

Press Release SVC CO-OPERATIVE BANK LIMITED July 29, 2025 Rating Reaffirmed

Product	Quantum (Rs. Cr)	Long Term Rating	Short Term Rating	
Bank Loan Ratings	50.50	ACUITE A- Stable Reaffirmed	-	
Bank Loan Ratings	99.50	-	ACUITE A1 Reaffirmed	
Total Outstanding Quantum (Rs. Cr)	150.00	-	-	
Total Withdrawn Quantum (Rs. Cr)	0.00	-	-	

Rating Rationale

Acuité has reaffirmed the long-term rating of 'ACUITE A-' (read as ACUITE A minus) on the proposed bank facility of Rs. 50.50 crore of SVC Co-operative Bank Limited (SVC). The outlook is 'Stable'.

Acuité has reaffirmed the short-term rating of 'ACUITE A1' (read as ACUITE A one) on the short-term bank facility of Rs. 99.50 crore of SVC Co-operative Bank Limited (SVC).

Rationale for the rating

The rating takes into account the improvement in profitability metrics, asset quality and its comfortable capital adequacy. The bank is adequately capitalized above the regulatory threshold of 12 percent i.e. at 14.82 percent as on March 31, 2025. As per the bank, the improvement in asset quality is on account efficient in house recovery teams. The rating further factors in moderate resources profile and consistent shift in the bank's portfolio from corporate to the more granular MSME and retail portfolio. These strengths are partly offset by the structural constraints which restrict the co-operative banks ability to raise funds thereby impacting scalability. Going forward, the company's ability to profitably scale up its operations, bolster its capitalization levels and maintain healthy asset quality shall be key monitorables.

About the company

SVC Co-operative Bank Limited (Earlier known as The Shamrao Vithal Co-operative Bank Ltd.) is a multistate urban co-operative bank (UCB). It was originally registered as a Co-operative Credit Society on 27th December 1906 by Late Mr. Rao Bahadur Shripad Subbarao Talmaki. Being an UCB, SVC is registered under the Multi-state Co-operative Societies Act, 2002 and also regulated by Reserve Bank of India. The bank is head quartered in Mumbai with a presence across 10 states and 1 Union Territories (UT) with a network of 198 branches across 10 states namely Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana and Goa apart from New Delhi.

Unsupported Rating

Not Applicable

Analytical Approach

Acuité has considered the standalone business and financial risk profiles of SVC Co-operative Bank Limited to arrive at the rating.

Key Rating Drivers

Strength

Established track record in the co-operative banking sector:

SVC commenced its operations in December 1906. The bank was first established as a credit co-operative society and subsequently, a 'Scheduled Urban Co-operative Bank' status was obtained in 1988. Over its long track record

of operations extending beyond 100 years, the bank has established a network of 198 branches and 214 ATMs spread across 10 states and 1 UTs. It also obtained an Authorized Dealer Category 1 license in 2008. The bank has built a member base of 1,00,464 members as on March 31, 2025.

The bank has a healthy deposit base of Rs. 22,380.48 Cr. spread across more than 5 lakh borrowers and has total advances outstanding of Rs. 16,972.61 Cr. as on March 31, 2025. In order to maintain its position in the current competitive environment, the bank has been undertaking several digital initiatives to strengthen its position amongst other players in the banking sector. SVC is recognized as one of the leading banks in the Indian cooperative banking sector.

The board of the bank comprises of seasoned professionals from the financial sector. The current Chairman of the board is Mr. Durgesh S Chandavarkar, with over 35 years of experience in various fields; Mr. Arun Mavinkurve, Vice-Chairman, has vast experience across various industries; Managing Director Mr. Ravinder Singh. has more than two and half decades of experience largely in the financial sector across NBFC, Private & MNC Banks. The board also comprises of other members such as Mr. Raghunandan U Bangalorekar and Mr. Sunil Gokarn who are seasoned bankers and industry professionals.

Acuité believes that SVC will continue to maintain its strong position in the co-operative banking segment and benefit from its established track record as well as from the expertise and experience of the board and bank management.

Moderate resources profile

Strong retail franchise provides stable resource base. Over the years, the bank has expanded its operations from 140 branches as on March 31, 2013 to 198 branches as on March 31, 2025 attracting a healthy retail deposit base. The bank's deposits grew from Rs. 20,308.94 Cr. as on March 31, 2024 to Rs. 22,380.48 Cr. as on March 31, 2025. The bank has a moderate CASA ratio of 26.67 percent as on March 31, 2025. The term deposits stood at Rs. 16410.92 Cr. as on March 31, 2025 as against Rs. 14626.58 Cr. as on March 31, 2024. Besides the benefits on the liability side, SVC leverages it presence in retail segment by cross-selling product like insurance to augment its income.

Improvement in profitability metrics and Asset quality

The Bank's PAT has seen an improvement growing from Rs. 218.16 crore in FY2024 to Rs. 241.11 crore in FY2025. The bank saw a marginal improvement in its Net Interest Margin which stood at 3.83 percent in FY2025 as compared to 3.80 percent in FY2024. In comparison to its peers, ROAA was moderately high at 0.93 percent as on March 31, 2025. The bank's Operating expense to Earning Assets stood at 2.70 percent as on March 31, 2025 as against 2.79 percent as on March 31, 2024. However, the NIM has seen slight reduction due to the lag in repricing in interest rates due to recent RBI rate cuts. Additionally the asset quality has seen improvements in FY 2025 marked by the Gross NPA stood at 1.96 percent (P.Y: 2.30 percent) and Net NPA stood at 0.25 percent (P.Y: 0.27 percent). According to the bank, these improvement is due to efficient in house recovery teams. Acuite believes that maintaining a comfortable asset quality while gradually increasing the loan book with major focus towards retail will be a key monitorable.

Weakness

Concentration of loan portfolio

Loan portfolio exhibits concentrations, albeit the bank is shifting towards granular retail and MSME portfolio, the top 10 group advances attribute 10 percent of the total advances of Rs 16972.61 Cr. as of March 31, 2025 and the top 10 group advances as a percent of the networth is 71.38 percent. If however one of the groups turns delinquent in repayments, this could significantly impact the networth for the Bank. The Bank has reported 14.29 percent YoY growth in advances during FY2025. In FY2025, the proportion of wholesale advances came down to 66.50 percent from 67.02 percent as on March 31, 2024 and retail advances increased to 33.50 percent from 32.98 percent in the same period. Retail advances stood at Rs. 5685.46 crore (P.Y: Rs. 4898.06 crore) and MSME advances stood at Rs. 6386.33 crore (P.Y: Rs. 5848.07 crore) as on March 31, 2025.

Going forward, the bank's target to increase the retail loan base will provide stability to the overall advances segment of the bank.

Regulatory environment governing urban co-operative banks:

SVC is an Urban Co-operative bank under dual governance of Multi State Co-operative societies and Reserve Bank of India. Being a UCB, it faces structural constraints on raising equity capital, which is normally available to other banks (public and private sector), since it can raise capital only from members and there are restrictions on the amount that can be mobilised. While UCBs are allowed to raise funds through long term subordinated debt and compulsorily convertible preference shares, the overall financial flexibility is relatively lower as compared to its peers in the scheduled commercial bank category. Such limitations on capital mobilisation impact the growth plans and scalability of UCBs such as SVC.

Further, the regulatory framework for UCBs in India have become increasingly stringent. While Acuite believes that RBI guidelines wrt reduction in group exposure caps, higher priority sector lending and host of other amendments under the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 are steps in right direction, the capital raising ability and scalability of co-operative banks needs to be eased. As the regulatory arbitrage between commercial and co-operative banks narrows the ability of UCBs such as SVC to compete with larger and well-established banks needs

to be seen.

Acuité believes that the ability of SVC to manage these challenges and sustain growth in an increasingly competitive environment will be key rating monitorables.

Rating Sensitivity

- Any significant deterioration in asset quality and profitability parameters
- Changes in capitalisation and liquidity buffers
- Changes in the regulatory framework governing Urban Co-operative banks.

Liquidity Position

Adequate

The adequate liquidity is driven by no negative cumulative mismatches in the near term as per the asset liability management profile of SVC. Further, excess SLR stood at Rs. 2038.70 Cr. and cash and cash equivalents stood at Rs 2679.35 Cr. as on March 31, 2025.

Outlook: Stable

Other Factors affecting Rating

None

Key Financials - Standalone / Originator

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Particulars	Unit	FY25(Actual)	FY24(Actual)		
Total Assets	Rs. Cr.	26933.77	24884.34		
Total Income*	Rs. Cr.	993.25	918.13		
PAT	Rs. Cr.	241.11	218.16		
Networth	Rs. Cr.	2375.39	2213.17		
Return on Average Assets (RoAA)	(%)	0.93	0.90		
Return on Net Worth (RoNW)	(%)	12.37	11.45		
Total Debt/Tangible Net Worth (Gearing)	Times	0.22	0.24		
Gross NPA's	(%)	1.96	2.3		
Net NPA's	(%)	0.25	0.27		
*Total income equals to Total Income net off interest					

expense

Status of non-cooperation with previous CRA (if applicable): Not Applicable

Any other information

None

Applicable Criteria

- Application Of Financial Ratios And Adjustments: https://www.acuite.in/view-rating-criteria-53.htm
- Banks And Financial Institutions: https://www.acuite.in/view-rating-criteria-45.htm
- Default Recognition: https://www.acuite.in/view-rating-criteria-52.htm

Note on complexity levels of the rated instrument

In order to inform the investors about complexity of instruments, Acuité has categorized such instruments in three levels: Simple, Complex and Highly Complex. Acuite's categorisation of the instruments across the three categories is based on factors like variability of the returns to the investors, uncertainty in cash flow patterns, number of counterparties and general understanding of the instrument by the market. It has to be understood that complexity is different from credit risk and even an instrument categorized as 'Simple' can carry high levels of risk. For more details, please refer Rating Criteria "Complexity Level Of Financial Instruments" on www.acuite.in.

Rating History

Date	Name of Instruments/Facilities	Term	Amount (Rs. Cr)	Rating/Outlook
30 Apr 2024	Proposed Long Term Bank Facility			ACUITE A- Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Bank Guarantee/Letter of Guarantee			ACUITE A1 (Reaffirmed)
	Proposed Short Term Bank Facility			ACUITE A1 (Reaffirmed)
31 Jan 2023	Proposed Long Term Bank Facility			ACUITE A- Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Bank Guarantee/Letter of Guarantee			ACUITE A1 (Reaffirmed)
	Proposed Short Term Bank Facility	Short Term	50.00	ACUITE A1 (Reaffirmed)

Annexure - Details of instruments rated

Lender's Name	ISIN	Facilities	Date Of Issuance	Coupon Rate	Maturity Date	Quantum (Rs. Cr.)	Complexity Level	Rating
Canara Bank	Not avl. / Not appl.	Bank Guarantee/Letter of Guarantee			Not avl. / Not appl.	49.50	Simple	ACUITE A1 Reaffirmed
	Not avl. / Not appl.	Proposed Long Term Bank Facility				50.50	Simple	ACUITE A- Stable Reaffirmed
Not Applicable	Not avl. / Not appl.	Proposed Short Term Bank Facility				50.00	Simple	ACUITE A1 Reaffirmed

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About Acuité Ratings & Research

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