

July 06, 2023

## Satin Creditcare Network Ltd.: Provisional [ICRA]A+(SO) assigned to Series A1 PTC backed by microfinance loan receivables issued by NIMBUS 2023 MFI Lafargue

### Summary of rating action

Trust Name	Instrument*	Current Rated Amount (Rs. crore)	Rating Action
NIMBUS 2023 MFI Lafargue	Series A1 PTC	29.84	Provisional [ICRA]A+(SO); Assigned

\*Instrument details are provided in Annexure I

Rating in the absence of pending actions/documents	No rating would have been assigned as it would not be meaningful
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### Rationale

ICRA has assigned a provisional rating to the pass-through certificates (PTCs) issued under a securitisation transaction originated by Satin Creditcare Network Ltd. (Satin; rated [ICRA]A- (Stable)/[ICRA]A1). The PTCs are backed by a pool of Rs. 33.16-crore (principal amount; receivables of Rs. 40.78 crore) microfinance loan receivables.

The provisional rating is based on the strength of the cash flows from the selected pool of contracts. Credit enhancement (CE) is available in the form of (i) a cash collateral (CC) of 9.00% of the initial pool principal to be provided by the originator, (ii) principal subordination of 10.00% (through over-collateralisation), and (iii) excess interest spread (EIS) of 14.17% of the initial pool principal in the structure, as well as the integrity of the legal structure. The rating is subject to the fulfilment of all the conditions under the structure and the review of the documentation pertaining to the transaction by ICRA.

### Key rating drivers

#### Credit strengths

- Availability of CE) in the form of EIS, over-collateralisation and CC
- Average seasoning of ~4 months and average pre-securitisation amortisation of ~11% as on the cut-off date
- One of the larger players in microfinance industry with established track record

#### Credit challenges

- High geographical concentration with top three states contributing ~65% of the initial pool principal
- Performance of pool would remain exposed to natural calamities that may impact the income generating capability of the borrower, given the marginal borrower profile; further, pool performance would also be exposed to political and communal risks.
- Performance of the pool would remain exposed to macro-economic shocks / business disruptions, if any

### Description of key rating drivers highlighted above

According to the transaction structure, the loan pool receivables will be assigned at par to the PTC investors. The interest on the PTC securities, at predetermined rates on the outstanding principal, is promised on a monthly basis while the principal is promised on the final scheduled maturity date (April 17, 2025). On each payout date, the promised cash flow schedule for Series A1 PTC, on a monthly basis, will comprise only the interest (at the predetermined yield) payment; the principal payment would be promised on the final payout date. During the tenure of Series A1 PTC, the collections from the pool, after making the promised interest payouts to Series A1 PTC, will be used to make the expected principal payouts to Series A1 PTC (not promised). Any shortfall in making the expected principal payment to Series A1 PTC would be carried forward to the

subsequent payout. The surplus EIS available after meeting the promised and expected payouts to the PTCs will be passed on to the originator every month.

The first line of support for Series A1 PTC in the transaction is in the form of over-collateralisation of 10.00% of the initial pool principal. Further credit support is available in the form of an EIS of 14.17%. After meeting the promised and expected payouts, the EIS will be passed on to the originator on a monthly basis. A CC of 9.00% of the initial pool principal (Rs. 2.98 crore), to be provided by Satin, would act as further credit CE in the transaction. In the event of a shortfall in meeting the promised PTC payouts during any month, the trustee will utilise the CC to meet the same.

There are no overdues in the pool as on the cut-off date. The pool has average pre-securitisation amortisation of 11.2% as on the cut-off date. Geographical concentration is high with the top 3 states contributing ~65% to the initial pool principal amount. At the district level, the top 5 districts account for ~14% of the initial pool principal amount. The company had witnessed an increase in delinquencies at the portfolio level following the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, which has now moderated. The pool's performance would remain exposed to macro-economic shocks/business disruptions. Given the marginal borrower profile, its performance would also be exposed to natural calamities and political and communal risks.

**Past rated pools' performance:** ICRA has live ratings on 29 securitisation transactions backed by microfinance loan receivables for Satin. The live pools, which have completed at least three payouts, have reported healthy collections with nil CC utilisation up to the May 2023 payouts.

### Key rating assumptions

ICRA's cash flow modelling for rating asset-backed securitisation (ABS) transactions involves the simulation of potential delinquencies, losses (shortfall in principal collection during the tenor of the pool) and prepayments in the pool. The assumptions for the loss and coefficient of variation (CoV) are arrived at after taking into account the performance of the originator's portfolio as well as the characteristics of the specific pool being evaluated. Additionally, the assumptions may be adjusted to factor in the current operating environment and any industry-specific factors that ICRA believes could impact the performance of the underlying pool of contracts.

After making these adjustments, the expected mean shortfall in principal collection during the tenure of the pool is estimated at 4.25-5.25% of the initial pool principal, with certain variability around it. The prepayment rate for the underlying pool is estimated at 2.4-9.0% (with a mean of 6.0%) per annum.

### Liquidity position: Strong

As per the transaction structure, only the interest amount is promised to the PTC holders on a monthly basis, while the principal amount is promised on the scheduled maturity date of the transaction. Overall, the cash flows from the pool and the available CE are expected to be comfortable to meet the payouts to the Series A1 PTC investors.

### Rating sensitivities

**Positive factors** – The sustained strong collection performance of the underlying pool of contracts (monthly collection efficiency >95%), leading to lower-than-expected delinquency levels, and an increase in the cover available for future investor payouts from the CE would result in a rating upgrade.

**Negative factors** – The sustained weak collection performance of the underlying pool of contracts (monthly collection efficiency <90%), leading to higher-than-expected delinquency levels and higher CE utilisation levels, would result in a rating downgrade.

## Analytical approach

The rating action is based on the analysis of the performance of Satin’s portfolio till March 2023, the key characteristics and composition of the current pool, the performance expected over the balance tenure of the pool, and the CE cover available in the transaction.

Analytical Approach	Comments
Applicable rating methodologies	<a href="#">Rating Methodology for Securitisation Transactions</a>
Parent/Group support	Not Applicable
Consolidation/Standalone	Not Applicable

## Pending actions/documents required to be completed for conversion of the provisional rating into final

The assigned rating is provisional and would be converted into final upon the execution of:

1. Trust deed
2. Assignment agreement
3. Legal opinion
4. Trustee letter
5. Chartered Accountant’s know your customer (KYC) certificate
6. Any other documents executed for the transaction

## Validity of the provisional rating

The Trust is expected to complete the pending actions/execute the pending documents in the near term. However, in case of continued pendency of the actions/documents beyond one year of this publication, the provisional rating would be withdrawn for the transaction even if the instrument has been issued.

## Risks associated with the provisional rating

In case the issuance is completed, but the pending actions/documents are not completed for the transaction within one year (validity period) from the assignment of the rating, the provisional rating will be withdrawn in accordance with ICRA’s Policy on Provisional Ratings available at [www.icra.in](http://www.icra.in).

## About the originator

Satin, set up in 1990 to offer individual business loans to urban shopkeepers, started providing group lending services to the rural poor in 2008. It was registered with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) as a deposit-taking non-banking financial company (NBFC) under the name, Satin Leasing and Finance Company Limited. Following its conversion into a public limited company in 1994, it was renamed Satin Creditcare Network Ltd. In 2000. It stopped accepting public deposits from November 2004 and the RBI changed its classification to Category B (non-deposit taking) from Category A (deposit-taking) in February 2009 and converted it into an NBFC-microfinance institution (NBFC-MFI) in November 2013. The company’s microfinance operations are based on the Grameen Bank joint liability group (JLG) model and were spread across 1,078 branches in the country as on March 31, 2023 on a standalone basis and 1,287 branches for the Group as a whole.

Satin is listed on the National Stock Exchange of India Limited (NSE) and Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE). As on March 31, 2023, the company’s consolidated assets under management stood at Rs. 9,115 crore. It reported a net profit of Rs. 5 crore in FY2023 against Rs. 21 crore in FY2022 at the consolidated level.

### Key financial indicators (audited)

Consolidated	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023
Total income	1,374 <sup>^</sup>	1,381	1,559
Profit after tax	(14)	21	5
Gross AUM	8,379	7,617	9,115
Gross stage 3	8.4%	8.0%	3.3%
Net stage 3	4.7%	2.4%	1.5%

Source: Company, ICRA Research; All ratios and values are as per ICRA's calculations; Net stage 3 (%) = Net stage 3 / Gross loan book; Gross and net stage 3 ratios are on standalone basis; <sup>^</sup>Adjusted for fair value losses  
Amount in Rs. crore

**Status of non-cooperation with previous CRA: Not applicable**

**Any other information: None**

### Rating history for past three years

Sr. no	Trust Name	Instrument	Current Rating (FY2024)		Chronology of Rating History for the Past 3 Years			
			Amount Rated (Rs. crore)	Amount Outstanding (Rs. crore)	Date & Rating in FY2024	Date & Rating in FY2023	Date & Rating in FY2022	Date & Rating in FY2021
1	NIMBUS 2023 MFI Lafargue	Series A1 PTC	29.84	29.84	July 06, 2023 Provisional [ICRA]A+(SO)	-	-	-

### Complexity level of the rated instrument

Instrument	Complexity Indicator
Series A1 PTC	Moderately Complex

The Complexity Indicator refers to the ease with which the returns associated with the rated instrument could be estimated. It does not indicate the risk related to the timely payments on the instrument, which is rather indicated by the instrument's credit rating. It also does not indicate the complexity associated with analysing an entity's financial, business, industry risks or complexity related to the structural, transactional or legal aspects. Details on the complexity levels of the instruments are available on ICRA's website: [Click Here](#)

**Annexure I: Instrument details**

ISIN	Trust Name	Instrument	Date of Issuance / Sanction	Coupon Rate	Maturity Date*	Amount Rated (Rs. crore)	Current Rating
NA	<b>NIMBUS 2023 MFI Lafargue</b>	Series A1 PTC	July 2023	10.75%	April 2025	29.84	Provisional [ICRA]A+(SO)

\* Scheduled PTC maturity date at transaction initiation; may change on account of prepayments

Source: Company

**Annexure II: List of entities considered for consolidated analysis**

Not Applicable

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## About ICRA Limited:

ICRA Limited was set up in 1991 by leading financial/investment institutions, commercial banks and financial services companies as an independent and professional investment Information and Credit Rating Agency.

Today, ICRA and its subsidiaries together form the ICRA Group of Companies (Group ICRA). ICRA is a Public Limited Company, with its shares listed on the Bombay Stock Exchange and the National Stock Exchange. The international Credit Rating Agency Moody's Investors Service is ICRA's largest shareholder.

For more information, visit [www.icra.in](http://www.icra.in)

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