

May 18, 2026

Arohan Financial Services Limited: Provisional rating assigned to PTCs backed by microfinance loan receivables issued by Ascent Alpha April 2026

Summary of rating action

Trust name	Instrument*	Current rated amount (Rs. crore)	Rating action
Ascent Alpha April 2026	Series A1 PTCs	133.68	Provisional [ICRA]AA+(SO); assigned

*Instrument details are provided in Annexure II

Rating in the absence of pending action/documents	No rating would have been assigned as it would not be meaningful
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Rationale

The pass-through certificates (PTCs) are backed by a pool of microfinance loan receivables originated by Arohan Financial Services Limited {Arohan/Originator; rated [ICRA]A (Stable)} with an aggregate principal outstanding of Rs. 152.78 crore (pool receivables of Rs. 180.60 crore). Arohan would also be 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 EIS, after meeting the promised and expected payouts, will flow back to the Originator on a monthly basis.

However, on the occurrence of predefined trigger events such as 90+DPD of the pool crossing 4.0% of original pool principal in any payout month, the residual EIS every month shall be utilised for accelerating the principal payment due to Series A1 PTCs. Furthermore, on the occurrence of predefined EIS claw-back events such as 90+DPD of the pool crossing 8% of original pool principal in any payout month, the cumulative excess cash flows will be clawed back from originator and transferred to PTC investor towards early redemption of PTC principal. Any prepayment in the pool would be used for the prepayment of Series A1 PTCs.

The credit enhancement available in the structure is in the form of (i) a cash collateral (CC) of 9.38% of the initial pool principal, amounting to Rs. 14.32 crore, to be provided by the Originator, (ii) principal subordination of 12.50% of the initial pool principal for Series A1 PTCs in the form of over-collateralisation (OC) (iii) the excess interest spread (EIS) of 13.23% of the initial pool principal for Series A1 PTCs respectively.

Key rating drivers and their description

Credit strengths

Granular pool with available credit enhancement – The pool is granular, consisting of 45,900 contracts, with top 10 borrowers forming less than 0.05% 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.

Seasoned contracts in the pool – The pool has weighted average pre securitisation amortisation of 24.25% as on the cut-off date with no delinquencies observed in any of the contracts, post loan disbursement, thereby reflecting the borrowers' relatively better credit profile.

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, all the contracts in the pool have never been delinquent post loan disbursement, thereby reflecting the borrowers' relatively better credit profile, which is a credit positive.

Adequate servicing capability of Arohan – The company has adequate processes for servicing of the loan accounts in the securitised pool. It has demonstrated a considerable track record of over a decade of regular collections across geographies and multiple economic cycles.

Credit challenges

High geographical concentration – The pool has high geographical concentration with the top 3 states, viz. West Bengal, Assam and Bihar contributing ~62% 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.

Increasing delinquencies in microfinance sector – The microfinance sector has seen a decline in collections and consequently rise in delinquencies in the current fiscal on account of multiple factors like heat wave, general elections, borrower overleveraging and attrition in the collection teams. Any sustained impact of these factors on the collections from the pool would be a key monitorable.

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 performance of microfinance loans would also be exposed to political and communal risks.

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 4.00% with certain variability around it. The average prepayment rate for the underlying pool is modelled in the range of 3.0% to 9.0% 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 ratings for the instruments.

Liquidity position

Series A1 PTCs: Superior

The liquidity for Series A1 PTCs is superior after factoring in the credit enhancement available to meet the promised payout to the investor. The total credit enhancement would be ~7.50 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 of contracts (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 Arohan’s portfolio till December 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	Rating Methodology for Securitisation Transactions
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 ratings are provisional and would be converted into final upon the execution of:

1. Trust deed
2. Assignment agreement
3. Power of Attorney
4. Legal opinion
5. Trustee letter
6. Other key or important 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.

About the originator

Arohan Financial Services Limited (Arohan) is a Kolkata-headquartered non-banking financial company –microfinance institution (NBFC-MFI). It was incorporated on September 27, 1991. Arohan is engaged in the business of microlending, mainly to women borrowers, and operates on the joint liability group (JLG) model. It was set up through the acquisition of an existing NBFC, ANG Resources Ltd, with the support of Bellwether Microfinance Fund. The company’s name was changed to Arohan Financial Services Limited in March 2008. Arohan became a part of the Aavishkar Group in September 2012. As on December 31, 2025, it was managing assets under management (AUM) of ~Rs. 6,308 crore.

Key financial indicators

Arohan Financial Services Limited	FY2024	FY2025	9M FY2026*
As per	Ind-AS	Ind-AS	Ind-AS
Total income	1,635	1,695	1,133
Profit after tax	314	110	61
Total managed assets (grossed up for provisions)	8,654	7,228	7,937
Gross stage 3 assets	1.7%	2.9%	1.6%
CRAR	29.0%	34.1%	31.2%

Source: Company data, ICRA Research; Amount in Rs. Crore; *Provisional numbers

Status of non-cooperation with previous CRA: Not applicable

Any other information: None

Rating history for past three years

	Trust name	Current rating (FY2027)				Chronology of rating history for the past 3 years			
		Instrument	Initial amount rated (Rs. crore)	Current amount rated (Rs. crore)	Date & rating in FY2027	Date & rating in FY2026	Date & rating in FY2025	Date & rating in FY2024	
					May 18, 2026				
1	Ascent Alpha April 2026	Series A1 PTCs	133.68	133.68	Provisional [ICRA]AA+(SO)	-	-	-	

Annexure I: Disclosure pursuant to the SEBI Circular SEBI/HO/DDHS/DDHS-PoD-2/I/4685/2026 dated February 10,2026

ICRA rated Instruments fall under regulatory purview of various Financial Sector Regulators (FSR) as under:

Sr. No.	Instrument	FSR
1	Listed/Proposed to be listed Bonds/Debentures/Preference Shares (all securities)	SEBI
2	Unlisted/Proposed to be unlisted Bonds/Debentures/ Preference share (all securities)	MCA
3	Listed PTCs / Securitisation Notes (originated by entities regulated by RBI) (*)	SEBI
4	Listed PTCs / Securitisation Notes (originated by entities not regulated by RBI) (*)	SEBI
5	Unlisted PTCs / Securitisation Notes (originated by entities regulated by RBI) (*)	RBI
6	Listed Commercial Paper and NCDs with original maturity less than 1 year	RBI
7	Unlisted Commercial Paper and NCDs with original maturity less than 1 year	RBI
8	Loan Facilities (Fund/Non-Fund Based) from Bank / NBFCs/ NHB/ FIs (\$))	RBI
9	External Commercial Borrowings/Loans from overseas branches of Indian Banks/other similar borrowings	RBI
10	Certificates of Deposit	RBI
11	Fixed Deposits raised by NBFCs, Banks, HFCs, FIs	RBI
12	Fixed Deposits raised by corporates other than NBFCs, Banks, HFCs, FIs	MCA
13	Inter Corporate Deposits/Loans extended by Corporates	MCA
14	Listed Security Receipts	SEBI
15	Unlisted Security Receipts	RBI
16	Unlisted PTCs / Securitisation Notes (originated by entities not regulated by RBI) (*)	Investor-side Regulator such as IRDAI, PFRDA (%)

(*) Includes securitisation transactions involving assignee payout, acquirer's payout.

(\$) Includes bank facilities such as liquidity facility, second loss facility that are part of securitisation transactions.

(%) These ratings were assigned prior to the introduction of SEBI CRA Circular dated Feb 10, 2026 and accordingly, investor side FSRs have been mentioned.

Other Activities offered by ICRA fall under regulatory purview of various Financial Sector Regulators (FSR) as under:

Sr. No.	Activity Name	FSR
1	Credit Ratings for Capital Protection Oriented Schemes (by Mutual Funds and AIFs)	SEBI
2	Credit quality ratings (CQRs) for Mutual Fund Schemes and Schemes of AIFs	SEBI
3	Independent Credit Evaluation (ICE)	RBI
4	Expected Loss Ratings (For Loan Facilities [Fund/Non-Fund based] from Banks/NBFCs/NHB/FIs)	RBI
5	Expected Loss Ratings (Listed / Proposed to be listed Bonds / Debentures / Preference Shares (all securities))	SEBI
6	Expected Loss Ratings (Unlisted / Proposed to be unlisted Bonds/ Debentures / Preference Shares (all securities))	MCA
7	Credit Rating of Borrowing programme	(@)
8	Issuer Ratings	(#)

9	Monitoring Agency	SEBI
10	Research activities, incidental to rating such as research for Economy & Industries (permitted by SEBI vide SEBI Master Circular for CRAs)	NA

(@) The rated instrument may involve issuance of different instruments such as debt securities (listed or otherwise), bank loans, commercial paper (listed or otherwise), etc. The regulator of the instrument can only be determined upon issuance. Accordingly, ICRA shall capture the rated quantum details along with names of respective FSR in the press release(s) after the issuance(s) of the instruments.

(#) Since no instrument is being rated, FSR is not applicable. The rating scale and definitions stipulated in SEBI Master Circular for CRAs are being followed.

Complexity level of the rated instrument

Instrument	Complexity indicator
Series A1 PTCs	Highly 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 II: Instrument details

Trust name	Instrument	Date of issuance/ Sanction	Coupon rate (p.a.p.m.)	Maturity date	Current amount rated (Rs. crore)	Current rating
Ascent Alpha April 2026	Series A1 PTCs	May 11, 2026	8.50%	May 12, 2028	133.68	Provisional [ICRA]AA+(SO)

Source: Company

Annexure III: List of entities considered for consolidated analysis

Not applicable

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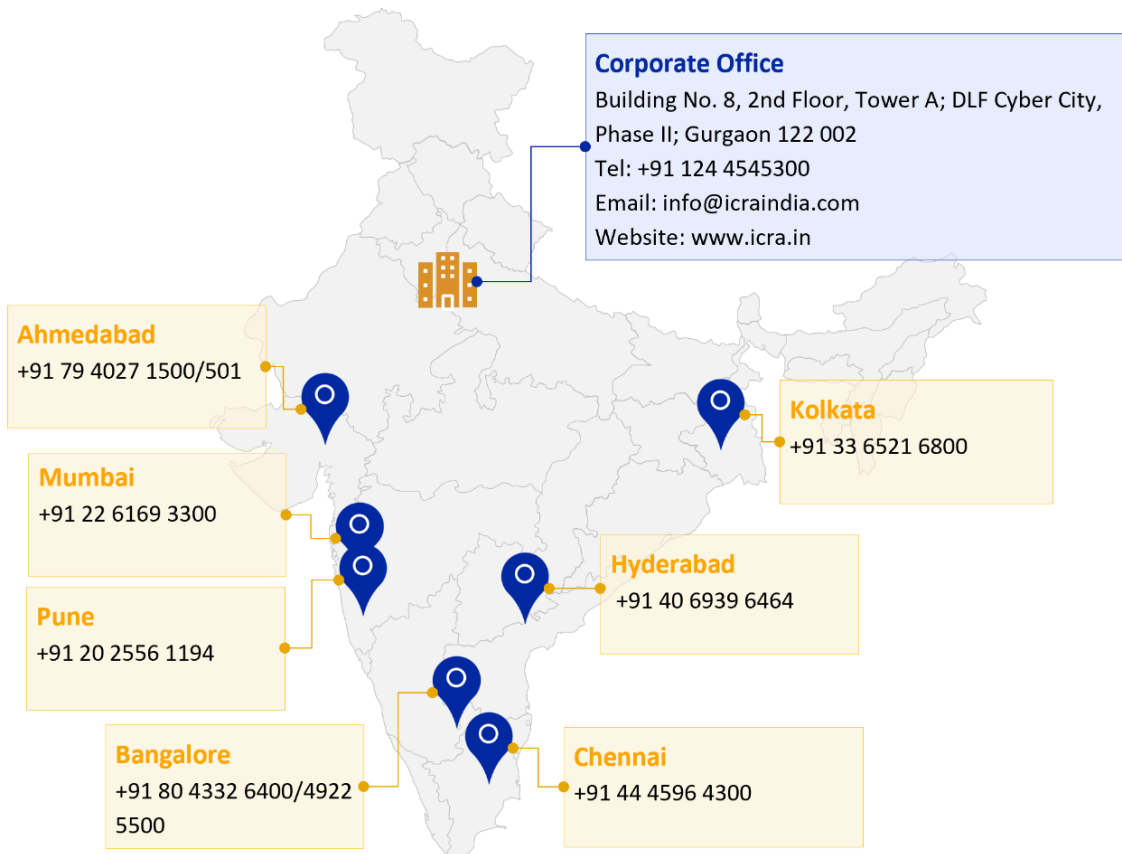


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