

September 30, 2021

SBI Funds Management Private Limited: Ratings reaffirmed

Summary of rating action

Instrument*	Previous Rated Amount (Rs. crore)	Current Rated Amount (Rs. crore)	Rating Action
SBI Banking and PSU Fund	-	-	[ICRA]AAAmfs; reaffirmed
SBI Short Term Debt Fund	-	-	[ICRA]AAAmfs; reaffirmed
SBI Corporate Bond Fund	-	-	[ICRA]AAAmfs; reaffirmed
SBI Magnum Low Duration Fund	-	-	[ICRA]AAAmfs; reaffirmed
SBI Magnum Ultra Short Duration Fund	-	-	[ICRA]AAAmfs; reaffirmed
SBI Dynamic Bond Fund	-	-	[ICRA]AAAmfs; reaffirmed
SBI Liquid Fund	-	-	[ICRA]A1+mfs; reaffirmed
SBI Overnight Fund	-	-	[ICRA]A1+mfs; reaffirmed
SBI Savings Fund	-	-	[ICRA]A1+mfs; reaffirmed
SBI Capital Protection Oriented Fund Series A Plan 7	-	-	[ICRA]AAA(SO); reaffirmed
SBI Capital Protection Oriented Fund Series A Plan 8	-	-	[ICRA]AAA(SO); reaffirmed
Total	-	-	

*Instrument details are provided in Annexure-1

Rationale and key rating drivers

The ratings have been reaffirmed following ICRA's monitoring of the credit risk profile of the month-end portfolio positions of the schemes. The credit risk scores for the schemes were comfortably within the benchmark limit for the current rating levels.

Further, ICRA has reaffirmed the rating of [ICRA]AAA(SO) (pronounced ICRA triple A structured obligation) for SBI Capital Protection Oriented Series A Plan 7 and SBI Capital Protection Oriented Series A Plan 8 of SBI AMC. The letters, SO, in parenthesis, suffixed to a rating symbol stand for structured obligation. An SO rating is specific to the rated issue, its terms and structure and does not represent ICRA's opinion on the general credit quality of the issuers concerned.

Mutual fund ratings incorporate ICRA's assessment of the creditworthiness of a debt mutual fund scheme's investment portfolio. These ratings are a symbolic representation of the credit risk in the underlying investments or the degree of safety regarding the timely receipt of payments from the investments that have been made by the mutual fund schemes. The ratings do not indicate the asset management company's (AMC) and/or any of its scheme's willingness and/or ability to make timely redemptions to its investors. The ratings do not address the market risks and hence should not be construed as an indication of the expected returns, the prospective performance of the mutual fund scheme, and the ability to redeem the investments at the reported net asset value (NAV) or the volatility in its past returns as all these are influenced by market risks.

ICRA's assessment of a debt mutual fund scheme is guided by the credit ratings of the individual investments, the relative share of the investments in the overall assets under management (AUM) of the scheme and the maturity schedule of such investments. The credit matrix is a tool used by ICRA for analysing the investment portfolio of the debt mutual fund schemes by assessing the portfolio's aggregate credit quality while reviewing the credit quality of each underlying debt security. The portfolio's weighted average credit quality is then measured against the appropriate benchmark credit score in the credit matrix.

Once a mutual fund scheme is rated and the rating is accepted, ICRA reviews the underlying investment portfolios for the credit scores on an ongoing basis. If the portfolio credit score meets the benchmark of the existing rating, the rating is retained. If the portfolio credit score breaches the benchmark credit matrix score for the current rating, ICRA communicates the same to the fund manager/product manager or other officials of the concerned AMC and may provide a month's time to bring the portfolio credit score within the benchmark credit score for the current rating level. If the investment composition of the fund is realigned to bring the portfolio credit score within the benchmark credit score, the rating is retained.

However, if the portfolio continues to breach the benchmark credit score for the existing rating level, the rating is revised to reflect the change in the portfolio's credit quality. In case of sharp breaches of the benchmark credit score (for instance due to a multi-notch downgrade in the underlying investment) and/or if ICRA believes that the breach may not get rectified within a month of the ongoing review, the rating is generally corrected immediately without giving a month's time for rebalancing the portfolio.

The portfolio structure of capital protection schemes has been designed to protect the unit holders' capital at maturity, which is ensured by investing the majority of the portfolio in debt securities maturing on or before the maturity of the schemes. The schemes will invest in debt securities only with a rating of [ICRA]AAA or equivalent, mitigating any concerns on the credit risk. The proportion of debt securities is calculated such that the redemption value of debt less AMC expenses will be equal to or greater than the initial unit holder's capital, offering the highest degree of protection to the unit holder's capital at maturity.

ICRA has factored in the credit risk of debt investments, reinvestment risk of interim receipts, precondition of marginal tenure mismatches and obligor concentrations. The debt portion would be passively managed. The balance would be invested in equity and equity-linked instruments to provide any upside potential to the unit holders. At the same time, given the proportion of high credit quality debt investments and the portfolio structure, the downside is protected and the investor may not lose the initial investment at the time of maturity.

Liquidity position: Not applicable

Rating sensitivities

For SBI Capital Protection Oriented Fund Series A – Plan 7 and Plan 8

Positive factors – Not applicable

Negative factors – ICRA could downgrade the rating of the capital protection oriented schemes if, post launch, the maturity value of the debt holdings of the schemes and the current assets are lower than the amount mobilised from the investors or the credit rating of the underlying investments is downgraded below AAA.

For all other schemes

Positive factors – Not applicable

Negative factors – ICRA could downgrade the ratings of the schemes if the credit quality of the underlying investment deteriorates or if there is an increase in the share of lower rated investments on account of a decline in the AUM or otherwise, leading to a breach in the threshold for the rating level.

Analytical approach

Analytical Approach	Comments
Applicable Rating Methodologies	ICRA - Mutual Fund Credit Risk Rating Methodology
Parent/Group Support	Not applicable
Consolidation/Standalone	Not applicable

About the company

SBI Funds Management Private Limited (SBIFM), the AMC for SBI Mutual Fund (SBI MF), was established in February 1992. It is a joint venture between SBI (rated [ICRA]AAA(Stable) on Tier II bonds) and Amundi, with 63% and 37% stakes, respectively, as on March 31, 2021. The AMC's quarterly average AUM for the quarter¹ ended June 30, 2021 was Rs. 5,23,198 crore.

SBI Banking and PSU Fund

Launched in October 2009, SBI Banking and PSU Fund is an open-ended debt scheme. The investment objective is to generate regular income through a mix of portfolio predominantly comprising debt and money market securities of banks, public sector undertakings, public financial institutions and municipal bodies. The AUM stood at Rs. 12,410 crore as on August 31, 2021.

SBI Short Term Debt Fund

Launched in July 2007, SBI Short Term Debt Fund is an open-ended short-term debt scheme. The investment objective is to provide investors the opportunity to generate regular income through investments in a portfolio predominantly comprising debt instruments, which are not rated below investment grade, and money market instruments such that the Macaulay duration of the portfolio is between 1 year and 3 years. The AUM stood at Rs. 20,997 crore as on August 31, 2021.

SBI Corporate Bond Fund

Launched in January 2019, SBI Corporate Bond Fund is an open-ended debt scheme. The investment objective is to provide investors with the opportunity to predominantly invest in corporate bonds rated AA+ and above to generate additional spread on a part of their debt investments from high quality corporate debt securities while maintaining moderate liquidity in the portfolio through investment in money market securities. The AUM stood at Rs. 26,065 crore as on August 31, 2021.

SBI Magnum Low Duration Fund

Launched in July 2007, SBI Magnum Low Duration Fund is an open-ended debt scheme. The investment objective is to provide investors the opportunity to generate regular income with a reasonable degree of liquidity through investment in debt and money market instruments in such a manner that the Macaulay duration of the portfolio is between 6 months and 12 months. The AUM stood at Rs. 13,464 crore as on August 31, 2021.

SBI Magnum Ultra Short Duration Fund

Launched in May 1999, SBI Magnum Ultra Short Duration Fund is an open-ended debt scheme. The investment objective is to provide investors the opportunity to generate regular income with a high degree of liquidity through investments in a portfolio predominantly comprising debt and money market instruments. The AUM stood at Rs. 12,277 crore as on August 31, 2021.

¹ Source: Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI)

SBI Dynamic Bond Fund

Launched in February 2004, SBI Dynamic Bond Fund is an open-ended debt scheme. The investment objective is to provide investors attractive returns through investment in an actively managed portfolio of high quality debt securities of varying maturities. The AUM stood at Rs. 2,872 crore as on August 31, 2021.

SBI Liquid Fund

Launched in November 2003, SBI Liquid Fund is an open-ended liquid scheme. The investment objective is to provide investors the opportunity to invest in the entire range of debt and money market securities with a residual maturity of up to 91 days. The AUM stood at Rs. 59,172 crore as on August 31, 2021.

SBI Overnight Fund

Launched in October 2002, SBI Overnight Fund is an open-ended debt scheme. The investment objective is to provide investors the opportunity to invest in overnight securities maturing on the next business day. The AUM stood at Rs. 19,874 crore as on August 31, 2021.

SBI Savings Fund

Launched in July 2004, SBI Savings Fund is an open-ended debt scheme. The investment objective is to provide investors the opportunity to invest in money market instruments. The AUM stood at Rs. 25,620 crore as on August 31, 2021.

SBI Capital Protection Oriented Fund Series A Plan 7

Launched on February 18, 2020, SBI Capital Protection Oriented Fund Series A Plan 7 is a close-ended capital protection oriented scheme. The fund invests around 45% of the AUM in state development loans, 16% in equity shares and a large part of the remaining AUM in AAA rated corporate bonds. The AUM stood at Rs. 43.48 crore as on August 31, 2021.

SBI Capital Protection Oriented Fund Series A Plan 8

Launched on March 24, 2020, SBI Capital Protection Oriented Fund Series A Plan 8 is a close-ended capital protection oriented scheme. The fund invests around 55% of the AUM in state development loans, 17% in equity shares and a large part of the remaining AUM in AAA rated corporate bonds. The AUM stood at Rs. 27.51 crore as on August 31, 2021.

Key financial indicators: Not applicable

Status of non-cooperation with previous CRA: Not applicable

Any other information: None

Rating history for past three years

	Name of Scheme	Current Rating (FY2022)				Chronology of Rating History for the Past 3 Years							
		Type	Amount Rated (Rs. crore)	Amount Outstanding as of Sep 30, 2021 (Rs. crore)	Date & Rating in FY2022	Date & Rating in FY2021				Date & Rating in FY2020			Date & Rating in FY2019
					Sep 30, 2021	Feb 24, 2021	Dec 17, 2020	Oct 21, 2020	Aug 14, 2020	Mar 06, 2020	Sep 20, 2019	Aug 05, 2019	Feb 22, 2019
1	SBI Savings Fund	Short Term	-	-	[ICRA]A1+mfs	[ICRA]A1+mfs	[ICRA]A1+mfs	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	SBI Banking and PSU Fund	Long Term	-	-	[ICRA]AAAmfs	[ICRA]AAAmfs	[ICRA]AAAmfs	[ICRA]AAAmfs	-	-	-	-	-
3	SBI Short Term Debt Fund	Long Term	-	-	[ICRA]AAAmfs	[ICRA]AAAmfs	[ICRA]AAAmfs	[ICRA]AAAmfs	-	-	-	-	-
4	SBI Corporate Bond Fund	Long Term	-	-	[ICRA]AAAmfs	[ICRA]AAAmfs	[ICRA]AAAmfs	[ICRA]AAAmfs	-	-	-	-	-
5	SBI Magnum Low Duration Fund	Long Term	-	-	[ICRA]AAAmfs	[ICRA]AAAmfs	[ICRA]AAAmfs	[ICRA]AAAmfs	[ICRA]AAAmfs ^	[ICRA]AAAmfs/[ICRA]A1+mfs*	[ICRA]A1+mfs	[ICRA]A1+mfs	[ICRA]A1+mfs
6	SBI Magnum Ultra Short Duration Fund	Long Term	-	-	[ICRA]AAAmfs	[ICRA]AAAmfs	[ICRA]AAAmfs	[ICRA]AAAmfs	[ICRA]AAAmfs ^	[ICRA]AAAmfs/[ICRA]A1+mfs*	[ICRA]A1+mfs	[ICRA]A1+mfs	[ICRA]A1+mfs
7	SBI Dynamic Bond Fund	Long Term	-	-	[ICRA]AAAmfs	[ICRA]AAAmfs	[ICRA]AAAmfs	[ICRA]AAAmfs	[ICRA]AAAmfs	[ICRA]AAAmfs	[ICRA]AAAmfs	[ICRA]AAAmfs	[ICRA]AAAmfs
8	SBI Capital Protection Oriented Fund Series A Plan 7	Long Term	-	-	[ICRA]AAA (SO)	[ICRA]AAA (SO)	[ICRA]AAA (SO)	[ICRA]AAA (SO)	[ICRA]AAA (SO)	Provisional [ICRA]AAA (SO)	Provisional [ICRA]AAA (SO)	Provisional [ICRA]AAA (SO)	-
9	SBI Capital Protection Oriented Fund Series A Plan 8	Long Term	-	-	[ICRA]AAA (SO)	[ICRA]AAA (SO)	[ICRA]AAA (SO)	[ICRA]AAA (SO)	[ICRA]AAA (SO)	Provisional [ICRA]AAA (SO)	Provisional [ICRA]AAA (SO)	Provisional [ICRA]AAA (SO)	-
10	SBI Liquid Fund	Short Term	-	-	[ICRA]A1+mfs	[ICRA]A1+mfs	[ICRA]A1+mfs	[ICRA]A1+mfs	[ICRA]A1+mfs	[ICRA]A1+mfs	[ICRA]A1+mfs	[ICRA]A1+mfs	[ICRA]A1+mfs
11	SBI Overnight Fund	Short Term	-	-	[ICRA]A1+mfs	[ICRA]A1+mfs	[ICRA]A1+mfs	[ICRA]A1+mfs	[ICRA]A1+mfs	[ICRA]A1+mfs	[ICRA]A1+mfs	-	-

Complexity level of the rated instrument

Instrument	Complexity Indicator
Mutual Fund	Not Applicable

The Complexity Indicator refers to the ease with which the returns associated with the rated instrument could be estimated. It does not indicate the risk related to the timely payments on the instrument, which is rather indicated by the instrument's credit rating. It also does not indicate the complexity associated with analysing an entity's financial, business, industry risks or complexity related to the structural, transactional, or legal aspects. Details on the complexity levels of the instruments are available on ICRA's website: [Click Here](#)

Annexure-1: Instrument details

ISIN	Instrument Name	Date of Issuance / Sanction	Coupon Rate	Maturity Date	Amount Rated (Rs. crore)	Current Rating and Outlook
NA	SBI Banking and PSU Fund	NA	NA	NA	NA	[ICRA]AAAmfs
NA	SBI Short Term Debt Fund	NA	NA	NA	NA	[ICRA]AAAmfs
NA	SBI Corporate Bond Fund	NA	NA	NA	NA	[ICRA]AAAmfs
NA	SBI Magnum Low Duration Fund	NA	NA	NA	NA	[ICRA]AAAmfs
NA	SBI Magnum Ultra Short Duration Fund	NA	NA	NA	NA	[ICRA]AAAmfs
NA	SBI Dynamic Bond Fund	NA	NA	NA	NA	[ICRA]AAAmfs
NA	SBI Liquid Fund	NA	NA	NA	NA	[ICRA]A1+mfs
NA	SBI Overnight Fund	NA	NA	NA	NA	[ICRA]A1+mfs
NA	SBI Savings Fund	NA	NA	NA	NA	[ICRA]A1+mfs
NA	SBI Capital Protection Oriented Fund Series A Plan 7	NA	NA	NA	NA	[ICRA]AAA(SO)
NA	SBI Capital Protection Oriented Fund Series A Plan 8	NA	NA	NA	NA	[ICRA]AAA(SO)

Annexure-2: List of entities considered for consolidated analysis: Not applicable

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About ICRA Limited:

ICRA Limited was set up in 1991 by leading financial/investment institutions, commercial banks and financial services companies as an independent and professional investment Information and Credit Rating Agency.

Today, ICRA and its subsidiaries together form the ICRA Group of Companies (Group ICRA). ICRA is a Public Limited Company, with its shares listed on the Bombay Stock Exchange and the National Stock Exchange. The international Credit Rating Agency Moody's Investors Service is ICRA's largest shareholder.

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Branches



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