BUY

Karnataka Bank

Financials

Result Update

16 October 2017

Solid performance; reiterate BUY

We retain Buy on Karnataka Bank (KBL) with TP unchanged at Rs200 (valued at 1.3x FY19E ABV). Q2'18 results were strong on all fronts - loan growth accelerates, margins improve, fee income strengths further and asset quality – ie slippages moderate. Commentaries on each of the above key parameters remain encouraging and thus even as we factor in elevated provisioning; we believe RoE's are set to inch towards 12% levels by end-FY19E. Capital position remains strong; valuations at 1x FY19E ABV remain undemanding.

- Q2FY18 result Solid performance: Q2'18 NII at Rs4.4bn grew 10.8% YoY and was led by 12.3% YoY growth in loans and further expansion in NIM (calc) to 2.75% (+9bps QoQ 3bps YoY). Non-interest income too came in higher (fees grew 36% YoY; treasury were up 21% YoY) and with stable costs saw operating profit grow 57% YoY. Slippages stood at Rs3.74bn (3.6% of loans annualised) vs. Rs4.98bn QoQ and after providing for the same including tax related provisioning, net profit came in at Rs934mn (down 25% YoY). While sequential decline in slippages is positive, provision coverage ratio at 27.3% (flat QoQ) is still on the lower side to peers and needs some attention. Deposits grew by 6.5% YoY led by 15.6% YoY growth in CASA deposits; CASA ratio has inched to 28.6% (vs. 26.3% YoY).
- Margins on upmove; slippages set to moderate: NIM at 2.75% (calc) for the quarter is on an upward trajectory and is following continued efforts at a) containing overall cost of deposits (6.23% in Q2'18 vs. 6.3% in Q1'18) b) scaling overall loan-to-deposit ratio higher (Q2'18 LDR at 72.7% vs. 68.4% QoQ / 69% YoY) and c) garnering CASA deposits including recent reduction in SA rates (effective August, 2017). Levers are in place and will see overall NIM (calc) inch towards 2.9% by FY19E. Q2'18 slippages at Rs3.74bn included one large account of Rs2.3bn (housing-infra sector) that was downgraded to NPA. This account was earlier recognised as SDR and the bank carries adequate provisioning thereon. Standard restructured loans stood at Rs6.9bn and coupled with GNPA, SDR and S4A make for 6.5% of loans (vs. 8.6% in FY17). Commentaries on incremental slippages remain encouraging and we have factored the same into our estimates.
- O Provisioning to impact near-term profitability; underlying trend intact: The trends on the operating front remain encouraging loan growth momentum accelerating, NIM, loan-to-deposit ratio on an up-move, increasing contribution from core-fee income, improving CASA and stable operating costs. We thus have revised our NII / PPOP estimates upwards and are now factoring in 15.5% / 23.9% CAGR respectively over FY17-19E. Slippages are set to moderate / decline in H2'18; provisioning however is set to remain higher given a) NPA ageing b) provisioning towards IBC cases and c) any markdown (if required) on the security receipt (SR) portfolio. The quarter saw SR related provisioning of Rs250mn; the bank has Rs4.5bn of O/s. SR. Given the above factors including the need to increase overall PCR we are factoring in 130bps of credit cost over FY17-19E. We expect the bank to report 24% CAGR in PAT over the similar time-frame
- O Valuation, view and key risks: KBL Q2'18 results were in-line with our estimates on several fronts. We, however have tweaked our estimates on provisioning front. Though at a nascent stage of transformation, the bank has made strong in-roads in its journey of RoE improvement. The transformational exercise as envisaged will further augment overall RoE's. Valuations at 1x FY19E ABV remain attractive. Retain Buy with TP at Rs200 (valued at 1.3x FY19E ABV). Higher than expected slippages and lower than expected credit growth remain near-term risks.

Rs mn	Q2FY18	Q2FY17	% YoY	Q1FY18	% QoQ	Q2FY18E	% Var
Net interest income	4,402	3,973	10.8	4,244	3.7	4,444	(0.9)
Pre-provision profit	3,662	2,328	57.4	3,097	18.3	3,192	14.7
Net profit	934	1,238	(24.6)	1,339	(30.2)	1,370	(31.9)
GNPA	17,157	13,445	27.6	16,910	1.5		
NNPA	12,468	9,614	29.7	12,300	1.4		
PCR (%) calc	27.3	28.5	(117bps)	27.3	-		

Source: Company, Centrum Research

Target Pr	ice		Rs200	Key Data					
CMP*			Rs160	Bloomberg Code	KBL IN				
Upside			25%	Curr Shares O/S (mn)	282.6				
Previous T	arget		Rs200	Diluted Shares O/S(mn)	282.6				
Previous R	Previous Rating		Buy	Mkt Cap (Rsbn/USDmn)	45.2/698.6				
Price Perf	ormano	e (%)*		52 Wk H / L (Rs)	181.2/100.1				
	1M	6M	1Yr	5 Year H / L (Rs)	181.2/56.3				
KBL IN	4.0	3.8	31.4	Daily Vol. (3M NSE Avg.)	2793910.0				
NIFTY	1.4	11.8	19.2						

*as on 16 October 2017; Source: Bloomberg, Centrum Research

Shareholding pattern (%)*

	Sep-17	Jun-17	Mar-17	Dec-16
Promoter	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
FIIs	18.7	21.9	19.2	20.2
DIIs	11.2	9.8	11.6	8.5
Others	70.1	68.3	69.2	71.4

Source: BSE,*as on 16 October v 2017

Earnings revision

Particulars		FY18E		FY19E				
(Rs mn)	New	Old	Var (%)	New	Old	Var (%)		
NII + Oth. Inc	26,863	25,744	4.3	29,819	29,469	1.2		
PPoP	13,391	12,650	5.9	15,306	14,950	2.4		
PAT	5,203	5,668	(8.2)	6,978	7,259	(3.9)		

Source: Bloomberg, Centrum Research Estimates

Centrum vs. Bloomberg Consensus*

Particulars		FY18E		FY19E			
(Rs mn)	Centrum	BBG	Var (%)	Centrum	BBG	Var (%)	
NII + Oth. Inc	26,863	25,500	5.3	29,819	39,433	(24.4)	
PPoP	13,391	10,967	22.1	15,306	12,788	19.7	
PAT	5,203	4,919	5.8	6,978	6,308	10.6	

Bloomb	erg Conse	ensus*		Centrum Target	Variance
BUY	SELL	HOLD	Target Price (Rs)	Price (Rs)	(%)
4	1	0	167	200	19.7

*as on 16 October 2017; Source: Bloomberg, Centrum Research Estimates

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Y/E Mar (Rs mn)	Net Income#	PPOP	Rep. PAT	YoY (%)	EPS (Rs)	P/E (x)	Adj BV (Rs)	P/Adj BV (x)	RoA (%)	RoE (%)
FY15	16,758	7,734	4,516	45.1	24.0	4.5	146.7	0.7	0.9	14.0
FY16	18,457	8,546	4,157	(8.0)	22.0	4.5	153.6	0.6	0.8	11.7
FY17	23,000	9,958	4,523	8.9	16.0	7.2	132.1	0.9	0.7	10.2
FY18E	26,863	13,391	5,203	15.0	18.4	8.6	144.0	1.1	0.8	9.8
FY19E	29,819	15,306	6,978	34.1	24.7	6.5	165.9	1.0	1.0	12.1

Source: Company, Centrum Research Estimates #net income denotes NII + other income .Valuations are on average market cap basis for FY15-FY18EYTD.



Conference call takeaways

Balance Sheet

- Q2FY18 loans grew 12.3% YoY / 6.9% QoQ and was led by 15% YoY growth in retail loans; 18% YoY growth in in agri loans. Loans to large / SME corporate have declined 1% YoY. Management has guided for 15% growth in loans for FY18E.
- O Deposits grew 6.5% led by 15.6% YoY growth in CASA deposits. The cut in SA deposits effective August, 2017 in our view as positively impacted NIM by 10bps.
- O Loan-deposit ratio (LDR) for the bank has improved to 72.7% (vs. 68.4% in Q1'18 / 68.9% in Q2'17).
- O The quarter saw bank add 4 branches taking the overall branch strength to 773 branches / 1,397 ATM's.

Asset Quality

- O Slippages at Rs 3.74bn included one account of Rs2.3bn from housing-infra space that was downgrade to NPA following aggressive NPA recognition policy. This account was earlier part of SDR and the bank has made 25% provision against this account.
- O The bank has exposure to 4 cases with cumulative dues of Rs5.05bn towards cases referred to IBC (both first and second list). The exposure towards first IBC case is at Rs490mn (carries provision to the tune of Rs131mn); second list exposure is at Rs4.6bn; carries Rs917mn of provision against these accounts.
- O The quarter saw bank sale Rs1.8bn of live NPA accounts and Rs2.8bn of technically w/off accounts to ARC. The cumulative value of SR held as at Q2'18 stood at Rs4.5bn. Q2'18 results included Rs250mn of SR related MTM provisioning.
- O Standard restructured portfolio stands at Rs6.87bn. Stock of SDR is at Rs1.14bn / S4A at Rs1.7bn.
- O Stressed asset portfolio for the bank ie GNPA + restructuring + SDR + S4A has reduced to 6.5% of loans (vs. 8% in Q1'18 / 8.6% in Q4'17).
- O SMA 2 portfolio stands at ~Rs13.8bn (vs. ~Rs17.3bn in Q1'18).
- O GNPA / NNPA target for FY18 is retained at 4% and 2% respectively.

2



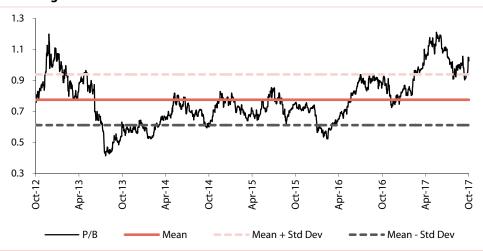
Sensitivity analysis & peer comparison

Exhibit 1: Sensitivity Analysis – impact of change in margins and credit cost on FY18PBT

0/		Credit cost									
%		+ 10bps	+ 20bps	'Current levels	+ 10bps	- 20bps					
	- 5bps	(11.4)	(18.3)	(4.5)	2.4	9.3					
	- 10bps	(15.9)	(22.8)	(9.0)	(2.0)	4.9					
Σ	Current levels	(6.9)	(13.8)	-	6.9	13.8					
	+ 5bps	(2.4)	(9.3)	4.5	11.4	18.3					
	+ 10bps	2.0	(4.9)	9.0	15.9	15.9					

Source: Company, Centrum Research Estimates

Exhibit 2: Rolling forward PB chart



Source: Company, Centrum Research Estimates

Exhibit 3: Comparative Valuations

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Company	ny Mkt Cap CAGR (FY17-FY19E) %		19E) %		PE (x)			RoA (%)			RoE (%)		F	P/BVPS (x)	Div Yield (%)			
Name	(Rs mn)	NII + Oth inc	PPOP	PAT	FY17	FY18E	FY19E	FY17	FY18E	FY19E	FY17	FY18E	FY19E	FY17	FY18E	FY19E	FY17	FY18E	FY19E
KBL*	45,216	13.9	24.0	24.2	7.2	8.6	6.5	0.7	0.8	1.0	10.2	9.8	12.1	0.8	0.9	0.8	3.5	2.7	2.8
DCB*	58,554	18.8	22.9	28.6	20.0	22.9	17.7	0.9	1.0	1.0	10.8	11.3	12.0	2.1	2.3	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CUBK *	1,05,655	11.4	10.0	13.5	15.6	16.9	14.8	1.5	1.5	1.5	15.2	14.7	15.0	2.2	2.3	2.1	0.8	0.8	0.8
Federal Bk	2,43,214	19.6	24.2	34.7	17.9	18.5	16.1	0.8	0.9	1.0	9.6	10.7	11.9	1.3	1.8	1.8	1.0	1.0	0.9
KVB	77,684	13.0	12.1	24.8	12.4	13.1	10.4	0.9	1.0	1.2	11.3	12.3	14.3	1.4	1.6	1.4	1.9	1.9	2.0
SIB	58,281	12.3	18.3	26.5	8.5	13.4	8.7	0.6	0.5	0.7	10.3	7.7	12.8	0.9	1.05	1.10	1.9	1.9	1.6
RBL	2,15,326	32.0	41.9	38.0	36.4	33.4	23.8	1.0	1.1	1.2	12.8	12.2	14.0	3.9	3.5	3.1	0.5	0.5	0.4

 $Source: Bloomberg\ consensus,\ *Centrum\ Research\ Estimates.\ FY17-FY18E\ have\ been\ valued\ on\ average\ market\ cap\ basis.$



Quarterly financials

Exhibit 4: Quarterly Financials

(Rs mn)	Q3FY16	Q4FY16	Q1FY17	Q2FY17	Q3FY17	Q4FY17	Q1FY18	Q2FY18
Income statement								
Interest earned	12,371	12,777	12,606	13,064	13,239	12,945	13,305	13,179
Interest expended	9,322	9,179	8,959	9,091	9,474	9,423	9,061	8,777
Net interest income	3,049	3,597	3,647	3,973	3,765	3,522	4,244	4,402
Non-interest income	1,327	1,700	1,744	1,897	1,336	3,117	2,174	2,478
Total income	4,376	5,297	5,391	5,870	5,101	6,639	6,418	6,881
Operating expenses	2,460	2,754	2,771	3,542	3,382	3,346	3,321	3,218
PPOP	1,917	2,544	2,619	2,328	1,719	3,293	3,097	3,662
Provisions	631	1,125	1,363	1,306	1,006	1,604	1,989	2,260
PBT	1,286	1,419	1,256	1,022	713	1,689	1,108	1,403
Tax	317	351	41	(216)	27	305	(230)	469
Reported PAT	969	1,068	1,215	1,238	685	1,384	1,339	934
Ratios								
Growth YoY (%)								
NII	1.0	23.5	10.1	29.4	23.5	(2.1)	16.4	10.8
Non-interest income	(18.5)	52.2	46.4	56.8	0.7	83.3	24.7	30.6
Opex	(12.7)	28.9	31.1	37.0	<i>37.5</i>	21.5	19.8	(9.1)
PPOP	4.6	34.3	9.6	<i>37.3</i>	(10.3)	29.5	18.2	57.4
Reported PAT	(9.4)	(20.6)	11.2	21.2	(29.3)	29.6	10.1	(24.6
Loans	8.5	7.0	11.5	12.8	8.7	9.1	10.1	12.3
Deposits	10.9	9.7	10.1	8.6	15.6	12.4	9.2	6.5
Margins (%)								
Yield on total assets	9.9	10.0	9.9	9.9	10.0	9.8	9.6	9.2
Cost of funds	6.7	6.5	6.3	6.2	6.3	6.0	5.7	5.5
Spread	2.5	2.9	3.0	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.0
NIM	2.2	2.6	2.6	2.7	2.5	2.2	2.7	2.8
Key drivers (%)								
Cost-income	56.2	52.0	51.4	60.3	66.3	50.4	51.7	46.8
GNPA	3.6	3.4	3.9	3.6	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.1
NNPA	2.4	2.4	2.6	2.6	3.0	2.6	3.2	3.0
Provision coverage	33.4	32.6	34.4	28.5	31.7	38.4	27.3	27.3
Tier I CAR	10.0	10.6	10.3	9.8	11.9	12.2	11.9	11.4
Tier II CAR	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.1	1.0
RoA	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.5	0.9	0.8	0.6
RoE	10.4	11.3	13.0	12.8	6.8	12.0	10.4	7.1

Source: Company, Centrum Research

Financials

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Y/E March (Rs mn)	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18E	FY19E
Interest Income	46,984	49,922	51,854	56,134	61,705
Interest Expense	35,296	36,894	36,948	38,087	41,786
Net Interest Income	11,688	13,029	14,906	18,047	19,919
Non-Interest Income	5,070	5,429	8,093	8,816	9,900
Fee & Other Income	2,240	2,380	2,711	3,362	3,918
Gains / (Losses) on Securities	1,127	624	3,044	2,588	2,329
Total Net Income	16,758	18,457	23,000	26,863	29,819
Total Operating Expenses	9,025	9,912	13,042	13,472	14,514
Employee Expenses	5,247	4,430	6,010	6,061	6,671
Other Operating Expenses	3,778	5,482	7,031	7,411	7,843
Pre-provision Profit	7,734	8,546	9,958	13,391	15,306
Provisions & Contingencies	2,140	3,265	5,279	6,454	6,001
NPA Provisions	2,231	2,672	5,514	5,757	5,515
Other Provisions	(91)	594	(236)	697	486
Profit Before Tax	5,594	5,280	4,679	6,937	9,304
Taxes	1,080	1,127	157	1,734	2,326
Profit after tax	4,514	4,153	4,523	5,203	6,978

Source: Company, Centrum Research Estimates

Exhibit 6: Balance Sheet

Y/E March (Rs mn)	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18E	FY19E
Cash and balance with RBI	24,885	26,456	29,293	33,366	38,225
Inter-bank borrowings	1,257	3,993	3,448	4,810	5,510
Loans & Advances	3,16,800	3,39,024	3,70,037	4,23,980	4,95,157
Investments	1,26,905	1,42,179	1,84,375	1,58,427	1,73,368
Total Int Earning Assets	4,44,962	4,85,197	5,57,859	5,87,217	6,74,035
Fixed Assets	2,919	3,066	7,206	11,267	12,467
Other Assets	34,081	29,897	29,086	29,086	29,086
Total Assets	5,20,258	5,65,003	6,41,265	6,78,758	7,71,635
Deposits	4,60,086	5,04,882	5,67,331	6,01,193	6,88,739
Current	28,714	32,435	36,233	40,115	46,301
Savings	86,019	1,00,172	1,28,498	1,44,204	1,68,646
Term	3,45,353	3,72,275	4,02,600	4,16,875	4,73,792
Other Int Bearing Liabilities	10,378	10,515	8,326	8,326	8,326
Interest Bearing Liabilities	4,70,464	5,15,397	5,75,657	6,09,519	6,97,065
Other non int bearing Liabilities	15,903	12,701	14,182	14,267	14,352
Total Liabilities	4,86,367	5,28,098	5,89,840	6,23,787	7,11,417
Equity	33,891	36,906	51,426	54,971	60,218
Total Liabilities	5,20,258	5,65,003	6,41,265	6,78,758	7,71,635

Source: Company, Centrum Research Estimates

Exhibit 7: DuPont analysis

(% of avg assets)	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18E	FY19E
Interest income	9.5	9.2	8.6	8.5	8.5
Interest expenses	7.1	6.8	6.1	5.8	5.8
NII	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.7	2.7
Other income	1.0	1.0	1.3	1.3	1.4
Total income	3.4	3.4	3.8	4.1	4.1
Operating expenses	1.8	1.8	2.2	2.0	2.0
PPOP	1.6	1.6	1.7	2.0	2.1
Provisions	0.4	0.6	0.9	1.0	0.8
PBT	1.1	1.0	0.8	1.1	1.3
Tax	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.3
RoA	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.8	1.0
Leverage	15.4	15.3	12.5	12.3	12.8
RoE	14.0	11.7	10.2	9.8	12.1

 ${\it Source: Company, Centrum \, Research \, Estimates}$

Exhibit 8: Key Ratios

Y/E March	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18E	FY19E
B/S Structure Ratios (%)					
CD Ratio	68.9	67.1	65.2	70.5	71.9
Incremental CD Ratio	61.5	49.6	49.7	159.3	81.3
CASA Ratio	24.9	26.3	29.0	30.7	31.2
Growth Ratios (%)					
Loans	11.8	7.0	9.1	14.6	16.8
Deposits	13.4	9.7	12.4	6.0	14.6
NII	10.7	11.5	14.4	21.1	10.4
Opex	3.2	9.8	31.6	3.3	7.7
PPOP	12.6	10.5	16.5	34.5	14.3
Provisions	(23.1)	52.6	61.6	22.3	(7.0)
PAT	45.1	(8.0)	8.9	15.0	34.1
Operating Ratios (%)					
Yield on funds	10.0	9.8	9.1	9.0	9.0
Cost of funds	7.5	<i>7.3</i>	6.5	6.1	6.1
NIM	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.9	2.9
Non-int inc/Total income	1.0	1.0	1.3	1.3	1.4
Fee to avg assets	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5
Cost/Income	53.9	53.7	56.7	50.2	48.7
Opex/ Avg assets	1.8	1.8	2.2	2.0	2.0
Provisioning cost	0.7	0.8	1.6	1.5	1.2
Effective tax rate	19.3	21.3	3.4	25.0	25.0
RoA	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.8	1.0
RoE	14.0	11.7	10.2	9.8	12.1
Credit Quality Ratios (%)					
Gross NPA	3.1	3.6	4.5	4.2	3.7
Net NPA	2.1	2.4	2.8	2.6	2.1
Slippage rate to op advances	3.1	3.4	3.8	3.8	3.0
NPA coverage ratio	34.0	32.6	37.7	39.3	44.6
Capital Adequacy Ratios (%)					
Total CAR	12.4	12.0	13.3	12.9	12.1
Tier I	10.5	10.6	12.2	11.9	11.3
Tier II	1.9	1.5	1.1	0.9	0.8
Dividend details					
DPS (Rs)	5.0	5.0	4.0	4.3	4.5
Dividend Pay-out (%)	20.9	22.7	25.0	23.1	18.2
Per Share (Rs)					
BVPS	179.8	195.8	167.0	180.3	199.5
Adjusted BVPS	146.7	153.6	132.1	144.0	165.9
EPS - basic	24.0	22.0	16.0	18.4	24.7
Valuations Ratios*					
Price/BV (x)	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.9	0.8
Price/Adj. BV (x)	0.7	0.6	0.9	1.1	1.0
P/E (x)	4.5	4.5	7.2	8.6	6.5
Dividend Yield (%)	4.6	5.0	3.5	2.7	2.8

Source: Company, Centrum Research Estimates. * has been valued on average market cap basis FY15-18EYTD.



Appendix A

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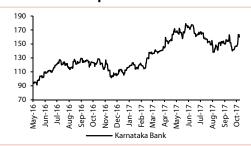
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Karnataka Bank price chart



Source: Bloomberg



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