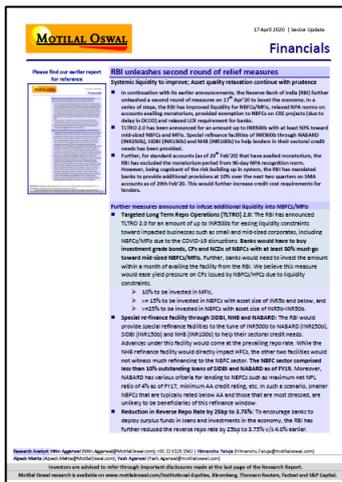
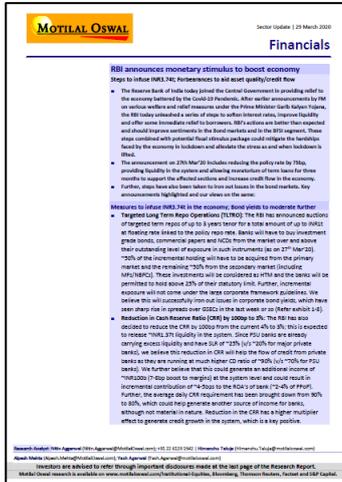


Please refer our earlier report



## RBI extends moratorium till Aug'20

Provides adequate time to borrowers; lenders to walk tightrope to avoid unintended damage

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced further set of measures to enable the banking system to bear the impact of the COVID-19 led disruptions. The RBI, thus, has extended the moratorium/standstill benefit by a further three months (up to 31<sup>st</sup> Aug'20).
- The RBI has also reduced the policy rate by 40bp, resulting in repo/reverse repo rate of 4.0%/3.35%, thereby driving further reduction in the borrowing cost.
- Further, the RBI has asked all lenders to convert the accumulated interest of six months on working capital loans into a Funded Interest Term Loan to be repaid by Mar'21. This comes as a big relief to borrowers, who otherwise would have been required to make a balloon payment, thus, causing undue financial distress.
- The RBI also announced certain other measures such as (a) increasing the group exposure limit of banks from 25% to 30% of eligible capital base, and (b) further extension of SIDBI's Special Refinance Facility of INR150b at the RBI's policy repo rate for a period of 90 days.
- We believe that the extension of moratorium is a step in the right direction as economic activity is still in a nascent stage of recovery and borrowers would need more time to recuperate from the COVID-19 crisis. However, banks need to work actively with borrowers and ensure that moratorium gets availed in deserving cases, and at the same time, prevent any moral hazard. The trend in collection efficiency would become an important barometer of banking health as the book under moratorium might remain elevated for the next few months.
- We prefer large private banks as they have strong coverage, contingent provisions and robust PPOP to provide for any potential credit losses. Top picks – HDFCB and ICICIBC.

## Moratorium extended by another 3 months; Additional provisioning to get some respite as NPA recognition defers

In continuation with its earlier announcements, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has extended the moratorium of term loans by a further three months till 31<sup>st</sup> Aug'20 to ease financial stress. Consequently, the payment of interest on working capital facilities too gets extended by three months along with the extended period getting excluded from the 90-day NPA norm and not resulting in asset classification downgrade. In addition to this, timeline for the resolution of large accounts also gets extended by another three months, which would extend the period for making additional provisioning of 20% on such delayed accounts and offering some respite on provisioning to the underlying banks.

## Moratorium book at ~25-35% for large banks and higher for smaller banks; remain watchful of collection efficiency in near term

We believe that this measure would give some breathing space to borrowers facing cash flow strain to revive and reorganize their business over the next few months. However, this could further result in an increase in customers availing the moratorium. As on 30<sup>th</sup> Apr'20, many large banks indicated that the proportion of customers availing the moratorium has been in the range of 25-35% (in value terms)

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**while for small finance banks, the moratorium has been much higher. For instance, moratorium for Equitas/ Ujjivan stood at 93%/90% and for BANDHAN ~70-75% of total portfolio.** Although incidence of moratorium is expected to increase, the trend in collection efficiency as the economy starts to recovery would be an important metric to assess the health of the banking system in the near term.

#### **Accumulated interest on WC to get converted into term loan – positive for borrowers**

Further, in order to ease the difficulties faced by borrowers due to the disruption caused by COVID-19, the RBI has asked all lenders to convert the accumulated interest of six months on working capital loans into a Funded Interest Term Loan, which is to be fully repaid by Mar'21. This comes as a big relief to borrowers, who otherwise would have been required to make balloon payment, thus, causing financial distress.

#### **RBI cuts repo rate by 40bp to 4%; monetary easing to further drive reduction in lending rates**

In its first monetary policy meeting of FY21, the RBI cut the policy rate by 40bp to 4.0% to manage the current dismal economic situation. Accordingly, the reverse repo now stands at 3.35%, against the earlier rate of 3.75%. The continued monetary easing would drive further reduction in lending yields under the external benchmark and a decline in the 1-year MCLR rates (20-50bp reduction since Jan'20) while banks have also been sharply cutting the retail and bulk deposit rates over the last few months (large banks have reduced TD rates by up to 150bp) to offset margin pressure. Overall, we believe that large banks with strong/granular liability franchise would be able to tackle the margin pressure v/s their mid-sized peers.

#### **Other measures**

The RBI also announced certain other measures such as:

- Increasing the group exposure limit of banks from existing 25% to 30% of eligible capital base. This is likely to help borrowers that are unable to access capital markets in these uncertain times and would facilitate the flow of resources.
- Further, SIDBI's Special Refinance Facility of INR150b has been extended at the RBI's policy repo rate for a period of 90 days to provide greater flexibility in operations. However, this is not expected to result in much refinancing to NBFCs as **the sector comprised less than 10% of SIDBI's outstanding loans as at FY19.**

#### **View**

We believe that the extension of the moratorium is a step in the right direction as economic activity is still in a nascent stage of recovery and borrowers would need more time to recuperate from the COVID-19 crisis. However, banks need to work actively with borrowers and ensure that moratorium gets availed in deserving cases, and at the same time, prevent any moral hazard. The trend in collection efficiency should become an important barometer of banking health as book under moratorium may remain elevated over the next few months. Further, many banks had indicated that several borrowers are cautious and opting for moratorium to preserve liquidity. Thus, it would be interesting to watch how these customers react to **Moratorium 2.0** as it would coincide with economic activity picking up. We prefer large private banks as they have strong coverage, contingent provisions and robust PPOP to provide for potential credit losses. Our **top picks are HDFCB and ICICIB.**

## Snapshot of moratorium availed by customers across banks

- Most large banks (except HDFCB and IIB) have indicated that the proportion of customers (in terms of value) availing moratorium has been in the range of 25-35% – AXSB (25-28%), ICICIBC (~30%) and KMB (~26%).
- **In case of Equitas/Ujjivan**, the moratorium availed by the customer remains very high and stands at 93%/90% of the total value.
- Banks further indicated that **many borrowers have cited their cautious stance of opting for moratorium to preserve liquidity**.
- All banks have been pro-active and created additional provisions for COVID-19, which was higher than the RBI requirement (Refer exhibit 2).
- **Segmental moratorium:** MFI segment witnessed 100% moratorium while other segments, which witnessed higher number of borrowers availing the moratorium were Commercial Vehicles, 2-Wheeler portfolio, MSMEs and small business loans.
- Further, sectors such as Airlines, Real Estate, Gems and Jewelry, Auto, Entertainment, Construction, Organized Retail, Textiles, and Small NBFCs have been severely impacted due to COVID-19 along with unsecured personal loans and credit cards, which could witness higher delinquencies.

**Exhibit 1: Snapshot of moratorium availed by customers and COVID related provisions made by banks**

FY20 (INRb)	Advances	Moratorium availed			Provisions				Total
		as a % of customers	as a % of loans	In value terms	COVID-19 related	Standard	Contingent	Floating	
AXSB	5,714.2	10%-12%	25%-28%	1,428.6	30.0	NA	29.8	NA	59.8
BANDHAN	666.3	NA	~71%	473.1	6.9	3.1	NA	NA	10.0
HDFCB	9,937.0	NA	NA	NA	15.5	28.6	30.0	14.5	88.6
ICICIBC	6,452.9	NA	~30%	1,935.9	27.3	52.2	NA	NA	79.4
IIB*	2,067.8	NA	~5%	57.7	2.8	NA	NA	NA	2.8
KMB	2,197.5	NA	~26%	571.3	6.5	NA	NA	NA	6.5
YES	1,714.4	15%-25%	35%-45%	685.8	2.4	NA	NA	NA	2.4
RBK	580.2	NA	~33%	191.5	1.2	NA	NA	NA	1.2
AUBANK	269.9	~29%	~25%	67.5	1.4	NA	NA	NA	1.4
Equitas	137.5	~98.3%	~93%	127.8	1.0	NA	NA	NA	1.0
UJJIVAN	140.4	NA	~90%	126.4	0.7	NA	NA	NA	0.7
SBI Cards	228.1	~20%	~17%	38.0	4.9	NA	NA	NA	4.9

Note: For IIB, the proportion of customers availing moratorium is as a proportion of vehicle financing, MFI and unsecured loans. The bank indicated that very few corporates have applied for the moratorium

Source: MOFSL, Company

**Exhibit 2: Moratorium across segments disclosed by banks**

Moratorium value (%)	BANDHAN	EQUITAS*	RBK**	YES
MFI/Micro-banking	100%	100%	100%	NA
Mortgage/Housing Finance	13%	72%	NA	NA
SME/Small Business Loans/MSME	35%	87%	NA	35%-40%
NBFC	59%	NA	NA	NA
Vehicle Finance	NA	90%	NA	NA
Working Capital	NA	93%	NA	NA
Corporate/Wholesale	NA	3%	22%	40%-45%
Retail Assets	NA	NA	NA	40%-45%
Credit Cards	NA	NA	24%	NA
Others	NA	92%	NA	NA
Total	71%	98%	33%	35%-45%

Note: \* indicated Moratorium as number of loans;

\*\* For retail assets, ~46% in terms of number of loans have availed the moratorium

Source: MOFSL, Company

**Exhibit 3: Commentary by various banks**

Banks	Commentary
AXSB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Created additional provisions of INR30b toward COVID-19 crisis; total contingent provisions stood at INR59.8b.</li> <li>❖ <b>Breakup of COVID-19 provisions:</b> INR730m was toward A/c for which asset classification dispensation was availed; while ~INR12b was toward overdue A/c that availed moratorium. The remaining were unallocated provisions.</li> </ul>
Bandhan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Segmental moratorium:</b> MFI (100%), Mortgage (13%), SME (35%) and NBFC (59%).</li> <li>❖ 9% of the SME portfolio seems vulnerable.</li> </ul>
HDFCB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ GNPA impact of COVID-19 is expected at ~50bp.</li> <li>❖ Slippages would have increased by ~40bp if not for dispensation by the RBI.</li> </ul>
ICICIB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ ~10-11% of those that availed moratorium were from CVs, 2Ws and rural book.</li> <li>❖ Slippages would have increased by INR13.1b and GNPA by 18bp if not for dispensation by the RBI.</li> </ul>
IIB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ GNPA impact of COVID-19 is expected at ~80bp while credit cost is expected at ~50bp.</li> <li>❖ Credit cost guidance of 120-130bp.</li> </ul>
KMB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ If not for moratorium, GNPA would have been higher by INR6.6b.</li> <li>❖ Overdue accounts stands at ~INR65b. The bank made 10% provision on all overdue accounts.</li> </ul>
YES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Segmental moratorium:</b> Corporate portfolio (40-45%), MSME (35-40%) and Retail (40-45%).</li> <li>❖ Overdue A/c as on 29<sup>th</sup> Feb'20 had an o/s of INR149.6b of which NPA standstill is INR27.1b.</li> </ul>
RBK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Segmental moratorium:</b> MFI (100%), Credit Cards (24%), Wholesale (22%).</li> <li>❖ Credit cost for FY21E to be similar to FY20 levels. However, the proportion of credit cost to be higher toward non-wholesale assets (~60%). Overall, MSMEs/SMEs/Credit Cards are likely to witness higher credit cost trends.</li> <li>❖ The impact of dispensation by the RBI stands at ~9bp on SMA-1 and ~44bp on SMA-2.</li> </ul>
AUBANK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ ~71% of the customers have paid their EMIs, of which ~23% paid partially, while 47% paid in full.</li> <li>❖ As at 1<sup>st</sup> Mar'20, total portfolio in 0-89dpd was INR36b, which reduced to INR27b by 31<sup>st</sup> Mar'20 (5% provision created).</li> </ul>
EQUITAS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Segmental moratorium:</b> MFI (~100%), Small business loans (~87%), Housing Finance (71%), Vehicle (~90%), WC (~93%).</li> </ul>
UJJIVAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Within MFI segment, 100% availed the moratorium while in other segments ~70% availed the moratorium.</li> </ul>
SBI Cards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ ~0.8m customers (~20%) having a balance of ~INR38b have applied for the moratorium.</li> <li>❖ Reduction in GNPA was due to the moratorium, else GNPA would have been flat at Dec'19 levels (~2.45%).</li> </ul>

Source: MOFSL, Company

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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