A Study on Progress of Financial Inclusion in India

Bhargav Pandya

Abstract

Financial inclusion has become a daunting challenge as well as necessity for the developing countries. The concern is how to provide access to financial services to the people working in the organized sector with low income. In India too, steps have been taken to provide access of financial services to the weaker section of the society by way of financial inclusion schemes. This paper highlights the progress made on financial inclusion in India and analyses its status in the recent period. The paper analyses the progress of financial inclusion across different areas viz. rural, semi urban, urban and metropolitan. It also highlights distribution of banking centers across different regions. The research is based on secondary data collected from the RBI website for the period between 1980 & 2009.

Research study indicates that financial inclusion has been quite pervasive across the country as the number of bank branches vary significantly across rural, semi urban, urban and metropolitan area. Similarly the number of accounts opened up with the banks in these regions also varies significantly. The amount outstanding in deposits is also statistically significant across the regions Finally, the paper discusses steps taken by the bank to increase the pace of financial inclusion in the country.

Introduction

Financial inclusion is delivery of financial services, at an affordable cost, to the vast sections of disadvantaged, low income groups who tend to be excluded from the formal financial system. Notwithstanding the widespread expansion of the banking sector during the last three decades, a sizeable proportion of the households, especially in rural areas, remain outside the coverage of the formal banking system. An important step in bringing the financially excluded people within the fold of the formal financial sector is the promotion of micro finance. The SHG-bank linkage programme was launched by NABARD in 1992, with policy support from the RBI to facilitate a collective decision making by the poor and provide 'door step' banking.

Bhargav Pandya, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Management [MBA], Marwadi Education Foundation's Group of Institutions, Rajkot-Morbi Highway, Near Gauridad, Rajkot-360003, bhpandya1@gmail.com

Definition of Financial Inclusion

Financial Inclusion is defined as delivering banking facilities/financial services to all the people in a transparent and equitable manner at affordable cost.

The **'Committee on Financial Inclusion in India'** defined it as "the process of ensuring access to financial services and timely and adequate credit where needed by vulnerable groups such as the weaker sections and low income groups at an affordable cost".

Rationale for Financial Inclusion

Finance has come a long way since the time when it wasn't recognized as a factor for growth and development. It is now attributed as the brain of an economic system and most economies strive to make their financial systems more efficient. It also keeps policymakers on their toes as any problem in this sector could freeze the entire economy and even lead to a contagion.

The earlier research focused on how finance helps an economy. Now, research shows that financial inclusion is as important. The new avenue for research in finance is - making financial inclusion workable. Patrick Honohan (of Trinity College, Dublin) in his research developed an index to measure access to finance in 160 countries. If the index is put on a world map it can be clearly seen that those economies having higher indices are usually those, which we term as developed/advanced economies. It is not implied that financial inclusion alone has led to the development but is an important factor. The policymakers have set up their task force/committees to understand how can financial inclusion be achieved including advanced economies like United Kingdom. India also set up a committee under the chairmanship of Mr. C.Rangarajan to suggest measures to increase financial inclusion (hence called the Rangarajan Committee on Financial Inclusion). The World Bank had organized a conference in March 2007 and has released a report titled "Finance for All" in November 2007.

The financial inclusion provides business opportunity for the financial institutions at the bottom of the pyramid to expand the volume of business. Profitability can be increased only by finding newer avenues for deployment of funds.

After nationalization of major banks in India in 1969, there was a significant expansion of branch network to unbanked areas and stepping up of lending to agriculture, small industry and business. The focus then shifted on establishing the basic right of every person to have access to affordable basic banking services.

Soon it was realized that ensuring people have savings account was not enough & for achievement of the primary objective, lately the discussion on financial inclusion in policy and academic circles has shifted beyond the extension of institutional credit at the expense of providing savings as provision of only savings account does not imply financial inclusion (its usage by the account holder & Financial Literacy is more important). Financial Inclusion must aim at incorporating credit markets and plethora of banking services.

The purview of Financial Inclusion should encompass not only delivery of banking, but also other financial services like insurance, pension, remittance, mutual funds, etc. delivered at affordable, though market driven costs. The process started with opening a no-frills account but there must be a continuous development to facilitate provision of banking and financial services. Usually the person would need a bank account, where he/she can save small amounts at regular intervals ideally with savings being collected at their place of work or a specified point of transaction (SPOT) in the locality; micro-credit for new business/ working capital to increase stock and business. Savings history and credibility checks to be used as a proxy for collateral, Insurance (life/Health) for minor illnesses and hospitalization, investment plan for child's education, pension and other investment avenues.

Once the first step of safety of savings is achieved, the poor require access to schemes and products which allow their savings to grow at rates which provide them growth beyond mere inflation protection. The thrust of Financial Inclusion Framework lies in following critical parameters:

The initiatives taken by the government are reckoning however the execution and follow up is lacking. The government is harping on the Business Correspondent model to percolate to the lowest level.

Measuring financial inclusion:

An aspect closely related to financial inclusion is the idea of breadth of financial services. Breadth of financial services refers to the outreach of financial services in an economy. In other words, breadth measures how many people have access to financial services. Although financial inclusion should signify access to a range of different financial services, the percentage of people in a given area with access to a bank account is the typical measuring stick for breadth of financial services, (Beck & De la Torre, 2006). This approach assumes that a bank account enables poor households to perform important financial functions such as saving money safely outside the house, accessing credit, making loan or premium payments, and transferring money (Mohan, 2006). Thus, in this framework, a bank account should determine access to and usage of many other financial services (Littlefield et al, 2006).

Unfortunately, it is difficult to discern access to savings accounts in developing countries as data on small deposits and borrowings is not readily available. Acknowledging such opacity and gaps in the data, Table 1 demonstrates the striking disparities in access to savings accounts between developed and developing countries. While in developed nations almost everyone has access to banking services, in less developed countries, access is often limited to small segments of the population.

Review of Literature:

The broad objective of Financial Inclusion (FI) is to extend the scope of activities of the organized financial system to include within its ambit people with low incomes. Through graduated credit, the attempts must be to lift the poor from one level to another so that they come out of poverty (Rangarajan, 2007).

Inclusive financial system, one that allows broader access to financial services, can lead to faster and more equitable growth. Such a system allows poor households to save and manage their money securely, decreases their vulnerability to economic shocks and allows them to contribute more actively to their development. Increasingly, with the proliferation of micro finance initiatives, there is evidence that inclusive financial systems can empower poor households socially as well in other words financial inclusion is delivery of banking services at an affordable cost to the vast sections of disadvantaged and low-income groups (Thorat, 2007).

The financial sector developed in India by the late 1980s was criticized as largely target and supply driven. High default rates; corruption and high degree of suspicion among bankers about the credit worthiness of poor people were the major features of the time. Savings products were inflexible and inappropriately designed and appropriate insurance products few and far between. On the credit side the, while the in the rural borrowing supplied by informal sources fell to 40 per cent in 1991, household with the least assets were far more dependent on informal sources (Mahajan, 2000, cited in Sriram and Fisher).

Fisher Sriram and points out that, formal financial sector unsuccessful to recognize the divergence between the hierarchies of credit needs and credit availability. The result is the adverse use of credit. Credit use start with consumption purpose, which are only being met, through informal sources at high cost. Higher needs come in to play when the lower needs are satisfies. However credit (often subsidized rate) is usually available for new enterprises (i.e. for diversification). Money is fungible, loan therefore taken for diversification but used in lower rungs of hierarchy. This implies that any appraisal of loan is not honoured resulting in the adverse usage and hence adverse repayment performance (Fisher and Shriram, 2002).

In 1991, the macro economic conditions propelled the government to introduce structural changes in the economy, commonly referred to as economic reforms of 1991. Karmakar remarked that the immediate impact of reform to the financial sector become necessary by 1990's have in many ways made things worse for the poor people. There has been drastic fall in rural credit. The share of rural credit in the total credit disbursement by commercial banks, which grew from 3.5 to 15 percent form 1971 to 1991, has now declined again to 11 percent in 1998 (Sa- Dhan, 2004).

Even after the institutional finance came in to being as banking sector emerged, the need for 'micro' credit characteristically for the poor section of the society was unmet by the formal banking sector. The nature of formal banking sector, with its emphasis on 'collateral based lending' could not cater the needs of smaller borrowers, especially women, who were typically resource poor and possessed negligible assets to offer as collateral. Given the male dominated rural society, prior to 1990s there were hardly any credit schemes designed for rural women (Karmakar, 2002).

Objectives of the study:

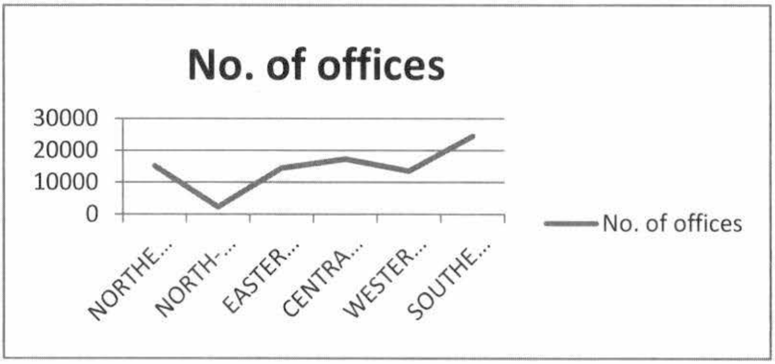
- To analyze the progress of financial inclusion across different areas viz. rural, semi urban, urban and metropolitan
- To study penetration of banking services across different regions in terms of deposits
- To analyze distribution of banking centers across different regions
- To analyze the population covered per office over the years

Research Methodology

Research methods used is descriptive and analytical. Secondary data were collected from websites, journals and manuals. Primarily historical data were used to analyse the growth pattern of financial inclusion. Data related to rural, semi urban, urban and metropolitan banks were collected from RBI website.

- Deposit of scheduled commercial banks - according to population group for the period 1980-2009 (Annexure -1)
- Population group-wise number of branches of scheduled commercial banks for the period 1969-2011 (Annexure II)
- Distribution of banking centres according to states and population group

Chart -1



It can be observed from the chart-1 that no of offices of scheduled commercial banks vary significantly across different regions. Southern region has the highest no. of offices as many as 24423 in number followed by central region with 17280 offices ,eastern and western region with 14359 offices and 13543 offices respectively.

Research Hypotheses:
Hypothesis 1

Ho: No. of bank braches do not vary significantly among rural, semi urban, urban and metropolitan areas over the years

Ha: No. of bank branches vary significantly among rural, semi urban, urban and metropolitan areas over the years

ANOVA						
Source of Variation	*SS*	*df*	*MS*	*F*	*P-value*	*F crit*
Rows	5216553944	42	124203665.3	6.4448677	1.9138E-16	1.481443
Columns	8747653575	3	2915884525	151.30383	1.3614E-41	2.676525
Error	2428236316	126	19271716.79			
Total	16392443835	171				

Interpretation:

ANOVA results prove that no. bank branches vary among rural, semi urban and metropolitan area over the years which means financial inclusion has been quite pervasive across different regions.

Hypothesis 2

Ho: No. of accounts do no vary among rural, semi urban, urban and metropolitan areas over the years

Ha: No. of accounts vary among rural, semi urban, urban and metropolitan areas over the years

ANOVA						
Source of Variation	*SS*	*df*	*MS*	*F*	*P-value*	*F crit*
Between Groups	19497745628	3	6499248543	6.417705112	0.00047358	2.685643459
Within Groups	1.13423E+11	112	1012706011			
Total	1.32921E+11	115				

Interpretation:

From ANOVA calculations it can be concluded that no. Accounts vary among rural, semi urban, urban and metropolitan area which in turn indicates that financial inclusion has been quite pervasive across different geographical areas.

Hypothesis 3

Ho: There is no significant difference of amount outstanding in deposits with rural, semi urban, urban and metropolitan areas over the years

Ha: There is a significant difference of amount outstanding in deposits with rural, semi urban, urban and metropolitan areas over the years

ANOVA						
Source of Variation	*SS*	*df*	*MS*	*F*	*P-value*	*F crit*
Between Groups	1.69901E+12	3	5.66335E+11	5.71715769	0.0011	2.682809
Within Groups	1.14908E+13	116	99058911839			
Total	1.31898E+13	119				

Interpretation:

ANOVA results prove that amount outstanding in deposits vary significantly among rural, semi urban, urban and metropolitan areas over the years which indicates financial inclusion is widening across the geographical regional as measured in terms of amount outstanding in deposits.

Findings:

Research study indicates that financial inclusion has been quite pervasive across the country as no of bank branches vary significantly across rural, semi urban, urban and metropolitan area. Variation in no of bank branches across theses regions is statistically significant. Similarly no of accounts opened up with the banks in these regions also varies significantly and variation is statistically significant. Rural region has witnessed tremendous grown in term of no of accounts opened up with the banks. No of accounts with the banks in rural area in 1980 were 28256 which rose to 199695 in 2009 witnessing a highest increase as compared to semi urban, urban and metropolitan areas for the similar period. This itself proves that financial inclusion has been quite high in rural area which account for more than two third of the population of the country. Amount outstanding in deposits is also statistically significant across the regions indicating that financial inclusion has been deepening as measured in terms of amount outstanding in deposits across the regions.

Overview of efforts for Financial Inclusion

Financial Inclusion includes meeting the small credit needs of the people, giving them access to the payments system and providing remittance facilities. This has led to some notable developments:

No Frills Accounts: In November 2005, RBI asked banks to offer a basic banking 'no-frills' account with low or zero minimum balances and minimum charges to expand the outreach of such accounts to the low income groups. As on 31 st March, 2009 there were 3.3 crore no frill accounts.

Easier Credit facility: Banks were asked to introduce a General Purpose Credit Card (GCC) facility up to Rs. 25,000. The total number of GCCs issued by banks as on end March, 2009 was 0.15 million.

Simpler KYC Norms: In order to ensure that people belonging to the low income groups, both in urban and rural areas, do not encounter difficulties in opening bank accounts, the 'Know Your Customer' (KYC) procedure for opening accounts was simplified for those accounts with balances not exceeding Rs 50,000 and credits thereto not exceeding Rs.100,000 in a year.

Use of Information Technology: Banks have been urged to scale up IT initiatives for financial inclusion speedily while ensuring that solutions are highly secure, amenable to audit, and follow widely-accepted open standards to ensure eventual inter-operability among the different systems.

Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) through Banks: To encourage banks to adopt Information and Communication Technology (ICT) solutions for enhancing their outreach, the RBI formulated a scheme to quicken the pace of adoption of the smart card-based Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) mechanism by banks and rolled out the EBT system in the States that are ready to adopt the scheme. As per the scheme, the RBI would reimburse the banks a part of the cost of opening accounts with bio-metric access/smart cards at the rate of Rs.50 per account through which payment of social security benefits, National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) payments and payments under other Government benefit programmes would be routed to persons belonging to below poverty line (BPL) families. The scheme was implemented in Andhra Pradesh. So far, seven banks have been paid Rs.1.8 crore for smart cards issued by banks in Andhra Pradesh during July-December 2008. The process is at different stages of implementation in other States such as Karnataka and Uttarakhand and the scheme of partial reimbursement by the Reserve Bank has been extended by one year up to June 30, 2010. Banks are advised to work in co-ordination with the respective government departments at the Central and State levels to ensure that all State benefits are delivered to individuals only through bank accounts within a specific timeframe.

Business Correspondent (BC) Model: The BC Model ensures a closer relationship between poor people and the organized financial system. Reorganizing this, in 2006, RBI permitted banks to use the services of non-governmental organizations, micro-finance institutions, retired bank employees, ex-servicemen, retired government employees, Section 25 companies, and other civil society organizations as Business Correspondents in providing financial and banking services. In addition to the entities presently permitted, RBI has also permitted banks to appoint the following entities as BCs (i) Individual kirana/medical /fair price shop owners (ii) individual Public Call Office (PCO) operators (iii) Agents of Small Savings schemes of Government of India/Insurance Companies (iv) Individuals who own Petrol Pumps (v) Retired teachers and (vi) Authorized functionaries of well run Self Help Groups (SHGs) linked to banks.

Bank Branch and ATM Expansion Liberalized: Reserve Bank of India has totally freed the location of ATMs from prior authorization. Further, in the October 2009 RBI took another big step by freeing branch opening in towns and villages with a population below 49,999. After examining the recommendations of the Working Group constituted to review the extant Branch Authorization Policy, RBI has permitted domestic scheduled commercial banks (other than Regional Rural Banks) to open branches in Tier 3 to Tier 6 centres' (with population up to 49,999 as per Census 2001) without having the need to take permission from RBI in each case. The detailed RBI circular is available at its website www.rbi.org.in. Domestic scheduled commercial banks (other than RRBs) are enjoined to ensure that at least one-third of such branch expansion happens in the under banked districts of under banked states. This will be one of the criteria in the Reserve

Bank's consideration of proposals by banks to open branches in major city (Tier 1 and Tier 2) centres.

Expansion of Banks in the North-East: To improve banking penetration in the North-East, the Reserve Bank asked the State Governments and banks to identify centres where there is a need for setting up either full fledged branches or those offering forex facilities, handling government business or for meeting currency requirements.

Project Financial Literacy: Financial literacy is a stepping-stone toward financial inclusion. Moreover, as financial markets are becoming increasingly complex with serious problems of information asymmetry, the need for financial literacy has become even more acute. The Reserve Bank of India has initiated a "Project Financial Literacy" with the objective of disseminating information regarding the central bank and general banking concepts to various target groups. RBI's 'Financial Education' web site link offers basics of banking, finance and central banking for children of all ages. In a comic book format, RBI simplifies the complexities of banking, finance and central banking, with the goal of making the learning fun and interesting.

Financial Literacy and Credit Counseling: RBI has advised the convener-bank of each State Level Bankers' Committee (SLBC) to set up a financial literacy-cum-counseling centre in any one district on a pilot basis, and based on that experience, to extend the facility to other districts in due course. So far, 154 credit counseling centre's have been set up in various states of the country. These centers' are expected to provide free financial education to people in rural and urban areas on the various financial products and services, while maintaining an arm's-length relationship with the parent bank.

Conclusion:

Notwithstanding the regulatory, operational and other aspects in focus, financial inclusion is a complex issue which cannot be solved alone by any actors in the system. Formal financial institutions such as, banks, insurance companies, mutual funds, pension companies will have to join hands with small NGO-MFIs, larger NBFC- MFIs, and technology providers to enable inclusion. The strengths of these institutions will have to be put together through sound collaborations for financial inclusion. Local and national presence organizations have to ensure that these partnerships look at both commercial and social aspects to help achieve scale, sustainability, and impact. These different sets of institutions have to collaborate to deliver to and reach the large number of masses by providing comprehensive financial services and financial advice. Such collaborations will also ensure that financial inclusion is not looked upon as a social obligation, but viable business models over time.

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Annexures - Annexure-1

Deposit of Scheduled Commercial Banks - According To Population Group (Amount in Rupees crore) (No. of Accounts in Thousands)								
Year	Rural		Semi-urban		Urban		Metropolitan	
	No. of Accounts	Amount Outstanding	No. of Accounts	Amount Outstanding	No. of Accounts	Amount Outstanding	No. of Accounts	Amount Outstanding
1980	28256	3975.27	37659	7653.01	29972	8416.89	28041	13276.22
1981	34862	5261.58	43690	9368.59	33878	9967.11	31197	15815.48
1982	41537	6313.43	46169	10500.16	35966	11466.55	32514	17544.84
1983	47322	7671.98	53612	12813.96	40536	13546.25	36076	20415.31
1984	52497	9243.16	51438	13342.18	45749	16692.85	40487	25037.86
1985	57514	10411.47	62028	16758.30	53057	20416.10	43835	30181.61
1986	65873	12808.81	66625	19511.80	57176	23693.31	47534	36219.40
1987	73664	15521.63	72068	23031.88	60759	28207.96	49689	41582.00
1988	84749	19215.26	82489	27631.53	66784	32683.76	53261	48062.12
1989	89235	22046.49	86269	31430.68	70646	36841.12	55853	56712.99
1990	102113	26233.64	92314	36369.64	75747	42416.11	63140	66892.00
1991	108876	31009.80	98084	41439.17	80889	49140.02	67342	78979.37

1992	114808	35749.70	101949	46591.38	83449	55289.40	69553	99476.73
1993	117814	41409.73	104023	53584.61	87256	63934.92	70618	116921.21
1994	121299	49331.14	108502	63035.46	93032	74248.54	74046	137361.38
1995	109944	51819.62	108129	71464.36	88828	84128.74	83134	171761.42
1996	112904	61313.17	109416	83187.34	88452	95565.57	81238	186053.47
1997	116693	73769.70	110129	98045.13	88645	112577.67	81112	216163.87
1998	120060	86706.41	110705	115644.26	88536	134897.34	80731	259220.60
1999	122660	102697.07	112376	136052.49	89533	160181.05	81339	299238.47
2000	125852	120539.19	114109	161972.42	89831	188963.44	83023	349944.64
2001	131723	139431.36	116400	186188.00	92769	217832.75	87137	405981.19
2002	133000	159423.46	117394	214990.39	94622	255478.10	94975	493501.37
2003	136733	176502.39	117537	241756.68	96099	290503.36	95711	567433.27
2004	138760	195081.71	120651	268216.92	99571	330295.74	98176	717679.01
2005	141908	213104.11	125198	295685.40	101376	374891.03	98310	863133.51
2006	139570	226061.18	121664	302212.81	106172	430813.23	117692	1132087.02
2007	149663	253013.69	132808	357395.14	113422	532592.21	123306	1454043.47
2008	168034	303423.04	148361	430279.71	128021	657699.02	137241	1858544.40
2009	199695	363910.19	169725	529758.39	142272	822913.61	150611	2205398.63

Source: Basic Statistical Returns of Scheduled Commercial Banks in India, DSIM

Annexure-2

Population Group-Wise Number Of Branches Of Scheduled Commercial Banks					
YEAR	RURAL	SEMI-URBAN	URBAN	METROPOLITAN	TOTAL
1969	1833	3342	1584	1503	8262
1970	3063	3718	1744	1606	10131
1971	4280	4040	1949	1744	12013
1972	4817	4401	2504	1900	13622
1973	5561	4751	2764	2286	15362
1974	6166	5116	3091	2563	16936
1975	6807	5598	3489	2836	18730
1976	7690	6421	3998	3111	21220
1977	9537	7248	4542	3475	24802
1978	11806	7628	4843	3739	28016
1979	13337	7889	5037	3939	30202
1980	15105	8122	5178	4014	32419

1981	17656	8471	5454	4126	35707
1982	20401	8809	5693	4274	39177
1983	22686	9081	5917	4395	42079
1984	25380	9326	6116	4510	45332
1985	30185	9816	6578	4806	51385
1986	29703	10585	7209	5790	53287
1987	30209	10637	7218	5795	53859
1988	31114	11132	7322	5842	55410
1989	33014	11166	7524	5995	57699
1990	34791	11324	8042	5595	59752
1991	35206	11344	8046	5624	60220
1992	35269	11356	8279	5666	60570
1993	35389	11465	8562	5753	61169
1994	35329	11890	8745	5839	61803
1995	33004	13341	8868	7154	62367
1996	32995	13561	9086	7384	63026
1997	32915	13766	9340	7529	63550
1998	32878	13980	9597	7763	64218
1999	32857	14168	9898	8016	64939
2000	32734	14407	10052	8219	65412
2001	32562	14597	10293	8467	65919
2002	32380	14747	10477	8586	66190
2003	32303	14859	10693	8680	66535
2004	32121	15091	11000	8976	67188
2005	32082	15403	11500	9370	68355
2006	30579	15556	12032	11304	69471
2007	30551	16361	12970	11957	71839
2008	30939	17773	14415	13034	76161
2009	31601	19056	15478	13917	80052
2010	32520	20679	16876	14927	85002
2011	33263	22204	17561	15635	88663
Source: www.rbi.org.in					

Annexure 3

DEPOSITS AND CREDIT OF SCHEDULED COMMERCIAL BANKS

ACCORDING TO STATE- MARCH 2010

(Amount in Rupees Lakh)

		DEPOSITS		CREDIT	
REGION / STATE / UNION TERRITORY	**No. of Offices**	**No. of Accounts**	**Amount**	**No. of Accounts**	**Amount Outstanding**
	1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**
NORTHERN REGION	**15,087**	**1299,21,157**	**1006497,07**	**111,35,922**	**748657,66**
Haryana	2,438	191,22,928	109171,86	19,28,986	69137,99
Himachal Pradesh	1,017	60,12,266	26885,34	5,50,819	11354,94
Jammu & Kashmir	1,013	82,28,304	34002,64	6,03,884	15768,63
Punjab	3,595	275,12,123	133199,96	22,42,612	95256,31
Rajasthan	4,242	289,34,623	106736,08	37,61,704	94306,76
Chandigarh	326	23,28,101	31487,78	2,75,353	41279,19
Delhi	2,456	377,82,812	565013,41	17,72,564	421553,85
NORTH-EASTERN REGION	**2,268**	**181,26,666**	**76948,32**	**22,55,958**	**27349,89**
Arunachal Pradesh	80	5,97,334	4126,23	61,972	1136,53
Assam	1,477	130,53,882	48593,74	14,91,900	18366,61
Manipur	81	6,37,483	2699,40	86,505	1135,26
Meghalaya	213	10,25,474	7642,67	1,28,795	1957,79
Mizoram	98	3,71,837	2239,34	70,361	1191,02
Nagaland	90	5,46,675	4187,79	98,329	1269,12
Tripura	229	18,93,981	7459,15	3,18,096	2293,57
EASTERN REGION	**14,359**	**1148,61,959**	**527261,22**	**130,87,661**	**267975,59**
Bihar	4,142	296,27,334	100366,78	41,12,456	29124,88
Jharkhand	1,862	140,61,542	63582,55	14,46,467	22324,17
Orissa	2,876	196,36,233	82424,56	33,60,417	44819,61
Sikkim	74	3,45,810	3134,43	44,338	1166,66
West Bengal	5,368	509,14,354	276139,71	40,97,490	169950,81
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	37	2,76,686	1613,20	26,493	589,46
CENTRAL REGION	**17,280**	**1509,94,367**	**520190,55**	**154,15,163**	**245883,87**
Chhattisgarh	1,331	96,66,663	47777,33	10,00,553	24975,83
Madhya Pradesh	4,270	302,62,373	118182,74	39,05,973	71616,68
Uttar Pradesh	10,475	1033,98,667	312260,45	97,28,734	135128,67
Uttarakhand	1,204	76,66,664	41970,03	7,79,903	14162,68

WESTERN REGION	**13,543**		**1146,59,703**	**1448816,83**		**290,76,052**	**1145956,64**
Goa	443		33,67,087	29199,43		2,28,167	7729,47
Gujarat	4,733		396,01,836	215217,13		35,01,972	140498,03
Maharashtra	8,321		711,98,158	1201991,42		253,32,615	996859,76
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	27		2,49,144	964,19		8,533	578,11
Daman & Diu	19		2,43,478	1444,66		4,765	291,27
SOUTHERN REGION	**24,423**		**2063,05,289**	**981315,05**		**476,77,126**	**909345,67**
Andhra Pradesh	7,132		666,23,459	249263,61		136,42,946	262085,46
Karnataka	6,271		488,10,036	289774,98		87,00,034	224825,20
Kerala	4,390		305,88,842	152096,69		60,14,381	96010,91
Tamil Nadu	6,474		589,32,682	283636,55		190,69,194	322893,81
Lakshadweep	11		47,942	428,46		4,042	31,22
Puducherry	145		13,02,328	6114,75		2,46,529	3499,08
ALL-INDIA	**86,960**		**7348,69,141**	**4561029,05**		**1186,47,882**	**3345169,32**

Source: ww.rbi.org.in

Annexure 4

	All centres	
Region	**2009**	**2010**
NORTHERN REGION	5000	5043
NORTH-EASTERN REGION	1232	1249
EASTERN REGION	7711	7788
CENTRAL REGION	8012	8081
WESTERN REGION	4233	4266
SOUTHERN REGION	8381	8468

Source: www.rbi.org.in

Annexure-5

Year	**Population per office (in thousands)**
1969	64
2001	15
2002	16
2003	16
2004	16
2005	16
2006	16
2007	15
2008	15
2009	14.5

Source: www.rbi.org.in