

**Standard Operating Procedure for
Settlement of Claims of Deceased Depositors
&
Return of Articles in Safe Deposit Lockers/ Safe Custody**

1. Guidance to the customers on advantages of nomination facility / survivorship mandate:

1.1 Nomination facility

- ❖ Nomination Facility – an ideal tool to mitigate hardships of common persons in settlement of claims in the event of death of the account holder.
- ❖ Nomination facility simplifies the procedure for settlement of claims of deceased depositors as banks get a valid discharge by making payment of the balance outstanding in a depositor's account at the time of his death or delivering contents of locker or articles kept in safe custody to the nominee.
- ❖ Nomination is optional for bank customers. It is therefore necessary that nomination facility is popularized and customers are made aware of its advantages while opening a deposit account or opting for the lockers.
- ❖ All staff of the Bank should inform account holder about the availability of nomination as a voluntary facility and recommend his/her availing the option. Nomination facility, if availed, would ensure smooth settlement of claim to the nominee.
- ❖ It should also be made clear to the depositor(s) that nomination is introduced solely for the purpose of simplifying the procedure for settlement of claims of deceased depositors and nomination facility does not take away the rights of legal heirs on the estate of the deceased. The nominee would be receiving the stock from the bank as a trustee of the legal heirs.

1.2 Survivorship

- ❖ A joint account opened as **"Either or Survivor" or "Anyone or Survivors" or "Former or Survivor" or "Latter or Survivor"** will permit the surviving account holder(s) to have unimpeded access to the credit balance in the account for withdrawal if one of the co-account holders dies.
- ❖ If the mandate of survivorship is given / provided, the survivor(s) can give a valid discharge to the bank in the case of **"Either or Survivor" / "Anyone or Survivors" and "Former or Survivor" / "Latter or Survivor" joint accounts.**

- ❖ In short, payment to survivor(s) can be made in the normal course subject to the only rider that there is no order from a competent court restraining the bank from making such payment.

1.3 Customer Guidance and Publicity

This Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for settlement of claims of deceased depositors has been suggested with a view to removing hardships faced by common persons in settlement of claims in deceased accounts. This SOP also aims at creating greater awareness amongst depositors about the advantages of availing "nomination" facility offered by bank or giving operational mandates like "Either or Survivor", etc. when accounts are opened in joint names.

The bank may bring out pamphlets and other publicity materials incorporating details of operational procedures for settlement of claims of deceased depositors for distribution amongst depositors.

The Bank may give wide publicity and provide guidance to deposit account holders on the advantages of the nomination facility and the survivorship clause. It should be highlighted in the publicity material that in the event of the death of one of the joint account holders, the right to the deposit proceeds does not automatically devolve on the surviving joint deposit account holder/s, unless there is a survivorship clause.

2. Settlement of claims in various types of accounts / facilities.

2.1. Single Account with or without nomination

2.1.1. Savings Account/Current Account

With Nomination:

The balance outstanding will be paid to the nominee on verification of his/her identity (such as Election ID Card, PAN Card, Passport, Aadhar Card etc.) and proof of death of depositor.

Without Nomination:

The balance outstanding will be paid to the legal heirs (or any one of them as mandated by all of the legal heirs) on verification of the authority of the legal heirs and proof of death of depositor after approval of BoDs.

2.1.2 Term Deposit Account

With Nomination:

The balance outstanding will be paid to the nominee on verification of his/her identity (such as Election ID Card, PAN Card, Passport, Aadhar Card etc.) and proof of death of depositor on maturity of deposit.

Without Nomination:

The balance outstanding will be paid to the legal heirs (or any one of them as mandated by all the legal heirs) on verification of the authority of the legal heirs and proof of death of depositor on maturity of deposit after approval of BoDs.

2.1.3 Premature termination of Term Deposit Account

With Nomination:

Premature termination of term deposit account as per terms of contract will be permitted at the request of the nominee on verification of his/her identity (such as Election ID Card, PAN Card, Passport, Aadhar Card etc.) and proof of death of depositor.

Without Nomination:

Premature termination will be permitted on joint request by all legal heirs (or any of them as mandated by all the legal heirs) as per the terms of the contract on verification of the authority of the legal heirs and proof of death of depositor after approval of BoDs.

2.1.4 Safe Deposit Lockers

With Nomination:

The nominee will be allowed to access the locker and remove the contents on identification (such as Election ID Card, PAN Card, Passport, Aadhar Card etc.) and verification of proof of death of locker hirer. Before permitting the nominee to remove contents of the Safe Deposit Locker, the bank would prepare an inventory of the articles in the presence of nominee(s) and two independent witnesses. Form for taking inventory is enclosed as Annexure – 7.

Without Nomination:

Legal heir(s) of the deceased locker hirer or a person mandated by the legal

heir(s) will be allowed to access the locker and remove the contents on verification of proof of death of locker hirer. The legal heir(s) will have to produce documents to establish his / their identity. Before permitting legal heir(s) to remove contents of the Safe Deposit Locker the bank would prepare an inventory of the articles in the presence of legal heir(s)/mandate holder and two independent witnesses. Form for taking inventory is enclosed as Annexure – 7(a). Such cases shall be approved by the BoDs.

2.1.5 Safe Custody Article/s

With Nomination:

Safe custody article/s will be delivered to the nominee on identification (such as Election ID Card, PAN Card, Passport, Aadhar Card etc.) and verification of proof of death of depositor. Before permitting nominee to remove contents of the Safe Deposit Articlesd, the bank would prepare an inventory of the articles in the presence of nominee and two independent witnesses. Form for taking inventory is enclosed as Annexure – 8.

Without Nomination

Safe custody article/s will be delivered to the legal heir(s) or a person mandated by the legal heir(s) on establishing his / their identification and verification of proof of death of the depositor. Before permitting legal heir(s) to remove contents of a Safe Custody Articles the bank would prepare an inventory of the articles in the presence of legal heir(s) /mandate holder and two independent witnesses. Form for taking inventory is enclosed as Annexure – 8(a). Such cases shall be approved by the BoDs.

2.2. Joint Account with or without nomination and Without survivorship mandate (operated jointly)

2.2.1 Savings Account/Current Account

With Nomination:

a) In the event of death of one (or more but not all) of the joint account holders, the balance outstanding will be paid jointly to survivor(s) and the legal heirs of the deceased joint account holder (or any of them as mandated by all the legal heirs) against their joint claim on verification of the authority of the legal heirs and proof of the death of the depositors. Such cases shall be approved by the BoDs.

b) In the event of death of both / all joint account holders, the balance outstanding at the time of death of the depositors will be paid to the nominee on verification of his identity (such as Election ID Card, PAN card, Passport, Aadhar Card etc.) and proof of death of depositors.

Without Nomination:

a) In the event of death of one (or more but not all) of the joint account holders, the amount outstanding will be paid jointly to survivor(s) and the legal heirs of the deceased account holder (or any one of them as mandated by all the legal heirs) against their joint claim on verification of the authority of legal heirs and proof of death of depositor. Such cases shall be approved by the BoDs.

b) In the event of death of both/ all joint account holders, the balance outstanding will be paid jointly to the legal heir(s) of all the deceased depositors (or any of them as mandated by all the legal heirs) on verification of authority of the legal heirs and proof of death of the depositors. Such cases shall be approved by the BoDs.

2.2.2 Term Deposit Account

With Nomination:

a) In the event of death of one (or more but not all) of the joint account holders, the balance outstanding will be paid jointly to survivor(s) and the legal heirs of the deceased joint account holder (or any one of them as mandated by all the legal heirs) on verification of identity of the legal heirs and proof of death of the depositor on maturity of the deposit. Such cases shall be approved by the BoDs.

b) In the event of death of both / all the joint account holders, the balance outstanding at the time of death of the depositors will be paid to the nominee on verification of his/her identity (such as Election ID Card, PAN Card, Passport etc.) and the proof of death of depositors on maturity of the deposit.

Without Nomination:

a) In the event of death of one (or more but not all) of the joint account holders, the balance outstanding will be paid jointly to the survivor(s) and the legal heir(s) of the deceased joint account holders (or any of them as mandated by all the legal heirs) against their joint claim on verification of authority of the legal heirs and

proof of death of the depositor on maturity of the deposit. Such cases shall be approved by the BoDs.

b) In the event of death of both / all the joint account holders, the balance outstanding will be paid jointly to the legal heirs of all the deceased depositors (or any one of them as mandated by all legal heirs) on verification of authority of the legal heirs and proof of death of depositors on the maturity of the deposit. Such cases shall be approved by the BoDs.

2.2.3 Premature termination of Term Deposit Account

With Nomination:

a) In the event of death of one (or more but not all) of the joint account holders, premature termination will be permitted against joint request of the survivor(s) and the legal heir(s) (or any one of them as mandated by all legal heirs) as per the terms of contract on verification of identity of the legal heirs and proof of death of depositor. Such cases shall be approved by the BoDs.

b) Premature termination of term deposit account as per the terms of contract will be permitted at the request of the nominee on verification of his/her identity (such as Election ID Card, PAN Card, Passport, Aadhar Card etc.) and proof of the death of the depositors.

Without Nomination

a) In the event of death of one (or more but not all) of the joint account holders, premature termination will be permitted against joint request by the survivor(s) and the legal heir(s) of all the deceased depositors (or any one of them as mandated by all legal heirs) as per the terms of contract on verification of authority of legal heirs and proof of death of depositor. Such cases shall be approved by the BoDs.

b) In the event of death of both / all the joint account holders, premature termination will be permitted against joint request by all legal heirs of the deceased depositors (or any one of them as mandated by all legal heirs) as per the terms of contract on verification of authority of legal heirs and proof of death of depositors. Such cases shall be approved by the BoDs.

2.2.4 Safe Deposit Lockers

With Nomination:

a) In the event of the death of one (or more but not all) of the joint locker hirers the nominee(s) will be jointly allowed to access the locker and remove the contents on identification and verification of proof of death of the locker hirer(s) along with the surviving hirer(s). Such cases shall be approved by the BoDs.

b) In the event of death of both / all joint locker hirers the nominee(s) will be allowed to access the locker and remove the contents on establishing his/her/their identity and verification of proof of the death of the hirers.

Before permitting surviving hirer(s) and/or nominee(s) to remove contents of the Safe Deposit Locker, the bank would prepare an inventory of the articles in their presence along with two independent witnesses. Form for taking inventory is enclosed as Annexure – 7.

Without Nomination:

a) In the event of death of one (or more but not all) of the locker hirers, the surviving hirer(s) and legal heirs of the deceased hirer (or a person mandated by them) would be allowed to access the locker and remove the contents on verification of authority of legal heirs and proof of death of the hirer. Such cases shall be approved by the BoDs.

b) In the event of death of both / all the joint locker hirers, all the legal heirs (or any one of them as mandated by all legal heirs) would be allowed to access the locker and remove the contents on verification of authority of legal heirs and proof of death of the locker hirers. Such cases shall be approved by the BoDs.

Before permitting surviving hirers and mandated legal heir(s) to remove contents of a Safe Deposit Locker, the bank would prepare an inventory of the articles in the presence of surviving hirers, mandated legal heir(s) and two independent witnesses. Form for taking inventory is enclosed as Annexure – 7(a).

2.2.5 Safe Custody Article/s

Generally, safe custody articles are not accepted in joint names. Even if accepted in joint names nomination facility is not provided.

2.3 Joint account with mandate “Either or Survivor”/ “Former or survivor”/ “Anyone or Survivors”/ “Latter or Survivor” - with or without nomination:

2.3.1 Savings Account / Current Account

With Nomination:

a) In the event of death of one (or more but not all) of the depositors, the balance outstanding will be paid to survivor (s) on verification of proof of death of the depositor.

b) In the event of death of both/all the joint depositors, the balance outstanding will be paid to the nominee on verification of his/her identity (such as Election ID Card, PAN Card, Passport, Aadhar Card etc.) and proof of death of depositors.

Without Nomination:

a) In the event of death of one (or more but not all) of the depositors, the balance outstanding will be paid to survivor on verification of proof of death of the depositor.

b) In the event of death of both/all the joint depositors, the balance outstanding will be paid jointly to the legal heirs (or any one of them as mandated by all the legal heirs) on verification of authority of legal heirs and proof of death of depositors. Such cases shall be approved by the BoDs.

2.3.2 Term Deposit Account

With Nomination:

a) In the event of death of one (or more but not all) of the depositors, the balance outstanding will be paid to survivor(s) on verification of proof of death of the depositors on maturity of deposit or as agreed at the time of opening of deposit.

b) In the event of death of all joint depositors, the balance outstanding will be paid to the nominee on verification of his/her identity (such as Election ID Card, PAN Card, Passport, Aadhar Card etc.) and proof of death of depositors on maturity of deposit or as agreed at the time of opening of deposit.

Without Nomination:

a) In the event of death of one of the depositors (or more, but not all), the balance outstanding will be paid to the survivors on verification of proof of death of the depositor on maturity of deposit or as agreed at the time of opening of deposit.

b) In the event of death of all joint depositors, the balance outstanding will be paid

to the legal heir(s) of all the deceased depositors (or any one of them as mandated by all the legal heirs of joint holders) on verification of authority of legal heirs and proof of death of depositors on maturity of deposit. Such cases shall be approved by the BoDs.

2.3.3 Premature termination of Term Deposit Account

With Nomination:

a) In the event of death of one (or more but not all) of the depositors, the survivor(s) will have the right to seek premature termination of term deposit account as per the terms of contract on verification of proof of death of the depositor.

b) In the event of death of all the joint depositors, the nominee will have right to seek premature termination of term deposit account as per the terms of the contract on verification of his/her identity (such as Election ID Card, PAN Card, passport, Aadhar Card etc.) and proof of death of depositors.

Without Nomination

a) In the event of death of one (or more but not all) of the depositors premature termination will be allowed against request from surviving depositor(s) as per the terms of the contract on verification of the proof of the death of the depositor.

b) In the event of death of all joint depositors, premature termination will be permitted against joint request by all legal heirs of the deceased depositors (or any one of them as mandated by all the legal heirs) as per the terms of contract on verification of authority of legal heirs and proof of death of depositors. Such cases shall be approved by the BoDs.

2.3.4 Safe Deposit Lockers

With Nomination:

At present B R Act (Section 45 ZE) does not provide nomination facility in respect of lockers with "Either or Survivor" / "Former or Survivor"/ "Anyone or Survivors"/ "Latter or Survivor" mandate. Hence operational instructions are not given in this regard.

Without Nomination:

a) In the event of death of one (or more but not all) of the joint hirers, the surviving hirer(s) will be allowed to access the locker and remove the contents on verification of proof of death of the joint hirer(s).

b) In the event of death of all the locker hirers, all the legal heirs of the deceased joint hirers (or any one of them as mandated by all legal heirs) would be allowed to access the locker and remove the contents on verification of the authority of legal heirs and proof of death of the locker hirers. Such cases shall be approved by the BoDs.

Before permitting the surviving hirers/legal heir(s) to remove contents of a Safe Deposit Locker, the bank would prepare an inventory of the articles in the presence of surviving hirers/legal heirs and two independent witnesses. Form for taking inventory is enclosed as Annexure – 7(a).

i. Safe Custody Article/s

Generally safe custody articles are not accepted in joint names. Even if accepted in joint names nomination facility is not provided.

b. HUF Accounts – Death of Karta

In the event of death of a Karta, HUF account may be settled as under:

- a) Obtaining affidavit cum indemnity from surviving members and legal heirs with two guarantors confirming their acceptance to one of the members as a new Karta. Banks shall allow the new Karta to continue to operate the existing account on the basis of such documents, in HUF accounts having small balances (what is small balance to be decided by each bank).
- b) Similar procedure to be followed in cases where account is to be closed and balance in the account to be paid to the new Karta.

Such cases shall be approved by the BoDs.

Note: Certain general clarifications about Nomination rules are given in Annexure 1.

Claim specific actions / steps to be taken for settlement in respect of different accounts / facilities are illustrated in the tabulated form in the Annexure 1(a).

3. Settlement of claims in respect of Missing Persons

3.1. Legal Position

The settlement of claims in respect of missing persons would be governed by the provisions of Section 107/108 of the Indian Evidence Act, 1872. Section 107 deals with presumption of continuance and section 108 deals with presumption of death. As per the provisions of Section 108 of the said Act, presumption of death can be raised only after a lapse of seven years from the date of his/her being reported missing. As such, nominee/legal heirs have to raise an express presumption of death of the subscriber under Section 107/108 of the Indian Evidence Act before a competent court. If the court presumes that he/she is dead, then the claim in respect of a missing person can be settled as is done for any other deceased accounts.

3.2. Adoption of simplified procedures to avail inconvenience and undue hardship to the common person

Obtaining court order regarding presumption of death could prove to be costly and time consuming for a common person. Hence the RBI has suggested that banks may follow a simplified procedure for settlement of such claims up to a **Rs.10,000/-** to be fixed by individual having regard to the risk involved. These guidelines will help the banks to settle the claims in respect of missing person after considering the legal opinion and taking into account the facts and circumstances of each case to avoid inconvenience and undue hardship to the common person. It is likely that some banks may be having in place more simplified procedures for settlement of such claims in low risk category accounts.

3.3. Settlement of claims within threshold limits

The bank has fixed threshold limit upto Rs. 10,000/- the claim within that limit should be settled without insisting on production of any documentation other than;

3.3.1. FIR for reporting missing of a person.

3.3.2. Non-traceable report issued by police authorities.

3.3.3. Letter of indemnity

4 – Simplification of the process for settlement of claims in deceased depositors' accounts

4.1. Documentation

Documents, which are required to be submitted along with the claim form:

1. Proof of death of depositor(s) or hirer(s).
2. Proof of identification of nominee(s) wherever is applicable such as Election ID Card, PAN Card, Passport etc., or any other satisfactory proof of identification acceptable to the bank or proof of authority of legal heir(s) wherever is applicable.

4.1.1. Member Bank should exercise due care and caution in ascertaining the identity of legal heir(s) /nominee(s) and the fact of death of the account holder, through appropriate documentary evidence. If necessary, any official of the member banks shall visit the place of the depositors to enquire about the genuineness of such claims.

4.1.2. It should be made clear to the survivor(s)/nominee(s) that he / they would be receiving the payment from the member bank as a trustee of the legal heirs of the deceased depositor, i.e., such payment to him / them shall not affect the right or claim which any person may have against the survivor(s)/nominee(s) to whom the payment is made.

4.1.3. It may be noted that since payment made to the survivor(s) / nominee(s), subject to the foregoing conditions, would constitute a full discharge of the bank's liability, insistence on production of legal representation is superfluous and unwarranted and it would only serve to cause avoidable inconvenience to the survivor(s)/nominee(s). In such case, therefore, while making payment to the survivor(s)/nominee(s) of the deceased depositor, the member bank should not insist on production of succession certificate, letter of administration or probate, etc., or obtain any bond of indemnity or surety from the survivor(s)/nominee(s), **irrespective of the amount** standing to the credit of the deceased account holder.

4.1.4. In case where the deceased depositor had not made any nomination or for the accounts other than those styled as "either or survivor" (such as single or jointly operated accounts), member banks may adopt a simplified procedure for repayment to legal heir(s) of the depositor keeping in view the

imperative need to avoid inconvenience and undue hardship to the common person. In this context, member bank will, keeping in view its risk management systems, fix a minimum threshold limit, for the balance in the account of the deceased depositors, up to which claims in respect of the deceased depositors would be settled without insisting on production of any documentation other than a letter of indemnity.

4.2. Time Norms for settlement of claims

Member bank will settle the claims in respect of deceased depositors and release payments to survivor (s)/ nominee in case of accounts with survivor/ nominee **within a period not exceeding 15 days** from the date of receipt of the claim subject to the production of proof of death of the depositor and suitable identification of the claimant(s) to the member bank's satisfaction. In the case of accounts without survivor/ nominee clause the claim should be settled within 1 month from the date on which the requisite documents have been submitted.

4.3. Competent authority for settlement of claims

Keeping in view the objective of settling the claims within a period not exceeding 15 days from the receipt of the claim and the risk management policy, member banks may specify clearly monetary limits for different levels of officers for settlement of claims.

4.4. Premature termination of Term Deposits Accounts and payment of interest / other issues relating to Term Deposit Account

4.4.1. In the case of term deposits, member banks are advised to incorporate a clause in the account opening form itself to the effect that in the event of the death of the depositor(s), premature termination of term deposits by the survivor(s)/ nominee/ legal heirs would be allowed. The conditions subject to which such premature withdrawal would be permitted may also be specified in the account opening form. **Such premature withdrawal would not attract any penal charge.**

4.4.2. Payment of interest in case of term deposit accounts of deceased depositor(s)

In case of a term deposit standing in the name/s of –

4.4.2.1. a deceased individual depositor, or

4.4.2.2. two or more joint depositors, where one of the depositors has died, interest shall be paid in the manner indicated below

(i) on the maturity of the deposit:

at the contracted rate

(ii) In case of premature withdrawal by legal heir(s)/nominee/legal heir, i.e., in the event of the payment of deposit being claimed before the maturity date:

The bank will pay interest at applicable rate with reference to the period for which the deposit has remained with the bank without charging penalty.

(iii) In case of deposit being claimed after the date of maturity:

Payment of interest on matured deposits is left to the discretion of individual banks subject to their Board laying down a transparent policy in this regard.

4.4.3. Splitting of Term Deposit

If, on request from the claimant/s, the member bank agrees to split the amount of term deposit and issues two or more receipts individually in the names of the claimant/s, it shall not be construed as premature withdrawal of the term deposit, provided the period and aggregate amount of the deposit do not undergo any change.

4.5. Treatment of flows in the name of the deceased depositor

In order to avoid hardship to the survivor(s) / nominee of a deposit account, member banks may obtain appropriate agreement / authorization from the survivor(s) / nominee with regard to the treatment of pipeline flows in the name of the deceased account holder. In this regard, member banks could consider adopting either of the following two approaches:

- The bank could be authorized by the survivor(s) / nominee of a deceased account holder to open an account styled as 'Estate of Shri _____, the Deceased' where all the pipeline flows in the name of the deceased account holder could be allowed to be credited, provided no withdrawals are made.

OR

- The bank could be authorized by the survivor(s) / nominee to return the pipeline flows to the remitter with the remark "Account holder deceased" and to intimate the survivor(s) / nominee accordingly. The survivor(s) / nominee / legal heir(s) could then approach the remitter to effect payment through a negotiable instrument or through ECS transfer in the name of the appropriate beneficiary.

4.6. Provisions of Law regarding Legal heirs

4.6.1. Hindu

- If the deceased is a male Hindu, dying in testate, it must be ascertained whether there are one or more Class-I legal heirs.
- The following are called Class-I legal heirs: mother, widow, son, daughter, son of a predeceased son, son/daughter of a predeceased daughter, son or daughter or widow of a predeceased son of a predeceased son, widow of a predeceased son, son / daughter of predeceased daughter of predeceased daughter, daughter of predeceased son of a predeceased daughter, daughter of predeceased daughter of predeceased son also. All Class-I legal heirs take simultaneously to the exclusion of any other legal heir and no one takes precedence over the other.
- **The Class-II** legal heirs are classified in different Entries and legal heirs belonging to Entry-I will be preferred to the second entry and so on in succession. But there is no preference among these falling in the same entry and they take their share simultaneously

Entry-I - Father

Entry-II - (a) Son's daughter's son, (b) Son's daughter's daughter (c) Daughter's Daughter's son, (d) Daughter's daughter's daughter (e) brother and sister.

Entry-III- Son/ daughter of daughter's son and son /daughter of daughter's daughter.

Entry -IV - Gives son/daughter of brother or sister as the heirs and many more.

- In case, the deceased is a married female Hindu, who died intestate, the following are her legal heirs. (a) Sons & daughters (including the children of any predeceased son) & the husband; (b) Heirs of husband; (c) Mother & Father, (d) Heirs of father; (e) Heirs of Mother.
- If a female Hindu who dies intestate does not have son/daughter, the property inherited from her parents goes to heirs of father whereas if the same is inherited from husband or parents-in-law, heirs of husband will inherit the property.

4.6.2. Christian

- Where the deceased is a Christian, Indian Succession Act governs the intestate succession.
- As per the provision of this Act, the widow of the male intestate is entitled to one-third of the property while the remaining two-third goes to lineal descendants (i.e. sons & daughters) in equal shares. If he has none, whole property passes to his widow.
- If the male intestate has left no lineal descendant, one half goes to the widow and other half to the kindred (i.e., father, mother, brother, sister).
- In case a Christian female dies intestate, husband has the same right.

4.6.3. Mohammedan

Inheritance in the case of Muslims is governed by the Sunni or shia law depending upon the sect in which they belong to.

According to **Sunni law** the classes of heirs are

Sharers --- Heirs by consanguinity

1. Ascendants : Father, True grandfather, Mother, True grandmother
2. Descendents: Daughter, Son's daughter,
3. Collateral : Full/consanguine sister, uterine brother/sister

Heirs by affinity - husband, wife

But these 12 sharers will inherit fixed shares subject to conditions. A sharer may be excluded by many reasons such as nearer in blood will exclude remote one in one class. Sometimes sharer may be converted as residuary or otherwise one sharer may be partly sharer and partly residuary.

4.6.4. Residuary category:

After fixed share is allotted to the sharers the residue left is devolving upon the residuary:

Children male or female of deceased, of son of deceased, of father of deceased, male descendents of true grandfather

Son is always a residuary. Daughter with son becomes residuary. Among these, descendents exclude all others. Ascendants exclude all others except descendents and descendents of nearer ascendants exclude those in remote. In each class of residuary nearer blood excludes remote one. Division among these is according to the rule of double share to the male and if only one sex is there then equally divided.

In the absence of sharers and residuary estate devolves upon his other blood relations i.e., **distant kindred**

According to **Shia law** the heirs are

- Heirs by consanguinity
- I (i) Parents
 - (ii) Children & descendents
 - II (i) Grand parents (true/false)
 - (ii) Brother or sister and descendents
 - III Paternal or maternal uncle of him or his parents and grandparents

Heirs by Marriage : Husband, wife

Heirs by consanguinity and heirs by affinity succeed simultaneously. Among heirs by consanguinity those in class I exclude those in class II. The heirs in two sections of class I succeeds together. In each section nearer in degree exclude the remote. The son always takes as a residuary.

A certificate from Muslim Jama-I-eth in the letterhead signed by the head of the institution to which the deceased was affiliated should be obtained giving details of legal heirs with their age. In case of male deceased, a categorical certificate to the effect that the deceased had not married any woman other than the one named in the list is to be insisted upon.

4.6.5. Minor's Interest and Guardianship

- Where the legal heir is a minor, his lawful guardian will represent his interest.
- For Hindus and Christians, minor's father is the natural guardian and after him the mother. Regarding the guardianship of a minor (Hindu) it has been decided by the Supreme Court that even mother can be a natural guardian even during the life time of father since the welfare of child is of utmost importance.
- For a minor, who is a Muslim, father, then person appointed by father's will, then father's father and then person appointed by father's father will be guardian in order.

A list of legal heirs under various personal laws is at Annexure-9.

4.7.Safe Deposit Locker

4.7.1. Procedure in case there is no Nomination/Survivorship clause:

4.7.1.1. On receipt of notice of death of a sole renter or of the last survivor of the joint renters, the locker should be sealed with the Bank's seal and a note to this effect should be made in the all respective records as well as in the Declaration Card. The Declaration Card should be taken out of card index cabinet and kept carefully in a separate file.

4.7.1.2. Branches may at their discretion, on production of satisfactory evidence, permit a legal representative of the deceased to inspect the contents of the locker to enable him /her to obtain the necessary succession certificate or any other legal representation.

4.7.1.3. On registration of the succession certificate, probate of a will or letters of administration, the successor, executor or the administrator respectively shall have power to deal with the contents of the locker.

4.7.1.4. The contents of the locker, **sometimes, are not of great value/ importance**, hence, obtaining legal representation involves cost as well as time. The branches may, therefore, in appropriate cases, allow the heirs of the deceased renter to have access to the locker and withdraw the contents against usual indemnity, subject to the following:

4.7.1.4.1. The claimants/heirs of the deceased renter should furnish necessary particulars in the claim format, which is ordinarily obtained in deposit accounts.

4.7.1.4.2. A prescribed letter should be taken from all the heirs requesting the Bank to open the locker for the purpose of inventory.

4.7.1.4.3. The branch should then fix up a date and time for making an inventory and accordingly an inventory may be taken in the presence of all the heirs/ their duly constituted attorney/ies, two respectable witnesses known to the branch (should not be employees or ex-employees of the Bank), the valuer, the Safe Deposit Vault Custodian and another officer. The inventory may be prepared in the prescribed inventory record form. After making an inventory, care should be taken to redeposit all the contents in the said locker and to seal the locker.

4.7.1.5. The branches should forward the inventory papers to the Regional Authority to enable them to consider delivering the contents against usual indemnity signed by the claimant/s and one or two surety/ies considered good for the amount involved.

4.7.1.6. On receipt of the approval, the claimant/s should be allowed to remove the contents from the locker after signing an indemnity and a letter of surrender together with the key.

4.7.1.7. Where an inventory is to be taken in terms of a court order, it should be done in the presence of (i) the Court's representative, (ii) the claimant/s to the contents of the locker held by the deceased renter, (iii) the valuer and (iv) two

officers of the branch. The inventory should enumerate the contents of locker and it should be signed by those in whose presence the locker has been opened. The valuer's assessment of the value of each item of the inventory should be in triplicate, one copy to the Court, the second to the claimant and the third to be retained on branch record.

----- X -----

Clarifications regarding Provisions in Nomination Rules

The Banking Companies (Nomination) Rules 1985 have been framed in terms of Sections 45 ZA to 45 ZF of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.

1. Deposit Accounts

- (i) Nomination facility is intended only for individuals including a sole proprietary concern.
- (ii) There cannot be more than one nominee in respect of single/joint deposit account.
- (iii) Banks may allow variation/cancellation of a subsisting nomination by all the surviving depositor(s) acting together. This is also applicable to deposits having operating instructions "Either of Survivor".
- (iv) It may be noted that in the case of a joint deposit account the nominee's right arises only after the death of all the depositors.

2. Safe Deposit Lockers

- (i) Nomination facility is available in respect of lockers hired singly as well as jointly. In respect of lockers in joint names nomination rules are applicable only if lockers are operated jointly.
- (ii) Where the lockers are hired jointly, on the death of any of the joint hirers, the contents of the locker are allowed to be removed only jointly by the nominee(s) and the survivor(s) after an inventory is taken in the prescribed manner. In such a case, after such removal preceded by an inventory, the nominee and surviving hirer(s) may still keep the entire contents with the same bank, if they so desire, by entering into a fresh contract of hiring a locker.
- (iii) Banks are not required to open sealed/closed packets found in locker while releasing them to the nominee or nominees and surviving hirers. Description of the sealed/closed packet(s) should however be mentioned in the inventory.

- (iv) Section 45 ZE of the B.R Act, 1949 does not preclude a minor from being a nominee for obtaining delivery of the contents of a locker. The responsibility of the banks in such cases is to ensure that when the contents of a locker are sought to be removed on behalf of the minor nominee, the articles are handed over to a person who, in law, is competent to receive the articles on behalf of the minor.

3. Safe Custody Articles

- (i) Nomination facility is available only in the case of individual depositor / sole proprietary concern **and not in respect of persons jointly depositing articles for safe custody.**

Annexure-1(a)**Settlement of Claims in Various types of Operational instructions Deposits****With Nomination**

Account in the Name of	Operational Instructions	Nominee	Situation	What is to be done
A	Self	X	X dies	A can change the nomination
A	Self	X	A dies	X will receive the outstanding
A, B	Either or Survivor	X	A dies	Balance outstanding will be payable to B.
A, B	Either or Survivor	X	B dies	Balance outstanding will be payable to A.
A,B	Either or Survivor	X	A & B dies	X will receive the outstanding
A,B	Jointly	X	A dies	Payable to B and legal heirs of A jointly
A,B	Jointly	X	B dies	Payable to A and legal heirs of B jointly
A,B	Jointly	X	A & B dies	Payable to X

Without Nomination

Account in the Name of	Operational Instructions	Situation	What is to be done
A	Self	A dies	Outstanding will be payable to the legal heirs or any one of them mandated by all of the legal heirs
A, B	Either or Survivor	A dies	Outstanding will be payable to B
A,B	Either or Survivor	B dies	Outstanding will be payable to A
A,B	Either or Survivor	A & B dies	Jointly payable to legal heirs of A & B (or any of them mandated by all the legal heirs)
A,B	Jointly	A dies	Jointly payable to B and legal heirs of the A (or any one of them mandated by all the legal heirs).
A,B	Jointly	B dies	Jointly payable to A and legal heirs of the B (or any one of them mandated by all the legal heirs)
A,B	Jointly	A & B dies	Jointly payable to legal heirs of A & B (or any of them mandated by all the legal heirs)

Lockers

With Nomination

Locker in the Name of	Operational Instructions	Nominee	Situation	What is to be done
A	Self	X	X dies	A can change the nomination
A	Self	X	A dies	X will be given access to the locker and liberty to remove contents
A,B	Jointly	X	A dies	B and X will be given access to the locker and liberty to remove contents jointly.
A,B	Jointly	X	B dies	A and X will be given access to the locker and liberty to remove contents jointly
A, B	Jointly	X	A & B dies	X will be given access to the locker and liberty to remove contents.
A,B	Jointly	X & Y	A dies	B along with X and Y will be given access to the locker and liberty to remove contents jointly
A, B	Jointly	X & Y	B dies	A along with X and Y will be given access to the locker and liberty to remove contents jointly.
A,B	Jointly	X & Y	A & B dies	X and Y jointly will be given access to the locker and liberty to remove the contents

Without Nomination

Locker in the Name of	Operational Instructions	Situation	What is to be done
A	Self	A dies	Legal heirs of A or any of them mandated by any of them.
A, B	Either or Survivor	A dies	B will be given access to the locker and liberty to remove the contents.
A, B	Either or Survivor	B dies	A will be given access to the locker and liberty to remove the contents.
A,B	Either or Survivor	A & B dies	Legal heirs of A and B (or any one of them mandated by all legal heirs) will be given access to the locker and liberty to remove the contents.
A,B	Jointly	A dies	B and legal heirs of A (or any of them mandated by all legal heirs) will be given access to locker and liberty to remove the contents jointly.
A,B	Jointly	B dies	A and legal heirs of B (or any one of them mandate by all legal heirs) will be given access to locker and liberty to remove the contents jointly
A, B	Jointly	A & B dies	Legal heirs of A & B (or any of them mandated by all legal heirs) will be given access to locker and liberty to remove the contents.

Annexure – 2**Settlement of Claims in respect of deceased Depositors****Check-list of Documents**

Claims	Document obtained : Yes/ No
1. Accounts with Nomination clause:	
(i) Application for Deceased Claim from Nominee/Guardian of nominee (Annexure-3)	
(ii) Copy of Death Certificate (Verified with original)	
(iii) Identity proof (as defined in Part= 5)	
2. Joint Accounts with Either of Survivor clause:	
(i) Application for Deceased Claim from Survivor(s) (Annexure – 3)	
(ii) Copy of Death Certificate (Verified with original)	
3. For cased other than Nomination/ Joint Accounts with survivor clause: (for amounts upto threshold limit)	
(i) Application for Deceased Claim (Annexure -4)	
(ii) Copy of Death Certificate	
(iii) Letter of Indemnity signed by claimant(s) (Annexure – 5)	
4. Receipt (Annexure -6)	

Application for Deceased Claim
(To be used when account has nomination or is a joint account with survivor clause)

From

To

The Branch Manager,
... .. Bank
_____ Branch

Dear Sir,

Re: Deceased Account

Late Shri/Smt

Account No (s)

I/We advise, the demise of Shri/Smt. _____ on
_____. He/She holds the above account(s) at your branch. The account is in
the _____ name(s) _____ of _____ :

A. In case of Nomination

I, son/daughter of Shri
..... residing at.....
..... am

- (i) the registered nominee in the above account (s)
- (ii) the person authorized to receive payment on behalf of Master/ Miss
..... who
is the nominee in the above account(s) and is a minor as on the date of the claim.

Please settle the balance in the account in the name of the nominee. I/We receive the payment as trustee(s) of the legal heirs of the deceased.

B. In the case of joint account

I/We request you to delete the name of deceased person and continue the account in my/our name(s) with same mode of operations.

I/We submit photocopy of the following document(s) together with originals. Please return the original to us after verification.

Death Certificate issued by _____
Identity proof (required in nomination cases) _____

Place:
Date :

Yours faithfully,

{Claimant(s)}

**Application for deceased claim
(To be used for cases other than nomination/joint account with survivor
clause)**

From,

To,

The Branch Manager

_____ Bank

_____ Branch

Dear Sir,

Re: Deceased Account
Late Shri/Smt.
Account No (s).....

I/We advise, the demise of Shri/Smt. _____ on
_____. He/She holds the above account(s) at your branch. The account is in
the _____ name(s) _____ of _____ :

I/We lodge my/our claim for the balances with accrued interest lying to the credit of the above named deceased who died in testate. I/We am/are the legal heirs of the above named deceased and lodge my/our claim for payment as per the bank's rules and discretion. The relevant information about the deceased and the legal heirs are as under:

1. Names in full of the parents of the deceased:

Father _____

Mother _____

2. Religion of the deceased: _____

3. Details of living (i) Husband (ii) Wife (iii) Children (iv) Father (v) Mother (vi) Brothers (vii) Sisters (viii) Grand children. If Hindu Joint Family, the name and address of the Kart and Co-parceners with their respective ages.

Full Name/Address	Occupation	Relationship with Deceased	Age
1. _____	_____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____	_____

4. Name or names of the Guardian/s
Of the minor, Children of the depositors _____
- (a) Whether Natural Guardian
(b) Whether Guardian appointed by
Court of Law in India. If so, attach a
Certified copy or duly attested copy
Of such order _____
- (c) In whose custody the
Minor/Minors is/are?

5. Claimant/s name/s and address in full

- (i) _____
(ii) _____
(iii) _____

I/We submit the following documents. Please return the original death certificate to us after verification.

1. Death Certificate (Original + 1 photocopy) issued by
2. Letter of indemnity

We request you to pay the balance amount lying to the credit of the above named deceased to On my/our behalf.

I/We hereby solemnly affirm that the above statements are true and correct to the best of my/our knowledge and belief.

Place :

Yours faithfully,

Date :

Signature of Claimant (s)

Name of Claimant

Address

Signature

Affidavit cum Indemnity Letter

In respect of payment of balance in deposit accounts / contents of safe deposit locker/ safe custody articles of deceased person;

(To be stamped with the duty payable for affidavit & Indemnity bond)

I/We Mr/Ms/Miss

(name/names of the claimants),

(s/o, w/o, d/o),

aged,

address,

do hereby solemnly affirm and state as follows.

1. I/We am/are the legal heirs of Mr/Ms/Miss (name of deceased account holder) and the deceased is my/our (father/mother/wife/husband/son/daughter etc.)

2. I/We further state that I/We the following legal heirs are the only legal heirs entitled to claim the balance deposit/amount /jewels/ ornaments and other valuables the contents held in the locker/safe custody:-

No.	Name	Age	Relationship to the deceased
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			

3. I/We further state that the deceased was holding an account (hereinafter referred to as "the account") (specify the account details) _____ in _____ branch of _____ bank (herein after referred to as "the Bank"). At the time of the death of the deceased the account was having a credit of Rs. _____ (balance amount in the account) which includes interest upto _____ (date of payment) amount to Rs. _____ (amount being now paid).

4. I/We affirm that I/We am/are the sole legal heirs of the deceased who are entitled to receive the amount standing in the credit of the account belonging to the deceased.

5. I/We have requested the bank to make the payment of the amount standing in the credit of the account belonging to the deceased together with interest thereon as applicable to shri/smt _____being one of the legal heirs for and on behalf of all the legal heirs.

OR

I/We have requested the bank to hand-over contents of the safe deposit locker/items held in safe custody to Shri/Smt. _____being one of the legal heirs for and on behalf of all the legal heirs.

6. I/We are aware that the Bank has agreed to settle our claims relying on this affidavit and I/We agree to indemnify the bank in respect of such payment or delivery of the contents of items in safe deposit locker or held in safe custody against any claim made by any person for the amount standing to the credit of the account of the deceased.

7. I/We for ourselves and my/our respective heirs, executors and administrators jointly and severally agree, affirm and undertake that the bank, its successors and assigns and its managers, agents, officers and servants and their respective estates and effects are and shall from time to time and at all times hereafter be kept safe and saved harmless and indemnified for and in respect of such payment and against all actions, losses, cost, charges, expenses and demands whatsoever in respect of the said payment or delivery of the contents of items in safe deposit locker or held in safe custody.

All the averments made herein before are true and correct and I/We put my/our signature/mark on this _____Day of _____200__at _____in the presence of _____.

Signatures(s) of deponents. (claimants)

Signature of Witness

Affidavit to be attested by Notary Public.

RECEIPT

Received with thanks from XXX Bank, _____ branch,
a _____ sum _____ of _____ Rs. _____
(Rupees _____ only) by Banker's Cheque No.
_____ dated _____ in favour of
_____ in
full and final settlement of my/our claim as successor on the balance in
_____ Account(s) No(s) _____ standing in the
name _____ of _____ the _____ deceased _____ Shri/Smt/Kum.
_____ I/We do not
have any other claim from the Bank henceforth.

Place :

Date :



(Signature of all the legal heirs
over a revenue stamp)

Declaration in case funds are settled in favour of a Minor

I, _____ father and natural guardian of
_____ hereby certify that the proceeds of your Banker's Cheque
No. _____ dated _____ favouring
_____ issued by you in settlement of the balance in account
number _____ of Late _____ will be utilized
for the benefit of the minor only.

Annexure-7

**Form of Inventory of Contents of
Safety Locker Hired from Banking Company
(Section 45ZE (4) of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949)
(To be used where there is nomination or survivorship clause)**

The following inventory of contents of Safety Locker No. _____ located in the Safe Deposit Vault of _____ Branch at _____.

* hired by Shri/Smt. _____ (deceased) in his/her sole name.

* hired by Shri/Smt. (i) _____ (deceased)
(ii) _____ Jointly
(iii) _____

was taken on this _____ day of _____ 20____.

Sr.No.	Description of Articles in Safety Locker	Other Identifying Particulars, if any

For the purpose of inventory, access to the locker was given to the Nominee/and the surviving hirers

- By breaking open the locker under his/her/their instructions.
- Who produced the key to the locker. (Delete whichever is not applicable)

The above inventory was taken in the presence of:

1. Shri/Smt. _____ (Nominee) _____

Address _____ (Signature)

Shri/Smt. _____ (Nominee) _____

Address _____ (Signature)

and

Shri/Smt. _____

Survivors
of joint hirers

(Signature)

Address _____

Shri/Smt. _____

Address _____ (Signature)

2. Witness (es) with name, address and signature:

* I, Shri/Smt. _____(Nominee)

* We, Shri/Smt. _____(Nominee),

Shri/Smt. _____ and Shri/Smt. _____ the survivors of the joint hirers, hereby acknowledge the receipt of the contents of the safety locker comprised in and set out in the above inventory together with a copy of the said inventory.

Shri/Smt. _____(Nominee) Shri/Smt. _____
(Survivor)

Signature _____ Signature _____

Date & Place _____

(Survivor)

Shri/Smt. _____

Signature _____

Date&place _____

NOTE:

It is made clear that access to locker is given to survivor(s) / nominee(s) only as a trustee of the legal heirs of the deceased locker hirer on the condition that such access if given to survivor(s) / nominee(s) shall not affect the right or claim which any person may have against the survivor(s) / nominee(s) to whom the access is given.

**Form of Inventory of Contents of
Safety Locker Hired from Banking Company
(To be used where there is no nomination or survivorship clause)**

The following inventory of contents of Safety Locker No. _____ located in the Safe Deposit Vault of _____ Branch at _____.

* hired by Shri/Smt. _____ (deceased) in his/her sole name.

* hired by Shri/Smt. (i) _____
(deceased)
(ii) _____ Jointly
(iii) _____

was taken on this _____ day of _____ 20_____

Sr.No	Description of Articles in Safety Locker	Other identifying particulars, if any

For the purpose of inventory, access to the locker was given to the legal heir(s)/a person mandated by the legal heir(s) and surviving hirers

- By breaking open the locker under his/her/their instructions.
- Who produced the key to the locker. (Delete whichever is not applicable)

The above inventory was taken in the presence of :
Legal heirs to deceased joint hirer(s)/person mandated by legal heirs

1. Shri/Smt. _____ (Signature)

Address . _____

Shri/Smt. _____ (Signature)

Address . _____

And

Shri/Smt. _____
Survivors of
Joint hirers

(Signature)
Address _____

Shri/Smt. _____ (Signature)

Address. _____

2. Witness (es) with name, address and signature:

Shri/Smt. _____ (Signature)

Address . _____

Shri/Smt. _____ (Signature)

Address . _____

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

* I, Shri/Smt. _____ legal heir/mandate holder

* We, Shri/Smt. _____
_____ legal heirs and

Shri/Smt. _____
_____ surviving hirers

hereby acknowledge the receipt of the contents of the safety locker comprised in
ad set out in the above inventory together with a copy of the said inventory.

Shri/Smt. _____
(Legal Heir/Mandate Holder)

Shri/Smt. _____ Signature _____

Shri/Smt. _____ Signature _____

Shri/Smt. . _____ Signature _____

Date & Place _____

(* Delete whichever is not applicable)

**Form of Inventory of articles left in
Safe Custody with banking company
(Section 45ZC (3) of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949)
(To be used where there is nomination of survivorship clause)**

The following inventory of articles left in safe custody
with _____ branch, by Shri/Smt.
_____ (deceased) under an agreement/receipt dated _____
was taken on this, _____ day of _____ 20 _____.

Sr.No.	Description of Articles in Safe Custody	Other Identifying Particulars, if any

The above inventory was taken in the presence of:

1. Shri/Smt. _____ (Nominee)

Shri/Smt. _____

(Appointed on behalf of minor Nominee)

Address _____

Address _____

Signature _____

Signature _____

I, Shri/Smt. _____ (Nominee / appointed on behalf of minor
Nominee) hereby acknowledge receipt of the articles comprised and set out in the
above inventory together with a copy of the said inventory.

Shri/Smt. _____ (Nominee)

Signature _____

Date & Place _____

Shri/Smt. _____

(Appointed on behalf of minor Nominee)

Signature _____

Date & Place _____

NOTE:

It is made clear that access to safe custody articles is given to survivor(s) / nominee(s) only as a trustee of the legal heirs of the deceased depositor of Safe Custody articles on the condition that such access if given to survivor(s) / nominee(s) shall not affect the right or claim which any person may have against the survivor(s) / nominee(s) to whom the access is given.

Annexure – 8 (a)

**Form of Inventory of articles left in
Safe Custody with banking company
(To be used where there is no nomination or survivorship clause)**

The following inventory of articles left in safe custody

With _____ branch, by Shri/Smt. _____ (deceased)
under on agreement/receipt dated _____ was taken on this, _____ day of _____ 20 _____

Sr.No	Description of Articles in Safety Locker	Other identifying particulars, if any

The above inventory was taken in the presence of,
Legal heirs or a person mandated by legal heirs

1. Shri/Smt. _____
Address . _____ (Signature)

2. Shri/Smt. _____
Address . _____ (Signature)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

* I, Shri/Smt. _____ legal heir/mandate holder

* We, Shri/Smt. _____
_____ legal heirs and
Shri/Smt. _____
_____ surviving heirs

hereby acknowledge the receipt of the articles comprised and set out in the above inventory together with a copy of the said inventory.

Shri/Smt. _____
(Legal Heir/Mandate Holder)

Shri/Smt. _____ Signature _____

Shri/Smt. _____ Signature _____

Shri/Smt. _____ Signature _____

Date & Place _____

(* Delete whichever is not applicable)

Legal heirs under various personal laws

i) Hindus

a) Primary heirs of a Hindu male are:

- i. Son(s)
- ii. Daughter(s)
- iii. Wife
- iv. Mother
- v. Children of Predeceased children
- vi. Widow of predeceased son
- vii. Children of predeceased grand children

b) Primary heir(s) of a Hindu female are:

- i. Son(s)
- ii. Daughter(s)
- iii. Husband
- iv. Children of predeceased children

ii) Muslims

a) Primary heirs of a Sunni Muslim are:

- i. Son(s)
- ii. Daughter(s)
- iii. Father
- iv. Mother
- v. Spouse (Husband/Wife)

b) Primary heirs of a Shia Muslim are:

- i. Spouse (Husband/Wife)
- ii. Mother
- iii. Father
- iv. Son(s)
- v. Daughter(s)

iii) Christians

a) Primary heirs of a Christian are:

- i. Spouse (Husband/Wife)
- ii. Son(s)
- iii. Daughter(s)

iv) Parsis

a) Primary heirs of a Parsi male are:

- i. Wife (Widow)
- ii. Son(s)
- iii. Daughter(s)
- iv. Mother
- v. Father
- vi. Children of predeceased children

b) Primary heirs of a Parsi female are:

- i. Husband
- ii. Son(s)
- iii. Daughter(s)
- iv. Children of predeceased children
