



**INDIA**

**India Econ Flash**

**1QFY09 GDP up 7.9%; Revise FY09 and FY10 GDP to 7.5% and 7.4%**

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**Quarterly GDP Growth — Forecasts and Actual (Percent)**

Event	Actual	Citi Forecast	Consensus	Previous Data (4QFY08)	Previous Data(3QFY08)
1QFY09	7.9	7.6	8.0	8.8	8.8

\* April Production revised from 7% to 6.2%\*Source: CSO, Bloomberg, and Citi

- **1Q FY09 GDP rose 7.9%** v/s 8.8% last quarter and 9.2% in 1QFY08. Growth was led by agri up 3%, industry up 6.9% and services up 10%. GDP by expenditure indicates that while consumption growth at 7.9% was higher than trends in 1QFY08, investments growth decelerated to 9%- the first time below double-digits since 4QFY03. We expect these trends to continue in FY09.
- **FY09 estimates revised from 7.7% to 7.5%:** Taking into account the latest monsoon/crop sowing data, we revised down our agri estimates from 3% to 2% in FY09. Looking at GDP by expenditure, despite higher rates, we believe that the fiscal stimuli (tax breaks, pay commission and farm debt waiver) will partially offset the interest impact on the consumption side. As regards investments, tight liquidity conditions (both domestic and global) and rising inputs costs will likely result in fixed capital formation coming at sub 10% for the first time since FY04. Our numbers factor in one more rate hike.
- **FY10 lowered from 7.9% to 7.4%:** As mentioned in our August Macroscope<sup>1</sup> the deterioration in the global and domestic macro environment has seen India Inc adapt and innovate with a clear focus on profitability. However, the adverse macro environment is impacting growth and expansion plans, with the recent developments in Singur – the location for Tata’s Nano car project another negative<sup>2</sup>. We thus expect the deceleration in investment growth to worsen and lower our FY10 estimate to 7.0%. (see pg 2 for details). **Growth would have been lower** were it not for the buoyant savings, productivity gains, healthier balance sheets and the possibility of monetary easing next year.

**Quarterly and Annual Trends in GDP by Activity (% YoY)**

(% YoY)	Wts	FY08						Full Year		
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	FY08	FY09E	FY10E		
<b>Agriculture</b>	<b>17.8</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>3.0</b>	
<b>Industry</b>	<b>26.6</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>9.4</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>6.4</b>	
Manufacturing	15.4	5.6	10.9	9.2	9.6	5.8	8.8	6.8	6.5	
Mining	2.0	4.8	1.7	5.5	5.7	5.9	4.7	3.5	3.5	
Electricity	2.1	2.6	7.9	6.9	4.8	5.6	6.3	6.0	5.0	
Construction	7.3	11.4	7.7	11.8	7.1	12.6	9.8	8.0	7.5	
<b>Services</b>	<b>55.6</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>11.2</b>	<b>10.8</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>9.2</b>	
Trade, hotels, comm	27.5	11.2	13.1	11.0	11.5	12.4	12.0	10.5	10.0	
Financing, insurance	14.7	9.3	12.6	12.4	11.9	10.5	11.8	8.8	10.5	
Community services	13.4	8.4	5.2	7.7	6.2	9.5	7.3	8.5	6.1	
GDP at factor cost	<b>100.0</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>9.3</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>7.4</b>	

Source: CSO

<sup>1</sup> August Macroscope “Tough Times = Innovating India” dated Aug 13, 2008 at <https://www.citigroupgeo.com/pdf/SAP19196.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> Effectively summarised by Mr **Mukesh Ambani** “A fear psychosis is being created to slow down certain projects of national importance. This will be counter productive for the country’s economic growth, its global image as well as our ability to attract investments from across the world” – *Mukesh Ambani fires up in Tata’s defence, ToI dated August 28, 2008*

## FY10 – Investment Outlook less favorable

### Growth to come in at 7.5% and 7.4% in FY09 and FY10

- Trends in investments are likely to weaken as the impact of monetary tightening kicks in
- However, consumption may be shielded from a downturn due to the Sixth Pay Commission recommendations and budgetary proposal
- Our FY09 and FY10 GDP estimates of 7.5% and 7.4% incorporate a deceleration in investments to 8% and 7%, respectively from the double digit growth seen during FY04-FY08

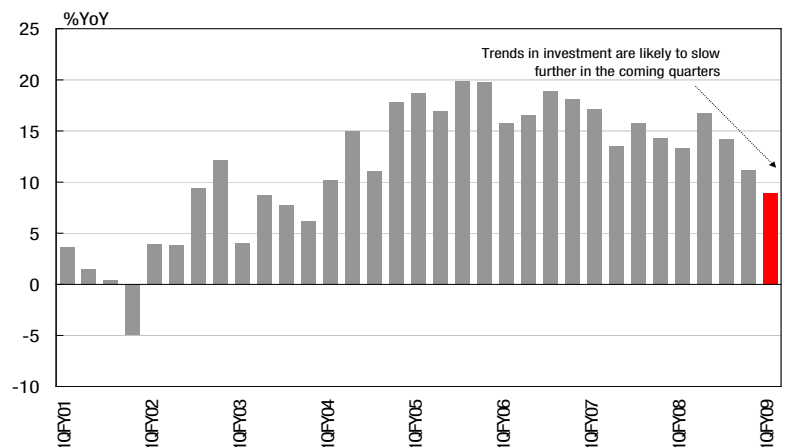
### GDP by EXPENDITURE (%)

	FY09	FY08				FY08	FY09E	FY10E
	Q1	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4			
<b>Total Consmpt (% GDP)</b>	<b>70.1</b>	<b>70.1</b>	<b>68.1</b>	<b>69.0</b>	<b>64.7</b>	<b>67.8</b>	<b>67.9</b>	<b>67.6</b>
%YoY	7.9	6.1	8.0	8.5	9.7	8.1	7.6	6.9
Pvt Consmpt (% GDP)	59.8	59.8	59.5	60.7	53.4	58.2	58.1	57.9
%YoY	8.0	7.6	7.6	9.4	8.3	8.3	7.4	7.0
Public Consmpt (% GDP)	10.3	10.3	8.7	8.3	11.2	9.6	9.7	9.7
%YoY	7.7	-2.2	10.3	2.2	16.7	7.0	8.5	6.5
<b>Gross Fixed Cap Form (%GDP)</b>	<b>32.3</b>	<b>32.0</b>	<b>33.4</b>	<b>31.0</b>	<b>31.6</b>	<b>31.9</b>	<b>32.1</b>	<b>32.0</b>
% YoY	9.0	13.3	16.7	14.3	11.2	13.8	8.0	7.0
<b>Net Exports (% to GDP)</b>	<b>-1.7</b>	<b>-1.1</b>	<b>-8.1</b>	<b>-6.4</b>	<b>-1.2</b>	<b>-4.1</b>	<b>-4.5</b>	<b>-4.1</b>
<b>Real GDP</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>7.4</b>

### The Investment Cycle May no longer be that resilient

- Investments have faced a double whammy with rising input costs on the one hand; and higher, more stringent borrowing constraints on the other.
- While companies are coping through back-to-back supply arrangements, escalation clauses and building in a buffer while bidding, the pace of growth of order books has decelerated.
- Due to upcoming elections in 2009, government spending has increased, but things could slow in coming months due to election uncertainty.

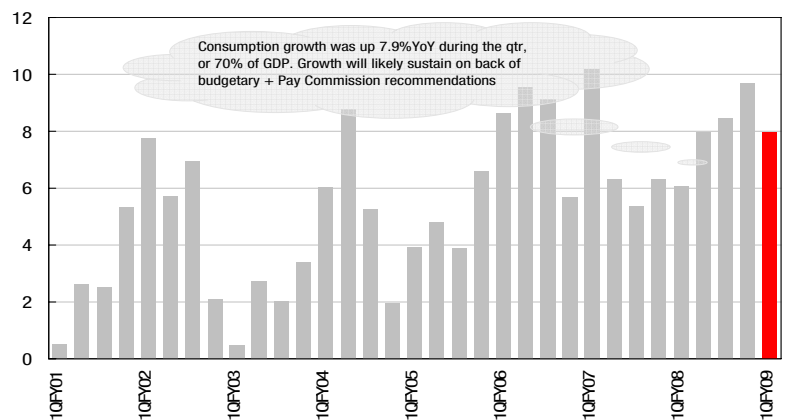
### Quarterly Trends in Investment Growth (%YoY)



### Consumption Growth could be arrested due to fiscal stimuli

- Consumption now comprises 66% of GDP from 75% a few years ago. Growth which has averaged 6-7% YoY is likely to sustain as the fiscal stimulus will likely offset higher rates and oil prices.
- On the **private** consumption side, budgetary proposals- which included increasing exemption limits for personal income tax and raising of tax slabs have resulted in an increase in disposable incomes. The farm waiver is another offset.
- As regards **public** consumption, the 6th Pay Commission recommendations would further help arrest a slump

### Quarterly Trends in Consumption Growth (%YoY)



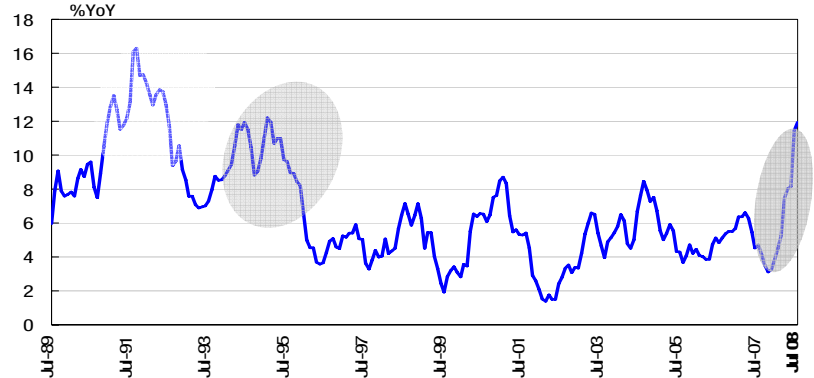
Source: CSO, CEIC Data Company, Office of the Economic Advisor

## Inflation to remain high; Stringent Borrowing Costs will Hurt with a Lag

### Inflation – Double Digit Levels to Continue for Awhile...

- Inflation, as measured by the WPI remains firmly in the double-digit range; at 12%+ levels currently
- We expect inflation to remain at double-digit levels in the coming months as (1) the base effect and potential food price easing will have an impact only next year and (2) though oil prices have eased, they are still higher than levels a year ago

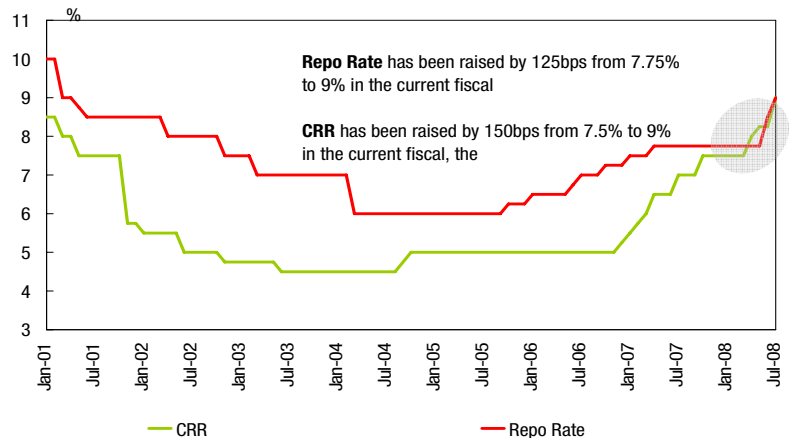
### Trends in Inflation (WPI; %YoY)



### ...Resulting in Policy Officials Prioritizing Inflation over Growth

- Given the broad-based nature of inflation, we expect the RBI to raise policy rates using a combination of repo/CRR at least once more this year.
- Ministry officials have also stated that *“the government's first priority is inflation and price stability; we may have to sacrifice a bit of growth to tackle inflation”*
- Higher policy rates coupled with more stringent credit checks are likely to take their toll on growth

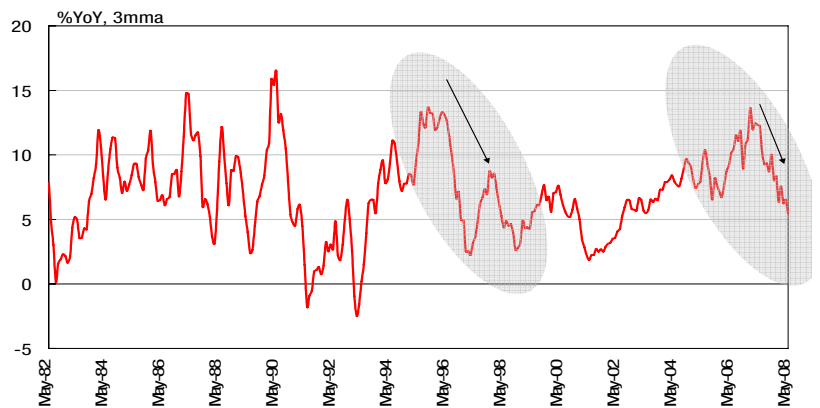
### Rates – CRR and Repo Rate are now both at 9%



### Slowing Growth: Is history repeating itself?

- Monetary tightening coupled with the current uptrend in prices has placed the RBI in a dilemma – of rising prices and slowing growth
- Added to this is the global macro-environment of de-leveraging and higher spreads – both of which are negative for countries dependent on capital
- While admittedly there are productivity improvements, strong trends in savings coupled with more efficient capital allocation and cost rationalisation...higher rates are impacting growth and expansion plans..

### Trends in Industrial Production (%YoY, 3mma)



Source: CSO, CEIC Data Company, Budget Documents

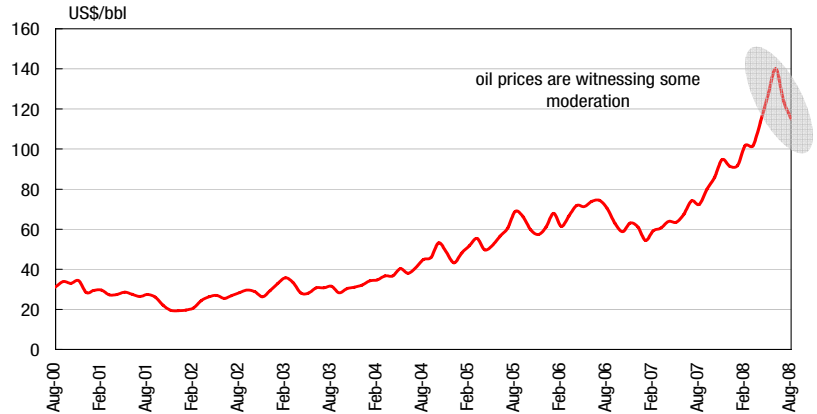
<sup>3</sup> See <https://www.citigroupgeo.com/pdf/SAP17882.pdf> for the July Macroscope “Ghost of the ‘90’s returns...How much further will India get spooked?”

## Dynamics to monitor: What Could Change our Outlook for FY10?

### Oil Prices—Joker in the Pack

- The spike in crude oil prices was one of the key reasons for the direction change seen across all the macro variables in India. If oil prices re-trace to US\$100/bbl levels; the impact on the economy would vary
- While the impact on the external and fiscal account is immediate<sup>4</sup>; given the second-round impact of inflation, prices would take a while to ease, which would keep rates at current levels. But, the impact on inflationary expectations would negate the need for much further rise in rates

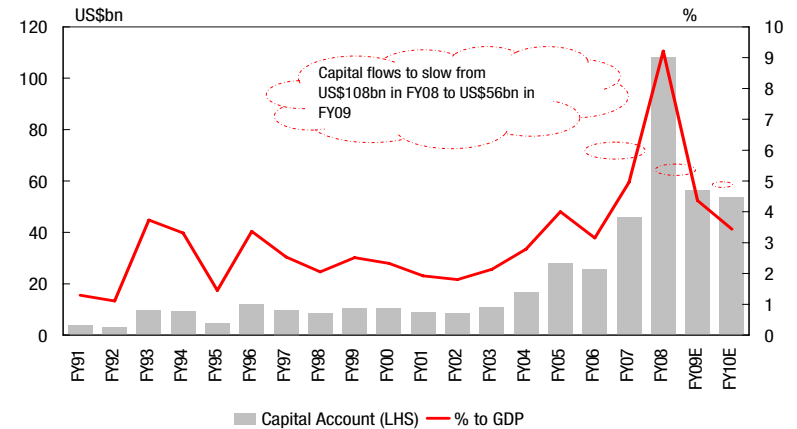
### Trends in Oil Prices (WTI; US\$/bbl)



### Capital Flows – ECB liberalisation; Global Issues

- While FY09 is likely to be a crunch time given the rise in current account deficit and lower capital flows, the pressure could ease a bit from FY10 as the new hydrocarbon discoveries by Reliance, ONGC, GSPCL and Cairn come on-stream
- Other factors to watch out for are:
  - a possibility of ECB norms being liberalized<sup>5</sup> – this would be **positive**
- Global credit crunch getting worse – which would **negatively** impact flows to EMs

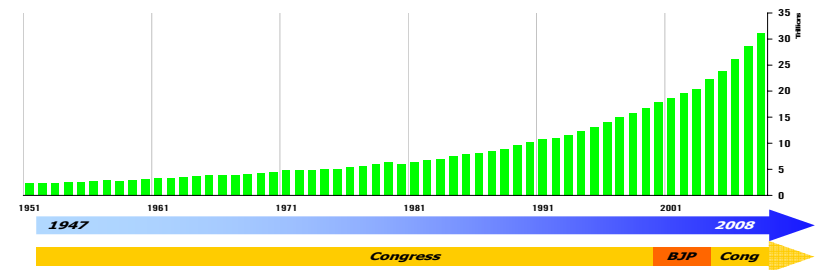
### Trends in Capital Flows (US\$bn, % GDP)



### Domestic Politics – Change in Govt

- Politics also remains a dynamic variable in our forecasts.
- While a strong Congress or BJP led government would be positive, the bets could be off if one has a messy combination

### Trends in Indian GDP (Rs trillion)



Source: CMIE, CSO, SIAM, CEIC Data Company, Office of the Economic Advisor

<sup>4</sup> What if Oil comes back to US\$100/bbl? A US\$1/bbl change increases/decreases the trade account by US\$700m and under-recovers by US\$750mn. See <https://www.citigroupgeo.com/pdf/SAP19196.pdf> for further details

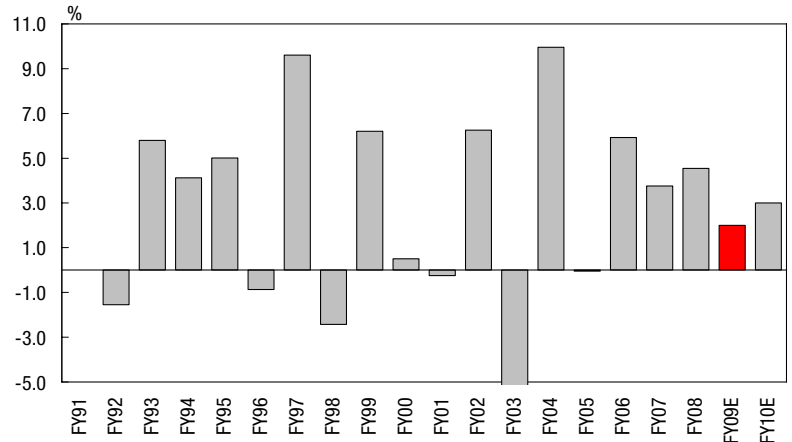
<sup>5</sup> ECB Rules: While the overall US\$500mn company ceiling remains; current ECB guidelines limit offshore borrowing to \$50m offshore for use onshore. (For infrastructure companies this is higher at US\$100mn). In addition, the all *All-in-cost* ceilings for overseas borrowings is capped at 200 bps for ECBs with maturities over 3 years and 350bps for ECBs over 5 years

## FY09 Estimates lowered mainly due to agriculture...but what could surprise

### Agriculture Growth—Will depend on Monsoons

- In recent years the monsoon impact has been muted as growth drivers were firing on all cylinders.
- While the monsoons are just 1% below normal, the rainfall trends have been a bit erratic this year
- As regards crop sowing, while rice is up 7%, all other crops are down resulting in overall crop sowing being down 5% YoY. More-over the water level in the reservoirs too has been lower. As a result we have lowered our agri estimate from 3% to 2%.

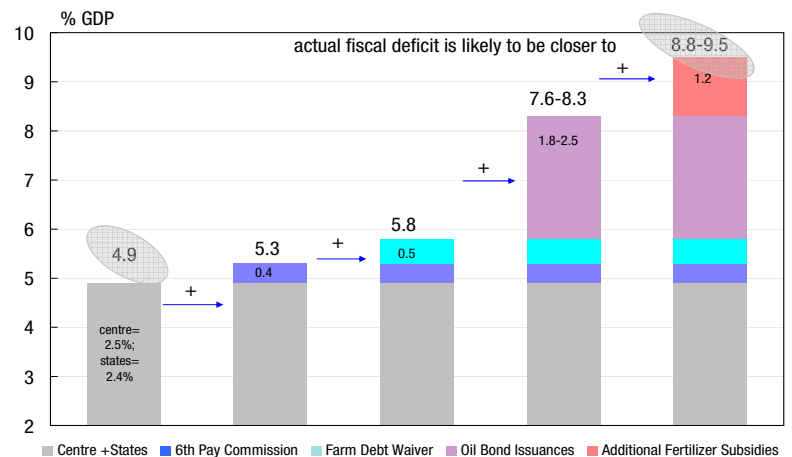
### Agricultural Growth has been fluctuating despite “normal” monsoons



### Fiscal Deficit—Off Balance Sheet Items ...Now pretty well known

- While on paper, the fiscal deficit target of 2.5% for the centre will likely be met; rising off-balance sheet items are a concern
- A key point to note is that 80% of the off-balance sheet items are due to the oil shock. Thus, oil coming off significantly from current levels could result in this scenario changing

### Fiscal Deficit for FY09: Including Off-Balance Sheet items



### Implementation of Reforms...could be a big positive

- Given that the Left is now out of the equation, the government has been pushing ahead with reforms that were earlier on the backburner.
- With elections around the corner, the UPA seems determined to expedite the reform process and rack up its scorecard.
- Key announcement so far include those on pensions, fertilizers, defense procurement
- Pending legislation in areas of divestments, insurance would help improve public finances and liquidity and are positive for growth

### Bills Pending with Lok Sabha

- The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority Bill, 2005
- The Banking Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 2005
- The Forward Contracts (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2006
- The Information Technology (Amendment) Bill, 2006
- The State Bank of India (Amendment) Bill, 2006
- The Micro Financial Sector (Development and Regulation) Bill, 2007
- Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India Bill, 2007.

Source: CMIE, CSO, SIAM, CEIC Data Company, Office of the Economic Advisor; Parliamentary Research Service

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