

# SLBC

आर. एम. मल्ला  
अध्यक्ष व प्रबंध निदेशक

**R. M. Malla**  
Chairman & Managing Director



## M E S S A G E

I am glad to know that the One-Hundredth meeting of the State Level Bankers' Committee of West Bengal is scheduled to be held on September 12, 2007. On behalf of Small Industries Development Bank of India [SIDBI], I congratulate the Bankers in West Bengal for their laudable achievements and extend our best wishes for the event.

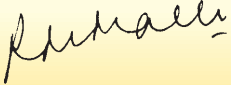
As you are aware, the business domain of SIDBI consists of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises [MSMEs], which contribute significantly to the national economy in terms of production, employment and exports.

SIDBI, since its inception in 1990, has extended cumulative financial assistance of over Rs. 2400 crore in the State of West Bengal. A major part of the above assistance i.e. Rs. 1400 crore has been provided through about 35 Primary Lending Institutions. Further, SIDBI has been also focusing on meeting the diverse credit requirements of the sector through its direct finance window and has so far provided financial assistance for setting up/expansion/technology upgradation of about 400 MSMEs, besides extending substantial support for Receivable Financing to MSMEs. We, as an organization, have also been known for innovative developmental initiatives. One such initiative is the Rural Industries Programme being implemented in 5 districts of West Bengal which has resulted in setting up of more than 600 rural enterprises so far. SIDBI's cluster development programme has benefited 15 clusters in 10 districts of the State.

We, as a financial institution, consider that one of our foremost responsibilities is towards provisions of financial service at an affordable price to the people at the bottom of pyramid who may, perhaps be still under-served by the formal banking network. Accordingly, we attach great significance to promoting micro finance programmes through the Micro Finance Institutions [MFIs] route. We are glad to share that under our micro finance programme, we have so far extended assistance of over Rs. 100 crore in the State, out of which Rs. 8 crore is by way of grant for capacity building of the MFIs. Our micro finance programme has so far reached out to 7.2 lakh clients, mostly women. The success of our micro finance programme has given us the confidence that through a concerted effort of the entire banking and financial services community, we could ensure complete financial inclusion in the State of West Bengal during the next few years.

Wishing you and the entire banking community all the best for their endeavour in development of West Bengal.

August 25, 2007

  
[R. M. Malla]