



PBA has launched the second run of its campaign in the

media against Cyber frauds from November 2, 2022.

PBA's members have reported a spike in cyber frauds once again, hence PBA's second run of the campaign will commence from the first week of November, in print, on TV, radio and social media for a two-week period.

The aim is to raise awareness about

Awareness campaign against cyber fraud

cyber related frauds, especially theft of customer information acquired via calls and

SMS messages from fraudsters impersonating as officers of SBP/banks/government agencies. The first run of the campaign against cyber crimes ran over a period of two weeks in the print, on TV and radio in the summer of 2021, when SBP had made a request for such a campaign because of a rise in cyber related frauds. ◆

Shared eKYC project

Following completion of the vendor selection process and the PBA EC's subsequent approval of the vendor, 'Avanza', a draft contract document was submitted by the vendor which has already been vetted by PBA's Legal Counsel and reviewed by members of the PBA eKYC Working Group (WG). Points raised by the PBA legal Counsel and by the eKYC WG regarding the contract were communicated to the vendor and a new draft has been received.

The contract document is expected to be signed in November, following which, the 1st phase of implementation of the eKYC project will commence. It will be managed by the Working Group.

The implementation will be done in phases and the first phase will comprise three banks that originally participated in the POC – ABL, MCB & Meezan Bank – plus two more banks will be subsequently included as per their readiness. ◆

Matters addressed/ submitted to SBP October 1 – October 31, 2022

PBA Annual General Meeting (AGM)

PBA's 57th AGM was held on October 28, 2022, where the PBA Audited Annual Accounts for the year ending June 30, 2022 were presented and approved.

Among other agenda items, the re-appointment of auditors, Yousuf Adil, Chartered Accountants was also confirmed for the year 2022/2023.

Prior to the AGM, Chairman PBA had called an EC meeting on October 24, 2022 to review the audited Financial Statements of PBA for the year ended June 30, 2022 and to recommend these to the AGM for approval. ◆

Mobile Application Security Guidelines

PBA's Cyber Security Forum has reviewed the Mobile Application Security Guidelines issued by SBP and has identified the challenges

Promoting Energy Conservation

As per SBP's request, PBA has advised all banks to endorse the message of Energy Conservation, via communication through banks' ATMs in Karachi.

K-Electric (KE) had informed SBP that due to surging fuel prices and growing energy demand, a comprehensive Energy Conservation campaign had been developed by KE and to create awareness and encourage action from end users. KE had requested SBP's support. SBP has endorsed the message regarding Promoting Energy Conservation as it is in conformity with SBP, as well as the Federal and the Provincial Governments' energy conservation drive.

Accordingly, PBA members have been requested to relay the message through their respective bank's ATMs in Karachi city for a period of two months, from its start date. ◆

Guidelines for Maintenance, Availability and Downtime of Alternate Delivery Channels

SBP's Payment Systems Policy & Oversight Department (PSP&OD) had informed PBA that they were receiving reports on the unavailability and deteriorating services of digital channels, which were causing significant difficulty to banking customers.

To address the matter and to ensure efficient Digital Financial Services (DFS) to customers, a set of guidelines (Draft PSP&OD Circular

which may be faced by banks in the implementation of the security requirements. CIOs and CISOs of PBA member banks have also given their input to PBA on the guidelines and as per their comments, a response prepared by the PBA Cyber Security Forum was sent to SBP on October 14, 2022 for consideration. ◆

Inclusion of Pakistan Origin Card (POC) and Aliens Registration Card (ARC) Verification

In August 2022, SBP had requested PBA to seek the status of banks regarding signing the Addendum for inclusion of new Verification types (POC and ARC Verification), with NADRA and to confirm the same with SBP.

Accordingly, banks who had not yet complied as per NADRA/SBP advice, were requested by PBA to sign the Addendum to the New Verification types (POC and ARC) and provide their confirmation regarding inclusion of New Verification Types (POC and ARC) into existing Modules of Verification.

Subsequent to follow up emails sent to PBA members, the final status of banks regarding the signed Addendum was sent to SBP on October 3, 2022. PBA's follow up is continuing with those banks who have yet to sign. ◆

Climate Smart Agriculture Finance (CSAF)

In March 2022, PBA had submitted a presentation to SBP titled, 'Strategy to promote Climate Smart Agriculture Finance (CSAF)' based on

No 03, October 18, 2022) have been drafted by SBP in consultation with various stakeholders and by including global best practices for maintenance, upkeep and downtime of all digital, branchless and Alternate Delivery Channels (ADCs) including Internet Banking (IB), Mobile Banking (MB), and Point of Sale (POS) networks.

PBA was requested by SBP to review the draft 'Guidelines for Maintenance, Availability and Downtime of Alternate Delivery Channels' and provide members' feedback. PBA's Working Group on Digital banking reviewed the guidelines and the feedback was sent to SBP on October 24, 2022. ◆



input given by the PBA Agriculture Finance Sub Committee. The presentation was shared by SBP in the Quarterly Meeting of the Agricultural Credit Advisory Committee (ACAC) held on June 15, 2022 subsequent to which feedback was given to PBA to revise the strategy.

The revised strategy plan, specifying actions to be taken by banks for its adoption, encompassing product development, CSAF KPIs in banks, and product specific financing targets etc., as per input from PBA's Agriculture Finance Sub Committee, was sent to SBP on October 24, 2022. ◆

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