

Bandhan Bank hopes GST will benefit in long term

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kolkata, June 29

Bandhan Bank is expecting to gain from the Goods and Services Tax roll out, though majority of its lending portfolio is with small and micro enterprises.

"There may be some teething concerns on GST in the near term, but it will have a positive impact on our business," Bandhan Bank Managing Director and CEO Chandra Sekhar Ghosh said here on Thursday on the sidelines of a Merchants' Chamber of Commerce programme.

Nationwide small businesses are expressing worry and remained concerned of GST. Trade bodies have also called a nationwide bandh on June 30 in protest.

"As a banker, we will be able to know details of transactions by the borrower and this will help in increasing transparency," Ghosh said.

Currently, Bandhan has 80 lakh borrowers, of which 75 lakh



Chandra Sekhar Ghosh

are women. Bandhan, a micro-finance company, transformed into a bank and in their first full-year operation, it has posted ₹1,112-crore profit in FY17

Credit growth

Addressing members of the chamber, Ghosh said while credit growth by NBFCs had registered a growth of 15-20 per cent last year, that of banks fell 5.1 per cent.

During that time large banks were saddled with NPA, but at Bandhan 57,000 people received loans last year with a repayment rate of 100 per cent.