Research

## One-offs aid earnings; lifting of ban remains crucial

About the stock: Kotak Mahindra Bank is one of the leading private sector banks in India providing a wide array of banking and financial services, boasting around ₹ $4,94,105$ crore in customer assets.

- It spans over 1965 branches and 3279 ATMs
- Consistent in delivering superior ROA of $2+\%$ and ROE of $13+\%$

Q1FY25 performance: Kotak Mahindra Bank reported healthy performance with one-off gains owing to stake sale in general insurance. During the quarter, stake sale has led to $₹ 2730$ crore, net of direct expense along with reversal of accumulated loss of ₹ 284 crore. Advances growth continued at $18.7 \%$ YoY to ₹ 389957 crore, driven by uptick in corporate book. Traction in retail loans remained steady with marginal moderation seen in unsecured segment. Liabilities accretion remained at $15.8 \%$ YoY, led by accretion in term deposit while CASA dipped $\sim 210$ bps QoQ. Despite increase in CD ratio, higher accretion in term deposit led to decline in 26 bps in margin at $5.02 \%$. Asset quality continued to remain prudent with slippages at $0.3 \%$ of advances, flat GNPA ratio at $1.39 \%$ and NNPA ratio at $0.35 \%$. PAT got reported at ₹ 6250 crore, led by healthy business growth and one-off gains from stake sale in general insurance business.

## Investment Rationale

- Growth witnessed moderation; regulatory ban to act as overhang: Advances growth came healthy at $19 \%$ YoY and $4 \%$ QoQ, driven by corporate segment (up 7\% QoQ). Growth in retail and commercial segment remained steady, with moderation in pace of unsecured segment which resulted in 20 bps dip in share to $11.6 \%$. On liabilities front, elevated competitiveness in liabilities accretion has impacted growth as well as led to higher cost of funds. While the management reiterates long term goal of higher than industry growth coupled with share of unsecured credit in mid-teens, near term moderation owing to regulatory ban could be ruled out. Expect advance growth at $\sim 15.4 \%$ in FY25E.
- Margins headwinds, provision trend to drive RoA: Moderation in share of unsecured retail loans (amid regulatory ban) and rising cost of funds (owing to lower CASA and higher pricing) remains headwinds for margins trajectory. Thus, expect a dip of $\sim 20-40$ bps in margins in FY25E, while management expects margins to remain steadier at $\sim 5 \%$. Continued investment in technology and physical branch expansion (targeting 30003500 branches in next 3-4 years) is seen to keep elevated, though credit cost could remain at 50-70 bps.


## Rating and Target Price

- While focus remains on long-term goal of healthy business growth, share of unsecured loans in mid-teens and prudent asset quality, regulatory ban and competition in liabilities remains a challenge.
- Value standalone bank at $1.9 \times$ FY26E BV and assign ₹574 for subsidiaries, thus maintaining target price at ₹1800 per share. Maintain Hold.

Kotak Mahindra Bank

Particulars

## Particulars

Market Capitalisation ₹ $3,44,145$ crore
52 week H/L
1,926 / 1,544
Net worth
₹ 96,719 crore
Face value ₹ 5

| Shareholding pattern |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| (in \%) | Jun-23 | Sep-23 | Dec-23 | Mar-24 | Jun-24 |
| Promoter | 26.0 | 25.9 | 25.9 | 25.9 | 25.9 |
| FII | 41.5 | 41.0 | 39.7 | 37.6 | 33.2 |
| DII | 19.6 | 20.0 | 21.4 | 23.4 | 27.7 |
| Others | 12.9 | 13.1 | 13.0 | 13.1 | 13.3 |

Price Chart

| $\left.\begin{array}{l} 2500 \\ 2000 \end{array}\right]$ | 28000 |
| :---: | :---: |
|  | 24000 |
| 2000 |  |
|  | 16000 |
| 1000 | - 12000 |
| 500 | - 8000 |
| 500 | $\left\{\begin{array}{l} 4000 \\ 0 \end{array}\right.$ |
|  |  |
|  | Kotak Bank - Nifty Index |

## Key risks

(i) Delay in lifting of regulatory ban
(ii) Better than expected performance on asset quality in unsecured book

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| Key Financial Summary |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ₹ crore | FY21 | FY22 | FY23 | FY24 | 3 year CAGR (FY21-FY24) | FY25E | FY26E | $\begin{aligned} & 2 \text { year CAGR } \\ & \text { (FY24-26E) } \end{aligned}$ |
| NII | 15340 | 16818 | 21552 | 25993 | 19\% | 28721 | 32496 | 12\% |
| PPP | 11762 | 12051 | 14848 | 19587 | 19\% | 20838 | 23414 | 9\% |
| PAT | 6965 | 8573 | 10939 | 13782 | 26\% | 16169 | 15074 | 5\% |
| ABV | 308 | 357 | 415 | 481 |  | 558 | 629 |  |
| P/E | 49.3 | 40.1 | 31.4 | 24.9 |  | 21.2 | 21.2 |  |
| P/ABV | 5.6 | 4.8 | 4.2 | 3.6 |  | 3.1 | 3.1 |  |
| RoA | 1.9 | 2.1 | 2.4 | 2.5 |  | 2.5 | 2.5 |  |
| RoE | 12.4 | 12.6 | 14.0 | 15.3 |  | 15.5 | 15.5 |  |

## Concall highlights and outlook

- The company completed disinvestment of $70 \%$ stake in Kotak General Insurance for a consideration of ₹ 5,560 crore on June 18th 2024. This stake sale indicates a CAGR of $45 \%$ since 2014 for KGI. Kotak General Insurance is now an associate company and the bank's stake has come down from $100 \%$ to $30 \%$ post sale. The result of sale post tax after netting of direct expenses was ₹ 2,730 crore in standalone books. The bank saw a reversal of accumulated loss of ₹ 284 crore. Thus, total profit impact can be calculated at ₹ 3,013 crore at consolidated level.
- The management stated that they have made substantial progress in context to RBI embargo order. No specific comments were made on RBI embargo status. The management refrained from giving any timeline but stated that they are on track and slightly ahead on deliverables.
- The first quarter saw muted growth due to RBI order impact, as the company was barred from on-boarding customers digitally and issuance of new credit cards. This led to lower growth and consequently on NIM.
- The company focused on deepening relationships with 811 customers and through enhanced offers. This resulted in increased market share of spends on the credit card March in May.
- Certain level of stress on consumer, retail, unsecured assets particularly in low-ticket levels is visible in certain segments where the customer was overleveraged.
- The RBI directive requiring banks to value certain investments at fair value impacted the bank's Q1 results. The bank adopted this rule on April 1st, 2024. As a result, these previously held-at-cost investments were marked to market, leading to a post-tax gain of ₹ 3,414 crore as reflected in Q1
- Wholesale advances grew $6 \%$ QoQ and $21 \%$ YoY. Trade assets and supply chain book saw significant growth. The focus going forward would be on SME and mid-market segments. The management reiterated their strategy to maintain mid-teen growth in unsecured retail loans, with potential growth in credit cards and personal loans once the embargo is lifted
- Credit costs increased to 55 bps annualized in Q1FY25, and this increase is largely due to losses in unsecured retail book in lower-ticket segment and select geographies for microcredit business.
- $\quad$ Micro finance business posted a PAT of ₹ 50 crores as against ₹ 95 crore in the same quarter previous year. This was mainly due to lower disbursement, higher branch expansion costs, besides increase in delinquencies in select states. Micro finance saw some degree of increased delinquencies as well as collection issues. Some parts of Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra saw higher delinquencies.
- The management stated a NIM guidance of around $5 \%$ and will try to sustain it over the periods to come. Building deposit franchise at competitive rate remains in focus. Repricing of major proportion of deposits over
- The stance on LCR growth was positive as the growth of LCR from $126 \%$ to $139 \%$ over the last 2 quarters was organic and no special efforts were taken to increase it specifically.
- The management aims to expand geographically, reaching 3,000 to 3,500 branches over the next 4-5 years.


## Exhibit 1: Variance Analysis

|  | Q1FY25 | Q1FY24 | YoY (\%) | Q4FY24 | QoQ (\%) | Comments |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :--- |
| NII | $6,842.4$ | $6,233.7$ | 9.8 | $6,909.4$ | -1.0 | Credit off-take offset by decline in NIM <br>  |
| NIM (\%) | 5.02 | 5.57 | -55 bps | 5.28 | -26 bps | reduced yield on advances |
| Other Income | $2,929.0$ | $2,683.3$ | 9.2 | $2,978.3$ | -1.7 | Fee income grew strongly at 23\% YoY |

Key Metrics

| GNPA | $6,251.4$ | $5,909.2$ | 5.8 | $5,274.8$ | 18.5 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| NNPA | $1,688.8$ | $1,301.8$ | 29.7 | $1,270.6$ | 32.9 |
| Advances | $3,89,957$ | $3,28,582$ | 18.7 | $3,76,075$ | 3.7 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Deposits | $4,47,418$ | $3,86,254$ | 15.8 | $4,48,954$ | -0.3 |

Growth in wholesale book aided advances growth Lower share of SA resulted degrowth sequentially

Financial Summary

| Exhibit 2: Profit and loss statement |  |  | ₹ crore |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| (Year-end March) | FY22 | FY23 | FY24 | FY25E | FY26E |
| Interest Earned | 27038.8 | 34250.9 | 45798.9 | 53728.1 | 61008.2 |
| Interest Expended | 10220.9 | 12698.9 | 19805.7 | 25007.3 | 28512.3 |
| Net Interest Income | 16817.9 | 21551.9 | 25993.2 | 28720.8 | 32495.8 |
| Growth (\%) | 9.6 | 28.1 | 20.6 | 10.5 | 13.1 |
| Non Interest Income | 6354.4 | 7083.1 | 10273.1 | 11939.4 | 13505.6 |
| Net Income | 23172.3 | 28635.0 | 36266.3 | 40660.2 | 46001.5 |
| Operating expense | 11121.4 | 13787.0 | 16678.8 | 19822.4 | 22587.5 |
| Gross profit | 12050.9 | 14848.0 | 19587.5 | 20837.8 | 23414.0 |
| Provisions | 689.6 | 457.0 | 1573.7 | 2799.0 | 3180.2 |
| Taxes | 2788.6 | 3451.7 | 4232.1 | 4599.9 | 5159.6 |
| Exceptional item | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 2730.0 | 0.0 |
| Net Profit | 8572.7 | 10939.3 | 13781.6 | 16168.9 | 15074.2 |
| growth (\%) | 23.1 | 27.6 | 26.0 | 17.3 | -6.8 |
| EPS | 43.3 | 55.2 | 69.5 | 81.6 | 76.1 |
| Sere:Con |  |  |  |  |  |


| Exhibit 3: Key ratios |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| (Year-end March) | FY22 | FY23 | FY24 | FY25E | FY26E |
| Valuation |  |  |  |  |  |
| No. of Equity Shares | 198.2 | 198.2 | 198.2 | 198.2 | 198.2 |
| EPS (I) | 43.3 | 55.2 | 69.5 | 81.6 | 76.1 |
| BV (I) | 365.6 | 421.1 | 487.6 | 567.6 | 642.1 |
| ABV (I) | 356.8 | 415.1 | 481.2 | 558.5 | 629.0 |
| P/E | 40.1 | 31.4 | 24.9 | 21.2 | 22.8 |
| P/BV | 4.9 | 4.2 | 3.6 | 3.1 | 2.8 |
| P/ABV | 4.8 | 4.2 | 3.6 | 3.1 | 2.7 |
| Yields \& Margins (\%) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Yield on avg earning |  |  |  |  |  |
| assets | 7.3 | 7.9 | 8.9 | 8.9 | 8.7 |
| Avg. cost on funds | 3.2 | 3.5 | 4.6 | 4.8 | 4.8 |
| Net Interest Margins | 4.5 | 5.0 | 5.1 | 4.7 | 4.6 |
| Avg. Cost of Deposits | 3.1 | 3.5 | 4.5 | 4.9 | 4.9 |
| Yield on average advances | 7.8 | 9.1 | 10.2 | 10.1 | 10.0 |
| Quality and Efficiency (\%) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cost / Total net income | 48.0 | 48.1 | 46.0 | 48.8 | 49.1 |
| Credit/Deposit ratio | 87.0 | 88.1 | 83.8 | 83.8 | 85.2 |
| GNPA | 2.4 | 1.8 | 1.4 | 1.6 | 1.8 |
| NNPA | 0.6 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.5 |
| RoE | 12.6 | 14.0 | 15.3 | 15.5 | 12.6 |
| RoA | 2.1 | 2.4 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.0 |


| Exhibit 4: Balance sheet |  |  |  | F crore |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| (Year-end March) | FY22 | FY23 | FY24 | FY25E | FY26E |
| Sources of Funds |  |  |  |  |  |
| Capital (incl PCNPS) | 1492 | 1493 | 994 | 994 | 994 |
| ESOPS | 31 | 60 | 79 | 60 | 60 |
| Reserves and Surplus | 70964 | 81967 | 95646 | 111491 | 126264 |
| Networth | 72488 | 83520 | 96719 | 112545 | 127318 |
| Deposits | 311684 | 363096 | 448954 | 518314 | 595184 |
| Borrowings | 25967 | 23416 | 28368 | 30774 | 33725 |
| Other Liabilities \& Provision: | 19289 | 19830 | 26316 | 29153 | 32320 |
| Total | 429428 | 489862 | 600357 | 690786 | 788547 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Applications of Funds |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fixed Assets | 1644 | 1920 | 2155 | 2765 | 3259 |
| Investments | 100580 | 121404 | 155404 | 169525 | 185719 |
| Advances | 271254 | 319861 | 376075 | 434141 | 506845 |
| Other Assets | 33027 | 14135 | 13934 | 27882 | 29929 |
| Cash with RBI \& call money | 55951 | 32542 | 52788 | 56472 | 62796 |
| Total | 429428 | 489862 | 600357 | 690786 | 788547 |


| Exhibit 5: Growth ratios |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| (Year-end March) | FY22 | FY23 | FY24 | FY25E | FY26E |
| Total assets | 12.0 | 14.1 | 22.6 | 15.1 | 14.2 |
| Advances | 21.3 | 17.9 | 17.6 | 15.4 | 16.7 |
| Deposits | 11.3 | 16.5 | 23.6 | 15.4 | 14.8 |
| Total Income | 13.9 | 23.6 | 26.7 | 12.1 | 13.1 |
| Net interest income | 9.6 | 28.1 | 20.6 | 10.5 | 13.1 |
| Operating expenses | 29.6 | 24.0 | 21.0 | 18.8 | 13.9 |
| Operating profit | 2.5 | 23.2 | 31.9 | 6.4 | 12.4 |
| Net profit | 23.1 | 27.6 | 26.0 | 17.3 | -6.8 |
| Book value | 13.7 | 15.2 | 15.8 | 16.4 | 13.1 |
| EPS | 23.1 | 27.6 | 26.0 | 17.3 | -6.8 |

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