

Training Program on “Strategies for Prevention and Management of Cyber Threats in Regional Rural Banks” : 13-14 November 2025 at Hyderabad

Information Technology (IT) has been the enabler for banks in introduction of new and innovative products and services. The Rural Financial Institutions (RFIs) especially RCBs and RRBs have leveraged IT for higher business efficiency. Adoption of comprehensive technology solutions in a networked environment resulted in enhanced vulnerability for cyber threats for the RFIs. It is all the more important that, banks need to guard against cyber threats and secure their operation through appropriate policy formulation, threat management and mitigation strategies.

Keeping in view the emergent need to equip the officials of RRBs in the above pursuits, Bankers Institute of Rural Development [BIRD], Lucknow organized two days Training Programme on “Strategies for Prevention and Management of Cyber Threats in Regional Rural Banks” from 13-14 November 2025 at Hotel Green Park, Hyderabad, Telangana.

During the programme, participants were familiarized with key aspects of cyber security, including major issues and challenges, identification of cyber threats and vulnerabilities, formulation and implementation of a board-approved Cyber Security Policy, and understanding cyber incidents, system vulnerabilities, and the Cyber Security Framework in banks (Incident Response, BCP, CCMP, recovery processes, etc.).

As part of the programme, participants also visited the **Cyber Security Operational Centre (CSOC)** of **Bank of Baroda**. During the visit, they observed real-time threat detection and response mechanisms, which significantly enhanced their understanding of practical cyber security operations.

Participants became familiar with various advanced tools and technologies used in the CSOC, including:

- **IBM QRadar SIEM**, with hands-on insights into incident management processes, incident logging phases, alert triggering, and correlation
- **Data Classification Tools** for information categorization and sensitivity mapping
- **Database Activity Monitoring (DAM)**
- **File Integrity Monitoring (FIM)** for tracking unauthorized changes
- **Network Access Control (NAC)** for endpoint security
- **XDR (Extended Detection and Response) solutions**
- **Web Application Firewall (WAF)** for web-layer threat protection

The exposure to these tools and processes provided participants with practical knowledge of monitoring, detecting and responding to cyber threats, thereby strengthening their capacity to enhance cyber security within their respective banks.

Sh. Amit Kumar Lal, DGM/ FM and Dr. Karunendra Verma, SMS-IT were the program directors from BIRD and Dr. Lalit Sanagavarapu, Chief Product Officer from Quick Heal Technologies Ltd. was the guest faculty who emphasized upon the relevance of the cyber security and its importance in the banks.

The program was attended by participants from RRBs of Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Telangana, Maharashtra, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Tamil Nadu, Jammu & Kashmir, West Bengal and Rajasthan.

Some photographs of the programme are appended below:







