

Training and Awareness

6.1 Staff Training & Awareness

6.1.1 Need to Sensitise Staff

- ✓ An **effective KYC/AML program** requires involvement at **all levels** of the bank.
- ✓ **Every employee plays a role** in ensuring compliance with **PMLA** regulations.
- ✓ **Banks must ensure staff are well-trained** to understand and fulfil their AML responsibilities.
- ✓ **Senior Management & Board of Directors** must recognize that both the **bank and individual employees** are subject to penalties for non-compliance.



6.1.2 Staff Awareness

Importance of Awareness:

- ✓ KYC/AML regulations impact **all aspects of banking**.
- ✓ **Continuous updates** are necessary due to **evolving compliance** requirements.

✓ Banks must adopt **multiple communication channels** to keep staff informed.

✦ **Table 6.1: Modes of Communication for Staff Awareness**

 Mode	 Features
KYC/AML Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Formal document approved by Board ✓ A regulatory requirement ✓ Defines bank's internal KYC/AML norms ✓ Mandatory reading for all employees
Manuals/SOPs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Formal guidelines for operations ✓ Ensure uniform compliance ✓ Include ML risk category for products/processes ✓ Must be updated periodically
Regular Circulars	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Used for quick dissemination of updates ✓ Issued frequently in banks due to regulatory nature of banking ✓ Employees must stay updated on new circulars
Guidance Notes/FAQs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Informal explanations of AML guidelines ✓ Help in simplifying compliance requirements

	✓ More engaging & accessible for staff
Flyers/EDMs	✓ Brief, focused messages ✓ Used to highlight critical AML aspects ✓ Placed at strategic locations (e.g., intranet, branch offices)

6.1.3 Staff Training




6.1.3.1 Need & Coverage of Staff Training

✓ Skill Development:

- Employees must be trained in KYC/AML policies & processes to fulfil their responsibilities. ✓ Training for All Levels:
- Banks must implement structured training programs for all staff levels:
 - Sales Personnel
 - Operational Staff
 - Controllers & Monitoring Staff
 - Business/Product Heads
 - Compliance & Audit Teams ✓ Training for Board & Senior Management:
- Senior leaders must understand their role in:
 - Developing KYC Policies
 - Ensuring a robust AML framework

- **Fulfilling obligations under PMLA ✓ Role-Specific Training:**
- **Different employees need different AML training:**
 - **Frontline Staff** – Customer due diligence & KYC basics.
 - **Compliance Officers** – Monitoring, reporting & risk assessment.
 - **New Customer Onboarding Teams** – Enhanced due diligence procedures. ✓ **Ongoing Training Requirements:**
- **Induction Training:**
 - **Mandatory** for all new employees.
- **Role-Specific Training:**
 - Required **whenever an employee takes on a new role.**
- **Periodic Refresher Training:**
 - Required for **AML-related functionaries & sales/operations teams.**
 - Recommended frequency: **Every 2–3 years.**

Initiatives

 Training Type	 Target Audience	 Purpose
Induction Training	All new employees	Familiarize with basic KYC/AML obligations
Role-Specific Training	Frontline, Compliance, Sales, Operations staff	Tailored to specific AML responsibilities
Refresher Training (2-3 Years)	Employees in AML/CFT roles	Update on evolving AML risks & procedures
Board & Senior Management Training	Directors & senior executives	Policy development, compliance leadership

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6.1.3.2 Scope of Training Programmes

✓ Training Differentiation:

- AML training **must be tailored** to different functional levels.
- **General Topics** (applicable to all) & **Differentiated Topics** (specific to roles).

✓ **General Topics for All Staff Levels:**

- **Global concerns** about Money Laundering (ML) & Terrorism Financing (TF).
- **Banking vulnerabilities & the critical role of financial institutions.**
- **International AML/CFT Initiatives** (FATF, BCBS, APG, EAG, Wolfsberg Group).
- **Legal & Regulatory Obligations** under PMLA.
- **RBI & IBA Guidelines.**
- **Risk-Based Approach (RBA) to ML/TF.**

✦ **Table 6.2: AML Training Topics by Target Group**

🎯 Target Group	📄 Key Training Aspects
Board of Directors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Responsibilities under PMLA & RBI Guidelines. ✓ KYC Policy & Key Elements. ✓ High-Risk Business Lines & Customer Categories.
Designated Director & Senior Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ AML Strategy Development. ✓ Risk-Based AML/CFT Approach. ✓ IT & Organisational Setup for AML/CFT. ✓ Periodic Review of Online & Offline RFIs.

Corporate Office Teams	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ KYC Policy & Organisational AML Setup.✓ STR Typologies & Suspicious Transaction Indicators.✓ High-Risk Customer & Product Categorization.
Principal Officer & KYC/AML Units	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ FIU Reporting Responsibilities.✓ KYC Policy Formulation.✓ Transaction Monitoring System Design.✓ STR Compilation & Submission Mechanisms.✓ Handling AML Alerts (Online & Offline).
Business & Product Heads	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ AML/CFT Aspects in Product Development.✓ High-Risk Customer Groups.✓ Compliance Integration in Business Processes.
Operations & Processing Units	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Customer Due Diligence (CDD) for Various Customer Types.✓ Enhanced Due Diligence (EDD) for High-Risk Customers.✓ Identification of Suspicious Transactions.

Zonal/Regional Controllers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ AML/CFT Responsibilities of Zonal Units.✓ Customer & Transaction Monitoring.✓ Identifying Recurring Suspicious Transactions.
Branch Level Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ KYC Compliance in Customer Interactions.✓ Identifying & Reporting Suspicious Transactions.✓ AML Monitoring in Walk-In Customers.
Sales Teams	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Due Diligence Procedures for New Customers.✓ High-Risk Customer Screening & EDD.✓ Identifying Red Flags in Customer Transactions.

6.1.4 Awareness & Training – Regulatory Obligation

Why Regulatory Training Matters?

- ✓ **AML/CFT Staff Training is a Legal Obligation.**
- ✓ **Regulatory authorities (RBI, FIU-IND) assess staff training records during AML investigations.**

✓ Failure to train staff adequately can result in compliance violations & penalties.

✓ Banks must maintain documented records of AML/CFT training measures.

✦ **Key Documentation Requirements:**




✓ Training Attendance Records.

✓ Training Modules & Materials Used.

✓ Details of Staff Members Trained.

✓ Frequency & Updates to AML Training Programs.

📊 **Summary Table: AML/CFT Training Implementation**

 Training Area	 Target Audience	 Compliance Focus
Induction AML Training	All Employees	AML/CFT Fundamentals, Legal Framework
Role-Specific AML Training	Compliance Officers, Operations	STR Typologies, Due Diligence, AML Risk Monitoring

	Staff, Business Heads	
AML/CFT for Senior Management	Board Members, Designated Director	KYC Policy Oversight, High-Risk Business Categories
Refresher AML Training (Every 2-3 Years)	All Staff Involved in AML Processes	Updates on Evolving Money Laundering Risks
Regulatory Compliance Checks	Audit & Compliance Teams	Ensuring AML/CFT Training Records & Implementation

6.2 Customer Awareness

6.2.1 Need for Customer Awareness

- ✓ **KYC/AML effectiveness depends on customer cooperation.**
- ✓ **Many customers are reluctant to share personal & financial information due to privacy concerns.**
- ✓ **Lack of awareness leads to:**

- Customers **not understanding ML/TF risks**.
- **Casual approach to providing KYC details**, reducing their effectiveness.

✓ **Key Awareness Topics:**

- **Negative impact** of Money Laundering (ML) & Terrorism Financing (TF).
- **Risks of banking systems being misused** for ML/TF.
- **How AML measures protect banks & customers**.
- **Why banks require customer information** for AML compliance.




 **6.2.2 Modes for Customer Awareness**

✦ Customer awareness requires multiple outreach strategies for different customer segments.

✓ **Key Awareness Channels:**

- Direct Communication (Individual Customers).
- Targeted Messaging (Existing Customers).
- Mass Public Awareness (General Public).

✦ **Table 6.3: KYC/AML Customer Awareness Approaches**

 Target Audience	 Awareness Strategy	 Implementation Methods
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Individual Customers	Educate during account opening & transactions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Sales & branch staff to explain KYC/AML importance.✓ Awareness discussions during customer visits.
Existing Customers	Provide continuous updates & reminders	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Flyers via email & mail.✓ Pop-up messages on ATM screens & internet banking.✓ SMS alerts on KYC compliance.✓ Customer Service Committee meetings.
Mass Public Awareness	Broader campaigns for public education	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Advertisements in newspapers, TV, & radio.✓ Social media campaigns.✓ Awareness videos in bank branches & websites.✓ KYC/AML messages in bank-sponsored public events.