

Press Release

Tourism Finance Corporation of India Limited June 13, 2024 Rating Reaffirmed and Withdrawn



Product	Quantum (Rs. Cr)	Long Term Rating	Short Term Rating
Bank Loan Ratings	950.00	ACUITE A+ Stable Reaffirmed	-
Non Convertible Debentures (NCD)	159.74	ACUITE A+ Stable Reaffirmed	-
Non Convertible Debentures (NCD)	450.00	Not Applicable Withdrawn	-
Non Convertible Debentures (NCD)	75.00	PP-MLD ACUITE A+ Stable Reaffirmed	-
Total Outstanding Quantum (Rs. Cr)	1184.74	-	-
Total Withdrawn Quantum (Rs. Cr)	450.00	-	-

Rating Rationale

Acuité has reaffirmed its long-term rating of 'ACUITE A+' (read as ACUITE A plus) on the Rs. 950.00 Cr. bank facilities of Tourism Finance Corporation of India Limited (TFCI). The outlook is 'Stable'

Acuité has reaffirmed its long-term rating of 'ACUITE A+' (read as ACUITE A plus) on the Rs. 159.74 Cr. secured redeemable Non-convertible debentures issued by Tourism Finance Corporation of India Limited (TFCI). The outlook is 'Stable'

Acuité has reaffirmed its long-term rating of 'ACUITE PP-MLD A+' (read as ACUITE Principal Protected Market Linked Debentures A plus) on the Rs. 75.00 Cr. principal protected market linked debentures of Tourism Finance Corporation of India Limited (TFCI). The outlook is 'Stable'

Acuité has withdrawn the long-term rating on the Rs. 200.00 Cr. proposed non-convertible debenture issued by Tourism Finance Corporation of India Limited (TFCI) without assigning any rating. The rating withdrawal is in accordance with Acuité's policy on withdrawal of rating as applicable to the respective facility / instrument. The rating is being withdrawn on account of request received from the company.

Acuité has withdrawn the long-term rating on the Rs. 250.00 Cr. proposed secured redeemable non-convertible debenture issued by Tourism Finance Corporation of India Limited (TFCI) without assigning any rating. The rating withdrawal is in accordance with Acuité's policy on withdrawal of rating as applicable to the respective facility / instrument. The rating is being withdrawn on account of request received from the company.

Reason for rationale

The rating continues to factor in TFCI's long track record in financing tourism and other sectors, experienced management, resourceful promoters coupled with comfortable capital raising ability. The rating also takes into account its healthy capitalization with CAR levels of 59.01 percent coupled with low gearing levels of 0.90 times as on March 31, 2024 (CAR 62.65 percent and gearing 0.98 times as on March 31, 2023). The rating is, constrained due to TFCI's high exposure to tourism and related sectors coupled with

wholesale nature of portfolio. The rating is further constrained on account of modest asset quality. TFCI has witnessed rise in level of stressed assets (incl. GNPA and security receipts); stressed assets as a percentage to its earning assets rose to 7.67 percent as on Mar 31, 2024 from 7.14 percent as on Dec 31, 2023. Going forward, continued promoter support, ability to scale up/diversify its business, contain slippages while maintaining operating metrics will be key monitorable.

About the company

TFCI is a Delhi-based NBFC-ML, incorporated in 1989, as a Public Financial Institution (PFI) to cater to the financial needs of the tourism industry. The company is listed on Bombay Stock Exchange and National Stock Exchange. TFCI has seen change in promoter shareholding since September 2017 with IFCI Limited diluting its, stake, LIC reducing its stake and Redkite Capital Private Ltd. (Redkite) alongwith India Opportunities III Pte Ltd. (IOPL) & Tamaka Capital (Mauritius) Ltd. (TC) and Mr. Koppara Sajeeve Thomas joining as promoter/promoter group in March 2019. Thereafter, Redkite diluted its stake and was classified as public shareholder in July 2020, IOPL & TC exited as shareholders in September 2022 and Mr. Koppara Sajeeve Tomas has sold his stake in February 2024. Now, Mr. Koppara Sajeeve Thomas and his company Pransatree Holding Pte Ltd. have requested for reclassification as public shareholder subject to regulatory approval.

As on March 31, 2024, Life Insurance Corporation of India, the Oriental Insurance Co. Ltd., as promoters & Pransatree Holdings Pte. Limited as promoter group, hold 8.04 percent stake in the company.

Unsupported Rating

Not Applicable

Analytical Approach

Acuité has considered the standalone financial and business risk profile of TFCI to arrive at the rating.

Key Rating Drivers

Strength

Established track record of long term funding; moderate business volumes along with gradual efforts to diversify into other sectors

TFCI is promoted by Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), the Oriental Insurance Co. Limited, and Pransatree Holdings Pte. Limited. Mr. Anoop Bali, Managing Director, is experienced financial personnel with over three decades of experience Credit appraisal, Monitoring & Recovery, NPA/Stressed Asset Management, Legal Matters, Risk Management, Accounts & Finance, Treasury and Resource Management, Corporate Advisory, etc. TFCI's loan book stood at Rs. 1588.92 Cr. as on Mar 31, 2024 as compared to Rs. 1621.48 Cr. as on Mar 31, 2023. TFCI disbursed Rs. 762.71 Cr. during FY2024 as compared to Rs. 560 Cr. in FY2023. During FY2023-24, TFCI has also invested in Rs.90 crore in high yielding corporate NCDs and the outstanding investment was Rs.82.50 crore as on 31st March 2024. Acuité believes that TFCI will continue to leverage its established position, proven underwriting skills in financing and expertise of management to consolidate their position in the domestic lending sector.

Prudent funding profile underpinned by low gearing and mix of medium term and long term borrowings

TFCI's gearing reduced to 0.9 times as on Mar 31, 2024 from 0.98 times as on Mar 31, 2023 and 1.36 times as on March 31, 2022. Networth of TFCI, mainly comprised accumulated reserves and stood at Rs. 1089.62 Cr. as on March 31, 2024 from Rs. 1017.10 Cr. as on March 31, 2023. TFCI's Capital adequacy ratio has slightly reduced to 59.01 percent as on Mar 31, 2024 from 62.66 percent as on Mar 31, 2023 (March 31, 2022: 54.59 percent), with Tier-1 at 58.46 percent, providing enough headroom to scale up its loan book. Since most of TFCI's assets are long term loans, TFCI's borrowing profile is largely constituted of medium to long term borrowings. The total borrowings stood at ~Rs. 978 Cr as on Mar 31, 2024. The company has a positive mismatch in asset liability mismatch statement as on Mar 31, 2024. The bank borrowings

contributed ~60 percent and the rest is funded through other capital market instruments. Notwithstanding the wholesale lending, TFCI continued to be conservatively geared and has adequate headroom to meet near term business requirements.

Weakness

Modest asset quality

TFCI's loan book comprises long term loans (including project loans) majorly to tourism and tourism related sector having sectoral exposure of ~61% and 39% in other sectors. Since these loans are usually for activities such as the construction of hotels, etc. the average ticket size is high with individual exposures going beyond Rs. 75 Cr in certain cases. TFCI's loan book is highly concentrated to company's top 20 borrowers. Given that wholesale exposures are chunky in nature, slippages in few accounts can lead to significant asset quality deterioration. GNPA of TFCI remained moderate though improving from 3.92 percent as on March 31, 2023 to 2.75 percent as on Mar 31, 2024 and NNPA was 1.51 percent as on Mar 31, 2024 on account of selling off of two accounts to ARC.

TFCI's stressed assets as a percentage to its earning assets increased to 7.67 percent as on Mar 31, 2024 from 7.14 percent as on Dec 31, 2023. While Acuite takes cognizance of TFCI's asset quality stress, the company is expecting resolution of few high ticket stressed assets during FY2025 which might ease asset quality/ profitability pressures. TFCI has made provisions of Rs.19.69 Cr. for its Gross NPA that stood at Rs. 43.66 Cr. as on Mar' 24.

Acuité believes that the ability of the management to curtail incremental slippages in asset quality and maintain the growth momentum in its loan book will remain key monitorable.

Moderation in AUM

TFCI has witnessed a down trend in its AUM in the past two years where total loan portfolio of TFCI declined to Rs. 1,588.92 Cr. as on Mar 31, 2024 from Rs. 1,621 Cr. as on March 31, 2023 and further from Rs. 1,834 Cr. as on March 31, 2022. The decline in AUM was majorly on account prepayment of loans. This in-turn has affected their top line and the company has seen a decline in its Interest Income and Net Interest Income in FY2024. The exposure of TFCI is mostly associated with established and reputed brands, which partly mitigates the risk. Any further slowdown in economic activities will impact the business, thereby affecting the cash flows of borrowers and impeding their ability to meet their commitment in a timely manner.

ESG Factors Relevant for Rating

Tourism Finance Corporation of India Limited (TFCI) belongs to the Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFC) sector which complements bank lending in India. Some of the material advernance issues for the sector are policies and practices with regards to business ethics. board diversity and independence, compensation structure for board and KMPs, role of the audit committee and shareholders' rights. On the social aspect, some of the critical issues for the sector are the contributions to financial inclusion and community development, sustainable financing including environmentally friendly projects and policies around data privacy. The industry, by nature has a low exposure to environmental risks. TFCI has maintained adequate transparency in its business ethics operations as it can be inferred through its disclosures regarding its policies on related party transactions, vigil mechanism, grievance redressal committee and whistle blowing. Additionally, the company has defined a Code of Conduct to deter wrongdoings and to promote ethical practices. The company's board has six directors out of which three are independent directors and one female director. The Audit Committee of the board comprises four directors, majority of whom including the Chairman are independent. TFCI has adequate transparency with respect to its shareholders rights, which can be inferred by way of its disclosures in this respect. Since TFCI is engaged in funding tourism infrastructure projects, it needs to formulate policies to invest in green and sustainable projects and also have a negative screening mechanism in its credit policy. Further, it also needs to assess its lending portfolio from an ESG perspective. As regards the social factors, the projects financed by TFCI are expected to boost tourism in the country and generate employment in the sector.

Rating Sensitivity

Movement in AUM and disbursals levels

- Resolution of stressed assets
- Asset quality movement including softer buckets
- Concentration of portfolio in hospitality sector

Liquidity Position

Adequate

As per the asset liability management statement as on Mar 31, 2024, TFCI has positive cumulative mismatch in near to medium term bucket. TFCI maintained unencumbered cash balance of ~Rs. 33.55 Cr. and has liquid investments of ~Rs 233 Cr. as on March 31, 2024

Outlook: Stable

Acuité believes that TFCI will maintain a 'Stable' outlook over the medium term supported by its established presence in the wholesale finance along with demonstrated ability to grow its AUM while maintaining healthy asset quality. The outlook may be revised to 'Positive' in case of higher than expected growth in AUM while maintaining key operating metrics, asset quality and liquidity. The outlook may be revised to 'Negative' in case of any headwinds faced in scaling up of operations or in case of any challenges in maintaining its asset quality, profitability metrics and capital adequacy parameters around existing levels

Other Factors affecting Rating

None

Key Financials - Standalone / Originator

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Particulars	Unit	FY24 (Actual)	FY23 (Actual)
Total Assets	Rs. Cr.	2099.00	2037.02
Total Income*	Rs. Cr.	141.74	138.49
			87.95
	Rs. Cr.	1089.62	1017.10
Return on Average Assets (RoAA)	(%)	4.41	4.12
• ,	(%)		9.00
Total Debt/Tangible Net worth (Gearing)	Times	0.90	0.98
Gross NPA	(%)	2.75	3.92
Net NPA	(%)	1.51	2.95

^{*}Total income equals to Net Interest Income plus other income

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
- Default Recognition: https://www.acuite.in/view-rating-criteria-52.htm
- Non-Banking Financing Entities: https://www.acuite.in/view-rating-criteria-44.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
	Cash Credit	Long Term	10.00	ACUITE A+ Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Cash Credit	Long Term		ACUITE A+ Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Non-Covertible Debentures (NCD)	Long Term	159.74	ACUITE A+ Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Principal protected market linked debentures		40.00	ACUITE PP-MLD A+ Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Proposed Long Term Bank Facility	Long Term	221.00	ACUITE A+ Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Proposed Non Convertible Debentures			ACUITE Provisional AA- Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Proposed Non Convertible Debentures	Long Term	200.00	ACUITE A+ Stable (Reaffirmed)
29 May	Proposed principal protected market linked debentures	Long Term	33.00	ACUITE PP-MLD A+ Stable (Reaffirmed)
2024	Term Loan	Long Term	307.30	ACUITE A+ Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Term Loan	Long Term Long	17.04	ACUITE A+ Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Term Loan		20.00	ACUITE A+ Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Term Loan		12.49	ACUITE A+ Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Term Loan	Long Term	200.00	ACUITE A+ Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Term Loan	Long Term		ACUITE A+ Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Term Loan	Long Term		ACUITE A+ Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Term Loan	Long Term	23.34	ACUITE A+ Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Cash Credit	Long Term	25.00	ACUITE A+ Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Cash Credit	Long Term	10.00	ACUITE A+ Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Non-Covertible Debentures (NCD)	Long Term	137./4	ACUITE A+ Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Principal protected market linked debentures	Long Term	40.00	ACUITE PP-MLD A+ Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Proposed Long Term Bank Facility	Long Term	221.00	ACUITE A+ Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Proposed Non Convertible Debentures	Long Term	250.00	ACUITE Provisional AA- Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Proposed Non Convertible Debentures	Long Term	200.00	ACUITE A+ Stable (Reaffirmed)
07 May			35.00	ACUITE PP-MLD A+ Stable (Reaffirmed)
2024	Term Loan	Long Term	23.34	ACUITE A+ Stable (Reaffirmed)
-	Term Loan	Long	387.50	ACUITE A+ Stable (Reaffirmed)

		Term		
	Term Loan	Long Term	17.04	ACUITE A+ Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Term Loan	Long Term		ACUITE A+ Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Term Loan	Long Term		ACUITE A+ Stable (Reaffirmed)
			200.00	ACUITE A+ Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Term Loan	Long Term	20.03	ACUITE A+ Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Term Loan	Long Term		ACUITE A+ Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Cash Credit	Long Term	10.00	ACUITE A+ Stable (Downgraded from ACUITE AA- Negative)
	Cash Credit	Long Term		ACUITE A+ Stable (Downgraded from ACUITE AA- Negative)
	Non-Covertible Debentures (NCD)	Long Term	137./4	ACUITE A+ Stable (Downgraded from ACUITE AA- Negative)
	Principal protected market linked debentures	Long Term	75.00	ACUITE PP-MLD A+ Stable (Downgraded from ACUITE PP-MLD AA- Negative)
	Proposed Long Term Bank Facility	Long Term		ACUITE A+ Stable (Downgraded from ACUITE AA- Negative)
	Proposed Long Term Bank Facility	Long Term		ACUITE A+ Stable (Downgraded from ACUITE AA- Negative)
	Proposed Non Convertible Debentures	Long Term	200.00	ACUITE A+ Stable (Downgraded from ACUITE Provisional AA Negative)
23 Aug		101111		ACUITE Provisional AA- Stable (Downgraded from ACUITE Provisional AA Negative)
2023	Term Loan	Long Term		ACUITE A+ Stable (Downgraded from ACUITE AA- Negative)
	Term Loan	Long Term	20.00	ACUITE A+ Stable (Downgraded from ACUITE AA- Negative)
	Term Loan	Long Term		ACUITE A+ Stable (Downgraded from ACUITE AA- Negative)
	Term Loan	Long Term		ACUITE A+ Stable (Downgraded from ACUITE AA- Negative)
	Term Loan	Long Term		ACUITE A+ Stable (Downgraded from ACUITE AA- Negative)
	Term Loan	Long Term		ACUITE A+ Stable (Downgraded from ACUITE AA- Negative)
	Term Loan	Long Term	200.00	ACUITE A+ Stable (Downgraded from ACUITE AA- Negative)
	Term Loan	Long Term	30.00	ACUITE A+ Stable (Downgraded from ACUITE AA- Negative)
	Cash Credit	Long Term	10.00	ACUITE AA- Negative (Assigned)
	Cash Credit	Long Term	120.00	ACUITE AA- Negative (Reaffirmed)
	Non-Covertible Debentures (NCD)	Long Term	139./4	ACUITE AA- Negative (Reaffirmed)
	Principal protected market linked debentures	Long Term	75.00	ACUITE PP-MLD AA- Negative (Reaffirmed)
	Proposed Long Term Bank Facility	Long Term	30.66	ACUITE AA- Negative (Assigned)
	Proposed Long Term Bank	Long		

	Facility	Term	34.17	ACUITE AA- Negative (Reaffirmed)
07	Proposed Non Convertible Debentures	Long Term		ACUITE AA- Negative (Reaffirmed)
Feb	Proposed Non Convertible	Long	250.00	ACUITE Provisional AA Negative
2023	Debentures		250.00	(Reaffirmed)
	Term Loan		248.50	ACUITE AA- Negative (Assigned)
	Term Loan			ACUITE AA- Negative (Reaffirmed)
	Term Loan	Long Term		ACUITE AA- Negative (Assigned)
	Term Loan	Long Term		ACUITE AA- Negative (Assigned)
	Term Loan	Long Term		ACUITE AA- Negative (Assigned)
	Term Loan	Long Term		ACUITE AA- Negative (Assigned)
	Term Loan	Long Term		ACUITE AA- Negative (Assigned)
	Non-Covertible Debentures (NCD)	Long Term	139./4	ACUITE AA- Negative (Reaffirmed)
	Proposed Long Term Bank Facility	Long Term	200.00	ACUITE AA- Negative (Reaffirmed)
29 Apr	Proposed Non Convertible Debentures			ACUITE AA- Negative (Assigned)
2022	Proposed Non Convertible Debentures	Long Term	250.00	ACUITE Provisional AA Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Proposed principal protected market linked debentures	Long Term		ACUITE PP-MLD AA- Negative (Reaffirmed)
	Non-Covertible Debentures (NCD)	Long Term	137./4	ACUITE AA- Negative (Reaffirmed)
26	Proposed Long Term Bank Facility		200.00	ACUITE AA- Negative (Reaffirmed)
Nov 2021	Proposed Non Convertible Debentures	Long Term	250.00	ACUITE Provisional AA Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Proposed principal protected market linked debentures	Long Term	75.00	ACUITE PP-MLD AA- Negative (Assigned)
	Non-Covertible Debentures (NCD)	Long Term	137./4	ACUITE AA- Negative (Reaffirmed)
05	Proposed Long Term Bank Facility	Long Term	200.00	ACUITE AA- Negative (Assigned)
Aug 2021	Proposed Non Convertible Debentures	Long Term	250.00	ACUITE Provisional AA Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Proposed Non Convertible Debentures	Long Term		ACUITE AA- (Reaffirmed & Withdrawn)
02	Non-Covertible Debentures (NCD)	Long Term	137./4	ACUITE AA- Negative (Reaffirmed)
Mar 2021	Proposed Non Convertible Debentures	Long Term	140.20	ACUITE AA- Negative (Reaffirmed)
ZUZ I	Proposed Non Convertible Debentures	Long Term	250.00	ACUITE Provisional AA Stable (Assigned)

Annexure - Details of instruments rated

Lender's Name	ISIN	Facilities	Date Of Issuance	Rate	Date	Complexity Level	Quantum (Rs. Cr.)	Rating
Indian Bank	Not avl. / Not appl.	Cash Credit	Not avl. / Not appl.	Not avl. / Not appl.	Not avl. / Not appl.	Simple	10.00	ACUITE A+ Stable Reaffirmed
State Bank of India	Not avl. / Not appl.		Not avl. / Not appl.	Not avl. / Not appl.	Not avl. / Not appl.	Simple	25.00	ACUITE A+ Stable Reaffirmed
Not Applicable	INE305A09232	Non- Convertible Debentures (NCD)		8.81	09 Nov 2025	Simple	159.74	ACUITE A+ Stable Reaffirmed
Not Applicable	INE305A07012	Principal protected market linked debentures	2021	Not avl. / Not appl.	01 Dec 2024	Complex	40.00	PP-MLD ACUITE A+ Stable Reaffirmed
Not Applicable	Not avl. / Not appl.	Proposed Long Term Bank Facility	Not avl. / Not appl.	Not avl. / Not appl.	Not avl. / Not appl.	Simple	221.00	ACUITE A+ Stable Reaffirmed
Not Applicable	Not avl. / Not appl.	Proposed Non Convertible Debentures		Not avl. / Not appl.	Not avl. / Not appl.	Simple	200.00	Not Applicable Withdrawn
Not Applicable	Not avl. / Not appl.	Proposed Non Convertible Debentures		Not avl. / Not appl.	Not avl. / Not appl.	Simple	250.00	Not Applicable Withdrawn
Not Applicable	Not avl. / Not appl.	Proposed principal protected market linked debentures	Not appl.	Not avl. / Not appl.	Not avl. / Not appl.	Complex	35.00	PP-MLD ACUITE A+ Stable Reaffirmed
State Bank of India	Not avl. / Not appl.	Term Loan	Not avl. / Not appl.	Not avl. / Not appl.	30 Sep 2027	Simple	387.50	ACUITE A+ Stable Reaffirmed
Bank of Baroda	Not avl. / Not appl.	Term Loan	Not avl. / Not appl.	Not avl. / Not appl.	31 Jul 2027	Simple	23.34	ACUITE A+ Stable Reaffirmed
Canara Bank	Not avl. / Not appl.	Term Loan	Not avl. / Not appl.	Not avl. / Not appl.	31 Jul 2027	Simple	19.84	ACUITE A+ Stable Reaffirmed
Indian Bank	Not avl. / Not appl.	Term Loan	Not avl. / Not appl.	Not avl. / Not appl.	31 Jan 2027	Simple	20.00	ACUITE A+ Stable Reaffirmed
Punjab and Sind Bank	Not avl. / Not appl.	Term Loan	Not avl. / Not appl.	Not avl. / Not appl.	30 Sep 2025	Simple	12.49	ACUITE A+ Stable Reaffirmed
Indian Infrastructure Finance Company	Not avl. / Not appl.	Term Loan	Not avl. / Not appl.	Not avl. / Not appl.	31 Mar 2028	Simple	200.00	ACUITE A+ Stable Reaffirmed

Limited								
UCO Bank	Not avl. / Not appl.	Term Loan	Not avl. / Not appl.	Not avl. / Not appl.	31 Mar 2026	Simple	20.83	ACUITE A+ Stable Reaffirmed
Indian Overseas Bank	Not avl. / Not appl.	Term Loan	Not avl. / Not appl.	Not avl. / Not appl.	09 Feb 2027	Simple	10.00	ACUITE A+ Stable Reaffirmed

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About Acuité Ratings & Research

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