AU Small Finance Bank



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Lower LLP drives earnings beat; managing cost pressures will be key challenge, hereon

- AU SFB reported higher-than-expected PAT at Rs3.9bn vs. our estimate of Rs3.6bn, mainly due to stable margins and lower LLP, partly offset by higher opex. Bank utilized contingent provisions to the tune of Rs0.3bn, with asset quality in better control as GNPA ratio improved QoQ to 1.8%.
- Credit growth remained strong at 38% YoY/7% QoQ, mainly led by strong corporate/SME growth and healthy retail growth. Growth in the wheels portfolio remains relatively moderate amid rising rates, while other retail segments report strong traction. Management has guided to balance growth with margins.
- Bank awaits guidelines from the RBI for applying for the universal banking license, while term-extension applications for MD & CEO Sanjay Agarwal and WTD Uttam Tibrewal are pending with the RBI. We largely retain our earnings estimates and expect RoA/RoE at 1.7%/15-17% over FY23-25E, as leverage improves.
- We retain our HOLD rating on the stock, with a TP of Rs650/share, given rich valuations. That said, we believe AU's maneuvering the rising rate cycle without taking much impact on its otherwise-higher return ratios as well as raising compliance/governance standards will be closely tracked, as it prepares to apply for the Universal Banking Licence. Recent ECL norms too could be cumbersome for the bank, given its lower PCR and relatively-high risk model.
- Healthy growth continues; sustains margin pressure: AU SFB registered strong credit growth at 38% YoY/7% QoQ, owing to healthy traction in the corporate book. Retail growth too was decent, led by better growth in HL/BB, while wheels growth has been relatively slower, possibly hurt by rising rates. Deposit growth was healthy at 38% YoY/5% QoQ; however, CASA book de-grew by 5% due to cannibalization and, resultantly, CASA ratio declined by 4% to 38%. Despite a 14bps QoQ jump in CoF to 6%, the bank sustained its NIM at 6.2%, which could be incrementally challenging.
- Headline NPA ratios moderate; thus, Bank utilizes contingent buffer: Fresh slippages moderated to Rs2.3bn/2.3% of loans, while better recoveries/growth led to 9bps QoQ reduction in GNPA ratio to 1.8%. The restructured book too moderated QoQ, to 1.4% vs 1.7% in 2Q. With better handle on asset quality, Bank has utilized the contingent provision of Rs0.3bn in 3Q. That said, we believe macro & micro dislocation could cause some pressure on asset quality; thus, the bank needs to be well guarded for coping with any asset-quality hiccups.
- Outlook and valuations: We largely retain our earnings estimates and expect RoA/RoE at 1.7%/15-17% over FY23-25E, as leverage improves. That said, we believe AU's maneuvering the rising rate cycle without taking much impact on its otherwise-higher return ratios as well as raising compliance/governance standards will be closely tracked, as it prepares to apply for the Universal Banking Licence. We retain HOLD with TP of Rs650/share, valuing the bank at 3.4x Dec-24E ABV. Key risks: Margin impact amid rising interest rate scenario; higher than expected NPA formation in wheels/SBL portfolio; key management attrition.

Financial Snapshot (Standalone)

(Rs mn)	FY21	FY22	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E	heet.khimawat@ +91 22 6612 12
Net income	37,863	42,278	54,189	71,211	91,500	
Net profit	11,707	11,298	13,956	17,600	22,380	Dixit Sankharv
EPS (Rs)	19.0	18.0	21.0	25.2	32.0	dixit.sankharva
ABV (Rs)	92.6	116.6	158.0	170.5	196.5	+91 22 6612 12
RoA (%)	2.5	1.9	1.7	1.7	1.7	Soumya Jain
RoE (%)	22.0	16.4	15.3	15.3	17.0	soumya.jain@e
P/E (x)	32.7	34.5	29.6	24.7	19.4	+91 22 6612 12
P/ABV	6.7	5.3	3.9	3.6	3.2	0/0000 44-54 AM

СМР	Target Price
Rs 621 as of (January 19, 2023)	Rs 650 (∎) 12 months
Rating	Upside
HOLD (∎)	4.6 %

Change in Estimates

	Suma	.03		
EPS Chg FY2	23E/F1	Y24E (%	6)	-/
Target Price	change	e (%)		-
Target Period	l (Mon	ths)		12
Previous Rec	0			HOLD
Emkay vs Co	onsen	sus		
l	EPS E	stimate	es	
		F١	′23E	FY24E
Emkay			21.0	25.2
Consensus			20.6	28.3
Mean Conser	nsus T	P (12M)	Rs 720
Stock Details	5			
Bloomberg C	ode		AU	BANK IN
Face Value (F	Rs)			10
Shares outsta	anding	(mn)		667
52 Week H/L			7	733 / 525
M Cap (Rs br	n/USD	bn)	4	14 / 5.09
Daily Avg Vol	ume (I	nos.)	1	5,30,155
Daily Avg Tur	nover	(USD n	nn)	11.9
Shareholding	g Patt	ern Sej	o '22	
Promoters				25.6%
FIIs				38.5%
DIIs				21.3%
Public and Ot	hers			14.6%
Price Perform	nance)		
(%)	1M	3M	6M	12M
Absolute	(7)	(1)	10	(2)
Rel. to Nifty	(6)	(4)	(1)	(3)
Relative pric	e tren	d		
725 Rs				% [20
680	dk a			- 14



Source: Bloomberg

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Source: Company, Emkay Research

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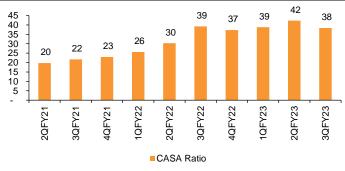
Story in charts

Exhibit 1: Strong credit growth continues

50% 45% 40% 38% 35% 37% 30% 25% 20% 15% 10% 5% 0% Y22 2QFY22 4QFY22 Y23 2QFY23 3QFY23 3QFY22 3QFY2 4QFY2 Б ц О AUM Growth (YoY) Loan Growth (YoY)

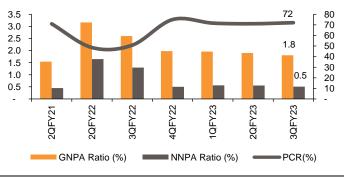
Source: Company, Emkay Research

Exhibit 3: CASA ratio sharply dips due to SA cannibalization



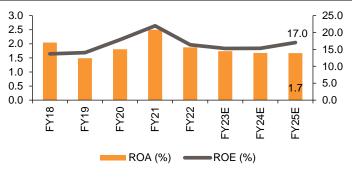
Source: Company, Emkay Research

Exhibit 5: Slippages moderation, along with better recoveries/growth, leads to decline in GNPA ratio to 1.8%



Source: Company, Emkay Research

Exhibit 7: We expect RoA/RoE at 1.7%/15-17% over FY23-25E, as leverage improves

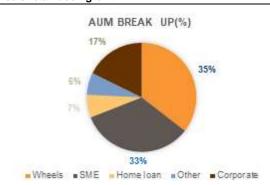


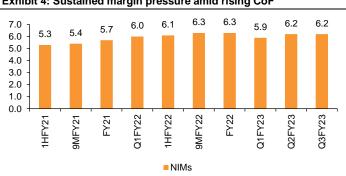
Source: Company, Emkay Research

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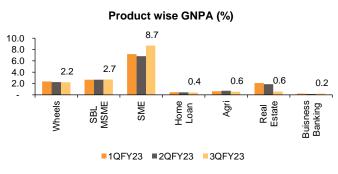
Exhibit 2: Share of wheels moderates, given strong corporate and non-wheels retail book growth





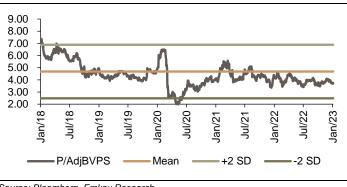
Source: Company, Emkay Research

Exhibit 6: Segmental NPA ratio shows stable-to-improving trend, except in the SME book



Source: Company, Emkay Research

Exhibit 8: The stock trades at rich valuations of 3.7x – One-year forward ABV



Source: Bloomberg, Emkay Research



Exhibit 9: Actuals vs. Estimates (Q3FY23)

(Rs mn)	Actuala	Estimates		Variation		Commonto
(1(3 1111)	Actuals	Emkay	Consensus	Emkay	Consensus	Comments
Net income	14,476	14,437	14,301	0%	1%	Flattish margins led to largely in-line Net Income
PPOP	5,557	5,725	5,250	-3%	6%	Higher opex led to a miss
PAT	3,928	3,634	3,420	8%	15%	Lower provisions led to profitability beat

Source: Company, Bloomberg, Emkay Research

Exhibit 10: Quarterly summary

(Rs mn)	3QFY22	4QFY22	1QFY23	2QFY23	3QFY23	YoY (%)	QoQ (%)	FY22	FY23E	YoY (%)
Interest Earned	14,965	16,670	18,202	19,923	21,181	42	6	59,217	82,247	39
Interest Exp	6,760	7,305	8,442	9,089	9,653	43	6	26,876	38,011	41
Net Interest Income	8,204	9,366	9,760	10,833	11,527	41	6	32,341	44,236	37
Global NIMs (reported)	6.30	6.30	5.90	6.20	6.20	-10bps	0bps	5.15	5.36	21bps
Non-interest Income	2,756	3,114	1,592	2,474	2,949	7	19	9,937	9,954	0
Operating Expenses	6,376	7,656	7,411	8,319	8,919	40	7	24,128	33,796	40
Pre Provisioning Profit	4,584	4,823	3,941	4,988	5,557	21	11	18,150	20,394	12
Provision & Contingencies	560	932	384	430	326	-42	-24	3,610	1,743	-52
PBT	4,025	3,891	3,557	4,558	5,231	30	15	14,541	18,651	28
Income Tax Expense (Gain)	1,004	430	878	1,132	1,302	30	15	3,242	4,694	45
Net Profit/(Loss)	3,020	3,461	2,679	3,426	3,928	30	15	11,298	13,956	24
Gross NPA (%)	2.60	1.98	1.96	1.90	1.81	-79bps	-9bps	1.98	1.70	-28bps
Net NPA (%)	1.30	0.50	0.56	0.56	0.51	-79bps	-5bps	0.59	0.52	-7bps
Deposits (Rs bn)	443	526	546	583	611	38	5	526	687	31
Net Advances (Rs bn)	402	461	486	517	556	38	7	461	624	35

Exhibit 11: Revision in estimates

Y/E Mar (Rs mn)		FY23E			FY24E			FY25E	
	Earlier	Revised	Change	Earlier	Revised	Change	Earlier	Revised	Change
Net income	54,118	54,189	0.1%	70,225	71,211	1.4%	88,240	91,500	3.7%
PPOP	20,973	20,394	-2.8%	28,634	27,954	-2.4%	37,950	38,053	0.3%
PAT	13,882	13,956	0.5%	17,600	17,600	0.0%	22,133	22,380	1.1%
EPS (Rs)	20.9	21.0	0.5%	25.2	25.2	0.0%	31.7	32.0	1.1%
BV (Rs)	161.5	161.6	0.1%	174.7	174.8	0.1%	201.4	201.8	0.2%

Source: Emkay Research

Exhibit 12: Key assumptions

(%)	FY22A	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
AUM Growth	26.8	36.0	32.0	28.0
Deposit Growth	42.0	30.5	28.0	26.8
NIM	5.2	5.4	5.3	5.4
GNPA	2.0	1.7	1.6	1.5
Credit Cost	0.5	0.3	0.6	0.8

Source: Emkay Research

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	Exhibit 13: K	ey Ratios and	Trends
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	3QFY21	4QFY21	1QFY22	2QFY22	3QFY22	4QFY22	1QFY23	2QFY23	3QFY23
Loans (Rs mn)	332,220	377,120	366,350	380,110	420,230	478,310	501,790	533,835	573,629
Growth YoY (%)	11.2	22.1	22.0	24.3	26.5	26.8	37.0	40.4	36.5
Growth QoQ (%)	8.6	13.5	(2.9)	3.8	10.6	13.8	4.9	6.4	7.5
Composition (%)									
Corporate (%)	14	14	14	14	15	17	17	18	19
Retail & Treasury (%)	86	86	86	86	85	83	83	82	81
Liability Profile									
Deposits (Rs mn)	297,080	359,793	370,140	390,340	442,780	525,846	546,310	583,354	611,010
Growth YoY (%)	24.5	37.5	38.5	44.7	49.0	46.2	47.6	49.4	38.0
Growth QoQ (%)	10.1	21.1	2.9	5.5	13.4	18.8	3.9	6.8	4.7
Liability Profile (%)									
CASA	21.7	23.0	25.6	30.3	39.2	37.3	38.8	42.3	38.4
CA	4.2	4.5	3.7	4.1	4.0	4.9	4.0	4.9	4.6
SA	17.5	18.5	21.9	26.2	35.2	32.4	34.8	37.4	33.8
No. of Branches	714	729	742	794	830	863	953	980	1,015
NIM	5.4	5.7	6.0	6.1	6.3	6.3	5.9	6.2	6.2
Asset Quality									
GNPA (%)	1.0	4.3	4.3	3.2	2.6	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.8
NNPA (%)	0.2	2.2	2.3	1.7	1.3	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.5
PCR (%)	76.0	49.7	48.8	48.6	50.8	75.0	71.7	71.1	72.1
Slippages (Rs mn)	60	12,440	2,500	2,100	2,490	1,950	2,530	2,620	2,310
Slippages - annualized (%)	0.1	16.1	3.3	2.7	3.0	2.1	2.8	2.8	2.2
CAR (%)	18.8	23.4	23.1	22.0	19.5	21.0	19.4	23.4	22.0
Tier I (%)	16.3	21.5	21.6	20.5	18.2	19.7	18.4	21.3	20.0
ROE Decomposition (on total assets) - %									
NII	5.6	5.3	5.6	5.8	5.9	5.9	5.6	5.8	5.8
Other Income (Ex Treasury)	5.5	2.3	0.9	1.4	1.9	2.0	1.2	1.3	1.5
Opex	3.7	4.6	3.6	4.2	4.6	4.8	4.2	4.5	4.5
PPOP	7.7	3.0	3.7	3.0	3.3	3.0	2.3	2.7	2.8
Provisioning Cost	2.5	1.4	1.6	0.0	0.4	0.6	0.2	0.2	0.2
PBT	5.2	1.6	2.1	3.0	2.9	2.4	2.0	2.4	2.6
Тах	1.0	0.2	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.7
ROA	4.23	1.38	1.58	2.13	2.16	2.17	1.53	1.84	1.98
ROE	39.0	12.1	12.7	16.8	17.4	18.9	14.0	15.3	15.2

Source: Company, Emkay Research

Key Financials (Standalone)

Income Statement

Y/E Mar (Rs mn)	FY21	FY22	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
Net interest income	23,654	32,341	44,236	57,515	74,098
Other income	14,209	9,937	9,954	13,696	17,401
Fee income	4,283	6,126	7,828	10,176	13,229
Net income	37,863	42,278	54,189	71,211	91,500
Operating expenses	16,584	24,128	33,796	43,257	53,447
Pre provision profit	21,279	18,150	20,394	27,954	38,053
PPP excl treasury	12,737	16,721	20,894	27,454	37,353
Provisions	6,695	3,610	1,743	4,434	8,145
Profit before tax	14,585	14,541	18,651	23,520	29,908
Тах	2,878	3,242	4,694	5,920	7,528
Tax rate	20	22	25	25	25
Profit after tax	11,707	11,298	13,956	17,600	22,380

Balance Sheet

Y/E Year End (Rs mn)	FY21	FY22	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
Equity	3,122	3,149	3,494	3,494	3,494
Reserves	59,630	71,991	1,03,856	1,18,661	1,37,547
Net worth	62,752	75,140	1,07,350	1,22,155	1,41,041
Deposits	3,59,793	5,25,846	6,87,075	8,79,891	11,15,634
Borrowings	64,147	54,908	57,653	49,005	41,654
Total liabilities	5,15,912	6,90,778	9,15,019	11,88,101	14,97,920
Cash and bank	15,693	24,684	33,054	45,120	65,052
Investments	1,08,154	1,53,065	1,93,791	2,34,434	2,84,141
Loans	3,46,089	4,60,953	6,24,482	8,32,902	10,77,106
Others	9,033	11,250	20,912	30,412	23,197
Total assets	5,15,912	6,90,778	9,15,019	11,88,101	14,97,920

Key Ratios (%)

···· ·····					
Y/E Year End	FY21	FY22	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
NIM	5.2	5.6	5.7	5.7	5.7
Non-II/avg assets	3.0	1.6	1.2	1.3	1.3
Fee income/avg assets	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Opex/avg assets	3.5	4.0	4.2	4.1	4.0
Provisions/avg assets	1.4	0.6	0.2	0.4	0.6
PBT/avg assets	3.1	2.4	2.3	2.2	2.2
Tax/avg assets	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6
RoA	2.5	1.9	1.7	1.7	1.7
RoAE	22.0	16.4	15.3	15.3	17.0
GNPA (%)	4.3	2.0	1.7	1.6	1.5
NNPA (%)	2.2	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5
Per Share Data (Rs)	FY21	FY22	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
EPS	19.0	18.0	21.0	25.2	32.0
BVPS	101.8	119.8	161.6	174.8	201.8
ABVPS	92.6	116.6	158.0	170.5	196.5
DPS	0.0	0.5	2.6	4.0	5.0
Voluctions ()	EV04	EV22	EVODE	EV04E	EVOEE
Valuations (x)	FY21	FY22	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
PER	32.7	34.5	29.6	24.7	19.4
P/BV	6.7	5.3	3.9	3.6	3.2
P/ABV	6.7	5.3	3.9	3.6	3.2
P/PPOP	9.1	10.8	10.6	7.8	5.7
Dividend Yield (%)	0.0	0.1	0.4	0.6	0.8
Source: Company, Emkay Research	0.0	0.1	0.4	0.0	

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India Equity Research | Result Update

Growth (%)	FY21	FY22	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
NII	23.9	36.7	36.8	30.0	28.8
PPOP	77.7	(14.7)	12.4	37.1	36.1
PAT	73.5	(3.5)	23.5	26.1	27.2
Loans	28.2	33.2	35.5	33.4	29.3

Quarterly (Rs mn)	Q3FY22	Q4FY22	Q1FY23	Q2FY23	Q3FY23
NII	8,204	9,366	9,760	10,833	11,527
NIM (%)	6.3	6.3	5.9	6.2	6.2
PPOP	4,584	4,823	3,941	4,988	5,557
PAT	3,020	3,461	2,679	3,426	3,928
EPS (Rs)	9.63	10.99	8.51	5.15	5.90
Source: Company, Emkay Research					
Shareholding Pattern (%)	Mar-22	Jun-22	Jun-22	Aug-22	Sep-22
Promoters	28.2	28.2	28.2	26.8	25.6
FIIs	34.3	35.1	34.8	35.9	38.5
DIIs	18.8	18.4	18.7	19.8	21.3
Public and Others	18.7	18.3	18.3	17.5	14.6
Source: Capitaline					

Source: Capitaline

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RECOMMENDATION HISTORY (Rs/share)

Date	Closing Price	ТР	Period	Rating	Analyst
19-Oct-22	626	650	12m	Hold	Anand Dama
21-Jul-22	587	630	12m	Hold	Anand Dama
30-Jun-22	592	650	12m	Hold	Anand Dama
27-Apr-22	681	670	12m	Hold	Anand Dama
11-Feb-22	660	638	12m	Hold	Anand Dama
29-Jan-22	636	638	12m	Hold	Anand Dama
04-Jan-22	548	638	12m	Hold	Anand Dama
30-Oct-21	608	638	12m	Hold	Anand Dama
31-Aug-21	565	615	12m	Hold	Anand Dama
07-Aug-21	624	615	12m	Hold	Anand Dama
01-May-21	502	500	12m	Hold	Anand Dama
30-Apr-21	502	500	12m	Hold	Anand Dama
09-Mar-21	616	500	12m	Hold	Anand Dama
30-Jan-21	436	500	12m	Hold	Anand Dama
20-Jan-21	460	500	12m	Hold	Anand Dama
30-Oct-20	388	440	12m	Hold	Anand Dama
24-Jul-20	396	400	12m	Hold	Anand Dama
04-May-20	259	268	12m	Hold	Anand Dama
11-Apr-20	248	275	12m	Hold	Anand Dama
23-Jan-20	487	513	12m	Hold	Anand Dama

RECOMMENDATION HISTORY (Rs/share)



Source: Bloomberg, Company, Emkay Research

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Emkay Rating Distribution

Ratings	Expected Return within the next 12-18 months.	
BUY	Over 15%	
HOLD	Between -5% to 15%	
SELL	Below -5%	

Completed Date: 20 Jan 2023 02:58:06 (SGT) Dissemination Date: 20 Jan 2023 02:59:06 (SGT)

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