Bismillahir Rahmanir Rahim

Dear Shareholders

Assalamu Alaikum

It is indeed a great honor and privilege for me to welcome you all to the Ninth Annual General Meeting of the members of Dutch-Bangla Bank Limited. On behalf of the members of the Board of Directors and on my own let me take this opportunity of congratulating and expressing my sincere thanks and gratitude to you all for your continued support and cooperation which have helped in achieving success in all the areas of banking operation. It is your kind patronage and continued support that have resulted in greater success in all areas of operation of your Bank, a brief picture of which is presented hereunder for kind information of all shareholders.

Bangladesh has been consistently implementing market transformations aimed at achieving macro economic balance for its economic growth. Pragmatic policies of the Government, strong and at times stringent supervision of the Central Bank, complexities and confusions in domestic as well as global economy together with the phalanx of banks in the local market, made the Banking Sector in Bangladesh more demanding and increasingly competitive. In such a tough condition, by using state-of-the-art world standard modern technologies, prudent and conservative policies, we tried our best to propel the bank focusing on the core banking areas of Consumer Banking, Corporate Banking and Foreign Trade Banking. Our commitment to the shareholders to preserve and enhance the value of their investments continues. The growth and performance of the Bank for the year 2004 as expressed in the financial reports bear the testimony of our stated commitments.
Dear Shareholders:

The world economy is, perhaps, recovering slowly from the recession that we have been observing during the last few years. The overall global economic recession, together with natural calamities devastating the country one after another, has taken a heavy toll on our national economy. In this transitional period, to bring back the momentum for the economic development of the country, strong remedial measures from the Government as well as from the financial sector are essential. For strengthening the country's industrial sector and accelerating the growth of the country's trade and commerce, Dutch-Bangla Bank Limited, I firmly believe, is playing its due role by way of reducing prices and providing quick and differentiated services to its valued customers so as to develop competitiveness of our home grown business leaders to meet the challenges of the global economy.

Dear Shareholders:

With a view to providing world class banking facilities to the customers, DBBL in the year 2004, by investing Taka250.00 million, has entered into state-of-the-art total automation program, which we proudly claim as "Truly On-Line Banking". As part of our on-line Banking Program, we have launched Internet Banking, DBBL Nexus Debit Card, DBBL-Maestro Debit Card and DBBL Credit Card. All of our Branches are now "Truly On-line" and fully automated to provide real time any-where any - branch banking services. We have set up our own exclusive ATMs and POS terminals located at strategic points through out the country. Our customers can now enjoy and avail our banking services 24 hours a day and 365 days a year. DBBL has tools to reach every corner of the planet through combination of SWIFT, Internet Banking, ATM and POS pools.

Honorable Shareholders:

We, in DBBL believe in the philosophy of sustained and steady growth instead of rapid and unplanned expansion. With the aim of expanding its banking network, DBBL by this time has spread its wings and opened branches in Khulna and Sylhet and has plan to expand its network to cover all the important districts so that the total number of branches comes to 33 by the end of 2005.

Respected Shareholders:

The year 2004 was another fruitful and successful year for your Bank. You will be glad to know that this year the earnings per share attributable to shareholders amounted to Taka129.97 per share as against Taka103.97 per share last year. The Board has recommended dividend of Taka22.50 per share of Taka100.00 each for the year 2004, awaiting kind approval of the house.

Total equity at the end of 2004 stood at Taka 978.39 million as compared to that of Taka792.07 million of 2003. The Statutory Reserve of the Bank rose to Taka 352.90 million in the year 2004 from Taka 253.09 million in 2003. The Capital Adequacy Ratio (CAR) on December 31, 2004 stood at 10.13% against standard minimum of 9%, while the Tier-1 ratio is 6.93% as against the standard of 4.50%. The Classified Loan position continued to be one of the lowest among the contemporary banks in the country and as on 31st December 2004 stood at only 0.16% of total Loans and Advances as against 0.36% in 2003. The classified loan in absolute term also reduced from Taka...
chairman's foreword

41.58 million in 2003 to Taka 23.24 million in 2004. DBBL deposits soared to Taka 21,067.56 million compared to Taka 17,133.81 million in 2003, registering an increase of 22.96% over the previous year. Simultaneously, loans and advances increased to Taka 14,976.06 million in 2004 from Taka 11,431.32 million in 2003, which is an increase of 31%.

Distinguished Shareholders:

To uphold our commitment to the shareholders for maximizing returns on their investment and also increasing the value thereof, we give utmost priorities to continuation of stable and steady growth, broadening and improving range of products and services as well as improving goodwill of the company. The fundamentals of the Bank have cemented into a strong edifice, based on the harmonious symbiosis of structural and knowledge capital. Accordingly, we constantly endeavor to present the best products and services to our customers and healthy working environment with performance-based career path progression for our employees. Tenure mismatch of deposit and advance is always a cause of mental agony for the management. Raising fund, through issuing Bonds, can among others plug such gaps. After successfully launching 'DBBL Industrial Bond' in the year 2003, we are now aiming to launch 'DBBL Housing Bond' to provide long term loan facility for development of the housing sector as well as to boost creation of a secondary bond market in the country. All our efforts were dedicated and aimed at making your Bank, the best Bank in terms of customer service, profitability and technology integration. The year-end result of steady growth, sound capital base and negligible non-performing assets etc are testimony of facts resulting in putting your Bank as top class Bank among the local and foreign banks operating in the country. For this, I am personally thankful to the members of the Board of Directors and the Management and employees of all categories for their dedicated services, above all you, the respected shareholders for your strong support, which aided DBBL to secure the zenith position for last couple of years.

I am also grateful to the Ministry of Finance, Bangladesh Bank, Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and Firms, Stock Exchanges and other regulatory bodies. I would like to extend our thanks and appreciation for the dedicated efforts of the Chief Executive Officer and his professional team.

I look forward for your continued support and best wishes as we move forward to meet the challenges that await us in days to come.

With best regards

Mohammed Sahabuddin Ahmed
Chairman