MIRAE ASSET Sharekhan

Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd

Weak Q4

Bank	Sharekhan code: KOTAKBANK
Reco/View: **Buy** ⇔	CMP: **Rs. 2,185**
	Price Target: **Rs. 2,500** ⇔

↑ Upgrade ⇔ Maintain ↓ Downgrade

3R MATRIX	+	=	-
Right Sector (RS)	✓		
Right Quality (RQ)	✓		
Right Valuation (RV)		✓	

\+ Positive = Neutral – Negative

What has changed in 3R MATRIX

	Old		New
RS		⇔	
RQ		⇔	
RV		↓	

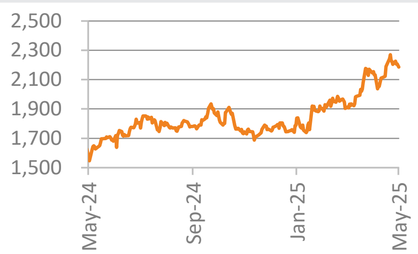
Company details

Market cap:	Rs. 4,34,276 cr
52-week high/low:	Rs. 2,302/1,544
NSE volume: (No of shares)	41.9 lakh
BSE code:	500247
NSE code:	KOTAKBANK
Free float: (No of shares)	146.6 cr

Shareholding (%)

Promoters	25.9
FII	32.7
DII	29.1
Others	12.3

Price chart



Source: NSE India, Mirae Asset Sharekhan Research

Price performance

(%)	1m	3m	6m	12m
Absolute	2.4	15.9	25.3	41.2
Relative to Sensex	-2.6	11.6	23.1	33.3

Source: Mirae Asset Sharekhan Research, Bloomberg

Summary

- Core PPoP was weak (up just ~2% y-o-y) besides higher provisions on investment book led to weak net earnings in Q4FY25 (below estimates). Core credit cost stood marginally lower at 64 bps annualised versusversus 68 bps q-o-q.
- Weak NII, higher opex growth was partially offset by higher fee and other income. Higher other income has aided profitability on a q-o-q basis.
- Asset quality improved, led by contained slippages and higher write-offs. Loan / deposit growth was modest at 13.5% y-o-y/11.2% y-o-y respectively. The bank is confident of a growth rebound in FY26E.
- We acknowledge that core operating profitability would be slight lower in FY26E led by lower NIMs, but we believe that balance sheet growth /profitability is expected to be better than peers. Thus, we maintain a Buy rating with an unchanged SOTP-based PT of Rs. 2,500. The stock trades at 2.2x/2.0x its FY2026E/FY2027E core BV estimates.

Q4FY25 numbers were weak. NII, at Rs. 7,284 crore (marginally below estimates), grew by 5% y-o-y/1% q-o-q. Net interest margin (NIM) was broadly stable q-o-q, improved by 4 bps q-o-q to 4.97% benefiting from the lower day count in Q4 although outlook on NIMs remains negative. Core fee income grew by 6% y-o-y/11% q-o-q. There was a treasury gain of Rs. 23 crore versus Rs. 34 crore q-o-q and Rs. 134 crore y-o-y. Other income excluding treasury gains stood at Rs. 543 crore up 44% y-o-y/ 140% q-o-q. Total operating expenses grew by 13% y-o-y/8% q-o-q. Opex-to-average assets stood at 3.0% versus 2.9% q-o-q. Priority sector lending certificate (PSLC) costs, actuarial provisioning, marketing cost, performance incentive led to surge in opex q-o-q. Operating profit (below estimates) was flat y-o-y/ grew 6% q-o-q. Core PPoP (ex-treasury gains) grew 2% y-o-y/ 6% q-o-q. Provisions were higher at Rs. 909 crore (versus est. Rs. 793 crore) led by higher provisions on AIF/ other investments. Core credit cost stood at 64 bps versus 68 bps q-o-q and 42 bps y-o-y. PAT at Rs. 3,552 crore (below estimates) decline by 14% y-o-y but was up by 7% q-o-q. Asset-quality trends improved led by contained slippages and higher write offs. GNPA/ NNPA ratio improved q-o-q to 1.42%/ 0.31% versus 1.50%/ 0.41% q-o-q. PCR at ~78% versus 73% q-o-q. Slippages were down by 10% q-o-q at Rs. 1,488 crore versus Rs. 1,657 crore q-o-q (1.6% annualized versus 1.8% q-o-q). Net slippages were also lower at Rs. 741 crore versus Rs. 895 crore q-o-q led by contained slippages. Restructured book stands at 0.05% of advances stable q-o-q. SMA-2 book stood at Rs. 116 crore versus. Rs. 208 crore q-o-q. Loan growth at 14% y-o-y/ 3% q-o-q was modest (below expectations) while deposit growth improved q-o-q to 5% / 11% y-o-y. CASA balances grew 5% y-o-y/ 7% q-o-q. CA was up 11% q-o-q, while savings accounts was up 5% q-o-q. CASA ratio at 43.0% versus 42.3% q-o-q and 45.5% y-o-y. Term deposits grew by 16% y-o-y/ 4% q-o-q. LDR stood at 85.5% versus 87.4% q-o-q. Among subsidiaries, Kotak Prime's & Kotak AMC's performance was healthy while kotak securities and life insurance business reported decline in earnings.

Key positives

- Net slippages were lower at Rs. 741 crore versus Rs. 895 crore q-o-q led by contained slippages.
- CA accretion was strong (up 10% q-o-q).

Key negatives

- Opex-to-average assets stood higher at 3% versus 2.9% q-o-q.
- Loan growth at 14% y-o-y/ 3% q-o-q was modest (below expectations).
- Core PPoP was weak (up ~2% y-o-y).
- Write-offs were higher at Rs. 873 crore versus Rs. 662 crore q-o-q.

Management Commentary

- Stress in unsecured retail continues to show a reducing trend, where the credit card portfolio continues to plateau and hope to see a decline in H2FY26. In MFI segment, credit costs to stay at this elevated level atleast for the next two quarters.
- Secured book continues to have negligible delinquencies.
- The bank is confident of growing at 1.5-2.0x times the nominal GDP. Unsecured retail mix will get to mid-teens over the next 2 years (c.at 10.5%). Large corporate loan segment showed higher pricing pressure.
- The recent savings account and term deposit rate-cuts should help to cushion NIMs from the repo rate-cuts. Overall focus is on managing the cost of funds effectively to shield NIMs.

Our Call

Valuation – Maintain Buy with an unchanged PT of Rs. 2,500: We acknowledge that core operating profitability would be slight lower in FY26E led by lower NIMs but growth /profitability is expected to be better than peers in FY26E thus we reiterate buy on Kotak Mahindra Bank with an unchanged SOTP-based PT of Rs. 2,500. The bank is reasonably confident to sustain RoA over ~2% in the near to medium term. We also expect its subsidiaries' contribution to increase to consolidated earnings, as it gains scale and market share gradually going forward. The stock is trading at 2.2x/2.0x its FY2026E/FY2027E core BV estimates.

Key Risks

Slower loan growth, higher credit cost, lower margins and slower growth in retail liabilities.

Valuation (Standalone) Rs cr

Particulars	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E
Net Interest Income	21,552	25,993	28,342	31,074	35,708
Net profit	10,939	13,782	16,450	15,297	17,267
EPS (Rs.)	54.9	69.2	82.7	76.5	85.9
P/E (x)	26.6	21.1	17.6	19.1	17.0
P/BV (x)	3.5	3.0	2.5	2.2	2.0
RoE	14.1	15.3	15.4	12.3	12.2
RoA	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.1	2.1

Source: Company; Mirae Asset Sharekhan estimates

Stock Update

Result Update

Results (Standalone) Rs cr

Particulars	4QFY25	4QFY24	3QFY25	Y-o-Y	Q-o-Q
Interest Inc.	13,530	12,307	13,428	10%	1%
Interest Expenses	6,246	5,398	6,231	16%	0%
Net Interest Income	**7,284**	**6,909**	**7,196**	**5%**	**1%**
NIM (%)	4.97	5.28	4.93		
Core Fee Income	2,616	2,467	2,362	6%	11%
Other Income	566	511	261	11%	117%
Net Income	**10,466**	**9,888**	**9,819**	**6%**	**7%**
Employee Expenses	2,106	1,826	1,952	15%	8%
Other Opex	2,888	2,600	2,686	11%	8%
Total Opex	**4,994**	**4,426**	**4,638**	**13%**	**8%**
Cost to Income Ratio	47.7%	44.8%	47.2%		
Pre Provision Profits	**5,472**	**5,462**	**5,181**	**0%**	**6%**
Provisions & Contingencies - Total	909	264	794	245%	15%
Profit Before Tax	**4,563**	**5,198**	**4,387**	**-12%**	**4%**
Tax	1,011	1,065	1,082	-5%	-7%
Effective Tax Rate	22%	20%	25%		
Reported Profits	**3,552**	**4,133**	**3,305**	**-14%**	**7%**
Basic EPS (Rs)	17.86	20.60	16.62	-13%	7%
Diluted EPS (Rs)	17.86	20.60	16.62	-13%	7%
RoA (%)	2.2	3.0	2.1		
Advances	4,26,909	3,76,075	4,13,839	13.5%	3.2%
Deposits	4,99,055	4,48,954	4,73,497	11%	5%
Gross NPA	**6,134**	**5,275**	**6,266**	**16%**	**-2%**
Gross NPA Ratio (%)	1.42	1.39	1.50		
Net NPA	**1,343**	**1,271**	**1,681**	**6%**	**-20%**
Net NPAs Ratio (%)	0.31	0.34	0.41		
PCR - Calculated	78.1%	75.9%	73.2%		

Source: Company; Mirae Asset Sharekhan Research

SOTP Valuation

Subsidiary/Associate	Per share value (Rs.)
Kotak Prime	147
Kotak Securities	151
Kotak Life Insurance	233
Kotak Mahindra Investments	46
Kotak AMC	118
Others	30
Value of subs/ associates	**726**
Core Bank	1,774
Total SOTP-based valuation (Rs.)	**2,500**

Source: Company; Mirae Asset Sharekhan Research

Outlook and Valuation

■ Sector Outlook – Deposit mobilisation, NIMs and asset quality to be in focus

Deposit mobilisation and asset quality are in focus. System credit growth is slowing and has declined to ~11.4% y-o-y from 16.4% in FY2024 as per the latest fortnight data, mainly driven by slower deposit growth, slowdown in unsecured retail segment and a high credit-deposit ratio. Deposit growth at 10.3% is lagging loan growth and stays rangebound at 10-12%. Moreover, deposit growth is mainly led by time deposits rather than CASA. Margins are expected to be under pressure due to the elevated cost of term deposits, while a lower interest rate cycle will lead to yield pressure. Overall, asset quality outlook is stable to positive for the sector, except for the unsecured retail loans and MFI segment. We believe banks with a robust capital base, strong asset quality, and healthy retail deposit franchises are well-placed to capture growth opportunities.

■ Company Outlook – Attractive franchise

We believe Kotak Mahindra Bank is an attractive business franchise over the medium to long term. The bank's subsidiaries are shaping up well, and while at present, they are relatively small, we believe each one has a strong business model and is well on track to be a significant value contributor to the consolidated business in the long term. We remain constructive from a medium to long-term perspective.

■ Valuation – Maintain Buy with an unchanged PT of Rs. 2,500

We acknowledge that core operating profitability would be slight lower in FY26E led by lower NIMs but growth /profitability is expected to be better than peers in FY26E thus we reiterate buy on Kotak Mahindra Bank with an unchanged SOTP-based PT of Rs. 2,500. The bank is reasonably confident to sustain RoA over ~2% in the near to medium term. We also expect its subsidiaries' contribution to increase to consolidated earnings, as it gains scale and market share gradually going forward. The stock is trading at 2.2x/2.0x its FY2026E/FY2027E core BV estimates.

Peer valuation

Particulars	CMP (Rs / Share)	MCAP (Rs Cr)	P/E (x)		P/B (x)		RoE (%)		RoA (%)	
			FY26E	FY27E	FY26E	FY27E	FY26E	FY27E	FY26E	FY27E
Kotak Mahindra Bank	2,185	4,34,276	19.1	17.0	2.2	2.0	12.3	12.2	2.1	2.1
ICICI Bank	1,432	10,19,300	17.4	14.8	2.5	2.1	15.3	15.5	2.1	2.2
Axis Bank	1,182	3,66,042	11.7	10.1	1.5	1.3	14.1	14.4	1.6	1.7

Source: Company; Mirae Asset Sharekhan Research

About company

Established in 1985, Kotak Mahindra Group is one of India's leading financial services conglomerates. KMB has a national footprint of 2,148 branches and 3,295 ATMs. The group offers a wide range of financial services that include commercial banking, stock broking, mutual funds, insurance, and investment banking. The group caters to the diverse financial needs of individuals and the corporate sector. The bank has a well-diversified pan-India presence (~32% in North, 31% in West, 29% in South, and 8% in Eastern India).

Investment theme

We believe KMB is an attractive business franchise over the medium to long term. The bank's subsidiaries are also shaping up well; and while at present, they are relatively small, we believe each one has a strong business model and is well on track to be a significant value contributor to the consolidated business in the long term.

Key Risks

Slower loan growth, higher credit cost, lower margins, slower growth in retail liabilities.

Additional Data

Key management personnel

Name	Designation
Ashok Vaswani	Managing Director and CEO
S. Ekambaram	Deputy MD
Devang Gheewala	CFO

Source: Company Website

Top 10 shareholders

Sr. No.	Holder Name	Holding (%)
1	Kotak Uday Suresh	25.70
2	Life Insurance Corp of India	7.36
3	SBI Funds Management Ltd	5.59
4	HDFC Asset Management Co Ltd	2.60
5	Vanguard Group Inc/The	2.27
6	Capital Group Cos Inc/The	2.19
7	Blackrock Inc	2.18
8	Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group In	1.65
9	UTI Asset Management Co Ltd	1.58
10	Invesco Ltd	1.55

Source: Bloomberg

Understanding the Mirae Asset Sharekhan 3R Matrix

Right Sector	
Positive	Strong industry fundamentals (favorable demand-supply scenario, consistent industry growth), increasing investments, higher entry barrier, and favorable government policies
Neutral	Stagnancy in the industry growth due to macro factors and lower incremental investments by Government/private companies
Negative	Unable to recover from low in the stable economic environment, adverse government policies affecting the business fundamentals and global challenges (currency headwinds and unfavorable policies implemented by global industrial institutions) and any significant increase in commodity prices affecting profitability.
Right Quality	
Positive	Sector leader, Strong management bandwidth, Strong financial track-record, Healthy Balance sheet/cash flows, differentiated product/service portfolio and Good corporate governance.
Neutral	Macro slowdown affecting near term growth profile, Untoward events such as natural calamities resulting in near term uncertainty, Company specific events such as factory shutdown, lack of positive triggers/events in near term, raw material price movement turning unfavourable
Negative	Weakening growth trend led by led by external/internal factors, reshuffling of key management personal, questionable corporate governance, high commodity prices/ weak realisation environment resulting in margin pressure and detoriating balance sheet
Right Valuation	
Positive	Strong earnings growth expectation and improving return ratios but valuations are trading at discount to industry leaders/historical average multiples, Expansion in valuation multiple due to expected outperformance amongst its peers and Industry up-cycle with conducive business environment.
Neutral	Trading at par to historical valuations and having limited scope of expansion in valuation multiples.
Negative	Trading at premium valuations but earnings outlook are weak; Emergence of roadblocks such as corporate governance issue, adverse government policies and bleak global macro environment etc warranting for lower than historical valuation multiple.

Source: Mirae Asset Sharekhan Research

DISCLAIMER

This information/document has been prepared by Sharekhan Ltd. (SHAREKHAN) and is intended for use only by the person or entity to which it is addressed to. This Document may contain confidential and/or privileged material and is not for any type of circulation and any review, retransmission, or any other use is strictly prohibited. This information/ document is subject to changes without prior notice.

Recommendation in reports based on technical and derivatives analysis is based on studying charts of a stock's price movement, trading volume, outstanding positions, as opposed to focusing on a company's fundamentals and as such, may not match with a report on a company's fundamentals. However, this would only apply for information/document focused on technical and derivatives research and shall not apply to reports/documents/information focused on fundamental research.

This information/document does not constitute an offer to sell or solicitation for the purchase or sale of any financial instrument or as an official confirmation of any transaction. Though disseminated to all customers who are due to receive the same, not all customers may receive this report at the same time. SHAREKHAN will not treat recipients as customers by virtue of their receiving this information/report.

The information contained herein is obtained from publicly available data or other sources believed to be reliable and SHAREKHAN has not independently verified the accuracy and completeness of the said data and hence it should not be relied upon as such. While we would endeavour to update the information herein on reasonable basis, SHAREKHAN, its subsidiaries and associated companies, their directors and employees ("SHAREKHAN and affiliates") are under no obligation to update or keep the information current. Also, there may be regulatory, compliance, or other reasons that may prevent SHAREKHAN and affiliates from doing so. This document is prepared for assistance only and is not intended to be and must not alone be taken as the basis for an investment decision. Recipients of this report should also be aware that past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance and value of investments can go down as well. The user assumes the entire risk of any use made of this information. Each recipient of this document should make such investigations as it deems necessary to arrive at an independent evaluation of an investment in the securities of companies referred to in this document (including the merits and risks involved) and should consult its own advisors to determine the merits and risks of such an investment. The investment discussed or views expressed may not be suitable for all investors. We do not undertake to advise you as to any change of our views. Affiliates of Sharekhan may have issued other recommendations/ reports that are inconsistent with and reach different conclusions from the information presented in this recommendations/report.

This information/recommendation/report is not directed or intended for distribution to, or use by, any person or entity who is a citizen or resident of or located in any locality, state, country or other jurisdiction, where such distribution, publication, availability or use would be contrary to law, regulation or which would subject SHAREKHAN and affiliates to any registration or licensing requirement within such jurisdiction. The securities described herein may or may not be eligible for sale in all jurisdictions or to certain category of investors. Persons in whose possession this document may come are required to inform themselves of and to observe such restriction.

The analyst certifies that the analyst might have dealt or traded directly or indirectly in securities of the company and that all the views expressed in this document accurately reflect his or her personal views about the subject company or companies and its or their securities and do not necessarily reflect those of SHAREKHAN. The analyst and SHAREKHAN further certifies that either he or his relatives or Sharekhan associates might have direct or indirect financial interest or might have actual or beneficial ownership of 1% or more in the securities of the company at the end of the month immediately preceding the date of publication of the research report. The analyst and SHAREKHAN encourages independence in research report/ material preparation and strives to minimize conflict in preparation of research report. The analyst and SHAREKHAN does not have any material conflict of interest or has not served as officer, director or employee or engaged in market making activity of the company. The analyst and SHAREKHAN has not been a part of the team which has managed or co-managed the public offerings of the company, and no part of the analyst's compensation was, is or will be, directly or indirectly related to specific recommendations or views expressed in this document. Sharekhan Ltd or its associates or analysts have not received any compensation for investment banking, merchant banking, brokerage services or any compensation or other benefits from the subject company or from third party in the past twelve months in connection with the research report.

Either SHAREKHAN or its affiliates or its directors or employees / representatives / clients or their relatives may have position(s), make market, act as principal or engage in transactions of purchase or sell of securities, from time to time or may be materially interested in any of the securities or related securities referred to in this report and they may have used the information set forth herein before publication. SHAREKHAN may from time to time solicit from, or perform investment banking, or other services for, any company mentioned herein. Without limiting any of the foregoing, in no event shall SHAREKHAN, any of its affiliates or any third party involved in, or related to, computing or compiling the information have any liability for any damages of any kind.

Forward-looking statements (if any) are provided to allow potential investors the opportunity to understand management's beliefs and opinions in respect of the future so that they may use such beliefs and opinions as one factor in evaluating an investment. These statements are not a guarantee of future performance and undue reliance should not be placed on them. Such forward-looking statements necessarily involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties, which may cause actual performance and financial results in future periods to differ materially from any projections of future performance or result expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Sharekhan/its affiliates undertakes no obligation to update forward-looking statements if circumstances or management's estimates or opinions should change except as required by applicable securities laws. The reader/investors are cautioned not to place undue reliance on forward-looking statements and use their independent judgement before taking any investment decision.

Investment in securities market are subject to market risks, read all the related documents carefully before investing. The securities quoted are for illustration only and are not recommendatory. Registration granted by SEBI, and certification from NISM in no way guarantee performance of the intermediary or provide any assurance of returns to investors.

Client should read the Risk Disclosure Document issued by SEBI & relevant exchanges and the T&C on www.sharekhan.com

---

Registration and Contact Details: Name of Research Analyst - Sharekhan Limited, Research Analyst Regn No.: INH000006183. CIN: - U99999MH1995PLC087498.

Registered Office: The Ruby, 18th Floor, 29 Senapati Bapat Marg, Dadar (West), Mumbai – 400 028, Maharashtra, INDIA. Tel: 022-6115000.

Correspondence/Administrative Office Address - Gigaplex IT Park, Unit No 1001, 10th Floor, Building No.9, TTC Industrial Area, Digha, Airoli-West, Navi Mumbai – 400708. Tel: 022 61169000 / 61150000, Fax No. 61169699.

Other registrations of Sharekhan Ltd.: SEBI Regn. Nos.: BSE / NSE (CASH / F&O / CD) / MCX - Commodity: INZ000171337; BSE – 748, NSE – 10733, MCX – 56125, DP: NSDL/CDSL-IN-DP-365-2018; PMS: INP000005786; Mutual Fund: ARN 20669 (date of initial registration: 03/07/2004, and valid till 02/07/2026); IRDAI Registered Corporate Agent (Composite) License No. CA0950, valid till June 13, 2027.

Chief Compliance Officer: Mr. Joby John Meledan; Tel: 022-62263303; email id: complianceofficer@sharekhan.com

For any complaints/grievance, email us at igc@sharekhan.com or you may even call Customer Service desk on - 022- 41523200/022-69920600.