

## MANAPPURAM FINANCE LIMITED (MAFIL)

### INTEREST RATE POLICY

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## 1. Introduction

The Company has been following certain procedures and practices in the matter of fixing interest rates on gold loans and other loans (assets) and NCDs/Subordinated Bonds (liabilities). Interest rates are not controlled by the Reserve Bank of India. However, RBI has vide circular DNBS. CC.PD. No.266/03.10.01/2011-12 dated 26 March 2012 (Guidelines on Fair Practices Code for NBFCs) directed NBFCs to have a documented Interest Rate Policy / Model approved by the Board of Directors which would lay down internal principles and procedures in determining interest rates and other charges on the loan products offered by NBFCs. The specific points referred to in the above referred RBI circular are:-

- Charging of excessive interest rates by NBFCs.
- The need for adoption of an interest rate model along with approach for gradations of risk & rationale for charging differential rates.
- Disclosure of rates of interest rates, changes thereof and publicity thereto.
- Adoption of annualized rates of interest while dealing with customers.

Master Direction – Reserve Bank of India (Non-Banking Financial Company – Scale Based Regulation) Directions, 2023 prescribes that the Board of each NBFC shall adopt an interest rate model taking into account relevant factors such as cost of funds, margin and risk premium and determine the rate of interest to be charged for loans and advances. The interest rate policy is in compliance of the SBR guidelines on interest rates.

## 2. Objectives

The main objectives of the interest rate policy are to:-

- Ensure that interest rates are determined in a manner to ensure long term sustainability of business by taking into account the interests of all stakeholders.
- Develop and adopt a suitable model for calculation of a reference rate.
- Enable fixation of interest rates which are reasonable: both actual and perceived.
- Ensure that computation of interest is accurate, fair and transparent in line with regulatory expectations and market practices.
- Charge differential rates of interest linked to the risk factors as applicable.
- Facilitate transition to income recognition norms that may be stipulated by RBI in future and adoption of best practices.

## 3. Methodology for calculation of interest on loan accounts

The main spirit underlying the methodology is to project a transparent and fair approach to the customers and also be in readiness to adopt the practices now in vogue amongst commercial banks keeping in view the peculiarities of the gold loan business.

### **3.1 On the daily balances**

Interest amount shall be calculated on the daily outstanding balance in the loan account at the applicable rate. Thus if the annualized rate of interest applicable is R%, the interest amount for each day would be:-

$$\frac{R \times \text{Amount outstanding}}{36500}$$

### **3.2 Minimum period for which interest chargeable**

The minimum period for which interest is payable by the borrower shall not exceed 1 day. Interest payable / receivable shall be calculated on the actual daily outstanding balance. No pre-payment penalty is applicable to gold loans.

### **3.3 Basis - number of days per year**

Interest shall be calculated based on 365 days a year. Dates of disbursement and closure of account shall both be included for computation of interest. However, MD&CEO may approve any exclusion of date of Disbursement or date of Closure of Account for a particular scheme or loan account as rebate.

### **3.4 Compounding**

Compounding of interest where applicable, as provided in the loan scheme, shall not be at a frequency more than 1 month / 30 days in a year.

### **3.5 Annualised rate of interest**

Interest rate quoted shall be on annualized basis only in all documents, internal instructions / communications and publicity materials (pamphlets, brochures, hoardings, etc).

Where the rates are mentioned in non-annualized form (e.g. in product promotion) the annualized rate shall also be mentioned along with so as to comply with regulatory requirements and Fair Practices Code.

### **3.6 Fixed rate / Floating rate**

All the loans shall be granted at fixed rate only.

### **3.7 Maximum/ Ceiling Interest Rate on Loans**

Keeping in view the regulatory (RBI) expectations from NBFCs and also the Fair Practices Code the maximum interest rate chargeable shall be fixed at 24% p.a during the normal loan tenure across all states / regions excluding compounding effect where applicable under any schemes.

Penal charges and other out of pocket expenses charged from the borrowers will be exclusive of the ceilings mentioned above.

The above-mentioned ceilings shall be reviewed periodically at quarterly (calendar) intervals or more frequently, as and when required, by the Board of Directors keeping in view regulatory guidelines / directives, intensity of competition in the market, net interest margin target, market rates etc.

### **3.8 Notice to borrowers for changes in interest rates, charges etc.**

Notice shall be sent to the borrowers in the vernacular language or a language as understood by the borrower of any changes in the terms and conditions including disbursement schedule, interest rates, service charges, prepayment charges etc. It shall be ensured that changes in interest rates and charges are effected only prospectively.

## **4. MAFIL Benchmark Lending Rate (MBLR)**

Based on the SBR guidelines, MAFIL has adopted a benchmark (MBLR) rate following the following principles:

- a. Marginal cost of borrowing based on the last half year broken into maturity up to one year and above one year.
- b. Operating cost.
- c. Tenor premium for one year (Based on the difference between overnight MCLR and one-year MCLR of SBI).
- d. Margin (ROA of 4%)

Current MBLR for benchmarking interest rates of our products is 21.47%. ALCO shall review MBLR on a quarterly basis.

## **5. Risk Based Gradation of Interest Rates**

The Lending Rate will be different for different categories of borrowers, considering profile of the customer, tenure of customer relationship, past repayment track record, customer segment, market reputation, inherent credit and default risk in the products, subventions and subsidies available, ancillary business opportunities, future potential, group strength and value to lender group, overall customer yield, Loan-to Value (LTV) ratio, nature and value of primary and collateral security etc. The Lending Rate is determined on a case to case basis.

Pricing of each loan product will be derived from MBLR after considering the following risks.

### **5.1 Credit risk premium**

Credit risk premium shall be computed based on the portfolio behaviour, credit cost arrived at on the basis of net write off, Probability of Default (PD) and Loss Given Default (LGD), Credit Score of the borrowers etc.

## 5.2 Differential Pricing

As necessitated by business or strategic reasons, the Company may consider under certain situations a differentiated interest rate structure for its products. This will follow a policy framework based on defined parameters with the objective of market penetration or to counter competition and will be approved by a Committee where CRO is a compulsory participant.

## 6. Pricing of Gold Loans

### 6.1 Rate of interest, benchmarking to MBLR.

- Considering the nature of the Gold loans (collateral valuation being vital) the major inherent risk is the Loan to Value (LTV) or Loan per Gram. Since a higher LTV translates to a higher risk it stands to reason that LTV and Interest rate should be correlated. Accordingly, assuming all other factors to be the same a higher LTV loan should attract a correspondingly higher interest rate as compared with a lower LTV loan.
- The LTV linkage with interest rate shall be at the time of sanction of loan and cannot be changed subsequently due to movements in the overall collateral coverage arising from market movements in gold prices.
- Where substantially low rates of interest are charged on certain / special schemes or in specified regions / areas / branches the maximum amount per borrower shall be appropriately restricted and checks put in place to prevent misuse of the facility. Such schemes shall be periodically reviewed and appropriately modified to meet with the overall objectives of floating such schemes.

### 6.2 Rebate on Gold Loan interest

Considering the competition in the market, MAFIL introduced new gold loan schemes with rebates. Schemes offering rebate on the interest rate may be considered on the ground that customers who regularly service interest payable on loans. The extent of rebate may vary from scheme to scheme. Rebate considered in cases where interest payable has been serviced by the due dates without any default.

### 6.3 Due date for servicing interest

Interest will be calculated from the date of disbursement and shall be charged for the day of closure of the account. The due date for payment of interest shall run from the date of disbursement.

## 7. Pricing of products of other verticals, benchmarking to MBLR

Rate of interest for products of each vertical shall be benchmarked to MBLR. While pricing each product underlying credit risk premium shall be factored in.

Products offered and features thereof shall be straight forward, transparent and simple to understand so as to comply with the letter and spirit of RBI guidelines. Features of each product, especially the differential features, should be clearly explained to and

understood by the prospective borrower before sanction. Operational personnel should be well equipped in this regard.

## 8. Indicative range of interest linked to MBLR

Indicative range of interest for various verticals / products of MAFIL based on the current MBLR is given below.

<b>Verticals / segments / product</b>	<b>Interest Rate Range *</b>
Gold loans	11 – 21.95%
Commercial vehicle	14 – 23.50%
Car Loan	14 – 22.45%
Farm Equipment	14 - 24%
Two-wheeler	15 - 24%
Unsecured loans	18 - 24%
Other secured loans	12 - 22%

These rates are subject to revision by ALCO on a quarterly basis.

## 9. Lending below MBLR linking to external benchmarks

As a business organization to meet competition and promotion of products, MAFIL will have to offer interest rates below MBLR. MD&CEO is empowered to approve interest rate below the MBLR bearing in mind the overall profitability of the company, competitive scenario, business focus and the underlying risk exposure.

For the high ticket loans like corporate loans where operating expenses are lower, MAFIL may benchmark the rate of interest based on the 10-year G-sec rates, Treasury bill rate, repo rates, etc, which can be less than the MBLR.

## 10. Processing fee, Prepayment premium and recovery of Out-of-Pocket Expenses

### 10.1 Gold loans

The Company may also levy other charges such as loan processing fees, insurance (of gold ornaments), processing charges for delivery of gold against lost pawn ticket, safe custody charges (due to failure to take delivery of gold ornaments immediately after closure of account), statement of account etc. In addition, the Company shall be entitled to recover costs incurred in connection with postage, legal costs etc. The above charges shall be pegged at reasonable levels and in the spirit of Fair Practice.

Guidance rates are as under:

Description	Range of charges	Exceptions
Loan processing , Appraisal charges, Insurance etc.	Will be capped at 1% of the loan amount. A reasonable minimum and maximum in absolute terms may be prescribed.	Segment borrowers (i.e. small borrowers), Special schemes may be exempted from such charges.
Delivery against lost Pawn Ticket - processing charges	Between a minimum of Rs 75 and maximum of Rs 100 per pledge	
Safe custody charges – when borrower does not immediately take delivery of the pledged gold ornaments	Between 0.10% to 0.25% per month subject a reasonable minimum and maximum in absolute terms	
Statement of account	Free of cost, if demanded within 30 days of closure of account. In other cases, Rs. 25.	
Postage, Courier charges	As per actuals	

## 10.2 Non-Gold Loans

Verticals	Processing fee (%)	Prepayment Premium (%)
Commercial vehicle	1%	2%
Car Loan	1%	2%
Farm Equipment	1%	2%
Two-wheeler	1%	2%
Unsecured loans	1%	2%
Other secured loans	1%	2%

## 11. Annual Percentage Rate (APR):

APR is the annual cost of credit to the borrower which includes interest rate and all other charges associated with the credit facility. The rate shall be computed on the net disbursed amount using IRR approach and reducing balance method. The maximum APR should not exceed 26%. Branches offices shall provide KFS to all the borrowers as per RBI circular RBI/2024-25/18 DOR.STR.REC.13/13.03.00/2024-25 dt. April 15, 2024, which shall inter alia contain APR.

## 12. Penal Charges

### 12.1 Penal Charges (Late payment charges) on overdue loans/ Instalments

When the gold loans remain outstanding beyond the 'normal' tenure (Between 3 Months and 1 year) without FULL servicing of interest due penal charges may be charged at a rate not exceeding 3% p. a over and above the contracted rates. Penal charges shall not be compounded. Penal charges provisions shall be calculated and will apply only after the expiry of the 'normal' tenure.



Penal charges may be waived, in full or in part, in deserving cases with the reason being recorded by Managing Director & CEO.

For the other loans, on the overdue instalments penal charges of 1.5% per month.

Current applicable rate of penal charges for gold loans and others are given in the following table.

SI No	Description	Penal Charges
1	Gold Loans remain overdue after the due dates	2% per annum on the entire outstanding until actual payment.
2	Late payment of EMIs or loan instalments (Other than Gold loans).	1.5% per month on the overdue portion, till actual payment.
3	Cheque Bounce charges	Rs 300/- to Rs.500/-
4	NACH / ECS bounce charges	

### 12.2 Penal charges for non-compliance of other material terms and conditions

SI No	Description	Penal Charges
1	Delay in perfection of securities	3% per month on the outstanding loan till the securities are perfected.
2	Delay in submission of financial statements or other documents specified in the sanction letters / financing agreements.	2% per month on the outstanding from the due date for submission of the financial statements and till submission of the statements.
3	Down gradation of external credit rating of the borrower.	3% p.a. on the outstanding from the date of down gradation till the external rating is upgraded to the agreed rating.
4	Non-compliance to the financial covenants	0.25% per month on the outstanding till the financial covenant has been satisfied as mentioned in the sanction letter.
<b>Note:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MAFIL reserve a right to increase the rate or recall the loans, if the non-compliance persists for more than 2 quarters.</li> <li>Penal charges may be applied after giving 15 days' notice to the borrowers. The notice period shall be mentioned in the financing agreements and sanction letters.</li> </ul>		

### 12.3 Other conditions

- "The agreement with the borrower shall contain clause to the effect that MAFIL (the company) shall have the right to levy appropriate charges in addition to

interest in the event of any material default / non-compliance of terms and conditions of the sanction order / financing agreements”.

- The penal charges shall not be capitalised to the principal or compounded.
- Penal charges will be recognized on accrual basis for Gold loans and on cash basis for non-gold loan verticals.

#### **12.4 Accounting treatment of Penal Charges**

**Recognition on cash basis:** As per para 9(e) of IND AS 115, revenue shall be recognised only when it is probable that the entity will be able to collect the consideration or not. Considering uncertainties surrounding realisation of the Penal charges, as followed by market practice it shall be recognised on cash basis except for Gold Loans.

#### **12.5 Disclosure requirement**

- a) New loans from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024:
  - Quantum and reason for penal charges shall be clearly disclosed in the loan agreement and most important terms & conditions / Key Fact Statement (KFS) as applicable.
  - Website under interest rates and service charges.
- b) Existing loans: Intimate the borrower of the regulatory change by way of sending intimations or by disclosing it on the website.
- c) Common to existing and new loans: Intimate all borrowers about the applicable penal charges at the time of sending reminders for paying EMIs / instalments and non-compliance of material terms and conditions.

#### **12.6 Variations / taxation**

- The actual rates from time to time shall be fixed by the ALCO within the band / limits mentioned under each head and reviewed at at-least half yearly intervals.
- ALCO shall have the authority to implement any other reasonable / justifiable charge from time to time.
- Taxation regulations as applicable shall be complied with. The rates may be inclusive of taxes or exclusive of taxes as per the decision of ALCO based on the recommendations of the Business Heads.
- Discretion to waive / reduce the charges shall be vested with the Business Head on a case to case basis based on the approved delegated powers.

### **13. Asset Liability Management Committee (ALCO)**

The ALCO shall hold meetings at calendar quarterly intervals or more frequently when required. Review of interest rates shall be periodically taken up by the ALCO within the overall stipulations of the Interest Rate Policy approved by the Board of Directors.

The ALCO shall consist of the under mentioned functionaries

- Managing Director & CEO Chairman
- Chief Financial Officer Member
- Chief Risk Officer Member
- Group Business Head Invitee
- Chief Technical Officer Invitee
- Chief Credit Officer Invitee

### 13.1 Powers of ALCO to vary interest rate

There may be exceptional economic situations that may result in a change in the liquidity environment and the availability of funds to the Company. The ALCO under the Chairmanship of MD&CEO will have the authority to amend the rates and the indicative table above with appropriate disclosure and these shall be presented to the next Risk Committee/The Board meeting for ratification.

## 14. General

- Interest rate re-setting - loans other than Gold loan: To mitigate interest rate risks in the longer tenor loans in the verticals like commercial vehicles, MSME, personal loans, Micro Home Finance, Corporate etc. Sanctioning Authorities shall have the powers to prescribe rate of interest reset on quarterly / half yearly / annual / 2- or 3-year basis. Interest reset clause shall be incorporated in the sanction letters, wherever applicable. Loan agreements with the borrowers shall also be modified to include interest reset clause.
- Appropriation of charges and interest:

**Gold Loans:** Remittances to the borrowers' account shall be appropriated in the order of Interest, Penal charges and principal. Other charges like auction expenses, insurance etc are being collected at the time of settlement.

**Non Gold Loans (other than vehicle loans):** Remittances to the borrowers' account shall be appropriated in the order of bounce / legal charges, overdue EMI, Penal charges and current EMI.

**Vehicle Loans:** Remittances to the borrowers' account shall be appropriated in the order of overdue EMI amount, current EMI, penal charges and bounce charges.

Advance payments made by the borrowers shall be netted from principal /accrued interest for computation of interest.

Interest should be charged for the amount actually disbursed.

- The rates of interest for the same product and tenor availed during same period by different customers need not be standardized but could be different for different customers depending upon consideration of factors like credit risk, liquidity risk and tenor risks.

- MAFIL shall intimate the borrower loan amount, annualized rate of interest, periodicity of interest application, tenure and amount of monthly instalment application at the time of sanction of the loan.
- MAFIL also offers variable and equated monthly instalments schemes.

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