

CEO mtg: Comfort on asset quality & earnings; Raise PO

Strong EPS growth & comfort on asset quality; Raising PO

We recently met Ms. Chanda Kochhar, MD & CEO of ICICI Bank. We reiterate our Buy and raise our PO to Rs1200 (from Rs1075), as we think asset quality, a key investor issue, may be much better than expected. We believe a sustained demonstration by the bank in managing the credit cycle and high visibility in earnings growth (+20%) can lead to a re-rating of the stock. Further, its high Tier I capital also makes it better positioned to manage potential regulatory changes. We think the stock can re-rate to 2.0x (Bk biz.) one year forward (FY13) multiple. This is a ~10% premium to its average historical multiple over last 6-yr period; but still at 20-60% discount to many peers. It's our top pick in the sector.

Net slippages may be much lower than our est.

The most positive takeaway from the meeting was the enhanced comfort on asset quality. Consistent with past guidance, Ms. Kochhar was confident that slippages may trend down in FY13 and the worst may be behind. Further, it was reiterated that restructured loans may also not see a marked rise. Hence, we cut our gross NPL (net of recoveries) est. by ~10% and now est. 15% rise in gross NPL's (ex. w/o's) v/s 25% earlier factoring some impact of a credit cycle underway. ICICI Bank is much better positioned to manage credit cycle owing to its high share of retail loans and low % of SME loans.

~23/21% earnings growth in FY13/14E

Earnings growth to sustain at +23/21% through FY13/14E led by 1) 15-17% loan growth driven by retail loans; 2) margins on o/s basis expanding to ~2.9% (with room for upside) and 3) narrowing of fee-cost gap as fees rise while C-I ratio benefits from its expanding distribution. ROA to rise to 1.7% in FY14E. Earnings capture higher credit costs, leaving some buffer if asset quality better than est.

Estimates (Mar)

(Rs)	2010A	2011A	2012E	2013E	2014E
Net Income (Adjusted - mn)	40,250	51,514	64,653	79,707	96,385
EPS	36.13	45.45	56.11	69.14	83.61
EPS Change (YoY)	7.0%	25.8%	23.4%	23.2%	20.9%
Dividend / Share	12.00	14.00	16.50	21.00	25.00
ADR EPS (US\$)	1.52	2.00	2.04	2.51	3.03
ADR Dividend / Share (US\$)	0.506	0.615	0.599	0.762	0.907

Valuation (Mar)

	2010A	2011A	2012E	2013E	2014E
P/E	25.7x	20.5x	16.6x	13.4x	11.1x
Dividend Yield	1.29%	1.51%	1.77%	2.26%	2.69%
Pre-exceptional PE	25.74x	20.46x	16.57x	13.45x	11.12x
Price / Book	2.08x	1.95x	1.77x	1.63x	1.49x
RoE / PB	3.83x	4.96x	6.31x	7.75x	9.41x
Price / Pre-Provision Profit	10.65x	11.84x	10.32x	8.39x	6.91x

Bank of America Merrill Lynch

Equity

Rajeev Varma >> +91 22 6632 8666

Equity Research Analyst
DSP Merrill Lynch (India)
rajeev.varma@baml.com

Veekesh Gandhi >> +91 22 6632 8677

Equity Research Analyst
DSP Merrill Lynch (India)
veekesh.gandhi@baml.com

Fixed Income

Vishal Mahtani, CFA +852 2536 3134

Corporate Credit Research Analyst
Merrill Lynch (Hong Kong)
vishal.mahtani@baml.com

Stock Data

Price (Common / ADR)	Rs929.90 / US\$33.54
Price Objective	Rs1,200 / US\$44.00
Date Established	10-Jul-2012 / 10-Jul-2012
Investment Opinion	C-1-7 / C-1-7
Volatility Risk	HIGH / HIGH
52-Week Range	Rs641.00-Rs1,084
Market Value (mn)	US\$19,282
Market Value (mn)	Rs1,071,961
Shares Outstanding (mn)	1,152.8 / 576.4
Average Daily Volume	4,199,474
BofAML Ticker / Exchange	ICIJF / BSE
BofAML Ticker / Exchange	IBN / NYS
Bloomberg / Reuters	ICICIBC IN / ICBK.BO
ROE (2012E)	11.2%
Total Dbt to Cap (Mar-2011A)	NA
Est. 5-Yr EPS / DPS Growth	24.0% / 12.0%
Free Float	74.0%

Key Changes

(Rs)	Previous	Current
Price Obj.	1,075.00	1,200.00
2013E EPS	69.05	69.14
2014E EPS	81.46	83.61

>> Employed by a non-US affiliate of MLPF&S and is not registered/qualified as a research analyst under the FINRA rules.

Refer to "Other Important Disclosures" for information on certain BofA Merrill Lynch entities that take responsibility for this report in particular jurisdictions.

BofA Merrill Lynch does and seeks to do business with companies covered in its research reports. As a result, investors should be aware that the firm may have a conflict of interest that could affect the objectivity of this report. Investors should consider this report as only a single factor in making their investment decision.

Refer to important disclosures on page 19 to 23. Analyst Certification on Page 16. Price Objective Basis/Risk on page 16. Link to Definitions on page 16.11181680

*iQprofile*SM ICICI Bank

Key Income Statement Data (Mar)	2010A	2011A	2012E	2013E	2014E
(Rs Millions)					
Net Interest Income	81,144	90,169	107,342	129,524	152,420
Net Fee Income	59,369	64,315	67,070	75,906	90,158
Securities Gains / (Losses)	8,662	(2,022)	(130.00)	2,000	2,500
Other Income	6,746	4,186	8,088	9,705	11,452
Total Non-Interest Income	74,777	66,479	75,028	87,611	104,110
Total Operating Income	155,920	156,648	182,369	217,135	256,530
Operating Expenses	(58,598)	(66,173)	(78,504)	(89,418)	(101,496)
Pre-Provision Profit	97,322	90,475	103,865	127,717	155,035
Provisions Expense	(43,869)	(22,868)	(15,830)	(18,529)	(23,001)
Operating Profit	54,036	67,854	91,134	112,238	134,587
Non-Operating Income	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Pre-Tax Income	53,453	67,607	88,034	109,188	132,034
Net Income to Comm S/Hold.	40,250	51,514	64,653	79,707	96,385
Adjusted Net Income (Operating)	40,250	51,514	64,653	79,707	96,385

Key Balance Sheet Data

Total Assets	3,633,997	4,062,337	4,736,471	5,269,239	6,010,037
Average Interest Earning Assets	3,381,543	3,542,080	4,074,916	4,626,113	5,185,495
Weighted Risk Assets	2,941,810	3,414,980	3,985,860	4,685,389	5,603,720
Total Gross Customer Loans	1,812,056	2,163,659	2,537,277	2,943,049	3,514,816
Total Customer Deposits	2,020,166	2,256,021	2,555,000	2,852,328	3,277,998
Tier 1 Capital	410,620	449,750	505,180	546,562	597,322
Tangible Equity	515,024	550,906	604,029	656,623	720,730
Common Shareholders' Equity	516,184	550,906	604,029	656,623	720,730

Key Metrics

Net Interest Margin	2.40%	2.55%	2.63%	2.80%	2.94%
Tier 1 Ratio	14.0%	13.2%	12.7%	11.7%	10.7%
Effective Tax Rate	24.7%	23.8%	26.6%	27.0%	27.0%
Loan / Assets Ratio	47.9%	51.0%	51.6%	53.8%	56.4%
Loan / Deposit Ratio	86.2%	91.9%	95.7%	99.4%	103.4%
Oper Leverage (Inc Growth - Cost Growth)	14.5%	-12.5%	-2.2%	5.2%	4.6%
Gearing (Assets / Equity)	7.0x	7.4x	7.8x	8.0x	8.3x
Tangible Common Equity / Assets	14.2%	13.6%	12.8%	12.5%	12.0%
Tangible Common Equity / WRAs	17.5%	16.1%	15.2%	14.0%	12.9%
Revenue Growth	-2.4%	0.5%	16.4%	19.1%	18.1%
Operating Expense Growth	-16.8%	12.9%	18.6%	13.9%	13.5%
Provisions Expense Growth	15.2%	-47.9%	-30.8%	17.0%	24.1%
Operating Revenue / Average Assets	4.2%	4.1%	4.1%	4.3%	4.5%
Operating Expenses / Average Assets	1.6%	1.7%	1.8%	1.8%	1.8%
Pre-Provision ROA	2.6%	2.4%	2.4%	2.6%	2.7%
ROA	1.1%	1.3%	1.5%	1.6%	1.7%
Pre-Provision ROE	19.2%	17.0%	18.0%	20.3%	22.5%
ROE	8.0%	9.7%	11.2%	12.6%	14.0%
RoTE	7.8%	9.4%	10.7%	12.1%	13.4%
RoWRAs	1.4%	1.5%	1.6%	1.7%	1.7%
Dividend Payout Ratio	33.2%	30.8%	29.4%	30.4%	29.9%
Efficiency Ratio	39.8%	41.7%	43.0%	41.6%	40.0%
Headline Cost/Income Ratio	37.6%	42.2%	43.0%	41.2%	39.6%
Total Non-Interest Inc / Operating Inc	48%	42%	41%	40%	41%
Market-Related Revenue / Total Revenues	5.6%	-1.3%	-0.1%	0.9%	1.0%
Provisioning Burden as % of PPP	45.1%	25.3%	15.2%	14.5%	14.8%
NPLs plus Foreclosed Real Estate / Loans	5.4%	4.8%	3.9%	3.7%	3.4%
Loan Loss Reserves / NPLs	74.6%	90.7%	96.0%	101.4%	109.1%
Loan Loss Reserves / Total Loans	4.1%	4.4%	3.7%	3.8%	3.7%
Provisions Expense / Average Loans	2.3%	1.2%	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%

Other Metrics

Income / Employee	12.47	12.05	13.51	15.51	17.69
(Operating Expenses) / Employee	4.69	5.09	5.82	6.39	7.00
Pre-Provision Profit / Employee	7.79	6.96	7.69	9.12	10.69
Net Profit / Employee	3.22	3.96	4.79	5.69	6.65

Company Description

ICICI, originally set up to provide direct finance for development of industrial projects, is India's leading financial institution. It has built a strong retail franchise to complement its corporate banking activities and capitalize on the fast growing retail market. It has a multi-channel distribution network, wide product range and a strong brand. Managing growth is the key issue.

Investment Thesis

We are bullish on ICICI Bank as it has built a strong retail franchise to complement its corporate banking activities and capitalize on the fast growing retail market. It has a multi-channel distribution network, wide product range and a strong brand. Other positives - risk-return attractive, beneficiary of macro cycle, rapid gain in market share on distribution leverage and customer acquisition.

Stock Data

Shares / ADR	2.00
Price to Book Value	1.8x

Key Changes (ADR)

(US\$)	Previous	Current
Price Obj.	41.00	44.00
2013E EPS	2.50	2.51
2014E EPS	2.95	3.03

Meeting with the CEO of ICICI Bank

We met with Ms. Chanda Kochhar, CEO of ICICI Bank to get her perspective on the overall outlook for both the bank and India and also the bank's future strategy.

Our meeting reinforced our positive stance on ICICI Bank. We believe the bank remains well positioned to not only manage the current credit cycle underway; but to also sustain a +20% earnings growth trajectory for the next few years. Key takeaways are:

- **Loan growth** through FY13/14 is likely to remain at +15-17%, rising to possibly ~19-20% in FY14. Moreover, loan growth may be ~20% in the domestic book, driven by corporate, mortgage and autos.
- **Margins**, after jumping to 3% in the 4QFY12, may sustain around these level on an incremental basis (barring 1Q13 decline by ~10-15bps qoq on priority sector lending), as the bank changes its loan mix and also gets the full benefit of the "absence of securitization drag" seen in FY12. On an overall basis, margins are forecast to expand from ~2.7% to +2.9% in FY13.
- Ms. Kochhar remains confident in the bank's ability to sustain **CASA** levels at +39-40% average, as the bank leverages its expanding distribution and continues to ramp up its customer base. The bank is adding about ~225,000 customers / month.
- The most encouraging aspect is that Ms. Kochhar remains confident of **managing asset quality very well**. Ms. Kochhar believes slippages are likely to trend in FY13 and the worst may be behind the bank. Based on our meeting, we think there is reasonable upside to our forecasts. Hence, we cut our gross NPL's (closing) by 9% and now forecast only a 10% rise v/s 19% earlier. Importantly, we are still penciling gross slippages of Rs40bn for FY13 (v/s Rs30bn done in FY12) as we still try to build in some impact of the credit cycle underway.
- **Restructured loans** is an area where, at the sector level, we expect a spurt in restructured loans. However, in this area too, the bank clarified that it may not see a marked rise. Most of the restructured loans, as expected, are likely to be from power and infra projects – but may be visible only from mid-FY14 onwards. We also expect restructured loans to be around 2.7-2.8% of loans.
- The bank remains committed to pursuing its **overseas strategy**. As indicated by Ms. Kochhar, it is not likely to compromise on margins (at ~1.5%) for growth. While the bank is guiding for flattish growth overseas, we think they may end the year with ~5-6% growth as Indian corporates seek more loans from Indian banks / substitute loans from foreign banks with Indian bank loans. More importantly, the bank has minimal ALM mismatch on its international book. It has about ~US\$2.5-2.8bn of liabilities re-pricing in FY13; and the bank has a similar amount of asset re-pricing. Further, it has excess B/s liquidity of ~US\$900mn to meet any short-term ALM mismatches.
- The bank is **not in a hurry to unlock value or monetize its stake** in the life insurance subsidiary given that it does not need any capital. For other subsidiaries, the bank may need to infuse capital in the general insurance venture owing to the step-up in regulatory solvency ratios.

We raise our PO to Rs1200 (from Rs1075) following our meeting owing to the enhanced comfort on asset quality which has been the key issue for investors relating to the bank owing to its project finance exposure. We believe the bank is likely to manage the credit cycle much better owing to its lower share of SME loans and high share of retail (that is least vulnerable).

Further, the meeting also reinforced our view on the bank's ability to sustain earnings growth at +20% through FY13/14. Finally, we believe the bank, by virtue of its high Tier I capital, is also better positioned to manage future regulatory changes that may occur.

We believe the stock can re-rate as the bank delivers ahead of expectations on asset quality, which has been a key investor concern. Furthermore, as detailed inside, the bank is also well positioned to manage any ALM mismatch on its international book.

Hence, we think the stock can, arguably, re-rate to 2.0x (Bk biz.) one year forward (FY13) multiple. This is a ~10% premium to its average historical multiple over the last 6-yr period. But it is still at a 10% to 65% discount to most other private banks. Our PO includes Rs218/shr. value of subs.

Less bullish on the bank's debt (Vishal Mahtani)

We are, however, less positive on the bank's traded debt. **Our debt analyst Vishal Mahtani** had downgraded the ICICI senior bonds back in late April from OW-70% to OW-30% based on valuations and on supply expectations in senior in order to refi the upcoming USD1.7bn ICICI Bahrain bond (October 2012 maturity) and overhang from a potential sovereign rating downgrade. ICICI is the largest issuer in the Indian bank bond sector and has some of the more liquid issues. We attach the link to the debt report.

<http://research1.ml.com/C?q=ebKb54Yo3RIFWLN-mY1bYA&e=vishal.mahtani%40baml.com&h=d40Lqw>

Raise FY14 EPS; ~23/21% growth in FY13E/14E

In light of our meeting with Ms. Kochhar, we have raised our earnings estimate by ~3% for FY14 (largely maintain FY13e) factoring in higher fee traction. We believe ICICI Bank will deliver earnings growth of ~23/21% in FY13/14 factoring in a credit cycle and moderation in loan growth. Earnings visibility for FY13 driven by margin uptick from no securitization drag and retail loan growth normalizing, as unsecured book runs down.

- Topline growth estimated at +20/18% in FY13/14 driven by +16/19% loan growth and moreover, margins rising by +15bps in FY13, as there is no securitization drag and retail growth (high yields) props up the margins.
- Fee growth to be +13/18% in FY13/14E, marginally lower than the B/s growth as corporate fees continue to be sluggish. Cost Income ratio estimated at ~42% in FY13, lower than 43% in FY12, as the bank benefits from operating leverage from recently expanded distribution.
- Finally, we still estimate credit costs at ~70bps for FY13/14 driven by ~70% rise in slippages, by our calculations. Coverage forecast to be flat at +85%. Net NPLs at <0.5% through FY14E.

Asset quality (slippages) may surprise

The most encouraging aspect, in our view, is that asset quality continues to be very manageable. This remains one of the most contentious and challenging issue at the sector level, especially for banks having project finance / infra exposures. We think it may surprise for ICICI Bank.

ICICI Bank's total exposure to projects under implementation is, on our estimates, around ~10-12% as of FY12. Its total Infra. exposure (including power sector) is ~12.4% and power exposure is about ~5%.

The bank continues to focus on cleaning up its balance sheet, as and when required. A case in point is its recent sale of its Kingfisher debt to SREI. The KF debt has already been recognized as a NPL by many banks. The bank sold the KF debt without taking any "haircut". In fact, we understand that the bank also managed to receiver some penal interest. This is because the bank had additional collateral unlike many other banks.

Also, the bank's low exposure to SME sector bodes well. In our view, SME is currently witnessing the biggest stress arising from both high domestic rates and also the worsening of the global environment hurting Indian exports.

Further, as shown in the table below, even in FY12E (as in FY11), almost 63% of its NPLs are still coming from its legacy retail loans, primarily its personal loan portfolio where NPLs are estimated at +9%. This implies is that even if we were to assume a sharp jump in NPLs from some of the sectors seeing greater stress like textiles, parts of construction and also include parts of the infra loans (to power sector), the overall rise in slippages is likely to be less than the 20% rise we are estimating. This corroborates with the banks' view that overall slippages may have peaked.

Table 1: NPL / Loan Mix Table- ICICI Bank

ICICI NPLs -Loans	NPLs			Loan			NPL Mix			Loan Mix			NPL / Segment		
	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY10	FY11	FY12
Retail finance	64,730	66,350	59,790	831,190	890,740	953,930	67.2%	65.6%	62.5%	44.4%	39.7%	36.4%	7.8%	7.4%	6.3%
Wholesale/retail trade	2,170	3,850	2,120	44,470	52,000	50,600	2.3%	3.8%	2.2%	2.4%	2.3%	1.9%	4.9%	7.4%	4.2%
Food and beverages	1,620	2,880	2,640	61,540	70,630	67,790	1.7%	2.8%	2.8%	3.3%	3.1%	2.6%	2.6%	4.1%	3.9%
Services – finance	2,430	2,300	1,070	64,560	161,430	156,410	2.5%	2.3%	1.1%	3.4%	7.2%	6.0%	3.8%	1.4%	0.7%
Textiles	1,900	2,250	1,840	19,160	21,010	21,010	2.0%	2.2%	1.9%	1.0%	0.9%	0.8%	9.9%	10.7%	NA
Chemicals and fertilizers	2,470	2,050	1,560	46,270	29,240	34,980	2.6%	2.0%	1.6%	2.5%	1.3%	1.3%	5.3%	7.0%	4.5%
Electronics and engineering	690	680	2,380	31,540	44,720	56,610	0.7%	0.7%	2.5%	1.7%	2.0%	2.2%	2.2%	1.5%	4.2%
Automobiles	590	550	180	166,238	178,148	190,786	0.6%	0.5%	0.2%	8.9%	7.9%	7.3%	0.4%	0.3%	0.1%
Services – non finance	380	380	390	135,210	173,360	194,810	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	7.2%	7.7%	7.4%	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%
Power	140	180	90	56,490	98,110	141,240	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	3.0%	4.4%	5.4%	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%
Iron/steel and metals	2,110	1,470	2,060	90,830	113,620	170,500	2.2%	1.5%	2.2%	4.8%	5.1%	6.5%	2.3%	1.3%	1.2%
Other Industries	17,030	18,140	21,510	325,642	411,142	582,094	17.7%	17.9%	22.5%	17.4%	18.3%	22.2%	5.2%	4.4%	3.7%
Total	96,260	101,080	95,630	1,873,140	2,244,150	2,620,760	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	5.1%	4.5%	3.6%

Source: BofA Merrill Lynch Global Research estimates

Table 2: Stock of distressed loans (estimates)

As % of total loans (%)	FY12	FY13	FY14
Gross NPL's (% of loans)	3.6%	3.5%	3.2%
Restructured Loans (% of loans)	1.6%	2.1%	2.6%
Total Distressed Loan (% of loans)	5.3%	5.6%	5.8%

Source: BofA Merrill Lynch Global Research estimates

As indicated earlier, we are still penciling in almost a +35/25% rise in slippages in our forecasts for FY13/14, which leave some room for upside (as shown in the chart below). Moreover, even after cutting our gross slippage estimate to Rs40bn (from Rs50bn) we are factoring in a net increase in slippages (net of Upgradation and recoveries) of almost Rs14bn in FY13 and Rs19bn in FY14 v/s just Rs6bn in FY12 to capture some impact of a credit cycle that is underway.

As shown in table 3, we are still maintaining the slippage run rate at +1.6-1.7% to reflect the credit cycle – though we believe there may be even more room for cutting the FY14 estimates as we get more visibility on the asset quality. We estimate gross NPLs to be around 3.2% by FY14. Net NPLs to remain manageable at <0.5% in FY13/14E. NPL provision cover forecast at +85-90% through FY14. This excludes general provisions amounting to +60% net NPLs. Including general provisions, we estimate total provision cover at +100%. The stock of total distressed loans (gross NPLs + restructured loans) today stands at ~5.3%, which could peak out at ~5.8-5.9% by FY14.

Table 3: NPL movement

NPL Calculations	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13E	FY14E
Gross NPL - Beginning	96.5	94.8	100.3	94.8	104.2
Fresh Accretion	64.2	28.7	29.9	40.6	50.0
Reduction (incl. w/o)	65.9	23.1	35.4	31.2	38.7
- Recoveries	24.2	13.7	16.2	18.7	22.4
- Upgradation	6.7	7.6	7.4	7.5	8.3
Write Offs	35.0	1.9	11.8	5.0	8.0
Gross NPLs- Closing	94.8	100.3	94.8	104.2	115.6
Net NPLs	38.4	24.1	18.6	12.1	4.3
Gross NPL's / Loans	5.1	4.5	3.6	3.4	3.2
Net NPL's / Loans	2.1	1.1	0.7	0.4	0.1
Coverage	59.5	76.0	80.4	88.4	96.3
Slippages (1-yr lag loans)	2.9%	1.6%	1.4%	1.6%	1.7%

Source: BofA Merrill Lynch Global Research estimates

Restructuring: Thorny issue for Sector; but seems manageable for IBank

Restructured loans remain the other key area of concern for investors and markets across the banking sector. At the sector level, we are expecting to see a sharp rise in restructured loans as many of the infra (especially power projects) get restructured. While we also expect a rise for ICICI Bank, though less v/s sector, our meeting suggested that this could also be an area where we may be positively surprised through the year. ICICI restructured Rs38bn in FY12 (including Rs25bn under CDR scheme). These include Rs7.2bn of MFI, Rs6.5bn of GTL and Rs5.5bn of 3i Infotech. The sacrifice on restructured pool was ~10% (13% for restructuring under CDR scheme and 3-4% on balance). Reversal in interest income due to conversion into FITL was Rs869mn in FY12.

Table 4: Restructuring under check

	FY10			FY11			FY12		
	CDR	Others	Total	CDR	Others	Total	CDR	Others	Total
Restructured advances	14,827	41,890	56,716	994	13,264	14,258	24,909	13,112	38,021
- Standard	14,187	41,316	55,503	994	11,727	12,721	24,668	12,688	37,356
- NPLs	640	573		-	1,537	1,537	241	424	666
Sacrifice	1,087	1,443	2,530	133	1,296	1,429	3,319	450	3,769
Sacrifice (%)	7.3%	3.4%	4.5%	13.3%	9.8%	10.0%	13.3%	3.4%	9.9%
FITL			704			177			869

Source: BofA Merrill Lynch Global Research estimates

While this is largely expected, ICICI Bank once again highlighted that power loans under implementation could potentially see some restructuring over the next few years, are likely to account for ~10-15% of its total power loans (~5% of total loans). We also estimate the total quantum of restructured loans to be < 3% of total loans.

Also, based on our discussion, we reckon there has not been a sharp rise in its restructured loan portfolio YTD v/s FY12 level. In contrast, the sector has seen almost a 40% rise in the CDR referrals during this quarter, from an estimated Rs350bn in FY12 to about +Rs500bn in Jun'12. In regard to likely "haircuts" on restructured loans, as per the bank, "haircut" required in many instances may be <10% based on the past trends (average hair cut to date is 10%). We are factoring in a 12% charge on all restructured loans.

We reckon most of the restructuring is likely to be back ended in FY14/15. Also in power there is increased hope that the power projects may be allowed some pass through (of their higher input costs) and / or are able to ensure better coal supply in coming years. In case they manage that, then we do think the possibility of the project achieving commissioning post restructuring is high – and given the demand supply gap, offtake should be less of an issue. Hence, while the loans would, however, have to be restructured, the "final haircut" may be < 10-12%, the level being assumed by us.

Loan growth to be driven by retail

As expected, loan growth is likely to be driven by retail as the drag arising from past mortgage repayments reduces and retail disbursements remain strong at +18-20%. As per the bank, the main areas seeing some growth are housing, selectively autos and working capital loans as well as disbursements from earlier projects. As per the bank, the pipeline of projects (seeing ongoing disbursements) is likely to last for another 12-18 months. Additionally, in retail, the gains are coming from market share gains as the bank's market share today in the mortgage market is <10% v/s its legacy share of ~30% at peak.

Table 5: Loan Mix / Growth Table

(Rs bn)	FY11	FY12	FY13E	FY14E
Corporate (incl SME / Capex etc)	565.1	718.0	883.2	1,095.2
Rural loans	209.9	223.3	250.1	287.6
Overseas loans	551.7	695.2	736.9	810.6
Retail	837.0	901.0	1,072.8	1,321.4
- Mortgage	539.0	576.6	709.3	879.5
- Non-Mortgage Retail Loans	276.2	300.0	363.6	442.0
Total Credit	2,164	2,537	2,943	3,515
<i>Loan Growth</i>	<i>19.4%</i>	<i>17.3%</i>	<i>16.0%</i>	<i>19.4%</i>
Growth Rates (yoy)	FY11	FY12	FY13E	FY14E
Corporate (incl SME / Capex etc)	46.0%	27.1%	23.0%	24.0%
Rural loans	15.8%	6.4%	12.0%	15.0%
Overseas loans	21.8%	26.0%	6.0%	10.0%
Retail	5.8%	7.6%	19.1%	23.2%
- Mortgage	9.8%	7.0%	23.0%	24.0%
- Non-Mortgage Retail Loans	-8.0%	8.6%	21.2%	21.6%
Total Credit	19.4%	17.3%	16.0%	19.4%
Loan Mix (% of total credit)	FY11	FY12	FY13E	FY14E
Corporate (incl SME / Capex etc)	26.1%	28.3%	30.0%	31.2%
Rural Loans	9.7%	8.8%	8.5%	8.2%
Overseas loans	25.5%	27.4%	25.0%	23.1%
Retail	38.7%	35.5%	36.5%	37.6%
- Mortgage (as % of retail)	64.4%	64.0%	66.1%	66.6%
- Non-Mortgage Retail Loans	33.0%	33.3%	33.9%	33.4%
Total Credit	100%	100%	100%	100%

Source: BofA Merrill Lynch Global Research estimates

Uncertainty in the international markets would constrain growth opportunities in overseas loans owing to the sharp rise in funding costs. While the bank is guiding for flat growth this year (FY13) owing to the sharp rise in global funding costs, we reckon growth may see a pick up in the 2H and especially in FY14 as Indian corporates are increasingly going to Indian banks for loans as most foreign banks have begun to pull back. Hence, overall loan growth is still likely to be high at +16/19% in FY13/14, as shown below.

Margins to expand; Fee growth higher yoy; Opex leverage

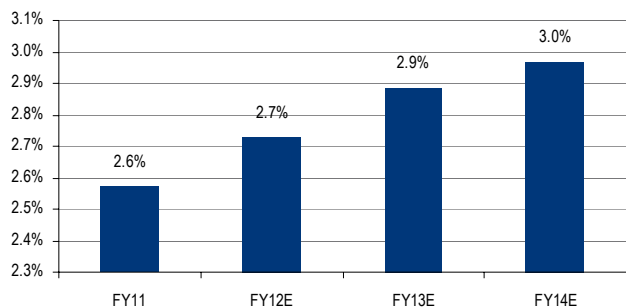
Net interest margins are expected to improve as a result of securitization losses completely running off and the share of overseas book reducing. We expect NIM's of ~2.9% in FY13 and ~3.0% in FY14, on the back of CASA share stable at ~43%. Upside to NIM would arise if a larger proportion of international loans are converted into rupee loans

Employee expenses in FY12 grew by 25% as the bank hired close to 10,000 employees (in addition to the 4,000 from the BoR acquisition). So, while the bank plans to continue adding approx ~150-200 branches in FY13, operating efficiencies should improve as the employee base stays relatively stable. We expect **C/I ratio** to settle back at FY11 levels of <42% after spiking in FY12.

We expect **fees** to grow at +13-14% in FY13-14 vs. ~4% in FY12. Moreover, fee revenues should also benefit from the banks' expanded branch distribution. The bank has increased its branch network ~40% in last two years (total branches at +2750 in Mar'12). This should help sustain a high level of savings deposits and customer acquisition. Expanding customer base should positively impact both the saving deposit franchise and also retail fees and asset cross sell.

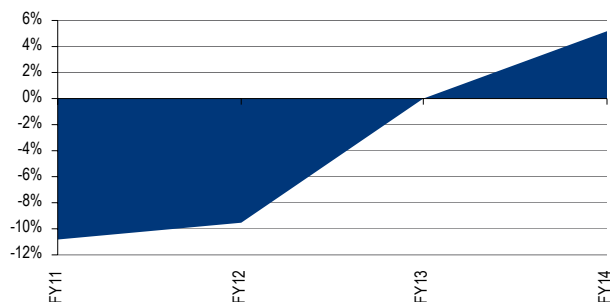
Hence, the "Jaws" (Fee- Opex - see table below) should still expand as fee growth remains better, especially as the bank begins to gain momentum from its expanded distribution. We reckon many of its branches may begin to break even by FY13. Almost +35-40% of the +2750 branches has yet to break even.

Chart 1: NIMs set to expand



Source: BofA Merrill Lynch Global Research estimates

Chart 2: 'Jaws' (Fees- Opex) set to revert in positive space & expand



Source: BofA Merrill Lynch Global Research estimates

International Operations: Risks overdone

One of the other key investor issues has been with the bank's international operations, especially given the global challenges today and the hit that the bank had to take during the global financial crisis. While ~27% of bank loans are overseas, the bank again clarified in our meeting that almost 90% of these are to Indian companies. Even if we adjust for the total exposure including through its UK and Canadian subsidiaries, the total overseas loans are ~33% and almost +85-90% are still to Indian companies.

10 July 2012

Table 6: International operations smaller % of total

Particulars	UK (US\$)	Canada (CAD\$)	Eurasia (US\$)*	Int'l branches	Total Int'l	Parent	Banking Biz.	UK -% banking Biz.	Canada -% of banking Biz.
Loans	2.4	2.6	0.2	13.4	18.5	37.0	55.6	4.4%	4.6%
India-linked	1.9	2.1	-	12.0	16.0	-	16.0	-	-
Others	0.5	0.5	0.2	1.3	2.5	37.0	39.6	-	-
Investments	0.6	2.0	0.0	1.6	4.1	29.8	33.9	1.8%	5.8%
RMBS / Fed. Insured mortgage	-	1.4	-	NM	NM	-	-	0.0%	0.0%
Bonds of Fin. Inst. (large global banks)	0.2	-	0.0	NM	NM	-	-	-	-
Others	0.2	0.5	0.0	NM	NM	-	-	-	-
India linked investment	0.2	0.0	-	NM	NM	-	-	-	-
Cash & Others	1.0	0.7	0.1	-	1.7	12.3	14.0	6.9%	4.7%
Total Assets	4.1	5.2	0.3	14.9	24.5	79.1	103.6	4.0%	5.0%
Deposits	2.4	2.9	0.1	-	5.3	51.8	57.2	-	-
Borrowings / Others	1.0	1.4	0.2	14.9	17.4	13.8	31.2	-	-
Equity	0.7	1.0	0.1	-	-	12.7	12.7	-	-
Total Liabilities	4.1	5.2	0.3	14.9	24.5	79.1	103.6	4.0%	5.0%

Source: BofA Merrill Lynch Global Research estimates

Mismatch on ALM in B/s for overseas ops. not real cash flow mismatch

Looking at the table below, one does see an apparent mismatch on foreign currency assets and foreign currency liabilities to the extent of 13% for up to 1 year. However, we clarified with ICICI Bank.

Table 7: Maturity pattern- ICICI Bank

ICICI Bank	Up to 1 year	1-3yrs	3-5 yrs	Over 5 yrs
Deposits	48%	27%	9%	16%
Advances	29%	41%	15%	14%
Investments	45%	15%	10%	30%
Borrowings	46%	12%	14%	27%
Foreign Currency assets	39%	18%	16%	27%
Foreign Currency liabilities	52%	19%	14%	15%
FCA- US\$bn	6.7	3.1	2.7	4.6
FCL- US\$bn	9.7	3.6	2.6	2.8
Gap- FCA- FCL	-13%	-1%	2%	12%

Source: ICICI Bank Annual Report

While looking at the table above, foreign currency assets are US\$6.7bn, but liabilities are US\$9.7, implying a gap (mismatch) of US\$3bn. However, there are two key things to note:

- The RBI allows banks to borrow up to 50% of respective Tier 1 in dollars and swap in to rupee for rupee lending. So the Foreign current assets (ALM on the B/s) will not match to that extent, as foreign dollar liabilities get converted to rupee assets and will not show up in foreign currency assets.
- Secondly, overseas branches also have deposits, mostly NRI (~US\$2bn in ICICI Bank's case), with a reasonable assumption that these deposits will be rolled over.

Hence, while there may be an apparent mismatch on the ALM of a bank's B/s, cash flow mismatch, which is more relevant, is lesser of an issue for the bank owing to the above two reasons; adjusting for the above mismatch is minimal. Importantly, the bank also has ~US\$900mn of liquid assets over and above to manage any temporary ALM gaps, if they were to arise.

Ms. Kochhar, however, clarified that the bank remains committed to having an overseas presence and is not looking to exit the key areas that they operate in. However, the focus will continue to be to focus on Indian companies.

Earnings growth at +20%; ROE to rise to ~16.5% by FY14E

We estimate earnings growth will continue to sustain at ~20% through FY13/14 driven by:

- Loan growth of +16/19% supported by retail as repayments recede and disbursements grow at +15-20%. Share of retail likely to see some rise. Margins expected to expand on an o/s basis by +15bps benefitting from changing loan mix and the absence of the securitization drag (see in 4Q).
- The fee-cost gap should narrow as the bank benefits from both its expanding distribution and also gain from operating leverage as more of its branches achieve break even.
- Credit costs likely to remain at around 70bps. This, however, implies a ~20% rise in our NPL provision estimates, in sync with the growth in the loan book.

As shown below, the encouraging aspect is that the ROE is being driven by an expanding ROA that is likely to expand to 1.7% by FY14. ROE, at the headline, level appears modest at 14% in FY14E; but core ROE is likely to be +16.5% and could inch closer to +18-19% by FY16.

Table 8: DuPont

ICICI Bank- Du Pont Analysis	FY11	FY12	FY13E	FY14E
Net Interest Income	2.3%	2.4%	2.6%	2.7%
Non Interest Income	1.7%	1.7%	1.8%	1.8%
- of which treasury gains	-0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Total Income	4.1%	4.1%	4.3%	4.5%
Operating Expenses	1.7%	1.8%	1.8%	1.8%
- Employee expenses	0.7%	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%
Pre-provision Profit	2.4%	2.4%	2.6%	2.7%
Provisions	0.6%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%
Pre-tax ROA	1.8%	2.0%	2.2%	2.3%
Tax	0.4%	0.5%	0.6%	0.6%
ROAA	1.3%	1.5%	1.6%	1.7%
Equity / Assets	13.9%	13.1%	12.6%	12.2%
ROAE	9.7%	11.2%	12.6%	14.0%

Source: BofA Merrill Lynch Global Research estimates

Table 9: Remains well capitalized

	FY11	FY12	FY13E	FY14E
Tier I CAR	13.2%	12.7%	11.7%	10.7%
Tier II CAR	6.4%	5.8%	6.2%	6.5%
Total CAR	19.5%	18.5%	17.9%	17.2%

Source: BofA Merrill Lynch Global Research estimates

Capital comfort high: Tier 1 estimate at +10.5% in FY14

ICICI Bank's Tier 1 stands at 12.7%, probably amongst the highest in the Indian Banks context. We reckon Tier 1 to still be well above 10% even by FY14, limiting any further dilution until FY15. Moreover, even on Basel 3 proposed guidelines (see below for more), we reckon ICICI would not need any fresh capital till FY16 even after factoring in RBI phased timeline for Basel 3.

Positioned well v/s regulatory changes

An area that is oft not looked at in detail is the positioning of the banks or their preparedness for potential future regulatory changes. While it is difficult to quantify all likely changes, some key changes being evaluated include

- Basel 3 and the level of capital that may be required longer term
- Banks' ability to manage dynamic provisioning and extent of provision required if DP is introduced
- RBI has also recently released its FSR (Financial stability report).

Basle 3: May not need capital till FY16 based on RBI's timeline

As per the most recent RBI report on Basle 3 (Read our report - [Banks-Retail, 03 May 2012](#)), we estimate the total capital requirements may be very large (US\$850bn) but would be back ended towards FY16-18. But again, the govt. banks, especially SBI, may need large doses of capital. As discussed in that report, private banks are likely to be much less impacted, especially Kotak, ICICI Bank and HDFC Bank. Moreover, as highlighted, we believe profitability for many private banks including ICICI Bank is likely to sustain even adjusting for Basel 3. In fact, based on the proposed regulations, we reckon ICICI would not need any fresh capital till FY16 even after factoring in RBI's phased timeline for Basle 3. And may require just US\$2.5-3bn by FY18.

ICICI Bank, HDFC Bank least impacted by dynamic provisioning

As highlighted in our report on Dynamic Provisioning (DP), we think the impact on private banks like HDFC Bank or ICICI Bank is negligible owing to their high level of general provisions and floating provisions (for HDFC Bank) as the DP methodology captures both general provisions (GP) and floating provisions (FP). This is assuming banks are not allowed, initially, to use their own credit history (for retail loans); DP is difference between banks' current credit costs and (EL) during a downturn. (Please read our report - [Banks-Retail, 11 April 2012](#)). ICICI Bank appears reasonably well positioned to manage these new changes owing to its high level of Tier I capital and its higher share of retail loans.

ICICI Bank likely to be amongst the banks better placed in FSR

Similarly, based on RBI's most recent Financial Stability Report (FSR), banks with high share of retail loans and having high capital appear to have been the least impacted by the stress tests carried out by RBI. While not naming banks, we reckon ICICI Bank should, by virtue of its capital, be amongst the better placed banks. (See our report - [Banks-Retail, 28 June 2012](#)).

Valuations

Core RoE at ~15.3% by FY13E, +16.5% in FY14E

ICICI Bank's *reported* RoEs is at +11% in FY12. But the RoE is depressed owing to capital infusion of almost +US\$2.5bn in its various ventures which earn minimal returns today, creating a drag on its ROE. The *adjusted core* ROE (if we just look at the profit made from the capital deployed in the banking entity) is likely to rise to ~15.3% by FY13 and further to +16.5% in FY14.

Table 10: Core RoEs

ICICI's Bank's Residual Value	FY12	FY13E	FY14E
Adj. BV (Per Share) (adj. for NPL's)	505	553	608
Less: Investment in Domestic Subs	56	56	56
Less: Investment in International Operations	52	52	52
Adjusted BV (excl. International Subs + Non Bank subs)	397	445	500
Adjusted BV (excl. Non Bank subs only)	449	497	552
Banking Business	463	514	572
Reported RoEs	11.2%	12.6%	14.0%
Adj. ROE of banking business (excl. Non-Banks subs only)	13.9%	15.3%	16.6%
Current Market Price	920	920	920
Less : Value of subs	160	218	259
Adjusted Mkt Price	760	702	661
P/Adj. BV for entire Banking biz. (excl. only Non-Bank biz.)	1.6	1.4	1.2
P/Adj. BV for ICICI Bk (excl only NPLs)	1.8	1.7	1.5

Source: BofA Merrill Lynch Global Research estimates

Offers possibly the best risk reward across private banks

When compared to its private sector banks peers it is today the cheapest amongst all of them – in part owing to concerns relating to asset quality and international operations that we believe are somewhat overplayed and priced in. As shown in the matrix below, ICICI Bank, in our view, currently offers the best risk reward trade off across banks which we believe captures the relatively higher risks associated with project finance loans. Its core ROE is forecast to rise to 16.5% by FY14. More importantly, beyond FY14, the bank should be in a position to deliver core RoE's closer to +18-19% by FY16 without potentially needing fresh capital.

Further, it is amongst the few banks that would also be able to reasonably manage the proposed regulatory changes without having to materially sacrifice its earnings growth. This relates to Basel 3 as well as the dynamic provisioning proposed by RBI. The only area where all private banks including ICICI Bank would face some challenges may be in relation to the proposed changes in priority sector lending, if implemented. The RBI seeks, over the medium term, to increase the share of loans directed to marginal farmers etc. But within the private banks, ICICI Bank and HDFC Bank should be the best positioned to manage these issues given their expanding reach and distribution.

Table 11: Private Banks - A comparison across key variables (FY13)

Banks (FY13E)	Balance Sheet buffer			Earnings Visibility				Asset Quality			Valuations	
	NPLs/ NW	CASA	Tier 1	Pre Prov. RoA	Earnings growth	ROA	ROE	% Project Finance	Credit Cost	Slippages	P/B-x	P/E-x
Axis Bank	3%	41%	8.7%	2.9%	21.8%	1.7%	20.7%	15.0%	0.7%	1.5%	1.6	8.2
HDFC Bank	2%	48%	10.6%	3.1%	28.0%	1.8%	20.4%	2.0%	0.8%	1.0%	4.0	20.5
ICICI Bank*	2%	43%	11.7%	2.6%	20.9%	1.6%	15.3%	10.0%	0.7%	1.6%	1.4	10.1
IndusInd Bank	3%	29%	10.6%	2.8%	25.1%	1.6%	19.5%	2.0%	0.6%	1.6%	3.1	16.0
Yes Bank	1%	19%	9.0%	2.5%	25.6%	1.5%	23.8%	2.0%	0.3%	0.6%	2.2	10.0
Kotak Bank**	2%	34%	15.3%	3.3%	17.7%	2.1%	15.5%	2.0%	0.3%	1.3%	3.0	20.6

Source: BofA Merrill Lynch Global Research estimates

* ICICI Bank- core RoE; PB, PE (ex subs)

** Kotak Bank consolidated

Table 12: Private Banks - A comparison across key variables (FY14)

Banks (FY14E)	Balance Sheet buffer			Earnings Visibility				Asset Quality			Valuations	
	NPLs/ NW	CASA	Tier 1	Pre Prov. RoA	Earnings growth	ROA	ROE	% Project Finance	Credit Cost	Slippages	P/B-x	P/E-x
Axis Bank	3%	40%	8.0%	3.0%	23.3%	1.8%	21.4%	15.0%	0.6%	1.2%	1.3	6.7
HDFC Bank	2%	47%	9.5%	3.2%	27.0%	1.9%	21.9%	2.0%	0.8%	1.0%	3.3	16.1
ICICI Bank*	0%	43%	10.7%	2.7%	21.0%	1.7%	16.6%	10.0%	0.7%	1.7%	1.2	7.9
IndusInd Bank	4%	31%	9.7%	2.8%	24.1%	1.6%	20.3%	2.0%	0.6%	1.5%	2.6	12.9
Yes Bank	2%	22%	8.3%	2.6%	25.2%	1.6%	24.3%	2.0%	0.4%	0.8%	1.8	8.0
Kotak Bank	1%	34%	13.8%	3.2%	16.3%	2.0%	15.5%	2.0%	0.4%	1.3%	2.6	17.7

Source: BofA Merrill Lynch Global Research estimates

* ICICI Bank- core RoE; PB, PE (ex subs)

** Kotak Bank consolidated

Raise PO to Rs1,200; Banking book can trade up to ~2.0x

The stock is trading at 1.4x FY13E adj. BV and 1.2x FY14E adj. BV (BV is adjusted for 100% write off of all net NPLs). As shown in chart s, the stock trades at 0.5SD below its average trading multiple of the past 5 years – both adjusting for value of subs and assigning no value to the subsidiaries.

As mentioned earlier in the report, we believe the stock can re-rate as the bank delivers ahead of expectations on asset quality as that has been one of the key investor concerns. Further, the bank is also well positioned to manage any ALM mismatch on its international book and provides high earnings visibility (+20%).

10 July 2012

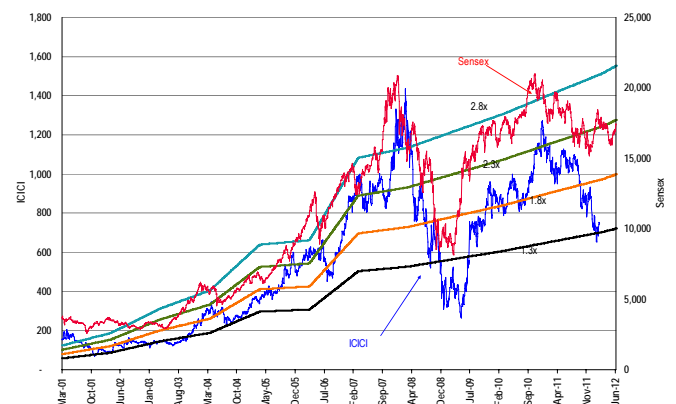
Hence, we think the stock can, arguably, re-rate to 2.0x (Bk biz.) one year forward (FY13) multiple. This is a ~10% premium to its average historical multiple over last 6-yr period. But it is still at a 10% to 65% discount to most other private banks. Our PO includes Rs218/shr. value of subs.

Chart 3: PB- SD- trading below average



Source: BofA Merrill Lynch Global Research estimates

Chart 4: ICICI Bk PB vs. Market (Sensex)



Source: BofA Merrill Lynch Global Research estimates

SOTP: Insurance may see some traction

We value ICICI Bank on SOTP basis and the biggest driver, as highlighted earlier, is the life insurance business that contributes almost 60% to our SOTP.

ICICI Pru Life continues to build its regular premium portfolio, however still dominated by ULIPs. Though ULIPs are not as profitable as they were before the September 2010 regulations, they still continue to offer a profitable proposition. With the lock-in period of 5 years (earlier it was 3 years), persistency ratios tend to grow. Post the new regulatory regime in September 2010, the company did suffer on top line growth but now we do see an uptick.

We expect gross written premiums to grow by 15% in FY13 and 20% in FY14, from a low base. The NBAP margins have bottomed for the company and expect them to be 15% in FY13 and 16% in FY14. The life company has also been working to reduce its operating costs. We value the life business at 9x FY13E NBAP and 1x FY12E EV, which translates into Rs133/share for ICICI Bank.

We remain positive on ICICI Bank's life insurance biz. prospects as we believe players like ICICI Bank are in a very strong position on economies of scale, already reporting profits, and adopting a bancassurance model, which will provide an edge vis-à-vis other players in this uncertain scenario.

Table 13: SOTP- Non-Bank Subsidiaries est.

SOTP - US\$ mn	FY12	FY13	FY14
Life Insurance -	3,819	4,625	5,242
General Insurance -	-520	489	776
Asset Management -	914	1,126	1,540
Venture-	401	417	507
Home Finance	309	325	343
Broking -	387	439	491
Mkt value of Non-Banks Subsid.	5,310	7,421	8,900
Aggregate SOTP - Per Share	FY12	FY13	FY14
Life Insurance (74% stake)	110.6	133.3	151.1
General Insurance (74% stake)	-16.8	15.8	25.1
Asset Management (51% stake)	20.3	25.1	34.3
Venture (100%)	19.4	21.4	24.6
Home Finance	23.4	22.0	23.3
Broking (100%)	20.9	24.9	29.6
Total of Non-Bank Subs / Share	178	242	288
Final Subs Value (Post Disc. 10%)	160	218	259

Source: BofA Merrill Lynch Global Research estimates

Financials

Table 14: Profit and loss account

Year to March (Rs mn)	FY11	FY12E	FY13E	FY14E
Interest income	259,741	335,427	372,224	418,255
Interest expense	169,572	228,085	242,700	265,835
Net interest income	90,169	107,342	129,524	152,420
Other income	66,479	75,028	87,611	104,110
- Treasury Gains	-2,434	-130	2,000	2,500
Total income	156,648	182,369	217,135	256,530
Operating expenses	66,173	78,504	89,418	101,496
Pre-provision profit	90,475	103,865	127,717	155,035
Provisions	22,868	15,830	18,529	23,001
Provision - NPL	19,769	12,780	15,976	19,171
PBT	67,607	88,034	109,188	132,034
Tax	16,093	23,382	29,481	35,649
Net Income	51,514	64,653	79,707	96,385

Source: BofA Merrill Lynch Global Research estimates

Table 15: Balance sheet

Year to March (Rs bn)	FY11	FY12E	FY13E	FY14E
Cash balances	341	362	297	262
Advances	2,164	2,537	2,943	3,515
Investments	1,347	1,596	1,732	1,842
Total Assets	4,062	4,736	5,269	6,010
Shareholders' funds	551	604	657	721
Preference Capital	4	4	4	4
Deposits	2,256	2,555	2,852	3,278
Borrowings	1,092	1,398	1,578	1,826
Current liabilities	160	176	179	182
Total Liabilities	4,062	4,736	5,269	6,010

Source: BofA Merrill Lynch Global Research estimates

Table 16: Key Ratios

	FY11	FY12E	FY13E	FY14E
EPS	45.45	56.11	69.14	83.61
Earnings growth	26%	23%	23%	21%
BV/share	475	521	567	622
Adjusted BV / Share	454	505	553	608
ROAA	1.3%	1.5%	1.6%	1.7%
ROAE	9.7%	11.2%	12.6%	14.0%
NIM	2.6%	2.7%	2.9%	3.0%
Adj. ROE	12.4%	13.9%	15.3%	16.6%
Gross NPLs	4.5%	3.6%	3.4%	3.2%
Net NPLs	1.1%	0.73%	0.4%	0.1%
Coverage Ratio	76%	80%	88%	96%
Total Capital Adequacy Ratio (CAR)	19.5%	18.5%	17.9%	17.2%
- Tier I CAR	13.2%	12.7%	11.7%	10.7%
L/D ratio	92%	96%	101%	105%
Cost-Income ratio (Excl Treasury)	41.6%	43.0%	41.6%	40.0%
Other Inc (Ex treas) / Total Inc (Ex Treas)	21%	18%	19%	20%
Cost Asset Ratio	1.6%	1.7%	1.7%	1.7%
Equity / Assets	13.6%	12.8%	12.5%	12.0%
Equity / Loans	25%	24%	22%	21%
Specific Provision/ Loans	0.9%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%
Total provis. / Loans	1.0%	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%
CASA	45.1%	43.5%	43.3%	42.7%
Tax Rates	24%	27%	27%	27%
Yield on Advances	8.2%	9.4%	9.2%	9.0%
Yield on Investments	6.7%	7.1%	7.2%	7.2%
Cost of funds	5.4%	6.2%	5.8%	5.6%
Dividend per Share	14.0	16.5	21.0	25.0
Dividend Payout	36%	33%	34%	33%
Dividend yield	1.5%	1.8%	2.3%	2.7%
P/E (assuming subs value = NIL)	20.2	16.4	13.3	11.0
P/PPP	11.7	10.2	8.3	6.8
P/ABV (assuming subs value = NIL)	2.0	1.8	1.7	1.5
P/ABV (excl subs)	1.9	1.7	1.4	1.2
PER (excl subs)	16.7	13.5	10.1	7.9

Source: BofA Merrill Lynch Global Research estimates

Price objective basis & risk

ICICI Bank (ICIJF / IBN)

We set our PO at Rs1200/USD44 (including Rs218/shr. for the subs). We believe a sustained demonstration by the bank in managing the credit cycle and high visibility in earnings growth (+20%) can lead to a re-rating of the stock. Further, its high Tier I capital also makes it better positioned to manage potential regulatory changes. We think the stock can re-rate to 2.0x (Bk biz.) one year forward (FY13) multiple. This is a 10% premium to its average historical multiple over last 6-yr period, but still at 20-60% discount to many peers. On a PE basis, our PO implies that the bank sustains its earnings multiples of 17x, one year forward given that there is still a visibility of earnings growth of +23/21%. Risks are that a sharp rise in interest rates could hurt margins (approx 30% of total deposits wholesale for ICICI Bank) and slowdown in macro growth could lead to lower volume growth and earnings trajectory for FY13-14.

Link to Definitions

Financials

Click [here](#) for definitions of commonly used terms.

Analyst Certification

I, Rajeev Varma, hereby certify that the views expressed in this research report accurately reflect my personal views about the subject equity securities and issuers. I also certify that no part of my compensation was, is, or will be, directly or indirectly, related to the specific recommendations or view expressed in this research report.

I, Vishal Mahtani, hereby certify that the views expressed in this research report accurately reflect my personal views about the subject fixed income securities and issuers. I also certify that no part of my compensation was, is, or will be, directly or indirectly, related to the specific recommendations or view expressed in this research report.

Special Disclosures

In accordance with the SEBI (Foreign Institutional Investors) Regulations and with guidelines issued by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), foreign investors (individuals as well as institutional) that wish to transact the common stock of Indian companies must have applied to, and have been approved by SEBI and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). Each investor who transacts common stock of Indian companies will be required to certify approval as a foreign institutional investor or as a sub-account of a foreign institutional investor by SEBI and RBI. Certain other entities are also entitled to transact common stock of Indian companies under the Indian laws relating to investment by foreigners. BofA Merrill Lynch reserves the right to refuse copy of research on common stock of Indian companies to a person not resident in India. American Depositary Receipts (ADR) representing such common stock are not subject to these Indian law restrictions and may be transacted by investors in accordance with the applicable laws of the relevant jurisdiction. Global Depositary Receipts (GDR) and the Global Depositary Shares of Indian companies, Indian limited liability corporations, have not been registered under the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and may only be transacted by persons in the United States who are Qualified Institutional Buyers (QIBs) within the meaning of Rule 144A under the Securities Act. Accordingly, no copy of any research report on Indian companies' GDRs will be made available to persons who are not QIBs.

10 July 2012

DSP Merrill Lynch Limited
SEBI Regn no. : BSE - INB/INF 011348134 NSE – INB/INF 231348138
Address – Mafatlal Centre, 8th Floor, Nariman Point, Mumbai, India. 400021
Tel : +91 22 6632 8000

Security pricing

ICICI Bank / ICICI

Security	Amt (Millions)	Maturity date	Ratings Moody's/S&P/Fitch	Price	Price date	Yield (%)	Spread (Govt+bps)
5.500, Senior, USD, 2015:B	750	25-MAR-2015	Baa2/BBB-/	102.80	06-Jul-2012	4.39	401
7.250,T1,USD, Perpetual:B	340	29-AUG-2049	Ba3/BB/	88.50	06-Jul-2012	10.64	1,005
6.625, Senior, USD, 2012:B	1,695	03-OCT-2012	Baa2/BBB-/	101.04	06-Jul-2012	2.25	212
6.375,UT2,USD,30-Apr-2022:B	750	30-APR-2022	Ba1/BB/	91.00	06-Jul-2012	8.70	803
6.375000,UT2,USD, Perpetual:B	85	29-DEC-2049	Ba2/N.A./N.A.	80.50	06-Jul-2012	11.37	1,071
5.000, Senior, USD, 2016:B	500	15-JAN-2016	Baa2/BBB-/	101.05	06-Jul-2012	4.67	420
5.750, Senior, USD, 2020:B	1,000	16-NOV-2020	Baa2/BBB-/	99.68	06-Jul-2012	5.80	446
4.750, Senior, USD, 2016:B	1,000	25-NOV-2016	Baa2/BBB-/	99.71	06-Jul-2012	4.82	423
Senior Unsecured, USD, Y5, CDS:CDS					06-Jul-2012		398

Prices are as of date indicated and are from various sources, including BofA Merrill Lynch Global Fixed Income Indices and BofA Merrill Lynch trading desks. CDS spreads are sourced from the Markit Group Limited. Prices are indicative and for information purposes only.

B=Bond; CS=Capital Security (Not including Equity Preferred); CDS=Credit Default Swap; EP=Equity Preferred

India - Financials Coverage Cluster

Investment rating	Company	BofA Merrill Lynch ticker	Bloomberg symbol	Analyst
BUY				
	Axis Bank	XAXSF	AXSB IN	Rajeev Varma
	Axis Bank - GDR	XBKSF	AXB LI	Rajeev Varma
	Corporation Bank	XCRRF	CRPBK IN	Veekesh Gandhi
	Federal Bank	XDFRF	FB IN	Veekesh Gandhi
	HDFC	HGDFR	HDFC IN	Rajeev Varma
	HDFC Bank	XHDFR	HDFCB IN	Rajeev Varma
	HDFC Bank	HDB	HDB US	Rajeev Varma
	ICICI Bank	ICIJF	ICICIB IN	Rajeev Varma
	ICICI Bank - A	IBN	IBN US	Rajeev Varma
	IndiaBulls Financial Services	IBLFF	IBULL IN	Veekesh Gandhi
	Indian Bank	INDIF	INBK IN	Rajeev Varma
	LIC Housing Finance, Ltd.	LHFLF	LICHF IN	Veekesh Gandhi
	Manappuram	XMGPF	MGFL IN	Veekesh Gandhi
	Max India	XMIF	MAX IN	Anubhav Adlakha
	Power finance corporation Ltd	PWFEF	POWF IN	Veekesh Gandhi
	Punjab	PUJBF	PNB IN	Rajeev Varma
	Reliance Capital	RLCCF	RCAPT IN	Veekesh Gandhi
	Rural Electrification Corporation Ltd	XULEF	RECL IB	Veekesh Gandhi
	SBI	SBINF	SBIN IN	Rajeev Varma
	SBI -G	SBKFF	SBID LI	Rajeev Varma
	Shriram Transport Finance	SHTFF	SHTF IN	Veekesh Gandhi
	Yes Bank Ltd	YESBF	YES IN	Veekesh Gandhi
NEUTRAL				
	Bank of Baroda	BKBAF	BOB IN	Rajeev Varma
UNDERPERFORM				
	Bank of India	XDIIF	BOI IN	Rajeev Varma
	Canara Bank	CNRKF	CBK IN	Rajeev Varma
	IDBI	XDBIF	IDBI IN	Veekesh Gandhi
	Indusind Bank	IDUBF	IIB IN	Veekesh Gandhi
	Infrastruct Dev	IDFFF	IDFC IN	Rajeev Varma

10 July 2012

India - Financials Coverage Cluster

Investment rating	Company	BofA Merrill Lynch ticker	Bloomberg symbol	Analyst
	Kotak Mahindra Bank	XXRVF	KMB IN	Rajeev Varma
	ORBC	ORBCF	OBC IN	Rajeev Varma
	Union Bank India	UBOIF	UNBK IN	Rajeev Varma

iQmethodSM Measures Definitions

Business Performance	Numerator	Denominator
Return On Capital Employed	$\text{NOPAT} = (\text{EBIT} + \text{Interest Income}) * (1 - \text{Tax Rate}) + \text{Goodwill Amortization}$	Total Assets – Current Liabilities + ST Debt + Accumulated Goodwill
Return On Equity	Net Income	Shareholders' Equity
Operating Margin	Operating Profit	Sales
Earnings Growth	Expected 5-Year CAGR From Latest Actual	N/A
Free Cash Flow	Cash Flow From Operations – Total Capex	N/A
Quality of Earnings		
Cash Realization Ratio	Cash Flow From Operations	Net Income
Asset Replacement Ratio	Capex	Depreciation
Tax Rate	Tax Charge	Pre-Tax Income
Net Debt-To-Equity Ratio	Net Debt = Total Debt, Less Cash & Equivalents	Total Equity
Interest Cover	EBIT	Interest Expense
Valuation Toolkit		
Price / Earnings Ratio	Current Share Price	Diluted Earnings Per Share (Basis As Specified)
Price / Book Value	Current Share Price	Shareholders' Equity / Current Basic Shares
Dividend Yield	Annualised Declared Cash Dividend	Current Share Price
Free Cash Flow Yield	Cash Flow From Operations – Total Capex	Market Cap. = Current Share Price * Current Basic Shares
Enterprise Value / Sales	$\text{EV} = \text{Current Share Price} * \text{Current Shares} + \text{Minority Equity} + \text{Net Debt} + \text{Sales} + \text{Other LT Liabilities}$	
EV / EBITDA	Enterprise Value	Basic EBIT + Depreciation + Amortization

iQmethodSM is the set of BofA Merrill Lynch standard measures that serve to maintain global consistency under three broad headings: Business Performance, Quality of Earnings, and valuations. The key features of iQmethod are: A consistently structured, detailed, and transparent methodology. Guidelines to maximize the effectiveness of the comparative valuation process, and to identify some common pitfalls.

iQdatabase[®] is our real-time global research database that is sourced directly from our equity analysts' earnings models and includes forecasted as well as historical data for income statements, balance sheets, and cash flow statements for companies covered by BofA Merrill Lynch.

iQprofileSM, iQmethodSM are service marks of Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. iQdatabase[®] is a registered service mark of Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc.

10 July 2012

Important Disclosures

Opinion history

ICICI Bank / ICICI

Security	Date [^]	Action	Recommendation
5.500, Senior, USD, 2015:B	30-Jun-2011		Underweight-30%
	11-Jul-2011	Upgrade	Overweight-30%
	22-Sep-2011	Upgrade	Overweight-70%
	29-Apr-2012	Downgrade	Overweight-30%
7.250,T1,USD, Perpetual:B	30-Jun-2011		Underweight-30%
	22-Sep-2011	Upgrade	Overweight-30%
6.625, Senior, USD, 2012:B	28-Sep-2011	Initial	Overweight-30%
6.375,UT2,USD,30-Apr-2022:B	28-Sep-2011	Initial	Underweight-30%
6.375000,UT2,USD, Perpetual:B	28-Sep-2011	Initial	Underweight-30%
5.000, Senior, USD, 2016:B	30-Jun-2011		Underweight-30%
	11-Jul-2011	Upgrade	Overweight-30%
	22-Sep-2011	Upgrade	Overweight-70%
	29-Apr-2012	Downgrade	Overweight-30%
5.750, Senior, USD, 2020:B	28-Sep-2011	Initial	Underweight-30%
4.750, Senior, USD, 2016:B	30-Jun-2011		Underweight-30%
	11-Jul-2011	Upgrade	Overweight-30%
	22-Sep-2011	Upgrade	Overweight-70%
	29-Apr-2012	Downgrade	Overweight-30%
Senior Unsecured, USD, Y5, CDS:CDS	30-Jun-2011		Underweight-30%

Table reflects credit opinion history as of previous business day's close. [^]First date of recommendation within last 12 months. The BofA Merrill Lynch Credit Opinion key is contained below.

B=Bond; CS=Capital Security (Not including Equity Preferred); CDS=Credit Default Swap; EP=Equity Preferred

BofA Merrill Lynch Credit Opinion Key

The BofA Merrill Lynch Global Research Credit Opinion Key is designed to allow BofA Merrill Lynch Global Credit Research to provide recommendations on an issuer's bonds, capital securities, equity preferreds and CDS as described below. An issuer level recommendation may also be provided in respect of an issuer as explained below. BofA Merrill Lynch Global Research credit recommendations are assigned using a three-month time horizon.

Issuer Recommendations: If an issuer credit recommendation is provided, it is applicable to all bonds of the issuer except bonds specifically referenced in the report with a different credit recommendation. Where there is no issuer credit recommendation, only individual bonds with specific recommendations are covered.

Issuer credit recommendations do not cover equity preferreds or CDS related to the issuer. Issuer credit recommendations do not cover capital securities of the issuer unless a statement to that effect is provided in the relevant research report.

CDS Recommendations: CDS are recommended on an individual basis under the Credit Opinion Key. Issuer credit recommendations do not apply to CDS.

Capital Securities: Capital securities are recommended individually unless the research report specifically states that the issuer credit recommendation applies to such securities. In cases where the issuer credit recommendation applies to capital securities of the issuers, it is not applicable to capital securities that we classify as equity preferreds.

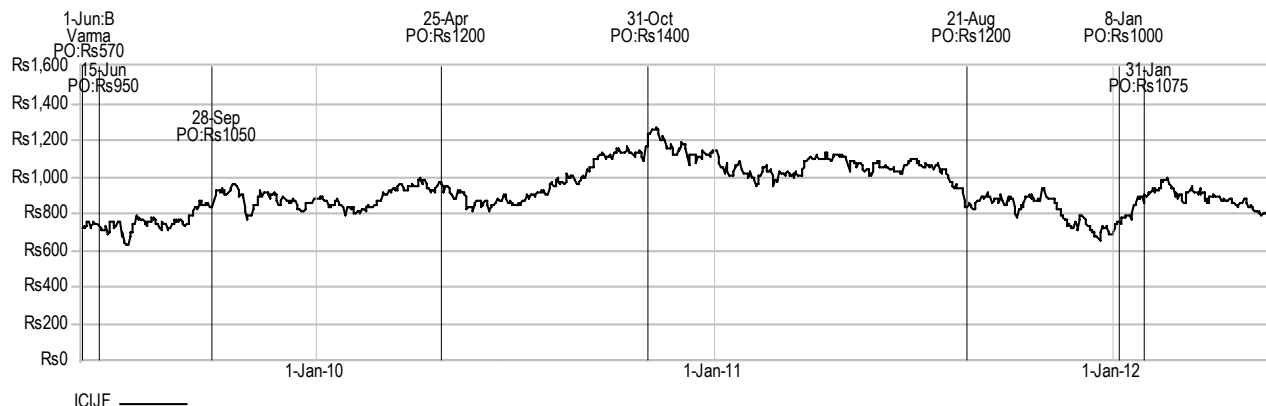
Equity Preferreds: Equity preferreds are recommended on an individual basis under the Credit Opinion Key. Issuer credit recommendations do not apply to equity preferreds.

Recommendation	Investor Action Points (Cash and/or CDS)	Primary Investment Return Driver
Overweight-100%	Up to 100% Overweight of investor's guidelines	Compelling spread tightening potential
Overweight-70%	Up to 70% Overweight of investor's guidelines	Carry, plus some spread tightening expected
Overweight-30%	Up to 30% Overweight of investor's guidelines	Good carry, but little spread tightening expected
Underweight-30%	Down to 30% Underweight of investor's guidelines	Unattractive carry, but spreads unlikely to widen
Underweight-70%	Down to 70% Underweight of investor's guidelines	Expected spread underperformance
Underweight-100%	Down to 100% Underweight of investor's guidelines	Material spread widening expected

Time horizon – our recommendations have a 3 month trade horizon

10 July 2012

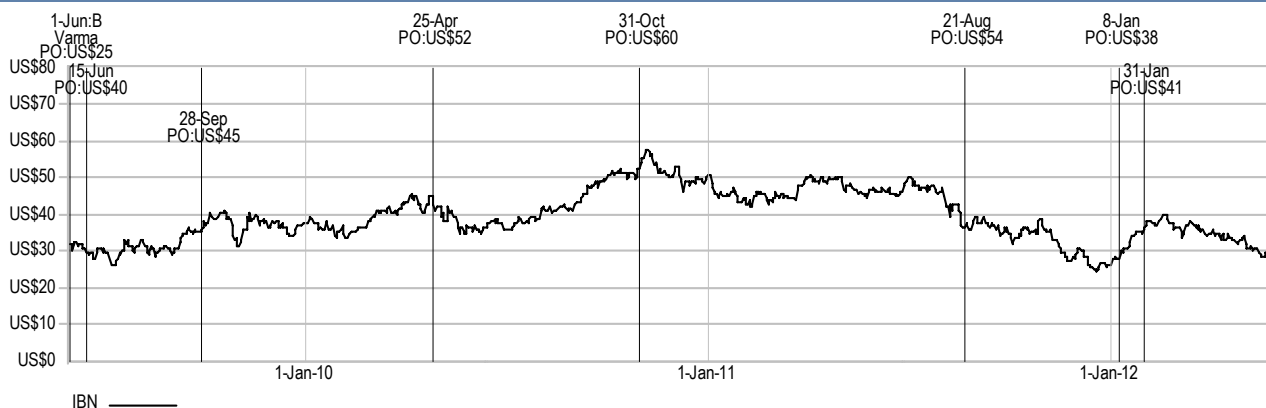
ICIJF Price Chart



B : Buy, N : Neutral, U : Underperform, PO : Price objective, NA : No longer valid, NR: No Rating

The Investment Opinion System is contained at the end of the report under the heading "Fundamental Equity Opinion Key". Dark grey shading indicates the security is restricted with the opinion suspended. Medium grey shading indicates the security is under review with the opinion withdrawn. Light grey shading indicates the security is not covered. Chart is current as of May 31, 2012 or such later date as indicated.

IBN Price Chart



B : Buy, N : Neutral, U : Underperform, PO : Price objective, NA : No longer valid, NR: No Rating

The Investment Opinion System is contained at the end of the report under the heading "Fundamental Equity Opinion Key". Dark grey shading indicates the security is restricted with the opinion suspended. Medium grey shading indicates the security is under review with the opinion withdrawn. Light grey shading indicates the security is not covered. Chart is current as of May 31, 2012 or such later date as indicated.

Investment Rating Distribution: Banks Group (as of 01 Jul 2012)

Coverage Universe	Count	Percent	Inv. Banking Relationships*	Count	Percent
Buy	127	48.66%	Buy	95	93.14%
Neutral	67	25.67%	Neutral	49	84.48%
Sell	67	25.67%	Sell	51	82.26%

Investment Rating Distribution: Global Group (as of 01 Jul 2012)

Coverage Universe	Count	Percent	Inv. Banking Relationships*	Count	Percent
Buy	1913	50.14%	Buy	1294	73.40%
Neutral	994	26.06%	Neutral	628	70.09%
Sell	908	23.80%	Sell	513	60.71%

* Companies in respect of which BofA Merrill Lynch or one of its affiliates has received compensation for investment banking services within the past 12 months. For purposes of this distribution, a stock rated Underperform is included as a Sell.

FUNDAMENTAL EQUITY OPINION KEY: Opinions include a Volatility Risk Rating, an Investment Rating and an Income Rating. *VOLATILITY RISK RATINGS*, indicators of potential price fluctuation, are: A - Low, B - Medium and C - High. *INVESTMENT RATINGS* reflect the analyst's assessment of a stock's: (i) absolute total return potential and (ii) attractiveness for investment relative to other stocks within its *Coverage Cluster* (defined below). There are three investment ratings: 1 - Buy stocks are expected to have a total return of at least 10% and are the most attractive stocks in the coverage cluster; 2 - Neutral stocks are expected to remain flat or increase in value and are less attractive than Buy rated stocks and 3 - Underperform stocks are the least attractive stocks in a coverage cluster. Analysts assign investment ratings considering, among other things, the 0-12 month total return expectation for a stock and the firm's guidelines for ratings dispersions (shown in the table below). The current price objective for a stock should be referenced to better understand the total return expectation at any given time. The price objective reflects the analyst's view of the potential price appreciation (depreciation).

Investment rating	Total return expectation (within 12-month period of date of initial rating)	Ratings dispersion guidelines for coverage cluster*
Buy	≥ 10%	≤ 70%
Neutral	≥ 0%	≤ 30%
Underperform	N/A	≥ 20%

* Ratings dispersions may vary from time to time where BofA Merrill Lynch Research believes it better reflects the investment prospects of stocks in a Coverage Cluster.

INCOME RATINGS, indicators of potential cash dividends, are: 7 - same/higher (dividend considered to be secure), 8 - same/lower (dividend not considered to be secure) and 9 - pays no cash dividend. *Coverage Cluster* is comprised of stocks covered by a single analyst or two or more analysts sharing a common industry, sector, region or other classification(s). A stock's coverage cluster is included in the most recent BofA Merrill Lynch Comment referencing the stock.

Price charts for the securities referenced in this research report are available at <http://pricecharts.ml.com>, or call 1-800-MERRILL to have them mailed. Credit Opinion History Tables for the securities referenced in this research report are available at <http://pricecharts.ml.com>, or call 1-800-MERRILL to have them mailed.

MLPF&S or one of its affiliates acts as a market maker for the equity securities recommended in the report: ICICI Bank.
 The company is or was, within the last 12 months, an investment banking client of MLPF&S and/or one or more of its affiliates: ICICI Bank.
 MLPF&S or an affiliate has received compensation from the company for non-investment banking services or products within the past 12 months: ICICI Bank.
 The company is or was, within the last 12 months, a non-securities business client of MLPF&S and/or one or more of its affiliates: ICICI Bank.
 In the US, retail sales and/or distribution of this report may be made only in states where these securities are exempt from registration or have been qualified for sale: ICICI Bank.
 MLPF&S or an affiliate has received compensation for investment banking services from this company within the past 12 months: ICICI Bank.
 MLPF&S or an affiliate expects to receive or intends to seek compensation for investment banking services from this company or an affiliate of the company within the next three months: ICICI Bank.
 MLPF&S together with its affiliates beneficially owns one percent or more of the common stock of this company. If this report was issued on or after the 8th day of the month, it reflects the ownership position on the last day of the previous month. Reports issued before the 8th day of a month reflect the ownership position at the end of the second month preceding the date of the report: ICICI Bank.
 The country in which this company is organized has certain laws or regulations that limit or restrict ownership of the company's shares by nationals of other countries: ICICI Bank.
 MLPF&S or one of its affiliates is willing to sell to, or buy from, clients the common equity of the company on a principal basis: ICICI Bank.
 The company is or was, within the last 12 months, a securities business client (non-investment banking) of MLPF&S and/or one or more of its affiliates: ICICI Bank.
 BofA Merrill Lynch Research personnel (including the analyst(s) responsible for this report) receive compensation based upon, among other factors, the overall profitability of Bank of America Corporation, including profits derived from investment banking revenues.

Other Important Disclosures

Readers should assume that MLPF&S and/or one or more of its affiliates may, at any time, have a meaningful financial exposure to the fixed income instruments of the issuers discussed herein.

Officers of MLPF&S or one or more of its affiliates (other than research analysts) may have a financial interest in securities of the issuer(s) or in related investments.

BofA Merrill Lynch Global Research policies relating to conflicts of interest are described at <http://www.ml.com/media/43347.pdf>.

"BofA Merrill Lynch" includes Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated ("MLPF&S") and its affiliates. Investors should contact their BofA Merrill Lynch representative or Merrill Lynch Global Wealth Management financial advisor if they have questions concerning this report.

Information relating to Non-US affiliates of BofA Merrill Lynch and Distribution of Affiliate Research Reports:

MLPF&S distributes, or may in the future distribute, research reports of the following non-US affiliates in the US (short name: legal name): Merrill Lynch (France): Merrill Lynch Capital Markets (France) SAS; Merrill Lynch (Frankfurt): Merrill Lynch International Bank Ltd., Frankfurt Branch; Merrill Lynch (South Africa): Merrill Lynch South Africa (Pty) Ltd.; Merrill Lynch (Milan): Merrill Lynch International Bank Limited; MLI (UK): Merrill Lynch International; Merrill Lynch (Australia): Merrill Lynch Equities (Australia) Limited; Merrill Lynch (Hong Kong): Merrill Lynch (Asia Pacific) Limited; Merrill Lynch (Singapore): Merrill Lynch (Singapore) Pte Ltd.; Merrill Lynch (Canada): Merrill Lynch Canada Inc; Merrill Lynch (Mexico): Merrill Lynch Mexico, SA de CV, Casa de Bolsa; Merrill Lynch (Argentina): Merrill Lynch Argentina SA; Merrill Lynch (Japan): Merrill Lynch Japan Securities Co., Ltd.; Merrill Lynch (Seoul): Merrill Lynch International Incorporated (Seoul Branch); Merrill Lynch (Taiwan): Merrill Lynch Securities (Taiwan) Ltd.; DSP Merrill Lynch (India): DSP Merrill Lynch Limited; PT Merrill Lynch (Indonesia): PT Merrill Lynch Indonesia; Merrill Lynch (Israel): Merrill Lynch Israel Limited; Merrill Lynch (Russia): Merrill Lynch CIS Limited, Moscow; Merrill Lynch (Turkey I.B.): Merrill Lynch Yatirim Bank A.S.; Merrill Lynch (Turkey Broker): Merrill Lynch Menkul Değerler A.Ş.; Merrill Lynch (Dubai): Merrill Lynch International, Dubai Branch; MLPF&S (Zurich rep. office): MLPF&S Incorporated Zurich representative office; Merrill Lynch (Spain): Merrill Lynch Capital Markets Espana, S.A.S.V.; Merrill Lynch (Brazil): Bank of America Merrill Lynch Banco Multiplo S.A.

This research report has been approved for publication and is distributed in the United Kingdom to professional clients and eligible counterparties (as each is defined in the rules of the Financial Services Authority) by Merrill Lynch International and Banc of America Securities Limited (BASL), which are authorized and regulated by the Financial Services Authority and has been approved for publication and is distributed in the United Kingdom to retail clients (as defined in the rules of the Financial Services Authority) by Merrill Lynch International Bank Limited, London Branch, which is authorized by the Central Bank of Ireland and is subject to

limited regulation by the Financial Services Authority – details about the extent of its regulation by the Financial Services Authority are available from it on request; has been considered and distributed in Japan by Merrill Lynch Japan Securities Co., Ltd., a registered securities dealer under the Financial Instruments and Exchange Act in Japan; is distributed in Hong Kong by Merrill Lynch (Asia Pacific) Limited, which is regulated by the Hong Kong SFC and the Hong Kong Monetary Authority; is issued and distributed in Taiwan by Merrill Lynch Securities (Taiwan) Ltd.; is issued and distributed in India by DSP Merrill Lynch Limited; and is issued and distributed in Singapore by Merrill Lynch International Bank Limited (Merchant Bank) and Merrill Lynch (Singapore) Pte Ltd. (Company Registration No.'s F 06872E and 198602883D respectively) and Bank of America Singapore Limited (Merchant Bank). Merrill Lynch International Bank Limited (Merchant Bank) and Merrill Lynch (Singapore) Pte Ltd. are regulated by the Monetary Authority of Singapore. Merrill Lynch Equities (Australia) Limited (ABN 65 006 276 795), AFS License 235132 provides this report in Australia in accordance with section 911B of the Corporations Act 2001 and neither it nor any of its affiliates involved in preparing this research report is an Authorised Deposit-Taking Institution under the Banking Act 1959 nor regulated by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority. No approval is required for publication or distribution of this report in Brazil. Merrill Lynch (Dubai) is authorized and regulated by the Dubai Financial Services Authority (DFSA). Research reports prepared and issued by Merrill Lynch (Dubai) are prepared and issued in accordance with the requirements of the DFSA conduct of business rules.

Merrill Lynch (Frankfurt) distributes this report in Germany. Merrill Lynch (Frankfurt) is regulated by BaFin.

This research report has been prepared and issued by MLPF&S and/or one or more of its non-US affiliates. MLPF&S is the distributor of this research report in the US and accepts full responsibility for research reports of its non-US affiliates distributed to MLPF&S clients in the US. Any US person receiving this research report and wishing to effect any transaction in any security discussed in the report should do so through MLPF&S and not such foreign affiliates.

General Investment Related Disclosures:

This research report provides general information only. Neither the information nor any opinion expressed constitutes an offer or an invitation to make an offer, to buy or sell any securities or other financial instrument or any derivative related to such securities or instruments (e.g., options, futures, warrants, and contracts for differences). This report is not intended to provide personal investment advice and it does not take into account the specific investment objectives, financial situation and the particular needs of any specific person. Investors should seek financial advice regarding the appropriateness of investing in financial instruments and implementing investment strategies discussed or recommended in this report and should understand that statements regarding future prospects may not be realized. Any decision to purchase or subscribe for securities in any offering must be based solely on existing public information on such security or the information in the prospectus or other offering document issued in connection with such offering, and not on this report.

Securities and other financial instruments discussed in this report, or recommended, offered or sold by Merrill Lynch, are not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and are not deposits or other obligations of any insured depository institution (including, Bank of America, N.A.). Investments in general and, derivatives, in particular, involve numerous risks, including, among others, market risk, counterparty default risk and liquidity risk. No security, financial instrument or derivative is suitable for all investors. In some cases, securities and other financial instruments may be difficult to value or sell and reliable information about the value or risks related to the security or financial instrument may be difficult to obtain. Investors should note that income from such securities and other financial instruments, if any, may fluctuate and that price or value of such securities and instruments may rise or fall and, in some cases, investors may lose their entire principal investment. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. Levels and basis for taxation may change.

This report may contain a short-term trading idea or recommendation, which highlights a specific near-term catalyst or event impacting the company or the market that is anticipated to have a short-term price impact on the equity securities of the company. Short-term trading ideas and recommendations are different from and do not affect a stock's fundamental equity rating, which reflects both a longer term total return expectation and attractiveness for investment relative to other stocks within its Coverage Cluster. Short-term trading ideas and recommendations may be more or less positive than a stock's fundamental equity rating.

BofA Merrill Lynch is aware that the implementation of the ideas expressed in this report may depend upon an investor's ability to "short" securities or other financial instruments and that such action may be limited by regulations prohibiting or restricting "shortselling" in many jurisdictions. Investors are urged to seek advice regarding the applicability of such regulations prior to executing any short idea contained in this report.

Foreign currency rates of exchange may adversely affect the value, price or income of any security or financial instrument mentioned in this report. Investors in such securities and instruments, including ADRs, effectively assume currency risk.

UK Readers: The protections provided by the U.K. regulatory regime, including the Financial Services Scheme, do not apply in general to business coordinated by BofA Merrill Lynch entities located outside of the United Kingdom. BofA Merrill Lynch Global Research policies relating to conflicts of interest are described at <http://www.ml.com/media/43347.pdf>.

Officers of MLPF&S or one or more of its affiliates (other than research analysts) may have a financial interest in securities of the issuer(s) or in related investments.

MLPF&S or one of its affiliates is a regular issuer of traded financial instruments linked to securities that may have been recommended in this report. MLPF&S or one of its affiliates may, at any time, hold a trading position (long or short) in the securities and financial instruments discussed in this report.

BofA Merrill Lynch, through business units other than BofA Merrill Lynch Global Research, may have issued and may in the future issue trading ideas or recommendations that are inconsistent with, and reach different conclusions from, the information presented in this report. Such ideas or recommendations reflect the different time frames, assumptions, views and analytical methods of the persons who prepared them, and BofA Merrill Lynch is under no obligation to ensure that such other trading ideas or recommendations are brought to the attention of any recipient of this report.

In the event that the recipient received this report pursuant to a contract between the recipient and MLPF&S for the provision of research services for a separate fee, and in connection therewith MLPF&S may be deemed to be acting as an investment adviser, such status relates, if at all, solely to the person with whom MLPF&S has contracted directly and does not extend beyond the delivery of this report (unless otherwise agreed specifically in writing by MLPF&S). MLPF&S is and continues to act solely as a broker-dealer in connection with the execution of any transactions, including transactions in any securities mentioned in this report.

Copyright and General Information regarding Research Reports:

Copyright 2012 Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated. All rights reserved. iQmethod, iQmethod 2.0, iQprofile, iQtoolkit, iQworks are service marks of Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. iQanalytics®, iQcustom®, iQdatabase® are registered service marks of Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. This research report is prepared for the use of BofA Merrill Lynch clients and may not be redistributed, retransmitted or disclosed, in whole or in part, or in any form or manner, without the express written consent of BofA Merrill Lynch. BofA Merrill Lynch Global Research reports are distributed simultaneously to internal and client websites and other portals by BofA Merrill Lynch and are not publicly-available materials. Any unauthorized use or disclosure is prohibited. Receipt and review of this research report constitutes your agreement not to redistribute, retransmit, or disclose to others the contents, opinions, conclusion, or information contained in this report (including any investment recommendations, estimates or price targets) without first obtaining expressed permission from an authorized officer of BofA Merrill Lynch.

Materials prepared by BofA Merrill Lynch Global Research personnel are based on public information. Facts and views presented in this material have not been reviewed by, and may not reflect information known to, professionals in other business areas of BofA Merrill Lynch, including investment banking personnel. BofA Merrill Lynch has established information barriers between BofA Merrill Lynch Global Research and certain business groups. As a result, BofA Merrill Lynch does not disclose certain client relationships with, or compensation received from, such companies in research reports. To the extent this report discusses any legal proceeding or issues, it has not been prepared as nor is it intended to express any legal conclusion, opinion or advice. Investors should consult their own legal advisers as to issues of law relating to the subject matter of this report. BofA Merrill Lynch Global Research personnel's knowledge of legal proceedings in which any BofA Merrill Lynch entity and/or its directors, officers and employees may be plaintiffs, defendants, co-defendants or co-plaintiffs with or involving companies mentioned in this report is based on public information. Facts and views presented in this material that relate to any such proceedings have not been reviewed by,

10 July 2012

discussed with, and may not reflect information known to, professionals in other business areas of BofA Merrill Lynch in connection with the legal proceedings or matters relevant to such proceedings.

This report has been prepared independently of any issuer of securities mentioned herein and not in connection with any proposed offering of securities or as agent of any issuer of any securities. None of MLPF&S, any of its affiliates or their research analysts has any authority whatsoever to make any representation or warranty on behalf of the issuer(s). BofA Merrill Lynch Global Research policy prohibits research personnel from disclosing a recommendation, investment rating, or investment thesis for review by an issuer prior to the publication of a research report containing such rating, recommendation or investment thesis.

Any information relating to the tax status of financial instruments discussed herein is not intended to provide tax advice or to be used by anyone to provide tax advice. Investors are urged to seek tax advice based on their particular circumstances from an independent tax professional.

The information herein (other than disclosure information relating to BofA Merrill Lynch and its affiliates) was obtained from various sources and we do not guarantee its accuracy. This report may contain links to third-party websites. BofA Merrill Lynch is not responsible for the content of any third-party website or any linked content contained in a third-party website. Content contained on such third-party websites is not part of this report and is not incorporated by reference into this report. The inclusion of a link in this report does not imply any endorsement by or any affiliation with BofA Merrill Lynch. Access to any third-party website is at your own risk, and you should always review the terms and privacy policies at third-party websites before submitting any personal information to them. BofA Merrill Lynch is not responsible for such terms and privacy policies and expressly disclaims any liability for them.

Subject to the quiet period applicable under laws of the various jurisdictions in which we distribute research reports and other legal and BofA Merrill Lynch policy-related restrictions on the publication of research reports, fundamental equity reports are produced on a regular basis as necessary to keep the investment recommendation current.

Certain outstanding reports may contain discussions and/or investment opinions relating to securities, financial instruments and/or issuers that are no longer current. Always refer to the most recent research report relating to a company or issuer prior to making an investment decision.

In some cases, a company or issuer may be classified as Restricted or may be Under Review or Extended Review. In each case, investors should consider any investment opinion relating to such company or issuer (or its security and/or financial instruments) to be suspended or withdrawn and should not rely on the analyses and investment opinion(s) pertaining to such issuer (or its securities and/or financial instruments) nor should the analyses or opinion(s) be considered a solicitation of any kind. Sales persons and financial advisors affiliated with MLPF&S or any of its affiliates may not solicit purchases of securities or financial instruments that are Restricted or Under Review and may only solicit securities under Extended Review in accordance with firm policies.

Neither BofA Merrill Lynch nor any officer or employee of BofA Merrill Lynch accepts any liability whatsoever for any direct, indirect or consequential damages or losses arising from any use of this report or its contents.