

Buvanesh Tharashankar

Profile

Chartered accountant having almost 30 years of experience in Banking. Proven ability in achieving organizational goals

- Ability to provide business solutions keeping in mind the “bigger picture”
- Strong background of controls, policies and audit processes
- Business planning and analytics to augment business strategies
- Hands-on experience in process re-engineering, driving strategic cost management initiatives

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Employment History

Chief Financial Officer at RBL Bank Ltd., Mumbai

September 2023 – Present

Responsible for heading core Finance function including Regulatory interface including reporting, Statutory audits, Tax, Procurement and Payables

Chief Financial Officer at Jana Small Finance Bank, Bengaluru

December 2021 – August 2023

Leading the Finance function - Includes Capital Planning, Investor Relations, Tax, Regulatory reporting and Statutory audits. Also responsible for oversight and governance of Secretarial, Treasury Back office and Administrative functions

Cluster Controller - India Subcontinent at Citibank N.A. India, Mumbai

August 2018 – November 2021

Responsible for Statutory audits and regulatory inspections, Local regulatory reporting, Legal entity management, Annual ICAAP exercise and Balance sheet controls

Planning and Analysis Head at Citibank N.A. India, Mumbai

October 2014 – July 2018

Responsible for P&A function of both Consumer and Institutional Client segments. Part of core team responsible for driving franchise level initiatives. Oversight of forecasting process, as part of the Comprehensive Capital Analysis Review (CCAR), for India and providing support to the CCO office

Planning and Analysis Head - Consumer Bank at Citibank N.A. India, Mumbai

October 2010 – September 2014

Part of leadership team responsible for business plans / strategies; driving execution with the objective of maximizing return on Capital and improving operating efficiencies. Providing proactive analysis; partnering senior management to realize opportunities / mitigate risks and managing the financial planning process

Business Planning and Analysis Head - Middle East at Citibank N.A. UAE, Dubai

January 2009 – September 2010

Responsible for Capital Management, Performance Measurement, Planning and Senior Management Support

Lead CFO at Citibank N.A. UAE, Dubai

July 2006 – December 2008

Responsible for Local regulatory interface; Audit & Tax, Sox 404 compliance, Basel II Implementation. Franchise lead for Re- engineering initiatives and strategic cost management.

Chief Financial Officer - Retail Bank at Citibank N.A. Bahrain

January 2004 – June 2006

Responsible for overall financial function including accounting policies, expense management and control, financial analysis. Reporting, balance sheet reviews and self assessment and controls

Business Planning - Retail Bank at Citibank N.A. Bahrain

January 2001 – December 2003

Analysis of business performance, budgeting and financial modelling for new initiatives

Financial Controller - Retail Bank at Citibank N.A. Bahrain

July 1998 – December 2000

Manage US reporting for the Retail Bank. General Ledger Management and Control.

Assistant Manager - Audit and Risk Review at Citibank N.A. India, Mumbai

July 1995 – June 1998

Assessment of processes and controls, Business Monitoring and proactive identification of business issues. Identification of process inefficiencies and recommendation of productivity improvements / cost saves

Qualified Assistant at Lovelock and Lewes (PWC Affiliate), Mumbai

January 1995 – June 1995

Statutory audits of Limited Liability Companies. Conducting Tax Audits and Internal audits of large manufacturing units

Achievements

- **Capital Planning** (Jana) - Lead role in new initiatives: Pass Through Certificates, sale of stress assets to ARCs. Fund raise both at Top Co and Bank, Refile of DRHP
- **Business Strategy** (Citi UAE) - Team lead for project to "go ahead / shut" consumer business for one of the cluster countries
- **NIM optimization** (Citi India) - Partnered Treasury in deposit pricing decisions to improve NIMs
- **Balance Sheet optimization** (Citi UAE) - Improving Return on Equity by deploying capital to products having higher returns
- **Re-engineering** (Citi India) - Part of core group driving reengineering initiatives across the organization resulting in \$50M of expense saves across two years
- **Restructuring teams** (Citi India) / Building teams (Citi UAE) - Successful in restructuring top heavy teams and have built / integrated teams in line with global organization changes
- **New product launches** (Citi Bahrain) - Key member of team responsible for launch of Credit Cards. Responsible for financial modelling, accounting policies, system setup and MIS capabilities to track business performance
- **System conversion** (Citi India / Bahrain) - Part of core team involved in system conversions, completed within tight timelines

Education

Institute of Chartered Accountants of India

Associate Member
January 1995

Mumbai University

B. Com
1991

