

Cheque Books Compliant with Cheque Truncation System (CTS-2010) Standards

As per Reserve Bank of India (RBI) guidelines, cheque books being issued by banks need to be compliant with Cheque Truncation System (CTS-2010) standards. This requirement has come into effect from 1 April 2012 for northern and southern regions and for rest of the country from 30 September 2012.

We are pleased to advise that we have been issuing payable at par CTS-2010 standard compliant cheque books to our customers since March 2012.

The new cheque standard 'CTS 2010' provides a set of minimum security features which would ensure uniformity across all cheque forms issued by banks in the country and also help presenting banks while scrutinising/recognising cheques of drawee banks in an image-based processing scenario. The homogeneity in security features is expected to act as a deterrent against cheque frauds, while the standardisation of field placements on cheque forms would enable straight-through-processing.

Some of the additional features that have been incorporated in the new cheque forms are:

- 1. CTS INDIA watermark in the security paper.
- 2. VOID Pantograph.

HSBC

- 3. BANK's logo printed in Invisible UV Ink.
- 4. Standardisation of the field placement.
- 5. Micro-lettering.

Since RBI is now moving towards accepting only CTS-2010 standard compliant cheques, as per RBI Circular No. DPSS (Che)/569/01.02.003/2017-18 dated 21 June 2018, the frequency of the session for clearing of non-CTS cheques will be reduced to,

- Once a fortnight from 1 July 2018 (every alternate Wednesday, beginning 4 July 2018),
- Thereafter to once a month from 1 September 2018 (second Wednesday of the month, beginning 12 September 2018)
- The separate clearing session will be discontinued from 31 December 2018

Given this background, should you be holding a cheque book issued by the Bank prior to 31 March 2012, we request you to apply for a new cheque book as per the 'CTS-2010 standard' at the earliest.

You can apply for a cheque book through any of the following modes:

- 1. Application at the branch.
- 2. Request through ATM.
- 3. Request through Internet Banking or.
- 4. Request through PhoneBanking Pin verified call.

For any further information please feel free to contact your branch or call our PhoneBanking Service Advisors.