

## **Press Release on RBI's Guidelines on New Banks in Private Sector**

**NEW DELHI, February 23, 2013.** FICCI welcomes the much awaited guidelines for new banks in the private sector, released by RBI today. These new guidelines will pave the way for both corporate entities and Non Banking Financial Companies (NBFC) to begin banking operations. Clearly, India needs a larger banking sector which can support the needs and growth of indian industry . Regulations, such as the one introduced by the RBI, which allow more players and more capital in the sector are a welcome development," **said Ms.Naina Lal Kidwai, President of FICCI.**

After the passing of the Banking Amendments Bill in the last parliamentary session, the industry has been waiting for the new guidelines to be released by the RBI. FICCI is happy to see that many inputs from the private sector have been considered and incorporated in finalising these new guidelines.

With the robust eligibility guideline requirements in place for applying for new bank licenses, FICCI is certain that new players with sound financials, will help increase access to banking services and introduce new best practices in the banking sector.

FICCI is confident that the guideline requiring new banks to set up at least 25 per cent of its branches in unbanked areas will provide greater access to the financially excluded and will help spur RBI's financial inclusion agenda.

FICCI congratulates RBI on the releasing the new guidelines in a timely manner and is sure that the banking sector will soon see further growth and hopefully even consolidation in the banking space.

**FICCI MEDIA DIVISION**