

BUY**TP: Rs 251 | ▲ 18%****KARUR VYSYA BANK**

| Banking

| 23 September 2025

Outperforming peers with robust AQ and return ratios

- **AQ metrics remain pristine with low stress pipeline and nominal exposure at impact (EAI), due to high U.S. tariffs imposition**
- **KVB's return ratios to stay better vs peers, supported by higher than system loan growth, recovery from TWO accounts and low credit costs**
- **Initiate coverage on KVB with a BUY and TP of Rs 251 (1.5x Jun'27E ABV)**

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AQ metrics remain pristine with low stress pipeline and nominal EAI: KVB's GNPA improved to 0.66% (Q1FY26) from a high of 7.8% (FY21) and was better than peers. Previously, AQ was adversely impacted, mainly due to weak GNPA ratio in the corporate segment (17.1% in FY21), impacted by consortium-based lending. However, the bank's focus on a) sole banking arrangements b) strategy to reduce corporate exposure (14% as of Jun'25 from 37% as of Mar'15) c) lending to better credit profile corporates (BB and below exposures fall to 31% in Q1FY26 vs 55% in FY21) d) low share of unsecured (2.1% of net loans in FY25), resulted in the lowest slippages among peers (<90bps in FY23-25). Further, KVB's stressed assets as % of CET I improved to 8.9% (Q1FY26) vs high of 50.3% (FY21), indicating receding AQ stress. KVB's EAI related to the imposition of U.S. tariffs was low at 1.2% of gross loans (Jun'25). Of which, borrower companies with U.S. export >60% of annual turnover was nominal at 0.56% of gross loans. We expect bank's AQ to fare better vs peers, given the low-stress pipeline and nominal EAI related to US exports.

Return ratios to stay better vs peers: KVB's return ratios remain best among peers with RoA/RoE of 1.7%/17.7% in FY25. We expect the bank's NIMs to face pressure in FY26 amid rate cut cycle, which is likely to be partially offset by recovery from TWO accounts (RTWO) (Rs 7.3bn or ~23% of PPoP in FY25). We expect RTWO to persist and account for 0.3-0.4% of RoA in the next couple of years, given KVB's high share of TWO balance (Rs 45.6bn as of Mar'25) and relatively low recovery rate (~15% of opening TWO in FY25) vs peers. Also, credit cost (0.8% in FY25) is likely to remain benign due to its low stress pipeline. Hence, KVB's return profile is expected to outperform peers in the medium term.

Initiate with a BUY and TP of Rs 251: KVB's adequate capital position (CET I of 16.3% as of Jun'25), higher than system credit growth, pristine AQ resulted in the bank consistently outperforming peers in terms of return profile. We expect the bank to deliver healthy return ratios with RoA/ RoE of 1.7%/ 16.2% by FY28E. Initiate coverage with a BUY and TP of Rs 251 (1.5x Jun'27E ABV) vs currently trading at 1.3x Jun'27E ABV.

Ticker/Price	KVB IN/Rs 213
Market cap	US\$ 2.3bn
Free float	98%
3M ADV	US\$ 5.3mn
52wk high/low	Rs 230/Rs 154
Promoter/FPI/DII	2%/15%/39%

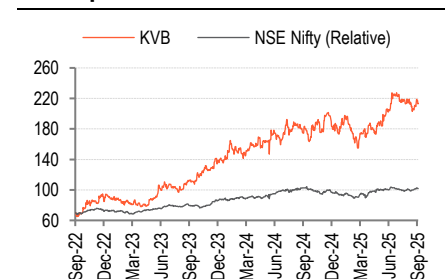
Source: NSE | Price as of 23 Sep 2025

Key financials

Y/E 31 Mar	FY25A	FY26E	FY27E
NII (Rs mn)	42,599	45,328	52,207
NII growth (%)	11.6	6.4	15.2
Adj. net profit (Rs mn)	19,416	20,507	23,769
EPS (Rs)	20.1	21.2	24.6
Consensus EPS (Rs)	20.1	21.1	24.3
P/E (x)	10.6	10.1	8.7
P/BV (x)	1.7	1.5	1.3
ROA (%)	1.7	1.6	1.6
ROE (%)	17.7	16.0	16.1

Source: Company, Bloomberg, BOBCAPS Research

Stock performance

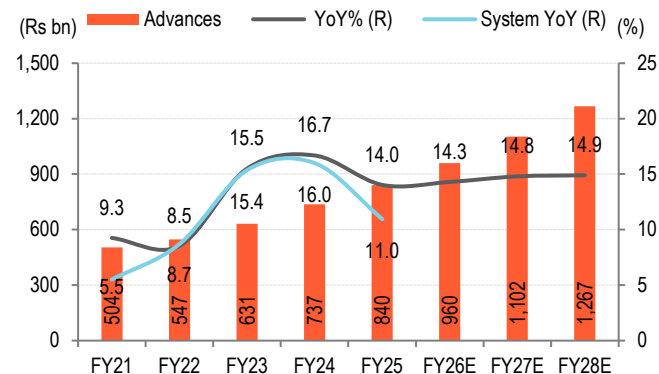


Source: NSE



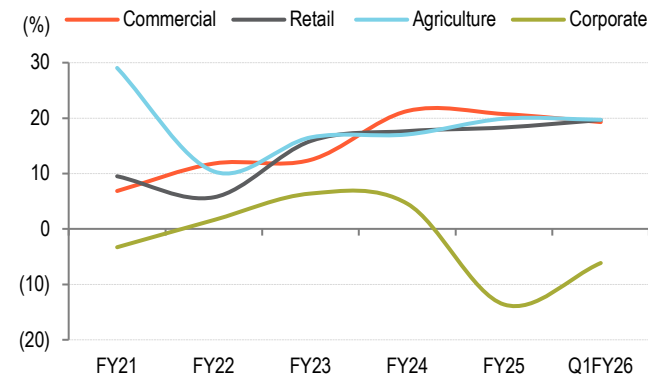
Story in charts

Fig 1 – KVB's advances growth expected to remain higher than system levels



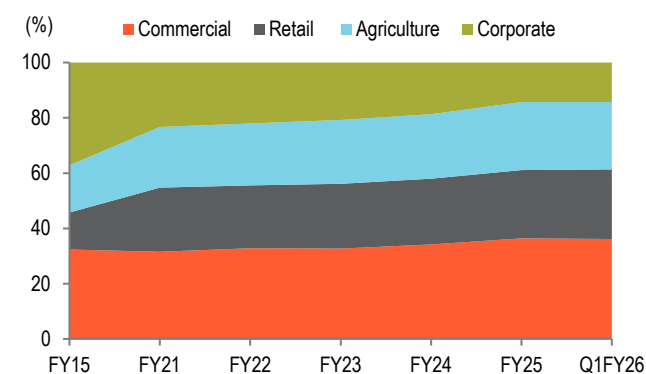
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 2 – Loan growth to be led by higher YoY growth in RAM segments while corporate remains defocused...



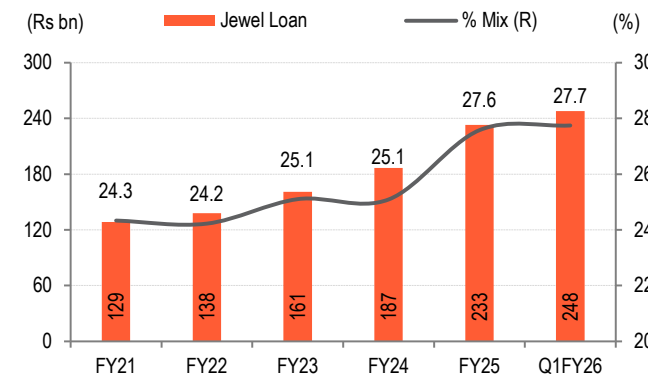
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 3 – Resulting in rising share of better yielding RAM segments



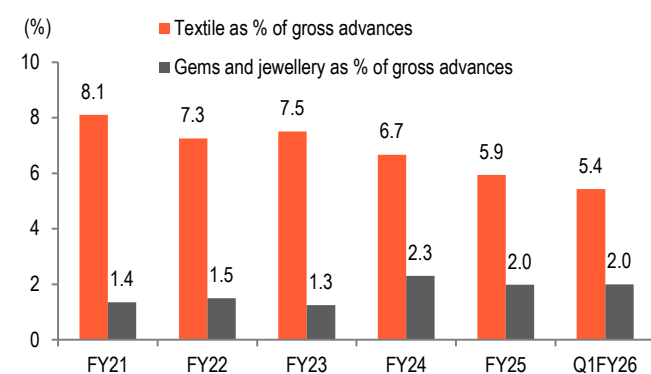
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 4 – Jewel loans grew at a high pace with 20% CAGR in FY20-25 and remains the largest segment



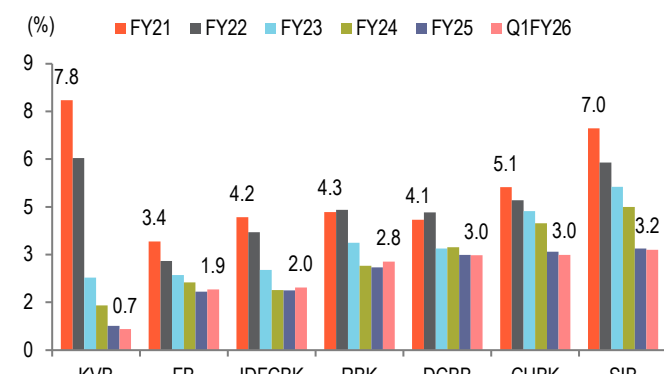
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 5 – Fall in share of major sectors impacted due to high U.S. tariff imposition



Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 6 – KVB's GNPA lowest among peers

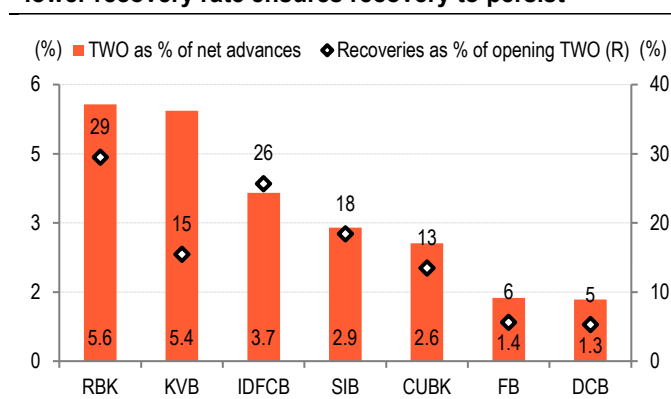


Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

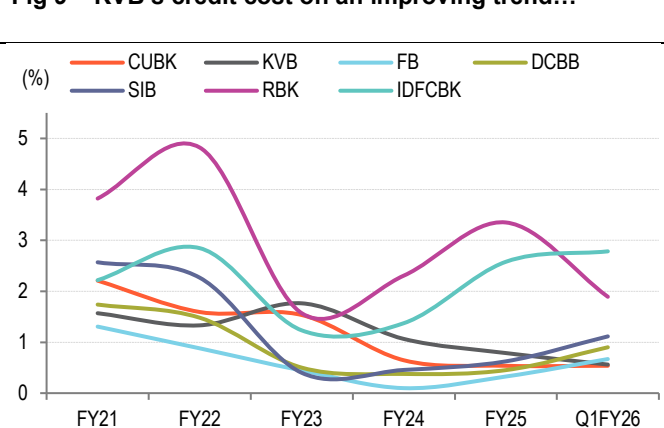
Fig 7 – KVB's stress book remains relatively better vs peers, indicating lower stress pipeline

Banks	KVB		CUBK		SIB		RBL		DCBB		FB	
Stress Book (Rs bn)	FY21	Q1FY26	FY21	Q1FY26	FY21	Q1FY26	FY21	Q1FY26	FY21	Q1FY26	FY21	Q1FY26
Std Restructured Assets	9.6	5.1	18.5	5.8	12.8	2.8	5.8	2.0	11.1	8.9	16.2	13.3
Net NPA	17.2	1.7	10.8	6.3	27.3	5.9	12.4	4.3	5.9	6.3	15.7	11.6
Net SR	3.6	0.3	NA	NA	4.9	1.2	-	NA	3.9	NA	1.6	-
SMA2	3.0	3.0	7.4	8.6	NA	4.2	NA	1.0	NA	NA	NA	NA
Net NPI	0.0	-	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Total Stress (TS)	33.4	10.1	36.6	20.8	45.0	14.0	18.2	7.3	20.9	15.2	33.5	24.9
TS % CET 1	50.3	8.9	65.9	23.0	81.4	14.8	14.8	4.9	58.2	28.0	21.7	7.8
TS % of Net advances	6.6	1.1	10.1	3.9	7.8	1.6	3.1	0.8	8.1	3.0	2.5	1.0
TS % Standard advances	6.9	1.1	10.4	4.0	8.1	1.6	3.2	0.8	8.3	3.0	2.6	1.0

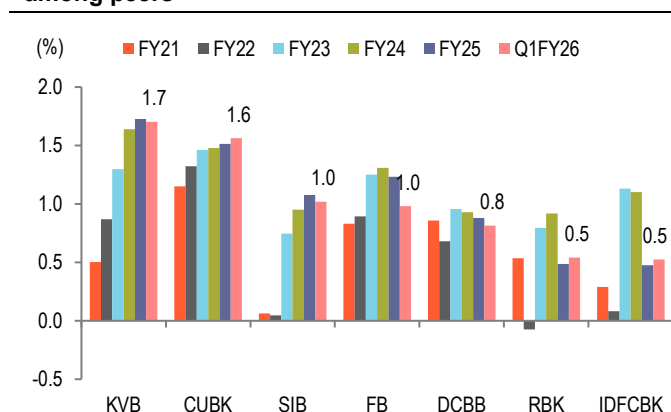
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 8 – KVB's high share of TWO balance and relatively lower recovery rate ensures recovery to persist


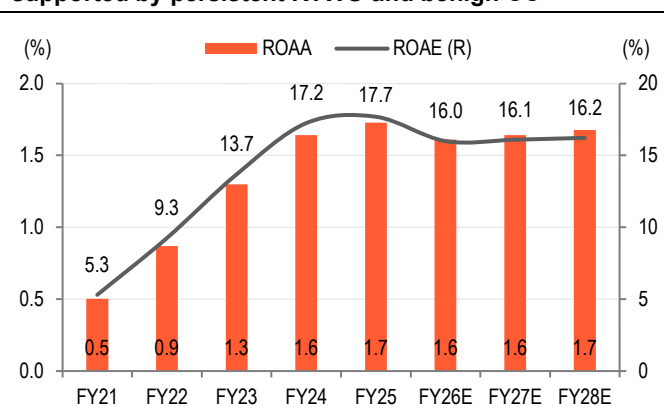
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 9 – KVB's credit cost on an improving trend...


Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 10 – RoA improved significantly and was the best among peers


Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

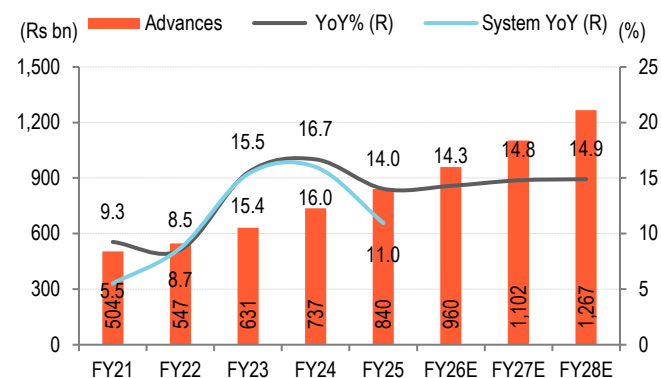
Fig 11 – Return profile to outperform peers, mainly supported by persistent RTWO and benign CC


Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Portfolio growth to remain above system, driven by focus on granular high-yielding RAM segments

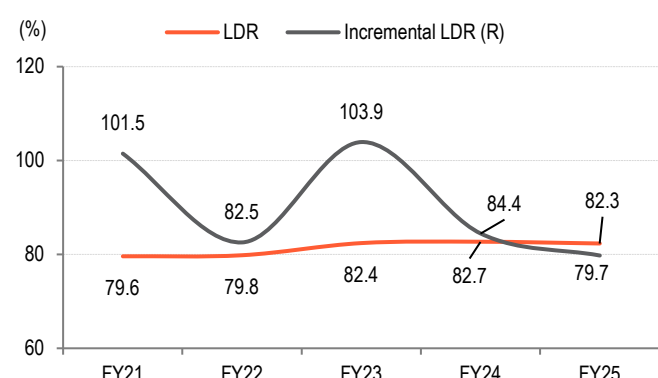
KVB's gross advances grew at 11.7% CAGR during FY20-25 to Rs 845bn, as of Mar'25. The bank witnessed net advances growth of 14% YoY in FY25, which was higher than the system levels (11% YoY). Going forward, we expect the bank to deliver net advances growth higher than system levels at a CAGR of ~15% during FY25-28. KVB's higher loan growth is expected to be supported by its comfortable credit deposit ratio (~82% as of Mar'25) and focus on growth in the higher-yielding RAM segments.

Fig 12 – KVB's loan growth likely to remain higher than system levels...



Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 13 – ...supported by comfortable credit deposit ratio

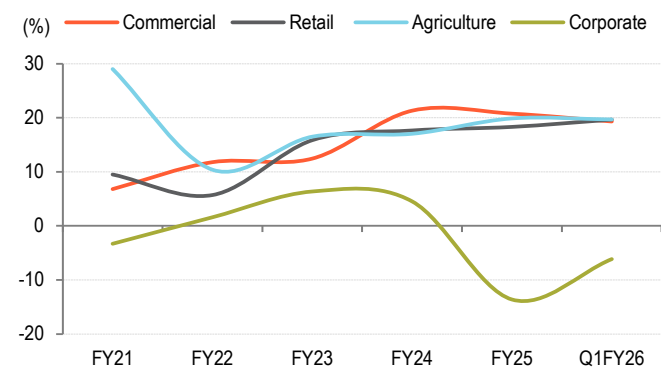


Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

KVB's portfolio strategy is to ramp up the share of retail, agriculture and commercial (ticket size of ≤ Rs 250mn) segments or RAM advances. Focus on RAM advances resulted in granular portfolio and led to risk diversification and relatively better yielding book. While the bank de-grew its lower-yielding corporate portfolio (> Rs 250mn) which supported its net interest margins (NIMs) and thereby improve profitability.

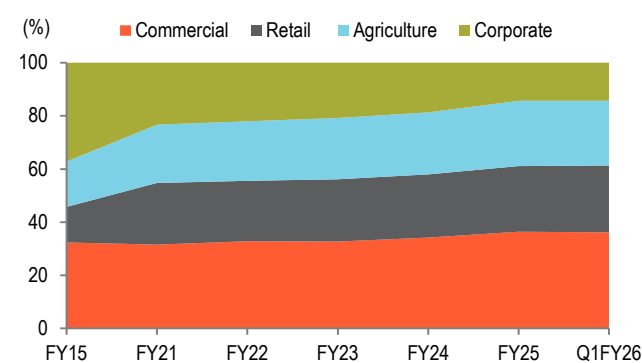
In line with its strategy, KVB saw high growth in the RAM segments (19%+ YoY), which was partially offset by degrowth in the corporate segment by 6% YoY, as of Jun'25. As a result, the share of RAM segments increased to 86% of gross advances as of Jun'25 vs 74% as of Mar'20. While the corporate segment witnessed a de-growth of 1.2% during FY20-25 and its share declined to 14% as of Jun'25 from 37% as of Mar'15.

Fig 14 – Loan growth to be led by higher growth in RAM segments while corporate remains defocused...



Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

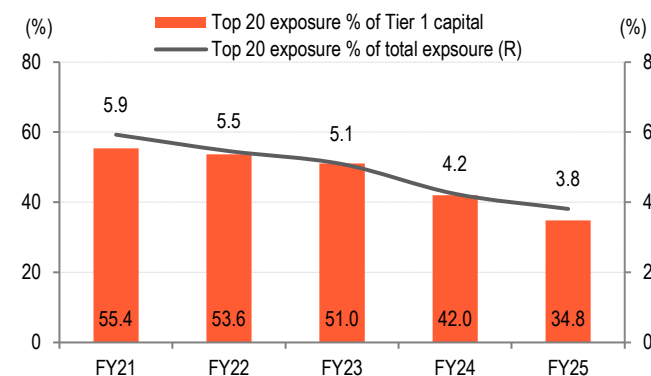
Fig 15 – ...Resulting in rising share of better yielding RAM segments



Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

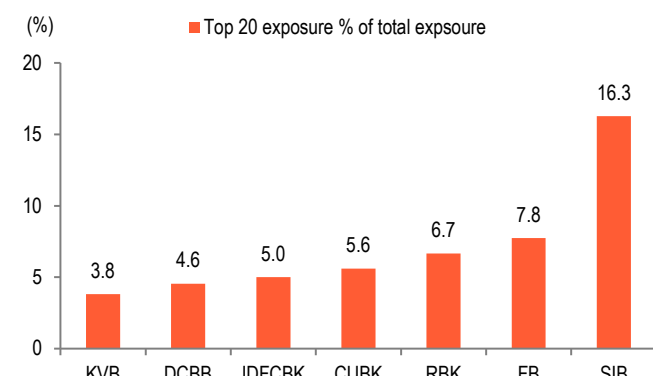
The bank's top 20 exposures, as % of total exposure, continues to decline to 3.8% in FY25 vs 5.9% in FY21 and remain better than peers, indicating granularity of the loan book. Also, the bank's top 20 exposure, as % of Tier I capital, declined to 34.8% in FY25 vs 55.4% in FY21.

Fig 16 – De-focus on corporate segment led to improvement in granularity of loans...



Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 17 – ...Concentration of exposure the lowest among peers

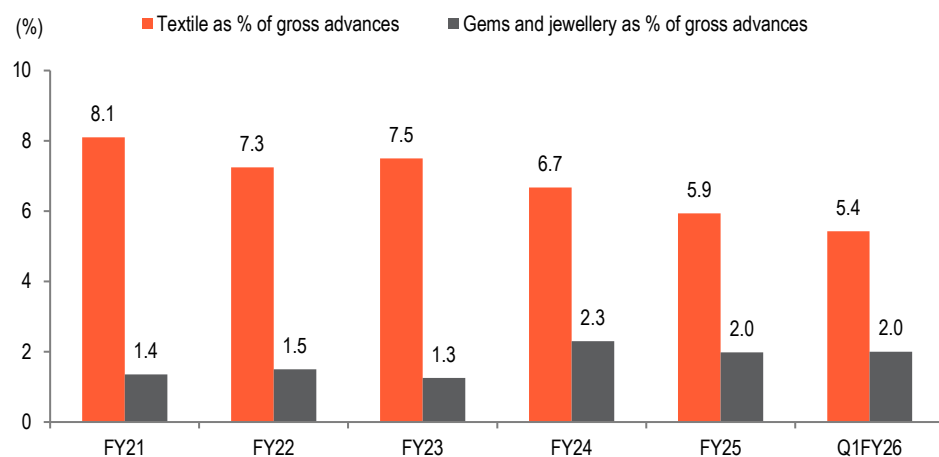


Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

U.S. tariffs imposition – KVB's exposure at impact remains low, but monitorable

KVB's total EAI related to imposition of high US tariffs was low at 1.2% of gross advances or Rs 10.7bn as of June 2025. These exposures include sectors such as Textile (0.86%), Seafood (0.07%), Granites (0.21%), Steel (0.03%), Chemical (0.01%), Wholesale and Retail Trades (0.01%) & Timber (0.01%). The bank's MSME exposure to U.S. exports was 0.56% of gross advances as of Jun'25, wherein the borrower's U.S. export is >60% of its annual turnover. We note that the sector to be largely impacted is textile, wherein the bank has adequate provisions and has reduced its share to 5.4% (Jun'25) from 8.1% in FY21. Whereas exposure to gems & jewellery was low at 2%, wherein the bank plans to prune down its exposure, given it's a low-margin business. Overall, we expect the impact to be marginal considering low EAI but remain monitorable.

Fig 18 – Fall in share of major sectors which got impacted due to rise in US tariffs

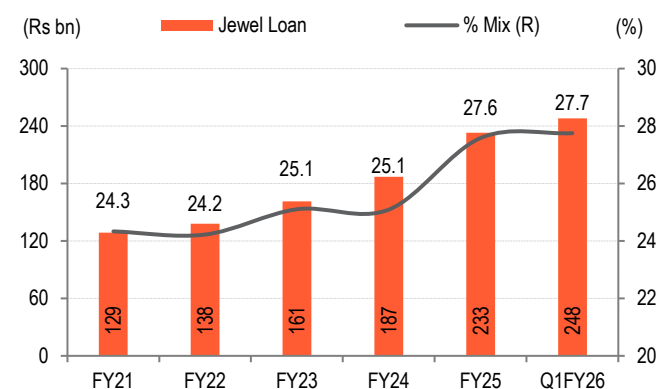


Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Jewel – rising mix of better-yield jewel book (27.7% of gross loans) which attracts nil RWAs and supports capital profile

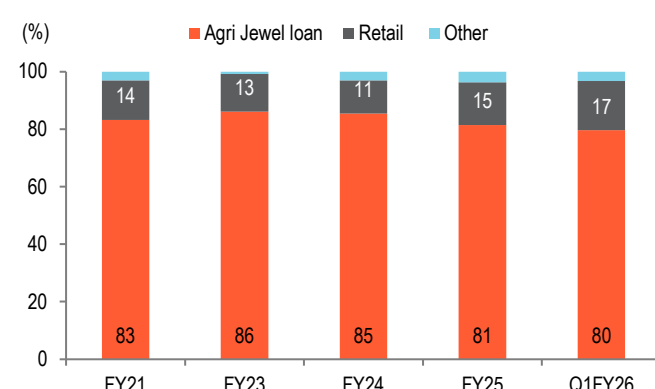
Within the RAM segments, focus was primarily on better-yield products like jewel loans. Jewel loans portfolio grew at a high pace with CAGR of 20% to Rs 233bn in FY20-25. Further, jewel loans were up by 24% YoY to Rs 248bn in Q1FY26. Jewel portfolio remained the largest segment and accounted for 27.7% of gross loans, as of Q1FY26 (24.3% in FY21). A large portion of the jewel loans (~80%) were Agri jewel loans, followed by Retail jewel loans (17%), and others (3%); as of Jun'25. Further, the loan to value (LTV) of agri jewel loan and non-agri jewel loan remains comfortable in the ranges of 63-66% and 56-58%, respectively in the last 3 years. KVB's comfortable LTV, along with rise in gold price, improves collateral value; thereby aiding asset quality.

Fig 19 – Jewel loans grew at a high pace with 20% CAGR in FY20-25 and remains the largest segment



Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 20 – Jewel loan mix % with high share of Agri jewel loans



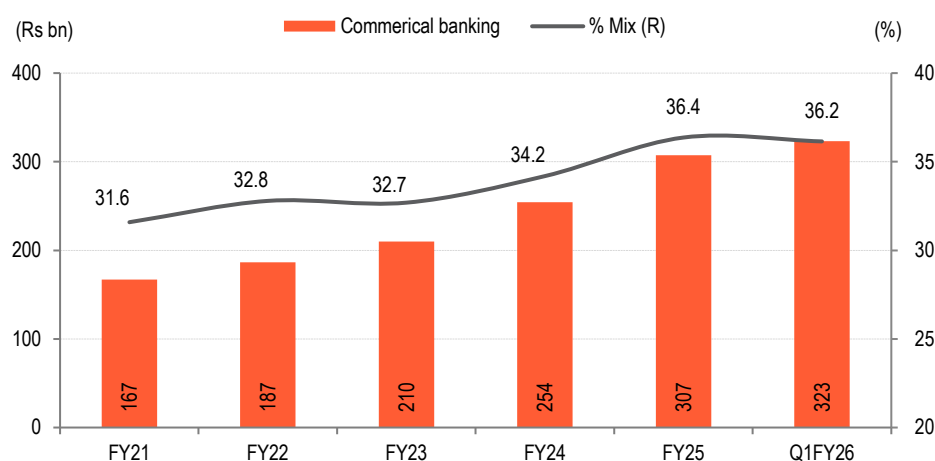
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

We note that jewel loans are of better yield with agri jewel loans yielding 10.25% and non-agri jewel loans at 11.4%. Management is gradually shifting its jewel portfolio to fixed rate vs MCLR-linked presently. This is expected to support NIMs amid rate cut cycle. Also, jewel loans attract nil risk weight, which supported the bank's comfortable CET I capital ratio at 16.3% as of Jun'25.

Commercial Banking — rising share of better-yield portfolio with collateral coverage

KVB grew its commercial banking portfolio at a CAGR of 14.5% to Rs 307bn during FY20-25. Further, the segment witnessed a high growth 19.3% YoY to Rs 323bn in Q1FY26. As a result, its share increased to 36.2% of gross advances in Q1FY26 from 31.6% in FY21. KVB has identified 24 branches in high-potential geographic areas basis CIBIL data for targeted business expansion of this segment.

Average ticket size of the commercial banking segment was Rs 6.4mn with 68% of total loans being below Rs 50mn in Q1FY26. KVB's focus to grow this portfolio was due to its high yield and collateral coverage. We note that this segment will benefit from the recent GST cuts, which are expected to augment credit demand.

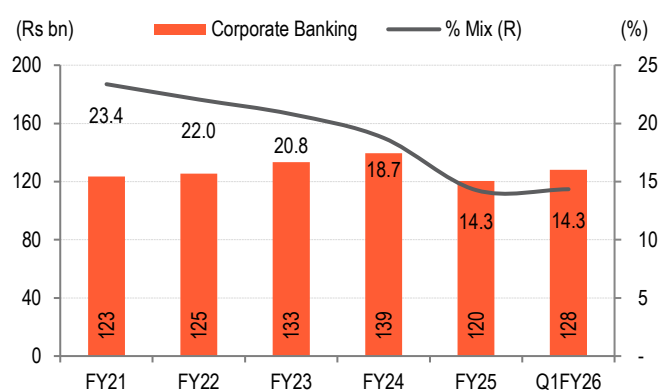
Fig 21 – Commercial Banking mix rising

Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

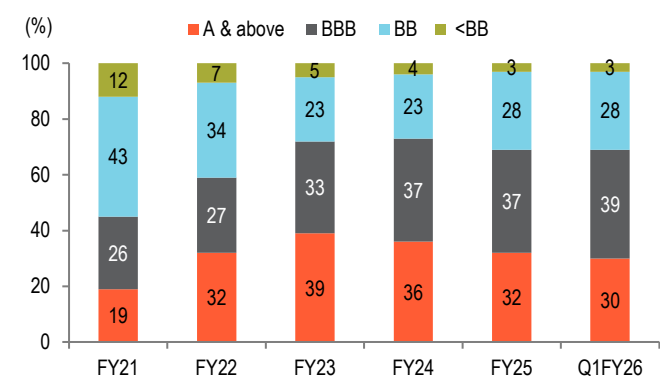
Low-yielding Corporate segment to remain contained at ~15% of total portfolio with improvement in borrower's risk profile

Given KVB's focus on improving its return profile vs topline growth, the corporate segment declined to 14% in Q1FY26 compared to 23% in FY21. Corporate book witnessed degrowth of 14% YoY in FY25, mainly driven by the bank's conscious effort to reduce exposure in NBFC segment and precious metal division (PMD) business due to low margin. Within corporate segment, the bank will focus on CRE segment (7% of gross loans as of Jun'25) with a ticket size of up to Rs 750mn in FY26.

Average ticket size of corporate loans was ~Rs 370mn, as of Jun'25. Around 88% of the corporate advances were with ticket size <Rs 1.5bn. Further, credit quality of the corporate segment improved, with share of non-investment grade borrowers declining to 31% (Q1FY26) vs 55% (FY21).

Fig 22 – Corporate Banking – falling share

Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 23 – Corporate Banking — risk profile improving

Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Asset quality metrics remain better vs peers

KVB's asset quality improved in the last few years with GNPA ratio falling to 0.66% in Q1FY26 from a high of 7.8% in FY21. Asset quality was adversely impacted in the past, mainly due to weak GNPA ratio in the corporate segment (17.1% in FY21). Previously, KVB's consortium-based lending approach had resulted in high slippage in the corporate segment. However, corporate slippages have improved to 0.4% in FY25 vs 4.2% in FY21, given the bank's focus on a) sole banking arrangements b) conscious decision to reduce exposure to corporate segment (14% of gross loans in Q1FY26 vs 23% in FY21) c) lending to better credit profile corporates borrowers (BB and below rated exposures declined to 31% in Q1FY26 from 55% in FY21).

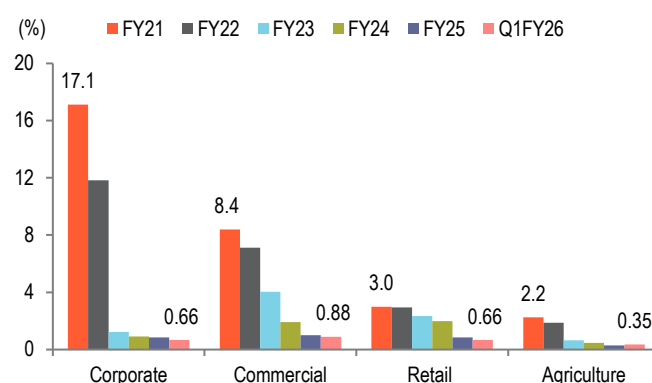
A decline in corporate slippages, improvement in other segments and a low share of unsecured book (2.1% of net advances in FY25), resulted in KVB reporting the lowest slippages among peers (<90bps during FY23-25). This, along with healthy recovery and upgrades (36% of opening GNPA's in FY25), has led to KVB outperforming its peers in terms of asset quality metrics. Asset quality remains better vs peers with GNPA ratio of 0.66% (-10bps QoQ) and NNPA ratio of 0.19% (-1bps QoQ) in Q1FY26.

Fig 24 – AQ aided by lower slippage and higher reductions

GNPA Movement	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	Q1FY26
Opening GNPA	41,429	34,310	14,582	10,416	6,418
Additions (Slippages)	8,427	4,792	4,992	4,819	1,880
Upgradation	4,789	6,296	5,325	2,565	700*
Recoveries	5,738	5,043	2,336	1,622	NA
Write Off	8,787	18,920	6,540	6,966	1,670
Closing GNPA	34,310	14,582	10,416	6,418	5,926
GNPA (%)	6.0	2.3	1.4	0.8	0.7
NNPA (%)	2.3	0.7	0.4	0.2	0.2
Slippage ratio%	1.7	0.9	0.8	0.7	1.0
Recoveries & Upgrades (%) ^	25.4	33.0	52.5	40.2	10.9
Write-offs (%) ^	21.2	55.1	44.9	66.9	26.0

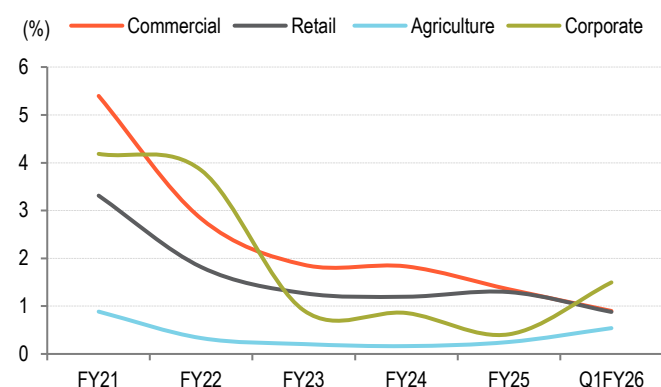
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research | * Upgradation and recoveries clubbed together
 ^ Calculated on opening GNPA

Fig 25 – GNPA ratio improved across segments



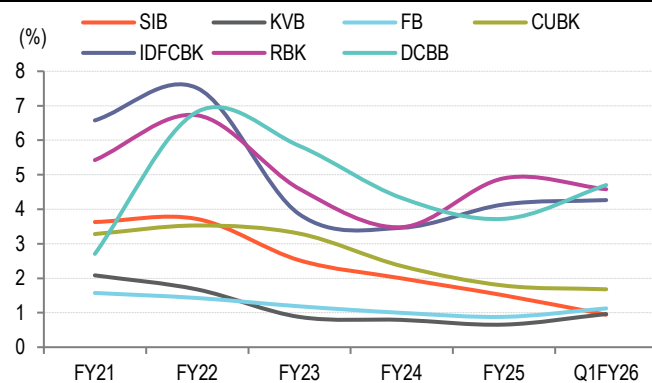
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 26 – KVB's slippages improved across segments

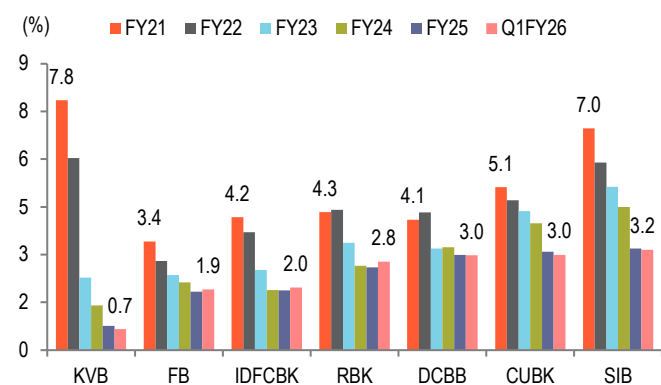


Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

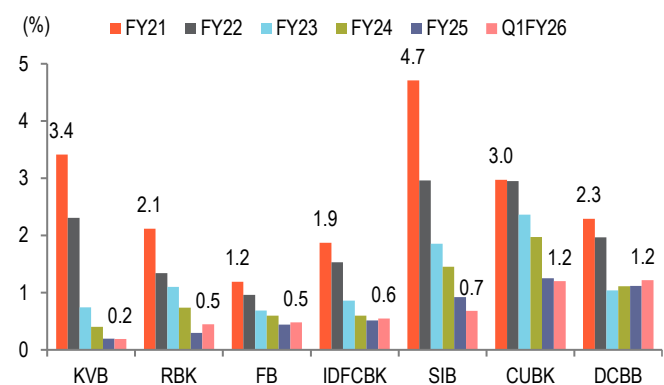
Fig 27 – Slippage remains lower vs peers



Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 28 – KVB's GNPA lowest among peers

Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 29 – NNPA remains the lowest vs peers

Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

KVB's stressed assets¹, as a percentage of CET I capital, improved significantly to 8.9% in Q1FY26 vs a high of 50.3% in FY21. In absolute terms, the stress book declined to Rs 10bn (1.1% of standard advances) in Q1FY26 vs Rs 33bn (6.9%) in FY21, indicating receding asset quality stress and was relatively better vs peers.

KVB's standard restructured book improved to 0.6% of standard advances and is largely secured by collateral, along with a PCR of 42% in Q1FY26. The bank witnessed a marginal rise in the SMA 2 book to 0.3% of standard advances in Q1FY26 compared to 0.1% in Q4FY25, due to a couple of chunky accounts. Management expects the slippages to remain below 1%. Also, KVB's provision coverage ratio (including technical write-off) at 96.8% remains the best compared to peers, as of Q1FY26.

Asset quality largely hinges on the performance of its jewel portfolio (27.7% of gross loans), which is susceptible to regulatory updates and any downward movement in gold prices. However, jewel portfolio typically has low loss given default (LGD) and remains cushioned by comfortable LTV of agri jewel loan (63-66%) and non-agri jewel loan (56-58%) in the last 3 years. With low stress pipeline and nominal EAI due to imposition of U.S. tariffs, we expect bank's asset quality to fare better than peers.

Fig 30 – KVB's stress book improved over the last few years...

Particulars (Rs bn)	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	Q1FY26
Standard Restructured Assets	9.6	16.3	9.8	7.2	5.4	5.1
NNPA	17.2	12.6	4.7	3.0	1.7	1.7
Net Security receipts (Net SR)	3.6	1.5	-	-	-	0.3
SMA 2	3.0	1.7	1.1	1.0	0.6	3.0
Net Non-Performing Investments (NPI)	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	-	-
Total Stress (TS)	33.4	32.2	15.7	11.2	7.7	10.1
TS % CET 1	50.3	44.1	19.0	11.8	6.8	8.9
TS % of Net advances	6.6	5.9	2.5	1.5	0.9	1.1
TS % Standard advances	7.0	6.1	2.5	1.5	0.9	1.1

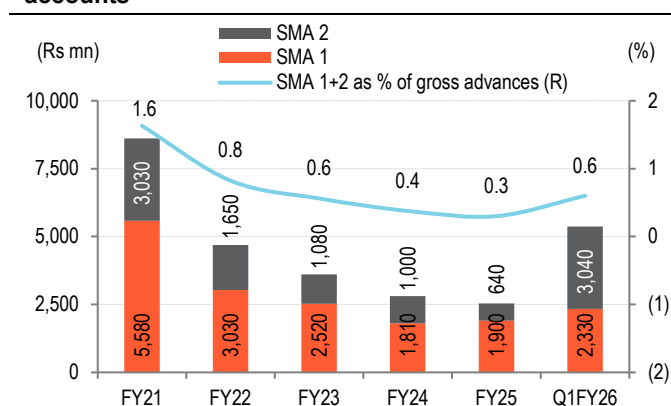
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

¹ Stressed assets include standard restructured assets, net NPA, SMA2, net security receipts, net non-performing investments.

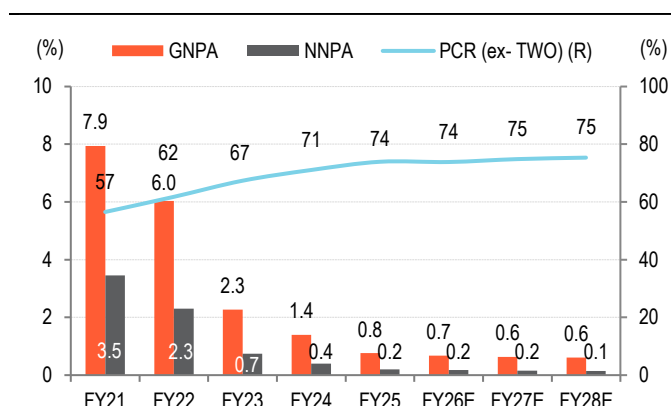
Fig 31 – ...remains relatively better vs peers, indicating lower stress pipeline

Banks	KVB		CUBK		SIB		RBL		DCBB		FB	
Stress Book (Rs bn)	FY21	Q1FY26	FY21	Q1FY26	FY21	Q1FY26	FY21	Q1FY26	FY21	Q1FY26	FY21	Q1FY26
Std Restructured Assets	9.6	5.1	18.5	5.8	12.8	2.8	5.8	2.0	11.1	8.9	16.2	13.3
Net NPA	17.2	1.7	10.8	6.3	27.3	5.9	12.4	4.3	5.9	6.3	15.7	11.6
Net SR	3.6	0.3	NA	NA	4.9	1.2	-	NA	3.9	NA	1.6	-
SMA2	3.0	3.0	7.4	8.6	NA	4.2	NA	1.0	NA	NA	NA	NA
Net NPI	0.0	-	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Total Stress (TS)	33.4	10.1	36.6	20.8	45.0	14.0	18.2	7.3	20.9	15.2	33.5	24.9
TS % CET 1	50.3	8.9	65.9	23.0	81.4	14.8	14.8	4.9	58.2	28.0	21.7	7.8
TS % of Net advances	6.6	1.1	10.1	3.9	7.8	1.6	3.1	0.8	8.1	3.0	2.5	1.0
TS % Standard advances	6.9	1.1	10.4	4.0	8.1	1.6	3.2	0.8	8.3	3.0	2.6	1.0

Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 32 – SMA book improved over the years with a marginal rise in Q1FY26, due to a couple of chunky accounts


Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 33 – Asset quality expected to fare better vs peers


Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

KVB's return ratios outperform peers

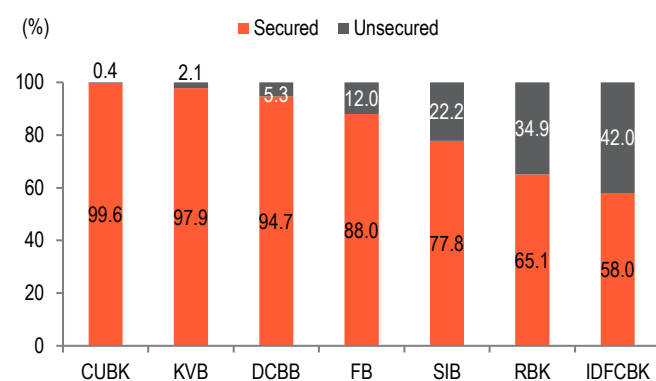
Despite a low share of unsecured loans (2.1% in FY25), KVB's NIMs remain better than regional peers at 4.1% in FY25. NIMs were largely supported by the bank's strategy to reduce exposure to the low-yielding corporate segment, coupled with relatively lower cost of deposits. KVB's savings rate is only 2.0% up to Rs 0.5mn bucket, which is lower than the leading private banks (ICICIB and HDFCB) rates of 2.5% in a similar category. With RBI's reduction of repo rate by 100bps in CY2025 till date and KVB's high share of advances linked to EBLR (53% in Q1FY26), we expect margins (3.9% in Q1FY26) to face pressure and moderate to ~3.7% in FY26, given asset repricing and low share of CASA ratio (~28%).

We expect the margin pressure to be partially offset by sustained recovery from technical written-off accounts (TWO) and lower credit costs. KVB reported recovery from TWO account of Rs 7.3bn or ~23% of PPoP and ~15% of opening TWO in FY25. The bank reported outstanding TWO balance of Rs 45.6bn (Mar'25) or 5.4% of net advances vs 1.3-3.7% for peers, except RBK at 5.6%. Management expects recovery from TWO of Rs 6-6.5bn in FY26. We expect the recovery from TWO to persist and account for 0.3-0.4% of RoA in the next couple of years, given KVB's high share of TWO balance and relatively lower recovery rate vs peers.

KVB's deposit and advance per branch have improved to Rs 1,150mn and Rs 946mn in FY25 compared to Rs 811mn and Rs 646mn, respectively in FY21. Cost to income ratio improved to 47.2% (Q1FY26) from a high of 60.6% (FY21) and was the lowest among peers, also aided by its RTWO. This was driven by their strategy to scale operations through leveraging technology such as digital underwriting of loans, increasing automation, among others, which improved efficiency. As a result, the bank reported high operating profit/ ATA vs peers at 2.8% (Q1FY26).

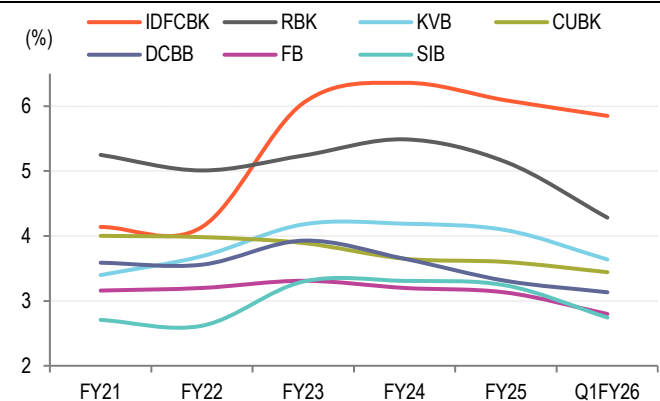
With improved asset quality metrics, credit costs declined to 0.8% in FY25 vs 1.6% in FY21. We expect KVB's credit costs to stay benign in the medium term, due to its low-stress pipeline. Overall, return ratios remain the best among peers with RoA and RoE of 1.7% and 17.7%, respectively in FY25 vs 0.5% and 5.3%, respectively in FY21. We expect the bank's return profile to stay healthy and outperform peers, mainly supported by RTWO and lower credit costs.

Fig 34 – Despite low share of unsecured loans (FY25)...



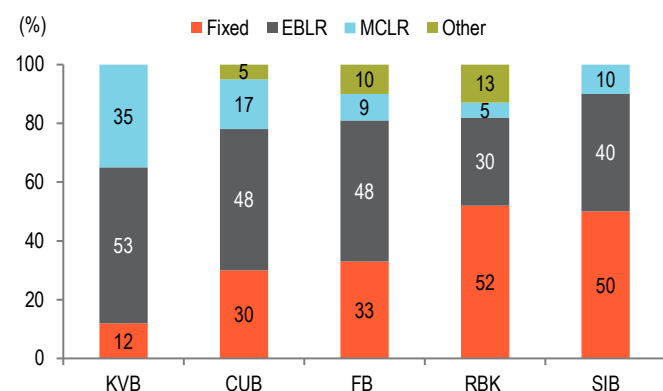
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 35 – ...KVB's NIMs better than regional players



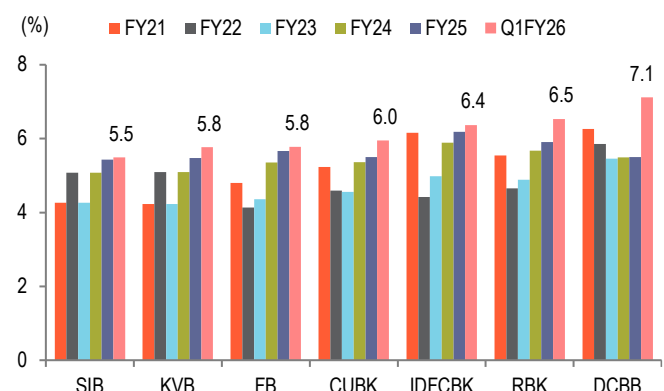
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 36 – KVB's high share of EBLR loans (Q1FY26) to moderate NIMs...



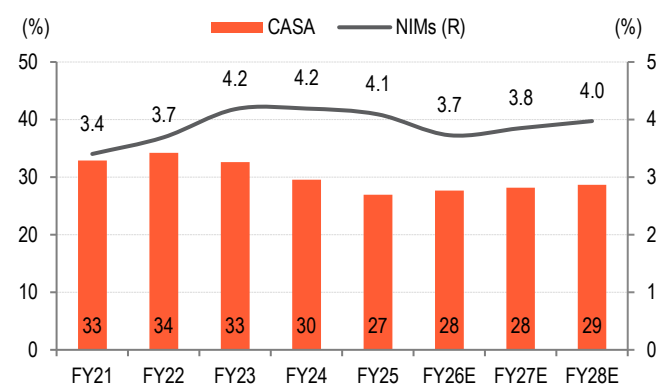
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 37 – ...partially offset by relatively lower cost of deposits



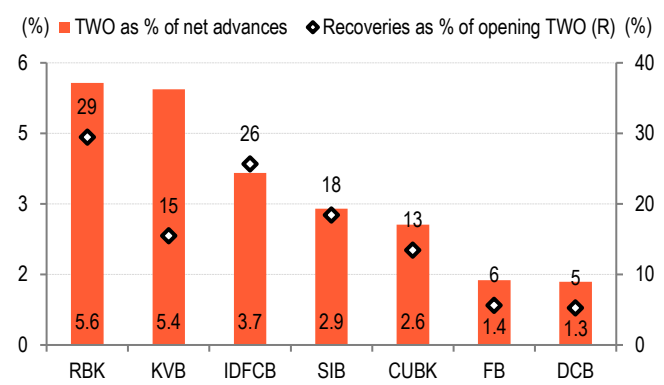
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 38 – However, NIMs expected to moderate in FY26 given asset repricing



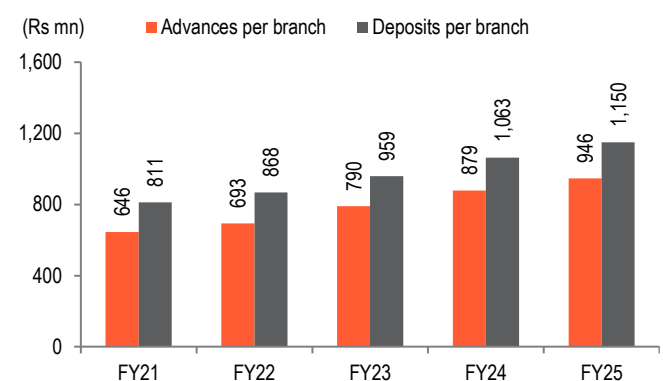
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 39 – KVB's high share of TWO balance and relatively lower recovery rate ensures recovery to persist



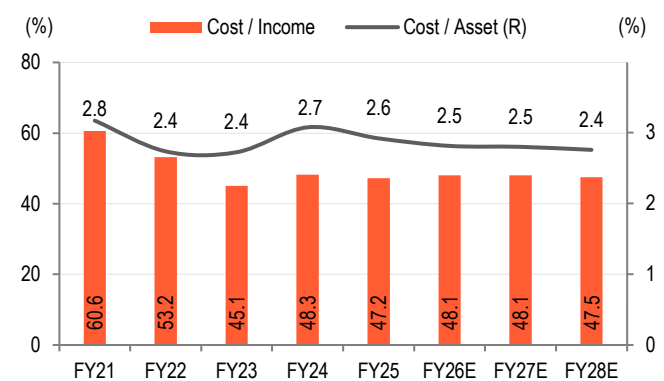
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 40 – Deposits/ Advances per branch improved...



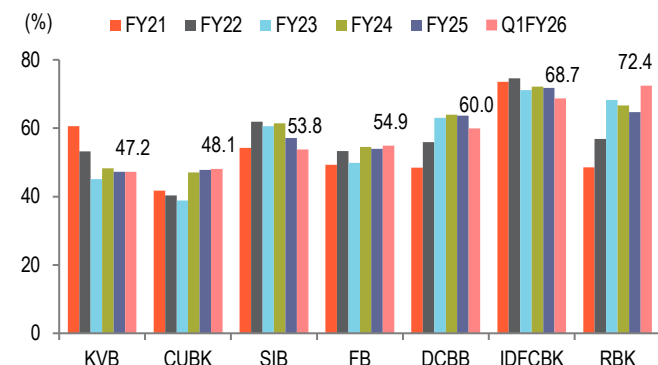
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 41 – ...resulting in low C/I ratio, which was also aided by RTWO



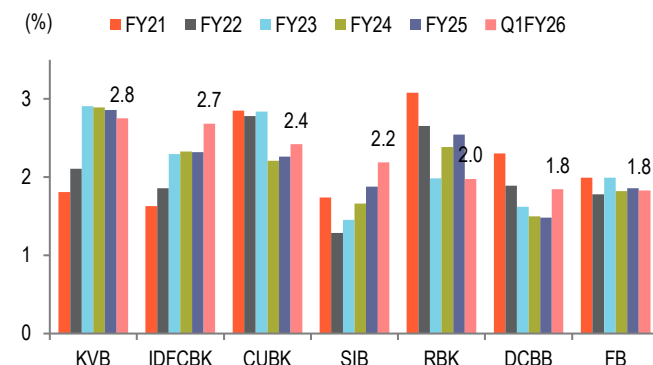
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 42 – KVB's C/I ratio best vs peers...



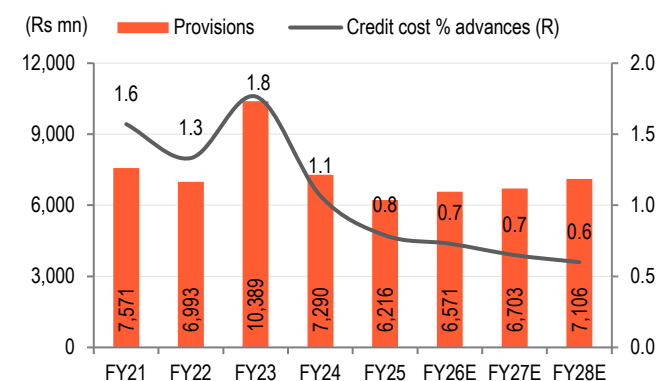
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 43 – ...leading to higher operating profit/ ATA vs peers



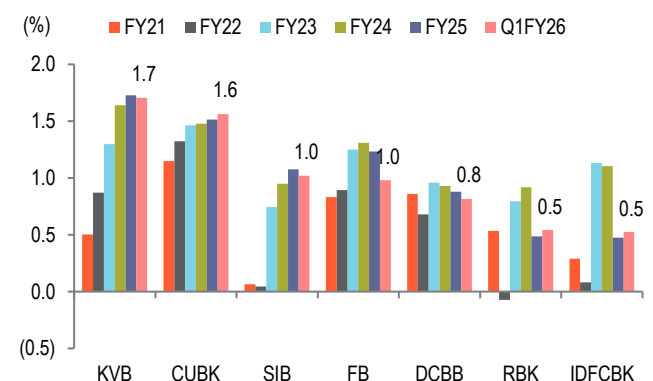
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 44 – Credit cost to remain benign given the low-stress pipeline...



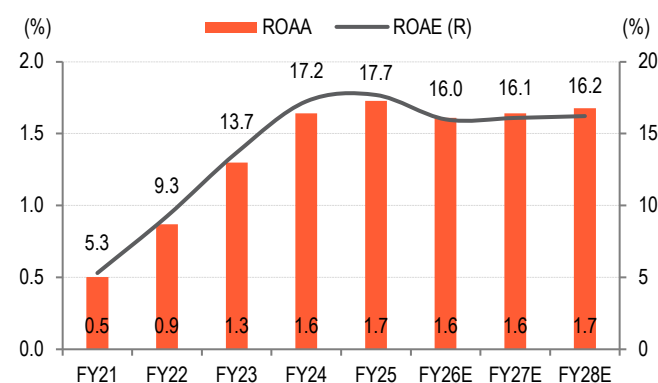
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 45 – KVB's RoA improved significantly and was better than peers



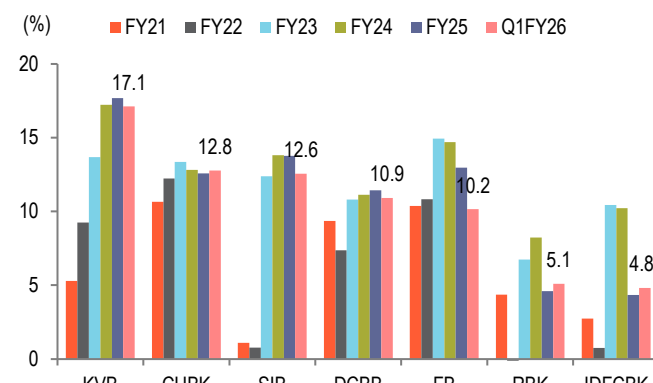
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 46 – RTWO, coupled with low CC, to support return metrics



Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 47 – KVB delivers leading RoE vs peers

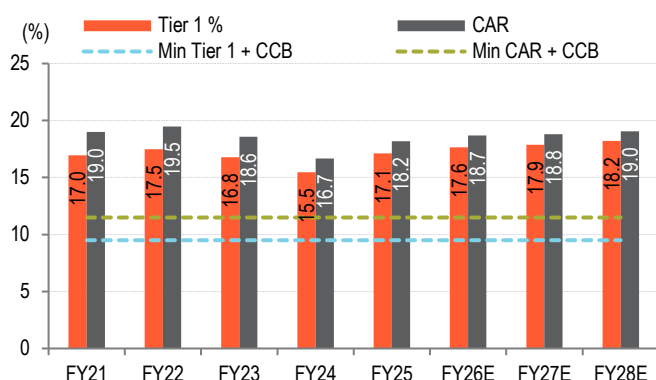


Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Adequate capital profile aided by healthy return ratios and high share of jewel loans

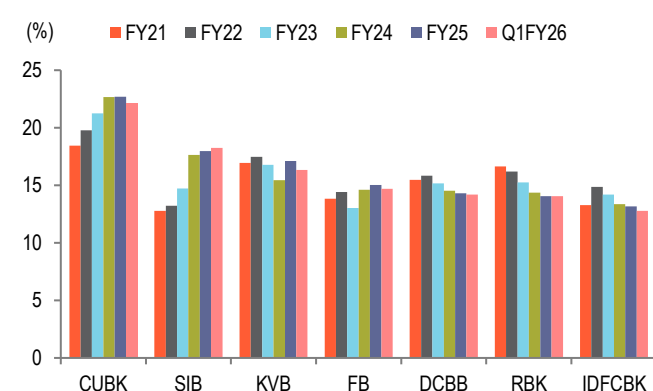
KVB's capital ratios remain adequate and improved with Tier I of 16.3% as of Jun'25 vs 15.6% as of Jun'24. Capital profile was supported by healthy return ratios (RoE of 16.8% in Q1FY26), coupled with its advance mix, wherein jewel loans accounted for 27.7% of gross advances as of Jun'25, which attracts nil risk weights. As a result, the bank's RWA to total assets was low at 56% in FY25. We expect the bank's return profile to stay healthy and support the capital ratios.

Fig 48 – KVB's capital ratios have sufficient cushion vs minimum regulatory requirement



Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 49 – KVB's Tier 1 ratio remains adequate



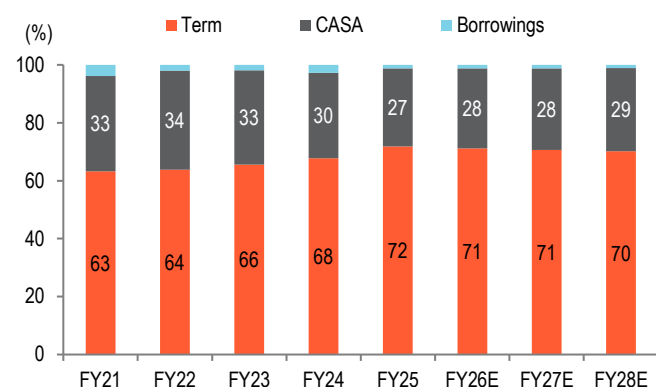
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Deposit profile — focus on improving CASA deposits

KVB's funding profile (total deposits + borrowings) remains largely dominated by deposits, which accounted for 98.8% of total funding in FY25. Deposits grew at a CAGR of 11.6% to Rs 1,021bn during FY20-25. Within deposits, share of low-cost CASA deposits moderated to 27.5% as of Jun'25 vs 34.2% as of Mar'21. KVB's CASA share remains relatively lower than peers. However, the bank plans to improve its share of CASA deposits through a dedicated CASA acquisition team targeting corporate salary accounts, TASC, institutional clients and government business segments. This team sourced 19,000+ CASA accounts amounting to Rs 4bn+ in FY25.

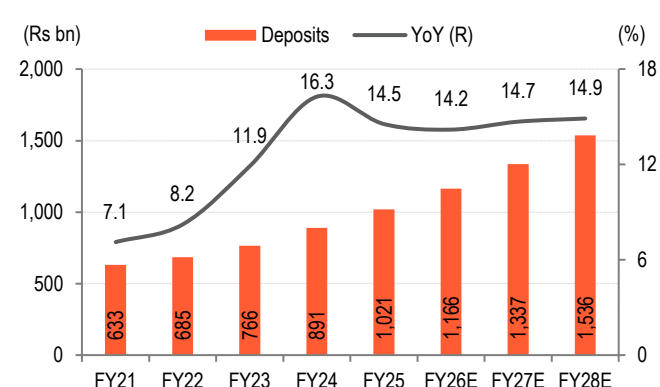
Nevertheless, cost of funds (5.8% in Q1FY26) remains relatively lower than peers. The lower cost of funds seems to be due to a) low share of borrowings (1.7% as of Jun'25), which is typically at a relatively higher cost b) lower cost of savings deposit at 2.0% up to Rs 0.5mn vs leading banks (ICICI and HDFCB) offering interest rate of 2.5% across buckets. Further, the share of ticket size of term deposits ≥Rs 50mn has increased to 21% of total term deposits in Q1FY26 vs 6% in FY21, indicating reduction in granularity of deposits. We expect cost of funds to decline in FY26 due to RBI's rate cut; but compared to peers, it will likely stay relatively higher.

Fig 50 – Funding mix largely supported by deposits



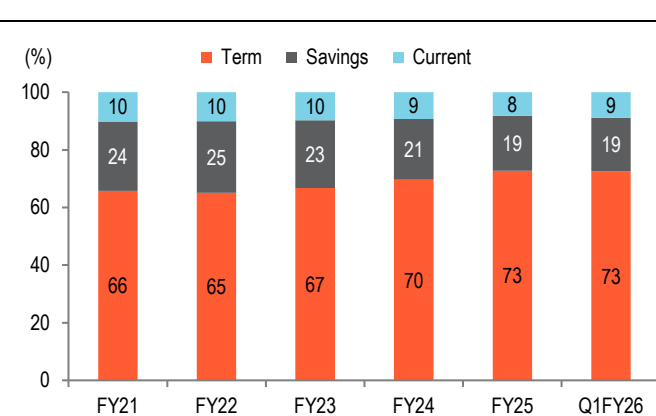
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 51 – Deposits to report ~15% CAGR in FY25-28E



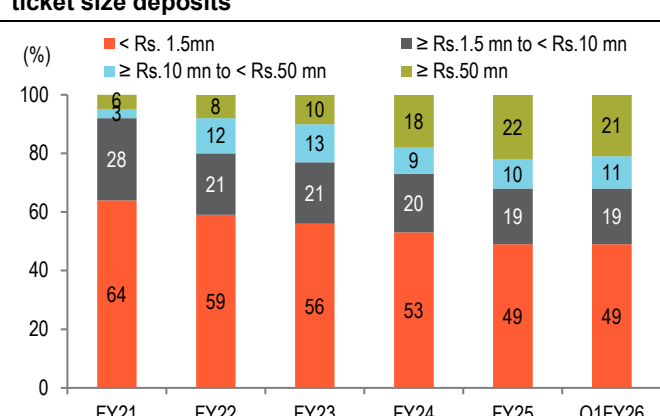
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 52 – Deposit mix – rising share of term deposits



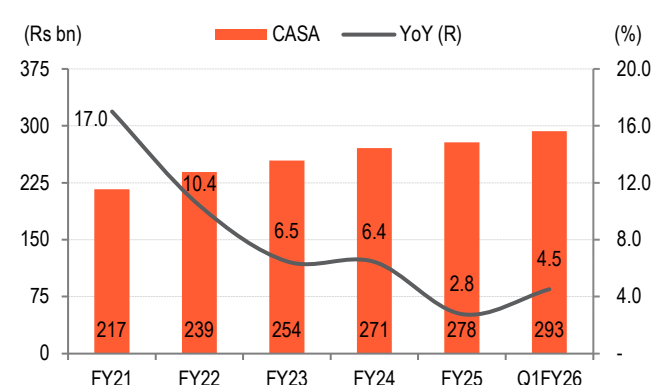
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 53 – Term deposits – increase in share of ≥ Rs 50mn ticket size deposits



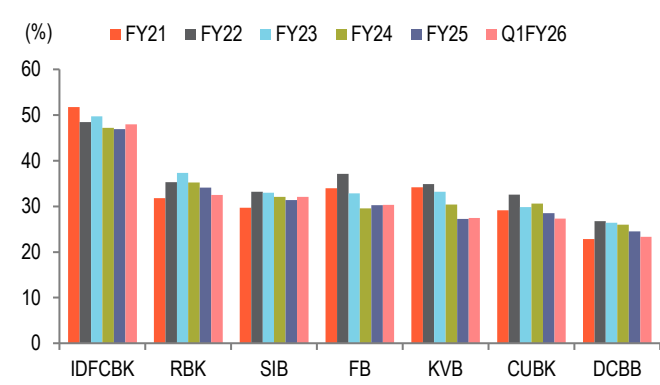
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 54 – CASA deposits growing at a slower pace



Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 55 – KVB's CASA relatively lower than peers



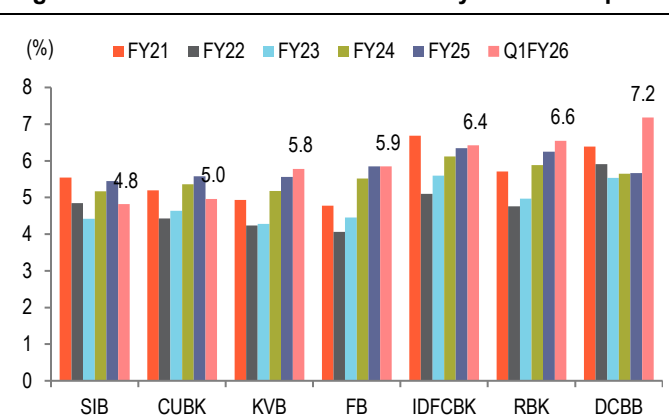
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 56 – KVB offers lower interest rate on savings

Bank	Upto ₹0.10 Mn	₹0.10 – ₹0.50 Mn	₹0.50 – ₹1 Mn	₹1 – ₹2.5 Mn	>₹2.5 Mn
KVB	2.00	2.00	2.50	3.00	3.00-5.00
SIB	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50-6.00
CUBK	2.75	2.75	2.75	3.00	3.00-4.50
DCB	1.50	2.25	3.75	5.75	6.90-7.20
IDFC	3.00	3.00	5.00	6.00	6.00-6.25
HDFC	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50
SBI	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50

Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 57 – Cost of funds remains relatively lower than peers



Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Company overview

KVB is a private sector bank and was incorporated in 1916. The bank was formed to extend financial support to the traders and agriculturists in and around Karur, Tamil Nadu. Headquartered in Karur, the bank operates pan India with a network of 888 branches and 2,226 ATMs & cash recyclers, as of June 30, 2025. However, KVB's branches are largely located in South India (>85%), as of June 2025.

Management

KVB's board of directors consists of 10 directors, of which 7 are independent. A brief profile of the key management personnel is as below.

Fig 58 – Management profile

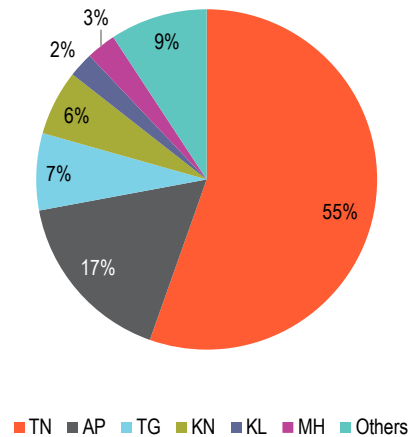
Name	Position	Background & Experience
Shri B Ramesh Babu	MD & CEO	He is a veteran banker with 4 decades of experience in Retail Banking, Operations and Strategic Management, among others. He was Ex-Deputy MD & COO in SBI and managed the retail business and banking operations for over 21,000 retail branches and 1,20,000 other touch points of the bank. A Postgraduate in Commerce from Andhra University, he holds "Diploma in International Factoring" conducted by Factors Chain International, Netherlands.
Shri B Sankar	Executive Director	A seasoned banker with 35+ years of experience in Banking, he served as Deputy MD (stressed assets) and managed NPAs of ~Rs 820bn at SBI. He was CGM of SME - Corporate Center at SBI. He worked as Chief Operating Officer and managed operations for all 23,000 branches including customer service, ATMs (~65,200) and branch re-design, CRM, etc. He holds Master of Management Studies (Finance) from Banaras Hindu University and is a Certified Associate of the Indian Institute of Banking & Finance (CAIIB).
Shri Ramshankar R	CFO	He is a seasoned banking professional with over 2 decades of experience in Finance, Accounts, and Banking. He held key roles at ING Vysya Bank, ICICI Bank, and HDFC Bank before joining KVB in 2012. Over the years, he has managed SME to large corporate relationships and worked closely with the CFO in the Finance and Control Department. A Chartered Accountant, he holds IIBF's certificate in Resolution of Stressed Assets with a special emphasis on Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code for Bankers.

Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Key risks

- **Regional concentration & low visibility beyond South India:** More than 85% of branches were in South India with Tamil Nadu accounting for 55% of total branches, as of June 2025. This exposes the bank to regional concentration and vulnerable to any adverse changes in the local economic and political environment.

Fig 59 – High geographical concentration (Q1FY26)



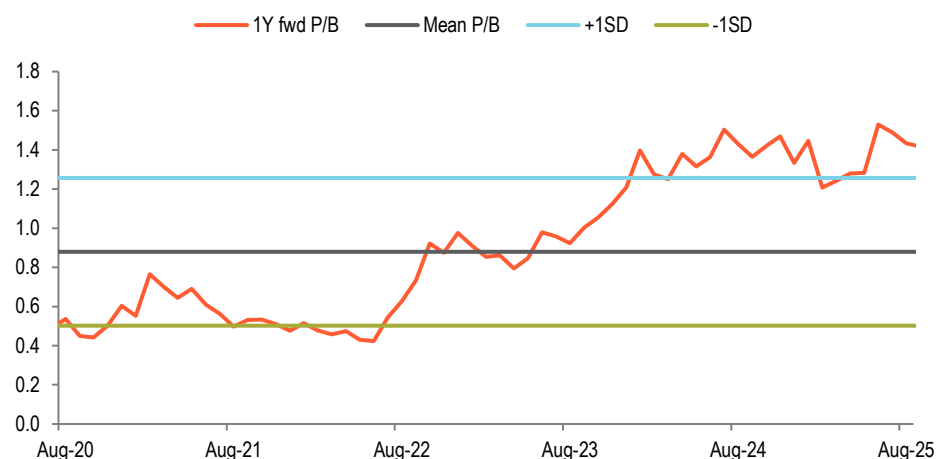
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

- **High share of jewel loans:** Jewel loans account for 27.7% of gross loans as of Jun'25. In case of any sharp correction in gold prices, it may lead to delinquency issues; however, it remains cushioned by comfortable LTV at present. Also, any regulatory changes pertaining to gold lending could impact the growth prospect of this segment.

Valuation Methodology

KVB is currently trading at 1YF P/ABV of 1.4x. Adequate capital position (CET I of 16.3% as of Jun'25), higher than system credit growth, and pristine AQ resulted in consistent outperformance vs peers in terms of return profile. We expect the bank to deliver advances CAGR of ~15% over FY25-FY28E and report healthy return ratios with RoA/ RoE of 1.7%/ 16.2% by FY28E. We initiate coverage on KVB with a BUY and TP of Rs 251 (1.5x Jun'27E ABV) vs currently trading at 1.3x Jun'27E ABV.

Fig 60 – KVB trades at 1YF P/ABV of 1.4x



Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 61 – Key assumptions

Parameter	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Advances (Growth YoY %)	16.7	14.0	14.3	14.8	14.9
Net Interest Income (Growth YoY %)	14.0	11.6	6.4	15.2	15.3
PPoP (Growth YoY %)	14.3	13.5	5.6	13.2	14.4
PAT (Growth YoY %)	45.1	21.0	5.6	15.9	16.2
NIM (%)	4.2	4.1	3.7	3.8	4.0
GNPA (%)	1.4	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.6
CAR (%)	16.7	18.2	18.7	18.8	19.0

Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 62 – Valuation summary

Gordon growth model	Assumptions
Cost of equity (%)	11.5
Blended ROE (%)	13.7
Initial high growth period (yrs)	10.0
Payout ratio of high-growth phase (%)	15.0
Long-term growth (%)	3.4
Long term dividend payout ratio (%)	75.0
Justified P/BV Multiple (x)	1.5

Source: BOBCAPS Research

Financials

Income Statement

Y/E 31 Mar (Rs mn)	FY24A	FY25A	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Net interest income	38,184	42,599	45,328	52,207	60,193
NII growth (%)	14.0	11.6	6.4	15.2	15.3
Non-interest income	16,495	18,296	20,009	21,713	23,566
Total income	54,679	60,895	65,337	73,920	83,759
Operating expenses	26,388	28,771	31,423	35,525	39,823
PPOP	28,291	32,123	33,914	38,395	43,937
PPOP growth (%)	14.3	13.5	5.6	13.2	14.4
Provisions	7,290	6,216	6,571	6,703	7,106
PBT	21,002	25,907	27,343	31,692	36,830
Tax	4,954	6,491	6,836	7,923	9,208
Reported net profit	16,048	19,416	20,507	23,769	27,623
Adjustments	0	0	0	0	0
Adjusted net profit	16,048	19,416	20,507	23,769	27,623

Balance Sheet

Y/E 31 Mar (Rs mn)	FY24A	FY25A	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Equity capital	1,931	1,932	1,933	1,933	1,933
Reserves & surplus	98,470	1,17,363	1,35,409	1,56,326	1,80,634
Net worth	1,00,401	1,19,295	1,37,342	1,58,259	1,82,567
Deposits	8,91,127	10,20,780	11,65,731	13,37,093	15,36,320
Borrowings	24,784	12,170	14,239	15,663	17,385
Other liab. & provisions	38,221	41,429	37,896	28,784	19,912
Total liab. & equities	10,54,533	11,93,674	13,55,207	15,39,798	17,56,184
Cash & bank balance	56,586	78,067	85,274	92,604	1,03,443
Investments	2,23,435	2,38,313	2,69,976	3,02,661	3,41,509
Advances	7,36,675	8,40,045	9,60,172	11,02,277	12,66,517
Fixed & Other assets	37,837	37,249	39,786	42,256	44,716
Total assets	10,54,533	11,93,674	13,55,207	15,39,798	17,56,184
Deposit growth (%)	16.3	14.5	14.2	14.7	14.9
Advances growth (%)	16.7	14.0	14.3	14.8	14.9

Per Share

Y/E 31 Mar (Rs)	FY24A	FY25A	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
EPS	16.6	20.1	21.2	24.6	28.6
Dividend per share	2.0	2.2	2.5	3.0	3.4
Book value per share	104.0	123.5	142.1	163.8	188.9

Valuations Ratios

Y/E 31 Mar (x)	FY24A	FY25A	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
P/E	12.8	10.6	10.1	8.7	7.5
P/BV	2.1	1.7	1.5	1.3	1.1
Dividend yield (%)	0.9	1.0	1.2	1.4	1.6

DuPont Analysis

Y/E 31 Mar (%)	FY24A	FY25A	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
Net interest income	3.9	3.8	3.6	3.6	3.7
Non-interest income	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.4
Operating expenses	2.7	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.4
Pre-provisioning profit	2.9	2.9	2.7	2.7	2.7
Provisions	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.4
PBT	2.1	2.3	2.1	2.2	2.2
Tax	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.6
ROA	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.7
Leverage (x)	10.5	10.2	9.9	9.8	9.7
ROE	17.2	17.7	16.0	16.1	16.2

Ratio Analysis

Y/E 31 Mar	FY24A	FY25A	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E
YoY growth (%)					
Net interest income	14.0	11.6	6.4	15.2	15.3
Pre-provisioning profit	14.3	13.5	5.6	13.2	14.4
EPS	44.7	20.8	5.6	15.9	16.2
Profitability & Return ratios (%)					
Net interest margin	4.2	4.1	3.7	3.8	4.0
Fees / Avg. assets	22.0	21.5	22.3	22.9	23.5
Cost-Income	48.3	47.2	48.1	48.1	47.5
ROE	17.2	17.7	16.0	16.1	16.2
ROA	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.7
Asset quality (%)					
GNPA	1.4	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.6
NNPA	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1
Slippage ratio	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.8
Credit cost	1.1	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.6
Provision coverage	71.1	74.0	73.9	74.9	75.4
Ratios (%)					
Credit-Deposit	82.7	82.3	82.4	82.4	82.4
Investment-Deposit	25.1	23.3	23.2	22.6	22.2
CAR	16.7	18.2	18.7	18.8	19.0
Tier-1	15.5	17.1	17.6	17.9	18.2

Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

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Recommendation scale: Recommendations and Absolute returns (%) over 12 months

BUY – Expected return >+15%

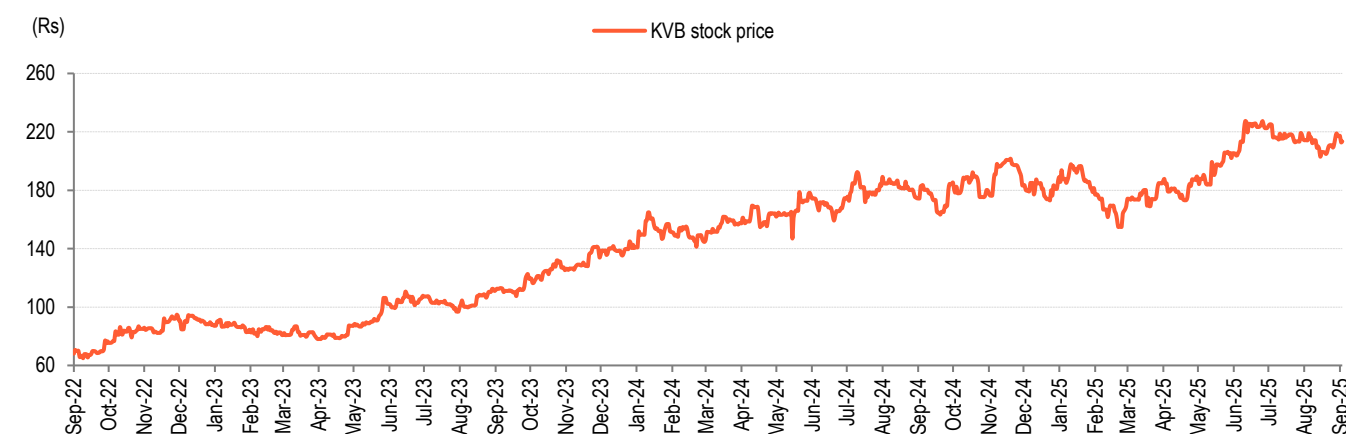
HOLD – Expected return from -6% to +15%

SELL – Expected return <-6%

Note: Recommendation structure changed with effect from 21 June 2021

Our recommendation scale does not factor in short-term stock price volatility related to market fluctuations. Thus, our recommendations may not always be strictly in line with the recommendation scale as shown above.

Ratings and Target Price (3-year history): KARUR VYSYA BANK (KVB IN)



B – Buy, H – Hold, S – Sell, A – Add, R – Reduce

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