



## Chairman's Message

Dear Shareholders,

It is my pleasure to present the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Report of the Bank for the financial year 2021-22. On behalf of the Board of Directors, the Management and employees, I thank you for your continued trust and support.

During the year under report, geo-political tensions and adverse non-conducive financial conditions have affected the economy. Rising oil prices, inflation and currency depreciation has slowed down the economic activity in many countries. Global financial stability was disrupted by the continued shortage of raw materials caused by supply chain disruptions and moderately high inflation. In spite of this, India is still expected to remain among the fastest-growing economies in 2022, with the Reserve Bank of India projecting GDP growth to be around 9.2% in the year 2021-22.

The social, economic, and business situation in India has begun to normalize after the COVID-19 pandemic. The signs of economic recovery are already visible. An increase in capital expenditure targets by the Government and investments in the infrastructure and manufacturing sector are expected to reduce the unemployment rate. Despite facing an unprecedented pandemic, your Bank managed to withstand the onslaught, demonstrating its strength and resilience. We are leaving behind the turbulent period during which despite all adversities, Bank maintained a high level of customer service. The Bank is making concerted efforts to effectively control and reduce NPAs and sustain profitability. The Bank's low-cost deposits increased during the year. In spite of the challenging economic conditions, your Bank has maintained a CRAR at 14.13%.

While there will not be any let up in our recovery efforts in the coming years, more thrust will be given to increase non-interest income without losing focus on the Bank's core business. The Bank is strategically prepared for the future technological developments in the Banking Industry, which would drive business growth and improve customer experience.

I wish to express my gratitude to all shareholders, accountholders and well-wishers of the Bank. Your continued support propels the Bank to move ahead towards a better future.

With warm regards,

**U. SHIVAJI POOJARY**