RBI keeps SBI, HDFC Bank and ICICI Bank in its 2026 D-SIB list

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News

The Reserve Bank of India has retained State Bank of India, HDFC Bank and ICICI Bank as Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs) in its 2026 list, based on data up to 31 March 2026. They must keep an additional Common Equity Tier 1 (CET1) capital buffer according to their bucket.

Key facts for the exam

Point	Details
Buckets (2026)	SBI – bucket 4 (0.80%); HDFC Bank – bucket 2 (0.40%); ICICI Bank – bucket 1 (0.20%); share of risk-weighted assets
On the list since	SBI 2015, ICICI Bank 2016, HDFC Bank 2017
Released	RBI, 23 Nov 2026 (bank data as of 31 March 2026)

Background

- D-SIBs are banks whose failure would hurt the whole financial system: "too big to fail". RBI issued the D-SIB framework in 2014, following the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision (BCBS), which sits in Basel, Switzerland. Banks are grouped into buckets by a systemic importance score; a higher bucket means a higher surcharge.

- Global SIBs (G-SIBs) are listed by the Financial Stability Board (FSB); no Indian bank is on that list. Under Basel III, the minimum CET1 in India is 5.5%, plus a capital conservation buffer of 2.5%.

Tamil Nadu link: Two public sector banks have their headquarters in Chennai: Indian Bank (founded 1907) and Indian Overseas Bank (founded 1937 by M. Ct. M. Chidambaram Chettiar).

Frequently asked questions

What is this news about?

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What are the key facts to remember for the exam?

Buckets (2026): SBI – bucket 4 (0.80%); HDFC Bank – bucket 2 (0.40%); ICICI Bank – bucket 1 (0.20%); share of risk-weighted assets; On the list since: SBI 2015, ICICI Bank 2016, HDFC Bank 2017; Released: RBI, 23 Nov 2026 (bank data as of 31 March 2026).

What is the background to this news?

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Practice questions (with answers)

1. Which bank is in the highest bucket of the 2026 D-SIB list?

A) Punjab National Bank (bucket 2)

B) State Bank of India (bucket 4)

C) HDFC Bank (bucket 4)

D) ICICI Bank (bucket 3)

Answer: B – Explanation: SBI is in bucket 4 (0.80% extra CET1), HDFC in bucket 2 (0.40%), ICICI in bucket 1 (0.20%). PNB is not on the list.

2. D-SIBs must hold their additional capital buffer in which form?

A) Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR)

B) Tier 2 capital

C) Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR)

D) Common Equity Tier 1 (CET1)

Answer: D – Explanation: The surcharge is extra CET1 as a share of risk-weighted assets. Under Basel III, India's minimum CET1 is 5.5% plus a 2.5% conservation buffer. CRR and SLR are liquidity tools.

3. The Basel Committee on Banking Supervision (BCBS), the basis of the D-SIB framework, is located in which country?

A) Belgium

B) Netherlands

C) Switzerland

D) Germany

Answer: C – Explanation: The BCBS works under the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) in Basel. RBI issued its D-SIB framework in 2014.

4. Which body publishes the list of Global Systemically Important Banks (G-SIBs)?

A) Financial Action Task Force (FATF)

B) International Monetary Fund (IMF)

C) World Bank

D) Financial Stability Board (FSB)

Answer: D – Explanation: The FSB (set up by the G20) publishes the G-SIB list each year; no Indian bank is on it. FATF deals with money laundering.

5. Who founded Indian Overseas Bank, headquartered in Chennai, in 1937?

A) V.O. Chidambaram Pillai

B) T.S. Narayanaswamy

C) M. Ct. M. Chidambaram Chettiar

D) Raja Sir Annamalai Chettiar

Answer: C – Explanation: Indian Bank (1907) and IOB (1937) are both Chennai-headquartered public sector banks. V.O.C. founded the Swadeshi Steam Navigation Company.