



January 26, 2021

National Stock Exchange of India Limited Listing Department Exchange Plaza, C-1, Block G, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai - 400 051 BSE Limited Listing Department Phiroze Jeejeebhoy Towers, Dalal Street, Mumbai - 400 001

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Sub:** Outcome of earnings call held for results for the quarter and nine months ended December 31, 2020

Ref: NSE Symbol - ISEC and BSE Scrip Code - 541179

This is further to our letter dated January 19, 2021 regarding the earnings call which was scheduled to be held on January 25, 2021.

Please find enclosed herewith the investor presentation and the opening remarks for the earnings call held on January 25, 2021 to discuss the financial results for the guarter and nine months ended December 31, 2020.

The same has also been uploaded on the website of the Company i.e. www.icicisecurities.com.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

**For ICICI Securities Limited** 

Rupesh Jadhav Senior Manager

Encl.: As above

Member of National Stock Exchange of India Ltd, BSE Ltd and Metropolitan Stock Exchange of India Ltd. SEBI Registration: INZ000183631

CIN No.: L67120MH1995PLC086241

ICICI Securities Limited
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Churchgate, Mumbai 400,020, Ind

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# Performance Review

Q3-FY2021

January 25, 2021

# Agenda

- ISEC Franchise
- Strategy
- Operating environment & Financial highlights
- Business Performance













# ICICI Securities franchise over the years...



#### Affluent franchise

- One of the largest equity franchise
- Total assets\* of ₹ 3.4 tn
- Private wealth clients' assets\*\* of ₹ 1.47 tn



#### Scale

- Client base at 5.07mn<sup>2</sup> from 2.48mn in FY14
- Overall active clients at 1.63mn² from 0.73mn in FY14
- ❖ NSE active clients at 1.29mn<sup>2</sup> from 0.50mn in FY14



#### Strong position across businesses

- ❖ Equities business¹ market share at 10.5%² from 7.5% in FY14
- MF Revenue market share at 4.5%³ from 2.9% in FY14
- Consistently ranked amongst top ECM players<sup>3</sup>



# Free cashflow generating high operating leverage model

- Revenue CAGR 13% (FY14 to FY20)
- ❖ PAT CAGR 35% (FY14 to FY20)
- Dividend CAGR 44% (FY14 to FY20)
- ROE consistently around 50% (FY14 to FY20)



- 1. Combined market share for retail and institutional clients for cash delivery and intraday equity trades
- 2. As at Q3-FY21, active clients are for trailing 12 months 3. FY20 data, Source AMFI 4. ECM market share source Prime Database
- \* Assets of our clients including equity demat assets maintained with ICICI Bank and excluding promoter holding
- \*\* Assets of our clients with more than 1 cr AUM at individual level including equity demat assets maintained with ICICI Bank and excluding promoter holding

# ...a sticky, diverse & multifaceted client base...

0.99 mn clients<sup>3</sup> with 2 or more products, up from 0.58 mn in FY16

37% of clients active more than 14 years ago are still active with us¹

>65% revenue in each of the financial years (FY14 to FY20) was contributed by >5 year vintage customers²

In last 3 years, millennials form 70% of active customers¹

47% of customers acquired in 9M-FY21 are < 30 years of age & 57% of clients acquired are from B30 cities

Out of total clients activated in 9M-FY21, 44% are below 30 years of age

Not only are we able to attract millennials but also retain our vintage clients



- Δs at FY20
- 2. Based on retail broking revenues
- 3 Ac at ∩3 EV21

# ...on back of strong Cultural Anchors, ...

### **Strong Customer Focus**

- Managing financial life cycle
- Nuanced insights of customer behaviour

# Governance & Risk Management

- Independent Chairman
- Separate posts of Chairman & MD & CEO
- Strong Independent Director representation
- Proactive and real-time risk management

# **Cultural Anchors**

#### Innovation

- Demonstrated track record of maintaining leadership position across business cycles for over 2 decades
- Multiple first to market offerings

### **Agility & Execution**

- Ability to respond quickly to market dynamics
- Strong emphasis on execution

### **Nurturing Talent**

- High quality, diverse talent pool
- Ability to attract & retain talent



# ...a robust digital business model enjoying strong brand equity

### Unique business model

- Virtually no inventory and supply chain risk
- Low credit and receivables risk
- Strong liquidity position
- High Return on Equity and asset light business model

# Wide range of products under one digital platform

- Open architecture business model
- Investments, loans, deposits and protection
- ➤ 50+ products and services

# Scalable digital capabilities and infrastructure

- 99% equity transactions performed online
- 95% mutual fund transactions performed online
- ➤ 80% of our client sourcing is digital, balance is phygital



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# Broadening the positioning by focusing on strategic anchors

### Imperatives:

- Broad basing business model
- Diverse and granular revenue streams





To emerge as a provider of financial services requirements across life stages of Retail Indian - Powered digitally in an open architecture format

# We remain committed to our implementation of following strategic anchors for a transformation journey



Strategic anchors

Intended outcome



Ramping up scale and volume

Increase our competitiveness



**Monetize client** value

**Profitability** 



**Enhancing** customer experience

Loyalty & penetration



Digital agility & robust technology

> **Attract** millennials



**Cost efficiency** 

**Operating** leverage



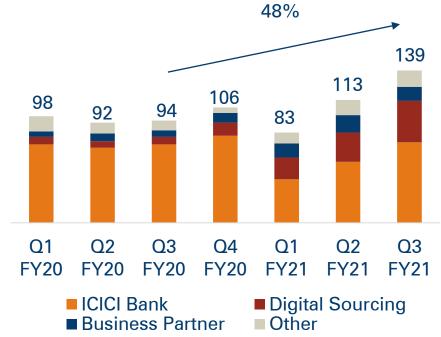
Progress against strategic anchors discussed in the following slides

# Progress: Ramping up Scale and Value...

# Growing and diversifying customer acquisition channels

Diversified our client sourcing channel mix, largest sourcing channel now contributing about 59% vs 80% in FY20

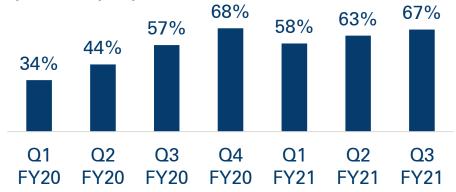
### New clients acquired ('000)



# PA

### Improving quality of sourcing

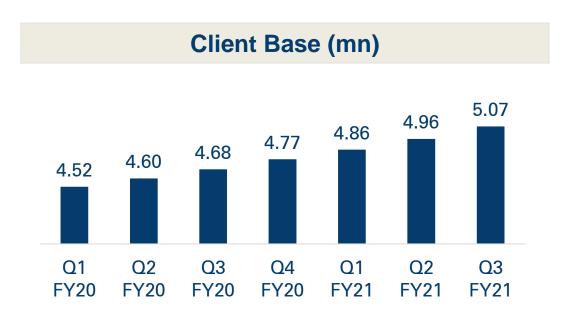
Activation rates trending up post new arrangement with ICICI Bank in Q1-FY20 and new product propositions

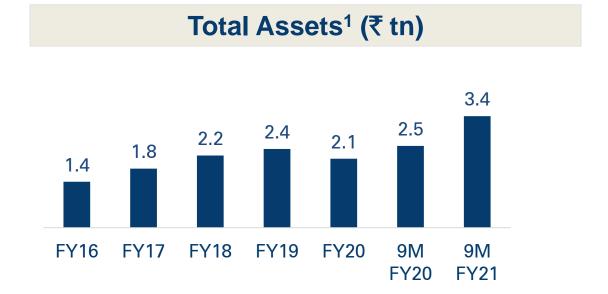


Prime customers: ~56% of retail equities revenue in Q3-FY21 up from ~35% in Q3-FY20



## ...resulting in increase in clients and assets





Expansion of distribution network, digital sourcing and open architecture has helped us speed up our new client acquisition



# Progress: Monetise client value

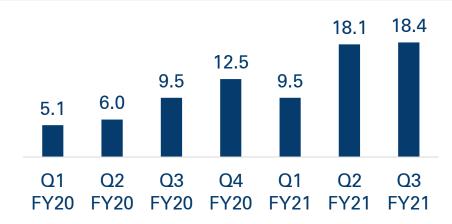
#### **New Initiatives**

- ➤ Launched ICICIdirect NEO, targeted at traders, offering zero brokerage on all Futures trades and flat ₹20 per order for Intraday and Options
- ICICIdirect Money, standalone mobile app for mutual fund investment launched

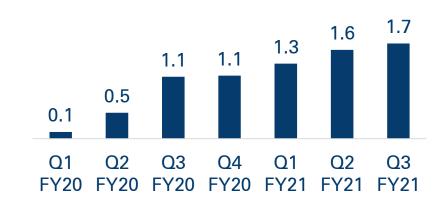
### Home loans disbursed (₹ bn)



### MTF & ESOP book\* (₹ bn)



### Own PMS AUM (₹ bn)





ROE at 71% in Q3-FY21, up from 51% in Q3-FY20

\* Daily average for the quarter

# Progress: Enhancing customer experience...

Deepening relationships to enhance life time value

Increase cross sell ratio

Win back clients who have stopped trading

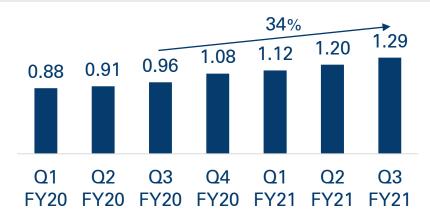
Activate clients who have never traded

- One click investments
  - ♣ Equity: ~50K portfolios subscribed till Dec 2020
  - Wealth: New one click MF basket 'All Weather Multi Asset ' launched
- > Cross sell
  - Cross sell ratio improved to 1.70 from 1.55 YoY
  - ❖ Clients with 2 or more products reached ~1m, up 9% YoY
- Smart execution tools for research, trading strategies
  - Sensibull: Derivatives trading strategy formulation
  - iTrack: Insights on open positions in F&O
  - ❖ iAlert: Investor alert when buying high risk stocks
  - Payoff analyser: Estimates probable P&L for Options
- Make product experience for the customer unique
  - Fully digital global investing platform

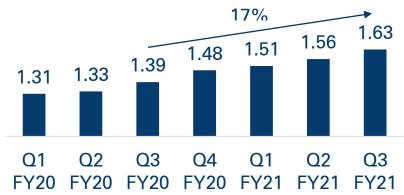


# ...resulting in increased client activity and engagement

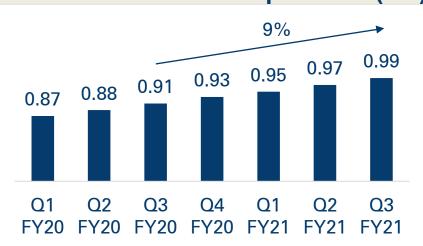
### **NSE** active clients (mn)



## Overall active clients (mn)



### Clients with 2 or more products (mn)



#### **Cross sell ratio**





Net Promoter Score (NPS): 26.3% in Q3-FY21, up from 21.8% in Q2-FY21 Sourcing NPS: 50.4% in Q3-FY21, up from 40.1% in Q2-FY21

# Progress: Digital agility for enhancing customer experience

Robust technology platform







#### Client engagement platform

- New website interface launched
- Re-engineering our mobile application

#### Partnership with Fintechs for digital experiences

- Integration of tax services with new partners
- Partnership for client acquisition
- Tool for improving customer experience in FNO
- Tool for charting based option trading solution

#### **ICICIdirect Money launched**

> 30k+ downloads with google app store rating of 4.0

### Secure, Stable and Reliable system

- Peak orders + trades processed: 4.0 mn
- Peak concurrent users at 95k+; average 70k

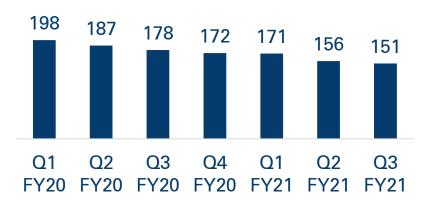
#### Increased traction on our platform

- ► ~1.5x increase in our website traffic in last 3 months
- 1.8x increase in unique client logins on our platform YoY



# **Progress: Cost efficiency**

### **Number of branches**



### **Cost to Income ratio**



### Revenue per employee (mn)



### Return on equity\*





Variabilization of costs: variable cost as % of total cost increased to 43% from 29%<sup>1</sup>

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# Operating environment

### Key highlights

### Regulatory developments

Implementation of first phase of minimum margin requirement for intraday equity & derivative segment

### Secondary market – Sustained momentum

- 3.2mn demat accounts opened in the quarter
- Equity market ADTO ex Prop increased 53% YoY, flat sequentially
  - ➤ Industry witnessed decline of 10% in equity intraday ADTO in Dec'20 vs Nov'20
  - > However, cash delivery volume for industry increased by 17% in the same period
- > Derivative market ADTO ex Prop increased 76% YoY, up 36% sequentially
  - Derivative ADTO for the industry grew by 7% in Dec'20 as compared to Nov'20, growth moderated MoM

#### Mutual Funds - Subdued flows

- Overall gross flows for the industry down 44% YoY, gross equity flows for industry down 7% YoY
- Net inflows for the industry increased by 2% YoY, led by increase in net flows in debt mutual fund
- Net equity outflow for the industry continued in Q3-21: December was sixth consecutive month of net outflows
- Equity AUM increased by 4% YoY and 9% sequentially,
- SIP flows for the market decreased by 6% YoY

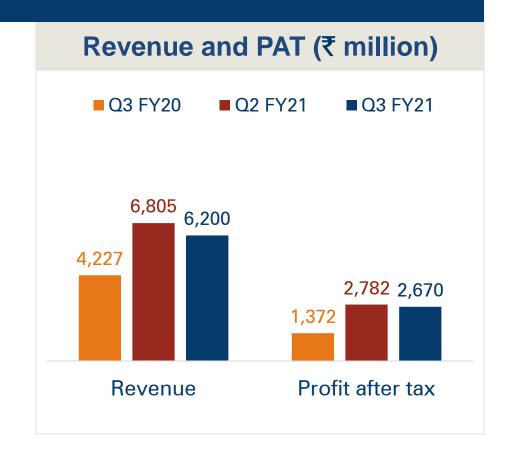


Source: BSE, NSE, NSDL, CDSL, AMFI

### **Financial Results**

### Revenue and Profit after Tax

- Consolidated revenue increased by 47%
  - Retail equities & allied revenue at ₹3,904mn, up 70%
  - Distribution revenue at ₹1,079mn, up 5%
  - Private Wealth Management revenue at ₹ 1,137mn up 86%
  - Institutional equities revenue at ₹380mn, up 34%
  - Issuer Services and Advisory revenue at ₹234mn, up 33%
- Cost to Income ratio of 42% vs 56%
- Consolidated PAT up 95%





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### **Equities business**

### Equity segment volumes and market share

- Equity ADTO increased by 80% YoY
- Equity market share up YoY however declined sequentially due to: Oct'20 & Nov'20 (10.8%)
  - Decline due to lower institutional equity business in November where we lost some market shared due to MSCI rebalance

Dec'20 (9.9%)

 Decline due to new margin norms however revenue was up due to better mix of delivery and higher active client base

### Derivatives segment volumes & market share

- ISEC derivative ADTO increased by 28% YoY
- Market Share: Oct'20 & Nov'20 (8.0%), Dec'20 (3.4%)
- Down in Dec due to decline intraday derivatives having low yields;
  - Revenue decline in Dec'20 is 7.6% of retail brokerage revenue for Dec
  - Launch of NEO to help increase derivative client base and grow the business



Retail equity revenue in December up MoM despite lower derivative and intraday equity revenues



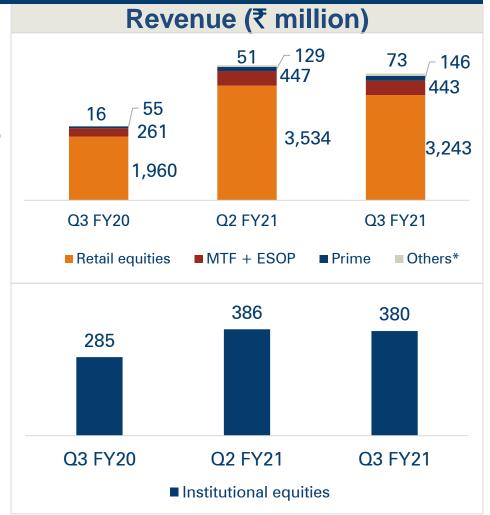
### **Equities business**

### Retail equities and allied<sup>1</sup> revenue up by 70%

- Brokerage grew by 65% YoY, however declined by 8% sequentially
  - Lesser number of trading less (3 days less or ~5%) compared to last quarter
  - Prime and Prepaid: ~64% of retail equities revenue
- Allied income now contribute to 17% of total Retail equities revenue up from 15% YoY

### Institutional equities<sup>3</sup> revenue up by 34%

- Franchise consolidated its position among the top domestic institutions
- Strengthened FII franchise by entering into partnership with a US firm
- Intuitional Research:
  - Cover ~300 stocks, ~30% higher than nearest competitor
  - Consumer analyst is India's top analyst consistently over last decade
  - Metal, Utilities, Energy, Auto analysts are top-ranked





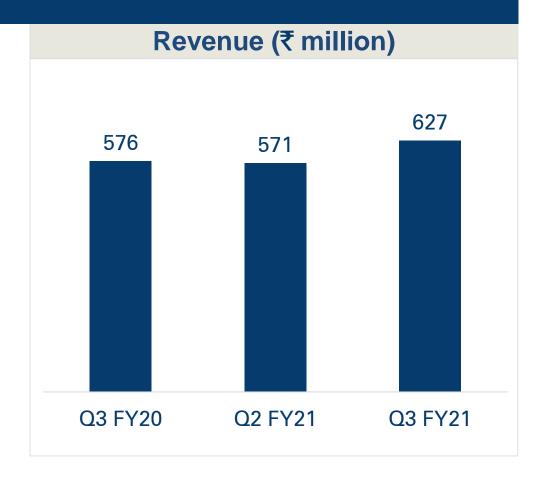
Retail equities includes broking income from cash & derivatives & allied revenue includes ESOP & MTF interest income, depository and other charges, NEO subscription fees and Prime fees

Institutional equities includes broking income from cash & derivatives

<sup>\*</sup> Others include NEO fees, Depository charges which were previously netted off in expenses and now reclassified as gross revenue (Retail equities & allied as previously reported: Q3FY20 = ₹2,277m, Q2FY21 = ₹4,110m)
Period:Q3-FY2021 vs Q3-FY2020; Sequential: Q3-FY2021 vs Q2-FY2021

### **Distribution business – Mutual Funds**

- Distribution revenue at ₹ 1,079 mn, up 5%,
  - At 3 quarter high, sequential growth of 9%
- Mutual Fund revenue up by 9%
  - ISEC Mutual Fund average AUM<sup>1</sup> up 2%, at all time high
  - Our gross flows grew faster than the industry
    - Market share increased from 0.15% to 0.28%
  - While we witnessed net outflows, our net flows market share in equity increased
- Concerted efforts on to increase market share
  - Launched exclusive mobile app for mutual fund investments
  - Loan against MF launched
- SIP count<sup>2</sup> for Q3 FY21 is 0.68 mn, up from 0.65 mn YoY
  - Market share in SIP flow increased to 3.66% from 3.22%





Period:Q3-FY2021 vs Q3-FY2020; Sequential: Q3-FY2021 vs Q2-FY2021

1. AUM excluding direct

2. SIP Count: triggered as on last month of period Source: AMFI

### Distribution business – Focused Non Mutual Fund

### Focused Non MF distribution<sup>1</sup> revenue up 5% YoY...

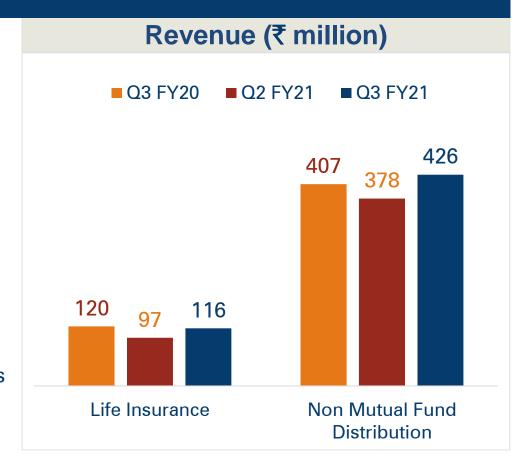
- Aided by increase in wealth products
  - Proprietary PMS at ₹ 1.7 bn; up from ₹ 1.1 bn in Q3-FY20
- Home loan disbursement at ₹ 3.6 bn, up 54% YoY

### ... strong momentum continued sequentially

- Focused Non MF distribution<sup>1</sup> revenue up by 13%
- Strong growth in AIF & PMS, up 55% sequentially
- Life Insurance revenue up 20% sequentially

### Key initiatives

- Paperless NPS account opening
- Offering pre-approved sum assured to more than 1 million customers





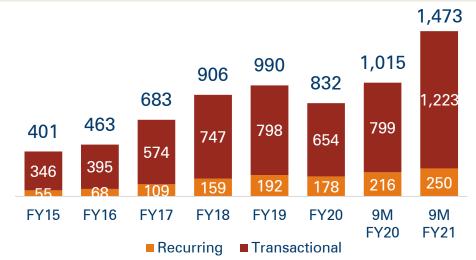
I. Group of products which are being focused on to grow overall distribution revenue and include insurance, PMS, AIF, bonds, NPS, deposits etc. and exclude income such as IPO, marketing fees and paid educational programs

Period:Q3-FY2021 vs Q3-FY2020; Sequential: Q3-FY2021 vs Q2-FY2021

### **Private Wealth Management**

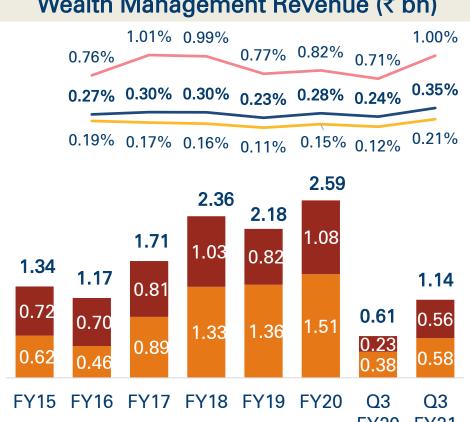
- Total AUM at ~₹ 1.47 tn, up 45%
- Total Revenue at ₹ 1.14bn, up 86%
- Overall yield\* at 0.35% compared to 0.24% in Q3FY20
- Clients: ~42,700; 6,700+ clients added during the guarter

### Wealth Management Assets (₹ bn)









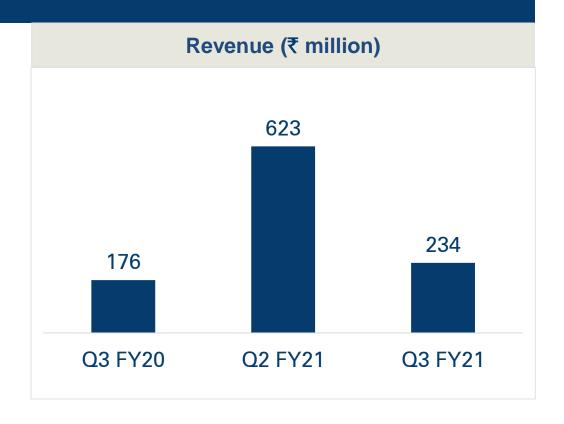


Recurring Transactional —Yield on Recurring Assets Yield on Total AUM

—Yield on Transactional Assets

### **Issuer Services and Advisory**

- Issuer Services & Advisory revenue up by 33%
- Executed 10 Investment banking deals in Q3-FY21 vs 7 in Q3-FY20
- #1 in IPO/FPO/ InvIT/ REIT<sup>1</sup> issuance, 85% market share
- #2 in merger market league table<sup>2</sup>
- Strong IPO<sup>3</sup> pipeline, 10 deals amounting over ₹138 bn
- Continued focus on building non-IPO revenue





Source: Prime database, 9MFY21

<sup>2.</sup> Source Merger market, Amongst domestic financial advisors in terms of number of deals, 9M-FY20

<sup>3.</sup> IPO:IPO/FPO/InvIT/REIT, Source: SEBI

# Way forward

### Core components of strategy remain intact

We continue to focus on all five anchors of our strategy, following areas require immediate attention

### Invest in next gen technology capabilities to remain cutting edge

Advanced analytics, CRM capabilities, cyber security, capacity enhancement, use of AI/ML tools as well as UI/UX interfaces to improve user experience

### Digitize & decongest processes and products & enhance customer experience

#### Increased focus on cost

- Contain fixed costs and variabilisation of expenses
- Exploring moving certain teams to completely work from home, need for branch infrastructure may further reduce

### Fortifying our talent pool

- > Talent acquisition in all areas of focus
- Broad basing ESOPs
- Leverage stability and brand of the company to attract right talent



The recent market disruption has reaffirmed our strategy of providing comprehensive financial services to a retail Indian—powered digitally—in an open architecture format

### Safe harbor

Except for the historical information contained herein, statements in this release which contain words or phrases such as 'will', 'would', 'indicating', 'expected to', etc., and similar expressions or variations of such expressions may constitute 'forward-looking statements'. These forward-looking statements involve a number of risks, uncertainties and other factors that could cause actual results, opportunities and growth potential to differ materially from those suggested by the forward-looking statements. These risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, the actual growth in demand for broking and other financial products and services in the countries that we operate or where a material number of our customers reside, our ability to successfully implement our strategy, including our use of the Internet and other technology, our growth and expansion in domestic and overseas markets, technological changes, our ability to market new products, the outcome of any legal, tax or regulatory proceedings in India and in other jurisdictions we are or become a party to, the future impact of new accounting standards, our ability to implement our dividend policy, the impact of changes in broking regulations and other regulatory changes in India and other jurisdictions as well as other risk detailed in the reports filed by ICICI Bank Limited, our holding company with United States Securities and Exchange Commission. ICICI Bank and ICICI Securities Limited undertake no obligation to update forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date thereof.

This release does not constitute an offer of securities.





# Thank you



# **Appendix**

**Consolidated P&L** 

(₹ million)

Particulars	Q3-FY20	Q2-FY21	Q3-FY21	% Q-o-Q	Y-o-Y%
Revenue	4,227	6,805	6,200	-9%	47%
Operating Expenses	270	425	413	-3%	53%
Employee benefits expenses	1,328	1,796	1,297	-28%	-2%
Other expenses <sup>1</sup>	558	576	659	14%	18%
Total operational expenses	2,156	2,797	2,369	-15%	10%
Finance Cost	219	285	253	-11%	16%
Total expenses	2,376	3,082	2,622	-15%	10%
Profit before tax	1,851	3,723	3,578	-4%	93%
Tax	479	941	908	-4%	90%
Profit after tax	1,372	2,782	2,670	-4%	95%
Other Comprehensive Income (OCI)	12	(6)	1		
Total Comprehensive Income (TCI)	1,384	2,776	2,671	-4%	93%



# Segment performance

(₹ million)

				•	•
Particulars	Q3-FY20	Q2-FY21	Q3-FY21	% Q-o-Q	Y-o-Y%
Segment Revenue					
Broking & Distribution <sup>1</sup>	3,875	6,033	5,792	-4%	49%
Issuer Services and Advisory <sup>2</sup>	176	623	234	-62%	33%
Treasury <sup>3</sup>	176	149	174	17%	-1%
Income from operations	4,227	6,805	6,200	-9%	47%
Segment Profit before tax					
Broking & Distribution <sup>1</sup>	1,752	3,243	3,396	5%	94%
Issuer Services and Advisory <sup>2</sup>	27	393	74	-81%	174%
Treasury <sup>3</sup>	72	87	108	25%	51%
Total Result	1,851	3,723	3,578	-4%	93%

The group operating segment's nomenclature has been changed for better representation to the stakeholders, the classification of segment allocation has remain unchanged.

3. Treasury from erstwhile Investment & trading
Period: Q-o-Q: Q3-FY2021 vs Q2-FY2021; Y-o-Y: Q3-FY2021 vs Q3-FY2020

Broking & Distribution from erstwhile Broking & commission

Issuer services & advisory from erstwhile Advisory services. Includes Financial advisory services such as equity-debt issue management services, merger and acquisition advice and other related activities

# **Balance sheet: Assets**

(₹ million)

ASSETS	At Dec 31, 2019	At March 31, 2020	At Dec 31, 2020
Financial assets (A)	34,698	39,861	58,638
Cash/Bank and cash equivalents	15,715	24,114	31,803
Securities for trade & Derivatives financial instrument	5,547	8,351	3,266
Receivables	1,218	887	4,458
Loans	11,530	5,709	18,352
Investments	27	25	28
Other financial assets	661	775	731
Non-financial assets (B)	4,652	4,567	4,103
Deferred tax assets (net)	574	596	666
Right-of-use assets	1,573	1,529	1,047
Fixed assets, CWIP & Intangible assets	502	532	702
Current tax assets & other non financial assets	2,003	1,910	1,688
Assets (A+B)	39,350	44,428	62,741



# **Balance sheet: Equity and Liabilities**

(₹ million)

EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	At Dec 31, 2019	At March 31, 2020	At Dec 31, 2020	
Financial liabilities (A)	23,164	26,193	40,630	
Payables	3,707	6,926	10,423	
Derivative financial instruments	2	-	1	
Debt securities	14,924	14,975	22,336	
Borrowings (Other than debt securities)	-	-	600	
Lease liabilities	1,593	1,574	1,134	
Deposits & Other financial liabilities	2,938	2,718	6,136	
Non-financial liabilities (B)	5,661	6,140	7,253	
Equity (C)	10,525	12,095	14,858	
Equity share capital	1,611	1,611	1,611	
Other equity	8,914	10,484	13,247	
Equity and Liabilities (A+B+C)	39,350	44,428	62,741	



# Additional data points

Particulars	Q1-FY20	Q2-FY20	Q3-FY20	Q4-FY20	Q1-FY21	Q2-FY21	Q3-FY21
Equity market ADTO <sup>1</sup> (bn)	279	273	308	338	454	470	471
Derivative market ADTO <sup>1</sup> (bn)	8,389	9,403	9,362	10,265	9,183	12,145	16,477
Total market ADTO <sup>1</sup> (bn)	8,668	9,676	9,670	10,603	9,637	12,615	16,948
ISEC total ADTO (bn)	641	711	846	851	867	1118	1,093
ISEC Blended market share (%)	7.4%	7.3%	8.7%	8.0%	9.0%	8.9%	6.5%
ISEC Blended Equity market share (%)	8.1%	8.7%	8.9%	9.1%	10.7%	11.1%	10.5%
ISEC Blended Derivative market share (%)	7.4%	7.3%	8.7%	8.0%	8.9%	8.8%	6.3%
Mutual fund average AUM (bn)	368	358	375	345	318	352	383
Mutual fund average Equity AUM (bn)	274	263	279	254	236	262	287
Life Insurance Premium (mn)	1,483	1,982	1,865	2,653	1,231	1,729	1,783





#### **ICICI SECURITIES LIMITED**

Earning Conference Call

Quarter ended December 31, 2020 (Q3-FY21)

January 25, 2021

#### Operator remarks

Good evening ladies and gentlemen and welcome to the Earnings Conference Call of ICICI Securities Limited for the quarter ended December 31, 2020.

We have with us today on the call Mr. Vijay Chandok – Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Ajay Saraf – Executive Director, Mr. Harvinder Jaspal – Chief Financial Officer, Mr. Vishal Gulechha – Head Retail Equities, Mr. Kedar Deshpande – Head Retail Distribution, Product & Services Group, Mr. Anupam Guha – Head Private Wealth Management, Mr. Subhash Kelkar – Chief Technology & Digital Officer, Mr. Ketan Karkhanis – Head Retail Distribution business and Mr. Prasannan Keshavan – Head Operations.

For the duration of this presentation, all participant lines will be in the listen-only mode. I will be standing-by for the Q&A session. Should you need assistance during this conference call, please signal an operator by pressing '\*' then '0' on your touchtone phone. Please note that this conference is being recorded.

The business presentation can be found on the company's corporate website, icicisecurities.com under Investor Relations.

I would now like to call Mr. Chandok to take over the proceedings.

#### Mr. Vijay Chandok

Good evening to all of you and welcome to the ICICI Securities third quarter earnings Call for fiscal 2021.

I trust that you and your near and dear ones are safe and healthy & I hope it remains that



way.

As I had mentioned during our earlier interactions, all digitally centred businesses have done well ever since the pandemic broke out, led by certain customer behavioural shifts with increasing number of people adopting digital methods of transacting. ISEC has been a natural beneficiary of this trend since 99% of our equity transactions and 95% of our mutual fund transactions are performed online.

Our company continued progressing on its strategy to leverage this opportunity and we are very happy to report that for the current quarter, as you would have already noted from our published results, our company's Q3-FY21 revenue stood at ₹6.2bn, a growth of 47% and Profit After Tax (PAT) stood at ₹2.67 bn, a growth of 95%. Our continued focus on enhancing our operating leverage is yielding results with our branch count and employee cost coming down by 15% and 2% YoY, consequently bringing down our cost to income ratio to 42% and increasing our ROE (annualised) to 71%. Also, assets of our clients with us grew by 38% to over ₹3.4 trillion, driven by all-round growth across businesses that we operate in.

#### Let us now have a brief look at the market environment for the quarter ended Dec 31, 2020.

Equity markets continued their strong momentum from the last quarter and over 3.2mn new demat accounts were opened in the quarter. Equity and derivative ADTO increased by 53% and 76% YoY respectively. Equity capital markets saw 27 deals in the current quarter as compared to 12 in Q3-FY20. On the other hand, mutual funds witnessed subdued flows with gross flows for the industry down by 44% YoY. While, net inflows in the industry increased by 2% YoY driven by debt mutual funds, equity mutual funds witnessed net outflow for sixth straight month in December. Also, SIP flows for the industry fell to ₹73 billion in November, lowest since April 2018, before recovering to ₹84 billion in December. On the regulatory front, the new uniform margin norms implemented across industry resulted in reduction of volume for the intraday equity products; however, there was an upsurge in the cash delivery volumes. Also, the growth in derivative products moderated on a month on month basis.

In such an environment, your company has been steadfastly focusing on executing our strategy articulated last year and I would like to take you through some important updates:



First, with respect to ramping up scale with quality – During the quarter, we furthered our digitization journey and strengthened the overall franchise. Our client base crossed 5 million as we added ~1.4 lac customers, our highest in a quarter. This was aided by our open architecture digital sourcing. Through this channel we acquired around 38,000 customers in the quarter, up from ~28,000 in Q2-FY21 and ~20,000 in Q1-FY21. We continue to invest resources and efforts in further scaling up digital sourcing in the coming quarters. This initiative has helped us diversify our sourcing mix with all our non-ICICI Bank sourcing channels, i.e. digital sourcing, along with business partners channel and our own RM network, now contributing ~41% of accounts sourced. Approximately 30% of total accounts opened in the current quarter were linked to banks other than ICICI bank. Our focus on quality, while scaling up has ensured that the activation ratio continued its upward trend and stood at 67% for the quarter ended Dec 31, 2020.

Additionally, healthy adoption of our product propositions along with growth in sourcing has helped us grow our NSE active client base by 34% YoY and it stood at 1.29 million as at Dec 31, 2020. Our NSE active customers increased by over 50k in December, our highest in last 9 months and our incremental market share in NSE active customers increased to ~7% in December 2020, up from ~1.5% in April 2020.

Second, to monetise client value, we have been adding new product lines and are happy to report that home loans disbursed during the quarter increased to ₹ 3.6 bn as compared to ₹ 2.4 bn during the quarter last year, which is the highest ever quantum for the quarter till date. Our average MTF and ESOP book for the quarter almost doubled year on year which is helping us diversify our equities revenue. Non-brokerage streams of income, like ESOP & MTF interest income, depository charges, NEO subscription fees and Prime fees in our equities business, are now contributing 17% to our retail equities and allied revenue. We have also scaled up our proprietary PMS where our AUM stood at ₹ 1.7 bn up from ₹ 1.1 bn last year.

Our next lever is **improving customer experience**. With an objective of increasing engagement, we made available products like one click investments, trading strategy formulation tool for derivatives besides other ongoing simplifications. We also



increased cross selling and our customers with two or more products increased to ~1 million, up 9% YoY. This has also helped us increase our cross sell ratio which now stands at 1.7 products per client. As we increase our cross sell ratios, I would like to reiterate it is of utmost importance to keep in mind customer's risk appetite and preferences to ensure sustainable lifetime relationship, towards this we have heightened our focus on Net Promoter Scores (NPS). All these initiatives have helped in increasing our total active client base to 1.63 million, a growth of 17% YoY.

For building up on our **digital agility**, our API architecture helps us quickly integrate with a diverse set of fintech players. We have evaluated 140 fintechs and have onboarded 9 projects which are under various stages of implementation. Further, in order to declutter and simplify investing in mutual funds for first time investors, we launched ICICIdirect Money application for which the initial response has been encouraging.

Finally, for **cost efficiency**, we continue to rationalize our branch count which has resulted in higher operating efficiency.

#### We will now discuss the operating details of our various business segments.

In our equities business during the quarter, the new margin regulations came into force from December 2020. As a result of these norms, we did see some decline in turnover of derivative and intraday cash segment for us in the month of December. Our market share in derivatives for the quarter fell by 240 bps YoY primarily attributed to the decline in market share for the month of December. However, we would like to reiterate that volume loss did not translate into equivalent revenue loss as the decrease in volumes was majorly driven by our intraday low yielding intraday products. The decline in derivative revenue in December compared to November represents only 7.6% of total retail brokerage revenue. In fact, our total retail equities revenue actually increased by 9% in December vs November despite this development and on a run-rate basis has been adequately offset on account of better yielding product in the month of December. Going forward, the recently launched NEO plan, targeted at price sensitive trading segment, is expected to help grow the derivative trading business. In this context, we have already seen active growth in derivative customers in December as compared to November despite the margin norms. Given our past positive



experience in Options 20 plan, we remain optimistic about positive outcome arising out of NEO plans.

With respect to equity business, our market share increased by 160 bps on a YoY basis from 8.9% to 10.5%, however, sequentially declined by 60bps, primarily due to decline in market share in December to 9.9% because of new margin norms. However, this did not impact the equity revenue because of higher delivery volume and higher active client base. We expect that the scale up of NEO customers would result in increase in intraday volumes of our company.

Consequently, for the entire quarter, our revenue in this business increased by 65% YoY driven, as already mentioned, by enhanced base of active customers, higher proportion of cash delivery volume and growth in ADTOs.

On a sequential basis the retail brokerage revenue declined by 8% primarily on account of lesser number of trading days.

Our institutional equities revenue grew by 34% YoY aided by established traction in DII space and growing traction in the FII space. We are adopting a partnership framework to enhance our presence globally and in the quarter partnered with a US firm to enhance access to and service global clients.

**Moving to the distribution business,** our sustained efforts of focusing on input parameters in mutual funds has helped us gain market share on overall gross flows from 15 bps to 28 bps and on SIP flows from 3.22% to 3.66%. Aided by our improvement in market share, improving yield and market appreciation, our MF revenue for the quarter grew by 9% YoY.

Our non-MF revenue grew by 5% YoY, aided by growth in distribution of wealth and bond products. Non-MF products continued their strong sequential run by growing 13%, supported by Life insurance revenue that was up 20%. As a result of growth in our mutual fund and non-MF distribution income, our overall distribution income registered a growth after 3 quarters.



Also, in order to cater to the borrowing needs of our customers, we have recently launched loan against mutual funds on our platform.

Our wealth management business, registered revenue growth of 86% on the back of strong equity performance. The total assets of our clients in this segment increased to ₹ 1.47 trillion, a growth of 45% YoY.

Our Issuer Services and Advisory business revenue increased by 33% YoY.

To sum it all up, we are moving purposefully towards the articulated strategy.

Our new client acquisition scale is gathering momentum. Our sourcing run rates are improving, mix is getting diversified and on an incremental basis we have started gaining market share on NSE active clients.

We continue to deal with significant business model shifts including the latest regulatory changes in an agile manner by launching relevant product propositions and focusing on maximizing emerging opportunities.

Our distribution business has registered growth on a YoY basis and strong traction on sequential basis where our focus on input activities and levers is showing encouraging early results.

It is our endeavour to continue pursuing our long term strategy and will specifically focus on these areas. **First**, digitise and decongest processes and products to enhance customer experience. **Secondly**, higher focus on increasing cost efficiency by variabilisation of expenses. **Third**, invest in next generation technology for upgrading our infrastructure and capabilities. **Fourth**, fortify our talent pool to position us well for future.

I would like to end our commentary and open the call for questions that you may have. Thank you.