

E-certification must for bankers posted in critical departments

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THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE of Bank Management (NIBM) has started e-certification of personnel posted in credit, risk management, treasury and accounts and audit departments of banks. This is as per the RBI directives which has made certification mandatory from April 1, 2018 for officers posted in these departments, KL Dhingra, director, NIBM, said. Private banks have taken the lead in this with public sector banks taking more time off the block.

This online certification was being done as per the Gopalkrishna Committee recommendations on capacity building in Banks. Those joining these departments at banks need to be qualified so that there are more trained people handling these functions. Around 11 institutions were permitted to offer this e-certification and NIBM was



among them.

While many of these institutions have yet to start courses, NIBM started e-certification programme in September 2017 and 1,746 banking professionals have registered for the programme. The first set of 298 banking professional have acquired these e-certification from RBI.

A large chunk of the participants on this programme are from private sector banks. Axis Bank has nominated 427 professionals, ICICI Bank has 434 and IDFC has 573 nomination for the programme. Allahabad Bank has committed 1,000 people for the course out of which they have started with 107, while Dena Bank has started with 17 people and Vijaya Bank has 10. Certain

banks have reacted fast but others are taking time, Dhingra said.

There is a wide disparity in quality, so there was a need felt for uniform standards and quality training, Sanjay Basu, associate dean of NIBM's education PG programme said.

But with 11 of the 21 public sector banks are under Prompt Corrective Action and many other banks facing other challenges, nomination for training has come down with banks sending fewer personnel for training at the NIBM. Instead of sending four to five nominations per programme, they are now sending one to two persons for training, Dhingra said.

NIBM on its part has started new programmes to help banks deal with new challenges facing the banking system. All the 11 banks under PCA are working with NIBM on strategy to get out of PCA. It has started training bank officers in the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code to deal with NPAs.