

SARASWATI COMMERCIAL (INDIA) LIMITED

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INTERNAL CAPITAL ADEQUACY ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Effective from	06.03.2023
1st Review on	27.05.2025

INTERNAL CAPITAL ADEQUACY ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) vide its circular “RBI/2021-22/112 DOR.CRE.REC.No.60/03.10.001/2021- 22 October” and notification RBI/2022-23/129 DOR.CRE.REC.No.78/03.10.001/2022-23 dated October 11, 2022 has come up with revised regulatory framework for Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFCs) viz. Scale Based Regulation (SBR) and further clarified that applicable NBFCs that are part of a common Group or are floated by a common set of promoters should not be viewed on a standalone basis and thus to determine the layer in which the Company would be classified total assets of all the NBFC’s in a group would be considered. The objective of the SBR frame work is to align risk of the NBFCs with its size and complexity. On the basis of size, activity and the perceived risk, the frame work divides the NBFCs in four broader layers which are as under –

1. Base layer (NBFC – BL)
2. Middle layer (NBFC – ML)
3. Upper layer (NBFC – UL)
4. Top layer (NBFC – TL)

Based on the categorization descriptions, Saraswati Commercial (India) Limited (SCIL) shall fall under Middle layer category and it has to follow the frame work guidelines applicable for middle layer category. Among the various facet of SBR, it is required for NBFCs to put in place board approved Capital Adequacy Assessment Process to maintain adequate capital to absorb the potential business risk. This documents describes how the capital adequacy is assessed and maintained by the Company.

OBJECTIVE:

Basic objective of Internal Capital Adequacy Assessment Process (ICAAP) is to align Company’s capital with the risk associated with its business model and complexity of the business in various scenarios including unforeseen business scenarios. Assessment of risk will be done from time to time but at least once in a year to ensure Company is maintaining required capital to meet out its planned business growth and to be in compliant with the regulatory requirements set out by the regulators.

CAPITAL ADEQUACY ASSESSMENT PROCESS:

The Company is engaged pre-dominantly in Investment and Trading in shares and securities in cash and future & option segment. The Company uses its surplus funds for the short-term lending purposes. Currently, the Company is providing revolving unsecured lending to its group Companies and Short-term unsecured term loan to Corporates. The company is not into retail lending.

Company’s capital requirement changes with the type of risk the company is exposed with. Being an investment and credit company, Saraswati commercial (India) limited is exposed with following risks –

1. Market risk
2. Credit risk
3. Operational risk
4. Risk pertaining to borrowing against security of shares

The Company reviews these risks from time to time and takes necessary steps to mitigate it. Section below elaborates the risk assessment process and its mitigation strategy in detail and also analyse impact of these risk on company’s capital.

1. Market Risk

Market risk is the risk that changes in market prices – such as interest rates and commodity prices– will affect the Company’s income or the value of its holdings of financial instruments. Market risk is attributable to all market risk sensitive financial instruments including payables and debt. Company's market risk is primary related to its investments in securities. Thus, Company's exposure to market risk is a function of investing activities and revenue generating and operating activities. The objective of market risk management is to mitigate market risk by diversification.

a. Interest Rate Risk

Company is exposed to interest rate risk. To mitigate the risk, company closely reviews the impact of interest fluctuation on its borrowing cost of overall borrowing exposure. Revised, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) guideline has given a head room to adjust the interest rate of on- lending in consonance with fluctuating borrowing cost. This helps the company to mitigate the interest rate risk, however Company is very sensitive and keeps in consideration all important aspects while revising the on-lending interest rate.

Interest rate risk can be either fair value interest rate risk or cash flow interest rate risk. Fair value interest rate risk is the risk of changes in fair values of fixed interest bearing investments because of fluctuations in the interest rates. Cash flow interest rate risk is the risk that the future cash flows of floating interest bearing investments will fluctuate because of fluctuations in the interest rates.

b. Price Risk

Price risk is related to the change in market reference price of the instruments in quoted and unquoted securities. The majority of the Company’s investments are listed on the BSE Ltd and the National Stock Exchange (NSE) in India. To manage its price risk arising from investment in securities, the Company diversifies its portfolio.

The company is exposed to market risk which may arise from the following factors:

- (a) Higher stock price volatility
- (b) Volatilities in Global market condition
- (c) Company specific issues
- (d) Other socio, political and economic challenges

2. Credit Risk

Any lending activity by the Company is exposed to credit risk arising from repayment default by borrowers and other counterparties. Despite best efforts, there can be no assurance that repayment default will not occur and, in such circumstances, may have an effect on its results of operations. A failure to recover the expected value of collateral security could expose the Company to a potential loss. Any such losses could adversely affect the Company’s Financial condition and results of operations.

3. Operational Risk

Based on the SCIL own experiences, following are the key operational risks that SCIL may encounter. These risks are analysed in light of their impact on Company’s capital.

a. Internal fraud

The Company has digitized its majority of the process, the scope of fraud exists when there are cash

transactions. In a few of the Company's processes, cash transaction is involved which exposes it to internal fraud risk. To mitigate this risk, the company has taken due care by keeping minimum cash transaction, setting up various check points such as verification of cash transactions. Nature of this risk is of low frequency and low impact therefore it does not have any significant impact on company's capital.

b. Employment practices and workplace safety

This risk may arise due to breach in all statutory payments. In order to mitigate such risks company keeps track on timely payment and remittance of all dues. As the company has established a proof system of cross checking by the accounts team on monthly basis and it also verified by the statutory auditors every quarter, the perceived risk with respect to employee practices is considered insignificant.

Risk with regards to workplace safety may arise due to discrimination, sexual harassment or general liability because of damage incurred by the company's staff. The company policies have zero tolerance on such issues and take a strict disciplinary action, including even termination of such errant employee from his/her job. Because of such strict policy being in place perceived risk with respect to workplace safety is quite low. Impact on capital from both of these risks is also low.

c. Business disruption and system failures

Business disruption risk due to unforeseen circumstances such as pandemic, political unrest, government policy decision such as demonetisation etc. are the high risk for the company. As the company do not have control over such kind of external risk, the company mitigate this risk by maintaining adequate capital and taking appropriate measures well in time.

Impact of Risk of system failures is very low as the company has adopted adequate measures to mitigate this risk. Moreover, company do not perceive significant impact on capital because of this risk.

4. Risk pertaining to borrowing against security of shares

The Company avails loan against securities held in its name in the ordinary course of business. In case of loan against securities, the lender makes sure that Margin shall always be maintained at 50%. (i.e. Value of Securities should be 2.00 times of the outstanding Facility Balance) Eg. If the value of loan is Rs. 1 lakh, shares worth Rs. 2 lakhs shall be pledged. Further, when the markets are volatile and the value of securities pledged decreases then the Company needs to pledge additional shares or repay the proportionate amount of loan to maintain the margin at 50%. This is an ongoing continuous process and to mitigate this risk, the Company generally pledges additional shares with the lender keeping some buffer and also keeps sufficient liquidity in the system to cope up with any emergency on account of decrease in the value of shares pledge.

POLICY ON MAINTAINING MINIMUM CAPITAL:

Based on the assessment of the various risks, it is clear that there are two risks which can majorly impact the company's capital - credit risk and market risk. This is because, it majorly impacts the Investment portfolio which is the major assets of the company. Though the market risk is impacting price of investment in various securities but the risk is limited as the company has diversified its portfolio.

To mitigate the credit risk and market risk, company makes the required provision which is estimated

through very well defined expected credit loss estimation (ECL) model that is elaborated in the company ECL policy appended as **Annexure – 1**.

The Company has been comfortably managing the perceived risks by maintaining the capital at RBI prescribed capital limit of Capital to Risk Weighted Assets (CRAR) of 15%, with Tier I capital more than 100% of Tier II capital. The company management has decided to keep the CRAR at slightly higher than RBI prescribed CRAR rate. Company will try to keep minimum CRAR at 20%. If it is reduced below the limit set by company then company will reduce exposure by selling shares and securities and receiving loans repayment & if required company will raise funds by ways of issuing additional shares. The Risk management committee of the Company periodically reviews DNBS-03 - statement of capital funds, risk asset ratio, etc. in quarterly meeting.

Review of policy

This policy will be reviewed periodically with the board approval.