the individuals singly or jointly. Nomination is also available to a sole proprietary concern account. Nomination can be made in favour of one individual only. Nomination so made can be cancelled or changed by the account holder/s any time. Signatures of account holders in forms DA1, DA2, and DA3 need not be attested by witnesses while making, cancelling or changing nomination. Only thumb impression of the account holder
is required to be attested by two witnesses. Nomination can be modified by the account holder/s. Nomination can be made in favour of a minor also.

Bank recommends that all depositors avail nomination facility. The nominee, in the event of death of the depositor/s, would receive the balance outstanding in the account as a trustee of legal heirs. The depositor will be informed of the advantage of the nomination facility while opening a deposit account.

N. A statement of account will be provided by the Bank to Savings Bank as well as Current Deposit Account Holders periodically as per terms and conditions of opening of the account. Alternatively, the Bank may issue a Pass Book to these account holders.

O. The deposit accounts may be transferred to any other branch of the Bank at the request of the depositor.

P. Inability of an existing customer to furnish details required by the bank to fulfill statutory obligations could also result in closure of the account after due notice(s) is provided to the customer.

Q. Individuals resident in India may be permitted to include non-resident close relative (s) (relatives as defined in Section 6 of the Companies Act, 1956) as a joint holder (s) in their resident bank accounts on “Former or survivor” basis. However, such non-resident Indian close relatives shall not be eligible to operate the account during the lifetime of the resident account holder. (RBI circular no. RBI/2011-12/173 dated 15.09.2011)

4. INTEREST PAYMENTS

I. Savings Account: Savings Interest is deregulated by Reserve Bank of India and paid as decided by bank. Interest shall be calculated on daily closing balance.

Term Deposit: Term deposit interest rates are decided by the Bank within the general guidelines issued by the Reserve Bank of India from time to time.

II. In terms of Reserve Bank of India directives, interest shall be calculated at quarterly intervals on term deposits and paid at the rate decided by the Bank depending upon the period of deposits. In case of monthly income scheme, the interest shall be calculated for the quarter and paid monthly at discounted value. The interest on term deposits is calculated by the Bank in accordance with the formulae and conventions advised by Indian Banks’ Association. Accordingly Bank has adopted following methodology. In all cases of domestic term deposits (period of deposit more than a year) where the terminal quarter is incomplete, interest should be calculated for the actual number of days, reckoning the year 365/366 days viz the calculation of interest on such deposits should be in order of completed quarters and days.”

III. The rate of interest on deposits will be prominently displayed in the branch premises. Changes, if any, with regard to the deposit schemes and other related services shall also be communicated upfront by way of public notice and on Bank’s website and shall be prominently displayed.
IV. The Bank has statutory obligation to deduct tax at source if the total interest paid/payable on all term deposits held by a person exceeds the amount specified under the Income Tax Act. **In case where PAN no. is not submitted by the customer TDS will be deducted at higher rate as per IT rules (20% at present).** The Bank will issue a tax deduction certificate (TDS Certificate) for the amount of tax deducted. The depositor, if entitled to exemption from TDS can submit declaration in the prescribed format at the beginning of every financial year.

V. **Bank will pay interest to its customer on the amount of collection instruments, in case there is delay in giving credit beyond the stipulated time.**

5. MINORS’ ACCOUNTS

I. The minor can open Savings Bank Account and the same can be operated by the natural guardian/guardian or by minor himself/herself, if he/she is above the age of 10 years. The account can also be opened jointly.

II. On attaining majority, the erstwhile minor should confirm the balance in his/her account and if the account is operated by the natural guardian/legal guardian, fresh specimen signature of erstwhile minor duly verified by the natural guardian/legal guardian would be obtained and kept on record for all operational purposes.

III. **Time Deposit account may also be opened in the name of minors.**

6. ACCOUNT OF ILLITERATE / BLIND PERSON

The Bank may at its discretion open deposit accounts other than Current Accounts of illiterate person. The account of such person may be opened provided he/she calls on the Bank personally along with a witness who is known to both the depositor and the Bank. Normally, no cheque book facility is provided for such Savings Bank Account. At the time of withdrawal/repayment of deposit amount and/or interest, the account holder should affix his/her thumb impression or mark in the presence of the authorized officer who should verify the identity of the person. The bank will explain the need for proper care and safe keeping of the pass book etc. given to the account holder. The Bank official shall explain the terms and conditions governing the account to the illiterate/blind person.

**Blind / Visually impaired Person can open all types of account with the bank.**

7. ADDITION OR DELETION OF THE NAME/S OF JOINT ACCOUNT HOLDERS

The bank may at the request of all the joint account holders allow addition or deletion of name/s of joint account holder/s if the circumstances so warrant or allow an individual depositor to add the name of another person as a joint account holder.

8. CUSTOMER INFORMATION
The customer information collected from the customers shall not be used for cross selling of services or products by the Bank, their subsidiaries and affiliates. If the Bank proposes to use such information, it should be strictly with the consent of the account holder.

9. SECURITY OF CUSTOMER’S ACCOUNTS
The Bank shall not disclose details / particulars of the customer’s account to a third person or party without the express or implied consent from the customer. However, there are some exceptions, viz. disclosure of information under compulsion of law, where there is a duty to public to disclose and where interest of the Bank requires disclosure.

10. PREMATURE WITHDRAWAL OF TERM DEPOSIT
The Bank on request from the depositor, at its discretion may allow withdrawal of term deposit before completion of the period of the deposit agreed upon at the time of placing the deposit.

Penal Interest Rate Policy for premature withdrawal of Term Deposit is as under:

I. Penalty is waived on premature payment of deposits up to Rs.5 lacs having minimum period of 12 months. The rate of interest applicable for premature payment without penalty will be the rate ruling on the date of accepting the deposit (i.e. the date of contract) for the period for which deposit has actually remained with the Bank or the Contracted Rate whichever is lower.

II. In other cases where penalty is applicable i.e. deposit amount is more than Rs.5 lacs and deposit period is less than or more than 12 months Interest will be paid after deducting penalty of 1% from such applicable rate or the contracted rate whichever is lower in the cases which are subject to charging penalty.

III. Penalty is waived on settlement of claims in the deceased depositor’s accounts in the case of a term deposit standing in the name of deceased individual depositor and two or more joint depositors where one of the depositor has died. Interest is paid at the applicable rate

11. PREMATURE RENEWAL OF TERM DEPOSIT
In case the depositor desires to renew the deposit by seeking premature closure of an existing term deposit account, the bank will permit the renewal at the applicable rate on the date of renewal, provided the deposit is renewed for a period longer than the balance period of the original deposit. While prematurely closing a deposit for the purpose of renewal, interest on the deposit for the period it has remained with the bank will be paid at the rate applicable to the period for which the deposit remained with the bank and not at the contracted rate, without penalty.

12. RENEWAL OF OVERDUE TERM DEPOSITS
When a term deposit is renewed on maturity, on renewed deposit interest rate for the period specified by the depositor as applicable on the date of maturity would be applied. If request for renewal is received after the date of maturity, such overdue deposits will be renewed with effect from the date of maturity at interest rate applicable as on the due date, provided such request is received within 14 days from the date of maturity. In respect of overdue deposits renewed after
14 days from the date of maturity, interest for the overdue period will be paid at the rates decided by the Bank from time to time.

13. ADVANCES AGAINST DEPOSITS

The Bank may consider request of the depositor/s for loan / overdraft facility against term deposits duly discharged by the depositor/s on execution of necessary security documents. The Bank may also consider loan against deposit standing in the name of minor jointly with guardian however, a suitable declaration stating that loan is for the benefit of the minor, is to be furnished by the depositor – applicant.

No Loan facility shall be allowed to HUF and Minor in sole name

14. SETTLEMENT OF DUES IN DECEASED DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

If the depositor has registered nomination with the Bank:- The balance outstanding in the account of the deceased depositor will be transferred to the account of / paid to the nominee after the Bank satisfies about the identity of the nominee etc.

The above procedure will be followed even in respect of a joint account where nomination is registered with the Bank.

In a Joint Deposit Account, when one of the joint account holders dies, the Bank is required to make payment jointly to the legal heirs of the deceased person and the surviving depositor(s). However, if the joint account holders had given mandate for disposal of the balance in the account in the forms such as “either or survivor, former / latter or survivor, anyone of survivors or survivor; etc., the payment will be made as per the mandate to avoid delays in production of legal papers by the heirs of the deceased.

In the absence of nomination and when there are no disputes among the claimants, the Bank will pay the amount outstanding in the account of deceased person against joint application and indemnity by all legal heirs or the person mandated by the legal heirs to receive the payment on their behalf without insisting on legal documents upto the limit approved by the Bank’s Board. This is to ensure that the common depositors are not put hardship on account of delays in completing legal formalities.

15. INTEREST PAYABLE ON TERM DEPOSIT IN DECEASED ACCOUNT

In the event of death of the depositor before the date of maturity of deposit and amount of the deposit is claimed after the date of maturity, the Bank shall pay interest at the contracted rate till the date of maturity. From the date of maturity till the date of payment, the Bank shall pay simple interest at the applicable rate obtaining on the date of maturity, for the period for which the deposit remained with the bank beyond the date of maturity, as per the Bank’s policy in this regard.

However, in the case of death of the depositor after the date of maturity of the overdue deposit, the bank shall pay interest at Savings Bank deposit rate applicable on the date of maturity from the date of maturity till the date of payment.

16. INSURANCE COVER FOR DEPOSITS
All bank deposits are covered under the insurance scheme offered by Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation of India (DICGC) subject to certain limits and conditions. The details of the insurance cover in force, will be made available to the depositor.

17. STOP PAYMENT FACILITY

The Bank will accept stop payment instruction from the depositors in respect of cheques issued by them. Charges, as specified, will be recovered.

18. DORMANT ACCOUNTS

As per RBI guidelines Accounts which are not operated for last two years are treated as Dormant. The status of account is changed to dormant in the system in the interest of the depositor as well as the Bank. If there is no operation in the account for one year the account is treated as potentially dormant account and the depositor will be informed to operate the said account to prevent such account from becoming dormant. Dormant account can be activated at the request of depositor with submission of fresh KYC documents. Bank after observing due diligence and verification of documents will activate such account. The depositor will be informed of charges, if any, which the Bank will levy on dormant accounts.

19. NON-RESIDENT ACCOUNTS:

As defined by FEMA, Non Resident Indian (NRI) means person resident outside India who is citizen of India or is a person of Indian origin. NRI may open following types of accounts.

**Non-Resident (External) account:**

Account can be opened in any form i.e Savings, Fixed, Current, Recurring with the bank.

**Non-Resident Ordinary account:**

Account can be opened Jointly with resident Indian for the purpose of putting through bonafide transactions not involving any violation of the provisions of the FEMA, 1999, rules and regulations and in any form i.e Savings, Fixed, Current, Recurring with the bank.

Existing accounts of resident in India (i.e of Indian Nationals) are to be redesignated as Non-Resident ordinary accounts, when they go abroad indicating their intention to stay outside India for an uncertain period for taking up employment, profession, business, vocation or for any other purpose.

**Foreign Currency Non-Resident account (B):**

Account can be opened in permitted foreign denominated currencies which is freely exchanged in form of Time deposit only with minimum period of one year. (USD, GBP, Euro, JPY, CAD, AUD).

NRI, as defined in FEMA, notification no.5, Ibid, may be permitted to open NRE/FCNR (B) account With their resident close relative (relative as defined in Section 6 of the Companies act, 1956) on “former or survivor” basis. The resident close relative shall be
eligible to operate the account as a Power of Attorney holder in accordance with extant instructions during the life time of the NRI/PIO account holder.
(RBI circular RBI/2011-12/174 dated 15.09.2011.)

Details of Non-Resident accounts are available on our website www.bankofbaroda.com

20. REDRESSAL OF COMPLAINTS AND GRIEVANCES

Depositors having any complaint / grievances with regard to services rendered by the Bank has a right to approach authority (ies) designated by the Bank for handling customer complaint / grievances. The names of the nodal officers for redressal of complaints / grievances will be displayed in the branch premises and internal set up for redressal of complaints is displayed on the Bank’s website. The branch officials shall provide all required information regarding procedure for lodging the complaint. In case the depositor does not get response from the Bank within 60 days from the date of complaint or he is not satisfied with the response received from the Bank, he has a right to approach Banking Ombudsman appointed by the Reserve Bank of India.

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