

ADANI HOUSING FINANCE PRIVATE LIMITED

KNOW YOUR CUSTOMER & ANTI MONEY LAUNDERING MEASURES POLICY [KYC & AML Policy]

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ADANI HOUSING FINANCE PRIVATE LIMITED

KNOW YOUR CUSTOMER [KYC] & ANTI MONEY LAUNDERING (AML) MEASURES POLICY

CHAPTER-I

1. Introduction

This policy had initially been formulated pursuant to the notification issued by the National Housing Bank on Know Your Customer (KYC) Guidelines and Anti-Money Laundering Standards vide its notifications/Circular No. NHB (ND)/DRS/Pol-No.13/2006 dated 10th April, 2006 and as part of the best corporate practices in line with the amendment in the guidelines issued by the National Housing Bank vide its Circular No. NHB/ND/DRS/Pol. No. 33/2010 -11 dated 11th October, 2010 and further amendments from time to time as per Master Circular NHB(ND)/DRS/REG/MC-04/2018 July 2, 2018.

The latest circular on KYC guidelines and Anti-Money Laundering standards circulated by NHB vide Circular No. NHB/ND/DRS/Policy Circular No. 94/ 2018-19, March 11, 2019, has been incorporated by the company, Adani Housing Finance Private Limited (AHFPL) in this revised Policy, with the approval of the Board of Directors of the Company and in terms of the provisions of Prevention of Money-Laundering Act, 2002 and the Prevention of Money-Laundering (Maintenance of Records) Rules, 2005, the Company is required to follow certain customer identification procedures while undertaking a transaction either by establishing an account based relationship or otherwise and monitor their transactions. AHFPL shall take steps to implement provisions of Prevention of Money-Laundering Act, 2002 and the Prevention of Money-Laundering (Maintenance of Records) Rules, 2005, as amended from time to time, including operational instructions issued in pursuance of such amendment(s) and this Policy shall have immediate effect, from the date of approval of the Board to know/understand their customers and their financial dealings better which in turn would help them manage their risks prudently and prevent the Company (AHFPL) from being used, intentionally or unintentionally, by criminal elements for money laundering activities.

- 1. Short Title and Commencement:
- 1.1.These Guidelines shall be called the Guidelines on 'Know Your Customer' & 'Anti-Money Laundering Measures' Policy of the Company.
- 1.2. These Guidelines shall come into force on the day they are approved by the Board.



2. Applicability:

The provisions of these Guidelines will apply to Company (AHFPL) regulated by the National Housing Bank, except where specifically mentioned otherwise.

3. Definitions:

- 3.1. As per the NHB Guidelines, unless the context otherwise requires, the terms herein shall bear the meanings assigned to them below:
- 3.1.1. "Aadhaar number" means an identification number as defined under subsection (a) of section 2 of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016, henceforth the Aadhaar Act;
- 3.1.2. "Act" and "Rules"means the Prevention of Money-Laundering Act, 2002 and the Prevention of Money-Laundering (Maintenance of Records) Rules, 2005, respectively and amendments thereto;
- 3.1.3. "Authentication" means the process as defined under sub-section (c) of section 2 of the Aadhaar Act:

3.1.4. Beneficial Owner (BO):

(a) Where the customer is a company, the beneficial owner is the natural person(s), who, whether acting alone or together, or through one or more juridical person, has/have a controlling ownership interest or who exercise control through other means.

Explanation - For the purpose of this sub-clause:-

- (i) "Controlling ownership interest" means ownership of/entitlement to more than 25 per cent of the shares or capital or profits of the company.
- (ii) "Control" shall include the right to appoint majority of the directors or to control the management or policy decisions including by virtue of their shareholding or management rights or shareholders agreements or voting agreements.
- (b) Where the customer is a partnership firm, the beneficial owner is the natural person(s), who, whether acting alone or together, or through one or more juridical person, has/have ownership of/ entitlement to more than 15 per cent of capital or profits of the partnership.
- (c) Where the customer is an unincorporated association or body of individuals, the beneficial owner is the natural person(s), who, whether acting alone or together, or



through one or more juridical person, has/have ownership of/ entitlement to more than 15 per cent of the property or capital or profits of the unincorporated association or body of individuals.

Explanation- Term 'body of individuals' includes societies. Where no natural person is identified under (a), (b) or (c) above, the beneficial owner is the relevant natural person who holds the position of senior managing official.

- (d) Where the customer is a trust, the identification of beneficial owner(s) shall include identification of the author of the trust, the trustee, the beneficiaries with 15% or more interest in the trust and any other natural person exercising ultimate effective control over the trust through a chain of control or ownership.
- 3.1.5. "Cash Transactions" means "Cash Transactions" as defined under rule 3 of the Rules.
- 3.1.6. "Central KYC Records Registry" (CKYCR) means an entity defined under Rule 2(1)(aa) of the Rules, to receive, store, safeguard and retrieve the KYC records in digital form of a customer.
- 3.1.7. "Customer" means a person', as defined below under Para 3.1.17 below, who is engaged in a financial transaction or activity with AHFPL and includes a person on whose behalf the person who is engaged in the transaction or activity, is acting.
- 3.1.8. "Customer Due Diligence" (CDD) means "Client Due Diligence" as defined under rule 9 of the Rules and the amendments thereto.
- 3.1.9. "Customer Identification" means undertaking the process of CDD.
- 3.1.10. "Designated Director" means a "Designated Director" as defined under rule 2(ba) of the Rules.
- 3.1.11. "FATCA" means Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act of the United States of America (USA) which, inter alia, requires foreign financial institutions to report about financial accounts held by U.S. taxpayers or foreign entities in which U.S. taxpayers hold a substantial ownership interest.
- 3.1.12. "KYC Templates" means templates prepared to facilitate collating and reporting the KYC data to the CKYCR, for individuals and legal entities
- 3.1.13. "Non-face-to-face customers" means customers who open accounts without visiting the branch/ offices of AHFPL or meeting the officials of AHFPL.
- 3.1.14. "Officially Valid Document" (OVD) means OVD as defined under rule 2(I)(d) of the Rules and the amendments thereto.



- 3.1.15. "On-going Due Diligence" means regular monitoring of transactions in accounts to ensure that they are consistent with the customers profile and source of funds.
- 3.1.16. "Periodic Updation" means steps taken to ensure that documents, data or information collected under the CDD process is kept up-to-date and relevant by undertaking reviews of existing records at periodicity prescribed by the National Housing Bank.
- 3.1.17. "Person" has the same meaning as defined in the Act and includes:
 - (a) an individual,
 - (b) a Hindu undivided family,
 - (c)a company,
 - (d) a firm,
 - (e)an association of persons or a body of individuals, whether incorporated or not.
 - (f) every artificial juridical person, not falling within anyone of the above persons (a to e), and
 - (g) any agency, office or branch owned or controlled by any of the above persons(a to f).
- 3.1.18. "Politically Exposed Persons" (PEPs) are individuals who are or have been entrusted with prominent public functions e.g., Heads of States/ Governments, senior politicians, senior government/ judicial/ military officers, senior executives of state-owned corporations, important political party officials, etc.
- 3.1.19. "Principal Officer" means "Principal Officer" as defined under rule 2(f) of the Rules
- 3.1.20. "Suspicious Transaction" means "Suspicious Transaction" as defined under rule 2(g) of the Rules
- 3.1.21. "Transaction" means "Transaction" as defined under rule 2(h) of the Rules.
- 3.2. All other expressions unless defined herein shall have the same meaning as have been assigned to them under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act and Prevention of Money Laundering (Maintenance of Records) Rules, any statutory modification or re-enactment thereto or as used in commercial parlance, as the case may be.



CHAPTER-II

GENERAL

- 4. Know Your Customer (KYC) Policy:-
- 4.1. As per NHB guidelines on KYC, AHFPL is required to frame its KYC policy and AML measures duly approved by the Board for its lending / credit operations / financial dealings in line with extant guidelines framed therein.
- 4.2. The KYC policy includes following four key elements:
 - (i) Customer Acceptance Policy
 - (ii) Risk management
 - (iii) Customer Identification Procedures (CIP) and
 - (iv) Monitoring of Transactions

5. Designated Director:

- (a) A "Designated Director" means a director designated by AHFPL to ensure overall compliance with the obligations imposed under Chapter IV of the Act and shall be nominated by the Board of the Company.
- (b) The name, designation and address of the Designated Director, including changes from time to time, shall be communicated to the Director, FIU-IND and also to the National Housing Bank.
- (c) In no case, the 'Principal Officer' shall be nominated as the 'Designated Director'.

6. Principal Officer:

- (a) The Board of Directors of the Company will appoint a "Principal Officer" (preferably of the level of General Manager or immediately below the level of CMD/ED of the Company or such other person nominated by Board).
- (b) The Principal Officer shall be responsible for ensuring compliance, monitoring transactions, and sharing and reporting information as required under the law/regulations.
- (c) The name, designation and address of the Principal Officer, including changes from time to time, shall be communicated to the Director, Financial Intelligence Unit India (FIU-IND) and also to the National Housing Bank.



Compliance of KYC policy:

AHFPL will ensure adequate compliance with KYC Policy through:

- (a) Specifying as to what constitutes 'Senior Management' for the purpose of KYC compliance
- (b) Allocation of responsibility for effective implementation of policies and procedures.
- (c) Independent evaluation of the compliance functions of Company's policies and procedures, including legal and regulatory requirements.
- (d) Concurrent/internal audit system to verify the compliance with KYC/ Anti-Money Laundering (AML) policies and procedures.
- (e) Submission of quarterly audit notes and compliance to the Audit Committee/Board.

The Company will also ensure that decision-making functions of determining compliance with KYC norms are not outsourced.



CHAPTER- II

CUSTOMER ACCEPTANCE POLICY

- 8. The Company will frame a Customer Acceptance Policy.
- 9. Without prejudice to the generality of the aspect that Customer Acceptance Policy may contain, AHFPL will ensure that:
 - a) No account is opened in anonymous or *fictitious/benami* name.
 - b) No account is opened where the AHFPL is unable to apply appropriate Customer Due Diligence (CDD) measures, either due to non-cooperation of the customer or non-reliability of the documents/information furnished by the customer.
 - c) No transaction or account based relationship is undertaken without following the CDD procedure.
 - d) The mandatory information to be sought for KYC purpose while opening an account and during the periodic up-dation, is specified.
 - e) Optional/ additional information, is obtained with the explicit consent of the customer after the account is opened.
 - f) CDD Procedure is followed for all the joint account holders, while opening a joint account.
 - g) If an existing KYC compliant customer of the Company desires to open another account with the Company, there will be no need for a fresh CDD exercise.
 - h) Circumstances in which, a customer is permitted to act on behalf of another person/ entity, is clearly spelt out.
 - i) Suitable system is put in place to ensure that the identity of the customer does not match with any person or entity, whose name appears in the sanctions lists issued by UN Security Council circulated by National Housing Bank and the sanctions lists circulated by Reserve Bank of India from time to time.
- 10. It is important to bear in mind that the adoption of Customer Acceptance Policy and its implementation should not result in denial of AHFPL's services to general public, especially to those, who are financially or socially disadvantaged.



CHAPTER-IV

RISK MANAGEMENT

The Board of Directors of AHFPL will take adequate steps to ensure that an effective KYC programme is put in place by establishing appropriate procedures and ensuring their effective implementation. It should cover proper management oversight, systems and controls, segregation of duties, training and other related matters. Responsibility should be explicitly allocated within the Company for ensuring that the housing finance companies' policies and procedures are implemented effectively. The Company will, in consultation with their Boards, devise procedures for creating Risk Profiles of their existing and new customers and apply various Anti Money Laundering measures keeping in view the risks involved in a transaction, account or business relationship. The Risk Management Policy of the Company will suitably be amended to cover the above process of Risk profile of customers.

For Risk Management, AHFPL will have a risk based approach which includes the following:

- a. Customers will be categorized as low, medium and high risk category, based on the assessment and risk perception of the Company.
- b. The Risk categorization will be undertaken based on parameters such as customer's identity, social/ financial status, nature of business activity, and information about the clients' business and their location etc. While considering customer's identity, the ability to confirm identity documents through online or other services offered by issuing authorities may also be factored in. These categorization will applicable to the home loan and fixed deposit customers.

This Risk based categorization is mentioned below:-

Low Risk	Low Risk individuals are those individuals (other than high net worth) and entities whose identities and sources of wealth can be		
	easily identified and the transactions in whose accounts by and large conform to known profile. These include following:		
	Salaried applicants with salary paid by cheque		
	2. Salaried applicants with Bank Credited salary		
	3. Govt. Dept & Govt. Owned Companies 4. Public Limited Companies (Public)		
Medium Risk	 NGOs, trusts, charities and organizations receiving donations Trust/Societies 		
	3. Salaried applicants with unstructured income where salary structure is not well defined		



	 Salaried applicants with salary getting in cash Self Employed applicants, professionals and non-professionals
High Risk	 Negative Lists defined by NHB / RBI Politically Exposed Persons (PEP) of foreign origin Very high cash transactions (Rs. 10 Lakhs) and suspicious transactions reported to FIU-IND Persons with dubious reputation as per public information available. Persons whose sources of income are not clear. Non-face to face meeting customers Non-resident customers High net worth individuals. Trusts, Charities, NGOs and organizations receiving donations Applicant companies having close family shareholding or beneficial ownership Applicant firms with 'sleeping partners'

Provided that various other information collected from different categories of customers relating to the perceived risk, is non-intrusive and the same may be specified in the Company's KYC policy.

The Recommendations made by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) on Antimoney Laundering (AML) standards and on Combating Financing of Terrorism (CFT) standards should also be used in risk assessment.



CHAPTER- V

CUSTOMER IDENTIFICATION PROCEDURE (CIP)

- 12. AHFPL will also undertake identification of customers in the following cases:
 - a. Commencement of an account-based relationship with the customer.
 - b. When there is a doubt about the authenticity or adequacy of the customer identification data it has obtained.
 - c. Selling third party products as agents, selling their own products and any other product for more than rupees fifty thousand.

The illustrative list of documents that can be accepted for CIP are mentioned in Annexure – II

- 13. For the purpose of verifying the identity of customers at the time of commencement of an account-based relationship, AHFPL will, at its option, rely on CDD done by a third party, subject to the following conditions:
 - Records or the information of the customer due diligence carried out by the third party is obtained within two days from the third party or from the Central KYC Records Registry.
 - b. Adequate steps are taken by the Company to satisfy itself that copies of identification data and other relevant documentation relating to the customer due diligence requirements shall be made available from the third party upon request without delay.
 - c. The third party is regulated, supervised or monitored for, and has measures in place for, compliance with customer due diligence and record-keeping requirements in line with the requirements and obligations under the Prevention of Money-Laundering Act.
 - d. The third party shall not be based in a country or jurisdiction assessed as high risk.
 - e. The ultimate responsibility for CDD, including done by a third party and undertaking enhanced due diligence measures, as applicable, shall rest with the Company concerned.



CHAPTER- VI

CUSTOMER DUE DILIGENCE (CDD) PROCEDURE

- 14. Procedure for obtaining identification
- a) While undertaking CDD, the Company will, ensure to obtain the following information from an individual while establishing an account based relationship with an 'individual' or dealing with the individual who is a beneficial owner, authorised signatory or the power of attorney holder related to any legal entity:
 - (i) The submission of Aadhaar is mandatory only when the customer is desirous of receiving any benefit or subsidy under any scheme notified under Section 7 of the Aadhaar Act otherwise Aadhaar is not mandatory and the Company not to insist for the same. However, the individual, if so desires, may provide the same out of volition (along with the declaration). The customer, at their option, shall submit one of the OVDs.
 - (ii) the Permanent Account Number (PAN) or Form No. 60 as defined in Income-tax Rules, 1962, as amended from time to time.

Explanation 1- Obtaining a certified copy by the Company shall mean comparing the copy of OVD so produced by the client with the original and recording the same on the copy by the authorised officer of the Company.

Explanation 2: The submission of Aadhaar by an individual as a KYC document in cases other than mentioned at (i) above cannot be insisted upon by the Company However, the individual, if so desires, may provide the same out of his own volition. Customers, at their option, shall submit one of the OVDs.

Explanation 3: Where the customer is submitting Aadhaar, the Company will be guided by directions issued by Unique Identification Authority of India from time to time.

- b) In case the OVD furnished by the customer does not contain updated address, the following documents shall be deemed to be OVDs for the limited purpose of proof of address:
 - i. utility bill which is not more than two months old of any service provider (electricity, telephone, post-paid mobile phone, piped gas, water bill);
 - ii. property or Municipal tax receipt;
 - iii. pension or family pension payment orders (PPOs) issued to retired employees by Government Departments or Public Sector Undertakings, if they contain the address:



iv. letter of allotment of accommodation from employer issued by State Government or Central Department, statutory or regulatory bodies, public sector undertakings, scheduled commercial banks, financial institutions and listed companies and leave and license agreements with such employers allotting official accommodation;

Provided that in case the OVD submitted by a foreign national does not contain the details of address, in such case the documents issued by the Government departments of foreign jurisdictions and letter issued by the Foreign Embassy or Mission in India shall be accepted as proof of address.

Provided further that the customer shall submit updated OVD with current address within a period of three months of submitting the above documents.

c) A customer already having an account based relationship with AHFPL, will be required to submit his Permanent Account Number or Form No.60, on such date as may be notified by the Central Government, failing which the account shall temporarily kept as non- operational till the time the Permanent Account Number or Form No. 60 is submitted by the customer:

Provided that before temporarily ceasing operations for an account, the Company will give the customer an accessible/separate notice and a reasonable opportunity to be heard.

Explanation: - For the purpose of this clause, "temporary ceasing of operations" in relation an account means the temporary suspension of all transactions or activities in relation to that account by the HFC till such time the customer complies with the provisions of this clause;

In case of asset accounts such as loan accounts, for the purpose of ceasing the operation in the account, only credits shall be allowed.

d) If a customer having an existing account based relationship with the Company gives in writing to the company that he/ she does not want to submit his/her Permanent Account Number or Form No.60, as the case may be, the customer's deposit account with the Company may be closed at its discretion and inform the customer that all obligations due in relation to the account shall be appropriately settled/closed after establishing the identity of the customer.

AHFPL will duly inform the customer about this provision while opening the deposit account.



Part- I CDD Procedure in case of individuals

- 15. AHFPL will also apply the following procedure while establishing an account based relationship with an individual:
- (a) Obtain information as mentioned under Section 14; and
- (b) such other documents pertaining to the nature of business or financial status specified by the Company in its KYC policy.

The Board approved policy on KYC & AML Measures of the Company should also provide appropriate relaxation for continued operation of accounts of customers who are unable to provide Permanent Account Number or Form No.60 owing to injury, illness or infirmity on account of old age or otherwise, and such like causes.

Provided that information collected from customers for the purpose of opening of account shall be treated as confidential and details thereof shall not be divulged for the purpose of cross selling, or for any other purpose without the express permission of the customer.

Part II CDD measures for Sole Proprietary Firms

- 16. For opening an account in the name of a sole proprietary firm, identification information as mentioned under Section 14 in respect of the individual (proprietor) should be obtained.
- 17. In addition to the above, any two of the following documents as a proof of business/ activity in the name of the proprietary firm should also be obtained:
- (a) Registration certificate.
- (b) Certificate/ licence issued by the municipal authorities under Shop and Establishment Act.
- (c) Sales and income tax returns.
- (d) CST/VAT/CST certificate (provisional/ final).
- (e) Certificate/registration document issued by Sales Tax/Service Tax/Professional Tax authorities.
- (f) IEC (Importer Exporter Code) issued to the proprietary concern by the office of DCFT/Licence/ certificate of practice issued in the name of the proprietary concern by any professional body incorporated under a statute.
- (g) Complete Income Tax Return (not just the acknowledgement) in the name of the sole proprietor where the firm's income is reflected, duly authenticated/ acknowledged by the Income Tax authorities.
- (h) Utility bills such as electricity, water, and landline telephone bills.



18. In cases where the Company is satisfied that it is not possible to furnish two such documents, Company may, at their discretion, accept only one of those documents as proof of business/ activity.

Provided the Company undertake contact point verification and collect such other information and clarification as would be required to establish the existence of such firm, and shall confirm and satisfy itself that the business activity has been verified from the address of the proprietary concern.

Part- III CDD Measures for Legal Entities

- 19. For opening an account of a company, one certified copy of each of the following documents shall be obtained:
- (a) Certificate of incorporation;
- (b) Memorandum and Articles of Association;
- (c) Permanent Account Number of the company;
- (d) A resolution from the Board of Directors and power of attorney granted to its managers, officers or employees to transact on its behalf;
- (e) one copy of an OVD containing details of identity and address, one recent photograph and Permanent Account Numbers of Form 60 of the managers, officers or employees, as the case may be, holding an attorney to transact on its behalf.
- 20. For opening an account of a partnership firm, one certified copy of each of the following documents shall be obtained:
- (a) Registration certificate;
- (b) Partnership deed:
- (c) Permanent Account Number of the partnership firm;
- (d) one copy of an OVD containing details of identity and address, one recent photograph and Permanent Account Numbers of Form 60 of the managers, officers or employees, as the case may be, holding an attorney to transact on its behalf.
- 21. For opening an account of a trust, one certified copy of each of the following documents shall be obtained:
- (a) Registration certificate;
- (b) Trust deed:
- (c) Permanent Account Number or Form No.60 of the trust;



- (d) one copy of an OVD containing details of identity and address, one recent photograph and Permanent Account Numbers of Form 60 of the managers, officers or employees, as the case may be, holding an attorney to transact on its behalf.
- 22. For opening an account of an unincorporated association or a body of individuals, one certified copy of each of the following documents shall be obtained:
- (a) resolution of the managing body of such association or body of individuals;
- (b) Permanent Account Number or Form No.60 of the unincorporated association or a body of individuals;
- (c) power of attorney granted to transact on its behalf;
- (d) one copy of an OVD containing details of identity and address, one recent photograph and Permanent Account Numbers of Form 60 of the managers, officers or employees, as the case may be, holding an attorney to transact on its behalf identification information as mentioned under;
- (e) Such information as may be required by the Company to collectively establish the legal existence of such an association or body of individuals.

Explanation - Unregistered trusts/partnership firms shall be included under the term 'unincorporated association' and the term 'body of individuals, includes societies.

- 23. For opening accounts of juridical persons not specifically covered in the earlier part, such as Government or its Departments, societies, universities and local bodies like village panchayats, one certified copy of the following documents shall be obtained:
- (a) Document showing name of the person authorised to act on behalf of the entity;
- (b) Aadhaar/PAN/ OVD for proof of identity and address in respect of the person holding an attorney to transact on its behalf and
- (c) Such documents as may be required by the Company to establish the legal existence of such an entity/ juridical person.

Part- IV CDD Measures for Identification of Beneficial Owner

24. For opening an account of a Legal Person who is not a natural person, the beneficial owner(s) shall be identified and all reasonable steps in terms of Rule 9(3) of the Rules to verify his/her identity shall be undertaken keeping in view the following:



- (a) Where the customer or the owner of the controlling interest is a company listed on a stock exchange, or is a subsidiary of such a company, it is not necessary to identify and verify the identity of any shareholder or beneficial owner of such companies.
- (b) In cases of trust/nominee or fiduciary accounts whether the customer is acting on behalf of another person as trustee/nominee or any other intermediary is determined. In such cases, satisfactory evidence of the identity of the intermediaries and of the persons on whose behalf they are acting, as also details of the nature of the trust or other arrangements in place can be obtained.

Part- V Enhanced Due Diligence Measures

25. **Accounts of Non-face-to-face customers:** The Company will ensure that the first payment is to be effected through the customer's KYC-complied account, for enhanced due diligence of non-face to face customers.

26. Accounts of Politically Exposed Persons (PEPs):

- (i) AHFPL will have the option of establishing a relationship with PEPs provided that:
- (a) sufficient information including information about the sources of funds accounts of family members and close relatives is gathered on the PEP;
- (b) the identity of the person shall have been verified before accepting the PEP as a customer;
- (c) the decision to open an account for a PEP is taken at a senior level in accordance with the Company's Customer Acceptance Policy;
- (d) all such accounts are subjected to enhanced monitoring on an on-going basis;
- (e) in the event of an existing customer or the beneficial owner of an existing account subsequently becoming a PEP, senior management's approval is obtained to continue the business relationship;
- (f) The CDD measures as applicable to PEPs including enhanced monitoring on an on-going basis are applicable.
- (ii) These instructions shall also be applicable to accounts where a PEP is the beneficial owner.

27. Customer's accounts opened by Professional Intermediaries:

The Company will ensure while opening customer's accounts through professional intermediaries, that:



- (a) Customer shall be identified when client account is opened by a professional intermediary on behalf of a single client.
- (b) AHFPL will have option to hold 'pooled' accounts managed by professional intermediaries on behalf of entities like mutual funds, pension funds or other types of funds.
- (c) The Company will not open accounts of such professional intermediaries who are bound by any client confidentiality that prohibits disclosure of the client details to the Company.
- (d) All the beneficial owners shall be identified where funds held by the intermediaries are not co-mingled at the level of the Company and there are 'subaccounts', each of them attributable to a beneficial owner, or where such funds are co-mingled at the level of AHFPL, the Company will look for the beneficial owners.
- (e) the Company will, at their discretion, rely on the CDD done by an intermediary, provided that the intermediary is a regulated and supervised entity and has adequate systems in place to comply with the KYC requirements of the customers.
- (f) The ultimate responsibility for knowing the customer lies with the Company.



CHAPTER- VII

ONGOING DUE DILIGENCE

- 28. Ongoing monitoring is an essential element of effective KYC procedures. The Company can effectively control and reduce their risk only if they have an understanding of the normal and reasonable activity of the customer so that they have the means of identifying transactions that fall outside the regular pattern of activity.
- a) AHFPL will pay special attention to all complex, unusually large transactions and all unusual patterns which have no apparent economic or visible lawful purpose.
- b) The extent of monitoring will be aligned with the risk category of the customer. A system of periodic review of risk categorization of accounts, with such periodicity as specified in the Company KYC Policy will be put in place.
- c) For the purpose of risk categorization, individuals (other than High Net Worth) and entities whose identities and sources of wealth can be easily identified and transactions in whose accounts by and large conform to the known profile, may be categorized as low risk. Illustrative examples of low risk customers could be salaried employees whose salary structures are well defined, people belonging to lower economic strata of the society whose accounts show small balances and low turnover, Government Departments & Government owned companies, regulators and statutory bodies, etc. In such cases, the policy may require that only the basic requirements of verifying the identity and location of the customer are to be met.
- d) Customers that are likely to pose a higher than average risk to the Company may be categorized as medium or high risk depending on customer's background, nature and location of activity, country of origin, sources of funds and his client profile, etc. the Company may apply enhanced due diligence measures based on the risk assessment, thereby requiring intensive 'due diligence' for higher risk customers, especially those for whom the sources of funds are not clear.

Examples of customers requiring higher due diligence may include-

- non-resident customers,
- high net worth individuals,
- trusts, charities, NGOs and organizations receiving foreign donations,
- companies having close family shareholding or beneficial ownership,
- firms with 'sleeping partners',
- politically exposed persons (PEPs) of foreign origin,
- non-face to face customers, and
- those with dubious reputation as per public information available, etc.



29. Periodic Updation

Periodic KYC updation will be carried out at least once in every two years for high risk customers, once in every eight years for medium risk customers and once in every ten years for low risk customers as per the following procedure:

- a) The Company will carry out:-
 - i) PAN verification from the verification facility available with the issuing authority and
 - ii) Authentication, of Aadhaar Number already available with the Company with the explicit consent of the customer in applicable cases.
 - iii) In case identification information available with Aadhaar does not contain current address an OVD containing current address may be obtained.
 - iv) Certified copy of OVD containing identity and address shall be obtained at the time of periodic updation from individuals except those who are categorised as 'low risk'. In case of low risk customers when there is no change in status with respect to their identities and addresses, a self-certification to that effect shall be obtained.
 - v) In case of Legal entities, Company will review the documents sought at the time of opening of account and obtain fresh certified copies.
- b) The Company will not insist on the physical presence of the customer for the purpose of furnishing OVD or furnishing consent for Aadhaar authentication unless there are sufficient reasons that physical presence of the account holder/holders is required to establish their bona-fides. Normally OVD/ Consent forwarded by the customer through mail/ post etc. shall be acceptable.
- c) The Company will ensure to provide acknowledgement with date of having performed KYC updation.
- d) The time limits prescribed above would apply from the date of opening of the account/ last verification of KYC.



CHAPTER- VIII MONITORING OF TRANSACTIONS

30. Maintenance of records of transactions:

- (i) The Company will also introduce a system of Maintenance of records, at each branch and a consolidated record for all the branches taken together kept at the Registered/Corporate office or such other storage facility availed by the Company, of transactions (nature and value), in such form and for such period as specified under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 and the Prevention of Money-Laundering (Maintenance of Records) Rules, 2005.
- Further, the Company shall maintain record of documents evidencing identity of its customers and beneficial owners as well as account files and business correspondence relating to its customers. Such records shall be maintained for a period of five years after the business relationship between the customer and the Company has ended or the account has been closed, whichever is later.
- (ii) the Company will maintain all necessary information in respect of transactions prescribed under Rule 3 of the Prevention of Money-laundering (Maintenance of Records) Rules, 2005, so as to permit reconstruction of individual transaction, including the following:
- (a) the nature of the transactions;
- (b) the amount of the transaction and the currency in which it was denominated;
- (c) the date on which the transaction was conducted; and
- (d) the parties to the transaction.
- (iii) the Company will take appropriate steps to evolve a system for proper maintenance and preservation of information in a manner (in hard and soft copies) that allows information to be retrieved easily and quickly whenever required or requested by the competent authorities.
- 31. Furnishing of information to the Director, Financial Intelligence Unit India (FIU-IND):
- (i) In terms of the provisions of the Rule 8 of the Prevention of Money-laundering (Maintenance of Records) Rules, 2005. The Company will, *inter-alia*, furnish to the Director, FIU-IND, within such time and in such form, the information in respect of transactions as referred under sub-rule
- (1) of rule 3 of the said Rules, as applicable.
- (ii) A copy of information furnished shall be retained by the 'Principal Officer' for the purposes of official record.

Explanation: In terms of Third Amendment Rules notified September 22, 2015 regarding amendment to sub rule 3 and 4 of rule 7, Director, FIU-IND shall have



powers to issue guidelines to the reporting entities for detecting transactions referred to in various clauses of sub-rule (1) of rule 3, to direct them about the form of furnishing information and to specify the procedure and the manner of furnishing information.

- (iii) It has been advised by the FIU-IND that the Company need not submit 'NIL' reports in case there are no Cash/Suspicious Transactions, during a particular period. The Company will take note and act accordingly, as applicable to it.
- (iv) The reporting formats and comprehensive reporting format guide, prescribed/ released by FIU-IND and Report Generation Utility and Report Validation Utility developed to assist reporting entities in the preparation of prescribed reports shall be taken note of. The editable electronic utilities to file electronic Cash Transaction Reports (CTR) / Suspicious Transaction Reports (STR) which FIU-IND has placed on its website shall be made use of by the Company which are yet to install/ adopt suitable technological tools for extracting CTR/STR from their live transaction data. The Principal Officer of the Company, whose all branches are not fully computerized, shall have suitable arrangement to pull out the transaction details from branches which are not yet computerized and to feed the data into an electronic file with the help of the editable electronic utilities of CTR/STR as have been made available by FIU-IND on its website http://fiuindia.gov.in.
- (v) While furnishing information to the Director, FIU-IND, delay of each day in not reporting a transaction or delay of each day in rectifying a mis-represented transaction beyond the time limit as specified in the said Rules shall be constituted as a separate violation.
- (vi) The Company will not put any restriction on operations in the accounts where an STR has been filed. The Company will also keep the fact of furnishing of STR strictly confidential. It shall be ensured that there is no tipping off to the customer at any level.
- (vii) Robust software, based on the level of transactions carried out, throwing alerts when the transactions are inconsistent with risk categorization and updated profile of the customers may be put in to use as a part of effective identification and reporting of suspicious transactions.
- 32. Reporting requirement under Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) and Common Reporting Standards (CRS)



- (i) Under FATCA and CRS, the Company will adhere to the provisions of Income Tax Rules, 114F, 114G and 114H and determine whether they are a Reporting Financial Institution as defined in Income Tax Rule 114F and if so, shall take following steps for complying with the reporting requirements as far as applicable to it:-
- (a) Register on the related e-filling portal of Income Tax Department as Reporting Financial Institutions at the link https://incometaxindiaefiling.gov.in/ post login --> My Account --> Register as Reporting Financial Institution
- (b) Submit online reports by using the digital signature of the 'Designated Director' by either uploading the Form 61B or 'NIL' report, for which, the schema prepared by Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) shall be referred to.

Explanation - The Company will refer to the spot reference rates published by Foreign Exchange Dealers' Association of India (FEDAI) on their website at http://www.fedai.org.in/ RevaluationRates.aspx for carrying out the due diligence procedure for the purposes of identifying reportable accounts in terms of Rule 114H of Income Tax Rules.

- (c) Develop Information Technology (IT) framework for carrying out due diligence procedure and for recording and maintaining the same, as provided in Rule 114H of Income Tax Rules.
- (d) Develop a system of audit for the IT framework and compliance with Rules 114F, 114G and 114H of Income Tax Rules.
- (e) Constitute a "High Level Monitoring Committee" under the Designated Director or any other equivalent functionary to ensure compliance.
- (f) Ensure compliance with updated instructions/ rules/ guidance notes/ Press releases/ issued on the subject by Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) from time to time.
- (ii) In addition to the above, other United Nations Security Council Resolutions (UNSCRs) circulated by the Reserve Bank in respect of any other jurisdictions/ entities from time to time shall also be taken note of.



CHAPTER- IX OTHER MEASURES

- 33. Secrecy Obligations and Sharing of Information:
- (i) The Company will maintain secrecy regarding the customer information which arises out of the contractual relationship between the lender and customer.
- (ii) While considering the requests for data/information from Government and other agencies, The Company satisfy tself that the information being sought is not of such a nature as will violate the provisions of the laws relating to secrecy in transactions.
- (iii) An illustrative (but not exhaustive) list of suspicious transactions in housing/builder / project loans is furnished in **Annexure I** for guidance of the Company.
- 34. Sharing KYC information with Central KYC Records Registry (CKYCR)

The Company will capture the KYC information for sharing with the CKYCR in the manner mentioned in the Rules, as required by the revised KYC templates prepared for 'individuals' and 'Legal Entities' as the case may be. Government of India has authorized the Central Registry of Securitization Asset Reconstruction and Security Interest of India (CERSAI), to act as, and to perform the functions of the CKYCR vide Gazette Notification No. S.O. 3183(E) dated November 26, 2015. The Company is required to upload the Know Your Customer (KYC) data with CERSAI in respect of new individual accounts opened on or after November 01, 2016.

- 35. Hiring of Employees and Employee training
- (a) Adequate screening mechanism as an integral part of their personnel recruitment/hiring process should be put in place.
- (b) On-going employee training programme should be put in place so that the members of staff are adequately trained in KYC/AML Measures policy. The focus of the training should be different for frontline staff, compliance staff and staff dealing with new customers. The front desk staff should be specially trained to handle issues arising from lack of customer education. Proper staffing of the audit function with persons adequately trained and well-versed in KYC/AML Measures policies of the Company, regulation and related issues should be ensured.



36. Selling Third party products:

The Company acting as agents while selling third party products will comply with the applicable laws/regulations, including system capabilities for capturing, generating and analyzing alerts for the purpose of filing CTR/STR in respect of transactions relating to third party products with customers.

- 37. Adherence to Know Your Customer (KYC) guidelines by the Company and persons authorised by the Company including brokers/agents etc.
- (a) Persons authorized by the Company for collecting deposits and/ or selling loan related products, their brokers/ agents or the like, shall be fully compliant with the KYC guidelines applicable to HFCs.
- (b) All information shall be made available to the National Housing Bank to verify the compliance with the KYC guidelines and accept full consequences of any violation by the persons authorized by the Company including brokers/ agents etc. who are operating on their behalf.
- 38. The Company will ensure that the provisions of the PML Act, Rules framed thereunder and the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010, applicable, are adhered to strictly.
- 39. Where the Company is unable to apply appropriate KYC measures due to non-furnishing of information and / or non-cooperation by the customer, the Company may consider closing the account or terminating the business relationship after issuing due notice to the customer explaining the reasons for taking such a decision. Such decisions need to be taken at a reasonably senior level.



Annexure I

A. ILLUSTRATIVE LIST OF SUSPICIOUS TRANSACTIONS PERTAINING TO BUILDER/PROJECT/ CORPORATE CLIENTS:

- Builder approaching the AHFPL for a small loan compared to the total cost of the project;
- 2) Builder is unable to explain the sources of funding for the project;
- 3) Approvals/sanctions from various authorities are proved to be fake or if it appears that client does not wish to obtain necessary governmental approvals/ filings, etc;;
- Management appears to be acting according to instructions of unknown or inappropriate person(s);
- 5) Employees numbers or structure out of keeping with size or nature of the business (for instance the turnover of a company is unreasonably high considering the number of employees and assets used);
- 6) Clients with multijurisdictional operations that do not have adequate centralized corporate oversight;
- 7) Advice on the setting up of legal arrangements, which may be used to obscure ownership or real economic purpose (including setting up of trusts, companies or change of name/corporate seat or other complex group structures);
- 8) Entities with a high level of transactions in cash or readily transferable assets, among which illegitimate funds could be obscured.

B. ILLUSTRATIVE LIST OF SUSPICIOUS TRANSACTIONS PERTAINING TO INDIVIDUALS:

- Legal structure of client has been altered numerous times (name changes, transfer of ownership, change of corporate seat);
- Unnecessarily complex client structure;
- 3. Individual or classes of transactions that take place outside the established business profile, and expected activities/ transaction unclear;
- 4. Customer is reluctant to provide information, data, documents;
- 5. Submission of false documents, data, purpose of loan, details of accounts;
- 6. Refuses to furnish details of source of funds by which initial contribution is made, sources of funds is doubtful etc;
- 7. Reluctant to meet in person, represents through a third party/Power of Attorney holder without sufficient reasons;
- 8. Approaches a branch/office of a AHFPL, which is away from the customer's residential or business address provided in the loan application, when there is AHFPL branch/office nearer to the given address;
- 9. Unable to explain or satisfy the numerous transfers in the statement of account/ multiple accounts;



- 10. Initial contribution made through unrelated third party accounts without proper justification;
- 11. Availing a top-up loan and/or equity loan, without proper justification of the end use of the loan amount:
- 12. Suggesting dubious means for the sanction of loan;
- 13. Where transactions do not make economic sense:
- 14. Unusual financial transactions with unknown source;
- 15. Payments received from un-associated or unknown third parties and payments for fees in cash where this would not be a typical method of payment;
- 16. There are reasonable doubts over the real beneficiary of the loan and the flat to be purchased;
- 17. Encashment of loan amount by opening a fictitious bank account;
- 18. Applying for a loan knowing fully well that the property/dwelling unit to be financed has been funded earlier and that the same is outstanding;
- 19. Sale consideration stated in the agreement for sale is abnormally higher/lower than what is prevailing in the area of purchase;
- 20. Multiple funding of the same property/dwelling unit;
- 21. Request for payment made in favour of a third party who has no relation to the transaction:
- 22. Usage of loan amount by the customer in connivance with the vendor/builder/developer/broker/agent etc. and using the same for a purpose other than what has been stipulated.
- 23. Multiple funding / financing involving NGO / Charitable Organisation / Small / Medium Establishments (SMEs) / Self Help Groups (SHGs) / Micro Finance Groups (MFGs)
- 24. Frequent requests for change of address;
- 25. Overpayment of instalments with a request to refund the overpaid amount.
- 26. Investment in real estate at a higher/lower price than expected.
- 27. Clients incorporated in countries that permit bearer shares.



Annexure II

CUSTOMER IDENTIFICATION PROCEDURE TO BE VERIFIED AND DOCUMENTS THAT MAY BE OBTAINED FROM CUSTOMERS:

Features/Types of customers	Documents (As per Policy updated from time to cime)	
	One of the following certified Document viz., i. Valid Passport ii. Aadhaar Card (mandatory only for any subsidy benefit) iii. Voter's Identity Card iv. Driving License v. identity card with applicant's Photograph issued by Central/State Government Departments, Statutory/Regulatory Authorities, Public Sector Undertakings, Scheduled Commercial Banks, and Public Financial Institutions; (subject to the Company's satisfaction) vi. letter issued by the National Population Register containing details of name, address (subject to the Company's satisfaction) And PAN or Form No. 60 as per Income Tax Rules 1962. (mandatory along with one of the OVDs)	
	In case the OVD furnished by the customer does not contain updated address, the following documents shall be deemed to be OVDs for the limited purpose of proof of address:-	
	 Utility bill which is not more than two months old of any service provider (electricity, telephone, post-paid mobile phone, piped gas, water bill); 	
	property or Municipal tax receipt;	
Individuals	 pension or family pension payment orders (PPOs) issued to retired employees by Government Departments or Public Sector Undertakings, if they contain the address; 	
Individuals and individua (Sole Proprietor) Proof or identity and proof or residence	f employer issued by State Government or Central	



	scheduled commercial banks, financial institutions and listed companies and leave and licence agreements with such employers allotting official accommodation;
	 I. Certificate of Incorporation and Memorandum & Articles of Association. II. Certificate of Commencement of Business (in
Companies /Legal Entities - Name of the company -	case of Public Limited Company) III. Resolution of the Board of Directors to open an account and identification of those who have authority to operate the
Principal place of business - Mailing address of the company	account. IV. Power of Attorney granted to its managers, officers or employees to transact business on its behalf.
- Telephone/Fax Number	V. Copy of PAN Card VI. OVD of signatories / POA holders
Partnership Firms	(i) Registration certificate, if registered /PAN Card
- Legal name	(ii) Partnership deed / Memorandum of Association / Bye - Laws



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- Address	(iii) Any officially valid document /OVD identifying the partners and the persons
Names of all partners and their - address	holding the Power of Attorney/
-Telephone numbers of the firm and partners	Managers and their addresses. Utility/Telephone bill in the name (iv) of
portricis	firm/partners (less than 2 months old)
Trusts & Foundations	Certificate of registration, if (i) registered/ PAN Card
- Names of trustees, settlers,	Trust Deed/Power of Attorney
beneficiaries	(ii) granted
and signatories	to transact business on its behalf (iii) Any officially valid document/OVD to
Names and addresses of the founder,	
- the	identify the trustees, settlers,
managers/directors and the beneficiaries	beneficiaries and those holding Power
Telephone/fax numbers	of Attorney, founders/ managers/ directors and their addresses
	(iv) Resolution of the managing body of the
	foundation/association
	(v) Telephone bill (less than 2 months old)
NRI (Non – Resident Indian)	Apart from the documents applicable for
	Legal name and any other
	Individuals as
	above an attested copy of Valid names used
	passport / VISA / Power of Attorney
	are Required
	required
Sole Proprietary firm/Unincorporated	(i)Proprietor's or owner's individual KYC
association or a body of individuals	documents as mentioned above (ii) IEC/Registration certificate/License
	issued by Govt. authority
	(iii) Tax registration certificate, any officially
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	valid document in respect of the
	person
	holding an attorney to transact on its
	behalf
	(iv) Utility Bills (not more than 2 months
	old)



POLICY ON STAFF ACCOUNTABILITY

Good governance is an integral part and parcel of the existence of a Company in today's era of stakeholder engagement. Transparent procedures need to be adopted so as to ensure timely redressal of concerns of the Directors and the employees.

A Company's internal control and operating procedures are intended to detect and prevent improper activities. However, achieving complete safety against irregularities may not be possible. The Company proposes to provide the directors and employees with a sense of ownership and interest alongside smooth functioning and growth.

Thus the Company intends to formulate and establish a Staff Accountability Framework for providing adequate safeguards to the employees and directors from victimization or reprisals.

1. OBJECTIVE

The aim of an organization in conducting the exercise of staff accountability should be to safeguard the larger interest of the organization by ensuring that the organization's business is conducted in accordance with the laid down rules and procedures and without jeopardizing its interest. However, if the evaluation of accountability is not done objectively keeping the above goal in mind, it would lead to highly distorted perceptions among the members of the organization, which would be much more detrimental to the organization than the loss already suffered by it. To that end what is of primary importance is, to identify areas of deficiencies and initiate corrective measures to protect the HFC's interest. Punishing employees for their lapses is of secondary importance.

Discretionary powers have been vested in various functionaries to carry out assigned tasks in fulfillment of organizational goals. It is fundamental and unavoidable that there should be accountability for their action. Thus accountability follows delegation. However, no need of penalty should arise as long as the actions are within the framework of laid down procedure and the actions are not detrimental to the interest of the organization. At the same time, in any commercial organization risk represents an integral part of its business and HFCs are no



exception. Decisions taken on the basis of available data, at the material time, for business development / achievement of corporate objectives always contain an element of risk. Any system set up for the purpose of staff accountability would take these factors into account and has necessarily to be transparent and objective.

2. COVERAGE

I. Applies to Whom?

This Staff Accountability Framework is applicable to all employees of the Company.

- II. Acts of Wrongdoings as illustrated below may also include but not necessarily be limited to:
 - Forgery or alteration of documents
 - Misbehavior with customer
 - Delay in resolving customer related compliant
 - Unauthorized alteration or manipulation of files
 - Fraudulent financial reporting
 - Pursuit of a benefit or advantage in violation of the company's interest
 - Misappropriation/misuse of Company's resources, like funds, supplies, or other assets including business assets
 - Authorizing/receiving compensation for goods not received/services not performed
 - Authorizing or receiving compensation for hours not worked
 - Improper use of authority for personal gain
 - Unauthorized commissions
 - Giving and taking bribes
 - Theft of Cash/Assets
 - Theft of Goods/Services
 - Unauthorized Discounts/approvals/sanctions/ guarantee/ assurance including to clients/ inventors
 - Falsification/Destruction of Company Records
 - Fraudulent Insurance Claims
 - Work Place Harassment
- III. The Staff accountability will not be undertaken based on anonymous/pseudonymous complaints.

3. APPROACH

The approach to be followed while examining staff accountability will be



based on the following guidelines:

- i) What was/were the cause/causes that led to loss or likely loss to the HFC?
- ii) Whether the loss or likely loss to the HFC was caused due to any negligence / omission / commission on the part of the staff or was it due to reasons beyond their control.
- iii) The basic criteria are to find out whether non-compliance with instructions / systems/ procedures is observed.
 - a) What was the nature of negligence?
 - b) What were they supposed to do which they did not do?
 - c)What did they do which they were not supposed to do?
- iv) It will be critically examined whether the loss would have been avoided had the above- mentioned omission/commission not occurred.
- v) Staff accountability report will specify whether the action on part of official was bonafide /malafide and whether there was any gain to the official himself or somebody else through his actions.
- vi) The report will comment upon the extenuating/ accentuating circumstances under which the official / staff was working at the material time.
- vii) The report needs to cover the details of efforts made for regularization / recovery and quantification of recovery made.

4. AUTHORITY:

Officer Authorized - The Compliance officer of AHFPL will act as an Ombudsman.

Responsibilities of Ombudsman

- Receiving and acknowledging complaints
- Sorting / Screening / Short listing
- Interim communication to Audit Committee/Managing Director / Whole-time Director/
- Whistle Blower Investigation Committee
- Investigation through appropriate delegation / agencies
- Recommend course of action based on investigation to management



- Prevention of harassment to and redressal of complaints of Vigilant Person/Whistleblower/Tipster
- Ensuring safety of the Vigilant Person from being persecuted within the organization
- Any other related responsibility as decided by the management
- The decision on the course of action on the whistleblower's complaint as taken
 - by the Ombudsman will be final.

Meetings and Records

The Ombudsman will maintain its records such as Agenda, Minutes of the Meeting, Complaint Reports and Action initiated etc.

5. PROCEDURE

- a) The report shall be submitted to the controlling authority, who in turn shall put up to the approving authority i.e. the next higher authority along with his comments. Approving authority will decide as to the need for further investigation.
- b) If the authority that is approving the staff accountability report is of the view that lapses like gross negligence or malafide may have contributed to the asset slippage, he may arrange to advise the appropriate authority to investigate the matter further.
- c) The authority approving the Staff accountability report will keep a record of findings with respective functional team and with Compliance officer.

6. VIGILANCE:

In Housing finance Industry risk-taking forms an integral part of business. Therefore, every loss caused to the organization, either in pecuniary or non-pecuniary terms, need not necessarily become the subject matter of a vigilance inquiry. It would be unfair to use the benefit of hindsight to question the merits of managerial decisions from the vigilance point of view; at the same time it would be unfair to ignore the motivated or reckless decisions of the officials. A distinction is to be made between a business loss, which has arisen as a consequence of a bonafide commercial action, and an extraordinary loss, which has occurred due to any malafide or motivated or reckless performance of duties.

While the former has to be accepted as a normal part of business and



viewed objectively for the purpose of vigilance dimension, the latter has to be viewed adversely and dealt within the framework of disciplinary procedures.

Whether a person of common prudence, working within the ambit of the prescribed rules, regulations and instructions, would have taken the decision in the prevailing circumstances in the commercial interests of the organization is the basic criterion in staff accountability examination. A positive response indicates the existence of bonafide while negative responses indicate the absence of the same.