

**13 February 2025** 

India | Equity Research | Results update

#### **Fusion Finance**

Financial Services

## Weak financial performance continues; stress pool remains bloated

Fusion Finance (Fusion) has bolstered its balance sheet by upping its provision cover across Stage-1/2/3 assets and de-recognising interest income on Stage-3 assets. Yet, PAR 0+ at 19% (one of the highest within MFI space) casts a shadow on near-term profitability. It recovered interest income to the tune of ~INR 1bn in Q3FY25, resulting in total interest income plunging 30% QoQ to INR 4.4bn vs. INR 6.3bn QoQ. Headline asset quality weakness persists as GNPL rose to >10% in Q3FY25. Management plans to strengthen the balance sheet by raising fresh equity worth INR 8bn via a rights issue. However, this is pending for four months; given no clarity on the issue price, we refrain from building in capital infusion at this point. With a likely top management change and an elevated stress pool at 19%, as on Dec'24, we believe profitability normalcy is yet distant. Retain REDUCE; INR 160 TP unchanged, based on 0.6x Sep'25E BVPS.

# Weak financial performance persists; net loss mounts to INR 7bn vs. INR 3bn QoQ

Accelerated provisioning, reversal of DTA and de-recognition of interest income on Stage-3 assets resulted in net loss mounting to ~INR7bn during Q3FY25 vs. INR 3bn QoQ. Interest reversal worth ~INR 1bn and an 8% QoQ dip in AUM led to a sharp 44% QoQ decline in NII during Q3FY25. Disbursements were down 30% QoQ/57% YoY to INR 11.7bn during Q3FY25 - rooted in management's cautious stance on disbursements till the time onground situation improves, and also owing to tighter underwriting norms since Q2FY25 across lender criteria, exposure limits and credit policy. This resulted in AUM slipping 8% QoQ/1% YoY in Q3FY25. Weak revenue and 6% QoQ growth in operating expenses (higher collection cost, continued investment towards branch expansion etc.) led to cost-income ratio rising to 76% in Q3FY25, from 40% in Q2FY25. Thus, PPoP fell >70% QoQ. Management, in Q3FY25, decided to strengthen the balance sheet by upfronting provisions across buckets – provision cover on Stage-1 assets increased to 2.7% vs. 1.8% QoQ, Stage-2 to 72.5% vs. 59.7% QoQ and Stage-3 to 87.9% vs. 76.2% QoQ. Thus, total provisions remain elevated at INR 5.7bn translating into credit cost at 5.7% (non-annualised). Fusion has breached various financial covenants with respect to borrowings in Q2FY25. However, management highlighted that it obtained covenant waivers for ~80% of borrowings during Q3FY25, carrying adequate liquidity of INR 11.5bn as on Dec'24.

## **Financial Summary**

| Y/E March                | FY24A  | FY25E    | FY26E   | FY27E  |
|--------------------------|--------|----------|---------|--------|
| Net Interest Income (INR | 13,011 | 13,786   | 13,922  | 15,622 |
| PAT (INR mn)             | 5,053  | (10,417) | 2,754   | 4,436  |
| EPS (INR)                | 50.2   | (103.5)  | 27.4    | 44.1   |
| % Chg YoY                | 30.2   | (306.2)  | (126.4) | 61.0   |
| P/E (x)                  | 3.4    | (1.6)    | 6.2     | 3.8    |
| P/BV (x)                 | 0.6    | 0.9      | 8.0     | 0.7    |
| Gross Stage - 3 (%)      | 2.9    | 15.0     | 5.0     | 4.0    |
| RoAA (%)                 | 4.8    | (9.0)    | 2.3     | 3.3    |
| RoAE (%)                 | 19.5   | (44.8)   | 14.2    | 19.3   |

#### Renish Bhuva

renish.bhuva@icicisecurities.com +91 22 6807 7465

**Chintan Shah** 

chintan.shah@icicisecurities.com

#### **Palak Bhatt**

palak.bhatt@icicisecurities.com

#### **Market Data**

| Market Cap (INR)    | 17bn      |
|---------------------|-----------|
| Market Cap (USD)    | 196mn     |
| Bloomberg Code      | FUSION IN |
| Reuters Code        | FUSN.BO   |
| 52-week Range (INR) | 572 /150  |
| Free Float (%)      | 42.0      |
| ADTV-3M (mn) (USD)  | 0.9       |
|                     |           |

#### Price Performance (%) 3<sub>m</sub> 6m 12m

Absolute (9.8) (44.4) (69.9) Relative to Sensex (7.8) (40.9) (76.3)

| ESG Score   | 2023 | 2024 | Change |
|-------------|------|------|--------|
| ESG score   | 74.3 | NA   | NA     |
| Environment | 47.3 | NA   | NA     |
| Social      | 74.5 | NA   | NA     |
| Governance  | 82.1 | NA   | NA     |

Note - Score ranges from 0 - 100 with a higher score indicating higher ESG disclosures.

Source: SES ESG, I-sec research

| Earnings Revisions (%) | FY25E | FY26E |  |
|------------------------|-------|-------|--|
| PAT                    | NA    | (34)  |  |

## **Previous Reports**

18-11-2024: **Q2FY25** results review

27-08-2024: Sector Update



## Green shoots visible but PAR 0+ at 19% to keep credit cost elevated

Q3FY25 was a tough quarter for Fusion, wherein its credit cost continued to remain elevated at 5.7% (non-annualised). However, its corrective measures, initiated in Q2FY25, has started yielding positive outcomes, evident in X-bucket collection efficiency improving to 97.74% by Jan'25 vs. 97.73% in Dec'24 vs. 97.22% in Nov'24 vs. 96.53% in Oct'24 vs. 96.12% in Q2FY25. It also highlighted that net flow rate across buckets, since Oct'24, has been improving – flow forwards from current bucket to 1-30 DPD fell to 1.03% in Jan'25 vs. 1.07% in Dec'24 vs. 1.38% in Nov'24 vs. 2.94% in Oct'24 and 2.98% in Q2FY25. Similarly, flows from 1-30 DPD to 31-60 DPD declined to 41.05% in Jan'25 vs. 41.24% in Dec'24 vs. 47.36% in Nov'24 vs. 60.92% in Oct'24. Total collection team has grown to 650+ with it hiring ~100 new executives in Q3FY25.

It also highlighted that loans sourced since Aug'24 (5 MoB) have been showing strong asset quality and flows in this book is as good as FY23. While we note that the pace of incremental stressed asset formation is moderating, >1% flows from early bucket on monthly basis is still significantly higher than the normal range and the same is likely to keep credit cost elevated in the near-term.

## **Customer deleveraging visible**

In terms of customer leverage, Fusion highlighted that its Fusion +>=4 customer exposure stands at 8.8%, down from 16.9%, as of Mar'24. Similarly, Fusion +>=3 customer exposure stands at 20.6%, down from 31.5% in Mar'24. Further, the share of customer with >1NR 60,000 outstanding with Fusion stands at only 4%, as on Dec'24 and borrowers with >1NR 60,000 outstanding at industry level stands at 50%, as on Dec'24.

## GNPA spiked to 12.6% vs. 9.4% QoQ; annualised credit cost at >20%

Customers have taken multiple loans and there has been a significant rise in overall customer indebtedness levels. Credit profile of the customer has weakened due to over leverage and this has been the main reason for the higher stress for Fusion. Overall, GNPA for Fusion surged to 12.6% vs 9.4% QoQ while accelerated provision helped it bringing down NNPA to 1.70% vs. 2.4% QoQ. Fusion accelerated total ECL provisions on its Stage-3 portfolio to 87.9% vs. 76.2% QoQ. Write-offs for the quarter were elevated at ~INR 2bn (27% of Q2 GNPA). Credit cost (as a % of average AUM) stood at ~20%. In absolute terms,

## Fusion initiated various measures to improve asset quality

In order to address ongoing challenges pertaining to asset quality, Fusion has resorted to a lot of course correction measures. It has strengthened its team by onboarding a new COO and Collections Head. In terms of collection infra, Fusion has improved analytics and is planning for state-specific events and ramped up its dedicated field team for collections. Moreover, it has recalibrated staff incentives with better alignment towards collections. It has further tightened customer onboarding beyond MFIN directive with respect to loan exposure, number of lenders and repayment behaviour. It is focusing on reducing field attrition with decreasing customer/RO metric to ~380 vs. erstwhile ~540. Overall, most of its measures are driven with a strong focus on improving collection efficiency and thereby, overall asset quality metrics.

## Carrying 20% of borrowings as liquidity; CRAR at 24% currently

Fusion carries liquidity of INR 11.5bn and has sanctions of another INR 12bn. However, incrementally, Fusion's fund-raising strength via borrowings (excluding direct assignment) has decelerated, as reflected in its incremental fund raising of INR 4bn between Jan–Feb'25. However, management highlighted that until CE is holding at levels of 91–92%, Fusion would be able to service its liabilities as well as opex. On the capital front, Fusion CRAR stands at 22.2%, which would be further strengthened post competition of equity rights issue of INR 8bn.

#### Key risks

- Sooner-than-expected asset quality and business normalisation
- Faster-than-expected AUM growth uptick



## Q3FY25 earnings conference call takeaways

#### **Asset quality**

- Pro-actively and swiftly put several initiatives to mitigate the impact of over leveraging in asset quality
- Due to tightening of underwiring norms, it has seen clear improvement in portfolio quality
- It has seen meaningful deleveraging of customers in its portfolio
- Early green shoots clearly visible in Q3
- It should start to seeing portfolio stabilisation from Q1FY26
- Minimal impact envisaged from new MFIN guard rails, which are expected to be implemented in Q4
- Consistent improvement in net flow rates MoM and CE over the past three months ending Jan'25
- Coverage on Stage-3 increased to 88% vs. 76% QoQ
- Feb'25 CE until now, is better than Jan'25
- Historically, it has been able to recovery 5-6% from write-offs
- Recovered ~INR 200-270mn in FY24; recovered INR 120mn in 9MFY25 so far from write-offs
- It has put out a separate team for recoveries from write-offs

#### **Microfinance ordinance**

- MFIN has been working very closely with the government
- MFIs also have a very stringent code of conduct and the guidelines are more related to the code of conduct
- This ordinance has come yesterday itself and it is still evaluating the ordinance
- It has 1% portfolio in Karnataka and is cautious

## Capital adequacy

- CRAR at 22% and it would be >30%, after capital raise of INR 8bn
- Capital raise would be in two tranches of INR 4bn each
- There is no hesitancy to raise capital
- It has received approval from both the exchanges for fund raise and is awaiting SEBI approval

#### **Borrowings**

- Successfully obtained waiver from majority of lenders for covenant breach, except five lenders with borrowings of INR 9bn, which is ~11% of borrowings
- Raised INR 44.5bn, including INR 10.1bn of DA during 9MFY25
- Liquidity, as of Dec'24, was at INR 11.51bn and sanctions of INR 12.5bn
- As of 12 Feb'25, liquidity is at INR 12–14bn
- It is well-positioned from a cash flow perspective
- Most of the lenders have agreed for extension till Q4FY25

#### **Employee retention**

- It has taken many steps to control attrition
- It has reduced the number of customers to be handled per loan officer, which has now reduced to 400 customers per officer vs. 550 earlier
- Incentive structure has been tweaked
- For a new joiner, there are no targets for the initial three months and they are given fixed incentives for the these months



Attrition has now come down to under 50%

#### Interest income

- Not recognised interest on Stage-3 loans and prudently derecognised reversal of DTA
- In Q2, it has de-recognized interest income only to the tune of the write-off
- Interest reversal, which is likely going to happen post write-off in Q4 wont impact P&L in Q4
- INR 950–980mn impact on interest income due to write-offs, interest income reversal and decline in portfolio
- Going forward, if it does any write-off, then it would not need to take any interest reversal towards those assets

## **Miscellaneous**

- MSME portfolio continues to do well
- Punjab, since the past couple of months, has been doing well

## Q2FY25 earnings conference call takeaways

#### Lenders' exposure and covenant breach

- Due to higher provisions, there were certain covenant breaches in Q1, for which it had received waiver from its lenders.
- Fusion expects similar waivers from its lenders in Q2 as well.
- It received waivers from 12 lenders in Q1, of which a few had given waivers for entire FY and a few for H1 among others.
- Covenant breach largely pertains to GNPA, NNPA and rating downgrade
- Top lenders (from whom Fusion has borrowed):
  - o HSBC
  - o Axis Bank
  - o ICICI Bank
  - o SIBDI
  - Yes Bank
  - o IDFC First Bank
- Usually, the exposure from the top lenders is > INR 5bn per lender
- Due to higher provisions and requirement of covenant breach, Auditor has highlighted the comment related to going concern

#### **Asset quality**

- When customer indebtedness goes beyond INR 150k and customer relationships with borrowers goes beyond four lenders, at those instances, usually there is a rise in stress level
- When customer breaches 30+ DPD more than twice in the past 12 months, then the customer's tendency to default increases
- Credit profile of the customer has weakened due to over leverage and this has been the main reason for the higher stress for Fusion
- The states of Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha and Jharkhand are a few of the places with higher stress
- It has seen pain easing in some parts of east Odisha and Punjab/Haryana



- Recently, sectoral measures (in terms of limiting lenders) have been showing results and over-indebtedness is declining
- Write-off:
  - o INR 1.96bn in Q2FY25
  - o INR 2.55bn in H1FY25
- De-recognition of interest income pertaining to write-off in Q2 at INR 341.4mn.
- In Fusion's management's assessment, credit cost has peaked out in Q2 and things should improve hereon

## Actions to improve asset quality

- Fusion has taken steps to motivate, incentivise and train team staff
- Incentive structure and rationalisation of staff at field-level has led to elevated operating expenses for the quarter. Average incentive is ~INR 3,500-INR 4,000 on a total salary of ~INR 15k. Moreover, it has a cap on the minimum fixed salary for the employee, so that salary is not entirely variable dependent
- Onboarded new COO and Collections Head
- Piloted customer loyalty program, incentivising customers for attendance and digital payments
- Improved analytics and planning for state specific events

## **Liquidity and borrowings**

- Liquidity remains strong at INR 18bn and has sanctions of another INR 15bn
- Total funds raised:
  - o INR 15.32bn, including DA of INR 4.35bn in Q2
  - o INR 40.6bn, including DA of INR 9.15bn in H2
- Marginal cost of funds down 4bps/53bps QoQ/YoY
- If CE holds at 91–92%, Fusion should be able to service its liabilities and opex

#### **Capital**

- 24.39% CRAR as of Sep'24
- Continues to remain adequately capitalised, which would be further strengthened with rights issue of INR 5.5bn

#### Key focus areas

- Emphasis on improving collection efficiency, and thereby, overall asset quality
- Enhancing its IT capabilities for better operational efficiency
- Growth in MSME vertical
- Implemented new loan origination and customer management platform once rolled out, would enhance operational efficiency

#### **Disbursements**

• Disbursements would continue to be subdued for some time



Exhibit 1: Q3FY25 result review

| (INR mn)                  | Q3FY25  | Q3FY24 | % chg YoY | Q2FY25  | % chg QoQ |
|---------------------------|---------|--------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| Interest Income           | 4,738   | 5,930  | (20.1)    | 6,916   | (31.5)    |
| Interest Expended         | 2,137   | 2,015  | 6.1       | 2,274   | (6.0)     |
| Net interest income (NII) | 2,601   | 3,916  | (33.6)    | 4,642   | (44.0)    |
| Other income              | 87      | 202    | (57.0)    | 122     | (28.5)    |
| Total income              | 2,688   | 4,118  | (34.7)    | 4,764   | (43.6)    |
| Operating expenses        | 2,041   | 1,515  | 34.7      | 1,925   | 6.0       |
| -Staff expenses           | 1,512   | 1,119  | 35.1      | 1,405   | 7.6       |
| -Other expenses           | 529     | 397    | 33.4      | 520     | 1.7       |
| Operating profit          | 648     | 2,603  | (75.1)    | 2,838   | (77.2)    |
| Total provisions          | 5,723   | 938    | 510.4     | 6,941   | (17.5)    |
| Profit before tax         | (5,075) | 1,665  | (404.8)   | (4,102) | 23.7      |
| Tax                       | 2,118   | 401    | 428.8     | (1,052) | (301.4)   |
| Profit after tax          | (7,193) | 1,265  | (668.9)   | (3,050) | 135.8     |

| Key statistic (INR mn) |          |          |       |          |       |
|------------------------|----------|----------|-------|----------|-------|
| AuM                    | 1,05,990 | 1,06,934 | (0.9) | 1,15,710 | (8.4) |
| Borrowers (in mn)      | 3.6      | 3.8      | (3.7) | 3.8      | (5.0) |
| Calc. Avg ticket size  | 29,118   | 28,289   | 2.9   | 30,211   | (3.6) |

| Ratios (%)                         |        | b    | ps chg YoY | b      | ps chg QoQ |
|------------------------------------|--------|------|------------|--------|------------|
| Profitability ratios               |        |      |            |        |            |
| Portfolio Yields                   | 19.5   | 21.9 | (240)      | 21.5   | (200)      |
| Cost of Funds                      | 10.3   | 10.4 | (10)       | 10.1   | 20         |
| NIM                                | 8.9    | 11.5 | (260)      | 11.5   | (258)      |
| RoAum                              | (26.0) | 4.9  | (3,084)    | (10.3) | (1,569)    |
| Asset Quality                      |        |      |            |        |            |
| Gross NPL ratio                    | 12.6   | 3.0  | 956        | 9.4    | 320        |
| Net NPL ratio                      | 1.7    | 8.0  | 93         | 2.4    | (70)       |
| PCR                                | 86.5   | 74.7 | 1,184      | 74.5   | 1,204      |
| <b>Business &amp; Other Ratios</b> |        |      |            |        |            |
| Cost-income ratio                  | 75.9   | 36.8 | 3,911      | 40.4   | 3,549      |
| CAR                                | 22.2   | 27.9 | (570)      | 24.4   | (220)      |

**Exhibit 2:** Customer deleveraging visible

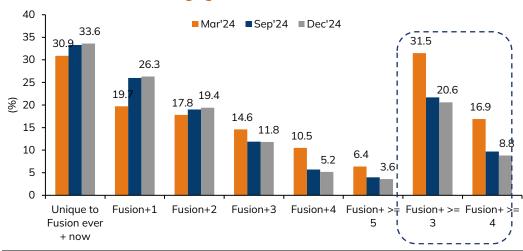
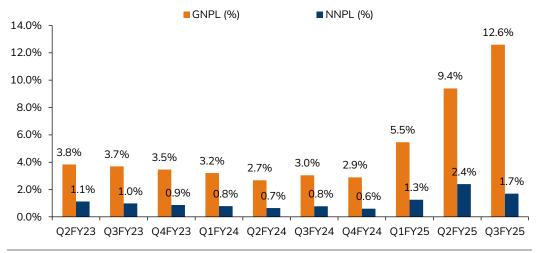
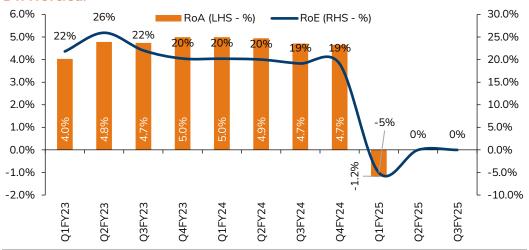




Exhibit 3: Gross NPAs spiked to 12.6% vs. 9.4% QoQ



**Exhibit 4:** RoA in negative due to elevated provisions, interest derecognition and DTA reversal



Source: Company data, I-Sec research

Exhibit 5: Deceleration in AUM due to subdued disbursement...

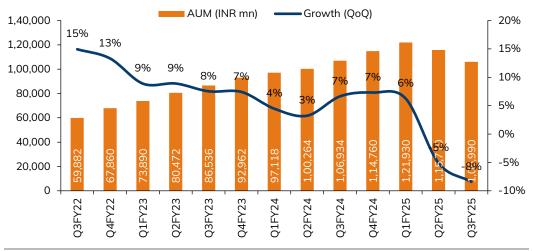




Exhibit 6: Disbursements tepid as company cuts back on growth

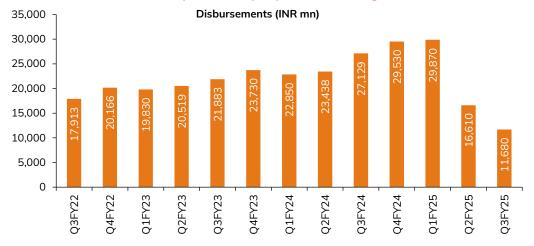
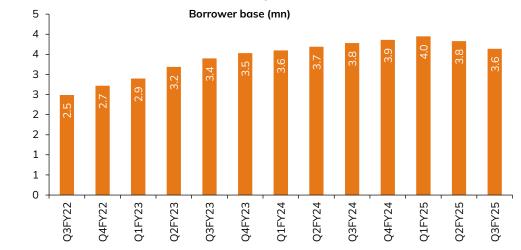


Exhibit 7: Slowdown in new customer acquisitions continues



Source: Company data, I-Sec research

Exhibit 8: NII sees a steep cut due to interest derecognition on stressed assets

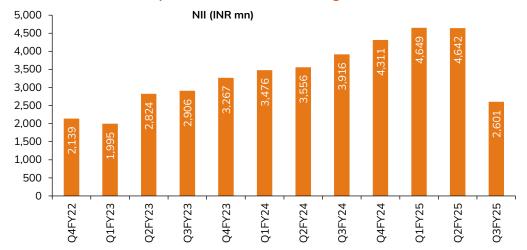




Exhibit 9: Margins plunge due to interest derecognition on stressed assets

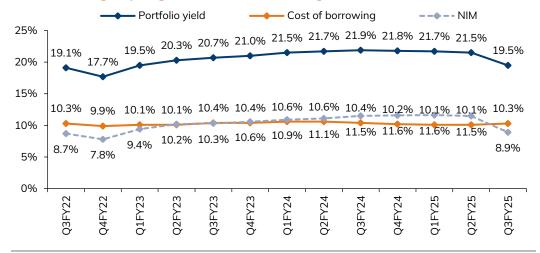
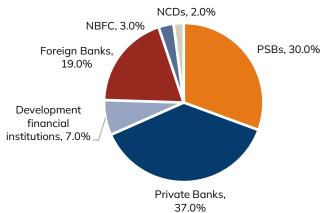


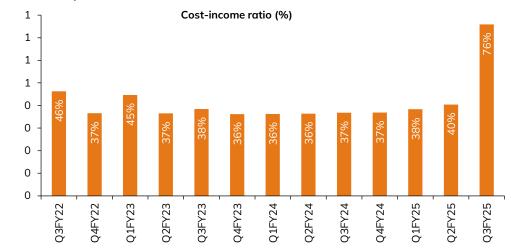
Exhibit 10: Bank borrowing remains the major source of funding

Borrowing mix - Q3FY25



Source: Company data, I-Sec research

Exhibit 11: Spike in cost to income due to lower income



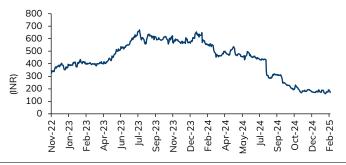


# **Exhibit 12: Shareholding pattern**

| %                       | Jun'24 | Sep'24 | Dec'24 |
|-------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Promoters               | 57.7   | 57.7   | 57.7   |
| Institutional investors | 26.9   | 22.1   | 18.7   |
| MFs and other           | 16.3   | 12.9   | 12.2   |
| Fls/ Banks              | 0.0    | 0.0    | 2.3    |
| Insurance Cos.          | 4.1    | 4.1    | 3.7    |
| FIIs                    | 6.5    | 5.1    | 0.6    |
| Others                  | 15.4   | 20.2   | 23.6   |

Source: Bloomberg, I-Sec research

**Exhibit 13: Price chart** 



Source: Bloomberg, I-Sec research



# **Financial Summary**

# Exhibit 14: Profit & Loss

(INR mn, year ending March)

|   | FY24A   | FY25E    | FY26E   | FY27E    |
|---|---------|----------|---------|----------|
| Interest Income                         | 20,919  | 22,869   | 23,651  | 26,479   |
| Interest Expenses                       | (7,908) | (9,083)  | (9,730) | (10,857) |
| Net Interest Income (NII)               | 13,011  | 13,786   | 13,922  | 15,622   |
| Other Income                            | 3,205   | 2,789    | 3,041   | 3,404    |
| Total Income (net of interest expenses) | 16,216  | 16,575   | 16,962  | 19,027   |
| Employee benefit expenses               | (4,312) | (5,578)  | (5,406) | (5,926)  |
| Depreciation and amortization           | (90)    | (97)     | (98)    | (109)    |
| Other operating expenses                | (1,532) | (1,785)  | (1,802) | (2,017)  |
| Total Operating Expense                 | (5,935) | (7,460)  | (7,306) | (8,053)  |
| Pre Provisioning Profits (PPoP)         | 10,281  | 9,115    | 9,657   | 10,974   |
| Provisions and write offs               | (3,649) | (20,080) | (6,757) | (6,305)  |
| Profit before tax (PBT)                 | 6,633   | (10,965) | 2,899   | 4,669    |
| Total tax expenses                      | (1,580) | 548      | (145)   | (233)    |
| Profit after tax (PAT)                  | 5,053   | (10,417) | 2,754   | 4,436    |

Source Company data, I-Sec research

## Exhibit 15: Balance sheet

(INR mn, year ending March)

|   | FY24A    | FY25E    | FY26E    | FY27E    |
|---|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Share capital                                 | 1,006    | 1,006    | 1,006    | 1,006    |
| Reserves & surplus                            | 27,475   | 17,059   | 19,813   | 24,248   |
| Shareholders' funds                           | 28,482   | 18,065   | 20,819   | 25,255   |
| Borrowings                                    | 87,923   | 93,742   | 1,00,850 | 1,16,290 |
| Provisions & Other Liabilities                | 1,339    | 1,339    | 1,339    | 1,339    |
| Total Liabilities and<br>Stakeholder's Equity | 1,17,743 | 1,13,146 | 1,23,007 | 1,42,883 |
| Cash and balance with RBI                     | 15,532   | 11,973   | 12,917   | 14,950   |
| Fixed assets                                  | 224      | 236      | 247      | 260      |
| Loans   | 99,479   | 92,101   | 99,360   | 1,14,996 |
| Deferred tax assets (net)                     | 917      | 926      | 935      | 944      |
| Other Assets                                  | 1,592    | 7,910    | 9,548    | 11,733   |
| Total Assets                                  | 1,17,743 | 1,13,146 | 1,23,007 | 1,42,883 |



# **Exhibit 16:** Key Ratios

(Year ending March)

|                               | FY24A    | FY25E    | FY26E    | FY27E    |
|-------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| AUM and Disbursements         |          |          |          |          |
| (INR mn)                      |          |          |          |          |
| AUM                           | 1,14,760 | 1,08,354 | 1,16,894 | 1,35,290 |
| On-book Loans                 | 1,14,760 | 1,08,354 | 1,16,894 | 1,35,290 |
| Disbursements                 | 1,02,940 | 72,058   | 86,470   | 1,12,410 |
| Repayments                    | 81,140   | 78,464   | 77,930   | 94,015   |
| Growth (%):                   |          |          |          |          |
| Total AUM (%)                 | 23.5     | (5.6)    | 7.9      | 15.7     |
| Disbursements (%)             | 19.8     | (30.0)   | 20.0     | 30.0     |
| Repayments (%)                | 33.3     | (3.3)    | (0.7)    | 20.6     |
| Loan book (on balance         | 22.5     |          |          | 157      |
| sheet) (%)                    | 23.5     | (5.6)    | 7.9      | 15.7     |
| Total Assets (%)              | 25.7     | (3.9)    | 8.7      | 16.2     |
| Net Interest Income (NII) (%) | 35.9     | 6.0      | 1.0      | 12.2     |
| Non-interest income (%)       | 60.4     | (13.0)   | 9.0      | 12.0     |
| Total Income (net of interest |          |          |          |          |
| expenses) (%)                 | 40.1     | 2.2      | 2.3      | 12.2     |
| Operating Expenses (%)        | 33.4     | 25.7     | (2.1)    | 10.2     |
| Employee Cost (%)             | 32.5     | 29.4     | (3.1)    | 9.6      |
| Non-Employee Cost (%)         | 36.9     | 16.5     | 1.0      | 12.0     |
| Pre provisioning operating    |          |          |          |          |
| profits (PPoP) (%)            | 44.3     | (11.3)   | 5.9      | 13.6     |
| Provisions (%)                | 82.1     | 450.4    | (66.3)   | (6.7)    |
| PBT (%)                       | 29.5     | (265.3)  | (126.4)  | 61.0     |
| PAT (%)                       | 30.5     | (306.2)  | (126.4)  | 61.0     |
| EPS (%)                       | 30.2     | (306.2)  | (126.4)  | 61.0     |
| Yields, interest costs and    | 50.2     | (300.2)  | (120.1)  | 01.0     |
| spreads (%)                   |          |          |          |          |
| NIM on loan assets (%)        | 12.5     | 12.4     | 12.4     | 12.4     |
| NIM on IEA (%)                | 11.1     | 11.0     | 11.1     | 11.2     |
| NIM on AUM (%)                | 12.5     | 12.4     | 12.4     | 12.4     |
| Yield on loan assets (%)      | 20.1     | 20.5     | 21.0     | 21.0     |
| Yield on IEA (%)              | 17.9     | 18.3     | 18.9     | 18.9     |
| Yield on AUM (%)              | 20.1     | 20.5     | 21.0     | 21.0     |
| Cost of borrowings (%)        | 10.0     | 10.0     | 10.0     | 10.0     |
| Interest Spreads (%)          | 10.0     | 10.5     | 11.0     | 11.0     |
| Operating efficiencies        | 10.1     | 10.5     | 11.0     | 11.0     |
| Cost to income ratio          | 36.6     | 45.0     | 43.1     | 42.3     |
| Op.costs/avg assets (%)       | 5.6      | 6.5      | 6.2      | 6.1      |
| Op.costs/avg AUM (%)          |          |          |          |          |
| Salaries as % of non-         | 5.7      | 6.7      | 6.5      | 6.4      |
|                               | 72.7     | 74.8     | 74.0     | 73.6     |
| interest costs (%)            |          |          |          |          |
| Capital Structure             | 2.1      | F 2      | 4.0      | 4.6      |
| Average gearing ratio (x)     | 3.1      | 5.2      | 4.8      | 4.6      |
| Leverage (x)                  | 4.1      | 6.3      | 5.9      | 5.7      |
| CAR (%)                       | 23.7     | 14.3     | 13.7     | 13.0     |
| Tier 1 CAR (%)                | 22.7     | 13.3     | 12.9     | 12.4     |
| Tier 2 CAR (%)                | 1.0      | 1.0      | 0.8      | 0.6      |
| RWA (estimate) - INR mn       | 1,21,256 | 1,28,173 | 1,53,279 | 1,95,851 |
| RWA as a % of loan assets     | 121.9    | 139.2    | 154.3    | 170.3    |

Source Company data, I-Sec research

|   | FY24A | FY25E   | FY26E | FY27E |
|---|-------|---------|-------|-------|
| Asset quality and                                 |       |         |       |       |
| provisioning                                      |       |         |       |       |
| GNPA (%)  | 2.9   | 15.0    | 5.0   | 4.0   |
| NNPA (%)  | 0.6   | 2.0     | 8.0   | 8.0   |
| GNPA (INR mn)                                     | 3,317 | 16,253  | 5,845 | 5,412 |
| NNPA (INR mn)                                     | 689   | 2,167   | 935   | 1,082 |
| Coverage ratio (%)                                | 79.2  | 86.7    | 84.0  | 80.0  |
| Credit Costs as a % of avg<br>AUM (bps)           | 351   | 1,800   | 600   | 500   |
| Credit Costs as a % of avg<br>on book loans (bps) | 351   | 1,800   | 600   | 500   |
| Return ratios                                     |       |         |       |       |
| RoAA (%)  | 4.8   | (9.0)   | 2.3   | 3.3   |
| RoAE (%)  | 19.5  | (44.8)  | 14.2  | 19.3  |
| ROAAUM (%)  | 4.9   | (9.3)   | 2.4   | 3.5   |
| Dividend Payout ratio (%)                         | -     |         | -     | -     |
| Valuation Ratios                                  |       |         |       |       |
| No of shares                                      | 101   | 101     | 101   | 101   |
| No of shares (fully diluted)                      | 101   | 101     | 101   | 101   |
| EPS (INR)   | 50.2  | (103.5) | 27.4  | 44.1  |
| EPS fully diluted (INR)                           | 50.2  | (103.5) | 27.4  | 44.1  |
| Price to Earnings (x)                             | 3.4   | (1.6)   | 6.2   | 3.8   |
| Price to Earnings (fully diluted) (x)             | 3.4   | (1.6)   | 6.2   | 3.8   |
| Book Value (fully diluted)                        | 283   | 180     | 207   | 251   |
| Adjusted book value                               | 278   | 164     | 200   | 243   |
| Price to Book                                     | 0.6   | 0.9     | 0.8   | 0.7   |
| Price to Adjusted Book                            | 0.6   | 1.0     | 0.8   | 0.7   |
| DPS (INR)   | -     | -       | -     | -     |
| Dividend yield (%)                                | -     | -       | -     | -     |

Source Company data, I-Sec research

# **Exhibit 17:** Key Metrics

(Year ending March)

|                             | FY24A    | FY25E    | FY26E    | FY27E    |
|-----------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| DuPont Analysis             |          |          |          |          |
| Average Assets (INR mn)     | 1,05,689 | 1,15,445 | 1,18,077 | 1,32,945 |
| Average Loans (INR mn)      | 89,947   | 95,790   | 95,731   | 1,07,178 |
| Average Equity (INR mn)     | 25,850   | 23,273   | 19,442   | 23,037   |
| Interest earned (%)         | 19.8     | 19.8     | 20.0     | 19.9     |
| Interest expended (%)       | 7.5      | 7.9      | 8.2      | 8.2      |
| Gross Interest Spread (%)   | 12.3     | 11.9     | 11.8     | 11.8     |
| Credit cost (%)             | 3.5      | 17.4     | 5.7      | 4.7      |
| Net Interest Spread (%)     | 8.9      | (5.5)    | 6.1      | 7.0      |
| Operating cost (%)          | 5.6      | 6.5      | 6.2      | 6.1      |
| Lending spread (%)          | 3.2      | (11.9)   | (0.1)    | 1.0      |
| Non interest income (%)     | 3.0      | 2.4      | 2.6      | 2.6      |
| Operating Spread (%)        | 6.3      | (9.5)    | 2.5      | 3.5      |
| Tax rate (%)                | 23.8     | 5.0      | 5.0      | 5.0      |
| ROAA (%)                    | 4.8      | (9.0)    | 2.3      | 3.3      |
| Effective leverage (AA/ AE) | 4.1      | 5.0      | 6.1      | 5.8      |
| RoAE (%)                    | 19.5     | (44.8)   | 14.2     | 19.3     |



This report may be distributed in Singapore by ICICI Securities, Inc. (Singapore branch). Any recipients of this report in Singapore should contact ICICI Securities, Inc. (Singapore branch) in respect of any matters arising from, or in connection with, this report. The contact details of ICICI Securities, Inc. (Singapore branch) are as follows: Address: 10 Collyer Quay, #40-92 Ocean Financial Tower, Singapore - 049315, Tel: +65 6232 2451 and email: navneet\_babbar@icicisecuritiesinc.com, Rishi\_agrawal@icicisecuritiesinc.com and Kadambari\_balachandran@icicisecuritiesinc.com.

"In case of eligible investors based in Japan, charges for brokerage services on execution of transactions do not in substance constitute charge for research reports and no charges are levied for providing research reports to such investors."

New I-Sec investment ratings (all ratings based on absolute return; All ratings and target price refers to 12-month performance horizon, unless mentioned otherwise) BUY: >15% return; ADD: 5% to 15% return; HOLD: Negative 5% to Positive 5% return; REDUCE: Negative 5% to Negative 15% return; SELL: < negative 15% return

#### ANALYST CERTIFICATION

I/We, Renish Bhuva, CFA (ICFAI); Chintan Shah, CA; Palak Bhatt, CA; 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. Analysts are not registered as research analysts by FINRA and are not associated persons of the ICICI Securities Inc. It is also confirmed that above mentioned Analysts of this report have not received any compensation from the companies mentioned in the report in the preceding twelve months and do not serve as an officer, director or employee of the companies mentioned in the report.

#### Terms & conditions and other disclosures:

ICICI Securities Limited (ICICI Securities) is a full-service, integrated investment banking and is, inter alia, engaged in the business of stock brokering and distribution of financial products. Registered Office Address: ICICI Venture House, Appasaheb Marathe Marg, Prabhadevi, Mumbai - 400 025. CIN: L67120MH1995PLC086241, Tel: (91 22) 6807 7100. ICICI Securities is Sebi registered stock broker, merchant banker, investment adviser, portfolio manager, Research Analyst and Alternative Investment Fund. ICICI Securities is registered with Insurance Regulatory Development Authority of India Limited (IRDAI) as a composite corporate agent and with PFRDA as a Point of Presence. ICICI Securities Limited Research Analyst SEBI Registration Number – INH000000990. ICICI Securities Limited SEBI Registration is INZ000183631 for stock broker. ICICI Securities AIF Trust's SEBI Registration number is IN/AIF3/23-24/1292 ICICI Securities is a subsidiary of ICICI Bank which is India's largest private sector bank and has its various subsidieries engaged in businesses of housing finance, asset management, life insurance, general insurance, venture capital fund management, etc. ("associates"), the details in respect of which are available on <a href="https://www.icicibank.com">www.icicibank.com</a>.

ICICI Securities is one of the leading merchant bankers/ underwriters of securities and participate in virtually all securities trading markets in India. We and our associates might have investment banking and other business relationship with a significant percentage of companies covered by our Investment Research Department. ICICI Securities and its analysts, persons reporting to analysts and their relatives are generally prohibited from maintaining a financial interest in the securities or derivatives of any companies that the analysts cover.

Recommendation in reports based on technical and derivative analysis centre on studying charts of a stock's price movement, outstanding positions, trading volume etc as opposed to focusing on a company's fundamentals and, as such, may not match with the recommendation in fundamental reports. Investors may visit icicidirect.com to view the Fundamental and Technical Research Reports.

Our proprietary trading and investment businesses may make investment decisions that are inconsistent with the recommendations expressed herein.

ICICI Securities Limited has two independent equity research groups: Institutional Research and Retail Research. This report has been prepared by the Institutional Research. The views and opinions expressed in this document may or may not match or may be contrary with the views, estimates, rating, and target price of the Retail Research.

The information and opinions in this report have been prepared by ICICI Securities and are subject to change without any notice. The report and information contained herein is strictly confidential and meant solely for the selected recipient and may not be altered in any way, transmitted to, copied or distributed, in part or in whole, to any other person or to the media or reproduced in any form, without prior written consent of ICICI Securities. While we would endeavour to update the information herein on a reasonable basis, ICICI Securities is under no obligation to update or keep the information current. Also, there may be regulatory, compliance or other reasons that may prevent ICICI Securities from doing so. Non-rated securities indicate that rating on a particular security has been suspended temporarily and such suspension is in compliance with applicable regulations and/or ICICI Securities policies, in circumstances where ICICI Securities might be acting in an advisory capacity to this company, or in certain other circumstances. This report is based on information obtained from public sources and sources believed to be reliable, but no independent verification has been made nor is its accuracy or completeness guaranteed. This report and information herein is solely for informational purpose and shall not be used or considered as an offer document or solicitation of offer to buy or sell or subscribe for securities or other financial instruments. Though disseminated to all the customers simultaneously, not all customers may receive this report at the same time. ICICI Securities will not treat recipients as customers by virtue of their receiving this report. Nothing in this report constitutes investment, legal, accounting and tax advice or a representation that any investment or strategy is suitable or appropriate to your specific circumstances. The securities discussed and opinions expressed in this report may not be suitable for all investors, who must make their own investment decisions, based on their own investment objectives, financial positions and needs of specific recipient. This may not be taken in substitution for the exercise of independent judgment by any recipient. The recipient should independently evaluate the investment risks. The value and return on investment may vary because of changes in interest rates, foreign exchange rates or any other reason. ICICI Securities accepts no liabilities whatsoever for any loss or damage of any kind arising out of the use of this report. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. Investors are advised to see Risk Disclosure Document to understand the risks associated before investing in the securities markets. Actual results may differ materially from those set forth in projections. Forward-looking statements are not predictions and may be subject to change without notice.

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

ICICI Securities or its associates might have received any compensation from the companies mentioned in the report during the period preceding twelve months from the date of this report for services in respect of managing or co-managing public offerings, corporate finance, investment banking or merchant banking, brokerage services or other advisory service in a merger or specific transaction.

ICICI Securities or its associates might have received any compensation for products or services other than investment banking or merchant banking or brokerage services from the companies mentioned in the report in the past twelve months.

ICICI Securities encourages independence in research report preparation and strives to minimize conflict in preparation of research report. ICICI Securities or its analysts did not receive any compensation or other benefits from the companies mentioned in the report or third party in connection with preparation of the research report. Accordingly, neither ICICI Securities nor Research Analysts and their relatives have any material conflict of interest at the time of publication of this report.

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

ICICI Securities or its subsidiaries collectively or Research Analysts or their relatives do not own 1% or more of the equity securities of the Company mentioned in the report as of the last day of the month preceding the publication of the research report.

Since associates of ICICI Securities and ICICI Securities as a entity are engaged in various financial service businesses, they might have financial interests or actual/beneficial ownership of one percent or more or other material conflict of interest in various companies including the subject company/companies mentioned in this report.

ICICI Securities may have issued other reports that are inconsistent with and reach different conclusion from the information presented in this report. Neither the Research Analysts nor ICICI Securities have been engaged in market making activity for the companies mentioned in the report.

We submit that no material disciplinary action has been taken on ICICI Securities by any Regulatory Authority impacting Equity Research Analysis activities.

This report is not directed or intended for distribution to, or use by, any person or entity who is a citizen or resident of or located in any locality, state, country or other jurisdiction, where such distribution, publication, availability or use would be contrary to law, regulation or which would subject ICICI Securities and affiliates to any registration or licensing requirement within such jurisdiction. The securities described herein may or may not be eligible for sale in all jurisdictions or to certain category of investors. Persons in whose possession this document may come are required to inform themselves of and to observe such restriction.

This report has not been prepared by ICICI Securities, Inc. However, ICICI Securities, Inc. has reviewed the report and, in so far as it includes current or historical information, it is believed to be reliable, although its accuracy and completeness cannot be guaranteed.



Investment in securities market are subject to market risks. Read all the related documents carefully before investing.

Registration granted by SEBI and certification from NISM in no way guarantee performance of the intermediary or provide any assurance of returns to investors. None of the research recommendations promise or guarantee any assured, minimum or risk free return to the investors.

 $Name of the Compliance of ficer (Research Analyst): Mr. Atul Agrawal, Contact number: 022-40701000, \ \textbf{E-mail Address}: \underline{compliance of ficer@icicisecurities.com}$ 

For any queries or grievances: Mr. Bhavesh Soni Email address: headservicequality@icicidirect.com Contact Number: 18601231122