

## **India Strategy**

BSE Sensex: 63,416 S&P CNX: 18,817

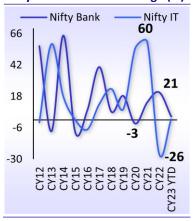
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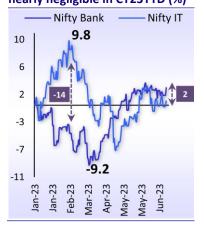
Bank vs. IT: Our previous report



#### Nifty Bank vs. IT: YoY change (%)



## Nifty Bank vs. IT – Divergence nearly negligible in CY23YTD (%)



#### Bank vs. IT: Taking stock of the relative Alpha!

#### Bank vs. IT: Reassessing their roles in alpha creation

- In this report, we revisit our findings on the roles of key benchmark indices in alpha creation since our last released report in <a href="Mar'23">Mar'23</a>. Here, we decode the roles of two prominent sectors in relative alpha generation over the last decade Banks and IT! We present several perspectives around the same and highlight how relative divergence between these two sectors has played an important role in determining the out-/under-performance of Indian markets.
- As we are nearing the end of 1HCY23, we assess the Bank vs. IT divergence play and reinforce our findings with new learnings.

#### Recap of CY23: Sharp divergence in the beginning, moderates by mid-year

- CY22 ended with a sharp outperformance of Banks over IT and the divergence stood at 47% between Nifty Bank and Nifty IT indices.
- However, since the beginning of CY23 (Jan-Mar'23) banks started to underperform mainly due to the US banking crisis, expectations of a moderation in NII growth and margins for Indian banks and weak FII flows. Conversely, IT began to recover over a weak base of CY22 and anticipation of global interest rates nearing the peak.
- During Apr-Jun'23, however, the performance reversed again for both the sectors with banks reviving as the US banking crisis receded, 4QFY23 earnings exceeded expectations and there was a pause in monetary tightening by the RBI. On the contrary, weak earnings performance by IT companies erased all the gains in Nifty IT by Apr'23, resulting in the divergence between both these indices narrowing to ~2% by end of Jun'23 from the highs of ~14% in Feb'23.
- Flows: CY22 witnessed a sharp FII selling of USD17b, after three consecutive years of inflows, whereas DII inflows to Indian equities remained at an all-time high at USD32.2b. However, FIIs turned net buyers as of CY23YTD with net inflow of USD4.4b. On the other hand, DII inflows continue to lead with net inflow of USD10b as of CY23YTD.

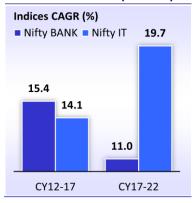
#### Earnings of Banks spike faster than that of IT...

- Nifty Bank/Nifty IT constituents recorded a PAT CAGR of 14%/11% over FY13-23 while the indices grew 13%/17% during the same period. Over FY20-23, earnings for Nifty Bank and Nifty IT reported a CAGR of 39% and 10%, while the indices grew 34% and 37% during the same period, respectively.
- In FY23, earnings for Nifty Bank constituents remained strong with ~38% YoY growth, whereas growth for IT constituents moderated to 7% YoY. The Nifty Bank and Nifty IT indices grew 21% and declined 26% in CY22, respectively.
- The strong earnings momentum in Indian banks was driven by healthy loan growth, stable margins, and asset quality improvements with a sharp revival in PSBs profits in the second half of the decade that continued in FY23 as well. Whereas, earnings performance of IT companies remained decent during the first half of the decade but moderated marginally in the second half. IT

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### Nifty Bank and IT – Performance over the last decade (CY12-22)



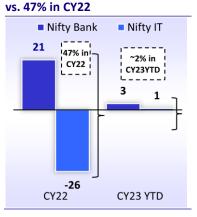
### Earnings of Banks remain high over FY18-23



### Weightage of banks remains high while IT moderates in CY23

	Dec'12	Dec'20	Dec'22	May'23
	We	ights in	Nifty50	(%)
Banks	21.6	26.5	27.1	27.3
IT	11.4	16.3	14	13.0
	Fu	nds owr	nership (	(%)
Banks		21.1	23.1	21.5
IT		11.2	9.7	9.6

### Divergence in CY23YTD is only 2%



companies' earnings were a mixed bag in FY23 with tier-1 firms delivering muted revenue growth and modest margins and underperforming the tier-2 companies notably.

In line with this trend, we expect earnings of Nifty Bank constituents to continue to remain strong and report 20% CAGR over **FY23-25**, driven by healthy credit growth and stable margins. On the other hand, earnings of Nifty IT constituents to post a CAGR of 14%, led by margin expansion in FY24 and demand recovery in FY25E.

#### ...but market cap rises at a similar pace despite significant volatility

- During CY12-22, total market cap of Nifty Bank reported a 15.9% CAGR to reach INR31t; whereas, market cap of Nifty IT posted a 16.1% CAGR to reach INR27t.
- While market caps for Nifty Bank and Nifty IT grew at a similar pace over the last ten years (~16% CAGR each), the pace of growth for Nifty IT was higher than that of Nifty Bank in the recent five years (at ~19% and 14% CAGR, respectively).
- Further, the market cap contributions from Nifty Bank and Nifty IT constituents to Nifty-50 narrowed to a range of ~21% and ~18%, respectively, in CY23YTD.
- Market cap ratio between Nifty Bank and Nifty IT indices reached 1.2x in CY22 from the lows of 0.7x in CY21. The ratio remained at 1.2x in CY23YTD as well.
- Sectoral weights in the Indices: Bank and IT sectors together constitute ~40% of Nifty-50 and ~35% of NSE-500 weights to date. Over the last five years, weightage of Bank in Nifty-50 averaged at ~27% (down 300bp from the 2019 highs), whereas that of IT averaged at ~15% (up 330bp from the 2017 lows).

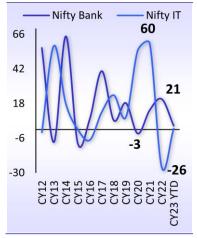
## Nifty Bank outperforms while Nifty IT underperforms between the three peaks of Nifty-50

- Collectively, within the three peaks of Nifty-50 (achieved in Oct'21, Dec'22 and June'23), Nifty Bank recorded gains of 11% whereas Nifty IT posted loss of 21%.
- Nifty Bank has been down ~1% from its May'22 high, whereas Nifty IT has been down 27% from its Jan'22 high. Hence, we note that Nifty Bank has outperformed the Nifty IT in all the scenarios of benchmark peaks over the last 21 months.
- Both these indices have seen a strong resurgence from Covid lows in Mar'20, with Nifty Bank and Nifty IT surging ~160% each. A strong focus on tech spends globally fueled the IT sector rally in CY20 and CY21, whereas a strong economic recovery in India led the healthy revival of Indian banking system in CY21/CY22.

#### Divergence headroom remains high for the year!

- The wide divergence between the two main sectoral indices that one is used to since a decade has not played out so far in CY23. This is because the outperformance of IT vs. Bank has reversed post-Mar'23. Given the wide-ranging concerns on the nearterm IT demand, as highlighted by our IT team in their recent reports (Report 1, Report 2), we expect the trajectory for Nifty IT to remain subdued going ahead.
- Meanwhile the Banking sector continues to report solid earnings performance with RoE, asset quality and credit costs in fine fettle. We expect a healthy 20% earnings CAGR for Banks over FY23-25. Valuations for the Banking sector are also quite reasonable in the context of broader markets. Thus, Banks repeating the outperformance over IT appears quite probable in 2023, in our view.

#### Nifty Bank vs. IT: YoY change (%)



#### Wide divergence of the past tapers in CY23YTD

- Despite the strong performances of both Nifty Bank and IT indices over the past decade, the combined annual returns have shown a huge divergence.
- The divergence ranged between ~10% and ~60% per year, highlighting the obvious but decisive role of getting the sector call right at the beginning of a CY.
- Both the sectors have very natural and pertinent macro linkages. Banking being a microcosm of the broader economy cannot remain immune to the prevailing global and domestic macro environment. Technology, meanwhile, derives more than two-thirds of its revenue from the US and Europe and has direct linkages with the trends prevailing in the global economy.
- For example, since the onset of Covid-19, the IT sector has both in 2020 and 2021 benefitted from the tailwinds of rising technology spends globally as digitization assumed a mission critical importance in an era of physical and social distancing. Meanwhile, the banking sector bore the brunt of weaker economic growth and concerns around deterioration in asset quality led by persistent lockdowns in 2020 and 2021.
- However, the divergence between both these indices has remained negligible (~2%) in CY23YTD, generating possibility of a large divergence headroom going ahead.

Exhibit 1: Key indices - YoY performance (%)

	maices for per	101111011100 (70)	
Year	Nifty-50	Nifty Bank	Nifty IT
CY12	28.0	57.0	-2.0
CY13	7.0	-9.0	58.0
CY14	31.0	65.0	18.0
CY15	-4.0	-10.0	0.0
CY16	3.0	7.0	-7.0
CY17	29.0	41.0	12.0
CY18	3.0	6.0	24.0
CY19	12.0	18.0	8.0
CY20	15.0	-3.0	55.0
CY21	24.0	13.0	60.0
CY22	4.0	21.0	-26.0
CY23YTD	4.0	3.0	1.0

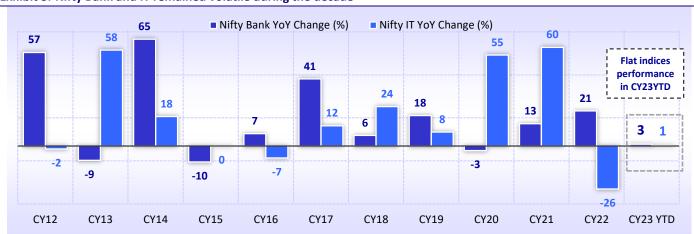
Exhibit 2: Stark divergence between indices YoY (%)

Divergence YoY	Nifty-50 vs. Nifty Bank	Nifty-50 vs. Nifty IT	Nifty Bank vs. Nifty IT
CY12	-29.0	30.0	58.0
CY13	15.0	-51.0	-67.0
CY14	-33.0	14.0	47.0
CY15	6.0	-4.0	-10.0
CY16	-4.0	10.0	15.0
CY17	-12.0	16.0	28.0
CY18	-3.0	-21.0	-17.0
CY19	-6.0	4.0	10.0
CY20	18.0	-40.0	-58.0
CY21	11.0	-35.0	-46.0
CY22	-17.0	30.0	47.0
CY23YTD	1.0	3.0	2.0

Source: Bloomberg, MOFSL

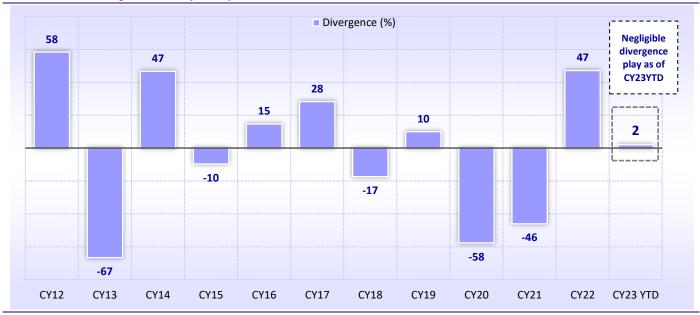
Source: Bloomberg, MOFSL

Exhibit 3: Nifty Bank and IT remained volatile during the decade



Source: Bloomberg, MOFSL

Exhibit 4: Wide divergence of the past tapers in CY23YTD



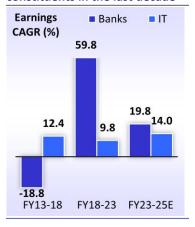
Source: Bloomberg, MOFSL

Exhibit 5: Nifty Bank and IT remained volatile during the decade, while remained flat in CY23YTD, Nifty IT corrected significantly from highs of CY21 (rebased at 100)



Source: Bloomberg, MOFSL

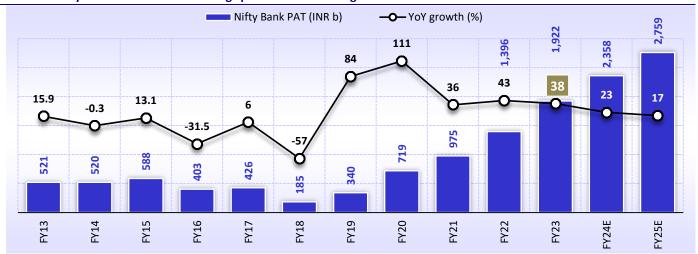
## Aggregate PAT growth of indices constituents in the last decade



#### Earnings of Banks spike faster than that of IT...

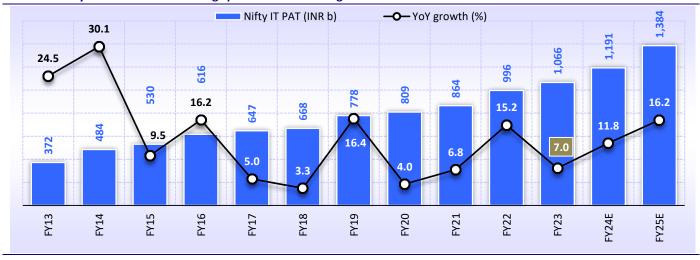
- The aggregate profits of Nifty Bank constituents reported ~14% CAGR over FY13-23 reaching INR1.9t in FY23; whereas that of Nifty IT constituents posted 11% CAGR and reached INR1.1t in FY23.
- Profit growth of Nifty Bank constituents remained weak during the first half of the decade with a decline in growth majorly due to weaknesses in the PSB constituents. However, the aggregate profit jumped in the second half and reported a strong 60% CAGR mainly led by the strong performances of PSBs.
- Conversely, Nifty IT constituents reported a stronger profit CAGR of 12% in the first half of the decade, which moderated marginally to 10% in the second half.
- We expect profits of Nifty Bank and Nifty IT constituents to report ~20% and 14% CAGR, respectively, during FY23-25.

Exhibit 6: Nifty Bank constituents' earnings performances during the first and second halves of FY13-23



Source: MOFSL, Company

Exhibit 7: Nifty IT constituents' earnings performances during the first and second halves of FY13-23



Source: MOFSL, Company

#### ...but market cap rises at a similar pace despite volatility

- During CY12-22, total market cap of Nifty Bank reported a 15.9% CAGR to reach INR31t; whereas, market cap of Nifty IT posted a 16.1% CAGR to reach INR27t.
- While market caps for Nifty Bank and Nifty IT grew at a similar pace over the last ten years (~16% CAGR each), the pace of growth for Nifty IT was higher than Nifty Bank in the recent five years (at ~18% and 15% CAGR, respectively).
- Further, the market cap contributions from Nifty Bank and Nifty IT constituents to Nifty-50 narrowed to a range of ~22% and ~19%, respectively, in CY23YTD. Besides, the trends of contributions were similar with respect to Nifty-500 as well. The market cap contributions of Nifty Bank and Nifty IT constituents stood at ~12% and ~10% of Nifty-500, respectively, as of CY23YTD.
- Market cap ratio between Nifty Bank and Nifty IT indices reached 1.2x in CY22 from the lows of 0.7x in CY21. The ratio remained at 1.2x in CY23YTD as well.

Exhibit 8: Market cap of Nifty-50 posted a 14.1% CAGR (INR t)



Exhibit 9: Market cap of Nifty Bank reported a 15.9% CAGR (INR t)

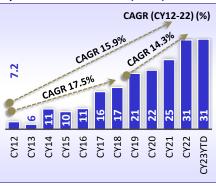
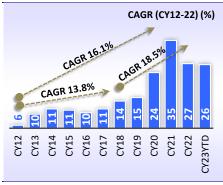


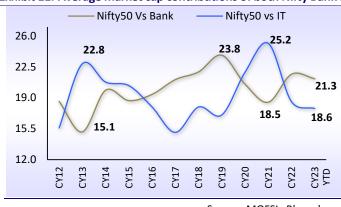
Exhibit 10: Market cap of Nifty IT clocked a 16.1% CAGR (INR t)

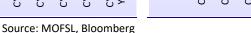


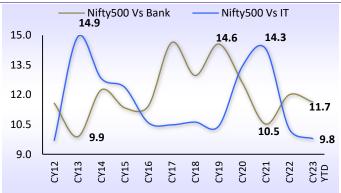
Source: MOFSL, Bloomberg Source: MOFSL, Bloomberg

Source: MOFSL, Bloomberg

Exhibit 11: Average market cap contributions of both Nifty Bank and IT indices vs. Nifty-50 and Nifty-500 in the last decade (%)

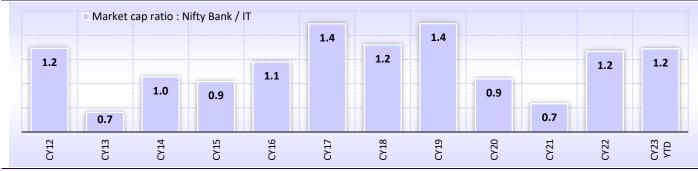






Source: MOFSL, Bloomberg

Exhibit 12: Market cap ratio between Nifty Bank and IT indices reached 1.2x in CY22



Source: Bloomberg, MOFSL

#### Refer to the recent report "Nifty and Virtuous Circle of Peaks and Troughs"



# Nifty Bank outperforms while Nifty IT underperforms between the three peaks of Nifty-50

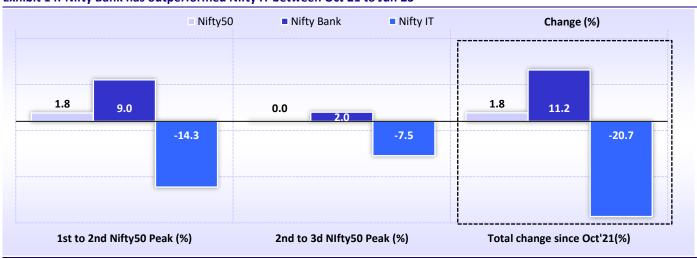
- Nifty-50 reached its all-time high in Jun'23 post-achieving its last peak in Dec'22.
- Comparing the indices' performances (between Dec'22 and Jun'23), the Nifty Bank has outperformed by ~2% whereas Nifty IT has underperformed by ~8% during the same period.
- While comparing the earlier two peaks of Nifty-50 (i.e. Oct'21 vs. Dec'22), we found that Nifty Bank had gained 9% whereas Nifty IT had lost 14%.
- Collectively, within the three peaks of Nifty-50 (achieved in Oct'21, Dec'22 and June'23), Nifty Bank recorded gains of 11% whereas Nifty IT posted loss of 21%.
- From the all-time high levels of the respective indices, Nifty Bank has been down ~1% from its May'22 high, whereas Nifty IT has been down 27% from its Jan'22 high.
- Hence, we note that Nifty Bank has outperformed the Nifty IT in all the scenarios of benchmark peaks over the last 21 months.
- Further, it is worthwhile to note that both these indices have seen a strong resurgence from Covid lows in Mar'20, with Nifty Bank and Nifty IT surging ~160% each. A strong focus on tech spends globally fueled the IT sector rally in CY20 and CY21, whereas a strong economic recovery in India led the healthy revival of Indian banking system in CY21/CY22.

Exhibit 13: Nifty Bank outperformed while Nifty IT underperformed

Nifty-50	Nifty50	Nifty Bank	Nifty IT	Nifty50	Nifty Bank	Nifty IT
highs date	closing	Closing	closing	Change (%)	Change (%)	Change (%)
18-Oct-21 (Peak 1)	18,477	39,685	36,306	-	-	-
1-Dec-22 (Peak 2)	18,813	43,261	31,121	2	9	-14
27-Jun-23 (Peak 3) - CY23YTD	18,817	44,122	28,800	0	2	-8
Total Change since Oct'21				2	11	-21

Source: Bloomberg, MOFSL

Exhibit 14: Nifty Bank has outperformed Nifty IT between Oct'21 to Jun'23



Source: Bloomberg, MOFSL

320 — Nifty50 — Nifty Bank — Nifty IT

Apr-20

Jun-20

Jun-20

Sep-20

Oct-20

Nov-20

Jun-21

Jun-21

Jun-21

Jun-22

Aug-22

Aug-22

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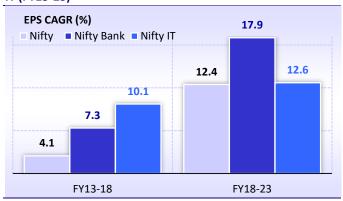
Exhibit 15: Both Nifty Bank and IT surged ~160% each from Mar'20 lows (rebased at 100)

Source: MOFSL, Bloomberg

#### Earnings surge with re-rating being a common phenomenon

- EPS for Nifty Bank and Nifty IT reported 13% and 11% CAGR during FY13-23,
   while the indices compounded at 13% and 17%, respectively, between CY12-22.
- Though earnings grew at a decent pace for both the indices' constituents, the indices registered even faster growth leading to re-rating. However, re-ratings were higher in Nifty IT than that of the Nifty Bank index.

Exhibit 16: EPS of Nifty Bank constituents grew more than IT (FY13-23)



Source: MOFSL, Company

Index CAGR (%)

Nifty Nifty Nifty Bank Nifty IT

15.4

14.1

12.3

CY12-17

CY17-22

Exhibit 17: Nifty IT index grew faster than Nifty Bank index

Source: MOFSL, Company

### Valuations for Nifty IT appear richer than Nifty Bank

- In the first half of the decade, valuations of Nifty Bank remained at a premium to that of Nifty IT mainly due to depressed earnings. However, during Covid-19, the leadership reversed and Nifty IT gained significant premium over Banks mainly driven by re-ratings of the IT constituents.
- Though valuations of IT constituents are down from their highs of CY21, they continue to trade at a premium to that of the Banks.
- P/E ratio: MOFSL Private and Public Banks' 12-month forward P/E is trading at a 27% and 38% discount to the long period average (LPA), respectively, whereas that of Nifty IT is trading at a 9% premium to its LPA.
- P/B ratio: MOFSL Private Banks' 12-month forward P/B is trading at a 3% discount and Public Banks' P/B is trading at a 16% premium. Nifty IT's P/B, conversely, is trading at a 30% premium to its LPA.

Exhibit 18: MOFSL Private Banks' 12-month forward P/E

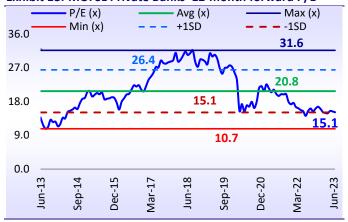
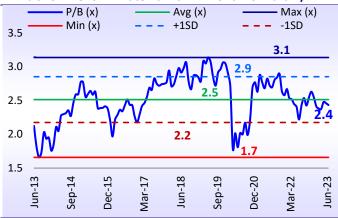
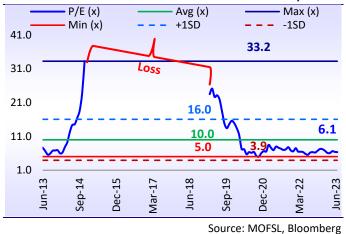


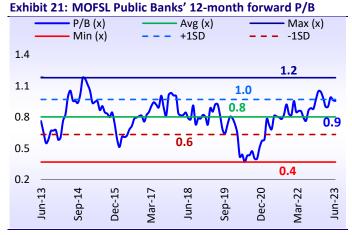
Exhibit 19: MOFSL Private Banks' 12-month forward P/B



Source: MOFSL, Bloomberg

Exhibit 20: MOFSL Public Banks' 12-month forward P/E





Source: MOFSL, Bloomberg

Exhibit 22: MOFSL IT Universe's 12-month forward P/E



Source: MOFSL, Bloomberg

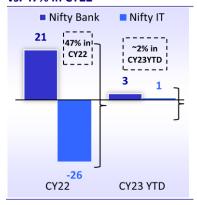
Source: MOFSL, Bloomberg

Exhibit 23: MOFSL IT Universe's 12-month forward P/B



Source: MOFSL, Bloomberg

### Divergence in CY23YTD is only 2% vs. 47% in CY22



#### Divergence headroom remains high for the year!

- The wide divergence between the two main sectoral indices that one is used to since a decade has not played out so far in CY23. This is because the outperformance of IT vs. Bank has reversed post-Mar'23. Given the wide-ranging concerns on the nearterm IT demand, as highlighted by our IT team in their recent reports (Report 1, Report 2), we expect the trajectory for Nifty IT to remain subdued going ahead.
- Meanwhile the Banking sector continues to report solid earnings performance with RoE, asset quality and credit costs in fine fettle. We expect a healthy 20% earnings CAGR for Banks over FY23-25. Valuations for the Banking sector are also quite reasonable in the context of broader markets. Thus, Banks repeating the outperformance over IT appears quite probable in 2023, in our view.

Exhibit 24: Nifty Bank and Nifty IT constituents – valuations snapshot

Company	Sector/ Index	Market Cap	Price chg.		e CAGR of Dec		E	EPS (INR)			P/E (x)			P/BV (x)			ROE (%)		
	ilidex	(USD b)	CY23 YTD	1yr	5yr	10yr	FY23	FY24E	FY25E	FY23	FY24E	FY25E	FY23	FY24E	FY25E	FY23	FY24E	FY25E	
HDFC Bank	Bank	109.9	1.9	10.1	11.7	17.0	79.3	94.4	112.8	20.9	17.6	14.7	3.3	2.8	2.4	17.0	17.3	17.7	
ICICI Bank	Bank	79.0	5.4	20.4	23.2	15.7	45.8	53.7	62.4	20.5	17.4	15.0	3.3	2.8	2.5	17.5	17.6	17.6	
SBI	Bank	60.6	-7.7	33.5	14.6	9.9	62.4	74.5	86.7	9.1	7.6	6.5	1.5	1.2	1.1	18.1	18.1	17.7	
Kotak Mah. Bank	Bank	44.0	0.9	1.7	12.6	18.8	75.1	87.0	98.8	24.6	21.2	18.7	3.3	2.8	2.5	14.1	14.3	13.8	
Axis Bank	Bank	35.8	4.4	37.6	10.6	13.2	71.4	83.7	99.3	13.6	11.6	9.8	2.4	1.9	1.6	18.2	18.4	18.1	
Bank of Baroda	Bank	12.1	2.7	126.8	2.9	0.7	27.3	33.0	38.1	7.0	5.8	5.0	1.0	0.9	8.0	15.3	16.2	16.4	
IndusInd Bank	Bank	12.1	8.1	37.4	-5.8	11.3	96.0	122.3	155.4	13.7	10.8	8.5	1.9	1.6	1.4	14.5	16.1	17.6	
Punjab Natl. Bank	Bank	6.8	-8.9	51.4	-20.0	-10.7	2.3	6.2	8.7	22.3	8.2	5.9	0.6	0.6	0.5	2.6	6.8	8.9	
IDFC First Bank	Bank	6.3	32.2	22.9	1.8	-	3.8	4.9	6.3	20.6	16.0	12.3	2.0	1.8	1.6	10.4	11.9	13.5	
AU Small Finance	Bank	6.1	14.8	26.3	14.5	-	22.0	26.6	35.3	34.0	28.2	21.3	4.6	3.9	3.3	15.5	15.0	16.9	
Bandhan Bank	Bank	4.6	1.7	-7.5	-	-	13.6	26.4	31.7	17.5	9.0	7.5	2.0	1.7	1.5	11.9	20.4	21.2	
Federal Bank	Bank	3.1	-11.5	67.5	5.0	9.9	14.3	16.7	19.8	8.6	7.4	6.2	1.2	1.1	0.9	14.9	15.4	15.8	
Nifty Bank	Banks	380.4	2.6	21.1	11.0	13.2													
TCS	IT	145.9	-1.8	-12.9	19.2	17.9	115.3	132.4	154.3	27.7	24.2	20.7	12.9	13.3	13.8	46.9	54.3	65.4	
Infosys	IT	70.8	-15.3	-20.1	23.7	17.9	57.6	63.5	71.8	22.2	20.1	17.8	7.1	7.0	7.1	32.0	34.9	39.9	
HCL Technologies	IT	38.6	12.5	-21.2	18.5	21.0	54.8	60.6	69.3	21.4	19.3	16.9	4.8	4.9	5.0	23.3	25.3	29.3	
Wipro	IT	26.4	-2.5	-45.0	10.7	11.5	20.7	21.7	25.1	18.5	17.7	15.2	2.7	2.8	2.7	15.8	15.6	18.3	
LTI Mindtree	IT	18.0	18.6	-40.5	31.3	-	151.8	174.0	211.2	34.0	29.7	24.5	9.2	7.8	6.5	26.1	28.3	29.0	
Tech Mahindra	IT	12.5	10.2	-43.3	15.1	15.9	57.3	59.8	72.1	19.5	18.7	15.5	3.5	3.4	3.3	18.5	18.7	21.8	
L&T Technology	IT	4.9	4.5	-34.2	29.1	-	110.5	132.0	155.4	34.8	29.1	24.8	8.2	7.2	6.2	25.6	26.2	26.9	
Persistent Sys	IT	4.6	26.3	-21.1	40.1	31.2	124.4	162.0	187.4	39.3	30.2	26.1	9.2	7.7	6.4	25.9	28.4	27.4	
Mphasis	IT	4.3	-6.7	-41.9	22.1	17.8	86.9	91.2	111.3	21.2	20.2	16.5	4.4	4.0	3.7	22.0	20.8	23.2	
Coforge	IT	3.4	20.9	-34.1	43.2	32.0	130.6	177.7	195.0	36.0	26.4	24.1	9.3	7.7	6.4	27.1	32.0	29.5	
Nifty IT	IT	329.5	0.6	-26.0	19.7	16.9													

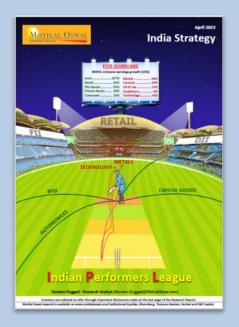
Source: MOFSL, Bloomberg

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<sup>\*</sup>Note: To check divergence among constituents, we have highlighted 1, 5 and 10 year price CAGR as on 31<sup>st</sup> Dec'22 and have highlighted CY23YTD performance separately.

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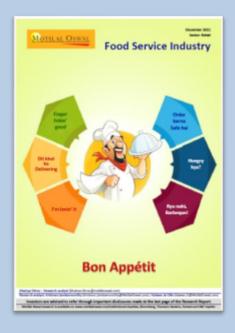
















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BUY	>=15%					
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NEUTRAL	> - 10 % to 15%					
UNDER REVIEW	Rating may undergo a change					
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