

May 05, 2025

## NeoGrowth Credit Private Limited: Provisional [ICRA]A(SO) assigned to Series A1 PTC backed by MSME business loan receivables issued by Scorpio Trust April 2025

### Summary of rating action

| Trust Name               | Instrument*   | Current Rated Amount (Rs. crore) | Rating Action                     |
|--------------------------|---------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Scorpio Trust April 2025 | Series A1 PTC | 48.09                            | Provisional [ICRA]A(SO); assigned |

\*Instrument details are provided in Annexure I

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Rating in the absence of pending actions/documents | No rating would have been assigned as it would not be meaningful |
|--|--|

### Rationale

The pass-through certificates (PTCs) are backed by a pool of micro, small and medium enterprise (MSME) business loan receivables originated by NeoGrowth Credit Private Limited {NCPL/Originator; rated [ICRA]BBB+ (Stable)} with an aggregate principal outstanding of Rs. 55.27 crore (pool receivables of Rs. 68.82 crore). NCPL would also act as the servicer for the transaction.

The provisional rating is based on the strength of the cash flows from the selected pool of contracts, the credit enhancement available in the structure as well as the integrity of the legal structure. The rating is subject to the fulfilment of all the conditions under the structure and ICRA's review of the documentation pertaining to the transaction.

### Transaction structure

As per the transaction structure, the monthly cash flow schedule comprises the promised interest payout. The principal is expected to be paid on a monthly basis (100% of the pool principal billed) but is promised on the final maturity date. Any surplus excess interest spread (EIS), after meeting the promised payouts, will flow back to the Originator on a monthly basis. Any prepayment in the pool would be used for the prepayment of Series A1 PTC principal.

The credit enhancement available in the structure is in the form of (i) a cash collateral (CC) of 4.00% of the initial pool principal, amounting to Rs. 2.21 crore, to be provided by the Originator, (ii) subordination of 13.00% of the initial pool principal for Series A1 PTC, and (iii) the excess interest spread (EIS) of 14.62% of the initial pool principal for Series A1 PTC.

### Key rating drivers and their description

#### Credit strengths

**Granular pool supported by presence of credit enhancement:** The pool is granular, consisting of 236 contracts, with top 10 contracts forming only ~11% of the pool principal, thereby reducing the exposure to any single borrower. Further, the credit enhancement available in the form of the CC, subordination and EIS would absorb some amount of the losses in the pool and provide support in meeting the PTC payouts.

**No overdue contracts in the pool:** The pool has been filtered in such a manner that there are no overdue contracts as on the cut-off date. Further, ~96% of the contracts in the pool have never been delinquent, which is a credit positive.

**Servicing capability of NeoGrowth**– The company has adequate processes for servicing of the loan accounts in the securitised pool. It has demonstrated a considerable track record of regular collections and recovery across a wide geography and multiple economic cycles.

### Credit challenges

**High geographical concentration** – The pool has high geographical concentration with the top 3 states, viz. Delhi, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra, contributing ~87% to the initial pool principal amount. The pool's performance would thus be exposed to any state-wide disruption that may occur due to natural calamities, political events, etc.

**Risks associated with lending business** – The pool's performance would remain exposed to macro-economic shocks, business disruptions and natural calamities that may impact the income-generating capability of the borrowers and their ability to make timely repayments of their loans. The pool is exposed to the inherent credit risk associated with the unsecured nature of the asset class and that recovery from delinquent contracts tends to be lower.

### Key rating assumptions

ICRA's cash flow modelling for rating securitisation transactions involves the simulation of potential losses, delinquencies and prepayments in the pool. The losses and prepayments are assumed to follow a log-normal distribution. The assumptions for the losses and the coefficient of variation are considered on the basis of the values observed from the analysis of the past performance of the Originator's loan portfolio as well as the characteristics of the specific pool being evaluated. The resulting collections from the pool, after incorporating the impact of the losses and prepayments, are accounted for in ICRA's cash flow model, in accordance with the cash flow waterfall of the transaction.

For the current pool, ICRA has estimated the shortfall in the pool principal collection during its tenure at 5.75%, with certain variability around it. The average prepayment rate for the underlying pool is modelled in the range of 4.8% to 18% per annum. Various possible scenarios have been simulated at stressed loss levels and prepayment rates and the incidences of default to the investor as well as the extent of losses are measured after factoring in the credit enhancement to arrive at the final rating for the instrument.

### Liquidity position: Strong

The liquidity for Series A1 PTC is strong after factoring in the credit enhancement available to meet the promised payout to the investor. The total credit enhancement would be ~4.00 times the estimated loss in the pool.

### Rating sensitivities

#### Positive Factors –

The sustained strong collection performance of the underlying pool of contracts (monthly collection efficiency >95%), leading to lower-than-expected delinquency levels, and an increase in the cover available for future investor payouts from the credit enhancement would result in a rating upgrade.

#### Negative Factors –

The sustained weak collection performance of the underlying pool (monthly collection efficiency <90%), leading to higher-than-expected delinquency levels and higher credit enhancement utilisation levels, would result in a rating downgrade. Weakening in the credit profile of the servicer could also exert pressure on the rating.

## Analytical approach

The rating action is based on the analysis of the performance of NCPL's portfolio till March 2025, the key characteristics and composition of the current pool, the performance expected over the balance tenure of the pool, and the credit enhancement cover available in the transaction.

| Analytical approach             | Comments   |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Applicable rating methodologies | <a href="#">Rating Methodology for Securitisation Transactions</a> |
| Parent/Group support            | Not applicable   |
| Consolidation/Standalone        | Not applicable   |

## Pending actions/documents required to be completed for conversion of the provisional rating into final

The assigned rating is provisional and would be converted into final upon the execution of:

1. Trust deed
2. Assignment agreement
3. Legal opinion
4. Trustee letter
5. Auditor's certificate
6. Any other documents executed for the transaction

## Validity of the provisional rating

The trust is expected to complete the pending actions/execute the pending documents in the near term. However, in case of continued pendency of the actions/documents beyond one year of this publication, the provisional rating would be withdrawn for the transaction even if the instrument has been issued.

## Risks associated with the provisional rating

In case the issuance is completed, but the pending actions/documents are not completed for the transaction within one year (validity period) from the assignment of the rating, the provisional rating will be withdrawn in accordance with ICRA's Policy on Provisional Ratings available at [www.icra.in](http://www.icra.in).

## About the originator

NeoGrowth Credit Private Limited, which commenced operations in FY2013, is a non-deposit taking systemically important non-banking financial company (NBFC) providing loans to SMEs. The company was founded by Mr. Dhruv Khaitan and Mr. Piyush Khaitan, and its investors include ON Mauritius, Aspada Investment Advisors, Khosla Impact Fund, Frontier Investments Group (Accion), Trinity Inclusion Ltd. (Leapfrog), Mr. Arun Nayyar (Managing Director (MD) & Chief Executive Officer (CEO)), IIFL Seed Ventures Fund and FMO (the Dutch entrepreneurial development bank). Prior to setting up NeoGrowth, the promoters had founded and managed Venture Infotek, which provided end-to-end card payment processing solutions to banks that issue credit cards and those with whom merchants have point of sales terminals. The AUM stands at Rs 2,700.23 crores as on March 31, 2025.

## Key financial indicators

| NCPL                 | FY2023  | FY2024  | 9M FY2025   |
|----------------------|---------|---------|-------------|
|                      | Audited | Audited | Provisional |
| Total income         | 383     | 601     | 571         |
| Profit after tax     | 17      | 71      | 17.2        |
| Total managed assets | 2,250   | 3,113   | 3,151.3     |
| Gross NPA            | 4.3%    | 3.7%    | 5.8%        |
| CRAR                 | 32.7%   | 28.5%   | 27.2%       |

Source: Company data, ICRA Research; Amount in Rs. crore

**Status of non-cooperation with previous CRA: Not applicable**

**Any other information: None**

### Rating history for past three years

| S. no. | Trust name               | Current rating (FY2026) |                                  |                         | Chronology of rating history for the past 3 years |                         |                         |
|--------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|
|        |                          | Instrument              | Current rated amount (Rs. crore) | Date & rating in FY2026 | Date & rating in FY2025                           | Date & rating in FY2024 | Date & rating in FY2023 |
|        |                          |                         |                                  | May 05, 2025            | -   | -                       | -                       |
| 1      | Scorpio Trust April 2025 | Series A1 PTC           | 48.09                            | Provisional [ICRA]A(SO) | -   | -                       | -                       |

### Complexity level of the rated instrument

| Instrument    | Complexity indicator |
|---------------|----------------------|
| Series A1 PTC | Moderately Complex   |

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 I: Instrument details

| Trust name               | Instrument name  | Date of issuance/<br>Sanction | Coupon rate<br>(p.a.p.m.) | Maturity date        | Current rated amount<br>(Rs. crore) | Current rating          |
|--------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Scorpio Trust April 2025 | Series A1<br>PTC | April 28, 2025                | 11.35%                    | November<br>14, 2027 | 48.09                               | Provisional [ICRA]A(SO) |

Source: Company

#### Annexure II: 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.

For more information, visit [www.icra.in](http://www.icra.in)

## ICRA Limited

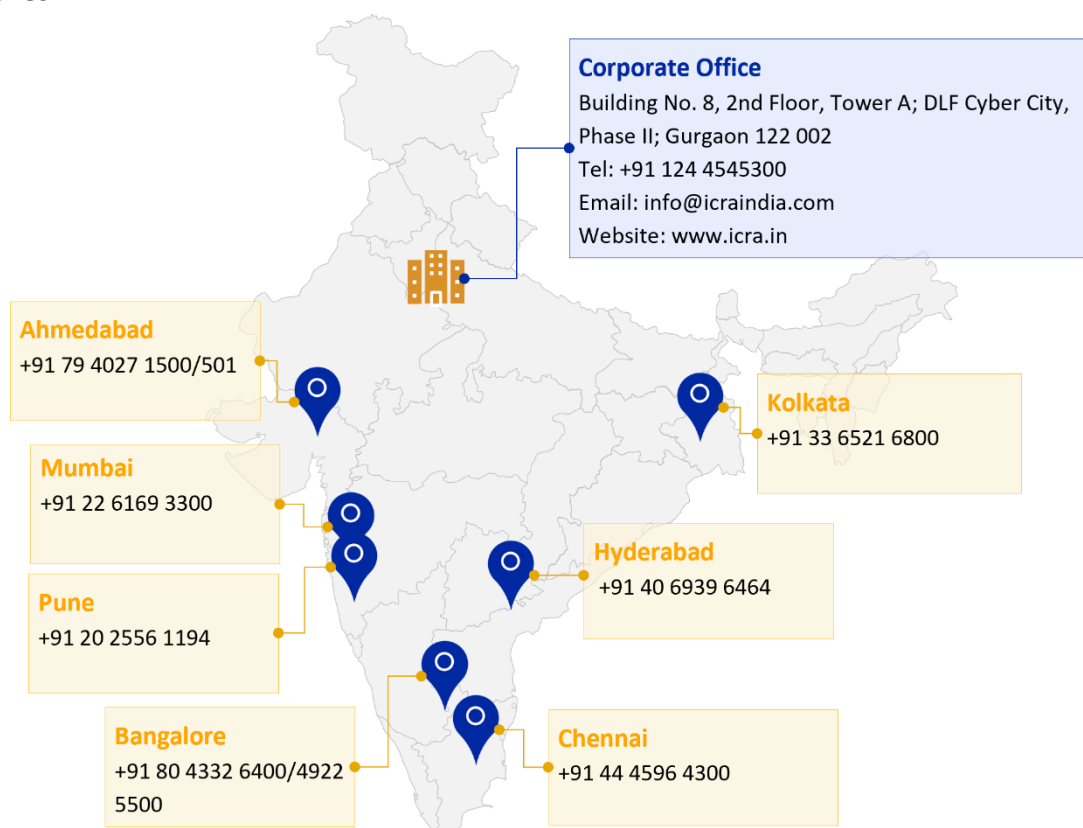


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