



## Chairman's Message



Dear Shareholders,

I am pleased to present before you the highlights of your Bank's performance during the Financial Year 2016-17.

Financial Year 2016-17 was a challenging year for the entire Banking Industry. The growth in deposits outpaced the growth in advances by a substantial margin due to a fall in consumption demand. The banking industry witnessed a credit growth of 5% as against deposit growth of 13%. Your Bank registered an increase of 11.56% in advances and 13.90% in deposits which is above the industry average.

Your Bank continued the branch expansion by opening 13 new branches and 1 Extension Counter during the year, thereby taking the branch network to 100. Due to competition & in line with the monetary policy indicators, Bank had to reduce interest rates on advances on several occasions during the year. Despite the adverse economic conditions and other unfavourable factors, your Bank posted a Net profit of ₹ 119.08 crore as on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2017 after absorbing the cost of investments made on branch expansion. The Bank looks forward to reaping rich rewards on the investments made in expanding the branch network.

In order to provide affordable credit to wider section of the society, your Bank has introduced new Loan schemes viz. Bharat Vanita Udyami, Bharat MSME, Bharat Aahaar Loan, Business Plus, Griha Samriddhi and Swarna Gouri.

It's my pleasure to inform you that your Bank continued to get accolades and recognition as in the past. Your Bank has received 5 prestigious awards from various associations during this fiscal.

I would like to offer my sincere thanks to our shareholders, customers and well-wishers for understanding and support to the Bank during the demonetization phase. I look forward to your continued support to further strengthen your Bank in future as well.

With warm wishes,

(JAYA C. SUVARNA)