Ombudsman Scheme for Non-Banking Financial Companies, 2018: Salient Features

Scheme covers customers of

All deposit taking NBFCs

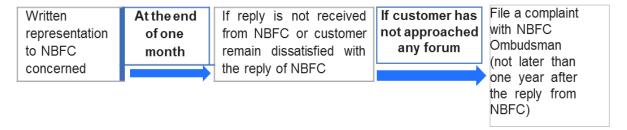
NBFCs with assets size >= Rs. 100 crore + customer interface (Excluding: Infrastructure Finance Companies, Core Investment Companies, Infrastructure Debt Fund and NBFCs under liquidation)

Grounds for filing a complaint by a customer (as covered under Chapter IV, Para 8 of the Scheme):

Any person may file a complaint with the Ombudsman having jurisdiction, on any one of the following grounds alleging deficiency in services:

- a) non-payment or inordinate delay in the payment of interest on deposits;
- b) non-adherence to the Reserve Bank directives, if any, applicable to rate of interest on deposits;
- c) non-repayment or inordinate delay in the repayment of deposits;
- d) non-presentation or inordinate delay in the presentation of post-dated cheques provided by the customer;
- e) failure to convey in writing, the amount of loan sanctioned along with terms and conditions including annualised rate of interest and method of application thereof;
- f) failure or refusal to provide sanction letter/ terms and conditions of sanction in vernacular language or a language as understood by the borrower;
- g) failure or refusal to provide adequate notice on proposed changes being made in sanctioned terms and conditions in vernacular language as understood by the borrower;
- h) failure or inordinate delay in releasing the securities documents to the borrower on repayment of all dues;
- i) levying of charges without adequate prior notice to the borrower/ customer;
- j) failure to provide legally enforceable built-in repossession clause in the contract/ loan agreement;
- k) failure to ensure transparency in the contract/ loan agreement regarding (i) notice period before taking possession of security; (ii) circumstances under which the notice period can be waived; (iii) the procedure for taking possession of the security; (iv) a provision regarding final chance to be given to the borrower for repayment of loan before the sale/ auction of the security; (v) the procedure for giving repossession to the borrower and (vi) the procedure for sale/ auction of the security;
- non-observance of directions issued by Reserve Bank to the non-banking financial companies;
- m)non-adherence to any of the other provisions of Reserve Bank Guidelines on Fair Practices Code for Non-Banking Financial Companies.

How can a customer file complaint?



How does Ombudsman take decision?

- Proceedings before Ombudsman are summary in nature
- Promotes settlement through conciliation. If not reached, can issue Award/Order

Can a customer appeal, if not satisfied with decision of Ombudsman?

Yes, If Ombudsman's decision is appealable. Appellate Authority: Deputy Governor, RBI

Note:

- This is an Alternate Dispute Resolution mechanism
- Customer is at liberty to approach any other court/forum/authority for the redressal at any stage

Refer to www.rbi.org.in for further details of the Scheme