Microfinance Institutions Network inducts Dr. Aruna Sharma as an Independent Board Member

New Delhi, 18th March, 2019: Microfinance Institutions Network (MFIN), the premier industry association and Self-Regulatory Organization (SRO) for the microfinance industry in India has announced inclusion of Dr. Aruna Sharma as a fourth Independent Board Member at its 66th Board Meeting held on 6th March 2019.

Dr. Aruna Sharma will be part of MFIN’s Governing Board which now constitutes twelve members of which seven elected members are from the leadership of MFIN member NBFC-MFIs, one of MFIN Associates and four are Independent Board Members. The Governing Board supports the broad goals of the organization by providing overall direction to its activities for ensuring the healthy development of the NBFC-MFI industry.

Speaking on the appointment Harsh Shrivastava, CEO, MFIN said, “I am delighted to welcome Dr. Aruna Sharma to the Governing Board of MFIN. She joins us at a time when the sector is witnessing many positive changes and we believe her expertise and knowledge will hold MFIN in good stead, allowing us to pursue our goals of responsible lending and client protection in the business of microfinance. We wish her all the best for her new role.”

Sharing her sentiments on being appointed as a board member, Dr. Aruna Sharma, said “With a deep sense of duty and high resolve, I accept this new responsibility. It is indeed an honor to be part of such a noble industry that is working towards financial inclusion and women empowerment while filling the credit access gap at the grassroots level. I hope that through my experience I will be able to contribute in strengthening the policy framework as well as replicating best practices that aim at client protection, satisfaction and well-being.”

Dr. Sharma is a retired Indian Administrative Service Officer from the Madhya Pradesh cadre of the 1982 batch. In 2018, she retired as Secretary - Steel, Government of India and prior to that, she was the Secretary, Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India. Dr. Sharma has also served as the Development Commissioner and Additional Chief Secretary, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj in Madhya Pradesh. She has also served as Commissioner and Secretary of Public Health, MP Government and as Managing Director of the MP Dairy Federation.

Dr. Sharma has a Masters in Development Studies from the University of Bath, UK and a PhD in Development Economics from Delhi University.

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About Microfinance Institutions Network (MFIN)
MFIN is the premier industry association and Self-Regulatory Organization (SRO) for the microfinance industry in India and its current primary members consists of 53 NBFC-MFIs along with 38 Associates including Banks, Small Finance Banks (SFBs) and NBFCs. MFIN works closely with regulators and other key stakeholders to achieve the larger financial inclusions goals through microfinance.

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