EPS: ▼ TP: ▼



## HDFC Bank----- Downgrade to NEUTRAL

### Limited upside after substantial outperformance

Aditya Singhania / Research Analyst / 91 22 6777 3718 / aditya.singhania@credit-suisse.com Srinivasan R / Research Analyst / 91 22 6777 3809 / srinivasan.r@credit-suisse.com Deepak Ramineedi / Research Analyst / 91 22 6777 3942 / deepak.ramineedi@credit-suisse.com

- We revise our target price for HDFC Bank to Rs1,209 (from Rs1,275) and downgrade our rating to Neutral.
- HDFC Bank's 2Q net profit was 2% below our estimates NIMs and growth were in line with expectations, but savings deposits growth disappointed slightly; asset quality saw slight deterioration – net NPLs rose 18% QoQ, but remained solid at 0.6%
- A challenging economic environment is likely to result in slightly weaker growth than expected earlier. We reduce our earnings estimate by 4-10% in FY3/09-10, factoring in 1-5% lower loan growth and lower fees, partly offset by lower operating expenses
- We continue to value HDFC Bank on a DDM with 15% CoE and reduce our target price to Rs1,209 (from Rs1,275), based on our earnings changes. Our target price implies 2.5x FY3/10 BV.
- We remain UNDERWEIGHT on the financial sector. Within the sector, HDFC Bank remains one of our preferred picks as it is best positioned in an economic slowdown due to its robust deposits franchise, diversified revenue mix and conservative management.

3					
Bbg/RIC HDFCB	IN / HDBK.BO	Price (16 0	Oct 08, Rs)		1,134.45
Rating (prev. rating)	N (O)	TP (Rs) (p	rev. TP)	1,20	9 (1,275)
Shares outstanding (mn)	425.03	Est. pot. %	chg. to TP		7
Daily trad vol-6m avg (mn)		52-wk rang		1787.90	0 - 903.60
Daily trad val-6m avg (US\$ i	mn) 2.4	Mkt cap (R	s/US\$ bn)	48	82.2/ 10.0
Free float (%)	78.0	Performar	nce 1M	3M	12M
Major shareholders H	DFC Ltd (22%)	Absolute	(5.8)	23.8	(23.9)
		Relative	17.9	45.2	34.2
Year	3/07A	3/08A	3/09E	3/10E	3/11E
Pre-provisioning profit (Rs m	nn) 26,334	35,229	54,446	72,381	97,827
Net profit (Rs mn)	11,415	15,902	23,150	31,570	44,120
EPS (Rs)	34.7	44.4	49.4	67.4	94.2
- Change from prev. EPS (%	6) n.a.	n.a.	-4	-10	-6
- Consensus EPS (Rs)	n.a.	n.a.	53.3	70.9	93.9
EPS growth (%)	29.0	28.0	11.2	36.4	39.8
P/E (x)	32.7	25.5	22.9	16.8	12.0
Dividend yield (%)	0.6	0.7	0.8	1.0	1.1
BVPS (Rs)	201	324	368	480	563
P/B (x)	5.6	3.5	3.1	2.4	2.0
ROE (%)	19.5	16.2	14.6	16.8	18.7
ROA (%)	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.6
Tier 1 (%)	8.6	10.3	8.8	9.9	9.3

Note 1: Ord/ADR=3. Note 2: HDFC Bank is the second largest private sector bank in India, with a strong position in corporate banking and treasury, and retail banking segments. It is 22% owned by HDFC Limited, the oldest mortgage finance company in India.

### Reduce target price to Rs1,209; downgrade to NEUTRAL

We cut earnings by 4-10% over FY3/09-10, respectively, for HDFC Bank factoring in lower loan growth (26% in FY3/10) and fee income growth. We continue to value HDFC Bank on a dividend discount model with 15% cost of equity and reduce our target price to Rs1,209 (from Rs1,275) due to change in earnings. Our target price implies 2.5x FY3/10 BV. We believe the premium valuation for HDFC Bank is justified owing to the superior asset quality and liability franchise of HDFC Bank and the lowest risks to earnings despite the headwinds being faced by the sector. However, our revised target price implies

modest 7% upside after impressive outperformance, especially over the last three months. Hence, we downgrade to NEUTRAL.

Figure 1: Earnings change summary								
	FY09			FY10				
(Rs mn)	Revised	Earlier	% chg.	Revised	Earlier	% chg.		
Net interest income	80,235	85,675	(6.3)	103,727	116,066	(10.6)		
Fee income	33,596	34,507	(2.6)	42,329	44,308	(4.5)		
Total op ex	59,384	64,255	(7.6)	73,675	81,959	(10.1)		
Pre prov Op profit	54,446	55,927	(2.6)	72,381	78,415	(7.7)		
Loan loss provision	19,059	18,975	0.4	27,097	28,023	(3.3)		
Operating profits	34,388	35,952	(4.4)	45,284	50,392	(10.1)		
PAT	23,150	24,225	(4.4)	31,570	35,079	(10.0)		
EPS (Rs/sh)	49.4	51.7	(4.4)	67.4	74.9	(10.0)		
BVPS (Rs/sh)	368.2	370.7	(0.7)	480.0	490.1	(2.1)		
ROF	14 6%	15.2%	(58)	16.8%	18 4%	(159)		

Source: Company data, Credit Suisse estimates.

### 2Q results marginally weaker than expectations

HDFC Bank reported 2Q net profits marginally below our estimates. NII was in line with expectations at 8% QoQ, with margins expanding 10 bp. Fee income was 6% ahead of our estimates, though total non-interest income was 10% below – primarily on account of customer forex revenues, an item which is volatile quarterly. Operating expenses were 2% higher than estimates (up 8% QoQ), with salaries rising 13% QoQ, primarily driven by significant branch expansion (15% added QoQ). Asset quality saw a slight deterioration with gross NPLs rising 12% QoQ to 1.6%. Management indicated a modest increase in delinquencies in one-two retail segments and a slight increase in SME NPLs. Savings deposits growth was modest at 3% QoQ and CASA ratio declined 90 bp to 44%, likely reflecting industry trends.

Figure 2: 2Q09 results summary							
(Rs mn)	2Q09	2Q08	% YoY	1Q09	% QoQ	2Q09E	% Diff.
Net interest income	18,665	11,627	61%	17,235	8%	18,415	1%
Fee income	5,873	3,919	50%	5,112	15%	5,565	6%
Forex income	675	387	74%	1,574	-57%	1,355	-50%
Total income	25,096	16,451	53%	23,169	8%	25,542	-2%
Salaries	(6,116)	(3,190)	92%	(5,406)	13%	(5,583)	10%
Total op expenses	(13,867)	(8,184)	69%	(12,894)	8%	(13,573)	2%
Pre-provision profits	11,228	8,267	36%	10,275	9%	11,969	-6%
Loan loss provisions	(3,373)	(2,732)	23%	(3,244)	4%	(3,825)	-12%
Other provisions	(87)	(162)	-46%	(201)	-57%	(243)	-64%
Pre-tax profits	7,768	5,373	45%	6,830	14%	7,901	-2%
Tax	(2,488)	(1,688)	47%	(2,187)	14%	(2,498)	0%
Profit after tax	5,280	3,685	43%	4,643	14%	5,403	-2%
Loans (Rs bn)	1,022	623	64%	968	6%		
Deposits (Rs bn)	1,338	911	47%	1,309	2%		
NIM (bp)	420	400	20	410	10		
Cost to income	55.3%	49.7%	551	55.7%	-39		
CASA ratio	44.0%	52.5%	-848	44.9%	-81		
Gross NPL	16,759	7,683	118%	15,027	12%		
Net NPL	5,841	2,437	140%	4,961	18%		
Gross NPL (%)	1.57%	1.20%	37	1.50%	7		
Net NPL (%)	0.57%	0.40%	17	0.50%	7		

Source: Company data, Credit Suisse estimates.

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Companies Mentioned (Price as of 16 Oct 08) HDFC Bank (HDBK.BO, Rs1134.45, NEUTRAL, TP Rs1209.00)

### **Disclosure Appendix**

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### 3-Year Price, Target Price and Rating Change History Chart for HDBK.BO

HDBK.BO	Closing Price	Target Price		Initiation/		\.\1697\
Date	(INR)	(INR)	Rating	Assumption	1606	\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\
20-Oct-06	960.85	990	N			1510 💻 🛴 📉
11-Dec-06	1034			X	1406	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
15-Feb-07	1,041.85	955				
28-Sep-07	1,439.05	1510	0		1206	h
24-Jan-08	1,507.2	1697			1006	AND THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPER
9-Jul-08	1,058.75	1275			1000	990 N 955
					806	
		INR 606	11-Dec-06 ◆			
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O=Outperform; N=Neutral; U=Underperform; R=Restricted; NR=Not Rated; NC=Not Covered

♦ Initiation/Assumption

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Restricted 2%

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Price Target: (12 months) for (HDBK.BO)

**Method:** We are valuing HDFC Bank at Rs1209, on a dividend discount model (DDM) based on a sustainable ROE of 21-22% beyond FY3/10, a risk free rate of 9.5%, equity risk premium of 5.5% and a terminal growth of 5%.

**Risks:** Key upside risks to our target price of Rs1209 for HDFC Bank are favourable Basel II guidelines, sustainable higher RoEs on use of hybrid capital, M&A activity in the longer-term. Downside risks are a reversal in asset environment, significant increase in competition, high stock valuations and significant slowdown in consumer lending.

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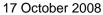
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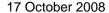
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