Buy



L&T Finance

BSE SENSEX S&P CNX 40,821 12,038



Stock Info

Bloomberg	LTFH IN
Equity Shares (m)	1,988
M.Cap.(INRb)/(USDb)	205.9 / 2.9
52-Week Range (INR)	159 / 79
1, 6, 12 Rel. Per (%)	11/-24/-37
12M Avg Val (INR M)	1036
Free float (%)	36.1

Financials Snapshot (INR b)

Y/E March	2019	2020E	2021E
Total Income	64.4	73.0	78.7
PPP	41.4	53.2	56.7
PAT	22.3	24.8	28.2
EPS (INR)	11.2	12.4	14.1
BV/Sh. (INR)	68.4	79.4	91.8
RoAA (%)	2.3	2.3	2.5
RoE (%)	18.0	16.8	16.5
Payout (%)	13.9	11.6	11.6
Valuation			
P/E (x)	9.7	8.7	7.7
P/BV (x)	1.6	1.4	1.2
Div. Yield (%)	1.2	1.1	1.3

Shareholding pattern (%)

As On	Sep-19	Jun-19	Sep-18
Promoter	63.9	63.9	64.0
DII	5.3	3.1	5.1
FII	10.8	10.5	8.8
Others	20.1	22.6	22.1

FII Includes depository receipts

Stock Performance (1-year)



CMP: INR108 TP: INR130 (+21%)

Focus on raising the retail lending share

Valuations attractive at 1x BVPS

- L&T Finance Holdings (LTFH) has grown its rural finance book ~2.5x over the past 2.5 years to INR270b. A key driver of growth has been microloans, which now comprises nearly half of rural loans. Consequently, the share of this business in the total segment is up from 15% to 27% over the same time period.
- CRISIL rated the company 'AAA' in October 2019 on the back of a diversified loan and borrowing book and support from the parent. Cost of funds increased only 30bp YoY to 8.6%. LTFH runs a positive ALM across tenors in the sub-1 year bucket.
- Profitability of the business has been largely intact over the past four quarters the company has delivered stable ~16% RoE.
- The AMC business has witnessed 44% AAAUM CAGR over the past three years, with the share of equity increasing from 41% to 55%. With improving profitability, we believe this business is on track to deliver INR2b+ PAT in FY22 (post INR500m amortization of goodwill).
- Current valuation of 1.0x Sep'21E BVPS is undemanding. The company is poised to deliver steady retail loan growth, increasing share of AMC profits and healthy RoE (16-17%). Buy rating with a target price of INR130 (1.3x Sep'21E BVPS).

Share of retail lending steadily increasing

A key focus area of management over the past few years has been retailization of balance sheet. LTFH revamped its strategy in home loans by increasing the share of in-house sourcing to 70%+. In tractor and 2W finance, it has a strategy of targeting only the top dealers and OEMs based on feedback from its analytics. As a result, the company has grown the rural finance book by 2.5x in 2.5 years. A key driver of this has been microloans, wherein the company has expanded into 17 states – the book now accounts for 48% of the total rural lending book compared to 35% in FY17. Including home loans and LAP, the share of retail lending has increased from 27% in FY17 to 38% in 1HFY20. With run-down of the de-focused wholesale lending book (structured finance and debt capital markets) and stronger growth in 2W finance and microloans, the share of retail lending (rural + retail housing finance) is expected to reach 43% by FY22.

54% PCR higher than most peers; INR3.5b floating provision buffer

In the tough operating environment over past one year LTFH witnessed asset quality improvement with the GNPL ratio declining 110bp to 6.0% which is commendable. The improvement has been driven largely by wholesale and rural finance, while asset quality in housing finance has been largely stable. The GNPL ratio in the wholesale finance book is at 9% largely due to legacy stressed loans in the thermal power finance book. These loans comprise half of the total GNPLs in this book. The company maintains 54% PCR on its GNPLs – higher than that of most peers (refer Exhibit 10). In addition, it has INR2.35b of floating provisions in rural finance and INR1.15b of provisions in housing finance.

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Cost of funds largely stable; AAA rating by CRISIL

In Oct'19, CRISIL rated the company 'AAA' on the back of its diversified loan and borrowing book, along with the expectation of strong support from the parent. Over the past year, the company has pared down its outstanding CPs from INR156b (18% of borrowings) to INR90b (10% of borrowings). Yet, cost of funds has increased only 30bp to 8.6%. LTFH has a positive ALM across tenors as nearly half the book has an actuarial tenor of less than three years (renewable financing has a short tenor as borrowers tend to refinance these loans within 1-2 years).

Expect 30% PAT CAGR in AMC business over FY19-22

Over FY16-19, AAAUM nearly tripled (44% CAGR) to INR712b, driven by 60% CAGR in equity AAAUM. The company is the 12th largest mutual fund in the country in terms of QAAUM as of Sep'19. In terms of the contribution from individuals, LTFH ranks second among large peers – the share of AUM coming from individuals stands at 68%, giving it a granular and sticky portfolio. With improving profitability, this business is on track to deliver INR2b+ PAT in FY22 (post INR500m amortization of goodwill on Fidelity acquisition), implying 30% PAT CAGR.

Re-jigging the wholesale lending segment

Over the past year, the company has exited several wholesale business segments. It sold its supply chain finance business to Centrum Finance. It has also announced plans to run-down the structured finance book (SFG) and the debt capital markets (DCM) book (currently ~INR65b). As a result, there will be two key areas of focus in this segment – renewable power finance and road finance. Note that the share of renewables finance, wherein LTFH is the market leader, increased from 46% to 53% of the wholesale lending book YoY.

Valuation provides comfort

Over the past year, LTFH has been able to raise adequate debt capital from multiple sources at competitive prices. The company has balanced liquidity, growth and profitability over the past year in a tough environment. Over the coming years, management has outlined a clear set of goals – stable 'NIM + fee,' healthy asset quality, retailization of the balance sheet, and prudent ALM management. With gradual run-down of the DCM book, volatility in fees is likely to reduce. The AMC business is on a track of improving profitability. **Buy** with a target price of INR130 (1.3x Sep'21E BVPS).

Retail traction steady; Profitability largely intact

Parentage a key factor in liability management

Rural lending book growth at 20%+ YoY despite sluggish OEM sales

Loan book mix steadily changing to granular portfolio

- The rural lending business has witnessed steady growth in the backdrop of sluggish two-wheeler and tractor OEM sales. This is because of increasing penetration of micro loans – from 35% in FY17 to 48% now.
- In the MFI business, the company has a diversified presence in 17 states with Tamil Nadu being the largest state.

Exhibit 1: Rural lending now comprises 26% of total loans

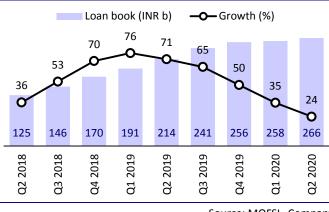
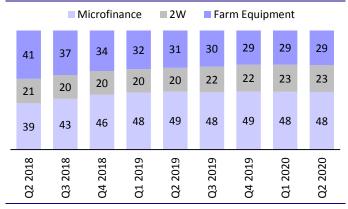


Exhibit 2: Share of microfinance rising (%)



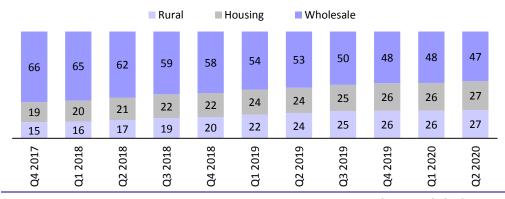
Source: MOFSL, Company

Source: MOFSL, Company

At the same time, the company has been cautious in wholesale lending. As a result, its share is down from 62% to 47% over the past two years.

Share of wholesale finance down from 62% to 47% over the past two years.

Exhibit 3: Share of housing and rural finance increasing (%)



Source: MOFSL, Company

- LTFH has re-jigged its wholesale lending operations over the past year. It sold its supply chain finance business is running down the structured finance book (SFG) and the debt capital markets (DCM) book (currently ~INR65b).
- As a result, there will be two key areas of focus in this segment renewable power finance and road finance.

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Exhibit 4: Share of renewable power and roads financing on the rise (%)

		Rene	wab	le Pov	ver		■ Transport				Otl	ners			
47	47	47		F.4		48		46		43		39	24	24	
47	47	47		51		40		40				20	24	24	
23	20	18		12		14		16		17		20			
29	33	35		36		38		38		40		41	52	53	
2018	2018	2018		2018		2019		2019		2019		2019	2020	2020	_
Q1 2	02.2	03.2		047		013		Q2 2		03.2		047	Q1 2	02.2	

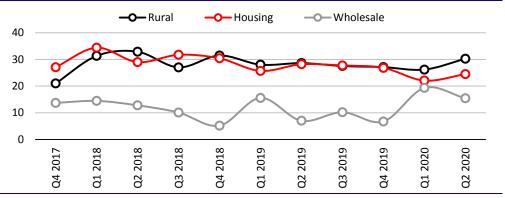
Source: MOFSL, Company

~60% of the networth is allocated to the rural and housing finance segments.

Allocating maximum capital to the high RoE businesses

- The rural and housing finance segments have consistently delivered higher RoE than the wholesale segment. This is primarily due to significantly higher margins (11% in rural, 5% in housing and 3% in wholesale finance).
- While the contribution of rural/housing finance to the total loan book is 27% each, their PAT contribution is 38%/30% respectively, as of 2QFY20.

Exhibit 5: RoE trend of the various segments (%)



Source: MOFSL, Company

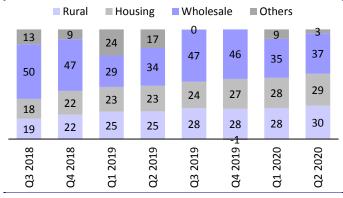
Exhibit 6: With increasing PAT contribution (%)...

■ Housing Wholesale 13 5

Source: MOFSL, Company

Note: Includes PAT of focused segments only

Exhibit 7: ... Networth allocation also increasing (%)



Source: MOFSL, Company

MOTILAL OSWAL L&T Finance

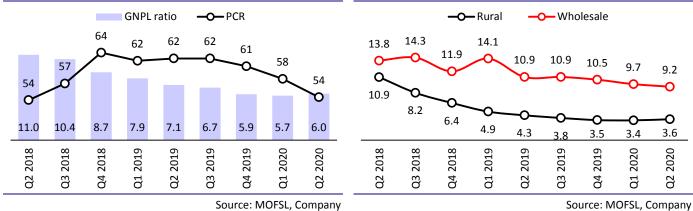
GNPL ratio declined 700/400bp in rural/wholesale lending to 9.2%/3.6% over the past two years.

Improvement in asset quality in rural and wholesale lending

- Over the past two years, the company has successfully lowered its GNPL ratio from 11% in 2QFY18 to 6% in 2QFY20.
- This was driven by a sharp improvement in asset quality in rural and wholesale lending. GNPL ratio declined 700/400bp in rural/wholesale lending to 3.6%/9.2%.

Exhibit 8: Sharp improvement in asset quality (%)...

Exhibit 9: ...driven by rural and wholesale lending (%)

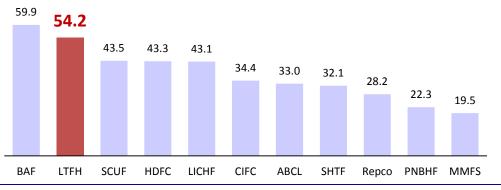


At 54%, stage 3 PCR higher than most peers.

Stage 3 provision coverage ratio higher than most peers

- A few companies under our coverage maintain 50%+ provisions against stage 3 assets. LTFH is one of them.
- Its PCR of 54% is second only to Bajaj Finance in our coverage universe.

Exhibit 10: Stage 3 PCR for large companies under our coverage (1HFY20, %)



Source: MOFSL, Company

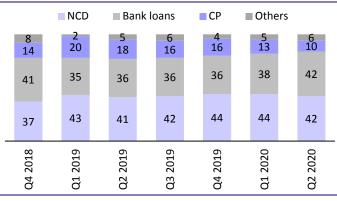
Share of CPs down from 18% to 10% YoY.

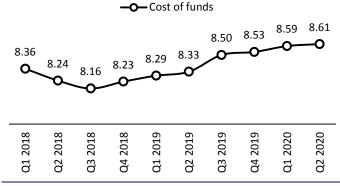
Diversifying the liability mix; reducing dependence on CPs

- Over the past year, the company has raised money from several alternative sources like retail NCDs and ECBs, in addition to term loans. Like its peers, it also reduced the share of CPs from 18% to 10% YoY.
- Despite the lower share of short-term borrowings, it has been able to contain cost of funds at 8.6% (up only 30bp YoY). Also, on an incremental basis, the company is able to raise long-term NCDs at 8.5-9.0% and CPs at 6.0-6.5%.
- The company also maintains a positive ALM across all buckets in the sub-12 month category.

Exhibit 11: Reducing dependence on CPs (%)...

Exhibit 12: ...Yet, cost of funds at healthy levels (%)





Source: MOFSL, Company

Source: MOFSL, Company

CPs incrementally raised at ~6% and NCDs at ~8.5%.

Exhibit 13: Some recent NCD, CP issuances by the company

Instrument	Month of issue	Tenure of instrument	Interest rate (%)	
NCD	Sep	10YR	8.90	
NCD	Aug	7YR	8.55	
NCD	May	7YR	8.80	
СР	Nov	180D	6.08	
СР	Oct	57D	5.50	
СР	Sep	70D	6.02	

Source: MOFSL, Company, NSE, FTRAC

Exhibit 14: Positive ALM across all buckets in the sub-1 year category (as of 1HFY20)

INR b	1-14D	14-30D	1-2M	2-3M	3-6M	6-12M
Assets	107.0	28.8	41.2	60.3	88.9	224.3
Liabilities	15.0	16.3	39.5	56.3	61.9	131.9
Mismatch	92.0	12.6	1.6	4.0	27.0	92.4

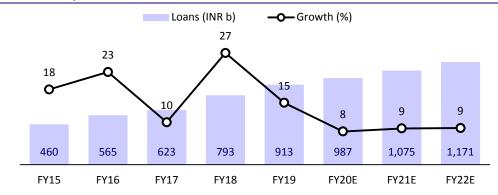
Source: MOFSL, Company

We expect 9% loan book CAGR over FY19-22.

Expect high-single-digit loan book CAGR over FY19-22

- In the recent past, the company has gone slower on disbursements in some segments such as builder finance in which disbursements were down 20%+ YoY in 1HFY20. In other segments such as tractor finance, there is a cyclical slowdown for the industry on the whole.
- In addition, the company classified its structured finance and debt capital markets books as de-focused, implying that it would run-off over time. **That book stands at ~INR65b, i.e., 7% of total loans.**
- While we expect 12-13% CAGR in rural and housing finance, slower growth in wholesale lending and run-down of the de-focused book, overall loan book CAGR is estimated at 9%, in our view.

Exhibit 15: Expect 9% loan book CAGR over FY19-22



Source: MOFSL, Company

2.5%/16% average consol. RoA/RoE going forward

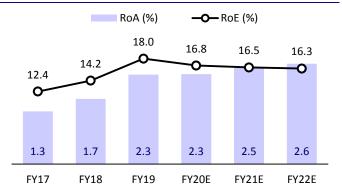
16-17% sustainable RoE on a consolidated basis

- With 9% loan book CAGR and modest NIM expansion due to the increasing share of retail lending, we expect PAT CAGR (FY19-22) of 13% to INR32b.
- RoA/RoE should average 2.5%/16% over this time period.

Exhibit 16: Expect 13% PAT CAGR over FY19-22

PAT (INR b) **—O**— Growth (%) 66 47 33 14 14 0 9.2 13.5 22.3 24.8 28.2 32.2 FY19 FY20E FY17 FY18 FY21E FY22E

Exhibit 17: RoA/RoE trend (%)



Source: MOFSL, Company Source: MOFSL, Company

Improving profitability in the AMC business

Share of equity among the highest in the peer set

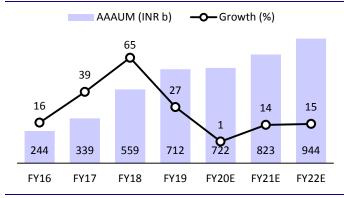
44% total AAAUM CAGR, 60% equity AAAUM CAGR over FY16-19

3x AAAUM in three years

- Along with the parent, L&T MF also witnessed a turnaround from FY17. The company focused on market share gains, increasing share of equity assets and cost reduction. Over FY16-19, AAAUM nearly tripled (44% CAGR) to INR712b.
- The company is the 12th largest mutual fund in the country in terms of AUM as of Sep'19. While FY20 has so far been a muted year in term of growth, we expect 14-15% AAAUM growth FY21 onward.
- Equity assets CAGR was at 60% over FY16-19. The share of equity assets increased from 41% to 55% over this time period. Note that, at 55%, the share of equity AAUM is among the highest in the company's peer set.

Exhibit 18: Expect 14-15% AAAUM CAGR FY21 onward

Exhibit 19: Sharp increase in share of equity assets (%)



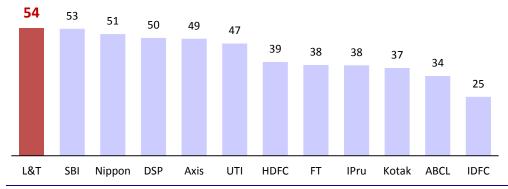
Equity ■ Debt 45 43 43 43 52 60 59 67 57 55 57 57 48 41 40 33 FY17 FY18 FY20E FY21E FY22E FY15 FY16 FY19

Source: MOFSL, Company

Source: MOFSL, Company

Share of equity QAAUM at 54% higher than most peers.

Exhibit 20: Share of equity QAAUM (1HFY20, %)



Source: MOFSL, Company, NAVIndia

Share of B30 assets low; Individual investors' contribution among the highest in the peer set

- The company still has a long way to go in terms of penetration beyond the top 30 cities in India. The share of B30 assets stands at 10-11%, lower than most peers.
- However, in terms of contribution from individuals, the company ranks second among large peers— the share of AUM coming from individuals stands at 68% v/s average of 55% for the top 10 AMCs. This gives the company a granular and sticky portfolio.

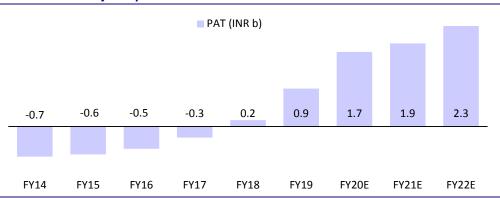
PAT to cross INR2b in FY22, in our view.

Broke even in FY17; PAT trajectory upward

Until FY17, L&T AMC was a loss-making company. With a focus on cost control and increasing the share of high-yielding equity assets, the company delivered a profit of INR150m in FY18 and INR884m in FY19. Note that the company incurs an annual expense of INR500m on the amortization of goodwill created during the acquisition of Fidelity MF.

■ While AUM has barely grown in 1HFY20, the company has delivered meaningful PAT growth in 1HFY20. We expect PAT to grow to INR2.3b by FY22.

Exhibit 21: PAT trajectory



Source: MOFSL, Company

Valuation and view

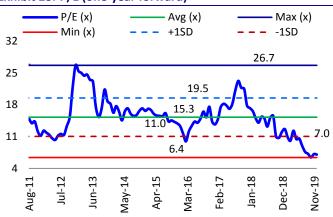
Valuations undemanding; AMC provides upside optionality

- Over the past year, LTFH has been able to raise adequate debt capital at competitive prices. The company has balanced liquidity, disbursements and profitability over the past year in the tough environment.
- Over the coming years, management has outlined a clear set of goals stable 'NIM + fee,' healthy asset quality, retailization of the balance sheet and prudent ALM management.
- The AMC business is on a trend of sustained improvement in profitability. While AUM growth would be modest in FY20, it is likely to pick up over the medium term.
- We have not yet valued the AMC business separately. Buy with a target price of INR130 (1.3x Sep'21E BVPS).

Exhibit 22: P/B (one-year forward)



Exhibit 23: P/E (one-year forward)



Source: MOFSL, Company

Exhibit 24: Valuation matrix

	Rating	СМР	Мсар	P/E	(x)	P/B	P/BV (x)		(%)	RoE (%)	
		(INR)	(USDb)	FY20E	FY21E	FY20E	FY21E	FY20E	FY21E	FY20E	FY21E
HFCs											
HDFC*	Buy	2,304	55.2	24.0	17.9	3.5	2.7	1.9	2.0	15.8	15.9
LICHF	Buy	436	3.1	7.8	7.2	1.2	1.1	1.3	1.3	16.3	15.6
PNBHF	Buy	551	1.3	6.7	6.1	1.1	0.9	1.6	1.7	17.4	16.4
REPCO	Buy	290	0.3	6.0	5.6	1.0	0.9	2.6	2.5	18.2	16.6
Vehicle financiers											
SHTF	Buy	1,112	3.6	8.7	8.0	1.4	1.2	2.7	2.6	17.2	16.0
MMFS	Buy	343	3.0	13.6	10.3	1.8	1.6	2.2	2.5	14.0	16.4
CIFC	Buy	311	3.5	16.9	14.5	3.3	2.7	2.3	2.3	21.0	20.4
Diversified											
BAF	Neutral	4,099	33.4	38.8	30.6	9.4	7.4	4.1	4.0	27.2	27.2
SCUF	Buy	1,330	1.2	8.1	7.5	1.2	1.0	3.7	3.8	15.7	14.9
LTFH	Buy	103	2.9	8.3	7.3	1.3	1.1	2.3	2.5	16.8	16.5
MUTH	Neutral	682	3.8	10.3	8.9	2.5	2.1	6.4	6.5	26.2	25.2
INDOSTAR	Buy	197	0.3	7.9	6.0	0.6	0.5	2.0	2.7	7.3	8.8
MAS	Buy	711	0.5	22.0	18.0	3.8	3.3	4.5	4.6	19.4	20.2
ABCL	Buy	108	3.4	13.5	10.2	1.4	1.1	1.9	2.0	11.9	11.6

Source: MOFSL, Company

Financials and valuations

Income statement								(INR M)
Y/E March	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020E	2021E	2022E
Interest Income	59,025	68,174	76,614	88,692	116,379	126,742	135,605	148,208
Interest Expended	35,678	41,241	46,270	54,492	68,600	77,021	82,865	89,895
Net Interest Income	23,347	26,933	30,343	34,200	47,779	49,721	52,740	58,313
Change (%)	29.9	15.4	12.7	12.7	39.7	4.1	6.1	10.6
Other Operating Income	4,349	6,533	9,110	13,970	16,636	23,229	25,958	28,797
Net Income	27,697	33,466	39,453	48,170	64,415	72,951	78,697	87,110
Change (%)	28.0	20.8	17.9	22.1	33.7	13.3	7.9	10.7
Operating Expenses	10,771	13,129	12,765	14,233	23,046	19,715	22,010	24,797
Operating Income	16,926	20,337	26,688	33,937	41,369	53,236	56,688	62,312
Change (%)	35.3	20.2	31.2	27.2	21.9	28.7	6.5	9.9
Provisions/write offs	6,617	7,810	15,899	19,479	10,849	21,439	20,099	20,484
PBT	10,309	12,527	10,789	14,458	30,520	31,796	36,588	41,828
Tax	3,014	3,990	364	1,682	8,200	6,995	8,415	9,621
Tax Rate (%)	29	32	3	12	27	22	23	23
PAT before pref dividend	8,774	8,567	10,422	12,784	22,320	24,801	28,173	32,208
Change (%)	47.0	-2.4	21.7	22.7	74.6	11.1	13.6	14.3
Preference Dividend	1,102	1,671	1,244	0	0	0	0	0
PAT to equity shareholders	7,672	6,896	9,177	12,784	22,320	24,801	28,173	32,208
Change (%)	47.3	-10.1	33.1	39.3	74.6	11.1	13.6	14.3
Balance sheet								(INR M)
Y/E March	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020E	2021E	2022E
Capital	30,837	29,668	29,691	30,301	19,988	19,988	19,988	19,988
- of which equity share capital	17,203	17,534	17,534	19,881	19,988	19,988	19,988	19,988
Reserves & Surplus	46,562	53,237	60,202	91,873	116,721	138,645	163,550	192,022
Net Worth	77,399	82,905	89,893	122,174	136,709	158,633	183,538	212,010
Borrowings	420,906	516,157	598,111	715,771	915,070	934,557	1,013,227	1,099,892
Change (%)	17.4	22.6	15.9	19.7	27.8	2.1	8.4	8.6
Other liabilities	29,117	38,402	37,133	54,335	8,772	1,416	229	37
Total Liabilities	527,422	637,463	725,136	892,279	1,060,551	1,094,606	1,196,994	1,311,939
Loans	460,425	564,679	623,145	793,300	913,246	987,247	1,074,629	1,170,826
Change (%)	18.4	22.6	10.4	27.3	15.1	8.1	8.9	9.0
Investments	26,492	35,633	60,115	48,433	86,408	51,845	59,622	65,584
Change (%)	-3.0	34.5	68.7	-19.4	78.4	-40.0	15.0	10.0
Net Fixed Assets	7,185	6,962	6,189	5,311	11,660	12,242	12,855	13,497
Total Assets	527,422	637,463	725,136	892,279	1,060,551	1,094,606	1,196,994	1,311,939

E: MOFSL Estimates

Financials and valuations

Ratios								(%)
Y/E March	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020E	2021E	2022E
Spreads Analysis (%)								
Avg Yield on Loans	13.4	12.9	12.6	12.6	12.6	12.6	12.6	12.6
Avg. Yield on Earning Assets	13.1	12.5	11.9	11.6	12.6	12.4	12.5	12.5
Avg. Cost-Int. Bear. Liab.	9.2	8.8	8.3	8.3	8.4	8.3	8.5	8.5
Interest Spread	3.9	3.7	3.6	3.3	4.2	4.1	4.0	4.0
Net Interest Margin	5.2	5.0	4.7	4.5	5.2	4.9	4.9	4.9
Profitability Ratios (%)								
RoE	12.6	10.3	12.4	13.5	18.0	16.8	16.5	16.3
RoA	1.6	1.2	1.3	1.6	2.3	2.3	2.5	2.6
Int. Expended/Int.Earned	60.4	60.5	60.4	61.4	58.9	60.8	61.1	60.7
Other Inc./Net Income	15.7	19.5	23.1	29.0	25.8	31.8	33.0	33.1
Efficiency Ratios (%)								
Op. Exps./Net Income	38.9	39.2	32.4	29.5	35.8	27.0	28.0	28.5
Asset Quality (%)								
Gross NPAs	14,281	17,354	24,900	33,000	55,490	55,409	58,497	62,146
Gross NPAs to Adv.	3.1	3.1	3.9	4.1	5.9	5.4	5.3	5.1
Net NPAs	9,630	11,540	14,610	16,190	21,740	21,940	23,293	24,913
Net NPAs to Adv.	2.1	2.1	2.3	2.0	2.4	2.2	2.2	2.1
VALUATION	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020E	2021E	2022E
Book Value (INR)	37.1	40.4	44.3	56.2	68.4	79.4	91.8	106.1
Price-BV (x)					1.6	1.4	1.2	1.0
EPS (INR)	4.5	3.9	5.2	6.4	11.2	12.4	14.1	16.1
EPS Growth YoY	47.1	-11.8	33.1	22.9	73.7	11.1	13.6	14.3
Price-Earnings (x)					9.7	8.7	7.7	6.7
Dividend per share (INR)	0.8	0.8	0.8	1.0	1.3	1.2	1.4	1.6
Dividend yield (%)					1.2	1.1	1.3	1.5

E: MOFSL Estimates

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				

*In case the recommendation given by the Research Analyst is inconsistent with the investment rating legend for a continuous period of 30 days, the Research Analyst shall within following 30 days take appropriate measures to make the recommendation consistent with the investment rating legend.

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