



BSE SENSEX NIFTY50 51,532 15,173

AXIS BANK

Stock Info

CMP (INR)	740
M.Cap. (INR b)	2,266
Avg. Turnover, INR m	21,018
Equity Shares (m)	3,062
Face Value	2
52-Week Range (INR)	766 / 285
1/6/12 m Abs. Perf* (%)	10 /72/ -1
Data as on 11th February, 2021	

Financial Snapshot (INR bn)

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Y/E Mar	FY21E	FY22E	FY23E		
NII	301.1	348.7	423.0		
ОР	263.6	303.7	370.5		
NP	68.5	131.6	188.1		
NIM (%)	3.5	3.7	3.9		
EPS (INR)	23.3	43.0	61.5		
EPS Gr. (%)	285.9	84.8	42.9		
BV/Sh. (INR)	330.5	370.1	426.9		
ABV/Sh. (INR)	306.3	343.6	398.4		
RoE (%)	7.4	12.3	15.4		
RoA (%)	0.7	1.3	1.6		
Valuations					
P/E(X)	31.8	17.2	12.0		
P/BV (X)	2.2	2.0	1.7		
P/ABV (x)	2.4	2.2	1.9		

Shareholding pattern (%)

As On	Jun-20	Sep-20	Dec-20
Promoter	16.0	14.8	13.6
MFs	19.6	18.6	17.5
FPIs	46.0	49.2	49.8
Others	18.4	17.4	19.1

Investors are advised to refer through disclosures made at the end of the Research Report.

Asset quality outlook improving; earnings set to gain momentum

Axis Bank (AXSB) is one of the largest private sector banks in India with 4,528 branches and 12,044 ATMs spread across the country. It has a loan book of ~INR5.7t, grew at a CAGR of 15% over FY15-FY20.

Strengthening retail franchise: Economic indicators are turning better than expected, with activity reaching pre-COVID levels, especially in Housing, Cement, Metal, and Automobiles, while rural continues to show strong momentum. Infact, retail loan disbursements have surpassed pre-COVID levels, with healthy traction seen in secured products. This was well reflected in the strengthening of the AXSB's retail business franchise, with the share of retail loans improving to ~55% of total loans — led by home loans. Further, over 80% of unsecured loans are towards salaried customers. On the liability side, share of CASA + retail term deposits stands at ~86%, ensuring relatively stable funding costs. ~1.7m new liability accounts were opened in 3Q, taking the total to ~4.8m in 9MFY21. However, on the commercial banking side, the bank would remain cautious, while aiming for strategic growth. 80% of the book is rated SME 3 or better, with 84% of incremental disbursements rated SME 3 or better

Asset quality outlook improving; high proforma PCR will aid provisioning decline over FY22/23: AXSB has seen a sharp increase in proforma slippages, led by the retail book — which comprises ~84% of total slippages (remain cautious on unsecured lending). However, going ahead, management expects slippages to moderate in 4Q. Further higher proforma PCR will help AXSB to reduce its provisioning over FY22-23, thus boosting profitability. The bank witnessed decline in its BB & below book, while the overall restructuring book remains limited to 0.42% of loans (the bank does not intend to provide any fresh approvals). While the bank guided for moderation in NPL formation going ahead, it expects credit cost to remain elevated in the near term. Thus, we estimate credit cost to remain elevated at 2.8%/1.8% for FY21E/FY22E.

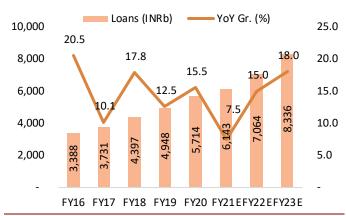
Fee income highly granular; expected to pick up gradually: Retail fees form ~64% of the bank's fees, signifying granularity in fee income. This is driven by cards/third-party distribution. But, fee income remains moderate and is likely to pick up gradually as economic activity revives.

Valuation and view: AXSB has delivered a resilient performance amid a challenging macro environment. It appears well-positioned to report strong earnings traction as fresh slippages subside, while improved underwriting and an increasing mix of retail help maintain strong control on credit cost. On the business front, retail disbursements have showed strong QoQ growth and surpassed pre-COVID levels. The bank has adopted conservative accounting policies and further strengthened the balance sheet by making additional provisions; the restructuring book remains low at ~0.42% of loans, and the BB & below pool has also declined. AXSB has guided for moderation in 4Q slippages. Nonetheless, credit cost would remain elevated as the bank remains cautious on the overall impact. We estimate AXSB to deliver RoA/RoE of 1.6%/15.4% in FY23. Maintain Buy.

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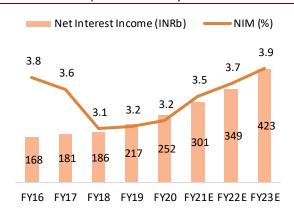
Story in Charts

Exhibit 1: Loans to grow at a CAGR of 16% over FY21-FY23E



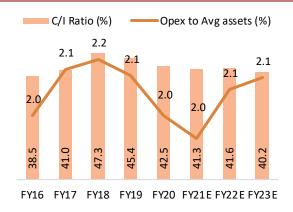
Source: Company, MOFSL

Exhibit 2: NIM to improve to 3.9% by FY23E



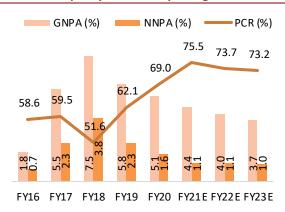
Source: Company, MOFSL

Exhibit 3: C/I ratio to decline to 40% in FY23E



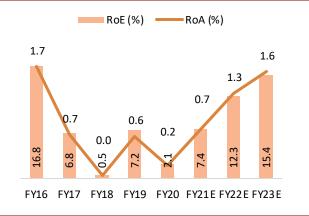
Source: Company, MOFSL

Exhibit 4: Asset quality outlook improving



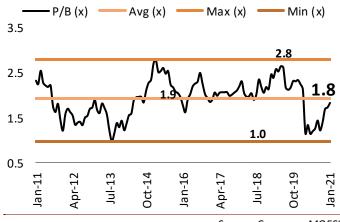
Source: Company, MOFSL

Exhibit 5: Return ratios to improve going ahead



Source: Company, MOFSL

Exhibit 6: One year forward P/BV chart



Source: Company, MOFSL

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Financials and Valuations

Income Statement							(INR billion)
Y/E March	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21E	FY22E	FY23E
InterestIncome	445.4	457.8	549.9	626.4	679.5	745.8	857.7
Interest Expense	264.5	271.6	332.8	374.3	378.4	397.1	434.7
Net Interest Income	180.9	186.2	217.1	252.1	301.1	348.7	423.0
Growth (%)	7.5	2.9	16.6	16.1	19.4	15.8	21.3
Non Interest Income	116.9	109.7	131.3	155.4	147.6	171.2	196.9
Total Income	297.8	295.8	348.4	407.4	448.7	519.9	619.9
Growth (%)	13.7	(0.7)	17.8	16.9	10.1	15.9	19.2
Operating Expenses	122.0	139.9	158.3	173.0	185.1	216.2	249.4
Pre Provision Profits	175.8	155.9	190.1	234.4	263.6	303.7	370.5
Growth (%)	9.2	(11.3)	21.9	23.3	12.5	15.2	22.0
Core PPP	142.3	142.7	182.5	212.7	242.9	284.1	351.9
Growth (%)	(4.7)	0.3	27.9	16.5	14.2	17.0	23.9
Provisions (excl tax)	121.2	154.7	120.3	185.3	172.0	127.7	119.0
PBT	54.7	1.2	69.7	49.0	91.5	176.0	251.5
Tax	17.9	(1.5)	23.0	32.8	23.1	44.4	63.4
TaxRate (%)	32.7	(126.8)	32.9	66.8	25.2	25.2	25.2
PAT	36.8	2.8	46.8	16.3	68.5	131.6	188.1
Growth (%)	(55.3)	(92.5)	1,596.4	(65.2)	320.8	92.3	42.9
Balance Sheet							(INR billion)
Y/E March	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21E	FY22E	FY23E
Equity Share Capital	4.8	5.1	5.1	5.6	6.1	6.1	6.1
Reserves & Surplus	538.8	629.3	661.6	843.8	1,005.1	1,126.2	1,300.2
Net Worth	543.6	634.5	666.8	849.5	1,011.2	1,132.3	1,306.3
Deposits	4,143.8	4,536.2	5,484.7	6,401.0	6,881.1	7,844.5	9,138.8
Growth (%)	15.8	9.5	20.9	16.7	7.5	14.0	16.5
of which CASA Dep	2,130.5	2,438.5	2,433.9	2,637.1	2,855.7	3,318.2	3,920.6
Growth (%)	25.7	14.5	-0.2	8.3	8.3	16.2	18.2
Borrowings	1,050.3	1,480.2	1,527.8	1,479.5	1,417.8	1,476.5	1,562.7
Other Lia bilities & Prov.	277.0	262.5	330.7	421.6	455.3	519.0	596.9
Total Liabilities	6,014.7	6,913.3	8,010.0	9,151.6	9,765.4	10,972.3	12,604.7
Current As sets	502.6	434.5	672.0	972.7	755.2	783.0	791.9
Investments	1,287.9	1,538.8	1,749.7	1,567.3	1,959.2	2,311.8	2,704.8
Growth (%)	-2.1	19.5	13.7	-10.4	25.0	18.0	17.0
Loans	3,730.7	4,396.5	4,948.0	5,714.2	6,142.8	7,064.2	8,335.8
Growth (%)	10.1	17.8	12.5	15.5	7.5	15.0	18.0
Fixed Assets	37.5	39.7	40.4	43.1	45.3	48.9	52.8
Other As sets	456.0	503.8	599.9	854.3	863.0	764.3	719.3
Total Assets	6,014.7	6,913.3	8,010.0	9,151.6	9,765.4	10,972.3	12,604.7
Asset Quality	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21E	FY22E	FY23E
GNPA	212.8	342.5	297.9	302.3	281.0	292.4	314.8
NNPA	86.3	165.9	112.8	93.6	69.0	77.0	84.4
GNPA Ratio (%)	5.5	7.5	5.8	5.1	4.42	4.02	3.68
NNPA Ratio (%)	2.3	3.8	2.3	1.6	1.12	1.09	1.01
Slippage Ratio (%)	6.4	8.2	3.0	3.7	2.7	2.3	2.0
Credit Cost (%)	3.1	4.1	2.2	2.4	2.8	1.8	1.5
PCR (Excl Tech. write off) (%)	59.5	51.6	62.1	69.0	75.5	73.7	73.2
E: MOSL Estimates							

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Y/E March	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21E	FY22E	FY23E
Yield and Cost Ratios (%)							
Avg. Yield-Earning Assets	8.9	7.7	8.0	8.0	7.9	7.8	7.8
Avg. Yield on loans	9.3	8.4	8.8	9.1	9.0	8.8	8.8
Avg. Yield on Investments	7.4	7.2	7.0	6.9	6.7	6.6	6.5
Avg. Cost-Int. Bear. Liab.	5.4	4.8	5.1	5.0	4.7	4.5	4.3
Avg. Cost of Deposits	5.1	4.4	4.7	4.9	4.4	4.3	4.1
Avg. Cost of Borrowings	6.7	6.3	6.4	5.4	5.9	5.7	5.5
Interest Spread	3.5	2.9	2.9	3.0	3.3	3.3	3.5
Net Interest Margin	3.6	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.5	3.7	3.9
Capitalisation Ratios (%)							
CAR	15.0	16.6	15.9	17.6	18.4	17.3	16.3
Tierl	11.9	13.0	12.7	14.6	15.7	15.0	14.3
TierII	3.1	3.5	3.2	3.0	2.7	2.3	1.9
Business and Efficiency Ratios (%)							
Loans/Deposit Ratio	90.0	96.9	90.2	89.3	89.3	90.1	91.2
CASA Ratio	51.4	53.8	44.4	41.2	41.5	42.3	42.9
Cost/Avg Assets	2.1	2.2	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.1
Cost/Total Income	41.0	47.3	45.4	42.5	41.3	41.6	40.2
Cost/Core Income	45.8	49.5	46.5	44.9	43.2	43.2	41.5
Int. Expense/Int.Income	59.4	59.3	60.5	59.8	55.7	53.2	50.7
Fee Income/Total Income	25.0	27.8	31.2	28.9	22.7	23.8	23.5
Non Int. Inc./Total Income	39.3	37.1	37.7	38.1	32.9	32.9	31.8
Investment/Deposit Ratio	31.1	33.9	31.9	24.5	28.5	29.5	29.6
Profitability Ratios and Valuation							
RoE (%)	6.8	0.5	7.2	2.1	7.4	12.3	15.4
RoA (%)	0.7	0.0	0.6	0.2	0.7	1.3	1.6
RoRWA (%)	0.8	0.1	0.8	0.3	1.0	1.6	2.0
Book Value (INR)	232.8	247.2	259.3	301.1	330.5	370.1	426.9
Growth (%)	4.4	6.2	4.9	16.1	9.8	12.0	15.4
Price-BV (x)	3.2	3.0	2.9	2.5	2.2	2.0	1.7
Adjusted BV (INR)	200.6	193.8	219.7	269.7	306.3	343.6	398.4
Price-ABV (x)	3.7	3.8	3.4	2.7	2.4	2.2	1.9
EPS (INR)	15.4	1.1	18.2	6.0	23.3	43.0	61.5
Growth (%)	-55.5	-92.8	1,538.1	-66.9	285.9	84.8	42.9
Price-Earnings (x)	48.0	665.9	40.7	122.6	31.8	17.2	12.0
Dividend Per Share (INR)	5.0	5.5	0.0	1.0	2.2	3.5	4.6
Dividend Yield (%)	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.6

E: MOSL Estimates

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Explanation of Investment Rating				
Investment Rating	Expected return (over 12-month)			
BUY	>=15%			
SELL	< - 10%			
NEUTRAL	< - 10 % to 15%			
UN DER 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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Axis Bank

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