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Role of National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)and Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) in Indian Microfinance

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8 Abstract

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Economists have long agreed that access to finance plays an essential role in the process of dipping the inequality in wealth distribution, it enhancing the household income and provide 10 better employment opportunities. Microfinance in India is now mounting and covering wider 11 boundaries more importantly it gets appreciations as a tool to reduce poverty. It has become 12 a critical tool for reaching all those under privileged groups such as women, socially and 13 economically backward classes for the purpose of empowerment and providing access to the 14 financial services. It is a cost effective mechanism for providing financial services to the poor. 15 This working paper tries to outline the prevailing conditions of the Microfinance in India. 16 Further the paper the paper is highlighting the financial promotional support by NABARD 17 and SIDBI in the sector of microfinance. 18

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20 Index terms—microfinance, self help group, NABARD, refinance, SIDBI and MFIs.

21 **1** Introduction

mall savings of the economically deprived people for the purpose of their future requirement and for the resolution 22 23 of credit, insurance services and to meet special goal of empowerment of such privileged group is the basic need 24 of development for any developing country. To ensure these amenities microfinance came into existence. The concept of microfinance has become the master concept in deprived countries of Asian, since the success and 25 innovative idea of microfinance by Grameen bank of Bangladesh. The concept of microfinance does not remain 26 27 restricted to Asian countries only it has widen all around the world and emerged as a powerful tool for poverty alleviation, especially in third world countries including India, it has established its standard in developing 28 countries as imperative means for diminution of poverty. Microfinance is all about finance the inclusive financial 29 system is associated with faster growth and better income distribution (Badu & Jindal, 2000). Microfinance is 30 meant for the wealth supply to people who are extremely poor, as Mohammad Younis founder of the innovative 31 concept of micro finance in Bangladesh said conventional banks look for the rich but Grameen bank look for the 32 absolute poor this clearly indicates that such scheme is meant for unfortunates, and unfortunately people of India 33 34 is said to be the home of one third of the world's total unfortunate population. The factor like abject poverty, 35 low education, diseases, and infrastructure are major issues which Indian fail to address since its independence. 36 Keeping in view all the factors of socio-economic of poor the World Bank has categorized India under the low 37 income class ??World Bank, 1990). So the notion of microfinance has set up an optimistic field in Indian economy. India constitutes the second largest populated nation in the world but the astonishing is that worlds one third 38 poor population lives in India which in result leads India to abject poverty, low education ratio, low standard of 39 life, low sex ratio and exploitation. Microfinance against poverty has been recognized as one of the best tools 40 by a number of countries including India for the proper address of unfortunate people. In India the program of 41 microfinance has inherent capacity to unveil the untapped potentiality of under privileged by mobilizing them to 42

pool their own funds, building their capacities, and empowering them to leverage external credit (Zubair, 2006).
The availability of finance to poor helps them to catch up with the rest of the economy as it grows. Finance also

⁴⁵ helps extend the range of individuals, households and firms and get a grip in the modern economy.

46 Microfinance is growing and suitable structure for India poor for their well being in every aspect. It has been 47 confidently agreed that finance supportive schemes for rural development excessively boosts the income growth of the poorest, reduces income inequality, and this is strongly associated with poverty alleviation (Beck, Kunt 48 & Peria, 2006). No doubt that India has grown enormous but majority of ill-fated people still does not seem to 49 have access to finance from conventional sources, it takes an average of 33 weeks to get a loan approved in rural 50 India, with borrowers having to pay up to 42% of their loan amounts in bribes to officials ??World Bank, 2005). 51 So clearly means it is very hard for the Indian poor to get credit support from conventional banks and profit 52 earning institution. 53

For a successful entrepreneur, finance is as much important as innovation of ideas and risk bearing factor are. 54 In India the ideas and risk bearing factor was never the problem, the rich ideas and risk taking entrepreneurs 55 are numerous in India, both in rural and the urban areas, but the setback of non availability of funds or 56 finance is hammering these entrepreneurs. Since the independence and prior to that, Indian government has 57 strenuous more on industrialization especially in the beginning years of independence which makes the condition 58 59 of entrepreneurs even worse. Similarly government promoted commercial banks more than the development banks, 60 those commercial banks never came forward for the promotion of ideas and innovations. These commercial banks 61 always looked forward for the prosperous customer were they can get advantage for the wealth maximization, they never thought about the poor and those customers, where from margin of profit was less. As there was 62 no other promotional support from the government for the proper alleviation of poverty and endorsement of 63 entrepreneurs this led the condition of poor and entrepreneurs worst then the worse. The detraction of financial 64 opportunities to the maximum population of rural India through banking inclusion has indirect effect upon the 65 attainment of education and health opportunities and this in turn, has adverse impact on social, financial, and 66 economic empowerment of poor, since the need of microfinance came into existence. 67

Microfinance was in India since independence but has attained its recognition in the late years of 1970's with 68 the motive of equality, equity and mutual self-help and on the philosophy of cooperation and mutual benefits. 69 There is no unique definition of microfinance, different countries and different people define it differently, however 70 many initiators who have worked for elevation of microfinance has defined microfinance as. At the initial stage 71 72 it was believed that microfinance is a narrow concept of financial services, that is general services like saving 73 and credit there to (Ledgerwood, 1999). Later it is said that it can also include other financial services such as insurance and payment services. ??Schreiner & Colombet, 2001). With the passage of time and the improvement 74 of microfinance, people start to believe that microfinance is a "provision of carefulness of credit and other financial 75 services and products of very small amounts to the poor in rural, semi-urban and urban areas, for enabling them 76 to raise their income levels and improve living standards" (Microfinance study mode, 2009). Further Indian Micro 77 Finance Bill defines it as Micro Finance is an economic development tool whose objective is to assist the poor to 78 work with their way out of poverty. It covers a range of services which include, in addition to the provision of 79 credit, many other services such as savings, insurance, money transfers, counseling, etc. (Standing Committee 80 On Finance, 2014). All together we can summarize microfinance as the service rather than the core meaning of 81 finance, it is the service of providing the finance and financial services to the people in rural, semi urban and 82 urban areas for assisting them to raise their income level and improve living standard. Microfinance is for the 83 intensive development; (severe) growth strategy of microfinance sector can be cost effective and ensure the long 84 term sustainability of the sector (Craig and Cheryl, 2006). Microfinance is now mostly concerned with rural 85 people as the urban market has become overcrowded and vast area of rural is to cover yet, microfinance institutes 86 with the collaboration of central development banks and Non-Government organizations(NGO's) carrying out 87 the operation in these areas. 88

Microfinance institution and microfinance itself came into existence in early 1980s with small efforts at forming 89 informal self-help groups (SHG) to provide access to much-needed savings and credit services. From this small 90 beginning, the microfinance sector has grown significantly in the past decades. Even though microfinance 91 institutes (MFI) in India works for urban and rural poor in different states of India with different names but 92 the aim of these institutions is to enable under privileged people to become self-reliant by engaging them in 93 income generating activities. Further by participating in its livelihood and financial literacy programs. These 94 Microfinance institutions can either provide savings services directly through deposit taking or make arrangements 95 with other financial institutions to provide savings facilities to tap small savings in a flexible manner (Barry, 1995). 96 The main product which they (MFI's) offer is the micro credit for the deprived people, which is said to be the 97 synonymous to microfinance in Indian context. However microfinance is not confined to credit only other services 98 99 like savings, thrift and microfinance has not attained its heights (CRISIL, 2009). Microfinance sector in India is fragmented from east to west and from north to south of the national boundary, we have crossed the mark of 4000 100 solo MFI's, NGO's and mutual NGO-MFIs of which more 400 have active lending programs, the loan capacity of 101 Indian MFI's has crossed the mark of 35000 crore by March 2015. However these microfinance institutions were 102 incomplete without the financial support of National bodies like the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural 103 Development (NABARD) and Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) which are offering significant 104 (financial resources) and financial services to the world of microfinance and financial institutions. 105

Saving of small amount by the number of people in the group can help them at the time of authentic need and saving makes the people of the group more disciplined towards the future Volume XVI Issue I Version I misfortunate's. To some extent this microfinance concept of SHG is based on the principle of Adam Smith who said "The best result comes from everyone in the group doing what's best for himself" further he said self-interest is one of the important aspect of nation wealth maximization. The growing rate of SHGs in India shows that the people themselves disciplined towards the saving.

¹¹² 2 a) Status of microfinance in India 2008 onwards

Microfinance in India is running under two basic models of microfinance one is Self Helping Group (SHG) Model 113 and other one is Micro financial institute model. The SHG model works on the principle of directly financing to 114 SHG by the banks and MFI model covers financing of micro finance institutions(MFIs) by banking agencies for 115 the purpose of lending the same amount to SHG's and other small barrowers (NABARD, 2009). From one side it 116 is Self Help Group (SHG) which is based upon the saving of groups (SG) that is selfmanaged community based 117 groups that provide their members access to basic financial services. SHGs are composed of 15 to 25 self-selected 118 individuals who meet regularly (usually weekly or fortnightly) to save and, if desired, borrow for short periods, 119 paying monthly interest at a rate set by the group (Aga Khan Development Network [AKDN]) even government 120 is coming forward to help these SHG's. From the other side microfinance institutes find out the deprived ones 121 and helps them to have access to finance with their own and from government organizations especially from 122 NABARD and SIDBI. 123

The financial institutions and SHG's in India have set their standard to reduce poverty since decades. There 124 are some financial institutions which came into existence but do not budge for the long, however their contribution 125 can not the ignored. These institutions have added their best to extend microfinance massage to the people and 126 had accord for the up-liftment of the covered area. We have taken the contributory microfinance institution and 127 SHG's which have helped to make financial assistance available to helpless people since 2008 till 2014. We have 128 shown the variation in the number of SHG's and MFI's. Further their contribution to the world of finance in 129 India. The table above shows two important aspects related to the microfinance, first one is the table shows the 130 increase and decrease in the number of Self Help Group which has marvelous growth in number during the year 131 2009-10 and 2010-11 but in very next two years it has shown downward trend in the growth of numbers. 132

Further under SHG we have taken how much loan has been distributed and how much loan is outstanding in particular year. The increasing and decreasing trend of loan distribution has been calculated and shown in the graph by taking 2008-2009 as a base year. The loan distribution has shown positive growth in each year especially the year 2009-10, 12-13 and 2013-14 has astonishing growth, however the year 2010-11 and 2011-12 have not that much impressive growth.

138 In the second part, the table shows the growth and decline in the number of Microfinance institutions with 139 that it also shows how much loan has been distributed through MFI's and how much loan is outstand yet. The number of MFI are not great in number yet, its total number has been struggling since last five years the number 140 has not touched the 1000 mark yet many MFI came into existence but only few has sustained in the market the 141 number was 581 and 691 in the year 2010 and 2011 but unfortunately and miss management of these MFI the 142 number is coming down and has reached to 545 in the year 2014. However the financial support of these MFI's 143 is quite inspiring, the loan distribution shown positive growth from the year 2009 till 2012 but unfortunately the 144 distribution has come down with sharp decline in the year 2012-13 but there after it has again moved towards 145 positive distribution direction. Further the loan outstanding is also shown against the amount of loan disbursed. 146 If we analyze the data we came to know that loan repayment is good in case of MFI's even though amount loan 147 distribution is small in MFI's. This loan repayment is the future growth of microfinance sector, good will be 148 loan repayment better will be the growth of the sector at all. SHGs and MFI's, needed bit batter approach for 149 the repayment and timely repayment of credit this definitely will increase the number of barrowers and will take 150 that microfinance sector in India to the new success. 151

¹⁵² 3 Graph 1 : Loan distribution to SHG's &MFI's and the Outstanding balance of the loan to MFIs b) National Bank ¹⁵⁴ for agricultural and Rural Development (NABARD) and ¹⁵⁵ Microfinance

Microfinance in India is playing an important role in poverty alleviation and is widely credited for its success 156 both nationally and internationally. As we know India's labor force is composed of Agriculture (60%), Industry 157 158 (12%) and services (28%) which clearly indicate that even today agriculture is a major source of income and 159 employment, keeping this in view government of India came up with National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development (NABARD) in the year 1982 as a National development bank. The institute was accredited with 160 all matters concerning to policy, planning and operational in the field of credit for agriculture and economic 161 activities further all necessary matters patterning to providing & Regulation of credit and other facilities for the 162 promotion and development of agriculture, village industries, handicrafts and other rural crafts. The corporate 163 mission of NABARD is to make microfinance available to the abject poor and under privileged group of the 164

7 SMALL INDUSTRIES DEVELOPMENT BANK OF INDIA SIDBI AND MICROFINANCE

rural areas. It offers a means for reaching the poor who are left out of the formal financial sector. NABARD 165 is essentially new way to create a scalable and sustainable employment and to meet the unmet availability of 166 funds for business related to agriculture. It has provided linkage to Self Help Group's since last three decades; 167 NABARD had assigned itself the role of a facilitator and a mentor of the initiative. The focus was on bringing 168 169 in various stakeholders on a common platform, building capacity among the stakeholders to take the movement forward while extending 100% refinance to all banks participating in the program (NABARD, 2012). Besides 170 that NABARD conducts large number of seminars, workshops and training programs to create awareness about 171 the microfinance program among all the stakeholders. 172

c) Nabard Linkage With Shg's 4 173 NABARD with the experimental study with small group of people in the year 1992 by linking 255 Small Helping 174 Groups and 48.5 lakh credit-linked SHG's and has become apex body for microfinance in India ??NABARD, 175 2009). Since its formation it has provided output also (Binswanger & Khandker, 1992). NABARD provides 176 refinance support, micro development equity fund, small credit and other facilities for promotion, expansion, of 177 Self Help Groups not only self-help groups its provides support to individual level for the drive of plummeting 178 poverty and allied activities for the purpose of development of the people mostly rural. It has become link 179 between Reserves Bank, Commercial Banks and the people and further Microfinance institutions could also serve 180 as intermediaries between borrowers and the formal financial sector and on-lend funds backed by a public sector 181 guarantee (Phelps 1995). It has envisaged as an organizational device to provide undivided attention, forceful 182 direction and a pointed focus to the credit problems arising out of an integrated approach to rural development, 183 NABARD provides Opportunities to keep safe their occasional small surpluses in the form of saving and access 184 to consumption loans to meet emergent needs so that people have free access to financial services and products, 185 including loans for micro-enterprises. 186

¹⁸⁷ 5 d) Refinance Support

Refinance is one of the top and most effective programs of NABARD under this scheme NABARD refinance 188 to banks at 100% at a concessional rate of interest at 6.75% p.a. and financial assistance provided to banks 189 to function as promoting institutions. It is microcredit initiative by NABARD for the motive of providing 190 promotional support to social enterprises, stake holders of SHG's and microfinance clients by providing micro-191 capital for their small and medium business needs. The government of India in the year 2000-01 introduced this 192 promotional support program with the name Micro-finance Development Fund (mFDF) and its initial corpus 193 was Rs 100 crore to be funded by Reserve bank of India, NABARD and Commercial banks in the ratio of 194 40:40:20. Further in the year 2005-2006 the name has been modified as Microfinance Development and equity 195 Fund(MFDEF) and the budget of this program has been increased to 200 crore in the same ratio ??NABARD, 196 2006). NABARD is socially conscious and is working continuously for the promotional support. In the year 197 2010-11 the corpus of MFDEF has increased 400 crore and NABARD has contributed Rs29.95 crore as grant 198 towards various promotional activities out of that Rs. 17.45 crore was for the capital support. Further in the 199 year 2011-12 NABARD provided Rs.33.31 crore for promotional support out of the Rs. 28.68 was grant support 200 for promotion and Rs. 4.63 was for capital support. NABARD has been expanding these funds from its own 201 resource and has also been crediting interest on the unutilized portion of the funds (NABARD, 2012). In the 202 year 2012-13 NABARD devote Rs. 33.50 crore for promotional support and has utilized 3700 NGO's and other 203 partners for the dissemination of promotional support. On the 31 March 2013 government of India and Reserve 204 Bank of India decided to formally close MFDEF scheme but NABARD has to provide continuous support for 205 the promotion and awareness of microfinance among the people (NABARD, 2013). Inclusive growth has been 206 succinctly defined by the Asian Development Bank as "growth that not only creates new economic opportunities, 207 but also ensures equal access to the opportunities created for all segments of society, particularly for the poor" 208 (Ali & Son, 2007). 209

²¹⁰ 6 II.

7 Small Industries Development Bank of India sidbi and Micro finance

NABARD has almost covered every aspect of agriculture and Rural development by delivering its important 213 214 services to the under privileged people, however there are some areas like industries, services and business which 215 are not covered under NABARD but are important source of employment and income all they need is the finance 216 to grow. So, the Government of India for the micro financing of small industries and enterprise with the help of 217 Micro financial institutions (MFI) and Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) came up with Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) in the year 1990 which was set-up with the aim of promoting, financing 218 development of Industries in the small scale sector and coordination of the functions of other institutions engaged 219 in similar activities (SIDBI). SIDBI is playing active role in delivering bulk finance to MFI/NGOs so that they 220 can expand their operations and to reach the people who actually are in need of finance at a small amount 221 (SIDBI, 2009). It is believed that the Small scale industries in India are small in size but big in achievement 222

??Prasad, 1974). Ever since the inception of SIDBI it is continuously offering products and services in areas where there is a need, it including direct finance, international finance, government subsidy and fixed deposits mostly the microfinance services are offered indirectly through its main clients like Financial institutions and NGOs to the individuals, investors and entrepreneurs. Financial institutions with the help of SIDBI offers loans

to micro and small entrepreneurs (MSE) which is said to be one of the most powerful tools to fight poverty and promote growth (Morduch, 1999;Robinson, 2001). Microfinance is not only the approach towards the poverty

reduction it is a complete focus on development and negotiation between outreach and efficiency (Rhyne, 1998).
 SIDBI contributes in the Indian microfinance sector by providing credit and capacity building grants to large-

and medium-scale microfinance institutions. Micro Finance Scheme of SIDBI are under operation since January, 1999 with a corpus of Rs.100 crore and a network of about 190 capacity assessed rated MFIs/NGOs Under the

program ??Charantimal,2012) works on the SHG model in countries like India. It is a financial systems approach to expanding outreach of the Indian financial sector to cover the comparatively comprehensive sector.

235 ? Microfinance is a critical tool for reaching all those under privileged group such as women, socially and 236 economically backward classes for the purpose to empower them and greatly improve their lives.

237 ? The microfinance, in India is now a growing appreciation of the 'empowerment' dimension of finance, of the 238 extent to which it can give ordinary people and the poor access to opportunity and the ability to escape from 239 the ossified social structures.

Although the sustainability and profitability of microfinance enterprises is frequently questioned, it is
 important to understand that microfinance is nonetheless a crucial component of development.

? NABARD and SIDBI are two important institutions being setup for the Purpose to improve income and
reduce vulnerability of poor people and small producers by expanding their access to finance and markets.
Microfinance is one of the important services provided by these institutions to achieve their mission of alleviation
of poverty.

? NABARD is providing financial as well as promotional support to the SHGs and the individuals. Refinance,
Capacity Building Program and Micro Finance Development and Equity Fund (MFDEF), are the important
services of NABARD, which helps in meeting the equity needs of SHG and MFIs to some extent.

249 ? It was reported for several years that the repayment rates of loans under microfinance were above 95 per 250 cent. In fact, the high repayment rates in this sector were considered to be the most prominent feature of micro 251 finance.

252 ? While SIDBI is not showing positive growth like NABARD, it is because SIDBI is losing confidence in 253 lending to MFIs is evident from the fact that the fresh lending to MFIs will increase the Nonperforming Assets 254 (NPA) to the bank, the lending operations has declined by over 75% in year 2014 as compared to year 2010. 255 There has also been a major decline in the number of MFIs availing fresh loans the number of MFIs was 146 256 in the year 2010, 139 in 2011,129 in the year 2013 and 84 in the last year. In spite of the fact that the loan 257 outstanding against MFIs has come down dramatically during the past years banks like SIDBI are not ready for 258 the risk of lending.

? Beginning with the refinancing agency to banks and other state level financial institutions for their credit,
 SIDBI has expended its activities including direct finance, bills finance, subsidies and promotion and development
 to small and medium entrepreneurs.

? The SIDBI and NABARD are two model institutes, for poverty alleviation and an groundbreaking approach
 to ensure access in rural contexts of India, where few options for financial services exist.

264 IV.

265 8 Conclusion

Financial development through outreach of microfinance program has an important bearing on the growth 266 of human capital and thus, in turn, influences the incidence of poverty and under privileged empowerment. 267 Institutions like NABARD and SIDBI have call for the coordination effort with the objective of strengthening 268 and main-streaming the future operations of microfinance for the uplift of each sect of the society. NABARD 269 and SIDBI has improves the sector of microfinance and has witnessed substantial amount of resources being 270 earmarked towards meeting the credit needs of the poor. The banking network underwent an expansion phase 271 without comparables in the world and more importantly deprived people got the benefits of the different financial 272 services. These two institution bring the concept of deserve to desire in the world of microfinance in India. 273

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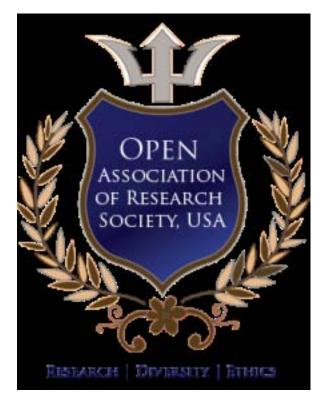


Figure 1:

	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
SHG's			Amount in (Cr.)			
Total NO.	6121147	6953250	7962000	7660000	7318000	7430000
Loan Disb.	12253.51	14453.30	14547.73	16534.77	20585.36	24017.36
Loan O/S	22679.81	28038.28	31221.17	36340.00	39345.30	49297.96
MFI's			Amount in (Cr.)			
Total No.	581	691	471	465	426	545
Loan Disb.	3732	8062.74	8848.96	5205.29	7839.51	10282.49
Loan O/S	5009.09	10147	13730.62	11450.35	14425.82	16517.43

Figure 2: Table 1 :

$\mathbf{2}$

Year 2009- 10	Total of	Refinance by NABARD Growth		Cumulative Refinance by NABARD Total Growth				
10	the Year	Amount	%		Amount	%		
	3175.56	555.53	21.2	12861.65	3175.36	32.7		
		(3175.56 - 2620.03)			(12861.65 - 9686.09)			
2010-	2545.36	(-631.2)	-	15407.01	2545.36	19.8		
11			19.9					
		(2545.36 - 3175.56)			(15407.01 - 12861.65)			
2011- 12	3072.59	527.36	20.7	18479.60	3072.59	19.9		
		$(3072.59 \hbox{-} 2525, 36)$			(18479.60-15407.01)			
2012- 13	3916.64	844.05			3916.64	21.2		
		(3916.64 - 3072.59)	27.5	22396.24	(22396.24 - 18479.60)			
2013- 14	3745.84	-170.8	-4.3	26142.08	3745.84	16.72		
		(3745.84 - 3916.64)			26142.08-22396.24			

Figure 3: Table 2 :

3

Year	Loan	disbursed Amount	Varia	tion	Loan o	utstanding Amount		Variation
	MFIs	Rs(crore)	MFIs	Amount	MFIs	Rs(crore)	MF	I Amount
2009-10	88	2665.75	0	0	146	3808.20	0	0
2010-11	2	843.78	-86	-1821.97	139	3041.77	-7	-
								766.43
				(68.3%)				
2011-12	12	239.42	+10	-604.78	129	1597.11	-	-
							10	1444.6
				(71.6%)				
2012-13	41	408.27	+29	168.85	102	1880.63	-	+283.5
							27	
				(70.5%)				
2013-14	41	646.01	0	237.74	84	1979.90	-	99.27
							18	

(58.2%)

Graph 2 : Showing Comparison of cumulative growth

e) Promotional Support

i. Micro Finance Development and Equity Fund

(MFDEF)

Figure 4: Table 3 :

 $\mathbf{4}$

- ? SIDBI Foundation for Micro Credit (SFMC):-
- ? Microfinance Equity Fund (IMEF):-
- ? India Microfinance Platform:-
- ? Capacity Building Support for the sector:-
- ? Opening of specialized Microfinance branches

Figure 5: Table 4 (

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