

**Press Release
For Immediate Release**

July 18, 2018

ICICI Bank crosses milestone of supporting 17 lakh women beneficiaries in Tamil Nadu through its Self Help Group – Bank Linkage (SBLP) programme

- **The Bank has extended cumulative loans nearly worth Rs 4,300 crore to over 1.3 lakh Self Help Groups (SHG) through the programme**
- **The Bank has been awarded the first prize among ‘Private Sector Commercial Banks’ by NABARD for ‘Excellence in Performance’ under SBLP in the state for the third consecutive year**
- **By end of FY’20, the Bank intends to expand our reach to over 25 lakh women beneficiaries with cumulative loan disbursements worth more than Rs 7000 crore**

Chennai: ICICI Bank, India’s largest private sector bank by consolidated assets, announced today that it has crossed a milestone of supporting 17 lakh women beneficiaries through the ‘Self Help Group-Bank Linkage Programme’ (SBLP) which aims at empowering less privileged women in the state to become self-reliant. The programme focuses on delivering financial products & services to the section of rural people who lack access to formal banking. As part of the programme, the Bank has extended loans nearly worth Rs 4,300 crore to over 1.3 lakh SHGs since its inception in 2011, making it the largest private sector lender to SHGs in the state.

As recognition of the Bank’s continued efforts under SBLP, it has been awarded the first prize among ‘Private Sector Commercial Banks’ by NABARD for **‘Excellence in Performance’ under SBLP in Tamil Nadu** for the third consecutive year.

Speaking on the occasion, **Mr. Avijit Saha, Senior General Manager & Head, Rural & Inclusive Banking Group, ICICI Bank, said,** “We at ICICI Bank believe that women are the backbone of every household. In Tamil Nadu, women residing in rural & semi-urban locations have showcased an inspirational entrepreneurial spirit. This reaffirms our belief that access to financial assistance from the Bank will aid them in actively participating in the economic development of the country and achieving financial security. We would focus on SHGs whose members are engaged in livelihood generating activities - be it on the farm or off the farm – and thereby provide financial assistance in scaling up their economic enterprises. I am delighted to share that the Bank, through its work with SHGs, has touched the families of over 17 lakh women beneficiaries and has disbursed loans of over Rs 4,300 crore till date. The Bank is a pioneer in introducing doorstep banking to SHGs, wherein our officials reach out to customers at their doorstep, instead of the customer approaching the bank’s branches. This reduces the transaction cost for the customer, as she does not have to incur any cost in travelling to the nearest branch of the Bank. By the end of FY’20, the Bank intends to expand its reach to over 25 lakh women beneficiaries with cumulative loan disbursements worth more than Rs 7000 crore”

Self Help Group (SHG) is a term used for a group of 10-20 less privileged women, primarily from rural and semi urban areas, who pool their resources on a periodic basis and use this money for income generating activities like agriculture and allied activities, production of incense sticks, sarees and textile weaving, production of food materials like papad, toy and flower shops at temples, trading artificial jewellery, tailoring, trading in fruits and vegetables among others.

The Bank provides door step banking services for SHGs through its dedicated manpower, thereby eliminating the need to visit the branch along with all its members. The Bank representatives submit the loan applications and the details of the SHG to the Bank from the field digitally using a tablet, in a paperless manner, which reduces the turn-around time significantly. This also reduces the transaction cost for the customers' as they do not need to travel to the Bank's branch to avail services.

Witnessing SHG programme's success, ICICI Bank in Tamil Nadu has also been recognised for its performance in SBLP across the state and has been awarded as best banker (SBLP) by the respective District Collector in 12 districts including Ramanathapuram, Cuddalore, Madurai, Kanyakumari, Villupuram, Ariyalur, Dharmapuri, Namakkal, Tuticorin, Trichy, Tiruvannamalai and Tirunelveli.

The Bank helps SHGs across all the 32 districts of Tamil Nadu. The Bank services its customers through a robust retail network of over 480 branches and more than 1500 ATMs across the state.

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ICICI Bank services its large customer base through a multi-channel delivery network of 4,867 branches, 14,367 ATMs, phone banking, internet banking (www.icicibank.com), mobile banking, banking on Facebook & Twitter and 'PocketsbyICICIBank' the country's first digital bank on mobile (as at March 31, 2018).

About ICICI Bank: ICICI Bank Ltd (NYSE:IBN) is India's largest private sector bank by consolidated assets. The Bank's consolidated total assets stood at US\$ 172.5 billion at March 31, 2018. ICICI Bank's subsidiaries include India's leading private sector insurance, asset management and securities brokerage companies, and among the country's largest private equity firms. It is present across 17 countries, including India.

For media queries, write to: corporate.communications@icicibank.com

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