

July 13, 2023

## Satin Creditcare Network Ltd.: Rating confirmed as final for PTCs 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                            | [ICRA]A+(SO); provisional rating confirmed as final |

\*Instrument details are provided in Annexure I

### Rationale

In July 2023, ICRA had assigned a Provisional [ICRA]A+(SO) rating to the Pass-Through Certificates (PTCs) issued by NIMBUS 2023 MFI Lafargue. The PTCs are backed by a pool of Rs. 33.16-crore (principal amount; receivables of Rs. 40.78 crore) of microfinance loan receivables originated by Satin Creditcare Network Ltd. (Satin; rated [ICRA]A-(Stable)/[ICRA]A1). Since the executed transaction documents are in line with the rating conditions and the legal opinion for the transaction has been provided to ICRA, the said rating has now been confirmed as final.

### Key rating drivers

#### Credit strengths

- Availability of credit enhancement (CE) in the form of excess interest spread (EIS), over-collateralisation and cash collateral (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 to around 65% of the initial pool principal
- Performance of the 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

### Description of key rating drivers highlighted above

According to the transaction structure, the loan pool receivables have been 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),

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 were no overdues in the pool as on the cut-off date. The pool had average pre-securitisation amortisation of 11.2% as on the cut-off date. Geographical concentration was high with the top 3 states contributing ~65% to the initial pool principal amount. At the district level, the top 5 districts accounted 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:** ICRA has live ratings on 30 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 June 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 (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 trustee confirming compliance with the terms of the transaction and the executed transaction documents being in line with the terms initially shared with ICRA.

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

|                                |                |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Consolidation/tandalone</b> | Not Applicable |
|--------------------------------|----------------|

## About the originator

Satin Creditcare Network Ltd. (Satin), which was set up in 1990 to provide 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, the company 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 National Stock Exchange of India Limited (NSE) and Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE). As on March 31, 2023, the company's consolidated managed portfolio stood at Rs. 9,115 crore. It reported a net profit of Rs. 5 crore in FY2023 against a net profit of Rs. 21 crore in FY2022 at the consolidated level.

## Key financial indicators (audited)

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

Amount in Rs. crore

<sup>^</sup>Adjusted for fair value losses

## 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 |
|        |                          |               |                          |                                | Jul 13, 2023                                      | Jul 06, 2023             |                         |                         |                         |
| 1      | NIMBUS 2023 MFI Lafargue | Series A1 PTC | 29.84                    | 29.84                          | [ICRA]A+(SO)                                      | 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 No      | Trust Name                  | Instrument       | Date of Issuance / Sanction | Coupon Rate | Maturity Date* | Amount Rated (Rs. crore) | Current Rating |
|--------------|-----------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|----------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| INE0QGZ15010 | NIMBUS 2023<br>MFI Lafargue | Series A1<br>PTC | July 2023                   | 10.75%      | April 2025     | 29.84                    | [ICRA]A+(SO)   |

\* Scheduled SN 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:

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