

CHAPTER-I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Due to globalization of economy and market, present world economy has been more competitive and complicated. Every sort of change occurring in one sector of the world affects the other. A healthy economy is dependent on efficient transfers of fund from people who are not savers to firms and individuals who need capital. Without efficient transfer, the economy simply impossible without good system for allocating capital within the economy.

Nepal is a landlocked country economically based on agriculture. It occupies an area of 147181 sq km and bounded by India and China. Nepal is one of the least developed countries with about 25 million people .It is very rich in natural resources but the resource is unutilized. The geographical variation has been standing as a challenge for development of the country. About more than 80% people are dependent on traditional agriculture system is used till now. The current situation of Nepalese economy is not satisfactory due to poor infra-structure, unutilized natural resources miserable agriculture, deficit trade, illiteracy, political instability and so on.

Like blood is necessary for human beings, finance is for business organizations and industries. Each and every business organization should base their decision making in financial management. Financial management is mainly concerned with the acquisition and utilization of funds. For this, financial market plays vital role in utilizing financial resources for expanding productive sectors in the country. It mobilizes unproductive and unutilized financial resources towards productive sectors and helps in expanding economic growth of the country.

Capital structure plays a vital role in accelerating the economic growth of nation, which in turns is basically determined, among others by saving and investment propensities. But the capacity of saving in the country is quite low with relatively higher marginal propensity of consumption. As a result developing countries are badly trapped into the vicious circle of poverty. The basic problem for the developing countries is raising the level of saving and investment. In order to collect the enough saving and put them into productive channels,

financial institution like banks is necessary. It will either be diverted abroad or used for unproductive consumption or speculative activities.

Banks are among the most important financial institutions in the economy of the country. Bank is a business establishment that safeguards people's money and uses it to make loans and investments. A bank is an organization concerned with the accumulation of the idle money of the general public for the purpose of advancing to others for expenditure or investment. A bank is the institution, which accepts deposits from the public and in turn advances loans by creating credit.

Banks are the institutions that provide the funding required starting the business to those with skills and desire to operate the business collecting from those with the money but no skill or time to operate the business. Bank is a resource of mobilizing institution, which accepts deposit from various sources, and invests such accumulated resources in the fields of agriculture, commerce, trade and industry.

In other words, banks are the institutions offering deposits subject to withdrawal on demand and making loans of a business nature. Banks offers wide range of financial services like credit, savings, payments services etc.

Commercial Banks

Commercial banks means a bank which operates currency exchanges transactions, accept deposits, provides loan performs dealing relating to commerce except the banks which have been specified for the cooperative, agriculture, industry or other similar specific objectives.

1.2 History of Bank

When, where and how the modern banking actually came in existence cannot be pointed out. But from the different historical facts it reveals that some banking activities have been carried out since the time immemorial. At that time merchants, money lenders, goldsmiths, etc performed the banking transactions. Latter the transactions started increasing and they became the activities of money exchange securing the valuable goods, deposit money, lending money and so on. For all these types of activities written receipts began to be used and the modern banking started. In the historic age sources say that goldsmiths and money lenders contributed to large extent in the growth of banking system. They used to store peoples gold charging nominal charges issued receipts to the depositors, which was good for payments. Latter they

started advancing money charging interest on it. So the goldsmiths and money lenders started performing the functions of modern banking i.e. accepting deposits and advancing loans. However, the modern banking originated in Italy. The word bank was derived from the Italian word “Banco” which means accumulation of money or stock. Bank as an institution was originated from Italy. The bank of Venice which was established in 1157 A.D was the first bank in the history of banking and it was established to finance the monarch in the wars. The Bank of Barcelona Spain which was established in 1404A.D. was the second bank in the World and then. The Bank of Genoa was set up in 1407 AD.

The first central bank though was the bank of England which was established in 1844 A.D. Banking has come to the present advanced form through various stages. Some sorts of banking activities have been carried out since the time immemorial. Traditional forms of banking were traced during the civilization of Greek, Rome and Mesopotamia. With large banking firms established in Florence, Rome, Venice and other Italian cities the banking activities spread through out the Europe and it slowly spread through out the world.

1.3 Banking industry in Nepal

The specific date of beginning of money and banking transaction in Nepal is unknown. The banking functions were carried out in unorganized sectors. It is found that minted coins, copper coins, silver coins, and gold coins were introduced by different kings.

Institutional development of modern banking in Nepal had begun from early 1990s. With the establishment of Nepal Bank Limited in 1994 B.S, the new era of banking sector had started in Nepal. As a central bank, Nepal Rastra Bank was established in 2013 B.S. under the provision of Nepal Rastra Bank Act 2012, with the objectives of helping in the development of monetary and financial sector by undertaking various functions.

Another step was added when Rastriya Banijya Bank was established in 1966(2022BS) under the Banijya Bank Act 1965(2021BS). Likewise, Agriculture Development Bank was established in 1965(2024BS) with the objective of increasing the life standard of those people who are involved in agriculture.

The banks opened before the decade of 1980s were by the government. No private sector was permitted to open banks in Nepal. The process of development adopted liberalized economic

policies to develop the financial sector. As a pre-condition to economic liberalization, the Foreign Investment and Technology Transfer Act, 1981 came into existence. The government allowed private sectors to open banks. Joint venture projects were also allowed. Many joint venture commercial banks and financial institutions were established. As a result, Nepal Arab Bank Limited was established as a first joint venture commercial bank in 1985 under the provision of Commercial Bank Act, 1974 and Company Act 1965. Then, Nepal Indosuez Bank Limited was established in 1985 and Nepal Grindlays Bank Limited in 1986. In 2001, the name of Nepal Grindlays Bank Limited has been changed into Standard Chartered Bank Nepal Limited and Nepal Indosuez Bank Limited has been changed into Nepal Investment Bank in 2002, which has not foreign share now. After the restoration of multiparty democracy, the newly formed government adopted liberalized policies aimed at accelerating economic growth and considerably reducing state interference in business. The governments encouraged foreign and private investment by offering attractive incentives and facilities including 100% foreign ownership in all but few sectors. This help to create conducive business environment for banking. As a result, additional commercial banks came into existence. When the internal violence shows green signal to manage and Nepal Rastra Bank make ease for rules and regulations, many new commercial banks are coming existence and existing development banks and financial institutions are upgrading them as commercial banks. The name of 27 Licensed Commercial Banks are as follows:

Table No.-1.1

S.N.	Names of the Banks
1	Nepal Bank Limited
2	Rastriya Banijya Bank
3	NABIL Bank
4	Nepal Investment Bank Ltd.
5	Standard Chartered Bank Nepal Ltd.
6	Himalayan Bank Ltd.
7	Nepal SBI Bank Ltd.
8	Nepal Bangladesh Bank Ltd.
9	Everest Bank Ltd.
10	Bank of Kathmandu Ltd.
11	Nepal Credit and Commerce Bank Ltd.
12	Lumbni Bank Ltd.
13	Nepal Industrial and Commercial Bank Ltd.

S.N.	Names of the Banks
14	Machhapuchhre Bank Ltd.
15	Kumari Bank Ltd.
16	Laxmi Bank Ltd.
17	Siddhartha Bank Ltd.
18	Agriculture Development Bank Ltd.
19	Global Bank Ltd.
20	Citizens Bank International Ltd.
21	Prime Commercial Bank Ltd.
22	Bank of Asia Nepal Ltd.
23	Sunrise Bank Ltd.
24	Development Credit Bank Ltd.
25	NMB Bank Ltd.
26	Janata Bank
27	Kist Bank

1.4 Function of Commercial Banks

The main functions of commercial banks include:

- i. accepting deposits in the forms of current,
- ii. saving and fixed deposits, providing short, medium and long term loans,
- iii. acting as an agency in transfer of money, make payment on commission basis for the cheque, draft, bill of exchange etc. by the customer,
- iv. buying and selling shares and debentures of any company and government bonds
- v. collecting interests on debenture and government bonds, dividend on shares and funds from other banks for its customers
- vi. making payments on insurance premium, rent, income tax, school fees, telephone bills to the concerned offices on behalf of customers
- vii. carrying out the foreign currency exchange, and
- viii. Helping in foreign trade etc.

Moreover, other functions include: to protect the precious jewellery; to provide travelers cheque, to underwrite the debentures; to issue credit card, debit card, master card, visa card etc.; to create credit on the specific basis and expand credit and so on

1.5 Introduction to Himalayan Bank Ltd. and Bank of Kathmandu Ltd.

Himalayan Bank Ltd.

Himalayan Bank Ltd., the first commercial bank of Nepal with maximum shareholding by the Nepalese private sector, was incorporated in 1992 by a few distinguished business personalities of Nepal in partnership with Employees Provident Fund and Habib Bank Limited, one of the largest commercial bank of Pakistan. Besides commercial activities, the bank also offers industrial and merchant banking. The bank started its operation with the Authorized capital of Rs. 2 billion, issued capital of Rs. 1.21 billion, and paid up capital of Rs. 1.21 billion.

Bank of Kathmandu Ltd.

Incorporated in 1993, in collaboration with SIAM Commercial Bank PCC, Thailand, Bank of Kathmandu started operation in March 1995. Out of 30% holding diluted 25% holdings to the Nepalese citizens in 1998. It is a culmination of a comprehensive vision of the promoters to take the Nepalese economy to a newer realm in the global market. Promoters own 42% of total share of the bank and general public owns the other 58%.

The bank started its operation with the authorized capital of Rs. 2 billion, issued capital of Rs. 1.18 billion, and paid up capital of Rs.1.18 billion.

1.6 Capital Structure of Commercial Banks

Every business firm or Bank requires the initial funds for its sound operation. Capital is the blood of the business. A business firm or enterprises cannot run their business without capital. Enterprises whether they are government owned or privately owned have to make pertinent capital structure decision in identifying exactly how much capital is needed to run their operation smoothly.

The fund required are generated usually by two means: equity and debt, equity provides the ownership of the firm to the shareholders. On the other hand, debt is a fund borrowed with fixed charges to be paid periodically to the debtor, the term capital structure refers to the proportion of debt and equity capital or the composition of long term sources of finance, such as preference capital debentures, long term debt and equity capital including services and surpluses (i.e. retained earning and excluding short term debts.)

The term capital structure refers to the mix of different types of funds a company uses to finance its activities. Capital structure varies greatly from one company to another. For

example, some companies are financed mainly by shareholders funds whereas others make much greater use of borrowings.

Firstly, we must decide what we mean by a good capital structure. This would be a capital structure, which results in a low overall cost of capital for the company, that is, a low overall rate of return that needs to be paid on funds provided. If the cost of capital is low, then the discounted value of future cash flows generated by the company is high resulting in a high overall company value. The objective is therefore to find the capital structure that gives the lowest overall cost of capital and consequently, the highest company value.

The capital structure decision affects the total value of the firm. The proper balance between debt and equity is necessary to ensure a trade off between risk and return to the shareholders. The capital structure of the bank should be such that leads to the value maximization. The optimal capital structure, i.e. the capital structure with reasonable proportion of debt and equity minimizes the opportunity cost of capital and maximizes the shareholders' wealth.

1.7 Focus of the study

As we have stated above the meaning and importance of the capital structure of financial institution. The main purpose of this study is to evaluate the capital structure of the private banks. The capital structure decision is a major decision, which affects the overall cost of capital, total value of the firm and earning per share.

Hence the focus of this study mainly deals with the effects of the capital structure on the growth of the firm and the extent to which the capital structure policy is followed by the commercial banks.

1.8 Statement of the problems

The financial problem is to be considered as one of the greatest obstacle for overall socio-economic development of any country. Commercial banks can play a predominant role in the development of agriculture, industry, commerce and trade. In underdeveloped and developing countries, there are not quite commercial activities of financial institutions. In Nepal commercial banks have not been organized and developed, there is insufficient capital which can help to prevent financial problem. So, they are still in the age of growth and development. Most commercial banks of Nepal miss invest their capital due to lack of proper knowledge of

utilization. Some commercial banks have lost a lot of capital to the selfishness i.e. they give loan to their relatives, those who give bribe to them, those who have sourced and force.

Banks accepts various types of deposits from the general public and lends them to various sectors for generating some return at the same time assuming some level of risk associated with the specific sector. Thus, there is risk and return. To minimize risk for a given level of return or to maximize return for a given level of risk, banks have to manage their optimum level of capital structure. The matter of assisting in economic growth of the company growth of the company by these banks is far away from the reality and in this context of being burden to themselves with the proportion of nonperforming loan about 60% of their total loan portfolio.

Other commercial banks are also not sowing enough consciousness towards the capital structure management. Every bank seems to go after a few lucrative business sectors or business houses and for under price war. This has disproportionately benefited a few business people at the cost of larger section of the population. The risk- return trade-off has not been properly analyzed before making capital proportion, which has result the higher cost of fund than the acceptable level. Current situation of banking sector shows that the growth of non-performing assets (NPA) has been faster than the growth of credit due to the higher cost of fund and poor management of loan.

In last few years, the trend of lunching joint venture banks seems to be stopped and some of the foreign banks have withdrawn their investment from Nepal. Withdrawal of foreigners is due to some anomalies in Nepalese banking sector irrespective of what the withdrawing foreign bank would say officially to the Nepalese authorities or the general public. If such situation of shortsightedness prevails longer, Nepalese banking sector may fall into crisis as in East and Argentina in the past and even the public deposits made in these banks may be unsecured. To avoid such potential crises, the concerned authorities i.e. Nepal Rastra Bank and commercial banks themselves have to pay their proper attention in their capital structure management. Rare researches made regarding this issue also indicate the less perceived importance for such a sensitive fact.

Bank plays a significant role in the economic development of the country by extending credit to the people. Although banking industry in Nepal is making remarkable progress and growth.

It's not without the problems. At the present context, the main problem faced by the business sector as well as bank is the unstable political and economic condition of the country.

Another problem faced by the banking industry is the lack of optimal capital structure in the commercial banks. The success and prosperity of a bank relies heavily on maximization of the wealth of the shareholders or return on equity. Nepalese banks do not take the capital structure concept seriously. The combination of debt and equity used in the capital structure is not proportionate which in turn affects the value maximization of the bank

The present study has tried to analyze and examine the practice of capital structure in the commercial banks in Nepal. This study specially deals with the following problems.

1. What is the comparative position of capital structure of Bank of Katmandu. (BOK) and Himalayan Bank Ltd. (HBL)?
2. What is the profitability position of Bank of Katmandu.(BOK) and Himalayan Bank Ltd. (HBL)?
3. What is the relationship of the capital structure with the variation such as earning per share, dividend per share?
4. What is the overall cost of capital of the two commercial banks?

1.9 Objectives of the Study

This study has been conducted to accomplish the following objectives:

1. To find out comparative position of capital structure of Bank of kathmandu.(BOK) and Himalayan Bank Ltd. (HBL).
2. To find out the profitability position of Bank of Katmandu.(BOK) and Himalayan Bank Ltd. (HBL).
3. To examine the relationship of the capital structure with the variation such as earning per share, dividend per share.
4. To analyze the overall cost of capital of the two commercial banks.

1.10 Significance of the Study

This study is concern with the capital structure management of Bank of kathamandu Ltd. and Himalayan Bank Ltd. It is expected that this study will significantly contribute towards the field of capital structure.

The banks capital structure should be managed in such a way that the fund could be provided efficiently and effectively. The goal of the study is to examine the efficiency and performance of these two banks management as reflected in the annual financial reports.

The following points justify the study:

- a) The study will help to specify the entire glory of these two banks especially in the sector of capital structure.
- b) The study will help to show the financial position of the banks to the investors as well as concerned management.
- c) The study will help to find out which bank is showing comparatively good performance in the economic development of the country.
- d) The study will help to indicate strengths and weaknesses of these banks especially in the sector of capital structure.
- e) Optimum capital structure is the key of success of any organizations to lack of sound knowledge of capital structure, many organizations failed in our country. So, this study will help to the concerned management to improve their efficiency.
- f) This study will also helpful to depositors, lenders, borrowers, policy madder, shareholders and customers of the banks under research.

1.11 Limitations of the Study

Every work has its own limitations due to lack of time, resources and knowledge. The work has been completed within the periphery of the limitations. Despite ample efforts on the part of the researcher, this study was limited to:

- 1) This study has been based on secondary sources of data i.e. annual reports of the banks, Nepal Rastra Bank and government publications and other related journals. Thus, the result of the analysis depends on the information provided by the concern offices.
- 2) The study covers only the latest five fiscal years.
- 3) The study covers the capital structure management and its impact on risk-return trade-off the banks under research.

- 4) This study has been conducted by taking only two commercial banks.

1.12 Organization of the study

This study has been organized into five chapters. Each is developed to some aspect of the study to effect of capital structure.

The chapters are as follows:

1. Introduction

2. Review of literature

3. Research methodology

4. Presentation and analysis of data

5. Summary, conclusion and recommendation

- The first chapter contains the introduction part of the study. It gives some earlier history of concern title and some related term as will. It present systematically of objective of the research, problem of the study, significant of the study and limitation of the study.
- The second chapter is review of literature which presents some principles, theoretical aspects, some pilot studies had been made under some report, journals and some relevant studies on the topics of this thesis.
- Similarly, the third chapter explains the research methodology including research design, nature and resource of data, sample size, data collection procedure, tabulation, analysis and interpretation of data, period covered of research and review of literature.
- The fourth chapter presents analysis and interpretation data. It particularly concentrated to trace out the fact by the given data through the primary and as well as secondary.
- The fifth chapter concerns summary, findings and suggestion for future improvement of corporation.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

2.1 Introduction

Literature review is basically a 'stock taking' works of available literature. To make the research more realistic review of literature is required. It provides significant knowledge in the field of research. Thus the review of various books, research studies and articles have been used to make clear about the concept of capital structure as well as to recall the previous studies made by various researches.

The purpose of literature review is thus is find out what research studies have been conducted in ones field of study, and what remains to be done. Review of literature provides foundation to the study. The literature survey also minimizes the risk of pursuing the dead end in research. To make meaningful research study conceptual review has been done through the study of various books, journals and articles and researches conducted by the previous researches in the field of capital structure i.e. research work, thesis and dissertation etc. so, this chapter 'literature review' has been divided into the following sections.

-) Review of Books
-) Review of Journals
-) Review of Article
-) Review of Thesis

2.2 Review of Books

In this section, various books are reviewed that are written by the different writers that make clear about the conceptual foundation of capital structure. It helps to assess new idea by examining views of different writers and scholars.

2.2.1 Conceptual Framework

Capital structure is the mix (or proportion) of a firm's permanent long term financing represented by debt, preferred stock and common stock equity. (Van Horne, 1997:240)

The financial manager is concerned with determining the best financial mix or capital structure where the optimal financing mix would exist, in which market price per share could be maximized. (Pandey, 1988:203)

Capital structure of the firm is the permanent financing represented by long term debt, preferred stock and shareholder's equity. Thus, a firm's capital structure is only part of its financial structure. (Weston and Brigham, 1978:565)

Capital structure analysis is the basis for analyzing the usefulness of accumulation from different sources of capital composition of capital is another factor, which affects the profitability. Loan capital dominant enterprises have less chance for prosperity despite of their huge profits. (Kuchhal, 1961:525)

Sound capital structure is required to operate Business smoothly and achieve the business goal. Capital structure is concerned with analyzing the capital composition of the company. (Weston & Brigham, 1978:555)

Capital structure is one of the most complex areas of financial decision making due to its interrelation with other financial decision variables. The success and failure of the enterprise depends on the ability of top management to make appropriate capital structure decision.

2.2.2 Theories of Capital Structure

Capital structure is an important subject, especially for firms. A bad capital structure is more expensive than a good capital structure.

Firms raise investment funds in a number of different ways. A firm's mix of these different sources of capital is referred to as its capital structure.

Basically, the theories of capital structure are distinguished into 6 different groups.

-) Traditional theory
-) Modigliani - Miller theorem
-) Trade off theory
-) Free Cash Flow theory
-) Pecking Order theory
-) Stakeholder theory

2.2.2.1. Traditional Theory

The first theory is called the "traditional theory". Supporters of this theory believe that the lowest weighted average cost of capital (WACC) will maximize the firms' market value. This means the existence of an optimum relation between debts and equity but it is very difficult to reach that point.

Although it is cheaper to finance with debt, this theory certainly rejects to finance all with debt because after a certain level of debt the risk of non-payment increases. In this case shareholders and debt financiers demand a higher compensation.

2.2.2.2 Modigliani - Miller Theorem

The next theory is the most important theory, although it is not a realistic theory. The Modigliani -Miller theorem states that if the capital structure decision has no effect on the cash flows generated by a firm, the decision also will have no effect - in absence of transaction costs - on the total value of the firm's debt and equity. This means that there is no relationship between a firm's market value and the capital structure. Profitability of a firm's activities is the only factor that determines the market value.

This theory is based on a perfect capital market. The only market imperfections they admit are corporate taxes. In short, the assumptions of the Modigliani - miller theorem are (JC van Horne, 1995):

1. Capital markets are perfect
 -) Information is free of costs and widely available.
 -) No transaction cost.
 -) Investors behave rational.
2. Every firm has perpetual flows of money with equal time values
3. Companies can be divided in homogeneous risk classes
4. There are no taxes.

2.2.2.3 Trade off Theory

The third theory is called the (static) trade off theory. The trade off between the costs and returns of debt financing determines the optimum debt ratio. Firms consider this ratio as a target debt ratio, because this ratio will maximize the market value of a corporation. Myers assumes that firms need to adapt their capital structure to reach that ratio. But an adaptation of the capital structure needs time and costs money. Therefore, it is possible that present temporary debt ratios differ from the target ratios.

"A static trade off framework, in which the firm is viewed as setting a target debt-to-value ratio and moving gradually towards to it, in much the same way that a firm adjusts dividends to move towards a target payout ratio" (Myers, 1984:576)

2.2.2.4 Free Cash Flow Theory

In the contrary of the trade off theory, in which a firm strives after a maximization of the market value, the free cash flow theory presumes that there are enormous conflicts of interest between shareholders and stakeholders. This implies that manager's decisions don't always maximize the market value of the firm.

A free cash flow is the balance of money, when all projects (with positive net present values) are financed. Debt reduces the agency costs of free cash flow by reducing the cash flow available for spending at the discretion of managers. Debt also reduces the freedom of decisions, because of firm is forced to pay at certain times interest and payoffs. There will always be risk that a firm won't be able to pay interest and payoffs in future times. This risk causes managers to lead and organize a firm more efficient.

2.2.2.5 Pecking Order Theory

Myers also shows another view of capital structure, not the static trade off theory, but also the pecking order theory. This fifth theory assumes that firms have perforations by choosing a way to finance their projects. The sequence of investment resources is restricted by problems caused by asymmetrical information between managers and potential investors. The following assumptions are made by this theory. (Myers, 1984)

1. Firms prefer internal ways to finance projects
2. Firms adapt their target dividend payout ratios to available investment resources
3. Internal resources of a firm are fluctuating because of unpredictable fluctuations of profitability
4. When firms need extra resources, they prefer the safest way of getting funds; this means that firms prefer debt to convertible stocks and common stocks.

The result of this pecking order theory is that a firm doesn't have a certain target debt ratio. The target ration is dependant on the way a firm financed its projects in the past. This theory also pays attention to costs of asymmetrical information and costs of bankruptcy.

When these costs exist, a firm doesn't always choose to finance projects with a positive net present value. Not a positive net present value determines whether a firm finances a project or not, but the way in which a firm is able to finance their projects.

Baskin researched the validity of this theory in 1989. He made the following conclusion:

The accumulated evidence in favor of the Pecking order hypotheses is now substantial. Now it is possible to provide pecking order behavior with a rational theoretical basis, and there seems no longer any reason to ignore the manifest empirical evidence.

2.2.2.6 Stakeholder Theory

Cornell and Shapiro (1987) assume that not only investors have an interest in a firm. There are different groups of non-investor stakeholders, and some of them have a lot of influence in the financial policy of a firm. Or, as Cornell and Shapiro wrote: Financial structure may also depend on a firm's net organizational capital and on the nature of its stakeholders. Examples of non-investor stakeholders are customers, employees and suppliers.

Non-investor stakeholders hold implicit claims. Implicit claims are non-written promises and rights, such as the right to provide service to customers or job-security for employees.

2.2.3 Approaches to Capital Structure

-) Traditional approach
-) Net income approach
-) Net operating income approach
-) Modigliani-Miller's approach

All the above approaches are based on some common assumptions, which are as follows:

Basic assumptions and definitions: (Weston and Brigham, 1992:741)

1. Only two types of capital are employed, long term debt and common stock.
2. There is no tax on corporate income.
3. The firm's total assets are fixed, but its capital structure can be changed immediately by setting debt to repurchase common stock, or stock to retire debt.
4. All earnings are paid out as dividends.
5. All investors have the same subjective probability distributions of expected future operating earnings (EBIT) for a given firm: that is, investors have homogeneous expectations.
6. The operating earnings of the firm are not expected to grow, that is, the firm's expected EBIT is same in all future periods.
7. The firm's business risk is constant over time and is independent of its capital structure and financial risk
8. The firm is expected to continue indefinitely.

In addition to these assumptions, it uses the following basic definitions and symbols:

S = total market value of the stock. (Equity)

B = total market value of the bonds (Debt)

V = total market value of the firm =S+B

EBIT = earnings before interest and taxed= net operating income (NOI)

I = Interest payments

Debt

$$\text{Cost of Debt (Kd)} \times \frac{\text{Interest}}{\text{Debt}} \times \frac{I}{B}$$

$$\text{Value of Debt (B)} \times \frac{\text{Interest}}{Kd} \times \frac{I}{Kd}$$

Equity or common stock

$$\text{Cost of Equity Capital (Ks)} \times \frac{d1}{P0} \Gamma g$$

where,

$d1$ \times Next Dividend

$P0$ \times Current price per share

g \times Expected Growth Rate

Overall or Weighted Average cost of capital

$$K \times Kd(B/V) \Gamma Ks(S/V) \times \frac{Kd(B)}{B \Gamma S} \Gamma \frac{Ks(S)}{B \Gamma S}$$

The total value of the firm is thus,

$$V \times B \Gamma S \times \frac{I}{Kd} \Gamma \frac{EBIT - I}{Ks}$$

2.2.3.1. Traditional approach

The traditional view of capital structure, which is also known as an Intermediate approach, is a compromise between the Net Income Approach and the Net Operating Income Approach. It states that when a company starts to borrow, the advantages outweigh the disadvantages. The cheap cost of debt, combined with its tax advantage, will cause the WACC to fall as borrowing increases. However as gearing increases, the effect of financial leverage causes shareholders to increase their required return (i.e., the cost of equity rises). At high gearing the cost of debt also rises because the chance of the company defaulting on the debt is higher (i.e. bankruptcy risk). So at higher gearing, the WACC will increase.

According to this view, the value of firm can be increased or the cost of capital can be reduced by a judicious mix of debt and equity capital, and that an optimum capital structure exists for every firm. This approach very clearly implies that the cost of capital decreases within the reasonable limit of debt and then increases with leverage. Thus, an optimum capital structure exists, and it occurs when the cost of capital is minimum or the value of firm is maximum.

The statement that debt funds are cheaper than equity funds carries the clear implication that the interest rate of debt plus the increased yield on the common stock, together on the weighted basis will be less than yield (cost of equity) which existed on the common stock before debt financing (Barges, Alexander, 1963:11). That is the weighted average cost of capital will decrease with the use of debt up to a limit.

According to the traditional position, the manner in which the overall cost of capital reacts to changes in capital structure can be divided into three stages. (Soloman, Ezra, 1963:94)

First stage: Increasing Value

The first stage starts with the introduction of debt in the firm's capital structure. In this stage, the cost of equity (K_s) either remains constant or rises slightly with debt because of the added financial risk. But it does not increase fast enough to offset the advantage of low cost debt. In other words, the advantage arising out of the use of debt is so large that, even after allowing for higher cost of equity, the benefit of the use of the cheaper sources of funds are still available. As a result the value of the firm (V) increases as the overall cost of capital falls with increasing leverage.

During this stage cost of debt (K_d) remains constant or rises only modestly. The combined effect of all these will be reflected in increase in market value of the firm and decline in overall cost of capital (K)

Second stage: Optimum value

In the second stage, further application of debt will raise cost of debt and equity capital so sharply as to offset the gains in net income. Hence, the total market value of the firm would remain unchanged. While the firm has reached a certain degree of leverage, increase in it has a negligible effect on the value of the firm or overall cost of capital of the firm. The increase in the degree of leverage increases the cost of equity due to the added financial risk that offsets the advantage of low cost debt. Within the range of such debt level or at a specific point, the value of the firm will be maximum or the cost of capital will be minimum.

Third stage: Declining value

Beyond the acceptable limit of leverage, the value of the firm decreases with the increase of the leverage or the overall cost of capital increases with the additional leverage, this happens because investors perceive a high degree of financial risk, which increases the cost of equity by more than enough to offset the advantage of low cost debt.

The overall effect of these three stages is to suggest that the cost of capital is a function of leverage, i.e. first falling and after reaching minimum point or range it would start rising. The relation between cost of capital and leverage is graphically shown in figure below.

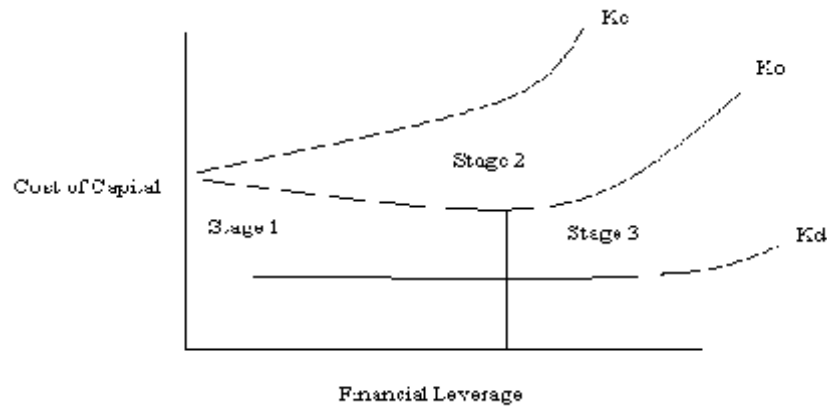


Figure 1:
Effect of leverage on cost of capital under traditional theory

In the above figure, it is assumed that K_s rise at an increasing rate with leverage, whereas K_d is assumed to rise only after significant leverage has occurred. At first, the weighted cost of capital, K declines with leverage because the rise in K_s does not entirely offset the use of cheaper debt funds. As a result, K declines with moderate use of leverage. After a point, however the increase in K_s more than offset the use of cheaper debt funds in the capital structure, and K begins to rise. The rise in K is supported further once K_d begins to rise. The optimal capital structure is point X; thus the traditional position implies that the cost of capital is not independent of capital structure of the firm and that there is an optimal capital structure.

2.2.3.2. Net Income approach

David Durand proposed the Net Income Approach. This approach stated that firm can increase its value or lower the cost of capital by using the debt capital. According to NI approach, there exists positive relationship between capital structure and valuation of firm and change in the pattern of capitalization bring about corresponding change in the overall cost of capital and total value of the firm. Thus with an increase in the ratio of debt to equity, overall cost of capital will decline and market price of equity stock as well as value of firm will rise. The converse will hold true if ratio of debt to equity tends to decline. The approach assumes no change in the behavior of both stockholders and debt holders as to the required rate of return in response to a change in the debt-equity ratio of the firm. They want to invest since debt holder are exposed to lesser degree of risk, assumed of a fixed rate of interest and are given preferential claim over the profit and assets, the debt holders' required rate of return is relatively lower than that of equity holders. So, the debt financing is relatively cheaper than equity. For this reason, at constant cost of equity (K_s) and cost of debt (K_d), the overall cost of capital (K) declines

with the increased proportion of the debt in the capital structure. This suggests that higher the level of debt, lower the overall cost of capital and higher the value of firm.

It means that a firm attains an optimal capital structure when it used 100% debt financing. Running a business with 100% debt financing, however, is quite uncommon in the real world. The firm can achieve optimal capital structure by making judicious use of debt and equity and attempt to maximize the market price of its stock.

In sum, as per NI approach, increase in ratio of debt to total capitalization brings about corresponding increase in total value of firm and decline in cost of capital. On the contrary, decrease in ratio of debt to total capitalization causes decline in total value of firm and increase cost of capital. Thus, this approach is appeared as relevancy theory. This approach is based on the following assumptions:

1. The cost of equity and debt remain constant to the acceptable range of leverage.
2. The corporate income taxes do not exist.
3. The cost of debt rate is less than the cost of equity.
4. The increasing leverage brings about no deterioration in the equity of net earnings so long as borrowing is consigned to the amount below the acceptable limits.

Graphically, the effect of leverage on the firm's cost of capital and the total market value of the firm is shown below.

Figure 2 shows a continuous decrease in K with the increase in debt-equity ratio, since any decrease in K directly contributes to the value of the firm, it increases with the increase in the debt-equity ratio (figure 3). Thus the financial leverage, according to the NI approach is an important variable in the capital structure decision of a firm. Under the NI approach, a firm can determine an optimal capital structure. If the firm is unleveled the overall cost of capital will be just equal to the equity capitalization rate.

In brief, the essence of the net income approach is that the firm can lower its cost of capital by using debt. The approach is based on the assumption that the use of debt does not change the risk perception of the investor. Consequently, the interest rate of debt and the equity capitalization rate remain constant to debt. Therefore, the increased use of debt results in higher market value of shares and as a result, lower overall cost of capital (K).

2.2.3.3. Net Operating Income approach (NOI)

NOI approach is another behavioral approach suggested by Duran David. This approach is diametrically opposite from the NI approach with respect to the assumption of the behavior of equity holders and debt holders. The essence of this approach is that the leverage/capital structure decision of the firm is irrelevant. The overall cost of capital is independent of the

degree of leverage; any change in leverage will lead to change in the value of the firm and the market price of the shares. Net operating approach is slightly different from NI approach, unlike the NI approach in NOI approach, the overall cost of capital and value of firm are independent of capital structure decision and change in degree of financing. Leverage does not bring about any change in the value of firm and cost of capital.

The main difference between NI and NOI approach is the base that investors use to value the firm. Under NOI approach, the Net operating income, i.e. the earning before interest and tax (EBIT), instead of net income is taken as the base. Like the NI approach, the NOI approach also assumes a constant rate of K_d , which means that the debt holders do not demand higher rate of interest for higher level of leverage risk. However, unlike the assumption of NI approach, NOI approach assumes that the equity holders do react to higher leverage risk and demand higher rate of return for higher debt-equity ratio. This approach says that the cost of equity increase with the debt level and the higher cost of equity offset the benefit of cheaper debt financing resulting no effect at all on overall cost of capital.

The NOI approach is based on following assumption:

1. The market capitalizes the value of the firm as a whole. Thus, the split between debt and equity is not important.
2. The market uses an overall capitalization rate, K to capitalize the net operating income. K depends on the business risk. If the business risk is assumed to remain unchanged, K is constant.
3. The use of less costly debt funds increases the risk of shareholders. This causes the equity-capitalization rate to increase. Thus, the advantages of debt are offset exactly by the increase in the equity capitalization rate, K_s .
4. The debt capitalization rate, K_d is constant
5. The corporate income taxes do not exist.

The function of K_s under NOI approach can be expressed in equation as follows:

$$K_s = K + \frac{K_d}{1 - \tau} \left(\frac{D}{E} \right)$$

The relationship between financial leverage and K , K_s , and K_d has been graphically depicted in following figures.

In the figure 4 above, it is shown that the curve K and K_d are parallel to the horizontal X-axis and K_s are increasing continuously. This is because K and K_d remain constant under all the circumstances but the K_s increases with the degree of increase in the leverage. Thus, there is no single point or range where the capital structure is optimum. We know obviously from the figure 4 that under the NOI approach, as low cost of debt is used, its advantage is exactly offset by increase in cost of equity in such a way that the cost of capital remains constant. By this, value of the firm also remains constant. At the extreme degree of financial leverage, hidden cost becomes very high hence the firm's cost of capital and its market value are not influenced by the use of additional cheap debt fund.

2.2.3.4. Modigliani-Miller approach (MM approach)

The Modigliani-Miller thesis (Modigliani F and M.H. Miller, "The Cost of Capital, Corporate Finance and The Theory of Investments", American Economic Review, XLVIII June 1958) relating to the relation is akin to net operating income approach. MM approach, supporting the net operating income approach argues that, in the firm remain invariant to the capital structure changes. They make a formidable attack on the transitional position by offering behavioral justification for having the cost of capital, K , remain constant through all degree of leverage. (Ibid, 272) MM contend that cost of capital is equal to the capitalization rate of a pure equity stream of income and the market value is ascertained by capitalizing its expected income at the appropriate discount rate of its risk class. MM position is based on the idea that no matter how you divide up the capital structure of a firm among debt, equity and other claims, there is conservation of investment value. (Ibid, 273) However, the following assumption regarding the behavior of the investors and the capital market, the actions of the firms and the tax environment are crucial for the validity of the MM hypotheses.

1. Perfect capital markets: the implication of perfect capital market is that securities are infinitely divisible, investors are free to buy and sell securities, investors can borrow without restrictions on the same terms and conditions as firms can, there are no transaction costs and investors are rational and behave accordingly.
2. Firms can be grouped into homogenous risk classes. Firms would be considered to belong to a homogeneous risk class as their expected earnings, adjusted for scale differences have identical risk characteristics. The share of the homogeneous firm would be perfect substitute for one another.
3. Firms distribute all net earnings to the shareholders, i.e. dividend payout ratio is 100 percent.
4. There are no taxes. This assumption is removed later.
5. The assumption of perfect information and rationality, all investors have the same expectation of firm's net operating income with which to evaluate the value of any firm.

The MM cost of capital hypotheses can be best expressed in terms of their proposition I and II. (Modigliani and Miller, 1969: 261-279)

Proposition I

Given the above assumption, MM argues that for the same risk class, the total market value is independent of the debt-equity mix and is given by capitalizing the expected net operating

income by the rate appropriate to the risk class (Ibid, 268).. This is their proposition I. In equation this can be expressed as follows:

$$\text{ValueOftheFirm} \times \text{MarketValueofDebt}(B) \Gamma \text{MarketValueofEquity}(S) \\ \times \frac{\text{ExpectedNetOperatingIncome}}{\text{ExpectedOverallCapitalizationRate}} \times \frac{\text{EBIT}}{\text{EBT}}$$

For an unlevered firm,

$$V_u \times \frac{\text{EBIT}}{K_s}$$

Where $K=K_s$ in case of unlevered firm.

Proposition I can be expressed in terms of the firm's overall capitalization rate, K , which is the ratio of Net operating income to the market value of all its securities. That is:

$$K \times \frac{\text{NOI}}{S \Gamma B} \times \frac{\text{NOI}}{V}$$

K can also be expressed as

$$K \times \frac{K_s(S)}{S \Gamma B} \Gamma \frac{K_d(B)}{S \Gamma B}$$

It means K is the weighted average of the expected rate of return of equity and debt capital of the firm since the cost of capital is defined as the expected net operating income divided by the total market value of the firm and since MM conclude that the total market value of the firm is unaffected by the financing mix, it follows that the cost of capital is independent of the capital structure and is equal to the capitalization rate of a pure equity stream of its class. (Pandey I.M, 1981:35)

The overall cost of capital function as hypothesises by MM is shown in figure below:

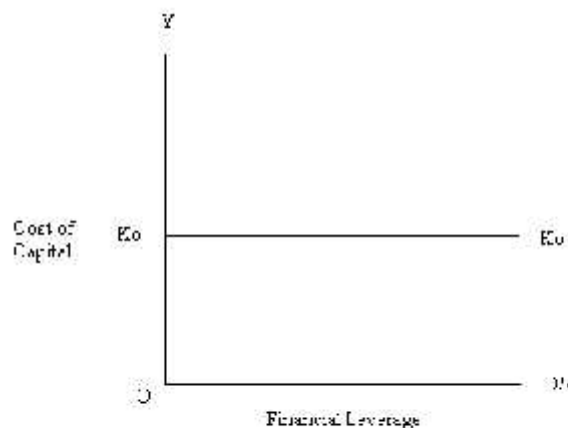


Figure 6: The Cost of Capital Under the MM Hypothesis

Thus two firms identical in all respects except for their capital structure cannot command different market values nor have different cost of capital. But if there is a discrepancy in the market values or the cost of capital, arbitrage will take place, which will enable investors to engage in personal leverage to restore equilibrium in the market. (I.M. Pandey, 1981:37)

Proposition II

MM proposition II, which defines the cost of equity, follows from their proposition I and shows the implications of the net operating approach. The proposition II states that the cost of equity rises proportionately with the increase in the financial leverage in order to compensate in the form of premium for bearing additional risk arising from the increasing leverage. (Pradhan S., 1992:362) The equation for the cost of equity can be derived from the definition of the average cost of capital.

$$K = \frac{K_s(S)}{S + B} + \frac{K_d(B)}{S + B}$$

$$K_s = \frac{K(S + B) - K_d(B)}{S}$$

$$K_s = K + \frac{K - K_d}{S} B$$

$$K_s = K + \frac{B}{S} (K - K_d)$$

The above equation states that for any firm in a given risk class the cost of equity, K_s , is equal to the constant average cost of capital, K , plus a premium for the financial risk, which is equal to debt-equity ratio times the spread between the constant average cost of capital and the interest rate. As their proportion of debt increases, the cost of equity increases continuously even though K and K_d are constant, the crucial part of the MM hypothesis is that K will not rise even if very excessive use of leverage is made. This conclusion could be valid if K_d remains constant for any degree of leverage. But in practice K_s increases with leverage beyond a certain acceptable level of leverage. However, MM maintains that even if K_s is a function of leverage, K will remain constant as K_s will increase at a decreasing rate to compensate. This can be shown as:

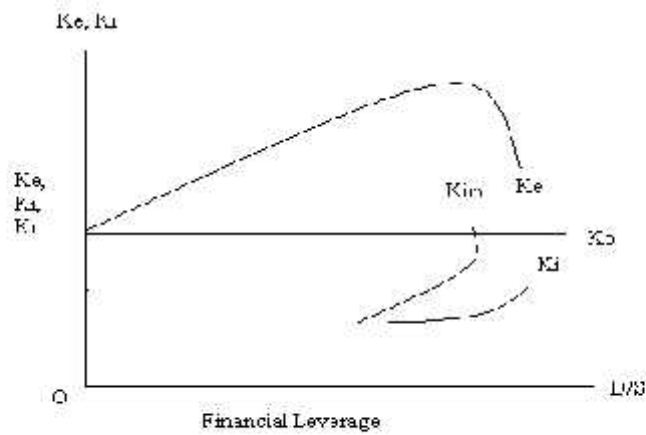


Figure 7: Behavior of K_s , K_i and K_e under MM Hypothesis

It is clear from the figure that K_s will increase till the marginal rate of interest (K_{im}) is below the cost of capital. As soon as the marginal rate of interest cuts the cost of capital, K_s will start falling.

2.2.4. Leverage

The term leverage may be defined as the use of that source of funds in the business for which the firm has to pay fixed charges, irrespective to the earnings of firm. There are two types of leverage: Financial leverage and operating leverage. Leverage associated with investment activities is called operating leverage and associated with financial activities is called financial leverage.

2.2.4.1. Financial leverage

Financial leverage is the ratio of total debt to total assets or the total value of the firm. (Weston and Brigham, 1981:555). The use of fixed sources of funds, such as debt and preference capital along with the owners' equity in the capital structure is described as financial leverage. Financial leverage refers to the response of shareholders income to change in earning before interest and tax and is created by debt or preferred stock financing with fixed interest and dividend payment.

The debt is risky as well as more advantageous in the context of earning. The use of debt and preferred stock financing provide the income advantage over the common stock financing of the firm under the favorable condition and they increase the risk too. Leverage is employed by the company to earn more. The surplus will increase the return on equity. Since the interest and principle payments are the contractual obligation to the firm. It is risky in the viewpoint of the shareholders.

2.3. Review of Journals

The Modigliani and Miller's Study: Modigliani F and Miller M.H., the cost of capital, corporation finance and the theory of investment. American economic review, XLVIII, June 1958:261-297)

In their first study, MM used the previous works of Allen and Smith in support of their independence hypothesis. Allen's study consisted of an analysis of the relation between security yields and financial structure for 43 large electric utilities, which is based on average figure for the years 1947 and 1948, while Smith designed his study of 42 electric utilities.

In the first part of their work MM tested their proposition I, the cost of capital is irrelevant to the firm's capital structure by correlation after tax cost of capital with leverage B/V . They found that the correlation coefficient is statistically insignificant and positive in sign.

In the second part of their study, they tested their proposition II the expected yield on common share is linear function of debt to equity ratio. The second part of their study is consistent with their views i.e. if the cost of borrowed funds increases, the cost of equity will decline to offset this increase.

MM conducted the second study in 1963, correcting their original hypothesis for corporate income taxes and expected cost of capital to be affected by leverage of its tax advantages or not. For this they conducted the mathematical analysis regarding the effect of leverage and other variable on the cost of capital, they found that the leverage factors are significant only because of the tax advantage involved. (Miller, M.H. and F. Modigliani, Estimates of the Capital to Electric Utility Industry, 1954-1957, American Economic Review, 56 June 1966:333-391)

Viet Anh Dang's study (Viet Anh Dang, "Testing the Trade-Off and Pecking Order Theories ", 2005)

Viet Anh Dang in the study, "Testing the Trade-Off and pecking Order Theories", 20 July 2005 examined the performance of two influential but contradicting theories of capital structure, known as the trade-off and pecking order theory. In general, our finding suggests that the trade-off theory holds well under both a partial adjustment and an error correction framework. In specifications that nest both theories, the former theory outperforms the latter theory. The introduction of the cash flow deficit variable has added little amount of additional explanatory power to the trade-off framework. Furthermore, the estimated coefficient on that variable is not found to be statistically equal to unity as it would be if the strict interpretation of

the pecking order theory were to hold. The results consistently show that the adjustment process prevails with the speed of adjustment coefficient significant and relatively high (above 50). There has been also some compelling evidence in favor of the relationships between gearing and the conventional determining factors except profitability, as predicted by trade-off framework. Non-debt tax shields and growth opportunities are reported to be inversely related to debt to the ratio, while collateral value of assets and size are found to have positive effects upon gearing.

In other respect, the study has posed serious questions on the empirical validity of the pecking order theory. However, given the simplicity of the empirical model it is impossible to reject the pecking order theory prediction completely.

Joshua Abor (Abor J, "The effect of capital structure on profitability", the journal of Risk Finance, 2005:438-445)

Joshua Abor in the study "The effect of capital structure on profitability" mentioned that the relationship between capital structure and firm value has been the subject of considerable debate. Throughout the literature, debate has centered on whether there is an optimal capital structure for an individual firm or whether the proportion of debt usage is irrelevant to the individual firm's value. The capital structure of a firm concerns the mix of debt and equity the firm uses in its operation. Brealey and Myers contend that the choice of capital structure is fundamentally a marketing problem. According to Weston and Brigham, the optimal capital structure is the one that maximizes the market value of the firm's outstanding shares.

Other theories that have been advanced to explain the capital structure of firms include bankruptcy cost, agency theory, and the pecking order theory. These theories are discussed in turn.

Bankruptcy costs are the cost directly incurred when the perceived probability that the firm will default on financing is greater than zero. The bankruptcy probability increases with debt level since it increases the fear that the company might not be able to generate profits to pay back the interest and the loans. The potential costs of bankruptcy may be both direct and indirect. Examples of direct bankruptcy costs are the legal and administrative costs in the bankruptcy process. Examples of indirect bankruptcy costs are the loss in profits incurred by the firm as a result of the unwillingness of stakeholders to do business with them. The use of debt in capital structure of the firm also leads to agency costs. Agency costs arise as a result of the relationships between shareholders and managers and those between debt-holders and shareholders. The need to balance gains and costs of debt financing emerged as they known as the static trade-off theory by Myers. It values the company as the value of the firm if unleveled

plus the present value of the tax shield minus the present value of bankruptcy and agency costs.

In summary, there is no universal theory of the debt-equity choice. Different views have been put forward regarding the financing choice.

Rima Devi Shrestha (Shrestha Rima Devi, Focus on Capital structure, Pravaha Journal of Management, Nepal Commerce Campus, Kathmandu, 1993 Vol. 10:40)

Rima Devi Shrestha conducted a study on the topic "Focus on Capital Structure of selected and listed public companies". The study used data from 19 companies, which covered different sectors such as manufacturing, finance, utility service and other allied areas. It was found that most of these companies have debt capital relatively very higher than equity capital. Consequently most of them are operating at losses to the extent that payment of interest on loan has been serious issues. Most of the losses are after charging interest on loan. It has suggested that the government has to consider the public enterprises in evaluation the relationship between use of debt and its impact on overall earning of public enterprises. So government should be sure in knowing how using debt capital will maximize return. It should develop a suitable capital structure guideline to make public enterprise aware of its responsibility to repay the debt schedules. Government has to analyze cost and risk rerun trade off. Thus, capital structure needs to be made more determinate by realistic analysis of cost. Lastly, she concluded that policy makers have to be careful in developing the suitable capital structure guidelines in making public enterprises as well as listed companies to be aware of financial accountability.

2.4. Review of Articles

Sudhir Poudyal (Poudyal S, "Capital Structure: It's impact on value of a Firm, Seminar on Emerging Issues and Challenges in Corporate Finance in Nepal, Research Paper Submitted to Faculty of Management, TU, Kathmandu, Nepal, 2002)

"A study on Capital Structure: Its impact on value of a Firm," an article by Sudhir Poudyal concentrated to examine the interrelationship between the objective of achieving an optimal capital structure and to provide conceptual framework for the determination of the optimal capital structure.

For this, a hypothetical firm is constructed and different assumptions are laid down to analyze the effect of capital structure. Various statistical and financial tools like ratio analysis are used to extract reasonable figure for the hypothetical firm. It is observed that the minimum

weighted average cost of capital, maximum value of the firm and price per share are attended at debt ratio of 30%.

Furthermore, if there is flexibility to select capital structure in any proportion, optimal capital structure range from 30% to 40%. An optimal capital structure would fulfill the interest of equity shareholder and financing requirement of a company as well as other concerned groups.

Paul Marsh (Marsh P, "The choice between Equity and Debt". The Journal of Finance, vol XXVII No. 1, March 1982)

In the article, "the Choice between Equity and Debt", following issues are expressed

-) Whether companies are having the targeted debt ratio.
-) Whether they have similar targets form the composition of their debt.
-) Whether debt ratio or the choice of the finance instrument are influenced by other factors.
-) How accurately can we predict whether the company will issue equity or debt?

Then he suggested that

-) While planning their issues, company should consider future as well as current debt ratio.
-) If the companies are looking at book value debt ratio, there will change during the interest issuing period of retentions and bank loans.
-) Any overall change in tax level could cause issuing companies to shift their performance towards either debt or equity.
-) Small companies rely on bank loan rather than long-term debt because of location, cost and problems of access to capital market.
-) Equity issues seem to be favorable as it provides strong share price and overall market performance.

2.5. Review of Thesis

Ms. Anjana Shah (Shah A, " A study On the Capital Structure of Selected Manufacturing Companies (Nepal Lever Ltd., Bottlers Nepal Ltd., Sriram Sugar Mills, Jyoti Spinning Mills, Arun Vanaspati Udhog)", Unpublished Master's Thesis, TU, Kathmandu, 2004)

Ms. Anjana Shah made the study with a purpose to access the debt serving capacity of the mentioned manufacturing companies, examining the relation between Return on equity and total debt, Return on equity and debt ratio, earning after tax and total debt and interest and earning before interest and tax.

Both financial tools such as ratio analysis as well as statistical tools such as correlation coefficient and regression analysis have been used as the methodology.

The study revealed that Nepal Lever Ltd. Is fully equity based and has not been using long term debt. The Bottlers Nepal Ltd. is free of long term debt because of improved cash flows and effective management. The Sriram Spinning Mills has 66.33% of assets financed with debt and hence there is less flexibility to the owners. The degree of Financial Leverage analysis of Jyoti Spinning Mills shows the failure of the company to gain expected profits. And the Arum Vanaspati Udhog has a fluctuating debt equity ratio. Its long term debt is decreasing and only creditors make a small share of finance.

Ms. Manju Kumari Pandey (Pandey M.K., "The Study on capital Structure of Standard Chartered Bank Ltd. and Nepal Bangladesh Bank Ltd." Unpublished Master's Thesis, YU, Kathmandu, 2003)

The basic objective of the study made by Ms. Manju Kumari Pandey was to analyze the interrelationship of capital structure with various important variables such as earning per share, dividend per share and net worth of the joint venture banks and to provide suggestions to overcome various issues and gaps.

The study has used financial tools such as Ratio Analysis, EBIT-EPS analysis, overall capitalization rate, equity capitalization rate, total value calculation etc and Statistical tools such as Karl Pearson's correlation and probable errors.

The study concluded that all the joint venture banks are using high percentage of total debt in raising the assets and all the banks are able to pay the interest. The study suggested that the bank must control total deposit and the bank must also control investment. The bank needs to reduce its expenses and control fluctuations in the earnings per share to improve its market price per share.

Mr. Kamal Bahadur Rajlawat (Rajlawat K.B., "The Capital Structure of Necon Air Limited", Unpublished Master's Thesis, TU, Kathmandu, 1999)

The main objective of the study is to analyze and examine the capital structure of Necon Air Limited, examine the financial position, highlight their growth and policies and review various previous studies relation to the study. The study used primary as well as secondary data for the analysis. The methodology used includes financial tools such as Ratio Analysis and statistical tools such as correlation coefficient and probable error. The study has found that Necon Air Limited has debt equity ratio higher than required. This higher debt capital is a serious implication form the firm's point of view. In this condition, the capital structure will lead to inflexibility in the operation of the firm as creditors would exercise pressure and interfere with management. Necon Air has raised debt from different commercial banks and has to pay

heavy portion of profit as interest, so the payment of the interest will be hazardous when profit is declining. So it is suggested that Necon Air Ltd should decrease its debt capital as far as possible. It has added that the ration of 2:1 is the best ratio for optimal capital structure.

A study conducted by *Mr. Makar Bahadur Tamang* entitled "Financial Performance Analysis of commercial Banks of Nepal" with reference to NIB and NABIL in 2005, with the objective to measure the operating efficiency, stability and profitability of NIB and NABIL along with their financial strength and weakness concludes the findings such as,

-) The liquidity position of NIB is better than that of NABIL,
-) NABIL has utilized more debt than NIB,
-) The profitability ratio of NABIL is better than that of NIB in terms of ROA,
-) The EPS and DPS of NABIL are better than that of NIB,
-) There is positive correlation between total debt and net profit for both the banks etc.

On the basis of his findings, he recommended that both the banks should review their overall capital structure and investment portfolio to make better mix in capital structure. Moreover, he also suggested that both the banks should also give due consideration in improving their liquidity position.

A study conducted by *Mr. Chutra Bahadur Gumanju* entitled "A Comparative Study of Financial Performance Analysis of HBL and NIB" in 2004, with the general objective of examining and evaluating the financial performance of HBL and NIB concludes the findings such as,

-) The liquidity position of NIB is better than that of HBL,
-) The analysis of leverage ratio shows that HBL has higher ability in utilizing debts than NIB in terms of total debt to total equity, total assets and total capital ratio,
-) The profitability position of NIB is better than that of HBL in terms of ROA,
-) The EPS and DPS of HBL are better than NIB,
-) The correlation coefficient showed the positive relationship between total debt and net profit of HBL and NIB etc.

On the basis of analysis and evaluation of various financial and statistical tools, he recommended that both the banks should maintain standard current ratio. Moreover, he also suggested that both the banks should improve their capacity by improving effective organization structure and controlling capital structure and so on.

Mr. Kishor Poudel conducted a study entitled "A Study on Liquidity and Investment Position of Joint Venture Commercial Banks in Nepal" with reference to EBL and NABIL in 2002. The main objective of his study was to examine the investment liquidity policy of EBL and NABIL. His major findings from the study includes,

-) In aggregate, the liquidity position of EBL is comparatively better than NABIL's. However, there are some instances where EBL has maintained more liquid funds than requirements,
-) EBL has not been successful for mobilization of funds on investments in comparison with NABIL. However, EBL has been able to mobilize most of the investment in government securities than NABIL's,
-) The growth rate of investment portfolio of NABIL is comparatively better than EBL. However, NABIL has given more priority to profitability than liquidity and so on.

2.6 Research Gap

Various study on Capital structure were conducted in past with major objective of BOK and HBL Dissertations on comparative study of capital structure were rarely done in past academic years. Generally it assumes that comparative study must be done on the basis of same surface. Following the point, researcher has taken two banks which were established on same span of time and time might create same opportunities and challenges for those companies. As we have stated above the meaning and importance of the capital structure of financial institution. The main purpose of this study is to evaluate the capital structure of the private banks. The capital structure decision is a major decision, which affects the overall cost of capital, total value of the firm and earning per share.

This study is based upon the study of overall cost of capital structure by using various relative measurement tools. It considered earning per share, dividend per share, return on total assets etc. Optimal capital structure plays vital role in every organization. So, this study tries to evaluate the optimality of their capital structure using various financial variables for the purpose of comparative evaluation.

Hence the focus of this study mainly deals with the effects of the capital structure on the growth of the firm and the extent to which the capital structure policy is followed by the commercial banks.

CHAPTER

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

Researcher needs sequential steps to adopt realistic study or studying a problem with certain object/objects in view. Therefore, through research methodology researcher can get appropriate guidelines and knowledge about the various sequential steps to adopt a systematic analysis. Research methodology is the investigation tools of any certain area and it means clearly observation of certain object.

Research is the process of systematic and in depth study or search any particular topic, subject or area of investigation backed by collection presentation and interpretation of relevant details or data.

Research is a systematic and organized effort to investigate a specific problem that needs a solution. This process of investigation involves a series of well through out activities of gathering, recording, analysis and interpreting the data with the purpose of finding answers to the problem.

This chapter mainly deals with the research methodology used to ascertain the study objectives. Under this, research design, nature and sources of data, population and sample and method of data analysis technique have been described.

3.2. Research Design

Research design is the plan, structure and strategy of investigations conceived so as to obtain answers to research questions and to control variances. It included an outline of what the investigator will do from writing the hypotheses and their operational implications to the final analysis of data. The structure of the research is more specific, it is the outline, the scheme, and the standard of the operation of the variables. When we draw diagrams that outline the variables and their relation and juxtaposition, we build structural schemes for accomplishing operational research purposes. Strategy, as used here, is also more specific than plan. In other words, strategy implies how the research objectives will be reached and how the problem encountered in the research will be tackled.

The method and definite technique, which guides to study and give ways to perform research work is known as research design. It is most necessary to complete the research and fulfill the objective of the research.

First of all information and data are collected. The important information and data are selected. Then data is arranged in useful manner. After that, data are analyzed by using appropriate financial and statistical tools. In analysis part, interpretation and comments are also made wherever necessary. Result and conclusion are given after analysis of data, recommendation and suggestion is also given, the thesis has been adopted from previous research works. Previous thesis styles and formats have been followed. The descriptive research design specially a case study has been followed. It also has included analytical comparative evaluative study of the collected data.

The main objective of research work is to evaluate the capital structures of Himalayan Bank Limited and Bank of Kathmandu. To complete this study, following design and format has been adopted.

3.3. Data Collection Procedure

3.3.1 Nature and Sources of Data

Mainly, the study is conducted on the basis of secondary data. The required data are extracted from balance sheets, profit and loss accounts and different financial schedules of concerned banks annual reports. Other supplementary data are collected from a number of institutions and regulation authorities like Nepal Rastra Bank, Nepal Stock Exchange Ltd., security exchange board, etc. and from different related websites. This study is bases in the historical data of 5 year period.

3.3.2 The Population and Sample

Population of this study includes all listed commercial banks in NEPSE. At present, there are 27 commercial banks have listed their shares in NEPSE. They have only been considered as population for the study, two leading private commercial banks are selected as sample. On the basis of establishment period and performances, samples are taken. The sampled commercial banks are Himalayan Bank Limited and Bank of Kathmandu Limited which is convenience sampling method.

3.4 Tools for Analysis

For the purpose of data analysis, various financial and statistical tools have been used to achieve the objective of the study. The evaluation of data has been carried out to the pattern of data available.

Different tools have been selected according to the nature of data as well as subject matter. The major tool employed for the analysis of the data is ratio analysis, which established the numerical relationship between two variables of the financial statement. Besides financial tools, the statistical tools are also used.

3.4.1 Financial Tools

Financial analysis is the process of identifying the financial strength and weakness of the firm by properly establishing relationship between the items of the balance sheet. In this study ratio analysis is used as the financial tools for the data analysis.

The financial tools that will be used for data analysis are:

-) Ratio analysis
-) Leverage analysis
-) Capital structure analysis
-) Traditional analysis
-) Modigliani-Miller's approach

3.4.1.1 Ratio Analysis

Ratio analysis is a technique of analyzing interpreting financial statements to evaluate the performance of an organization by creating the ratios from the figures of different accounts consisting in balance sheet and income statement. The qualitative judgment concerning financial performance of a firm can be carried out with the help of ratio analysis. Even though there are many ratios, only those ratios have been covered in this study, which are related to investment operation of the bank.

This study contains following ratios:

Long Term Debt to Total Debt

The long term debt to total debt ratio measure the percentage of long term debt to total debt used in the companies. So it is the percentage of long term debt among the total debt employed by the company.

The Long Term Debt to Total Debt is calculated as:

$$\text{LongTermDebttoTotalDebtRatio} \times \frac{\text{LongTermDebt}}{\text{TotalDebt}} \times 100$$

Long Term Debt to Capital Employed

This ratio is used to express the relationship between long term debt and capital employed by the firm. It shows the proportion of long term debt and shareholders' fund in the capital structure. This ratio is calculated as:

$$\text{LongTermDebttoCapitalEmployed} \times \frac{\text{LongTermDebt}}{\text{CapitalEmployed}}$$

The higher ratio of long term debt to capital employed ratio shows the higher contribution of long term debt to the capital structure and vice versa.

Debt to Total Assets

This ratio measure the extent to which borrowed funds have been used to finance the company's assets. It is related to calculate total debt to the total assets of the firm. The total debt included long term debt and current liabilities. The total assets consist of permanent assets and other assets. It is calculated as:

$$\text{DebttoTotalAssetRatio} \times \frac{\text{TotalDebt}}{\text{TotalAssets}} \times 100$$

The lower total debt to total assets ratio indicates that the creditors claim in the total assets of the company is lower than the owner's claim and vice versa.

Debt to Equity Ratio

The debt equity ratio measures the long term components of capital structure. Long term debt and shareholder's equity are used in financing assets of the companies. So, it reflects the relative claims of creditors and shareholders against the assets of the firm. Debt to equity ratio indicated the relative proportions of debt and equity. The relationship between outsiders claim and owners' capital can be shown by debt equity ratio. It is calculated as:

$$\text{Debt to Equity Ratio} \times \frac{\text{Long Term Debt}}{\text{Shareholder's Equity}} \times 100$$

This ratio is also known as debt to net worth ratio. A high debt equity ratio indicates that the claims of the creditors are greater than that of the shareholders or owners of the company.

Interest Coverage Ratio

This ratio indicates the ability of the company to meet its annual interest costs or it measures the debt servicing capacity of the firm. It is determined by using following formula:

$$\text{Interest Coverage Ratio} \times \frac{\text{Earning Before Interest and Tax}}{\text{Interest}}$$

Hence, higher interest coverage ratio indicates the company's strong capacity to meet interest obligations. A firm always prefers interest coverage ratio because low interest coverage ratio is a danger signal. Lower interest coverage ratio means the firm is using excessive debt and does not have an ability to offer assured payment of interest to the creditors.

Return on Total Assets

Return on total assets ratio measures the profitability of bank that explains a firm to earn satisfactory return on all financial resources invested in the banks' assets. The ratio explains net income for each unit of assets.

The return on total assets ratio is calculated using the formula below:

$$\text{Return On Total Assets} \times \frac{\text{Net Profit After Tax}}{\text{Total Assets}}$$

Higher ratio indicates efficiency in utilizing its overall resources and vice versa. From the point of view of judging operational efficiency, rate of return on total assets is more useful measure.

Return on Shareholders Equity

Shareholders are the owners of the company. To measure the return of shareholders, we use return on shareholders' equity. This ratio analyze whether the company has been able to provide higher return on investment to the owners or not. It is calculated as:

$$\text{Return On Shareholder's Equity} \times \frac{\text{Net Profit After Tax}}{\text{Shareholder's Equity}}$$

A company's owners always prefer higher ratio of return on shareholders' equity. And higher ratio represents the higher profitability of the firm and vice versa.

Earning Per Share (EPS) Analysis

The profitability of bank from the point of view of the ordinary shareholders is earning per share. The ratio explains net income for each unit of share. Earning per share of an organization gives the strength of the share in the market. It shows how much of the total earnings belong to the ordinary shareholders. EPS is calculated as:

$$EPS \times \frac{NetIncome}{NoOfSharesOutstanding}$$

Dividend Per Share (DPS) Analysis

Dividend per share is calculated to know the share of dividend that the shareholders receive in relation to the paid up value of the share. A large number of present and potential investors may be interested in the dividend per share, rather than the earning per share. Therefore, an institution offering a high dividend per share is regarded as efficient in fulfilling shareholders expectations, which will also enable to increase the value of an institution.

Dividend per share is the earning distribute to ordinary shareholders divided by the number of ordinary shares outstanding, i.e.,

$$DPS \times \frac{TotalDividend}{NoOfOrdinaryShares}$$

3.4.1.2 Leverage Analysis

The degree of financial leverage as part of leverage analysis also reflects the leverage of the firm as similar as above ratios. The degree of financial leverage analyzes the burden of interest expenses and financial risk of the company. The degree of financial leverage (DFL) is defined as the percentage change EPS due to a given percentage change in EBIT or this is a relationship between EBIT and EBT. In this study the following relationship will be used. It is expressed as:

$$DFL \times \frac{\%ChangeinEPS}{\%ChangeinEBIT} \text{ or}$$

$$DFL \times \frac{EBIT}{EBT}$$

The higher ratio of DFL indicates the higher financial risk as well as higher fixed charges of the company and vice versa.

3.4.2.1 Capital Structure Analysis

Various approaches have been developed under the relevancy of the capital structure, which helps to evaluate value of the firm, such as Net Income approach (NI), Net Operating Income approach (NOI), Traditional Method and MM approach. These all approaches are based on the market value. Practical usualness of other approaches is bit complex thus NI and NOI approaches are used in this study.

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{MarketValueofFirm}(V) = \text{MarketValueOfDebt}(B) + \text{MarketValueofEquity}(S) \\ & \text{CostofOverallCapitalizationRate}(K_o) = \frac{\text{NetOperatingIncome}(EBIT)}{\text{TotalMarketValueofThefirm}(V)} \\ & \text{CostofEquity}(K_e) = \frac{\text{EarningAvailableToCommonStockholders}(NI)}{\text{MarketValueofStock}(S)} \end{aligned}$$

3.5 Statistical Tools

To meet the objectives of the study statistical tools are equally important. It helps us to analyze the relationship between two or more variables. In this research, the following statistical tools are used.

The statistical tools that will be used for data analysis are:

-) Mean
-) Standard Deviation
-) Karl Pearson's Coefficient of Correlation
-) Probable Error

3.5.1 Mean

The arithmetic mean is the sum of total values to the number of values in the sample.

3.5.2. Standard Deviation (S.D.)

Standard deviation is an absolute measure of dispersion. The standard deviation is the square root of mean squared deviation from the arithmetic mean.

3.5.3. Corrélation Coefficient (r)

Correlation coefficient measures the relationship between two and more than two variable, when they are so related that the change in the value of one variable is accompanied by the change in the value of the other. Or it indicates the direction of relationship among variables. A method of measuring correlation is called Pearson's coefficient of correlation. It is denoted by 'r'. The correlation coefficient can be calculated by using following formula:

$$r = \frac{N \sum XY - \sum X \sum Y}{\sqrt{N \sum X^2 - (\sum X)^2} \sqrt{N \sum Y^2 - (\sum Y)^2}}$$

Where,

N= number of observations

X and Y are variables.

The decision criteria:

When,

r = 0, there is no relationship between the variables.

r = 1, the variables have perfectly positive correlated.

r = -1, the variables have perfectly negative correlated.

3.5.4. Probable Error (P.E.)

P.E. interprets the value of correlation co-efficient. It helps to determine applicability for the measurement of reliability of computed value of the correlation coefficient 'r'. It can be calculated as:

$$P.E. = 0.6745 \frac{r}{\sqrt{N}}$$

Where,

r = correlation coefficient

N = number of pairs of observations.

If the value of r is less than the probable error there is no evidence of correlation, i.e. the value of r is not significant.

If the value of r is more than 6 times of probable error the coefficient of correlation is practically certain, i.e. the value of r is significant.

CHAPTER -IV

DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

4.1 Introduction

This is the most important chapter of the study. In this chapter, collected data will be analyzed and presented mathematically. All the above-mentioned financial and statistical tools will be used to present the data.

The main objective of the study is to evaluate the capital structure of HBL and BOK. To analyze the financial performance in respect to capital structure, various presentation and analysis have been presented in this chapter according to analytical research design mentioned in the third chapter using various financial and statistical tools.

It is already stated that capital structure refers to the combination of preference share, equity share capital including reserve and surplus as well as long-term debt. Optimal capital structure refers to that combination of funds, which maximizes the EPS, value of the firm and overall cost of capital. Thus this chapter emphasizes the position of capital structure of BOK and HBL. The analyses in this chapter are divided into following section, which are directly and indirectly related to the capital structure.

-) Ratio Analysis
-) Analysis of Capital Structure
-) Leverage Analysis
-) Correlation Analysis

4.2 Ratio Analysis

4.2.1 Long Term Debt to Total Debt Ratio

The relationship between long term debt and total debt has a decisive impact on the financial structure of the companies. This relationship indicates what percentage of total debt is covered by long term debt of the firm. Normally firms use short term and long term debt. Current liabilities and provisions are also needed during the operation of the firm. Simply dividing long-term debt by the total debt can derive the relationship between the long term debt and

total debt of the firm. The total debt includes all types of borrowed fund, current liabilities and provisions. If the firm used large amount of short term loans and over current liabilities and provision in the larger amount, the percentage of long term debt will be low and vice versa. The higher ratio of long term debt to total debt indicates the higher claim of long term debt holders upon the total debt and the lower ratio indicates the higher portion of short term loans and current liabilities in the total debt of the firm. The amount of short term loans and current liabilities used depends upon the liquidity of that firm. This relationship of long term debt and total debt is presented in the following table along with the percentage change in that ratio to show the movement of trend individually. In addition the average (standard) ratios are also calculated to compare with each other. But the detailed calculation is shown in the appendix 2.

$$\text{LongTermDebtToTotalDebtRatio} \times \frac{\text{LongTermDebt}}{\text{TotalDebt}} \times 100$$

Table No. 4.1

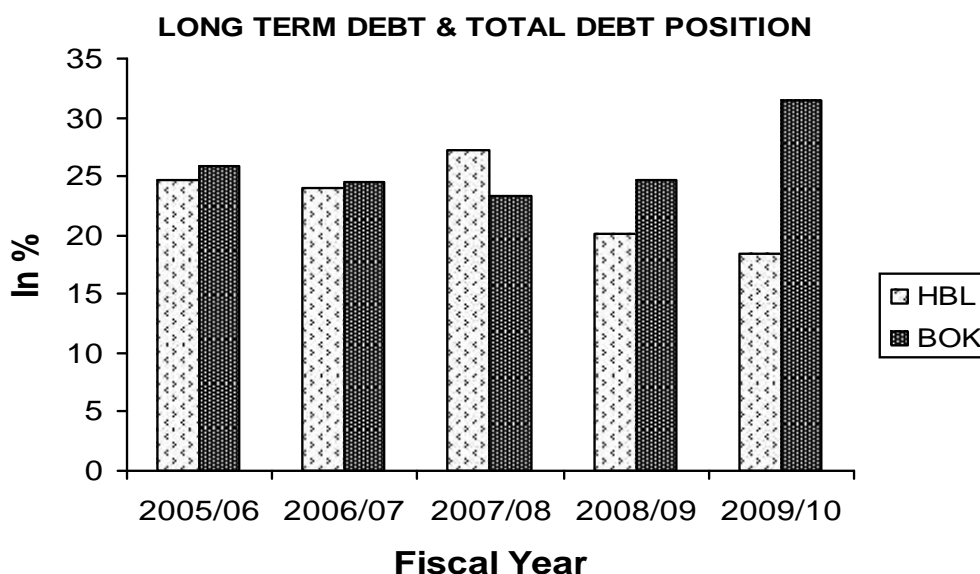
Long term Debt and Total Debt Position

Fiscal Years	Long Term Debt to Total Debt (%)	
	HBL	BOK
2005/06	24.61	25.84
2006/07	23.97	24.51
2007/08	27.29	23.38
2008/09	20.17	24.74
2009/10	18.38	31.42
Average	22.88	25.97

Source: Appendix 1

The above calculation shows that the ratio of long term debt to total debt of HBL constituted 24.61% in fiscal year 2005/06. This means of contribution of long term debt in total debt is 24.61% and remaining portion is contributed by the current liabilities. This ratio of HBL in FY 2006/07 is 23.97% which is decreased than previous year and then increased to 27.29% in FY 2007/08. The company has 20.17% in 2008/09 and 18.38% in 2009/10. The company has 22.88% of average long term debt to total debt ratio.

Chart 4.1



In the case of BOK, it shows in the fiscal year 2005/06, the ratio is 25.84%, which indicates there is 25.84% contribution of long term debt in total debt and remaining portion is contributed by current liabilities, in the year 2006/07, the ratio is 24.51% which is decreased to 23.38% in 2007/08. Then it again is increased to 24.74% in 2008/09 and in the year 2009/10 the ratio is 31.42%. The average ratio is 25.97%

4.2.2 Long Term Debt to Capital Employed Ratio

The optimal capital structure has important relationship with the long term debt to capital employed ratio. This relationship suggests the portion of long term debt and capital employed used in the capital structure of the firm. This ratio highlights the need of long term debt in the capital employed but the firm. Long term debt includes the debt, which matures in more than one accounting period whereas capital employed includes long term debt and shareholders equity of the firm. The relationship of long term debt and capital employed can be analyzed by establishing the ratio between them. This ratio is called the long term debt to capital employed ratio. Larger the ratio, larger the proportion of long term debt in the capital employed and vice versa. This ratio can be calculated by dividing the long term debt with capital employed by the firm. This ratio is also known as debt to permanent capital ratio, whereas permanent capital means total assets minus current liabilities. The long term debt to permanent capital ratio is presented in the following table:

$$\text{LongTermDebtToCapitalEmployedRatio} \times \frac{\text{LongTermDebt}}{\text{CapitalEmployed}}$$

Table No. 4.2

Comparative Long term Debt to Capital Employed Ratio

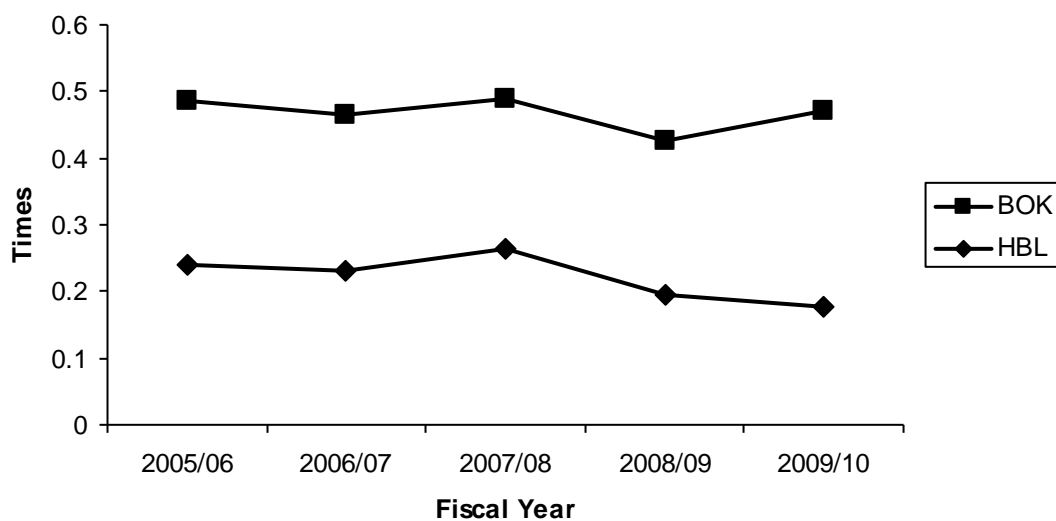
Fiscal Years	Long Term Debt to Capital Employed (times)	
	HBL	BOK
2005/06	0.239	0.247
2006/07	0.232	0.233
2007/08	0.265	0.225
2008/09	0.195	0.232
2009/10	0.177	0.295
Average	0.222	0.216

Source: Appendix 2

The above table shows that the long term debt to capital employed ratios of HBL in fiscal year 2005/06, 2006/07, 2007/08, 2008/09, and 2009/10 are 23.9%, 23.2%, 26.5%, 19.5% and 17.7% respectively and from in the year 2005/06 and 2009/10 the . The average ratio is 22.2%.

Chart 4.2

COMPERATIVE LONG TERM DEBT TO CAPITAL EMPLOYED RATIO



Similarly BOK has fluctuating trend of long term debt to capital employed ratio. In the FY 2005/6, the ratio is 24.7 %. That means the contribution of long term debt in total capital

employed is 24.7% and owner of the companies contributed remaining 75.3%. In the following year 2006/07, the ratio decreases to 23.3%. In the FY 2007/08 the ratio decreased to 22.5%. In the year 2008/09 & 2009/10 it is 23.2% & 29.4%. The average of five years data shows a ratio of 24.6%.

4.2.3 Debt to Total Assets Ratio

Debt to total assets ratio express the relationship between creditors fund and total assets. It is also the leverage ratio, which is generally called the debt ratio. This type of capital structure ratio is a variant of debt equity ratio. Calculating debt to total assets is one calculation approach of the debt to capital ratio. Debt includes all loans and total assets include all types of assets of the form, it measures the percentage of total funds provided by creditors.

This ratio can be calculated by simply dividing long term debt by the total assets of the firm.

$$DebtTotalAssetsRatio \times \frac{TotalDebt}{TotalAssets} | 100$$

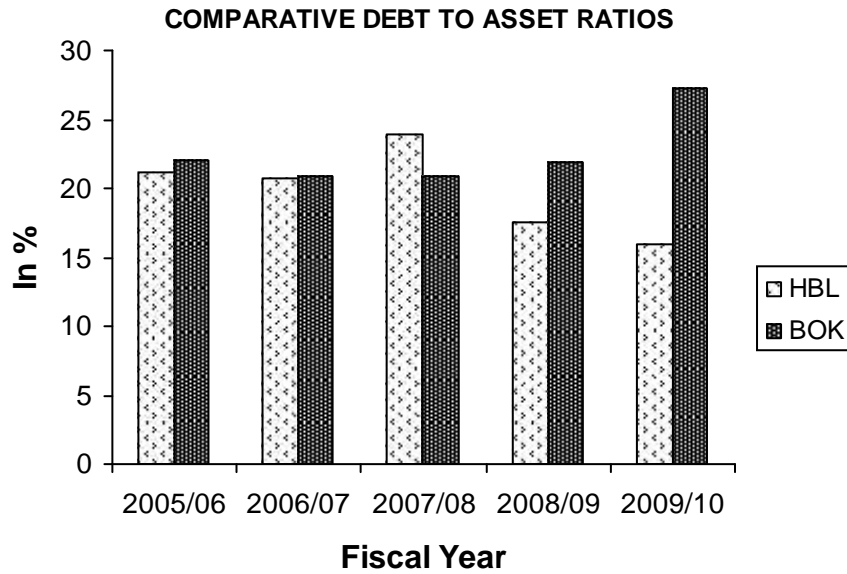
Table No. 4.3
Comparative Debt to Asset Ratios

Fiscal Years	Debt to Asset (%)	
	HBL	BOK
2005/06	21.15	22.06
2006/07	20.76	20.84
2007/08	23.89	20.89
2008/09	17.49	21.83
2009/10	15.92	27.28
Average	19.83	22.58

Source: Appendix 3

The above table shows that the debt to assets ratios of HBL in fiscal year 2005/06, 2006/07, 2007/08, 2008/09, and 2009/10 are 21.15%, 20.76%, 23.89%, 17.49% and 15.92% respectively and from in the year 2005/06 and 2009/10 the . The average ratio is 37.7%.

Chart 4.3



Similarly The above table shows that the long term debt to capital employed ratios of BOK in fiscal year 2005/06, 2006/07, 2007/08, 2008/09, and 2009/10 are 22.06%, 20.84%, 20.89%, 21.83% and 27.28% respectively and from in the year 2005/06 and 2009/10 the . The average ratio is 22.58%.

4.2.4 Debt Equity Ratio

Debt equity ratio is used to show the relationship between borrowed funds and owners' capital. It reflects the relative claims of creditors and shareholders against the assets of the firm. It is an important tool for the financial analysis to appraise the financial structure of a firm. The ratio reflects the relative contribution of owners and creditors capital of business in its financing. In other word, this ratio exhibits the relative proportions of capital contributed by owners and creditors. Debt equity ratio can be calculated in the basis of shareholders' equity and long tem debt. Shareholders' equity includes reserve and accumulated profit, preference share and equity share capital. Where long term debt includes total debt minus short term debt or current liabilities, here debt equity ratio is also computed by simply dividing long term debt of the firm by shareholders' equity. The high D/E ratio shows the large share of financing in the capital by the creditors than the owners or it also reflects that the creditors claim is higher against the assets of firm and vice versa. D/E ratios of concerned companies are shown in the following table that is referred from the appendix 1.

$$DebtEquityRatio \times \frac{LongTermDebt}{Shareholder'sEquity} | 100$$

Table No. 4.4
Comparative Debt - Equity Ratios

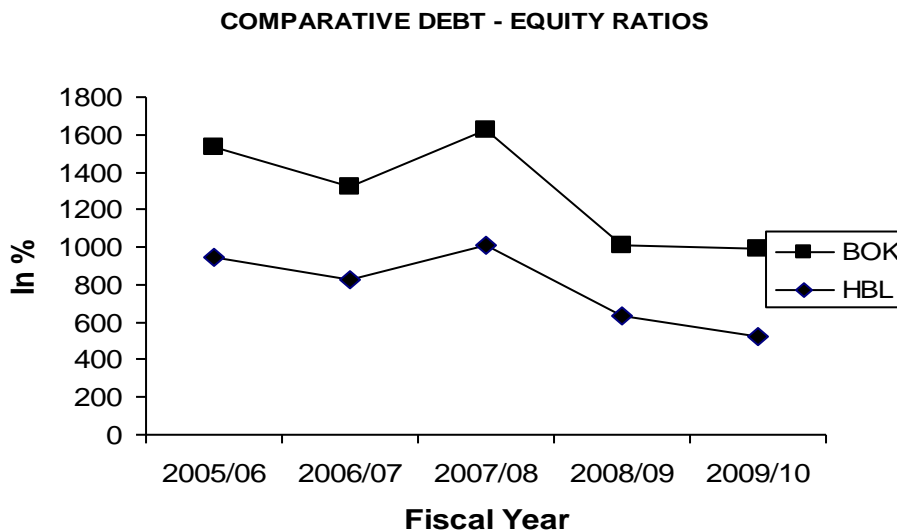
Fiscal Years	Debt to Equity (%)	
	HBL	BOK
2005/06	949.09	584.61
2006/07	822.35	503.58
2007/08	1011.48	614.01
2008/09	633.78	378.52
2009/10	524.34	469.58
Average	788.21	510.06

Source: Appendix 4

The debt equity ratio and average ratio has been calculated in the above table. Five years data have been presented here.

The table shows that D/E ratios of HBL are 949.09%,822.35%,1011.48%,633.78%, and 524.34% in fiscal years 2005/06,2006/07,2007/08,2008/09 and 2009/10 respectively. The average D/E ratio of HBL is 788.21%.

Chart 4.4



Calculated value of BOK shows that the D/E ratios of BOKL have fluctuating trend. In the fiscal year 2005/06, D/E ratio is 584.61% which decreases to 503.58% in the fiscal year 2006/07. Again it decreased to 614.01% in FY 2007/08. The ratio decreases to 378.52% and

469.58% in the following year 2008/09 and 2009/10 respectively. The average D/E ratio of BOK is 510.06%.

4.2.5 Interest Coverage Ratio

The interest coverage ratio is useful tool to measure long term debt serving capacity of the firm. It is also called interest earned ratio. Interest is fixed charges of the companies, which is charged in long term and short term loans. Generally, interest coverage ratio measured the debt serving capacity of a firm and it is concerned with long term loans. It shows how many times the interest charges are covered by EBIT out of which they will be paid. This ratio uses the concept of net profit before tax because interest is tax deductible or tax is calculated after paying interest on loan. This ratio examines the interest paying capacity of the firm by how many times the interest charges are covered by EBIT.

Interest coverage ratio is calculated dividing EBIT by interest. So, it is necessary to analyze EBIT and interest. This ratio is useful to measure long term debt serving capacity of the firm. The high ratio shows that the firm may imply unused debt capacity and the firm has greater capacity to handle fixed charges liabilities of creditors. Whereas, low ratio is a signal that the firm is using excessive debt and does not have the ability to offer assured payment of interest to the creditors. The calculated interest coverage ratios of two companies are presented in the following table.

$$\text{InterestCoverageRatio} = \frac{\text{EBIT}}{\text{Interest}}$$

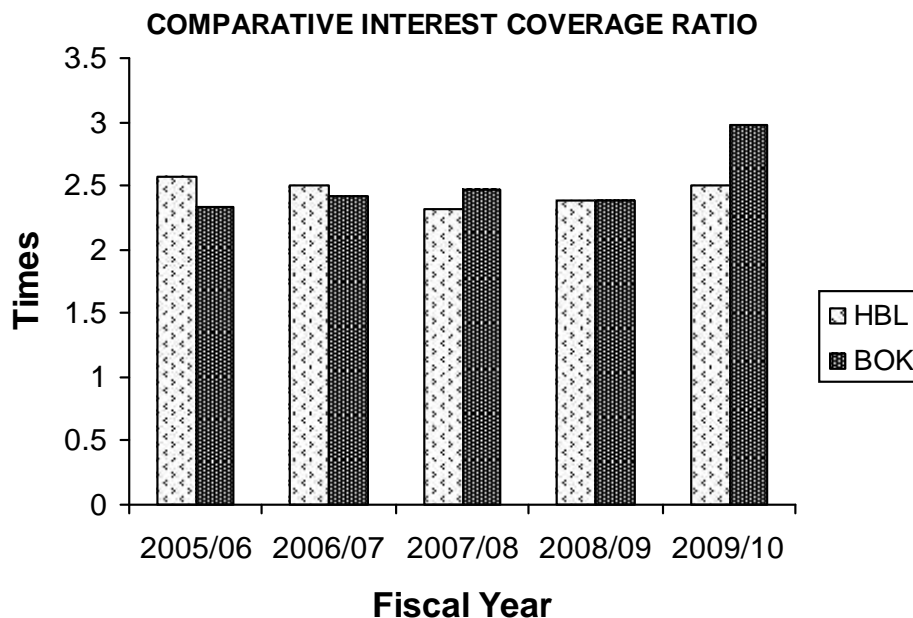
Table No. 4.5
Comparative Interest Coverage Ratio

Fiscal Years	Interest Coverage Ratio (times)	
	HBL	BOK
2002/03	2.57	2.33
2003/04	2.50	2.41
2004/05	2.31	2.47
2005/06	2.38	2.39
2006/07	2.50	2.97
Average	2.45	2.33

Source: Appendix 5

In the above table, the average ratio of HBL is 2.57, which implies the number of times the interest covered by its EBIT. The interest coverage ratio of HBL shows a fluctuating trend. The interest coverage of HBL in FY 2005/06, 2006/07, 2007/08, 2008/09 and 2009/10 is 2.57, 2.50, 2.31, 2.38, and 2.50 respectively.

Chart 4.5



In case of BOK, the interest coverage ratio is 2.33, 2.41, 2.47, 2.39, and 2.97 in the FY 2002/03, 2003/04, 2004/05, 2005/06 and 2006/07 respectively and average ratio of BOKL is 2.33.

4.2.6 Return on Total Assets

Return on total assets ratio measures the profitability of bank that explains a firm to earn satisfactory return on all financial resources invested in the banks assets. The ratio explains net income for each unit of assets.

Higher ratio indicates efficiency in utilizing its overall resources and vice versa. From the point of view of judging operational efficiency, rate of return on total assets is more useful measure.

The return on total assets ratio is calculated using the formula below:

$$\text{Return on Total Assets} = \frac{\text{Net Profit After Tax}}{\text{Total Assets}}$$

Table No. 4.6

Position of comparative Return on Total Assets

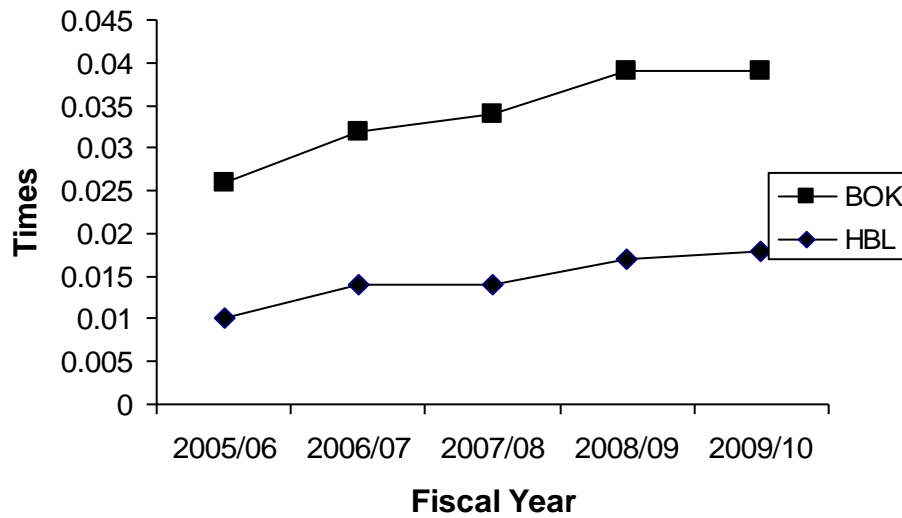
Fiscal Years	Return on Total Assets (times)	
	HBL	BOK
2005/06	0.01	0.016
2006/07	0.014	0.018
2007/08	0.014	0.020
2008/09	0.017	0.022
2009/10	0.018	0.021
Average	0.015	0.019

Source: Appendix 6

The above table shows the comparative position of return on total assets of the two commercial banks. From the table, the ROA of HBL in the years 2005/06, 2006/07, 2007/08, 2008/09 and 2009/10 are 0.01, 0.014, 0.014, 0.017 and 0.018 respectively. The average ratio is 0.015.

Chart 4.6

POSITION OF COMPARATIVE RETURN ON TOTAL ASSETS



Similarly, the ROA of BOK in the years 2005/06, 2006/07, 2007/08, 2008/09 and 2009/10 is 0.016, 0.018, 0.020, 0.022 and 0.021. Respectively and the average return is 0.019.

4.2.7 Return on Shareholders' Equity

Shareholders' fund represents that part of long term source of funds, which is collected by issuing equity shares and preference shares. Shareholders are actually the owners of the company. Shareholders have ultimate claim in the return of the company. To measure the return earned by shareholders, return on shareholders equity is used or this ratio is calculated to find out the profitability on the owners' capital or investment.

If the company's earning is good, shareholders' earning is greater than outside investors because they are ultimate owners and they are bearing high risk as well. But outside investors return before the owners that is fixed. Shareholders get the return after paying the fixed interest charge to the creditors and tax to the government. Earning after tax (EAT) is the profit of the shareholders. Therefore this ratio is calculated on the basis of EAT. In this study, the sampled companies have not employed the preference share thus it includes only return on shareholders' equity.

The high ROSHE represents the high profitability of the firm and vice versa. So, high ROSHE is desirable from the point of view of the owners of the firm. This ratio can be calculated simply by dividing earning after tax by shareholders' equity, which is presented in the following table.

$$\text{Return on Shareholder's Equity} \times \frac{\text{Net Profit After Tax}}{\text{Shareholders' Equity}}$$

Table No. 4.7

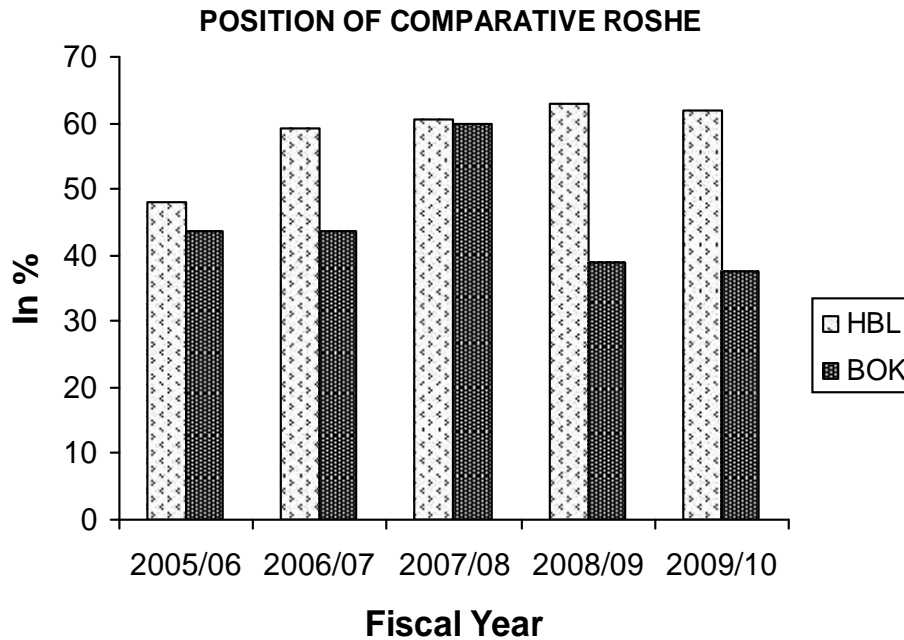
Position of comparative ROSHE

Fiscal Years	Return on Shareholder's Equity(%)	
	HBL	BOK
2005/06	47.89	43.66
2006/07	59.23	43.49
2007/08	60.65	59.92
2008/09	62.73	39.05
2009/10	61.89	37.45
Average	58.48	44.71

Source: Appendix 7

Above table exhibits ROSHE of sampled companies. In case of HBL, in the fiscal year 2005/06, the ratio is 47.89% that implies that one rupee investment by shareholders' equity earned 47.89 paisa in one year. In the fiscal year 2005/06, 2006/07, 2007/08, 2008/09 and 2009/10 it is increased to 47.89%, 59.23%, 60.65%, 62.73%, and 61.89%. The average ratio is 58.48%.

Chart 4.7



Similarly in the case of BOK, in the fiscal year 2005/06, 2006/07, 2007/08, 2008/09 and 2009/10 are 43.66%, 43.49%, 59.92%, 39.05% and 37.45% respectively. Average ratio is 44.71%.

4.2.8 Earning per share

The profitability of bank from the point of view of the ordinary shareholders' is earning per share. The ratio explains net income for each unit of share. Earning per share of an organization gives the strength of the share in the market. It shows how much theoretically belongs to the ordinary shareholders. The EPS is calculated as below:

$$\text{EarningPerShare} \times \frac{\text{NetIncome}}{\text{No.OfSharesOutstanding}}$$

Table No. 4.8

Position of comparative EPS

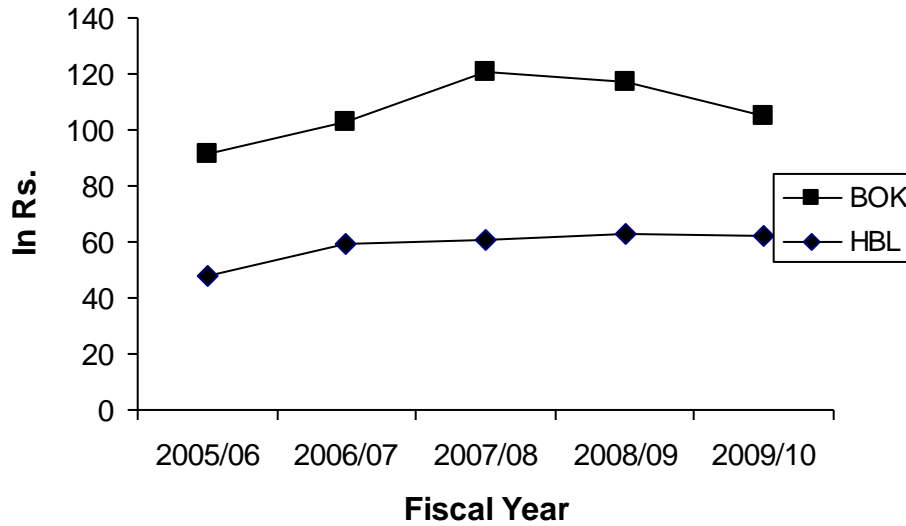
Fiscal Years	Earning Per Share (Rs)	
	HBL	BOK
2005/06	47.91	43.67
2006/07	59.24	43.50
2007/08	60.66	59.94
2008/09	62.74	54.68
2009/10	61.90	43.08
Average	58.59	48.97

Source: Appendix 8

The earnings per share of HBL are 47.91, 59.24, 60.66, 62.74 and 61.90 in the years 2005/06, 2006/07, 2007/08, 2008/09 and 2009/10 respectively. The average EPS is 58.59. The overall trend is increasing. The highest EPS is 62.74 in the year 2008/09

Chart 4.8

POSITION OF COMPARATIVE EPS



Similarly, the earnings per share of BOK in the years 2005/06, 2006/07, 2007/08, 2008/09 and 2009/10 are 43.67, 43.50, 59.94, 54.68 and 43.08 respectively. And the average EPS is 48.97. Here, the overall trend is fluctuating.

4.3 Capital Structure

4.3.1 Net Income (NI) Approach

Net income (NI) approach is known as dependent hypothesis of capital structure. The essence of this approach is that the firm can reduce its cost of capital by using debt and total valuation of the firm through the reduction in the cost of capital leading to an increase in the cost of capital thus leading to an increase in the degree of leverage. This theory assumes that the cost of debt and cost of equity remain constant as change in the firm's capital structure. In other words, the firm can increase its value or lower the overall cost of capital by increasing the proportion of debt in the capital structure. It gives attention on overall capitalization rate. According to this theory, optimum capital structure is that, where the total value of the company is highest and the overall capitalization rate is lowest. The overall capitalization rate can be calculated simply by dividing EBIT by the value of the company. Calculated rates are presented below that is referred from appendix 10.

Table No. 4.9
Comparative Position of Overall Capitalization Rate

Fiscal Years	HBL		BOK	
	Cost of Capital (Ko)	Value of Firm (in million Rs)	Cost of Capital (Ko)	Value of Firm (in million Rs)
2005/06	23.84	606.62	15.98	4493.61
2006/07	18.82	863.88	9.07	9023.19
2007/08	12.37	1434.40	7.24	14273.82
2008/09	9.74	2015.07	8.68	15510.26
2009/10	10.94	2140.53	18.28	10230.11
Average	15.14	1412.10	11.85	10706.20

Source: Appendix 9

Above computed overall capitalization rate of HBL shows that the costs are 23.84%, 18.82%, 12.37%, 9.74 and 10.94% in the fiscal years 2005/06, 2006/07, 2007/08, 2008/09 and 2009/10 when the values of the firm are Rs. 606.62, 863.88, 1434.40, 2015.07 and 2140.53 million respectively. The average cost is 15.14% at an average value of Rs. 1412.10 million.

Similarly, in the case of BOK, the costs are the costs are 15.98%, 9.07%, 7.24%, 8.68% and 18.28% in the fiscal years 2005/06, 2006/07, 2007/08, 2008/09 and 2009/10 respectively. And the values of the firm are Rs. 4493.61, 9023.19, 14273.82, 15510.26 and 10230.11 million respectively. The average cost is 11.85% at an average value of Rs. 10706.20 million.

4.3.2 Net Operating Income (NOI) Approach

It is an independent hypothesis of capital structure decision of the firm and which is irrelevant to the value of firm an overall cost of capital. Change in leverage will not lead to any change in the total value of the firm and market price of share, as the overall cost of capital is independent of the degree of leverage. The increase in leverage leads to an increase in financial risk of the ordinary shareholders. To minimize the financial risk, the shareholders want a higher return on their investment. Increases in K_o are exactly offset by using cheaper debt fund keeping K_o constant. So equity capitalization rate K_e is calculated here by simply

dividing EBT by the market value of common equity, which is presented in the following table. Detail calculation of Ke is presented in the appendix.

Table No. 4.10

Comparative Position of Effect of Debt on Equity Capitalization Rate

Fiscal Years	HBL		BOK	
	Cost of Equity (Ke)	Long Term Debt (in million Rs)	Cost of Equity (Ke)	Long Term Debt (in million Rs)
2005/06	5.20	6107.00	5.13	2709.00
2006/07	5.38	6350.00	3.16	3037.00
2007/08	3.48	8201.00	2.59	3703.00
2008/09	3.16	6423.00	2.99	4474.00
2009/10	3.51	6377.00	5.12	6383.00
Average	4.15	6691.00	3.79	4061.00

Source: Appendix 10

The equity capitalization rates of HBL in the fiscal years 2005/06, 2006/07, 2007/08, 2008/09 and 2009/10 are 5.20%, 5.38%, 3.48%, 3.16% and 3.51% respectively. And their respective long term debts are Rs. 6107.00, 6350.00, 8201.00, 6423.00, 6377.00 million respectively. The average cost is 4.15% at an average long term debt of Rs. 6691.00 million.

The equity capitalization rates of BOK are 5.13%, 3.16%, 2.59%, 2.99% and 5.12% in the fiscal years 2005/06, 2006/07, 2007/08, 2008/09 and 2009/10 respectively. And the long term debts are Rs. 2709.00, 3037.00, 3703.00, 4474.00 and 6383.00 million respectively. The average cost is 3.79% at an average long term debt of Rs. 4061.00 million.

4.4 Leverage Analysis

Leverage and capital structure are closely related concepts linked to cost of capital and therefore capital budgeting decision. Leverage results from the use of fixed cost assets or tends to magnify return to the firm's owners. Changes in leverage result in changes in level of return and associated risk. Generally, increase in leverage result in increase in return and risk, where as decrease in leverage result in decreased return and risk. The amounts of leverage in the firm's capital structure the mix of long term debt and equity maintained b the firm can

significantly affect its value by affecting return and risk. Because of its effect on value, the financial manager must understand how to measure and evaluate leverage when attempting to create the best capital structure.

Generally, leverage refers to the use of special force of power to have more than normal results from a particular action. Similarly in financial term it is used to describe about utilization of funds for which the firm has to pay fixed cost and to have more return than normal having more risk as well. Leverage may be used to boost owners' returns, but it is used at the risk of increasing losses, if the firm's economic fortune declines. Thus gain and losses are magnified by leverage, and the higher the leverage employed by a firm, the greater will be the volatility of its returns. There are three types of leverages: operating leverage, financial leverage and combined leverage. Operating leverage is the function of fixed cost, contribution margin and sales volume. Financial leverage is the relationship between EBIT and EBT and combined leverage is the combined effect of operating leverage and financial leverage. The operating leverage indicates the impact of changes sales on operating income and financial leverage exist when the capital structure of the firm composed debt capital. Financial leverage is related to the capital structure of the firm. So, financial leverage is the relevant issue of this study, which is explained in this section.

4.4.1 Analysis of Financial Leverage

When the company employs debt or other fund carrying fixed charges i.e. interest in the capital structure, financial leverage exists. If the financial charge is high the company can have advantage of tax shield but it will affect to owners' return i.e. net profit as well. Financial leverage explains the relationship between earning before interest and taxes and net profit of the company.

Two methods: either dividing percentage change into EPS by percentage change into EBIT or dividing percentage change into EBT by EBIT can calculate degree of financial leverage. In this analysis of financial leverage second method is chosen. High the financial leverage, high will be the financial risk and also high will be the shareholders' return. The degree of financial leverage of sampled companies is presented in the following table.

$$DFL \times \frac{\% \text{Change In EPS}}{\% \text{Change In EBIT}} \times \frac{EBIT}{EBT}$$

Table No. 4.11

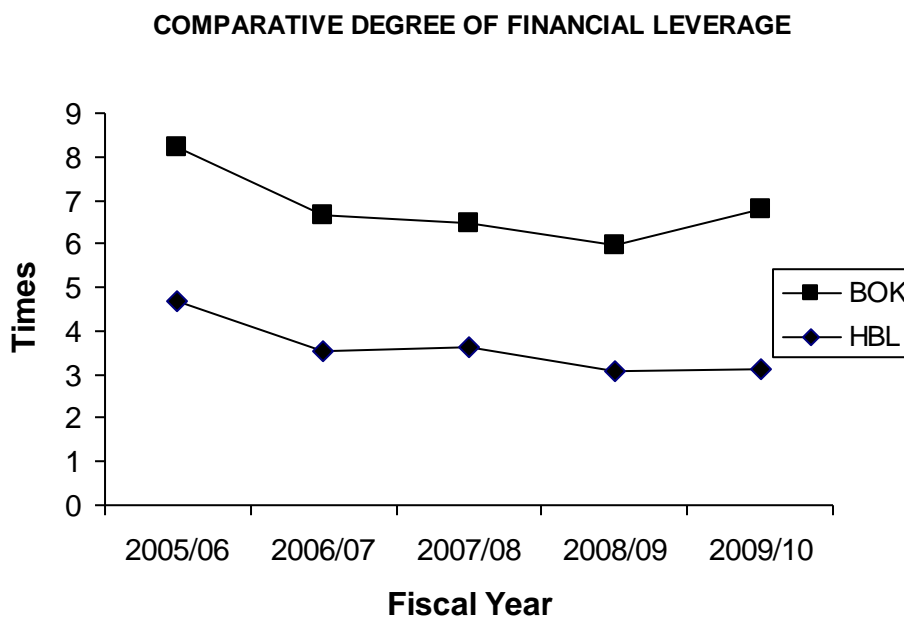
Comparative Degree of Financial Leverage

Fiscal Years	Degree of Financial Leverage (times)	
	HBL	BOK
2005/06	4.69	3.54
2006/07	3.55	3.12
2007/08	3.61	2.86
2008/09	3.08	2.91
2009/10	3.11	3.67
Average	3.61	3.22

Source: Appendix 11

Above calculated DFL of HBL indicates fluctuation trend. In the fiscal year 2005/06 the DFL is 4.69 times. In the second year i.e. 2006/07 the DFL is 3.55 times. In the fiscal years 2007/08, 2008/09 and 2009/10 the DFL is 3.61, 3.08 and 3.11 times respectively.

Chart 4.9



The trend of BOK is decreasing trend. The DFL of BOKL in the fiscal year 2005/06, 2006/07, 2007/08, 2008/09 and 2009/10 is 3.54, 3.12, 2.86, 2.91 and 3.61 respectively. The average DFL of BOKL is 3.22 times.

4.5 Correlation Analysis

Correlation analysis enables us to have an idea about the degree and direction of the relationship between the two or more variables. The correlation is a statistical tool which studies the relationship between two or more variables and correlation analysis involves various methods and techniques used for studying and measuring the extent of the relationship between the two or more variables. It is denoted by 'r'. However, it fails to reflect upon the cause and effect relationship between the variables. Although there are three types of correlation i.e. simple, partial and multiple but here we focus on simple correlation based on 'Pearson's coefficient of correlation'. In the following section correlation between different variables are calculated and presented of the sampled companies.

-) Total debt and shareholders equity
-) Long term debt and earning per share
-) EBIT and interest
-) EBIT and DPS

4.5.1 Total Debt and Shareholders Equity

The relationship between total debt (TD) and shareholders equity (SHE) have been shown in the following table below. The total debt includes all types of long term borrowed funds, current liabilities and provisions. Where as shareholders' equity includes share capital reserve and surplus. This correlation indicates whether there is positive or negative correlation between TD and SHE and their respective probable error is also presented. P.E. interprets the value of correlation co-efficient. It helps to determine applicability for the measurement of reliability of the computed value of the correlation coefficient (r). Detail calculations are presented in the appendix 13.

Table No. 4.12

Comparative Coefficient between TD and SHE with Probable Error

HBL		BOK	
Correlation Coefficient (r)	Probable Error 6(P.E.)	Correlation Coefficient (r)	Probable Error 6(P.E.)
0.7059	0.98	0.0000086	1.8098

Source: Appendix 12

Karl Pearson's correlation coefficient between total debt and shareholders equity of HBL is 0.7059. There is positive correlation between TD and SHE. The probable error 6(PE) of HBL is 0.98. PE is grater than correlation coefficient (r).

Similarly, the correlation coefficient of BOK is 0.0000086, which is positive. The probable error is 1.8098, which is grater than r.

4.5.2 Long term Debt and Earning Per Share

Long term debt is the source of long term financing or long term finds. Company should pay interest for this debt capital. Where as earning per share (EPS) is earning of a share of a firm form one year business. EPS has positive relationship with company's earning. In this section the relationship between these two variables has been shown using Karl Pearson's correlation coefficient method. It tries to analyze that the increment in LTD leads to increment in the EPS or not. The calculated correlation coefficient and their respective probable error have been shown in the following table referred form appendix.

Table No. 4.13

Correlation Coefficient between Long Term Debt (LTD) and Earning Per Share (EPS) and their respective Probable Error

HBL		BOK	
Correlation Coefficient (r)	Probable Error (P.E.)	Correlation Coefficient (r)	Probable Error (P.E.)
0.7875	6.8746	0.000154	1.809

Source: Appendix 13

In the basis of above table, correlation coefficient between long term debt and earning per share of HBL is 0.7875, which implies that there is positive correlation between LTD and EPS. The Probable error (PE) of HBL is 6.8746PE is greater than correlation coefficient (r).

In the case of BOK, the correlation coefficient is 0.000154, which implies that there is positive correlation between LTD and EPS. The Probable error (PE) of BOKL is 1809. PE is greater than correlation coefficient (r).

4.5.3 EBIT and Interest

Long term debt holders get the interest as return and EBIT is operating profit of the company. Here correlation coefficient of interest and EBIT has presented of concerned companies to analyze whether there is positive or negative correlation between interests and operating profit, those are calculated on the basis of Karl Pearson's correlation coefficient. Following table shows the relationship between these variables of sampled companies. And to check the significance of these calculated correlations. PE is also presented, which is referred from appendix:

Table No. 4.14

Correlation Coefficient between EBIT and Interest, and their respective Probable Error

HBL		BOK	
Correlation Coefficient (r)	Probable Error (P.E.)	Correlation Coefficient (r)	Probable Error (P.E.)
0.94	0.21	0.807	0.63

Source: Appendix 14

In the above table, correlation coefficient of HBL is found to be 0.94 i.e. there is positive correlation between Interest and EBIT. PE of respected correlation is 0.21, which is less than correlation coefficient (r).

Similarly, in the case of BOK, the correlation coefficient between Interest and operating profit is 0.807. It is positive. The Probable error of respected correlation is 0.63, which is greater than correlation coefficient (r).

4.5.4 EBIT and DPS

Shareholders get the dividend as return and EBIT is operating profit of the company. Here, correlation coefficient of EBIT and DPS has been presented of concerned companies to analyze whether there is positive or negative correlation between dividends and operating profit. Following table shows the relationship between these variables of sampled companies. And to check the significance of these calculated correlations. PE is also presented, which is referred from appendix:

Table No. 4.15

Correlation Coefficient between EBIT and DPS and their respective Probable Error

HBL		BOK	
Correlation Coefficient (r)	Probable Error 6(P.E.)	Correlation Coefficient (r)	Probable Error 6(P.E.)
0.91	0.31	0.77	0.74

Source: Appendix 15

In the above table, correlation coefficient of HBL is found to be 0.91, i.e. there is positive correlation between EBIT and DPS. 6PE of respected correlation is 0.31, which is less than correlation coefficient (r).

Similarly, in case of BOK, the correlation coefficient between operating profit and dividend is 0.77. It is positive. The 6PE of respected correlation is 0.74, which is less than correlation coefficient (r).

4.6 Major findings of the Study

-) The percentage of total debt of the firm covered by long term debt is indicated by long term debt to total debt ratio. HBL has 22.88% of average long term debt to total debt ratio. Similarly BOK has average ratio of 25.97%. In two cases, the total debt is contributed by current liabilities to a large extent. The analysis of two companies reveals the fluctuating trend of long term debt to total debt ratio. Among the two, BOK has used maximum long term debt in comparison to HBL.
-) The analysis shows that among the two banks, HBL has least and BOK has the highest long term debt to capital employed ratio of 0.222 and 0.2466 respectively. This

indicates that BOK is using more long term debt financing as its capital. It can be said that long term debt to capital employed ratio of both companies are inappropriate.

- J The long term debt for financing used by both sample companies is very minimum or negligible. Hence, the debt to total assets ratio of HBL and BOKL is negligible.
- J The debt equity ratio shows the claim of creditors on the total asset of the company. The trend analysis shows fluctuating trend in two sample banks. The average debt equity ratio of HBL is 7.8821, which shows that the creditors have 788.21% claims on the assets of HBL. It also indicates that the company has used large amount of debt as financing and has larger amount to be paid as interest on debt. BOK has the lowest debt equity ratio among the two with the average ratio of 5.1006. It implies that the claim of creditors is 510.06% which is higher than that of owners of the company. The ratio shows that HBL has used almost equal amount of debt and equity for financing where as in case of BOK the contribution of debt is low in comparison to the equity.
- J The analysis shows that both the sample companies HBL and BOK are able to pay the interest amount. Among the two, BOK has the lowest interest coverage ratio of 2.33, which shows that the firm is able to pay the interest amount. In case of HBL, the average interest coverage ratio is 2.45.
- J In comparison, HBL and BOK have the average return on asset of 0.015 and 0.019 respectively. The overall return on asset of HBL is fluctuating in trend and of BOK is increasing trend.
- J The returns on shareholder's equity of both banks are fluctuating over the period of five years. The average return of HBL is Rs. 58.48% which indicates that the shareholders earned Rs. 58.48 paisa investing rupee one. By analyzing the average return, we can conclude that return earned by the shareholders equity of HBL is highest among two companies i.e. 58.48%
- J The earning per share explains net income for each unit of share. It shows the market position of the market. The average earning per share of HBL is Rs. 58.54. The

average earning per share of BOK is Rs.48.97. Among the two, HBL has the highest earning per share.

- J Under the NI approach, the interest rate and the cost of equity are dependent of the capital structure. With the increased use of leverage, overall cost of capital declines and the total value of firm rise. From the calculations, HBL has the optimum capital structure because it has the least cost of capital and the highest value of the firm.
- J Net operating income (NOI) approach is an independent hypothesis of capital structure. Any changes in leverage will not lead to any change in the total value of the firm and market price of share. From the position of average cost of equity, it is found that HBL has an average cost of equity of 4.15% with an average long-term debt of Rs. 6691.0 million, which in comparison to BOK is lower, where BOK has average cost of equity of 3.79% at long term debts of Rs. 4061.0 million. So we can say that BOK has the optimum capital structure compared to HBL.
- J The financial leverage analysis helps to evaluate the financial risk of the firm. The average degree of financial leverage of HBL and BOK are 3.61 and 3.22 respectively, which concludes that HBL is bearing the highest risk and BOK is bearing the least financial risk among the two.
- J HBL has positive correlation between TD and SHE of 0.7059 that is they deviate in the same direction. Likewise, the probable error is 0.98, higher than correlation coefficient, i.e. relationship between TD and SHE is insignificant. In case of BOK the correlation coefficient is 0.000086 The t (PE) of BOKL is 1.0809 which shows that the value of t is insignificant.
- J Correlation coefficient and PE ratio between long term debt and earning per share of HBL and BOKL shows that there is positive correlation and insignificant relationship in HBL and insignificant in BOK as PE is greater than correlation coefficient of HBL and BOKL.
- J The correlation coefficient between EBIT and interest of both banks are positive. In case of both banks the value are significant that PE are less than correlation coefficient.

) The correlation coefficient between EBIT and DPS of HBL is 0.91 and 6PE is 0.31 indicating positive and insignificant correlation. In case of BOK the correlation is positive and less than probable error indicating insignificant correlation.

CHAPTER- V

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This is the concluding chapter of the study. This chapter is divided into three sections: Summary, Conclusions and Recommendations. In this chapter, we summarize the study in brief. In the last section of this chapter some recommendations have given, which are useful to stakeholders and to concerned companies as well. They can use these recommendations to take some corrective actions to draw decisions.

Summary

In this study, to analyze about capital structure, two commercial banks have been chosen. These banks are Himalayan Bank and Bank of Kathmandu Ltd. Both banks are listed in NEPSE. To make the study more reliable, the whole study has been divided into five chapters. The summaries of each chapter are presented following.

First chapter: First chapter starts with historical background of the study. In this chapter an introduction to banking industry in Nepal, introduction of the banks selected for the study, description of the capital structure is presented briefly. This study endeavors to evaluate capital structure of commercial banks with reference to Himalayan Bank Ltd and Bank of Kathmandu Ltd. The main questions presented as the 'focus of the study' are what are the condition of capital structure of the commercial banks of Nepal? Whether they are using an appropriate financial mix or not? If not, what may be the suggested to improve or to make appropriate capital structure? Does capital structure help to maximize the value of the firm in the context of Nepalese firms? The statement of the problems deals with the effect of the capital structure on the growth of the firm, the extent to which the capital structure policy is followed by the commercial banks, and the main problems faced by the commercial banks in developing and implementing the capital structure.

The main objectives of the study presented are to find out comparative position of Bank of Kathmandu and Himalayan bank Ltd, to find out the profitability position of two commercial banks, to analyze the relationship of capital structure with variables such as earning per share, dividend per share, and to analyze the overall cost of capital of two commercial banks. Finally, "significance of the study" and "limitations of the study" are also presented in the first chapter.

Second chapter: In this chapter various books, research studies and articles concerned with the capital structure have been reviewed and presented as the review of literature to make the

concept of capital structure more clear. Capital structure theories such as NI approach, NOI approach, MM model and other theoretical approaches to establish appropriate capital structure are described in this chapter. Review of different management journals, articles as well as related Nepalese studies have been presented as well.

Third chapter: In this chapter the steps to adopt realistic study needed for the researchers have been presented. The methodology, researcher can use to get appropriate guidelines and knowledge about the various sequential steps to adopt a systematic analysis has been explained in this chapter. Most of data used in this study are secondary in nature that is annual reports provided by concerned companies. Five years data are taken as sample years and are analyzed by using financial and statistical tools such as ratio analysis, leverage analysis, capital structure analysis, correlation analysis, probable error etc. Methods, which the study is going to use, are exhibited in this chapter.

Fourth chapter: The data mentioned in the third chapter are presented and analyzed in this chapter using methods mentioned in the chapter third above such as ratios, leverage analysis, correlations, and probable errors and capital structure analysis. Detail calculations presented in this chapter are shown in appendix, which is presented after fifth chapter.

Fifth chapter: In this chapter, summary of the study are presented in brief to understand the whole to get about of the study instantly after which conclusion of the study with recommendation are presented.

Conclusion

In this study, comparison among concerned banks has been done taking data of these banks. To evaluate the capital structure, different types of tools and technique are used. The following conclusion can be drawn.

-) The analysis of two companies reveals the fluctuating trend of long term debt to total debt ratio. Among the two, BOK has used maximum long term debt in comparison to HBL.
-) The analysis shows that among the two banks, HBL has least and BOK has the highest long term debt to capital employed ratio. This indicates that BOK is using more long term debt financing as its capital. It can be said that long term debt to capital employed ratio of both companies are inappropriate.

- J Debt to total assets ratio express the relationship between creditors fund and total assets. The debt ratio or debt to total assets ratio of BOK and HBL is negligible which concludes that the debt used as the capital are negligible.
- J Debt equity ratio of HBL is very larger among the two banks. It also indicates that the company has larger amount to be paid as interest on debt. In case of BOK, the claim of creditors is higher than that of owners of the company.
- J Interest coverage ratio shows how many times the interest charges are covered by EBIT out of which they will be paid. The conclusion drawn by the study is the average interest coverage ratio of that both banks are able to cover the interest but as the higher interest coverage ratio is better. HBL seems to have higher ratio than BOK.
- J In regards of the comparative position of return on total assets of the two commercial banks BOK seems to have the highest return in comparison of HBL.
- J The return on shareholder's return of HBL shows the average ratio of 58.48% and it has fluctuating trend. The data indicates that HBL has instable return. Similarly BOK has also fluctuating trend and the ratio. By analyzing the average ROSHE, we can conclude that return earned by the shareholders equity of BOK is least and the return of HBL is highest. So we can conclude that both companies should apply suitable action to increase ROSHE.
- J Earning per share of an organization shows the strength of the share in the market. HBL has highest earning per share. The earning per share explains net income of unit of share. It shows the market position of market.
- J Net income approach is the dependent hypotheses of capital structure, which states with the increased use of leverage, overall cost of capital declines and the total value of the firm rise. According to this hypothesis the firm with the highest value and the least cost of capitalization rate is considered to have the best capital structure. From the calculation it can be concluded that BOK has the better capital structure in comparison with HBL.
- J Net operating income is the independent hypothesis of the capital structure decision of the firm. According to this hypothesis, any change in the leverage will not lead to any change in the total value of the firm and market price of the share, as the overall cost of capital is independent of the degree of leverage. From the position of average K_e we can conclude that BOK has lesser than HBL.

- J) When the company employs debt or other fund carrying fixed charges in the capital structure, financial leverage exists. From the calculations, we can conclude that BOK is using high long term debt and so is bearing the highest risk among the two. But it can also be concluded it is taking corrective actions to decrease its risk since the trend is decreasing. HBL has moderate financial risk.

- J) Considering the correlation coefficient and probability error calculated the correlation coefficients are positive and PE are greater than the correlation coefficient which concluded that the total debt and shareholder's equity deviate in the different direction and relationship between total debt and correlation coefficient are insignificant. Likewise in the case of EBIT and interest the correlation coefficient are positive and significant in relationship.

- J) In the case of long term debt and earning per share, the correlation coefficients of both are positive which concluded that the positive correlation exists between the two variables. Since PE in all cases is greater than correlation, the relationship between LTD and EPS is insignificant.

- J) In the case of EBIT and DPS, HBL shows positive correlation and PE is less than correlation coefficient which shows significant relationship in both banks.

Recommendations

In this section of study, few points that can be helpful to stakeholders as well as to the company are recommended based upon above calculations and drawn conclusions. These recommendations are guidelines, which would be helpful in taking prompt and appropriate decision about capital structure. These recommendations are given below:

First of all, the companies lack the theoretical knowledge regarding the capital structure. They have not given significant attention to the capital structure matter. Capital structure is a serious matter. It affects EPS, Value of the firm, cost of capital etc. So it is recommended that these companies should follow the theoretical aspects of the capital structure management or give bit more attention in this matter and try to manage their activated accordingly.

Profitability is the most important tools for measurement performance of company. BOK and HBL have fluctuating trend in profitability position during the study period. Trust of equity holders and others stakeholder play vital role for organization survival in long run as they believe on profit. In order to make better profitability position, BOK and HBL both have to manage their resource efficiently.

The relationship between LTD with share holder equity and Earning per share is not significant relationship and the relation between EBIT with interest and DPS is significant relationship so we are considered only EBIT with interest and DPS.

The capital structure decision is not found to be considered perfectly by the companies. It affects the value of the firm and overall cost of capital. So every investment and financing decision of the company should be taken by consider the capital structure of firm.

Observing the return on shareholders' equity, earning per share, dividend per share, return on assets, HBL seems to have better capital structure but with greater financial risk than the BOK. The companies along with the return should also consider the risk associated. The companies' shareholders not only seek the high return from their investment but also consider the risk of the investment. So it is recommended to all these companies to plan their capital structure well by analyzing the possible financial alternatives considering high return and least risk.

The companies are also recommended to minimize the financial and other expenses so the interest coverage ratio could be increased. They are recommended to use less cost debt, improve strategy of promotion activities, analyze and evaluate before making investments etc to increase the return and decreases risk.

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 : Long Term Debt to Total Debt

Long Term Debt to Total Debt of HBL (In Million)

F/Y	Long Term Debt	Total Debt	(LTD/TD)%
2005/06	61074	248140	24.61
2006/07	63502	264908	23.97
2007/08	82011	300484	27.29
2008/09	64234	318427	20.17
2009/10	63771	346813	18.38
Average			22.88

Long Term Debt to Total Debt of BOK (In Million)

F/Y	Long Term Debt	Total Debt	(LTD/TD)%
2005/06	27097	104850	25.84
2006/07	30371	123890	24.51
2007/08	37031	158340	23.38
2008/09	44746	180840	24.74
2009/10	63835	203160	31.42
Average			25.98

APPENDIX 2 : Long Term Debt to Capital Employed

Long Term Debt to Capital Employed HBL (In Million)

F/Y	Long Term Debt	Capital Employed	LTD/CE
2005/06	61074	134511	0.239
2006/07	63502	157619	0.232
2007/08	82011	177937	0.265
2008/09	64234	201796	0.195
2009/10	63771	255195	0.177
Average			0.222

Long Term Debt to Capital Employed BOK (In Million)

F/Y	Long Term Debt	Capital Employed	LTD/CE
2005/06	27097	33747	0.217
2006/07	30371	29924	0.233
2007/08	37031	32040	0.225
2008/09	44746	27835	0.232
2009/10	63835	32690	0.294
Average			0.246

Appendix 3 : Debt to Total Asset Ratio**Long Term Debt-Total Asset Ratio HBL (In Million)**

F/Y	Long Term Debt	Total Asset	LTD/TA
2005/06	61074	288713	0.211
2006/07	63502	305798	0.207
2007/08	82011	343148	0.238
2008/09	64234	368576	0.174
2009/10	63771	400466	0.159
Average			0.198

Long Term Debt-Total Asset Ratio BOK (In Million)

F/Y	Long Term Debt	Total Asset	LTD/TA
2005/06	27097	122783	0.220
2006/07	30371	145700	0.208
2007/08	37031	177219	0.208
2008/09	44746	204960	0.218
2009/10	63835	233961	0.272
Average			0.225

Appendix 4 : Debt-Equity Ratio**Debt to Equity Ratio of HBL** (In Million)

F/Y	Long Term Debt	Total Equity	D/E Ratio
2005/06	61074	6435	9.49
2006/07	63502	7722	8.22
2007/08	82011	8108	10.11
2008/09	64234	10135	6.33
2009/10	63771	12162	5.24
Average			7.88

Debt to Equity Ratio of BOK (In Million)

F/Y	Long Term Debt	Total Equity	D/E Ratio
2005/06	27097	4635	5.846
2006/07	30371	6031	5.035
2007/08	37031	6031	6.140
2008/09	44746	11821	3.785
2009/10	63835	13594	4.695
Average			5.10

Appendix 5 : Interest Coverage Ratio**Interest Coverage Ratio of HBL** (In Million)

F/Y	EBIT	Interest	I/C Ratio
2005/06	14464	5619	2.574
2006/07	16264	6488	2.506
2007/08	17755	7674	2.313
2008/09	19636	8237	2.383
2009/10	23421	9347	2.505
Average			2.456

Interest Coverage Ratio of BOK (In Million)

F/Y	EBIT	Interest	I/C Ratio
2005/06	7181	3081	2.33
2006/07	8190	3391	2.41
2007/08	10341	4175	2.47
2008/09	13477	5631	2.39
2009/10	18708	9029	2.07
Average			2.33

Appendix 6 : Return on Total Assets

Return on Total Assets of HBL (In Million)

F/Y	Net Profit	Total Assets	ROA
2005/06	3082	288713	0.0106
2006/07	4574	305798	0.0149
2007/08	4918	343140	0.01433
2008/09	6358	368576	0.01725
2009/10	7528	400466	0.01879
Average			0.01983

Return on Total Assets of BOK (In Million)

F/Y	Net Profit	Total Assets	ROA
2005/06	2024	122783	0.01648
2006/07	2623	145700	0.0180
2007/08	3614	177219	0.02039
2008/09	4617	204960	0.02252
2009/10	5092	233961	0.02176
Average			0.01983

Appendix 7 : Return on Shareholders' Equity

Return on Shareholders' Equity of HBL (In Million)

F/Y	Net Profit	S.E.	ROE
2005/06	3082	6435	0.478
2006/07	4574	7722	0.592
2007/08	4918	8108	0.606
2008/09	6358	10135	0.627
2009/10	7528	12162	0.618
Average			0.584

Return on Shareholders' Equity of BOK (In Million)

F/Y	Net Profit	S.E.	ROE
2005/06	2024	4635	0.4366
2006/07	2623	6031	0.4349
2007/08	3614	6031	0.5992
2008/09	4617	11821	0.3905
2009/10	5092	13594	0.3745
Average			0.4471

Appendix 8 : Earning Per Share

Earning Per Share of HBL

F/Y	EPS
2005/06	43.67
2006/07	43.5
2007/08	59.94
2008/09	54.68
2009/10	43.08
Average	48.97

Earning Per Share of BOK

F/Y	EPS
2005/06	47.91
2006/07	59.24
2007/08	60.66
2008/09	62.74
2009/10	61.9
Average	58.49

Appendix 9 : Calculation of NI Approach

Value of firm of HBL

F/Y	No. of Shares(N)	Closing MPS	Market Value of Share (S)	Market Value of Debt (B)	V=S+B
2005/06	6435000	920	5920200000	146048286	6066248286
2006/07	7722000	1100	8494200000	144624897	8638824897
2007/08	8108100	1740	14108094000	235967811	14344061811
2008/09	10135125	1980	20067547500	83177973	20150725473
2009/10	12162150	1760	21405384000	0	21405384000
Average					14121048893

Value of firm of BOK

F/Y	No. of Shares(N)	Closing MPS	Market Value of Share (S)	Market Value of Debt (B)	V=S+B
2005/06	4635809	850	3940437650	553180000	4493617650
2006/07	6031413	1375	8293192875	730000000	9023192875
2007/08	6031413	2350	14173820550	100000000	14273820550
2008/09	8443979	1825	15410261675	100000000	15510261675
2009/10	11821571	840	9930119640	300000000	10230119640
Average					10706202478

Calculation of Overall Capitalization rate (Ko)

Calculation of Overall Capitalization rate (Ko) of HBL (In Million)

F/Y	EBIT	Value of Firm	Ko
2005/06	14464	60662	0.2384
2006/07	16264	86388	0.1882
2007/08	17755	143440	0.1237
2008/09	19636	201507	0.0974
2009/10	23421	214053	0.10941
Average			0.132

Calculation of Overall Capitalization rate (Ko) of BOKL (In Million)

F/Y	EBIT	Value of Firm	Ko
2005/06	7181	44936	0.1598
2006/07	8190	90231	0.0907
2007/08	10341	142738	0.0724
2008/09	13477	155102	0.0868
2009/10	18708	102301	0.1828
Average			0.1185

Appendix 10: Calculation of NOI Approach

Calculation of Equity Capitalization rate of HBL (In Million)

F/Y	EBT	Market Value of Equity, S	Ke
2005/06	3082	59202	0.0520
2006/07	4574	84942	0.0538
2007/08	4918	141080	0.03485
2008/09	6358	200675	0.03168
2009/10	7528	214053	0.03516
			0.04152

Calculation of Equity Capitalization rate of BOK (In Million)

F/Y	EBT	Market Value of Equity, S	Ke
2005/06	2024	39404	0.0513
2006/07	2623	82931	0.03162
2007/08	3614	141738	0.0254
2008/09	4617	154102	0.0299
2009/10	5092	99301	0.05127
Average			0.03794

Appendix 11: Degree of Financial Leverage

Degree of Financial Leverage of HBL (In Million)

F/Y	EBIT	EBT	DFL
2005/06	14464	3082	4.693
2006/07	16264	4574	3.555
2007/08	17755	4918	3.610
2008/09	19636	6358	3.088
2009/10	23421	7528	3.111
Average			3.611

Degree of Financial Leverage of BOK (In Million)

F/Y	EBIT	EBT	DFL
2005/06	7181	2024	3.547
2006/07	8190	2623	3.122
2007/08	10341	3614	2.861
2008/09	13477	4617	2.918
2009/10	18708	5092	3.673
Average			3.224

Appendix 12: Correlation Coefficient Between Total Debt and Shareholders Equity with Probable Error

Where,

N= number of observations

X and Y are variables.

Where,

r = correlation coefficient

N = number of pairs of observations.

Correlation Coefficient Between TD and SHE of HBL

F/Y	TD(X)	SHE(Y)	XY	X2	Y2
2005/06	248140	6435	1596780900	61573459600	41409225
2006/07	264908	7722	2045619576	70176248464	59629284
2007/08	300484	8108	2436324272	90290634256	65739664
2008/09	318427	10135	3227257645	101396000000	102718225
2009/10	346813	12162	4217939706	120279000000	147914244
Total	1478772	44562	13523922099	443715000000	417410642

=0.7059

Correlation Coefficient Between TD and SHE of BOK

F/Y	TD(X)	SHE(Y)	XY	X2	Y2
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2005/06	104850	4635	485979750	10993522500	21483225
2006/07	123890	6031	747180590	15348732100	36372961
2007/08	158340	6031	954948540	25071555600	36372961
2008/09	180840	11821	2137709640	32703105600	139736041
2009/10	203160	13594	276175040	41273985600	1847962024
Total	771080	42112	7087575560	125910000000	418762024

=0.0000086

Appendix 13: Correlation Coefficient Between Long Term Debt and Earning Per Share with Probable Error

Correlation Coefficient Between LTD and EPS of HBL

F/Y	LTD(X)	EPS(Y)	XY	X2	Y2
2005/06	248140	47.91	11888387.4	61573459600	2295.3681
2006/07	264908	59.24	15693149.92	70176248464	3509.3776
2007/08	300484	60.66	18227359.44	90290634256	3679.6356
2008/09	318427	62.74	19978109.98	10139600000	3936.3076
2009/10	346813	61.90	21467724.7	12027900000	3831.61
Total	1478772	292.45	87254731.44	4437150000	17252.2989

Correlation Coefficient Between LTD and EPS of BOK

F/Y	LTD(X)	EPS(Y)	XY	X2	Y2
2005/06	104850	43.67	4578799.5	10993522500	1907.0689
2006/07	123890	43.50	5389215	15348732100	1892.25
2007/08	158340	59.94	9490899.6	25071555600	3592.8036

2008/09	180840	54.68	9888331.2	32703105600	2989.9024
2009/10	203160	43.08	8752132.8	4127385600	1855.8864
Total	771080	244.87	38099378.1	125391000000	12237.9113

Appendix 14: Correlation Coefficient Between EBIT and Interest with Probable Error

Correlation Coefficient Between EBIT and Interest of HBL

F/Y	EBIT(X)	Interest(Y)	XY	X2	Y2
2005/06	14464	5619	81273216	209207296	31573161
2006/07	16264	6488	105520832	264517696	42094114
2007/08	17755	7674	136251870	315240025	58890276
2008/09	19636	8237	161741732	385572496	67848169
2009/10	23421	9347	218916087	548543241	87366409
Total	91540	37365	703703737	1723080754	287772159

Correlation Coefficient Between EBIT and Interest of BOK

F/Y	EBIT(X)	Interest(Y)	XY	X2	Y2
2005/06	7181	3081	22124661	51566761	9492561
2006/07	8190	3391	27772290	67076100	11498881
2007/08	10341	4175	43173675	106936281	17430625
2008/09	13477	5631	75888987	181629529	31708161
2009/10	18708	9029	168914532	349989264	81522841
Total	57897	25307	337874145	757197935	151653069

Appendix 15: Correlation Coefficient Between EBIT and DPS with Probable Error

Correlation Coefficient Between EBIT and DPS of HBL

F/Y	EBIT(X)	DPS(Y)	XY	X2	Y2
2005/06	14464	31.58	456773.12	209207296	997.2964
2006/07	16264	35	569240	264517696	1225
2007/08	17755	40	710200	315240025	1600
2008/09	19636	45	883620	385572496	2025
2009/10	23421	43.56	1020218.76	548543241	1897.4736
Total	91540	195.14	3640051.88	1723080754	7744.77

Correlation Coefficient Between EBIT and DPS of BOK

F/Y	EBIT(X)	DPS(Y)	XY	X2	Y2
2005/06	7181	48	344688	51566761	2304
2006/07	8190	20	163800	67076100	
2007/08	10341	42.11	435459.51	106936281	1773.2521

2008/09	13477	47.37	638405.49	181629529	2243.9169
2009/10	18708	30	561240	349989264	900
Total	57897	187.48	2143593	757197935	7621.169