

## MICRO FINANCING AND BANK SUSTAINABILITY

### ***Abstract***

*Deposits are foundations upon which banks thrive and grow. Deposits generate cash reserves, and it is out of the excess cash reserve a bank holds that the new loans are created. The management should ensure that the bank always has enough deposits to support the volume of loans and other financial services demanded by public. The twin objectives of a commercial bank i.e., acquiring deposits and advancing credit cannot be attained without good banking habits of the people. Therefore, people's banking habits seem to be a major factor that affects sustainability of the banks concerned. With the macro level bank data it has been found that the number of deposit accounts accruing to females is rising over the recent years as compared to male counterpart. Since in India micro financing Self Help Groups (SHGs) which recently came into existence as informal organizations in India are linked to bank and its members are females, this paper makes a modest attempt to examine whether there is any association between growth of SHGs and increase in female bank deposit accounts and whether these SHGs have a tendency to influence the account holding in formal banks.*

### **Introduction**

Deposits are foundations upon which banks thrive and grow. They are unique items on a bank's balance sheet that distinguishes banks from other types of business organizations. The ability of a bank's management and staff to attract checking and savings accounts from business and individuals is an important measure of bank's acceptance by the public. Deposits provide most of the raw materials for bank loans and thus represent the ultimate source of bank profits and growth. Deposits generate cash reserves, and it is out of the excess cash reserves a bank holds, that the new loans are created. (Rose, 1998) Important indicators of management effectiveness in any bank are whether or not deposited funds have been raised at the lowest possible cost and whether enough deposits are available to fund those loans the bank wishes to make. However its very essential to know that the twin objectives of a commercial bank i.e., acquiring deposits and advancing credit cannot be attained without a good banking habit of the people. Therefore, people's banking habits seem to be a major factor that affects profitability, productivity and sustainability of the banks concerned. Banks as the backbones of trade and commerce play the intermediary role of capital formation and supply there off. Unless the rural people constituting more than 72 percent of the total population of the country are brought under the banking network, the banks as well as the economic objectives will remain unrealized. Therefore a planned course of action should be formulated to make the rural people habitual with banking transactions. The banks credit creation i.e. how much amount that the banks can lend and at what rate of interest depends upon the cost of deposit and the amount of deposits acquired. More important is the number of deposit accounts, which plays a vital role because it ensures that the probability of account holders withdrawing cash at a time decreases as the number of deposit account increases, thereby creating an advantage to the banks in terms of

increasing the size of loanable fund<sup>1</sup>. So higher number of deposit accounts the greater is the advantage to banks. The number of deposit accounts depends on the number of deposit account holders. If number of deposit account holders has to be increased then banking habits has to be inculcated to higher proportion of population.

However there are social, economic and psychological barriers in the way of inculcating banking habits. Rural people with low income and lack of knowledge of available banking facilities can do only a little on their own for the growth of banking habits. For this a concrete effort is needed to be taken up by the society, the Government and the bankers themselves, to enhance the standard of rural people with regards to banking habits. But due to high transaction cost, the perception risk in serving the rural people who are unable to provide collateral, articulate their case for or submit proper deposit / loan proposal, the urban orientation of the banks, lack of flexibility in terms of operation, ignorance and lack of exposure to banking services etc., banks were finding it difficult in enabling them to inculcate and access banking services, which proves to be very costly (Madeshwaran & Dharmadhikari, 2001). If it is very difficult for the formal banks to change their strategy such that the inculcation and accessibility of banking services to the poor increases, is it not possible for the upcoming micro-financing SHGs to persuade the poor, bring them out from ignorance, expose them to banking system in its operations, and inculcate banking habits in them such that majority of the poor can access formal banking services?

All the studies addressing micro financing issues argue that micro financing has increased the banking habits but most of the papers speak with reference to banking habits within the micro financing SHG system. None of the studies have tried to measure inculcation of banking habits in formal banks in terms of deposit and credit account holding. This paper makes a modest attempt to examine whether there is any association between growth of SHGs and growth of female bank deposit accounts and whether these SHGs have a tendency to influence the account holding in formal banks. Here formal banking habits refer to creation and establishment of economic relationship by the person with a bank through opening up a bank account and continuing there after. Here I am looking only at the bank deposit account and not the credit account because in formal banks for having a credit account it is a necessary condition that the individual to have deposit account. So deposit account holding alone can indicate the banking habits of the people

### **Banking Habits at Macro Level**

Accordingly, if we happen to observe the macro level bank data which traces out the trend of overall deposit accounts per 1000 population, state wise on an average for the whole of India, the total number of deposit accounts per 1000 population is increasing over the years. In the year 1996 the all India average number of deposit accounts per 1000 population was just 382. Over the years it increased gradually, went up to 395 in the year 1999 and by the end of 2001 the average number of deposit accounts per 1000 population was as high as 418. Among the states, except for few north east Indian states such as Assam and Tripura, which showed a fluctuating trend, all other states had an increasing trend of deposit accounts per 1000 population. This is quite natural.

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<sup>1</sup> This logic comes from the banker's assumption that not all depositors withdraw cash at one point of time.

But a striking feature appears when the number of deposit accounts per 1000 population is analyzed on the basis of gender of the account holder (refer table 2). The analysis reveals that, on an average for the whole of India by the end of the year 2001 there are nearly 575 deposit accounts accruing to males per thousand males, which is above the national average (417 per thousand) of overall deposit accounts per thousand population. However over the years this trend has been declining. In the year 1996, the number of deposit accounts per 1000 males was as high as 598 but it gradually declined and came to a low of 575 by the end of year 2001. But on the other hand the number of deposit accounts per thousand females is increasing over the years. In the year 1996 there were only 192 deposit accounts per 1000 females but it gradually increased to 205 in the year 1999 and went up to 216 accounts per 1000 females by the end of year 2001. Though in absolute terms the deposit accounts per thousand males is much higher than that for female's, it is quite interesting to see that the deposit accounts per thousand males is decreasing but deposit accounts per thousand females is increasing over the years. What is the reason for such a trend taking place ? So what ever increase in the trend of number of deposit accounts per 1000 population observed overall is on account of increase in the trend of deposit accounts per 1000 female. Since in India almost all the SHG members under the micro-credit programmes are females, could it be attributed to them ? Is there any relation between micro-credit and this observed trend ? Before testing the relationship we shall briefly discuss the growth of SHGs among various states in India.

### **Growth of SHGs**

On the other hand, a time series analysis of the growth rate of SHGs and SHGs per 1000 females reveal that there is very large variations among the states. There are many states such as AP, Assam, Bihar, Goa, Haryana, HP, J&K, MP, Pondy, Punjab, and WB which have growth rate of SHGs / 1000 pop above national average. Other states which have SHGs growth rate below national average are A&N, Guj, Kar, Ker, Mah, Ori, Raj, TN, and UP. But if we are taking growth rate of SHGs per thousand females as such to associate with growth rate of bank deposit accounts per thousand females in each state a bias might creep in. This is because those states, which started the SHG-bank linkage program earlier would be having an overall low growth rate, and those states which started the program at a later stage would be having a high growth rate (Refer table 3). But it is not necessary that the states, which have a lower growth rate, will have a lower number of SHGs. The states with lower growth rates might have begun their SHG-bank linkage program at an earlier stage, such that it already has sufficient linkages and further linking is quite difficult. Hence most of these states with lower growth rate will have a lower number of SHGs linked in the recent years compared to the states which have a high growth rate. For example, we can observe from the table that, by the end of year 2001 Kerala has got 1826 SHGs linked to banks but still its growth rate is just 19. Where as Goa has comparatively very less number of SHGs linked to banks (27) in the same period, but its growth rate is as high as 160.

**Table 1**  
**State Wise Number of Accounts per 1000 Population, 1996 to 2001**

States / Regions	Deposit Accounts per 1000 Population					
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
<b>Northern Region</b>	<b>510.1</b>	<b>520.1</b>	<b>525.4</b>	<b>533.6</b>	<b>546.6</b>	<b>559.8</b>
Haryana	465.6	467.4	477.0	482.9	500.5	506.2
Himachal Pradesh	588.9	593.1	605.1	625.3	640.5	647.2
Jammu & Kashmir	385.7	415.5	423.9	433.8	452.3	475.4
Punjab	743.1	754.0	763.9	782.2	793.3	791.6
Rajasthan	250.5	254.0	264.3	272.0	280.1	290.0
Chandigarh	1692.7	1746.0	1770.4	1853.6	1902.5	1797.1
Delhi	1208.3	1216.9	1204.7	1189.1	1212.1	1278.8
<b>North Eastern Region</b>	<b>279.2</b>	<b>288.8</b>	<b>280.1</b>	<b>285.4</b>	<b>269.9</b>	<b>273.0</b>
Assam	278.2	296.0	301.7	299.3	290.9	291.7
Tripura	325.9	338.7	306.5	328.9	313.4	314.0
<b>Eastern Region</b>	<b>298.0</b>	<b>307.8</b>	<b>306.0</b>	<b>307.8</b>	<b>311.4</b>	<b>321.4</b>
Bihar	314.1	320.6	304.8	306.3	310.8	221.1
Orissa	227.6	241.0	242.7	250.3	252.9	267.2
Sikkim	220.2	218.3	235.0	236.6	231.3	247.9
West Bengal	413.5	428.5	438.7	438.8	443.1	453.0
<b>Central region</b>	<b>285.4</b>	<b>316.3</b>	<b>326.2</b>	<b>330.7</b>	<b>333.3</b>	<b>349.7</b>
Madhya Pradesh	324.5	327.2	332.4	327.9	332.0	268.7
Uttar Pradesh	359.5	368.2	381.5	390.0	392.5	381.8
<b>Western Region</b>	<b>425.6</b>	<b>428.4</b>	<b>431.4</b>	<b>437.3</b>	<b>447.6</b>	<b>468.1</b>
Goa	1559.5	1523.1	1563.2	1621.2	1685.3	1776.8
Guarat	388.2	400.8	408.5	413.9	429.2	451.4
Maharashtra	428.5	426.9	426.6	432.5	439.6	458.2
<b>Southern Region</b>	<b>464.4</b>	<b>458.1</b>	<b>460.6</b>	<b>470.2</b>	<b>482.6</b>	<b>499.9</b>
Andhra Pradesh	344.1	351.4	358.6	372.4	388.9	406.3
Karnataka	480.9	473.1	470.4	477.2	487.9	513.1
Kerala	617.9	616.9	632.6	641.5	645.8	645.5
Tamil Nadu	517.0	492.6	486.0	493.9	505.6	525.3
Pondicherry	599.7	614.1	654.1	634.9	672.6	691.1
<b>All India</b>	<b>382.4</b>	<b>386.8</b>	<b>390.2</b>	<b>395.9</b>	<b>402.6</b>	<b>417.5</b>

Source : RBI, Basic Statistical Returns, 1996 to 2001

### **Association Between SHGs & Bank Deposit Account Growth at Macro-Level**

To minimise this bias, the initial period (1998-99), for which the state wise data is available on SHG-bank linkage program, is taken and split into two categories on the basis of the median of the series to take only those states which had considerable number of SHGs per 1000 females to be associated with growth rate of number of bank accounts per 1000 females. The median of the series happens to be 0.018 and therefore those states which had SHGs per 1000 female greater than 0.018 had been taken into analysis. (This will also capture the length of the SHG operation involved in inculcation of banking habits). And for these states the association between the percapita number of SHGs in the

year 1998-99 and the growth rate of percapita accounts held by female (1996-2001) state wise<sup>2</sup> is positive. (See Fig.1) The states which have lower number of SHGs per thousand

**Table 3**  
**Growth Rates of SHGs & SHGs per 1000 Females across the States**  
**(1998 – 2001)**

States	Growth of SHGs Over the Years			Growth Rate	Growth of SHG/1000 Female Over the Years			Growth Rate
	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01		1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	
Andaman & Nic.	3	9	10	82.57	0.018	0.051	0.061	86.84
Andhra Pradesh	6579	29242	84939	259.31	0.179	0.786	2.258	255.39
Assam	10	46	156	294.97	0.001	0.004	0.012	288.79
Bihar	121	857	1846	290.59	0.003	0.018	0.046	324.17
Goa	4	14	27	159.81	0.005	0.018	0.041	180.97
Gujarat	879	1345	1375	25.07	0.038	0.057	0.059	24.70
Haryana	4	107	334	813.78	0.000	0.012	0.034	783.19
Himachal Pradesh	133	48	1166	196.09	0.041	0.014	0.390	210.24
Jammu & Kashmir	2	53	137	727.65	0.000	0.011	0.029	725.62
Karnataka	2002	3167	5627	67.65	0.079	0.124	0.217	65.51
Kerala	1291	1709	1826	18.93	0.079	0.104	0.112	18.59
Madhya Pradesh	461	1533	3174	162.39	0.018	0.040	0.110	200.29
Maharashtra	1058	3029	5509	128.19	0.024	0.069	0.119	121.14
Orissa	975	2021	3850	98.71	0.056	0.114	0.213	95.49
Pondicherry	15	144	150	216.23	0.028	0.257	0.308	233.26
Punjab	1	18	71	742.61	0.000	0.002	0.006	728.69
Rajasthan	465	526	2513	132.47	0.019	0.021	0.093	123.84
Tamil Nadu	2618	7671	16676	152.38	0.087	0.251	0.541	149.99
Uttar Pradesh	1464	7744	5457	93.07	0.019	0.097	0.069	92.59
West Bengal	554	2317	5351	210.79	0.015	0.061	0.138	205.40
<b>All India</b>	<b>18639</b>	<b>61600</b>	<b>140194</b>	<b>173.97</b>	<b>0.039</b>	<b>0.128</b>	<b>0.283</b>	<b>167.91</b>

Source: NABARD, NABARD & micro-finance, 2000 – 01

females in the initial stages, such as, Rajasthan, MP, UP & Maharashtra also had a lower growth rate of number of bank accounts per thousand females and on the other hand those states which had a higher percapita number of SHGs per thousand females in the initial stages such as Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala, Orissa, etc., had a higher growth rate of number of bank accounts per thousand female population.

<sup>2</sup> The state wise data for number of SHGs linked with banks is available only from 1998-99 onwards in the NABARD publication , NABARD & Micro-Finance.

To make this argument strong it is necessary for us to test this relationship between SHG membership and bank account holdings of females with the help of micro-level data. It is necessary to analyze the banking habits and its determinants at a micro-level through an appropriate primary survey. For this a purposive sampling of two villages have been done wherein the villages surveyed needed to have certain characteristics so that the impact of micro-credit SHGs on banking habits can be clearly captured. Accordingly, two villages, viz., Kavarayapatty and Pottapatty were selected as sample areas. Kavarayapatty happens to be a less experienced village in terms of number of years of operation of SHGs (2 Years), which belonged to Dindigul district. The other village (Pottapatty) was comparatively having a larger exposure to SHG operation (6 Years) and this village belongs to Madurai district of Tamil Nadu.

### **Impact of Micro Financing SHGs on Formal Banking Habits at Micro-Level**

To start with, we shall look at the percentage of population who are members of SHGs. Table 4 shows that on an average of both the villages 25.4 percentage of the total women folk are members in SHGs. Individually taken, Pottapatty village which is a more experienced village in terms of number of years of SHG operation has higher proportion of its women involved in SHGs. Now we can see the association of various SHG member's information with their bank account holding status. It can be seen in table 5 that 13.6 percent have bank accounts among the SHG members. Out of these account holders 33 percent belong to Kavarayapatty the rest 67 percent belongs to Pottapatty. What leads the variation in account holding status with in the SHG members themselves? Let us try to trace out, what determines the account holding of any SHG member?

**Table 4**  
**Distribution of Female Population on the Basis of SHG Membership & Bank Deposit Account Holding**

Village	SHG membership & Account Holding			Total
	Account Holding Status	Non-Member	Member	
Kavarayapatty	Without Account	126 (79.2)	33 (20.8)	159 (100)
	With Account	3 (42.9)	4 (57.1)	7 (100)
Total		129 (77.7)	37 (22.3)	166 (100)
Pottapatty	Without Account	129 (75.0)	43 (25.0)	172 (100)
	With Account	1 (11.1)	8 (88.9)	9 (100)
Total		130 (71.8)	51 (28.2)	181 (100)

Note1: Figures in parenthesis are percentages of respective counts to total account holders.

Note: 2 For analysis of SHG members in comparison with the non-members, only female population aged 15 years and above has been taken into consideration since the SHG members are exclusively adult females.

Source: Primary Survey Data

The association between SHG members and bank deposit account holding reveals that, Kavarayapatty, has only 11 percent of its members holding bank deposit accounts. On the other hand Pottapatty has comparatively higher proportion of its SHG members who possess bank deposit accounts 16 percentage. Hence we can say that, as the number of years of SHG existing in a particular place increases the likeliness of its members having bank deposit account is higher.

But above relationship may not hold good because many of them might have opened their account before joining the group. Therefore we cannot say that it is an impact of SHGs on its members. So if this has to be tested we need to see whether the member joined SHG before opening bank account or later. In my survey, I have collected information regarding the time point of opening account and time point of joining the SHG. So if the individual's number of years as SHG member is greater than the number of years of existence of her bank account, then we can claim that account opening by that members as an impact of operation of SHG. In table 8 considerable amount of impact of higher exposure in can be seen. We can see the proportions of people who have opened their account before and after joining SHG to total account-holding SHG members. Firstly we can observe that the operation of SHG itself have much impact on bank account holding irrespective of years of operation. Both the villages have atleast 75 percent of their SHG member account holders who have opened their account only after joining the SHG. The impact of duration of operation is much clearer. Kavarayapatty which is a less exposed village to SHG operation have 75 percent of its members having opened their account after joining SHG where as in Pottapatty which is a more experienced village has as much as 88 percentage of its SHG member account holder having opened their account after joining SHG.

**Table 5**  
**Distribution of Bank Deposit Account Holders among SHG Members**  
**According to Point of Time of Opening Account**

Village	Bank Deposit Account Status				Total
	Without Account	With Account	Opened Before	Opened After	
Kavarayapatty	33 (89.2)	4 (10.8) {33.0}	1 (2.7) [25.0]	3 (8.1) [75.0] {30.0}	37 (100)
Pottapatty	43 (84.3)	8 (15.7) {67.0}	1 (2.0) [12.5]	7 (13.7) [87.5] {70.0}	51 (100)
Total	76 (86.4)	12 (13.6) {100}	2 (2.3) {100}	10 (11.4) {100}	88 (100) {100}

Note: Figures in normal brackets indicate percentages of respective counts to total SHG population in respective village. Figures in square brackets indicate proportion to total account holders in respective village only. Figures in flower brackets are proportion to total within each column variable.

Source: Primary Survey Data

By analysing the distribution of SHG members overall according to their leadership position and bank account holdings in table 6, we can say that among the SHG members 14 percent of them have their own individual bank accounts apart from their group account. But it is important to notice that out those SHG members who have individual bank accounts 83.3 percent of them have been in a position of leading the group. Leadership gives the members more insight to the banking culture, as they are the people responsible for operating the group accounts. They are exposed fully to the operations of the bank and know how useful it is to have transaction with banks.

**Table 6**  
**Distribution of SHG members According to Leadership & Bank Account Holdings**

Leadership Status	Account Holding Status		Total
	Without account	With Account	
Not Lead at all	55 (96.5) [72.4]	2 (3.5) [16.7]	57 (100)
Lead	21 (67.7) [27.6]	10 (32.3) [83.3]	31 (100)
Total	76 (86.4) [100]	12 (13.6) [100]	88 (100)

Note: Figures in normal brackets are percentages of respective counts to total SHG in each group of leadership status. Figures in square brackets indicate proportions to total of each account holding status group.

Source: Primary Survey Data

So being a leader in the SHG gives incentives for them to have relationship with banks directly. More experienced regions with SHG operations will have more number of members with leadership experience of SHGs operation, as the leadership is given to each member in rotation. So more numbers of years of experience of SHGs operation in an area, more rotation, more SHG leaders and thus the increases in bank account holdings is higher. If the rotation of leadership is quicker, we can expect more number of bank accounts in that region. Since the rotation in Pottapatty village is very slow (once in a year and that too haphazard), the impact seems to be less than expected, though there is certainly some impact.

### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, the study has revealed that micro finance SHGs in India, which are classified under the informal organizations, intentionally or unintentionally helping the formal banks by increasing the number of account through inculcating banking habits in the rural people, especially the women. On the other hand, it has been found that banking habit is a positive function of years of experience of micro finance programs through SHGs in that particular area. The analysis also revealed that being a member in SHGs and more importantly having a leadership experience in SHGs influence the bank account holding much. The leadership experience in SHGs would brighten an individual's banking habits much more than that of a person who is just a member of SHG. If the leadership position of each SHG is systematically rotated over appropriate time periods, such that each one in the group will experience the leadership position, there will be more exposure to the people on formal banking system and further inculcate banking habits at a higher magnitude thereby enhancing the banks advantage of acquiring large number of deposit accounts.



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**Table 2**  
**State Wise Number of Deposit Accounts per 1000 Males / Females, 1996 to 2001**

States / Regions	Deposit Accounts per 1000 Males						Deposit Accounts per 1000 Females					
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
<b>Northern Region</b>	<b>794.5</b>	<b>776.4</b>	<b>764.55</b>	<b>757.88</b>	<b>751.37</b>	<b>737.29</b>	<b>269.8</b>	<b>280.4</b>	<b>289.3</b>	<b>295.7</b>	<b>303.3</b>	<b>308.1</b>
Haryana	736.6	708.0	710.37	708.07	683.80	675.07	244.4	260.0	261.6	269.7	283.4	271.0
Himachal Pradesh	856.1	799.7	802.70	804.47	785.54	866.01	304.0	333.3	324.2	330.3	339.4	383.3
Jammu & Kashmir	630.5	652.5	635.93	637.24	656.00	641.63	200.6	218.8	231.7	232.2	226.8	262.5
Punjab	1110.6	1079.0	1071.21	1079.25	1060.83	1010.17	402.9	438.7	453.7	471.4	484.4	486.3
Rajasthan	420.1	411.5	419.26	423.35	421.69	412.40	106.7	110.9	118.0	123.7	127.9	130.9
Chandigarh	2555.0	2356.7	2335.51	2446.09	2445.59	2256.88	1073.1	1266.1	1190.9	1165.8	1124.7	1036.4
Delhi	1797.9	1762.5	1621.34	1510.07	1466.85	1534.86	755.1	639.9	712.9	694.7	700.3	766.3
<b>North Eastern Region</b>	<b>446.9</b>	<b>447.9</b>	<b>421.60</b>	<b>425.22</b>	<b>381.66</b>	<b>384.40</b>	<b>124.1</b>	<b>128.4</b>	<b>123.4</b>	<b>123.3</b>	<b>121.1</b>	<b>127.8</b>
Assam	448.4	465.8	464.31	459.22	426.89	417.33	117.5	124.6	126.3	123.5	125.9	128.9
Tripura	470.9	477.9	410.10	425.50	386.51	446.17	131.9	138.2	126.5	131.8	123.5	155.6
<b>Eastern Region</b>	<b>494.4</b>	<b>508.3</b>	<b>496.89</b>	<b>492.39</b>	<b>481.60</b>	<b>476.70</b>	<b>135.6</b>	<b>134.7</b>	<b>135.2</b>	<b>137.0</b>	<b>142.9</b>	<b>136.8</b>
Bihar	416.4	421.2	397.15	392.23	385.23	326.83	115.4	112.5	104.3	103.7	105.8	96.6
Orissa	390.7	407.3	400.09	409.13	400.76	411.55	76.9	82.0	88.8	92.6	97.5	102.9
Sikkim	342.4	315.8	316.36	302.82	315.07	364.31	104.8	117.6	129.0	132.3	112.4	99.1
West Bengal	639.1	663.4	666.41	657.00	640.98	666.44	188.5	187.0	195.4	199.3	210.4	194.0
<b>Central region</b>	<b>495.9</b>	<b>498.6</b>	<b>499.90</b>	<b>498.94</b>	<b>479.80</b>	<b>495.22</b>	<b>148.7</b>	<b>148.3</b>	<b>155.6</b>	<b>157.3</b>	<b>165.3</b>	<b>170.3</b>
Madhya Pradesh	385.1	395.6	387.01	380.27	362.92	387.01	110.0	92.4	97.0	95.1	110.3	123.1
Uttar Pradesh	546.9	546.0	551.92	553.48	533.32	535.06	167.6	175.6	184.1	187.4	191.7	191.1
<b>Western Region</b>	<b>657.9</b>	<b>648.1</b>	<b>640.14</b>	<b>628.94</b>	<b>623.56</b>	<b>625.21</b>	<b>215.3</b>	<b>219.4</b>	<b>223.5</b>	<b>236.9</b>	<b>247.5</b>	<b>250.7</b>
Goa	1926.1	1814.6	1739.71	1671.81	1774.72	2160.10	957.8	920.2	965.0	1011.7	953.6	1236.4
Guarat	604.1	616.9	623.44	607.95	605.52	622.32	170.6	170.5	173.7	190.1	202.4	222.3
Maharashtra	666.2	645.2	629.70	622.23	613.25	606.03	226.2	233.0	236.7	247.9	258.5	250.8
<b>Southern Region</b>	<b>690.2</b>	<b>660.9</b>	<b>652.17</b>	<b>654.22</b>	<b>652.23</b>	<b>670.67</b>	<b>243.9</b>	<b>249.8</b>	<b>253.4</b>	<b>263.5</b>	<b>273.7</b>	<b>283.6</b>
Andhra Pradesh	532.4	532.5	536.29	545.24	549.36	570.30	159.3	165.1	169.7	183.0	197.5	205.6
Karnataka	724.3	689.6	671.39	665.85	655.42	682.37	257.9	265.7	264.7	274.7	287.2	296.8
Kerala	885.0	854.2	862.37	856.89	844.20	842.99	367.4	381.0	389.3	402.4	406.8	410.5
Tamil Nadu	752.1	692.4	667.50	672.17	674.35	694.66	268.3	268.1	271.7	277.3	282.6	298.4
Pondicherry	888.4	842.3	843.93	807.84	784.03	906.09	262.5	294.0	309.6	286.5	330.4	400.3
<b>All India</b>	<b>598.3</b>	<b>591.8</b>	<b>584.01</b>	<b>580.81</b>	<b>569.71</b>	<b>574.96</b>	<b>191.8</b>	<b>195.1</b>	<b>199.2</b>	<b>205.0</b>	<b>212.8</b>	<b>215.6</b>

Source : RBI, Basic Statistical Returns, 1996 to 2001

**Figure 1**

**Cluster Analysis Showing the Association Between Growth rate of SHGs and Growth of Female Bank Deposit Accounts in India**

