# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To

#### The Members of Axis Bank Limited

# **Report on the Consolidated Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying consolidated financial statements of Axis Bank Limited (hereinafter referred to as "the Bank") and its subsidiaries (together, the "Group"), comprising of the consolidated Balance Sheet as at 31 March, 2016, the consolidated Profit and Loss Account and consolidated Cash Flow Statement for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and notes to the financial statements (hereinafter referred to as 'the consolidated financial statements').

# Management's Responsibility for the Consolidated Financial Statements

The Bank's Board of Directors is responsible for the preparation of these consolidated financial statements in terms with the requirement of the Companies Act, 2013 ("the Act") that give a true and fair view of the consolidated financial position, consolidated financial performance and consolidated cash flows of the Group in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in India, including the Accounting Standards specified under Section 133 of the Act, read with Rule 7 of the Companies (Accounts) Rules, 2014 and Companies (Accounting Standards) Amendment Rules, 2016. The respective Board of Directors of the companies included in the Group are responsible for maintenance of adequate accounting records in accordance with the provisions of the Act for safeguarding of the assets of the Group and for preventing and detecting frauds and other irregularities; the selection and application of appropriate accounting policies; making judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and the design, implementation and maintenance of adequate internal financial control that were operating effectively for ensuring the accuracy and completeness of the accounting records, relevant to the preparation and presentation of the financial statements that give a true and fair view and are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, which have been used for the purpose of preparation of the consolidated financial statements by the Directors of the Bank, as aforesaid.

# **Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audit. While conducting the audit, we have taken into account the provisions of the Act, the accounting and auditing standards and matters which are required to be included in the audit report under the provisions of the Act and the Rules made thereunder. We conducted our audit in accordance with the Standards on Auditing, issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, as specified under Section 143(10) of the Act. Those Standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal financial control relevant to the Bank's preparation of the consolidated financial statements that give a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of the accounting estimates made by the Bank's Board of Directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements. We believe that the audit evidence obtained by us and the audit evidence obtained by the other auditors in terms of their reports referred to in paragraph (a) of the Other Matters below, is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion on the consolidated financial statements.

# **Opinion**

In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the consolidated financial statements give the information required by the Act in the manner so required and give a true and fair view in conformity with the accounting principles generally accepted in India of the consolidated state of affairs of the Group, as at 31 March, 2016, their consolidated profit and their consolidated cash flows for the year ended on that date.

# Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

As required by Section 143 (3) of the Act, we report, to the extent applicable, that:

(a) The other auditors whose reports we have relied upon have sought and obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of our audit of the aforesaid consolidated financial statements;

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- (b) In our opinion proper books of account as required by law relating to preparation of the aforesaid consolidation of the financial statements have been kept so far as it appears from our examination of those books and reports of the other auditors;
- (c) The consolidated Balance Sheet, consolidated Profit and Loss Account and consolidated Cash Flow Statement dealt with by this Report are in agreement with the books of account maintained for the purpose of preparation of the consolidated financial statements;
- (d) In our opinion, the aforesaid consolidated financial statements comply with the Accounting Standards specified under Section 133 of the Act, read with Rule 7 of the Companies (Accounts) Rules, 2014 and Companies (Accounting Standards) Amendment Rules, 2016:
- (e) On the basis of the written representations received from the directors of the Bank as on 31 March, 2016 taken on record by the Board of Directors of the Bank and the reports of the auditors who are appointed under Section 139 of the Act, of its subsidiary companies, none of the directors of the Group's companies, incorporated in India is disqualified as on 31 March, 2016 from being appointed as a director in terms of Section 164 (2) of the Act;
- (f) With respect to the adequacy and the operating effectiveness of the internal financial controls over financial reporting of the Bank and its subsidiary companies, refer to our separate report in Annexure 1 to this report;
- (g) With respect to the other matters to be included in the Auditor's Report in accordance with Rule 11 of the Companies (Audit and Auditors) Rules, 2014, in our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us:
  - i. The consolidated financial statements disclose the impact of pending litigations on its consolidated financial position of the Group, its associates and jointly controlled entities Refer Note 18.2.1.14 (a) to the consolidated financial statements;
  - ii. Provision has been made in the consolidated financial statements, as required under the applicable law or accounting standards, for material foreseeable losses, if any, on long-term contracts including derivative contracts Refer (a) Note 18.2.1.14 to the consolidated financial statements in respect of such items as it relates to the Group;
  - iii. There has been no delay in transferring amounts, required to be transferred, to the Investor Education and Protection Fund by the Bank, its subsidiaries.

#### Other Matter

The accompanying consolidated financial statements include total assets of ₹4,699 crores as at 31 March, 2016, and total revenues and net cash inflows of ₹522 crores and ₹14 crores for the year ended on that date, in respect of subsidiaries, which have been audited by other auditors, which financial statements, other financial information and auditor's reports have been furnished to us by the management. Our opinion on the consolidated financial statements, in so far as it relates to the amounts and disclosures included in respect of these subsidiaries, and our report in terms of sub-sections (3) of Section 143 of the Act, in so far as it relates to the aforesaid subsidiaries, is based solely on the reports of such other auditors.

Our opinion on the consolidated financial statements, and our report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements above, is not modified in respect of the above matters with respect to our reliance on the work done and the reports of the other auditors.

# For S.R. Batliboi & CO. LLP

Chartered Accountants

ICAI Firm Registration Number: 301003E

#### per Viren H. Mehta

Partner

Membership Number: 048749

Place of Signature: Mumbai Date: 26 April, 2016

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONT.)

#### **Annexure**

To the Independent Auditor's Report of even date on the Consolidated Financial Statements of Axis Bank Limited

Report on the Internal Financial Controls under Clause (i) of Sub-section 3 of Section 143 of the Companies Act, 2013 ("the Act")

To

#### The Members of Axis Bank Limited

In conjunction with our audit of the consolidated financial statements of Axis Bank Limited as of and for the year ended 31 March, 2016, we have audited the internal financial controls over financial reporting of Axis Bank Limited (hereinafter referred to as the "Holding Company") and its subsidiary companies, which are companies incorporated in India, as of that date.

# **Management's Responsibility for Internal Financial Controls**

The respective Board of Directors of the Holding Company, its subsidiary companies which are companies incorporated in India, are responsible for establishing and maintaining internal financial controls based on the internal control over financial reporting criteria established by the Holding Company considering the essential components of internal control stated in the Guidance Note on Audit of Internal Financial Controls Over Financial Reporting issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (the "Guidance Note"). These responsibilities include the design, implementation and maintenance of adequate internal financial controls that were operating effectively for ensuring the orderly and efficient conduct of its business, including adherence to the respective company's policies, the safeguarding of its assets, the prevention and detection of frauds and errors, the accuracy and completeness of the accounting records, and the timely preparation of reliable financial information, as required under the Act.

# **Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Bank's internal financial controls over financial reporting based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with the Guidance Note on Audit of Internal Financial Controls Over Financial Reporting issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (the "Guidance Note") and the Standards on Auditing, both, issued by Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, and deemed to be prescribed under Section 143(10) of the Act, to the extent applicable to an audit of internal financial controls. Those Standards and the Guidance Note require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether adequate internal financial controls over financial reporting was established and maintained and if such controls operated effectively in all material respects.

Our audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the adequacy of the internal financial controls system over financial reporting and their operating effectiveness. Our audit of internal financial controls over financial reporting included obtaining an understanding of internal financial controls over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, and testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained and the audit evidence obtained by the other auditors in terms of their reports referred to in the Other Matters paragraph below, is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion on the internal financial controls system over financial reporting.

# **Meaning of Internal Financial Controls Over Financial Reporting**

A company's internal financial control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company's internal financial control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorisations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorised acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements



# Inherent Limitations of Internal Financial Controls Over Financial Reporting

Because of the inherent limitations of internal financial controls over financial reporting, including the possibility of collusion or improper management override of controls, material misstatements due to error or fraud may occur and not be detected. Also, projections of any evaluation of the internal financial controls over financial reporting to future periods are subject to the risk that the internal financial control over financial reporting may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

# **Opinion**

In our opinion, the Holding Company, its subsidiaries, has maintained in all material respects, an adequate internal financial controls system over financial reporting and such internal financial controls over financial reporting were operating effectively as at 31 March, 2016, based on the internal control over financial reporting criteria established by the Holding Company considering the essential components of internal control stated in the Guidance Note.

#### **Other Matters**

Our report under Section 143(3)(i) of the Act on the adequacy and operating effectiveness of the internal financial controls over financial reporting of the Holding Company, insofar as it relates to these 2 subsidiary companies which are companies incorporated in India, is based on the corresponding reports of the auditors of such subsidiary incorporated in India.

#### For S.R. Batliboi & CO. LLP

**Chartered Accountants** 

ICAI Firm Registration Number: 301003E

#### per Viren H. Mehta

Partner

Membership Number: 048749

Place of Signature: Mumbai Date: 26 April, 2016