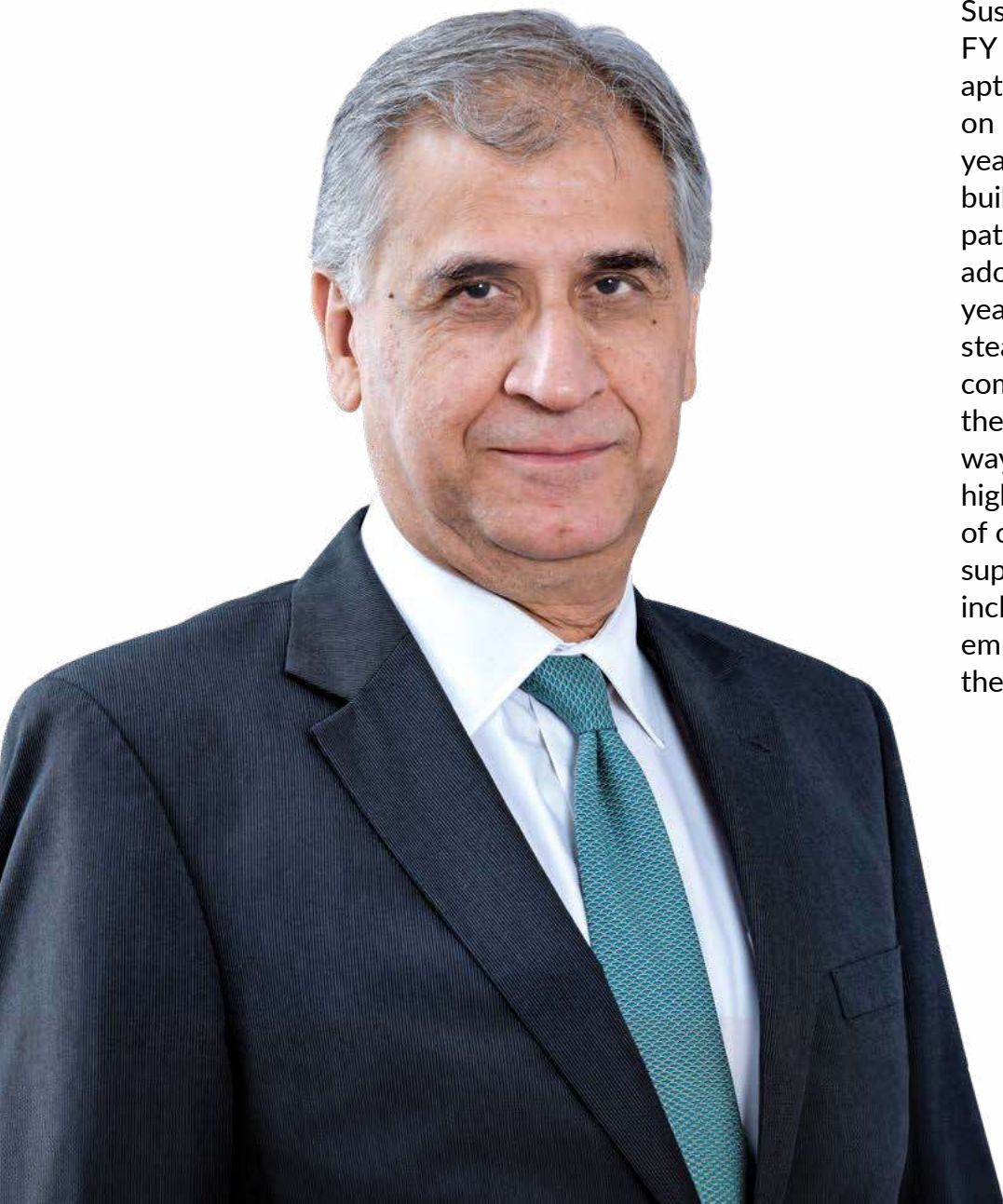


Creating Impact, Far and Wide



Dear Shareholders,

I am very pleased to present Axis Bank's ninth Sustainability Report for FY 2022-23, which is aptly titled 'Progressing on Purpose'. During the year we continued to build on the sustainability pathway that we formally adopted during the previous year, demonstrating steady progress on our commitments and laying the foundation for the way forward. The report highlights key milestones of our strategy and actions, supporting our stakeholders including our customers, employees, communities and the environment.

As one of the foremost financial institutions in India, we remain committed to playing a leading role in enabling a low-carbon, equitable economic transition of India, whilst being a reliable partner to our millions of customers and offering the right solutions to meet their goals and aspirations. We continue to focus on aligning our larger intent and longer-term goals to our purpose statement of 'banking that leads to a more inclusive and equitable economy, thriving community and a healthier planet'.

I am pleased to report that we continue to make steady progress in breaking down silos around ESG and climate actions within our organisation. Key ESG-aligned goals and actions, especially around risk management, lending and financing activities, and community interventions have strong board-level oversight. The ESG Committee of the Board, constituted in 2021, has strengthened the Bank's strategic thinking and decision making around ESG. The Committee met four times during the year and continues to guide the Bank on new initiatives and interventions that the Bank is actively pursuing.

We remain on track towards achieving our commitments we undertook in FY 2022, aligned to the Sustainable Development Goals and India's climate action priorities. Our performance on the commitments in this fiscal have been highlighted in this report. At the same time, we continue to pursue new opportunities aligned to our purpose, especially around sustainable lending and financing.

Additionally, as Chair of the CSR Committee, I am pleased that the Bank's CSR interventions during the year reached the vulnerable and disadvantaged communities across the country. Our key CSR themes encompassing Rural Lives & Livelihoods, Financial Inclusion & Literacy, Education, and Environment Sustainability & Humanitarian programs continue to go deeper and wider across the country.



Our interventions now cover every state that constitutes India's North-East, which has perennially remained the most under-funded region of the country in terms of CSR investments."

The Bank's flagship program in education, Axis DilSe, now covers hundreds of schools, reaching lakhs of school children, youth as well as teachers across the states of Madhya Pradesh, Sikkim, Nagaland, Assam, Manipur, and Arunachal Pradesh. During the year we entered into a partnership with the Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru to establish the 'Axis Bank Centre for Mathematics and Computing' as a centre of excellence for leading cutting-edge research and offering first-of-the-kind degrees in this multi-disciplinary space. In the North-east, we have found a strong partner in the Armed Forces with whom we are coaching and mentoring the bright but disadvantaged youth in the region towards a better future.

We continue to support women and underprivileged students in STEM at Ashoka University and Plaksha University. In Madhya Pradesh, we have committed to an ambitious program focused on professional teacher development of over 1 lakh primary school teachers in the entire state, who together teach close to 1 million school children.

Additionally, the Bank has significantly expanded its scope under biodiversity conservation and habitat restoration during the year, working in biodiversity hotspots such as the riverine ecosystems in Assam or coastal mangroves in Tamil Nadu.

During the year, we significantly scaled our participation in and contribution to policy advocacy and thought leadership on topics around ESG, climate action and CSR. The Bank is formally represented on diverse policy-level, industry, and academic fora, such as the World Economic Forum, SEBI, CII and FICCI, contributing to advancing the agenda at the national level.

I am also very pleased to report that the Bank was recognised on the prestigious FTSE4Good Emerging Markets Index for the 6th consecutive year this fiscal and recognised among the top performers in India in the CRISIL ESG Ratings 2022.

In conclusion, we remain excited and committed to taking our sustainability mandate forward, and towards being always 'OPEN' to doing what is right for all our stakeholders.

With regards and warm wishes,

Rakesh Makhija
Chair