

Cholamandalam Inv & Fin

BSE SENSEX S&P CNX 10,890 36,321

CMP: INR1,193 TP: INR1,525 (+28%) Buy



Stoc	k Info
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Bloomberg	CIFC IN
Equity Shares (m)	156
M.Cap.(INRb)/(USDb)	186.5 / 2.6
52-Week Range (INR)	1761 / 1039
1, 6, 12 Rel. Per (%)	-4/-20/-15
12M Avg Val (INR M)	488
Free float (%)	46.9

Financials Snapshot (INR b)

Y/E March	2018	2019E	2020E
Total Income	31.2	33.9	38.9
PPP	18.3	22.0	25.3
Adj. PAT	9.7	12.1	13.5
EPS (INR)	62.3	77.2	86.4
EPS Gr. (%)	35.5	24.0	11.8
BV (INR)	324	393	470
BVPS Gr. (%)	19	21	20
RoAA (%)	2.7	2.4	2.3
RoE (%)	20.9	21.5	20.0
Valuations			
P/E (x)	19.2	15.4	13.8
P/BV (x)	3.7	3.0	2.5
Div. Yield (%)	0.5	0.6	0.6
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Shareholding pattern (%)

As On	Sep-18	Jun-18	Sep-17
Promoter	53.1	53.1	53.1
DII	15.9	16.1	15.6
FII	20.5	20.7	21.6
Others	10.6	10.2	9.8

FII Includes depository receipts

Stock Performance (1-year)



Diversifying the asset franchise

Two-wheeler finance and home loans the next growth engine

- Cholamandalam Investment and Finance (CIFC) has successfully navigated the liquidity crisis, which is now a thing of the past. After drawing down bank lines and borrowing INR60b (approximately one quarter of disbursement) in September, CIFC refrained from incremental borrowings in October and resumed borrowings only in November. As per reported data, CIFC recently managed to raise money via CPs at ~7.5%, i.e. at pre-crisis levels. Due to its healthy liquidity position, CIFC has not needed to cut back on disbursements during the quarter.
- In vehicle finance, festive demand has been weaker-than-expected with dealer inventory piling up. However, management believes this is just a blip and expects robust volumes over the ensuing months of the financial year. However, given the high base of the previous year, we expect mid-single-digit disbursement growth in this segment.
- The company has identified two segments that could reap benefits over the mediumto-long term - two-wheeler finance and home loans. These products were launched around five years back. However, rather than scaling up the book, management took the opportunity to understand the nuances of the businesses. CIFC now believes it has the tools to scale these two segments meaningfully over the next three years.
- While the M&HCV cycle is expected to slow down, we note that CIFC has the most diversified loan book among vehicle financiers. The company has other segments that could offset the M&HCV slowdown. With good parentage and strong credit rating, the company has been able to tide over the liquidity situation well. While the stock trades at a premium to peers, we believe valuations will hold as long as growth and RoA/RoE remain robust. Key risks to our estimates stem from higher-thanexpected margin impact due to rising cost of funds and slowdown in growth. BUY with a TP of INR1,525 (2.8x Dec 2020E BVPS).

Liquidity situation well managed; CP rates at pre-crisis levels

CIFC managed its treasury operations well over the past three months. It drew down on bank lines and other sources to the tune of INR60b in September, and hence, did not need to raise more money in October. In addition, as per 2QFY19 result disclosures, CIFC had positive ALM to the tune of INR21b for the month of October. This helped the company to not only cater to the festive demand effortlessly, but also helped in negotiating better rates with lenders, given the liquid balance sheet. In the past month, CIFC has borrowed money via CPs at 7.5% the same rate prior to the IL&FS crisis. We expect overall CoF to increase only ~50bp over 2HFY19 (due to re-pricing of term loans and NCDs).

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3Q demand modest; Growth to slow down

In 3QFY19, CV sales were modest with the M&HCV industry recording low single-digit volume growth. Dealer inventory is still at higher-than-normal levels. However, management expects demand to pick up to run-rate levels in 4Q. We remain circumspect on disbursement growth, especially given the high base in 2HFY19. Hence, we expect low-to-mid single-digit growth in VF disbursements in 2HFY19.

Two-wheeler and home loans – the next focus products

CIFC has identified two segments that could scale up meaningfully over the medium-to-long term — two-wheeler finance and home loans. CIFC started the two-wheeler financing business in 2014 and spent the past few years understanding the nuances of the business. The company finances ~10,000 vehicles per month (the market leader does ~95,000 vehicles per month) currently, with Royal Enfield being the most financed vehicle. The home loan business was started in 2011, but has scaled up to a size of INR15b only. The company recently engaged a consultant to maximize digitization of its end-to-end processes, which would help in lowering cost and in better customer selection. For this business, the focus geographies are the South and West India.

Home Equity at the cusp of an uptrend after a two-year lull

Post demonetization, the home equity business was severely impacted on growth and asset quality. Loan growth declined from a run-rate of ~20% to low-single-digits over the ensuing quarters. At the same time, the GNPL ratio increased from 4% to 6% over the same time period. The company has started using SARFAESI as a tool over the past few quarters and has achieved moderate success in recovering funds. The overall environment is turning favorable with demand improving. While margins are likely to remain under pressure, RoA should improve as credit costs normalize. This, along with a pick-up in growth, should result in strong PAT growth in this business over the next two years.

Valuation & view

CIFC has a well-diversified portfolio, both geographically and in terms of product. It is further expanding into newer segments like home loans and two-wheeler financing. Over the past three years, the company delivered 25% disbursement CAGR, 19% AUM CAGR and 31% PAT CAGR. RoE improved meaningfully from 16% to 21% during the same time frame. However, the correction in valuations over the past 6-9 months reflects concerns on the CV cycle as well as impact due to the liquidity crisis. While we acknowledge that M&HCV demand is slowing down, we believe CIFC has several other products to offset it. Hence, on an overall basis, AUM growth would still be 18-20%. On the margin front, we believe further downside to be limited (margins has already contracted 100bp+ YoY in 1HFY19). Hence, over a two-year period, we believe the stock could give 15%+ CAGR. BUY with a TP of INR1,525 (2.8x Dec 2020E BVPS).

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Diversified vehicle finance book reduces cyclicality

- While CIFC is typically perceived to be an 'M&HCV' financier, the fact is that only ~20% of its portfolio is lending to M&HCVs. The loan book comprises a mix of M&HCV, LCV, cars/UV, tractors and used vehicles. Among all the vehicle financiers under our coverage, CIFC has the most diversified loan book.
- Over the past three months, the M&HCV industry sales have slowed down considerably and even declined in Dec'18. However, this would only impact 20% of its book. On the other hand, LCVs continue to deliver robust growth (~20%) this would impact 22% of CIFC's vehicle finance portfolio.
- On account of the new axle load norms, there has been a shift towards lower tonnage vehicles in recent months. Hence, tonnage growth and consequently, disbursement growth, is expected to lag volume growth for the industry as a whole.
- Management intends to scale up the two-wheeler loan book meaningfully over the next 3-5 years. This should provide some more support to overall growth, if the CV cycle slows down in the medium term.

CV finance (including LCVs) accounts for only ~40% of the VF loan book

Well-diversified loan book reduces earnings cyclicality

- Contrary to popular perception, CIFC is a well-diversified vehicle finance player, not just a CV financier. New CVs (including LCV) account for only ~40% of AUM as well as disbursements for the company.
- Note that while the M&HCV segment has witnessed a sharp growth slowdown, the LCV segment continues to record double-digit volume growth.
- Among all the vehicle financiers under our coverage, we believe CIFC has the most diversified vehicle finance book, which helps reduce cyclicality of growth and asset quality.

Exhibit 1: Vehicle finance - Loan mix as of 1HFY19 (%)

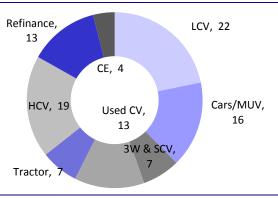
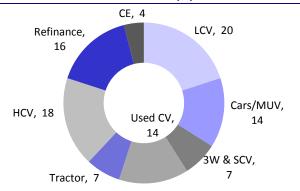


Exhibit 2: Disbursement mix – FY18 (%)



Source: MOSL, Company

Source: MOSL, Company

CIFC has been aggressively adding new branches over the past 2-3 years

Branch expansion and improving productivity to aid growth

- After a few years of stable branch count over FY13-16, CIFC started expanding its branch network rapidly over the past 2-3 years. The branch count has grown over 60% over the past 2.5 years to 885. Management targets a network of 1,000+ branches by end-FY19.
- Interestingly, CIFC's growth has come not only from increasing branch count but also improving branch productivity.

Exhibit 3: Growth driven by increasing branch count...

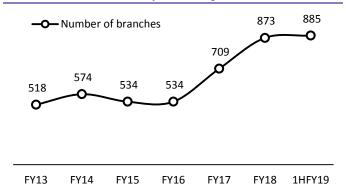
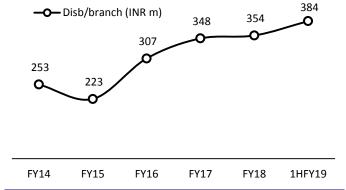


Exhibit 4: ...and improving branch productivity



Source: MOSL, Company

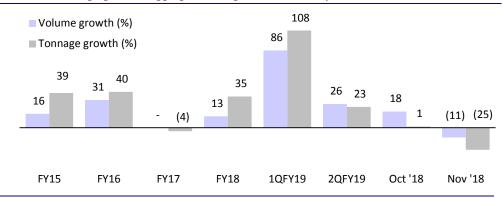
Source: MOSL, Company; Note: On a TTM basis; 1HFY19 numbers are annualized

CV purchases are incrementally moving towards lower-tonnage vehicles

Reversal of trend - M&HCV tonnage growth lagging volume growth

- An interesting thing to note is the reversal of the trend of the past few years. Since FY15, the industry had witnessed a continued shift in the mix of M&HCVs sold towards higher-tonnage vehicles. In other words, tonnage growth clearly outpaced volume growth. Note that higher tonnage corresponds to higher vehicle sizes and thus, higher ticket sizes of disbursements.
- However, we have seen this trend reversing over the past few months. This could be possibly attributed to the new axle load norms however, it is uncertain whether this trend would sustain.

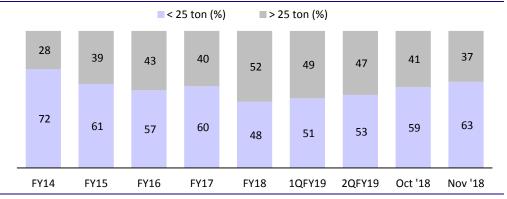
Exhibit 5: Tonnage growth lagging volume growth over the past few months



Source: MOSL, Company

Share of sub-25ton trucks increased sharply in October and November compared to average

Exhibit 6: Consequently, share of sub-25ton trucks increasing



Source: MOSL, Company

Seven financier disbursed >50,000 vehicles per month

Two-wheeler financing a competitive space

- The new management is upbeat on the prospects of two-wheeler finance and expects to scale it up meaningfully over the next 3-5 years.
- Currently, CIFC finances ~10,000 two-wheelers per month, most of which are Royal Enfield vehicles. However, it now plans to scale this up to different OEMs.
- We believe this would be a difficult task because a) This is a crowded market with at least seven financiers clocking a monthly rate of > 50,000 vehicles and b) Unlike CVs, two-wheeler is a consumption product and there is no cash-flow based underwriting that could be done here.

Exhibit 7: Key two-wheeler financiers in India

Company	Volume/month ('000)
SCUF	95-100
HDFCB	90-95
TVS Credit	70-75
Hero Fincorp	60-65
LTFH	55-60
BAF	55-60
IIB	55-60
CAFL	40-45

Source: MOSL

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Housing Finance segment to scale up over 3-5 years

- Since 2014, CIFC has been doing affordable housing finance. This is done from 130 branches across 11 states in India. There are currently around 10,000 customers with a loan book of INR15b in this business.
- Management believes the company has understood the business well and intends to scale it up meaningfully over the next 3-5 years.
- If executed well, this business could generate healthy return ratios (3% RoA/18% RoE), in our view.

CIFC looks to ramp up its affordable housing franchise meaningfully over the next five years

Housing finance - the next avenue for growth

- CIFC recently roped in a management consulting firm to digitize business and underwriting processes in this segment. The company believes it has understood the business well enough to scale it up meaningfully hereon.
- Mr. Rohit Phadke, who was the head of the home equity business, has been roped in to lead the housing finance segment.
- In our view, if this business is executed well, it could generate 3% RoA/18% RoE, without contribution of any non-core products (LAP, NRPL, etc.)

Exhibit 8: Housing finance business - A Snapshot

Status	*	Applied for HFC license. Awaiting approval
Product	*	Affordable housing
Number of branches	*	130 currently. 250 in the next 3-4 years
Geographies	*	11 states. Focus geographies are South & West India, Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan
Average ticket size	*	INR1.5m
No. of customers	*	~10,000
Loan book size	*	~INR15b
Yield	*	13.5-14% + 2% processing fee
Sourcing	*	Referral agents such as LIC agents, RTO agents, real estate brokers, etc.
Referral payout	*	Up to 80bp
Asset quality	*	3.5%/0.5% GNPL/NNPL ratio
Disbursement run-rate	*	INR1.1b per month

Source: MOSL, Company

Financials & Valuation

Income Statement					_			(INR M)
Y/E March	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019E	2020E	2021E
Total Income	14,399	16,700	20,872	24,295	31,179	33,948	38,861	43,442
Change (%)	29.2	16.0	25.0	16.4	28.3	8.9	14.5	11.8
Total Operating Expenses	6,582	7,489	8,449	10,133	12,895	11,986	13,565	15,116
Change (%)	15.6	13.8	12.8	19.9	27.3	-7.0	13.2	11.4
Operating Profit	7,817	9,212	12,422	14,162	18,284	21,962	25,296	28,326
Change (%)	43.5	17.8	34.9	14.0	29.1	20.1	15.2	12.0
Total Provisions	2,833	3,247	4,272	3,106	3,451	3,449	4,516	5,146
% of Operating Profit	36.2	35.3	34.4	21.9	18.9	15.7	17.9	18.2
РВТ	4,984	5,964	8,150	11,056	14,833	18,513	20,780	23,180
Tax Provisions	1,862	2,221	3,023	3,868	5,092	6,433	7,273	8,113
PAT	3,122	3,744	5,127	7,187	9,741	12,080	13,507	15,067
Change (%)	13.0	19.9	36.9	40.2	35.5	24.0	11.8	11.5
Proposed Dividend	501	503	703	860	1,017	1,095	1,173	1,251
Balance Sheet								(INR M)
Y/E March	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019E	2020E	2021E
Share Capital	1,432	1,437	1,562	1,563	1,564	1,564	1,564	1,564
Reserves & Surplus	21,514	30,296	35,012	40,907	49,121	59,887	71,986	85,551
Net Worth for Equity Shareholders	22,947	31,733	36,574	42,470	50,685	61,451	73,550	87,115
Borrowings	180,932	194,752	225,762	242,068	381,358	494,685	568,861	637,306
Change (%)	18.3	7.6	15.9	7.2	57.5	29.7	15.0	12.0
Total Liabilities	203,879	226,486	262,336	284,538	432,043	556,136	642,411	724,422
Investments	824	675	666	2,385	3,190	34,628	39,820	38,238
Change (%)	-63.3	-18.1	-1.3	258.3	33.7	985.6	15.0	-4.0
Loans	194,973	222,422	259,732	285,124	422,082	509,754	591,136	675,303
Change (%)	16.9	14.1	16.8	9.8	48.0	20.8	16.0	14.2
Net Fixed Assets	729	683	1,113	1,401	1,608	1,876	2,091	2,248
Total Assets	203,879	226,486	262,336	284,538	432,043	556,136	642,411	724,422

E: MOSL Estimates

Financials & Valuation

Ratios								
Y/E March	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019E	2020E	2021E
Spreads Analysis (%)								
Avg. Yield on Loans	16.9	16.6	16.2	16.0	14.1	14.7	15.3	15.2
Avg Cost of Funds	10.6	10.4	9.8	9.5	7.4	8.4	8.7	8.9
Int. Spread on Financing Portfolio	6.3	6.1	6.5	6.5	6.7	6.4	6.7	6.3
NIM (on AUM)	6.7	6.7	7.5	7.4	8.1	7.1	6.9	6.7
NIM (on loans)	7.1	7.2	7.7	7.9	7.6	6.9	6.9	6.7
Profitability Ratios (%)								
RoE	17.1	15.9	16.6	18.2	20.9	21.5	20.0	18.8
RoA	1.9	2.0	2.3	2.6	2.7	2.4	2.3	2.2
Int. Expended / Int.Earned	57.9	56.7	52.4	51.0	46.3	53.3	54.6	55.7
Other Inc. / Net Income	2.2	1.6	0.8	1.1	2.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Efficiency Ratios (%)								
Op. Exps. / Net Income	45.7	44.8	40.5	41.7	41.4	35.3	34.9	34.8
Empl. Cost/Op. Exps.	28.5	29.6	30.1	39.7	40.9	47.5	47.5	47.3
Asset-Liability Profile (%)								
Loans/Borrowings Ratio	107.8	114.2	115.0	117.8	110.7	103.0	103.9	106.0
Net NPAs to Net Adv.	0.8	2.0	2.1	3.2	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.4
Assets/Equity	8.9	7.1	7.2	6.7	8.5	9.1	8.7	8.3
Valuations	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019E	2020E	2021E
Book Value (INR)	160.2	203.1	233.9	271.6	324.1	392.9	470.3	557.0
BV Growth (%)	16.7	26.8	15.2	16.1	19.3	21.2	19.7	18.4
Price-BV (x)				4.4	3.7	3.0	2.5	2.1
EPS (INR)	25.4	30.3	36.4	46.0	62.3	77.2	86.4	96.3
EPS Growth (%)	18.7	19.2	20.1	26.3	35.5	24.0	11.8	11.5
Price-Earnings (x)				26.0	19.2	15.4	13.8	12.4
Dividend per share	3.5	3.5	4.5	5.5	6.5	7.0	7.5	8.0
Dividend Yield (%)				0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.7

E: MOSL Estimates

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Valuation matrix

	Rating	СМР	Мсар	EPS	(INR)	P/E	(x)	BV (INR)	IR) P/BV (x)		RoA (%)		RoE (%)	
		(INR)	(USDb)	FY19E	FY20E	FY19E	FY20E	FY19E	FY20E	FY19E	FY20E	FY19E	FY20E	FY19E	FY20E
ICICIBC*	Buy	375	33.7	8.0	20.2	33.8	13.4	166	181	1.6	1.5	0.6	1.2	5.0	11.8
HDFCB	Buy	2,120	80.9	79.8	95.9	26.6	22.1	543	621	3.9	3.4	1.8	1.8	16.7	16.5
AXSB	Buy	664	23.8	17.4	37.9	38.2	17.5	265	298	2.5	2.2	0.6	1.1	6.8	13.5
KMB*	Neutral	1,205	32.5	37.4	45.1	32.3	26.7	302	346	4.0	3.5	1.6	1.7	11.9	12.9
YES	Buy	208	6.6	20.2	24.6	10.3	8.5	128	157	1.6	1.3	1.3	1.4	16.9	17.2
IIB	Buy	1,527	12.6	68.8	100.2	22.2	15.2	441	556	3.5	2.7	1.7	2.1	16.5	20.2
FB	Buy	91	2.5	5.8	8.6	15.8	10.6	67	75	1.4	1.2	0.8	0.9	9.0	12.2
DCBB	Neutral	182	0.8	9.7	12.1	18.8	15.0	95	107	1.9	1.7	0.9	0.9	11.0	12.4
SIB	Buy	16	0.4	1.8	3.4	8.6	4.7	29	32	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.6	6.2	10.7
Equitas	Buy	123	0.6	6.3	8.4	19.7	14.6	73	80	1.7	1.5	1.3	1.4	9.0	11.1
RBL	Buy	575	3.5	20.9	27.6	27.5	20.9	176	199	3.3	2.9	1.2	1.2	12.4	14.7
Private Aggregate															
SBIN (cons)*	Buy	303	37.7	8.7	32.3	30.7	8.7	249	276	1.1	1.0	0.1	0.7	2.7	12.3
PNB	Neutral	84	3.5	-17.7	8.0	-4.7	10.5	109	117	0.8	0.7	-0.7	0.4	-13.8	6.8
BOI	Neutral	105	2.5	-1.8	8.6	-58.6	12.2	181	187	0.6	0.6	-0.1	0.2	-0.9	4.3
ВОВ	Buy	121	4.5	9.3	16.1	13.0	7.5	165	180	0.7	0.7	0.3	0.5	5.6	9.0
СВК	Neutral	276	2.8	17.1	51.7	16.2	5.3	448	493	0.6	0.6	0.2	0.5	3.5	9.9
UNBK	Neutral	96	1.5	4.5	12.8	21.4	7.5	235	245	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.3	2.1	5.5
Public Aggregate															
Banks Aggregate															
HDFC*	Buy	1,974	46.9	42.3	48.7	21.8	19.0	306	341	3.0	2.7	1.8	1.8	15.5	15.0
LICHF	Buy	483	3.4	46.2	56.4	10.5	8.6	324	371	1.5	1.3	1.4	1.5	15.1	16.2
IHFL	Buy	829	4.8	95.6	109.7	8.7	7.6	395	446	2.1	1.9	3.1	3.1	25.6	26.1
PNBHF	Buy	899	2.1	62.2	73.5	14.4	12.2	432	489	2.1	1.8	1.4	1.3	15.3	16.0
REPCO	Buy	441	0.4	40.0	45.1	11.0	9.8	245	287	1.8	1.5	2.4	2.4	17.7	17.0
Housing Finance															
SHTF	Buy	1,187	3.8	109.0	127.9	10.9	9.3	694	804	1.7	1.5	2.3	2.3	16.9	17.1
MMFS	Buy	447	3.8	22.8	26.4	19.6	16.9	173	191	2.6	2.3	2.5	2.4	13.9	14.5
BAF	Neutral	2,573	21.0	65.8	85.6	39.1	30.1	327	403	7.9	6.4	3.7	3.7	22.1	23.5
CIFC	Buy	1,193	2.6	77.2	86.4	15.4	13.8	393	470	3.0	2.5	2.4	2.3	21.5	20.0
SCUF	Buy	1,730	1.6	147.3	162.1	11.7	10.7	952	1,096	1.8	1.6	3.5	3.6	16.6	15.8
LTFH	Buy	142	3.9	11.5	13.4	12.4	10.6	66	78	2.1	1.8	2.3	2.2	18.7	18.6
MUTH	Neutral	537	3.0	50.3	58.0	10.7	9.3	229	270	2.3	2.0	5.8	5.9	23.8	23.3
MAS	Buy	550	0.4	25.3	30.9	21.7	17.8	152	175	3.6	3.1	4.2	4.1	17.8	18.9

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^{*}Multiples adj. for value of key ventures/Investments; For ICICI Bank and HDFC Ltd BV is adjusted for investments in subsidiaries

Explanation of Investment Rating	
Investment Rating	Expected return (over 12-month)
BUY	>=15%
SELL	<-10%
NEUTRAL	> - 10 % to 15%
UNDER REVIEW	Rating may undergo a change
NOT RATED	We have forward looking estimates for the stock but we refrain from assigning recommendation

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