



Banks

Sector Update

RBI reduces risk weights by 25% on bank credit to NBFC/MFI

Background

As impact of covid was more severe on NBFCs, bank credit to NBFCs (excl. HFCs) saw negative growth of avg. 8.3% YoY over Nov'20 to Oct'21. However, due to stronger rebound, over Apr'22-Sep'23 credit growth in NBFCs jumped to avg. 33.4% YoY. Similarly, growth for the unsecured segment (PL/CC) over Nov'20 to Oct'21 was average 10% YoY which jumped to avg. 26.5% over Apr'22-Sep'23.

Consequently, the previous RBI Governor had flagged high growth seen in consumer credit and increasing dependency of NBFCs on bank borrowings in his interactions with MD/CEOs of major banks and large NBFCs in July and August 2023, respectively. In this backdrop the RBI via notification dated 16th Nov'23 had increased risk weights by 25% on (1) bank credit to NBFCs (excl. HFCs) and (2) unsecured loans (incl. MFI credit for banks).

Impact of the above circular

Due to increase in risk weights, NBFC credit growth consistently declined over Sep'23 to Dec'24 from 30.5% YoY to 9.3% YoY while unsecured credit accretion too decelerated from 24.7% YoY to 10.7% YoY over the same time frame. As a result, system credit growth (ex-HDFC) has slowed down from 16% YoY in Mar'24 to 12.4% YoY in Dec'24. As at Dec'24, NBFC/unsecured credit contributes 7.5%/10.1% to overall credit and due to increase in risk weights, NBFC/unsecured contribution to incremental credit decreased from 22.7% in Dec'22 to 14.6% in Dec'23. If the risk weights were not increased in Nov'23, system credit could have grown by 14.0% YoY in Dec'24 (vs 12.4%) considering a normalized trajectory.

RBI restores risk weights on NBFC and MFI credit by banks

To support overall system credit growth and ease cash flow in the MFI space, RBI has withdrawn the 25% risk weight increase on (1) bank exposure to NBFCs (w.e.f. 1st Apr'25) (2) MFI loans by banks incl. SFBs (with immediate effect). While RBI has restored the risk weights on NBFC/MFI exposure by banks, unsecured loans have been kept outside the purview of this notification.

PL view

Liquidity squeeze, bottlenecks in last mile funding and MFI stress would have triggered this move by the RBI. As per our analysis, this RBI notification can support system credit growth in FY26E by 0.5-0.7% (as PL/CC are not included). While this directive could benefit all banks/SFBs, PSUs have a higher NBFC exposure compared to private peers while SFBs with a higher MFI exposure could have an advantage. As per our calculations, PSU banks have an NBFC exposure between 9-14% compared to 5-7% in case of large private banks. **Beneficiaries:** PSUs-Bank of Baroda, Canara Bank, State Bank of India and Bank of India. **PVB-**IndusInd Bank, Karnataka Bank and Federal Bank.

February 27, 2025

Exhibit 1: PL Universe

Companies	Rating	CMP (Rs)	TP (Rs)
Axis Bank	BUY	1,009	1,350
HDFC Bank	BUY	1,682	1,950
ICICI Bank	BUY	1,224	1,550
IndusInd Bank	BUY	1,034	1,500
Kotak Mahindra Bank	BUY	1,967	2,230
Federal Bank	BUY	179	210
DCB Bank	BUY	107	155
City Union Bank	Buy	149	200
Bank of Baroda	BUY	205	285
State Bank of India	BUY	711	900

Source: PL

Gaurav Jani

gauravjani@plindia.com | 91-22-66322235

Aditya Modani

adityamodani@plindia.com | 91-22-66322257

Harshada Gite

harshadagite@plindia.com | 91-22-66322237

Analyst Coverage Universe

Sr. No.	Company Name	Rating	TP (Rs)	Share Price (Rs)
1	AAVAS Financiers	Accumulate	1,900	1,705
2	Axis Bank	BUY	1,350	1,038
3	Bank of Baroda	BUY	285	222
4	Can Fin Homes	BUY	860	708
5	City Union Bank	BUY	200	171
6	DCB Bank	BUY	155	117
7	Federal Bank	BUY	210	180
8	HDFC Asset Management Company	BUY	4,700	3,865
9	HDFC Bank	BUY	1,950	1,666
10	ICICI Bank	BUY	1,550	1,209
11	IndusInd Bank	BUY	1,500	991
12	Kotak Mahindra Bank	BUY	2,230	1,759
13	LIC Housing Finance	BUY	650	558
14	Nippon Life India Asset Management	BUY	725	653
15	State Bank of India	BUY	900	754
16	UTI Asset Management Company	BUY	1,320	1,296

PL's Recommendation Nomenclature

Buy	: > 15%
Accumulate	: 5% to 15%
Hold	: +5% to -5%
Reduce	: -5% to -15%
Sell	: < -15%
Not Rated (NR)	: No specific call on the stock
Under Review (UR)	: Rating likely to change shortly

ANALYST CERTIFICATION

(Indian Clients)

We/I Mr. Gaurav Jani- CA, Passed CFA Level II, Mr. Aditya Modani- CA, Passed CFA Level II, Ms. Harshada Gite- CA Research Analysts, authors and the names subscribed to this report, hereby certify that all of the views expressed in this research report accurately reflect our views about the subject issuer(s) or securities. We also certify that no part of our compensation was, is, or will be directly or indirectly related to the specific recommendation(s) or view(s) in this report.

(US Clients)

The research analysts, with respect to each issuer and its securities covered by them in this research report, certify that: All of the views expressed in this research report accurately reflect his or her or their personal views about all of the issuers and their securities; and No part of his or her or their compensation was, is or will be directly related to the specific recommendation or views expressed in this research report.

DISCLAIMER

Indian Clients

Prabhudas Lilladher Pvt. Ltd, Mumbai, India (hereinafter referred to as "PL") is engaged in the business of Stock Broking, Portfolio Manager, Depository Participant and distribution for third party financial products. PL is a subsidiary of Prabhudas Lilladher Advisory Services Pvt Ltd. which has its various subsidiaries engaged in business of commodity broking, investment banking, financial services (margin funding) and distribution of third party financial/other products, details in respect of which are available at www.plindia.com.

This document has been prepared by the Research Division of PL and is meant for use by the recipient only as information and is not for circulation. This document is not to be reported or copied or made available to others without prior permission of PL. It should not be considered or taken as an offer to sell or a solicitation to buy or sell any security.

The information contained in this report has been obtained from sources that are considered to be reliable. However, PL has not independently verified the accuracy or completeness of the same. Neither PL nor any of its affiliates, its directors or its employees accepts any responsibility of whatsoever nature for the information, statements and opinion given, made available or expressed herein or for any omission therein.

Recipients of this report should be aware that past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance and value of investments can go down as well. The suitability or otherwise of any investments will depend upon the recipient's particular circumstances and, in case of doubt, advice should be sought from an independent expert/advisor.

Either PL or its affiliates or its directors or its employees or its representatives or its clients or their relatives may have position(s), make market, act as principal or engage in transactions of securities of companies referred to in this report and they may have used the research material prior to publication.

PL may from time to time solicit or perform investment banking or other services for any company mentioned in this document.

PL is a registered with SEBI under the SEBI (Research Analysts) Regulation, 2014 and having registration number INH000000271.

PL submits that no material disciplinary action has been taken on us by any Regulatory Authority impacting Equity Research Analysis activities.

PL or its research analysts or its associates or his relatives do not have any financial interest in the subject company.

PL or its research analysts or its associates or his relatives do not have actual/beneficial ownership of one per cent or more securities of the subject company at the end of the month immediately preceding the date of publication of the research report.

PL or its research analysts or its associates or his relatives do not have any material conflict of interest at the time of publication of the research report.

PL or its associates might have received compensation from the subject company in the past twelve months.

PL or its associates might have managed or co-managed public offering of securities for the subject company in the past twelve months or mandated by the subject company for any other assignment in the past twelve months.

PL or its associates might have received any compensation for investment banking or merchant banking or brokerage services from the subject company in the past twelve months.

PL or its associates might have received any compensation for products or services other than investment banking or merchant banking or brokerage services from the subject company in the past twelve months

PL or its associates might have received any compensation or other benefits from the subject company or third party in connection with the research report.

PL encourages independence in research report preparation and strives to minimize conflict in preparation of research report. PL or its analysts did not receive any compensation or other benefits from the subject Company or third party in connection with the preparation of the research report. PL or its Research Analysts do not have any material conflict of interest at the time of publication of this report.

It is confirmed that Mr. Gaurav Jani- CA, Passed CFA Level II, Mr. Aditya Modani- CA, Passed CFA Level II, Ms. Harshada Gite- CA Research Analysts of this report have not received any compensation from the companies mentioned in the report in the preceding twelve months

Compensation of our Research Analysts is not based on any specific merchant banking, investment banking or brokerage service transactions.

The Research analysts for this report certifies that all of the views expressed in this report accurately reflect his or her personal views about the subject company or companies and its or their securities, and no part of his or her compensation was, is or will be, directly or indirectly related to specific recommendations or views expressed in this report.

The research analysts for this report has not served as an officer, director or employee of the subject company PL or its research analysts have not engaged in market making activity for the subject company

Our sales people, traders, and other professionals or affiliates may provide oral or written market commentary or trading strategies to our clients that reflect opinions that are contrary to the opinions expressed herein, and our proprietary trading and investing businesses may make investment decisions that are inconsistent with the recommendations expressed herein. In reviewing these materials, you should be aware that any or all of the foregoing, among other things, may give rise to real or potential conflicts of interest.

PL and its associates, their directors and employees may (a) from time to time, have a long or short position in, and buy or sell the securities of the subject company or (b) be engaged in any other transaction involving such securities and earn brokerage or other compensation or act as a market maker in the financial instruments of the subject company or act as an advisor or lender/borrower to the subject company or may have any other potential conflict of interests with respect to any recommendation and other related information and opinions.

US Clients

This research report is a product of Prabhudas Lilladher Pvt. Ltd., which is the employer of the research analyst(s) who has prepared the research report. The research analyst(s) preparing the research report is/are resident outside the United States (U.S.) and are not associated persons of any U.S. regulated broker-dealer and therefore the analyst(s) is/are not subject to supervision by a U.S. broker-dealer, and is/are not required to satisfy the regulatory licensing requirements of FINRA or required to otherwise comply with U.S. rules or regulations regarding, among other things, communications with a subject company, public appearances and trading securities held by a research analyst account.

This report is intended for distribution by Prabhudas Lilladher Pvt. Ltd. only to "Major Institutional Investors" as defined by Rule 15a-6(b)(4) of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Act, 1934 (the Exchange Act) and interpretations thereof by U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) in reliance on Rule 15a 6(a)(2). If the recipient of this report is not a Major Institutional Investor as specified above, then it should not act upon this report and return the same to the sender. Further, this report may not be copied, duplicated and/or transmitted onward to any U.S. person, which is not the Major Institutional Investor.

In reliance on the exemption from registration provided by Rule 15a-6 of the Exchange Act and interpretations thereof by the SEC in order to conduct certain business with Major Institutional Investors, Prabhudas Lilladher Pvt. Ltd. has entered into an agreement with a U.S. registered broker-dealer, Marco Polo Securities Inc. ("Marco Polo").

Transactions in securities discussed in this research report should be effected through Marco Polo or another U.S. registered broker dealer.

Prabhudas Lilladher Pvt. Ltd.

3rd Floor, Sadhana House, 570, P. B. Marg, Worli, Mumbai-400 018, India | Tel: (91 22) 6632 2222 Fax: (91 22) 6632 2209

www.plindia.com