

August 09, 2021

The Secretary National Stock Exchange of India Limited Exchange Plaza, Bandra Kurla Complex Mumbai - 400051 Symbol : EQUITASBNK	The Secretary BSE Limited Phiroze Jeejeebhoy Towers Dalal Street Mumbai - 400 001 Scrip Code : 543243
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Dear Sir/ Madam

**Sub: Intimation under Regulation 30 of Securities and Exchange Board of India  
(Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015**


Please find enclosed Press Release dated August 09, 2021 titled "Equitas Small Finance Bank offers a unique platform to boost Fintech Start-ups" which is being released for publication.

Kindly take the above information on record.

Thanking you.

Yours truly

For Equitas Small Finance Bank Limited

  
Sampathkumar K R  
Company Secretary



## **Equitas Small Finance Bank offers a unique platform to boost Fintech Start-ups**

~Equitas Fintech Accelerator program invites budding fintech entrepreneurs to be mentored by industry experts and VCs ~

~The program aims to be India's best Fintech Start-Up Accelerator~

**Chennai. August 9, 2021:** Equitas Small Finance Bank is set to launch 'Equitech' – a Fintech Accelerator aimed at the start-up ecosystem. It is a unique program designed to scale-up and help Fintechs curate their products and define a go-to-market strategy. This will help the Fintechs to reach the next level and take its product to the market in a more targeted manner. The program has been launched on 07<sup>th</sup> August and the application process for the enrolment has commenced. The program aims to augment the fintech ideas into outcome-driven partnerships with key focus on product and customer acquisition.

Equitech will be focusing on Banking Technology such as Payments, Lending, CASA, Transaction Banking, API banking, Governance & Regulations as well as other technologies such as Agri-tech, Banking tech, Clean Energy, Government Tech and other horizontal segments across key focus areas. The shortlisted firms will be granted direct access to a world class infrastructure through Equitas Small Finance Bank's tech platform and API sandbox for product development. There will be specific cohorts along with mentors and a panel of experts, the start-ups will work closely with these experts to create their products, Equitas will provide the necessary support required from legal and regulatory aspects. Deep-dive sessions with a pool of mentors/core groups including industry experts will be an added advantage to the budding entrepreneurs. The selected Fintech may also get to service Equitas SFB either as their first commercial business partner or as a co-brand partner.

Speaking on the occasion, **Mr. Murali Vaidyanathan, Senior President and Country Head – Branch Banking - Liabilities, Products & Wealth, Equitas Small Finance Bank Limited,** said: "As a leading small finance bank, we are excited and proud to present the striving Fintech entrepreneurs with an opportunity to realize their dreams and present them with various avenues to step-up their fintech idea. The program is unique and carefully planned to support the growing entrepreneurs to achieve their goal and benefit the society. We are certain that the program will be a golden opportunity for the aspirants to learn from some of the best industry mentors and accelerate growth by allowing access to world class infrastructure and support to develop their products and ideas. We are confident that this initiative will be promoting some of the greatest digital innovations for the future."

"Indian Fintech ecosystem is experiencing exponential growth from almost all of the sub segments ranging from Payments and RegTech to Robo-advisory and Blockchain. This growth is driven by the innovative Fintech start-ups that were able to create unique banking trends like BaaS, Neo Banking, Open Banking, Autonomous Finance etc. These innovations have significantly impacted the way Indian Banking industry functions and has resulted in India seeing a 60% increase in Fintech investments despite the pandemic. The Fintech start-ups space is on a dynamic path of growth and we are glad to be able to assist and nurture the future unicorns in upgrading the banking system for the next level," added Murali.

The Fintech Accelerator Program has been opened on 07<sup>th</sup> August 2021 and interested start-ups can register their entries at [www.equitech.co.in](http://www.equitech.co.in). After the initial screening, discussion rounds to understand the company's product, key strengths, team composition etc. will be held. Upon successful onboarding of the program, final pitch/demo will be presented to potential investors.

To enrol, a Fintech Start-up must be registered / incorporated within last 6 years as on date of the Accelerator Program opening and should have at least 2 full-time employees, with most important team members having expertise in their field. The start-up must present innovative product/ idea with significant advantages over current industry offerings and should represent original ideas wholly owned with the freedom to use.

#### **About Equitas Small Finance Bank Limited [ESFB]**

Equitas Small Finance Bank is one of the largest small finance banks in India. As a new-age bank, we offer a bouquet of products and services tailored to meet the needs of our customers – individuals with limited access to formal financing channels, as well as affluent and mass affluent, Small & Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and corporates. Our firmly entrenched strategy focuses on providing credit to the unbanked and underbanked micro and small entrepreneurs, developing products to address the growing aspirations at the 'bottom of the pyramid', fuelled by granular deposits and 'value for money' banking relationships.