

**PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

**UNION FINANCE MINISTER TO HOLD MEETING WITH CHIEF MINISTERS
OF SOUTHERN ZONE STATES AND CEOS OF PSBS AND FIS IN
BENGALURU TO REVIEW FLOW OF CREDIT TO AGRICULTURE,
EDUCATION, MSES, WEAKER SECTIONS AND MINORITIES AMONG
OTHERS; PROGRESS MADE IN IMPLEMENTATION OF FINANCIAL
INCLUSION, AAM ADMI BEEMA YOJANA AND SWALAMBAN PENSION
SCHEME ALSO TO BE REVIEWED**

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The Union Finance Minister, Shri Pranab Mukherjee will hold the meeting with Chief Ministers of Southern Zone States/UTs and Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) of Public Sector Banks (PSBs) and Financial Institutions (FIs) in Bengaluru tomorrow. The Finance Minister will review the flow of credit to agriculture sector including financing of loan accounts of small and marginal farmers, credit to Micro and Small Enterprises Sector (MSEs), weaker sections and minorities communities as well as disbursement of housing loans and education loans among others. The Chief Ministers of States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry and senior officials of Union Territories of Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep are likely to participate in the aforesaid meeting.

This will be the third such meeting in the series of meetings which the Union Finance Minister has held so far with the State Chief Ministers of different Zones. The Finance Minister has already held such meetings with the Chief Ministers of Western and Eastern Zone States during the current financial year. Last meeting with the Chief Ministers of Eastern Zone States including North Eastern States was held in Kolkata on last Saturday, 10th December, 2011. The Finance Minister, Shri Pranab Mukherjee has restarted this practice last year by holding such meetings in different zones with the Chief Ministers and CEOs of PSBs and FIs.

Other issues which are likely to come for consideration in the aforesaid meeting include reviewing of the functioning of State Level Banking Committees (SLBCs) and District Level Banking Committees (DLBCs). Issues credit deposit ratio of public sector banks, NREGA payments and payment of State Government subsidies/benefits through banking system are also likely to be discussed during the meeting. Besides it, steps for recovery of dues on account of Non-Performing Assets (NPAs), recovery of debts due under Banks

and Financial Institutions Act and progress of centrally sponsored schemes in Southern Zone States are likely to be reviewed during the aforesaid meeting.

Other important issues which are likely to dominate the agenda of the aforesaid meeting include review of progress made in the implementation of financial inclusion, Aam Admi Bima Yojana, Janashree Bima Yojna, Co-contributory pension schemes by the Southern States for unorganized sector workers under the Swavalmban Pension Scheme of Government of India among others. The performance of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) in the Southern States including migration of RRBs to Core Banking Solution (CBS) and case of their recapitalization among others are also likely to be discussed during the aforesaid meeting.

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