Bank Lending Survey for Q1:2024-25

Today, the Reserve Bank released the results of 28th round of its quarterly Bank Lending Survey¹, which captures qualitative assessment and expectations of major scheduled commercial banks on credit parameters (*viz.*, loan demand as well as terms and conditions of loans) for major economic sectors². The latest round of the survey, which was conducted during Q1:2024-25, collected senior loan officers' assessment of credit parameters for Q1:2024-25 and their expectations for Q2, Q3 and Q4 of 2024-25.

Highlights:

A. Assessment for Q1:2024-25

- Bankers' growth assessment of loan demand recorded a seasonal moderation across major sectors during Q1:2024-25 (<u>Chart 1</u> and <u>Table 1</u>).
- Respondents reported continuation of easy loan terms and conditions for major sectors, except mining; relative prudence was also reported for retail/personal loans and agricultural credit (Table 2).

B. Expectations for Q2:2024-25

- Bankers remained optimistic on loan demand across major sectors barring mining and quarrying (Table 1).
- Overall, easy loan terms and conditions are expected to prevail during the quarter; lower optimism is, however, reported for the retail/ personal loans (Table 2).

C. Expectations for Q3 and Q4 of 2024-25

- Bankers remain upbeat on loan demand across major sectors for the subsequent quarters of the financial year 2024-25 (<u>Table 3</u>).
- Easy loan terms and conditions are expected to continue in the second half of 2023-24, except for the mining sector; the infrastructure sector loans are perceived to witness relatively less softer loan terms.

¹ The results of 27th round of the BLS with reference period as January-March 2024 were released on the RBI website on <u>April 05, 2024</u>. The survey results reflect the views of the respondents, which are not necessarily shared by the Reserve Bank.

² The survey questionnaire is canvassed among major 30 SCBs, which together account for over 90 per cent of credit by SCBs in India.

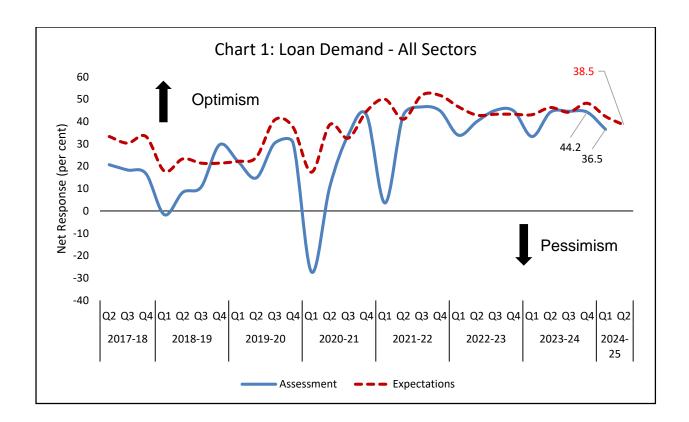


Table 1: Sector-wise Loan Demand - Net Response³

(per cent)

| Sector | Assessment Period | | Expectations Period | |
|----------------------|-------------------|------------|---------------------|----------------|
| | Q4:2023-24 | Q1:2024-25 | Q1:2024-25 | Q2:2024- 25 |
| All Sectors | 44.2 | 36.5 | 42.3 | 38.5 |
| Agriculture | 35.0 | 28.3 | 31.7 | 36.7 |
| Mining and Quarrying | 13.3 | 1.7 | 6.7 | 1.7 |
| Manufacturing | 41.4 | 36.2 | 34.5 | 34.5 |
| Infrastructure | 35.0 | 15.0 | 26.7 | 30.0 |
| Services | 42.9 | 41.1 | 35.7 | 33.9 |
| Retail/Personal | 48.0 | 34.0 | 34.0 | 44.0 |

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³ Net Response (NR) is computed as the difference of percentage of banks reporting increase/optimism and those reporting decrease/pessimism in respective parameter. The weights of +1.0, 0.5, 0, -0.5 and -1.0 are assigned for computing NR from aggregate per cent responses on 5-point scale, *i.e.*, substantial increase/ considerable easing, moderate increase/ somewhat easing, no change, moderate decrease/ somewhat tightening, substantial decrease/ considerable tightening for loan demand/loan terms and conditions parameters respectively. NR ranges between -100 to 100. Any value greater than zero indicates expansion/optimism and any value less than zero indicates contraction/pessimism. Increase in loan demand is considered optimism (Tables 1), while for loan terms and conditions, a positive value of net response indicates easy terms and conditions (Table 2).

Table 2: Sector-wise Loan Terms and Conditions - Net Response

(per cent)

| Sector | Assessment Period | | Expectations Period | |
|----------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------|----------------|
| | Q4:2023-24 | Q1:2024- 25 | Q1:2024- 25 | Q2:2024- 25 |
| All Sectors | 14.8 | 16.7 | 18.5 | 16.7 |
| Agriculture | 15.5 | 13.3 | 17.2 | 16.7 |
| Mining and Quarrying | -5.2 | -1.8 | -3.4 | 1.8 |
| Manufacturing | 15.0 | 22.4 | 13.3 | 22.4 |
| Infrastructure | 10.0 | 10.3 | 13.3 | 13.8 |
| Services | 14.3 | 21.4 | 16.1 | 21.4 |
| Retail/Personal | 16.7 | 15.2 | 16.7 | 10.9 |

Table 3: Sector-wise Expectations for Extended Period - Net Response

(per cent)

| Sector | Loan [| Loan Demand | | Loan Terms and Conditions | |
|----------------------|------------|-------------|------------|---------------------------|--|
| | Q3:2024-25 | Q4:2024-25 | Q3:2024-25 | Q4:2024-25 | |
| All Sectors | 44.4 | 46.3 | 22.2 | 20.4 | |
| Agriculture | 36.7 | 40.0 | 16.7 | 18.3 | |
| Mining and Quarrying | 10.3 | 12.1 | -1.7 | -1.7 | |
| Manufacturing | 43.3 | 48.3 | 15.0 | 15.0 | |
| Infrastructure | 34.5 | 36.2 | 12.1 | 10.3 | |
| Services | 44.6 | 48.2 | 19.0 | 19.0 | |
| Retail/Personal | 48.2 | 55.4 | 23.2 | 19.6 | |

Note: Please see the attached excel file for detailed time series data.