

BANKING

Q3FY24 Preview

11 January 2024

Expect healthy NII but modest margins

- Healthy credit offtake reported in Q3, driven by retail and SME/MSME segments and supported by tick-up in wholesale loans
- Deposit mobilisation continues; however, rising costs of deposits, operations and credit likely to weigh on profitability
- HDFCB, KMB, IIB and SBIN remain our top picks

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Strong credit growth driven by retail and SME/MSME segments: According to RBI data, system credit grew 16% YoY for the fortnight ended Dec'23. Growth was fuelled by festive-led demand from the retail and SME/MSME segments, with support from a sequential uptick in wholesale lending. Retail credit grew 20% YoY, which we believe was led by the small business segment, auto and home loans, offset by some moderation in unsecured lending, especially small-ticket personal loans, following regulatory changes in risk weights. We continue to expect system credit growth of 16% for Q3FY24 and 15% for FY24.

Deposit mobilisation continues to rise: The industry witnessed further acceleration in deposits due to attractive rates, clocking 13.3% YoY growth during Q3 (vs. 12.9% in Q2). Growth was spurred by term deposits where banks continued to increase rates. We expect the trend to continue in Q4 as well unless the interest rate cycle reverses. CASA ratio is, thus, forecast to remain subdued.

Margins under strain from rising deposit costs: The steady increase in deposit rates, more specifically for term deposits, is likely to put NIM under pressure. However, banks' core focus on high-yield retail loans could alleviate some of the stress. We expect a further decline in aggregate margin for our coverage by 4-5bps QoQ after the 5-10bps contraction seen during Q2.

Slippages to remain in check: We believe stress addition would be under control while a steady rise in upgrades and recoveries improves overall asset quality. Credit costs could rise sequentially despite lower stress addition as banks are prudently opting for buffer provisioning, which should help them adopt the expected credit loss (ECL) framework. GNPA and NNPA are forecast to improve QoQ with stable-to-higher PCR and anticipate no major shocks from the restructured and SMA books.

Top picks: In our view, NII growth would remain healthy in Q3 supported by strong business growth, but elevated opex and higher credit cost are likely to remain a drag on profitability. We retain HDFCB (BUY, TP Rs 1,929), KMB (BUY, TP Rs 2,007), IIB (BUY, TP Rs 1,755) and SBIN (BUY, TP Rs 747) as our preferred picks in the sector.

Recommendation snapshot

Ticker	Price	Target	Rating
BANDHAN IN	233	276	BUY
FB IN	150	180	BUY
HDFCB IN	1,649	1,929	BUY
ICICIBC IN	991	1,090	BUY
IIB IN	1,658	1,755	BUY
KMB IN	1,823	2,007	BUY
RBK IN	295	258	HOLD
SBIN IN	620	747	BUY

Price & Target in Rupees | Price as of 11 Jan 2024





Fig 1 – BOBCAPS Banking Universe: Valuation snapshot

Ticker	CMP	Target	Rating	Mcap Mcap		' (x)	ROA (%)		ROE (%)	
ricker	CIVIP	Price (Rs)	Raung	(Rs bn)	FY24E	FY25E	FY24E	FY25E	FY24E	FY25E
HDFCB IN	1,656	1,929	BUY	12,520	3.0	2.6	1.9	1.9	16.3	16.8
ICICIBC IN	990	1,090	BUY	6,946	3.1	2.7	2.2	2.2	17.7	17.4
KMB IN	1,823	2,007	BUY	3,624	3.8	3.3	2.4	2.3	14.2	13.8
IIB IN	1,660	1,755	BUY	1,290	2.1	1.8	1.9	1.9	15.5	16.2
FB IN	150	180	BUY	366	1.4	1.2	1.3	1.2	15.9	14.8
RBK IN	295	258	HOLD	178	1.3	1.2	1.0	1.1	9.1	10.2
BANDHAN IN	233	276	BUY	376	0.6	0.5	2.1	2.2	17.0	17.4
SBIN IN	620	747	BUY	5,540	1.6	1.4	1.1	1.0	17.6	15.7

Fig 2 – BOBCAPS Banking Universe: Q3FY24 estimates

Ticker	NII (Rs mn)	YoY (%)	QoQ (%)	PPOP (Rs mn)	YoY (%)	QoQ (%)	PAT (Rs mn)	YoY (%)	QoQ (%)
HDFCB IN	296,254	28.9	8.2	245,541	29.1	8.2	163,287	33.2	2.2
ICICIBC IN	188,733	14.6	3.1	144,210	8.7	1.3	100,459	20.9	(2.1)
KMB IN	64,751	14.5	2.8	48,587	26.2	5.4	33,646	20.5	5.4
IIB IN	52,289	16.3	3.0	40,230	9.1	2.9	22,804	16.1	3.6
FB IN	21,514	10.0	4.6	14,259	11.9	7.7	9,337	16.2	(2.1)
RBK IN	15,174	32.2	2.9	7,799	37.5	6.7	3,083	47.5	4.8
BANDHAN IN	25,638	23.2	4.9	17,058	(11.3)	7.7	7,931	173.0	10.0
SBIN IN	401,083	5.4	1.5	177,554	(29.6)	(8.6)	110,701	(22.1)	(22.7)

Source: BOBCAPS Research



Company-wise expectations

Fig 3 - HDFCB

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(Rs mn)	Q3FY24E	Q3FY23	Q2FY24	YoY (%)	QoQ (%)	Comr
NII	296,254	229,878	273,852	28.9	8.2	- Ex
Growth (YoY %)	28.9	24.6	30.3	423bps	(140bps)	gr
Other Income	111,959	84,998	107,078	31.7	4.6	fin
Net Income	408,213	314,877	380,931	29.6	7.2	• Fc
Growth (YoY %)	29.6	18.3	33.1	1,139bps	(347bps)	
Opex	162,672	124,636	153,992	30.5	5.6	• Be
PPOP	245,541	190,241	226,939	29.1	8.2	off
Growth (YoY %)	29.1	13.4	30.5	1,567bps	(141bps)	- Sti
Provision	29,267	28,064	29,038	4.3	0.8	D.
PAT	163,287	122,595	159,761	33.2	2.2	- PF
Growth (YoY %)	33.2	18.5	50.6	1,465bps	(1,744bps)	- Cr
Advances	24,470,583	15,068,093	23,312,329	62.4	5.0	. . Ex
Growth (YoY %)	62.4	19.5	57.5	4,289bps	487bps	sli
Deposits	22,141,681	17,332,040	21,728,578	27.8	1.9	. 0
Growth (YoY %)	27.8	19.9	29.8	788bps	(210bps)	
NIM (%)	3.6	4.3	3.9	(77bps)	(37bps)	-
C-D Ratio (%)	110.5	86.9	107.3	2,358bps	323bps	
C/I ratio (%)	39.8	39.6	40.4	27bps	(58bps)	
Credit Cost	0.5	0.8	0.6	(26bps)	(10bps)	
GNPA (%)	1.3	1.2	1.3	6bps	(5bps)	
NNPA (%)	0.3	0.3	0.4	1bps	(1bps)	
PCR (%)	74.0	73.2	74.4	78bps	(44bps)	
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- Expect loan and deposit growth to be healthy QoQ while YoY
 growth could be higher due to the impact of merger with housing
 finance arm HDFC
- Focus on low-cost CASA mobilisation continues
- Benefits from absorption of excess liquidity in the books likely to be offset by higher term deposit rates, leading to contraction in NIM
- Sticky operational cost to keep C/I ratio elevated
- PPOP forecast to grow 8.2% QoQ supported by a strong topline
- Credit cost to remain stable
- Expect minor YoY improvement in GNPA and NNPA with controlled slippages

Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 4 - ICICIBC

(Rs mn)	Q3FY24E	Q3FY23	Q2FY24	YoY (%)	QoQ (%)	Comments
NII	188,733	164,650	183,079	14.6	3.1	Expect strong credit growth driven by the retail and SME segments
Growth (YoY %)	14.6	34.6	23.8	(1,993bps)	(919bps)	 Deposit growth projected to remain healthy mainly driven by term
Other Income	58,412	50,236	57,767	16.3	1.1	deposits
Net Income	247,145	214,886	240,846	15.0	2.6	
Growth (YoY %)	15.0	24.8	21.4	(975bps)	(637bps)	 Margin forecast to remain stable as increase in cost of funds should be offset by higher yields
Opex	102,935	82,174	98,553	25.3	4.4	be offset by flighter yields
PPOP	144,210	132,712	142,293	8.7	1.3	 Opex likely to remain elevated and C/I ratio expected at 42%
Growth (YoY %)	8.7	30.8	21.8	(2,211bps)	(1,316bps)	Credit cost to increase sequentially
Provision	10,798	22,574	5,826	(52.2)	85.3	Associationality for a sociation in a social
PAT	100,459	83,119	102,610	20.9	(2.1)	 Asset quality forecast to improve marginally with controlled slippages
Growth (YoY %)	20.9	34.2	35.8	(1,333bps)	(1,490bps)	Silphages
Advances	11,542,463	9,740,475	11,105,421	18.5	3.9	
Growth (YoY %)	18.5	19.7	18.3	(116bps)	18bps	
Deposits	13,352,389	11,220,495	12,947,417	19.0	3.1	
Growth (YoY %)	19.0	10.3	18.8	872bps	22bps	
NIM (%)	4.63	4.65	4.6	(2bps)	5bps	
C-D Ratio (%)	86.4	86.8	85.8	(36bps)	67bps	
C/I ratio (%)	41.6	38.2	40.9	341bps	73bps	
Credit Cost	0.4	1.0	0.2	(57bps)	17bps	
GNPA (%)	2.6	3.1	2.5	(51bps)	8bps	
NNPA (%)	0.4	0.6	0.4	(11bps)	1bps	
PCR (%)	83.0	82.6	83.1	37bps	(9bps)	



Fig 5 – KMB

(Rs mn)	Q3FY24E	Q3FY23	Q2FY24	YoY (%)	QoQ (%)	Comment
NII	64,751	56,529	62,966	14.5	2.8	Loan growth to remain healthy though we expect some moderation
Growth (YoY %)	14.5	30.4	23.5	(1,588bps)	(893bps)	sequentially on a higher base
Other Income	24,401	21,000	23,145	16.2	5.4	 Increased focus on deposit mobilisation (low-cost hybrids) expected
Net Income	89,151	77,529	86,112	15.0	3.5	to result in strong deposit growth YoY
Growth (YoY %)	15.0	36.1	22.1	(2,107bps)	(709bps)	 Deposit price realignment to take a toll on NIM (-12bps QoQ)
Opex	40,564	39,031	40,011	3.9	1.4	- Deposit price realignment to take a toll on Mini (-120ps QoQ)
PPOP	48,587	38,498	46,101	26.2	5.4	 Opex could moderate, aiding 100bps sequential improvement in C/I
Growth (YoY %)	26.2	42.5	29.2	(1,633bps)	(302bps)	ratio
Provision	4,023	1,488	3,666	170.3	9.8	 PPOP forecast to rise 5.4% QoQ on strong topline growth
PAT	33,646	27,919	31,910	20.5	5.4	 Credit cost to remain stable after normalising in the last 1-2
Growth (YoY %)	20.5	31.0	23.6	(1,048bps)	(314bps)	quarters
Advances	3,669,769	3,107,340	3,482,841	18.1	5.4	'
Growth (YoY %)	18.1	22.9	18.5	(475bps)	(35bps)	 PAT projected to increase 5.4% sequentially
Deposits	4,187,692	3,446,660	4,009,629	21.5	4.4	 Asset quality expected to remain stable
Growth (YoY %)	21.5	12.9	23.3	860bps	(180bps)	
NIM (%)	4.8	5.2	5.0	(33bps)	(12bps)	
C-D Ratio (%)	87.6	90.2	86.9	(252bps)	77bps	
C/I ratio (%)	45.5	50.3	46.5	(484bps)	(96bps)	
Credit Cost	0.45	0.2	0.4	25bps	0bps	
GNPA (%)	1.6	1.9	1.7	(27bps)	(9bps)	
NNPA (%)	0.3	0.4	0.4	(10bps)	(4bps)	
PCR (%)	80.0	77.6	79.1	243bps	94bps	

Fig 6 – IIB

(Rs mn)	Q3FY24E	Q3FY23	Q2FY24	YoY (%)	QoQ (%)	Comment
NII	52,289	44,954	50,767	16.3	3.0	Expect strong loan growth across segments while MFI continues to
Growth (YoY %)	16.3	18.5	18.0	(218bps)	(169bps)	recover
Other Income	23,387	20,765	22,819	12.6	2.5	 Deposits likely to grow at 15% YoY (4% QoQ)
Net Income	75,676	65,718	73,586	15.2	2.8	
Growth (YoY %)	15.2	15.9	16.6	(74bps)	(141bps)	NIM forecast to remain flat sequentially as increased deposit cost
Opex	35,446	28,854	34,499	22.8	2.7	offsets better yields from a higher retail share
PPOP	40,230	36,864	39,087	9.1	2.9	 C/I ratio expected to remain flat QoQ at 46.8%
Growth (YoY %)	9.1	11.3	10.3	(217bps)	(115bps)	 PPOP projected to increase by only 3% QoQ on moderation in NII
Provision	9,784	10,647	9,738	(8.1)	0.5	growth
PAT	22,804	19,635	22,021	16.1	3.6	Credit cost to remain stable QoQ, on course to meet management
Growth (YoY %)	16.1	58.2	22.0	(4,203bps)	(584bps)	guidance of 130bps for FY24
Advances	3,313,961	2,727,540	3,154,541	21.5	5.1	
Growth (YoY %)	21.5	19.3	21.3	218bps	23bps	 Moderation in NII and sticky opex could slow PAT growth to 3.6% QoQ
Deposits	3,740,697	3,252,780	3,595,480	15.0	4.0	Q0Q
Growth (YoY %)	15.0	14.3	13.9	66bps	105bps	 Asset quality set to remain stable with PCR of 71%
NIM (%)	4.6	4.4	4.6	11bps	0bps	
C-D Ratio (%)	88.6	83.9	87.7	474bps	86bps	
C/I ratio (%)	46.8	43.9	46.9	293bps	(4bps)	
Credit Cost	1.2	1.6	1.3	(39bps)	(5bps)	
GNPA (%)	1.8	2.1	1.9	(24bps)	(11bps)	
NNPA (%)	0.5	0.6	0.6	(9bps)	(4bps)	
PCR (%)	71.0	69.9	70.6	110bps	42bps	



Fig 7 – FB

(Rs mn)	Q3FY24E	Q3FY23	Q2FY24	YoY (%)	QoQ (%)	Comment
NII	21,514	19,565	20,564	10.0	4.6	Business growth expected to remain strong with both advances and
Growth (YoY %)	10.0	27.1	16.7	(1,718bps)	(676bps)	deposits forecast to rise 20% YoY
Other Income	8,299	5,340	7,304	55.4	13.6	NIM to remain stable sequentially despite an increase in costs
Net Income	29,813	24,905	27,868	19.7	7.0	
Growth (YoY %)	19.7	23.1	17.5	(340bps)	218bps	 Opex forecast to remain elevated and C/l ratio flat QoQ
Opex	15,554	12,163	14,624	27.9	6.4	 Stick operational cost set to hamper PPOP growth
PPOP	14,259	12,742	13,245	11.9	7.7	 Provisions expected to normalise (Q2 was lowest in last 4-6
Growth (YoY %)	11.9	39.4	9.3	(2,746bps)	265bps	quarters)
Provision	1,777	1,987	439	(10.6)	304.7	PAT foregot to decline 20/ Oco on the heal, of law provisioning in
PAT	9,337	8,036	9,538	16.2	(2.1)	 PAT forecast to decline 2% QoQ on the back of low provisioning i the base guarter
Growth (YoY %)	16.2	54.0	35.5	(3,784bps)	(1,936bps)	'
Advances	2,019,758	1,681,730	1,928,167	20.1	4.8	Asset quality to remain stable while PCR improves by 190bps
Growth (YoY %)	20.1	19.5	19.6	61bps	52bps	sequentially
Deposits	2,416,896	2,014,080	2,328,684	20.0	3.8	
Growth (YoY %)	20.0	14.8	23.1	519bps	(312bps)	
NIM (%)	3.1	3.5	3.1	(31bps)	0bps	
C-D Ratio (%)	83.6	83.5	82.8	7bps	77bps	
C/I ratio (%)	52.2	48.8	52.5	333bps	(30bps)	
Credit Cost	0.4	0.5	0.1	(12bps)	27bps	
GNPA (%)	2.2	2.4	2.3	(25bps)	(8bps)	
NNPA (%)	0.6	0.7	0.6	(12bps)	(3bps)	
PCR (%)	72.3	70.4	72.3	192bps	2bps	

Fig 8 – SBIN

(Rs mn)	Q3FY24E	Q3FY23	Q2FY24	YoY (%)	QoQ (%)	Comment
NII	401,083	380,686	395,000	5.4	1.5	Expect healthy 14% YoY loan growth driven by retail and SME
Growth (YoY %)	5.4	24.1	12.3	(1,869bps)	(691bps)	segments
Other Income	113,833	114,677	107,906	(0.7)	5.5	Deposit mobilisation to rise further with increase in term deposit
Net Income	514,916	495,364	502,906	3.9	2.4	rates
Growth (YoY %)	3.9	25.9	14.1	(2,190bps)	(1,020bps)	Higher yields from retail assets to bolster NIM sequentially
Opex	337,362	243,171	308,740	38.7	9.3	- Trigiter yields from retail assets to boister Milvi sequentially
PPOP	177,554	252,193	194,166	(29.6)	(8.6)	Operational cost to remain elevated on higher provisions towards
Growth (YoY %)	(29.6)	36.2	(8.1)	(6,576bps)	(2,153bps)	wage revision
Provision	26,940	57,606	1,153	(53.2)	2236.9	 PPOP forecast to decline 9% on sequential basis mainly due to
PAT	110,701	142,053	143,300	(22.1)	(22.7)	wage provision
Growth (YoY %)	(22.1)	68.5	8.0	(9,054bps)	(3,010bps)	Expect 32bps QoQ rise in credit cost
Advances	34,893,800	30,581,770	33,451,673	14.1	4.3	•
Growth (YoY %)	14.1	18.6	13.3	(451bps)	75bps	 PAT to contract 23% sequentially on higher opex and provisions
Deposits	47,823,873	42,135,571	46,892,185	13.5	2.0	
Growth (YoY %)	13.5	9.5	11.9	399bps	159bps	
NIM (%)	3.1	3.1	3.0	(4bps)	8bps	
C-D Ratio (%)	73.0	72.6	71.3	38bps	163bps	
C/I ratio (%)	65.5	49.1	61.4	1,643bps	413bps	
Credit Cost	0.3	0.2	0.0	12bps	32bps	
GNPA (%)	2.4	3.1	2.6	(78bps)	(20bps)	
NNPA (%)	0.7	0.8	0.6	(10bps)	3bps	
PCR (%)	75.0	76.1	75.4	(112bps)	(45bps)	



Fig 9 – RBK

(Rs mn)	Q3FY24E	Q3FY23	Q2FY24	YoY (%)	QoQ (%)	Comment
NII	15,174	11,482	14,750	32.2	2.9	Loan book growth to remain strong YoY
Growth (YoY %)	32.2	13.6	25.6	1,853bps	655bps	Expect some recovery in deposit mobilisation on sequential basis
Other Income	7,298	6,184	7,044	18.0	3.6	
Net Income	22,472	17,666	21,794	27.2	3.1	 Increased cost of funds could compress NIM by 9bps QoQ
Growth (YoY %)	27.2	8.4	24.0	1,885bps	321bps	 Opex expected to stay flattish QoQ, aiding 116bps improvement in
Opex	14,674	11,994	14,484	22.3	1.3	C/I ratio
PPOP	7,799	5,672	7,310	37.5	6.7	 Provisions to decline sequentially on higher base, leading to lower
Growth (YoY %)	37.5	(10.1)	42.7	4,757bps	(518bps)	credit cost
Provision	3,715	2,927	6,404	26.9	(42.0)	DAT foregoet to items 470/ VoV mainly connected by lower
PAT	3,083	2,090	2,941	47.5	4.8	 PAT forecast to jump 47% YoY mainly supported by lower provisions
Growth (YoY %)	47.5	33.9	45.9	1,367bps	163bps	provisions
Advances	800,875	666,840	763,242	20.1	4.9	
Growth (YoY %)	20.1	14.7	21.3	541bps	(116bps)	
Deposits	940,079	817,460	897,804	15.0	4.7	
Growth (YoY %)	15.0	11.0	13.1	399bps	193bps	
NIM (%)	5.1	4.6	5.2	59bps	(9bps)	
C-D Ratio (%)	85.2	81.6	85.0	362bps	18bps	
C/I ratio (%)	65.3	67.9	66.5	(260bps)	(116bps)	
Credit Cost	1.9	1.8	3.4	9bps	(153bps)	
GNPA (%)	3.1	3.6	3.1	(56bps)	(7bps)	
NNPA (%)	0.8	1.2	0.8	(40bps)	0bps	
PCR (%)	75.0	68.0	75.6	700bps	(64bps)	

Fig 10 – BANDHAN

(Rs mn)	Q3FY24E	Q3FY23	Q2FY24	YoY (%)	QoQ (%)	Comment
NII	25,638	20,804	24,434	23.2	4.9	Advances growth expected to moderate to 17% YoY while rising
Growth (YoY %)	23.2	(2.1)	11.4	2,532bps	1,182bps	5.6% QoQ
Other Income	6,046	10,333	5,403	(41.5)	11.9	 Deposit mobilisation to improve sequentially with realignment of
Net Income	31,684	31,137	29,836	1.8	6.2	deposit rates
Growth (YoY %)	1.8	9.9	11.8	(812bps)	(1,002bps)	Operational cost set to remain sticky due to retail-focused business
Opex	14,626	11,916	14,002	22.7	4.5	model
PPOP	17,058	19,222	15,834	(11.3)	7.7	
Growth (YoY %)	(11.3)	(1.4)	2.0	(9,82bps)	(1,322bps)	Credit cost projected to improve sequentially on seasonal impact
Provision	6,608	15,415	6,362	(57.1)	3.9	(H2 typically better in terms of recovery and upgrades)
PAT	7,931	2,906	7,212	173.0	10.0	 PAT forecast to grow 10% QoQ while surging 173% YoY on lower
Growth (YoY %)	173.0	(66.2)	244.6	23,913bps	(7,164bps)	provisions
Advances	1,077,465	920,910	1,020,277	17.0	5.6	Asset quality may witness some improvement QoQ with higher
Growth (YoY %)	14.1	18.6	13.3	(451bps)	75bps	upgrades and recovery
Deposits	1,186,483	1,022,830	1,120,792	16.0	5.9	
Growth (YoY %)	13.5	9.5	11.9	399bps	159bps	
NIM (%)	7.0	6.4	6.9	65bps	13bps	
C-D Ratio (%)	90.8	90.0	91.0	78bps	(22bps)	
C/I ratio (%)	46.2	38.3	46.9	789bps	(77bps)	
Credit Cost	2.5	6.8	2.5	(424bps)	(2bps)	
GNPA (%)	6.3	7.2	7.3	(82bps)	(99bps)	
NNPA (%)	1.9	1.9	2.3	6bps	(40bps)	
PCR (%)	71.0	75.4	70.0	(443bps)	104bps	



Glossary

Glossary of	Glossary of Abbreviations								
AUCA	Advance Under Collection Account	МТМ	Mark to Market						
CASA	Current Account and Savings Account	NII	Net Interest Income						
CAR	Capital Adequacy Ratio	NIM	Net Interest Margin						
CET1	Common Equity Tier 1	NNPA	Net Non-Performing Assets						
CD	Credit-Deposit Ratio	PCR	Provision Coverage Ratio						
C/I	Cost-Income Ratio	PPOP	Pre-Provision Operating Profit						
EBLR	External Benchmark-based Lending Rate	PSU	Public Sector Unit						
ECL	Expected Credit Loss	RWA	Risk-weighted Assets						
GNPA	Gross Non-Performing Assets	SLR	Statutory Liquidity Ratio						
LCR	Liquidity Coverage Ratio	SMA	Special Mention Account						
MCLR	Marginal Cost of Funds-based Lending Rate	SME	Small and Medium-sized Enterprises						



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