

**A STUDY OF CAPITAL STRUCTURE MANAGEMENT
OF COMMERCIAL BANKS**

**(With reference to NABIL Bank Ltd, Himalayan Bank Ltd and
Nepal Investment Bank Ltd.)**

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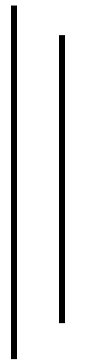
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RECOMMENDATION

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the work reported in this thesis entitled “**A STUDY OF CAPITAL STRUCTURE MANAGEMENT OF COMMERCIAL BANKS (With reference to NABIL Bank Ltd, Himalayan Bank Ltd and Nepal Investment Bank Ltd.)**” submitted to Office of the Dean, Faculty of Management, Tribhuvan University, is my original work done in the form of partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Degree of Master of Business Studies (MBS) under the supervision of **Shree Bhadra Neupane** and **Rabindra Bhattarai** of Shanker Dev Campus.

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Anupama Shrestha

ABBREBRIATIONS

	B	=	Value of Debt
	CB	=	Commercial Bank
	CE	=	Capital Employed
	DA	=	Debt Asset Ratio
	DE	=	Debt Equity Ratio
DF		=	Degree of Financial Leverage
	DPR	=	Dividend Payout Ratio
	DPS	=	Dividend per share
	EAT	=	Earning after Tax
EBIT		=	Earning Before interest and Tax
	EBT	=	Earning Before Tax
	EPS	=	Earning per Share
	F/Y	=	Fiscal years
	HBL	=	Himalayan Bank Ltd
		I=	Interest
	ICR	=	Interest Coverage Ratio
	JVB	=	Joint Venture Bank
	K	=	Cost of Capital
	K=		Overall Capitalization Rate
	K _d	=	Cost of Debt
	K _e	=	Cost of Equity
	LTD	=	Long Term Debt
LTDCE		=	Long Term Debt to Capital Employed Ratio
LTDTD		=	Long Term Debt to Total Debt Ratio
	NBL	=	Nabil Bank Ltd
	NG	=	Nepal Government
	NI	=	Net Income
	NIBL	=	Nepal Investment Bank Ltd
NOI		=	Net Operating Income

P.E	=	Probable Error
PC	=	Permanent Capital
r	=	Correlation Coefficient
RBB	=	Rastriya Banijya Bank
ROA	=	Return on Assets
ROE	=	Return on Equity
S	=	Market Value of Stock
TA	=	Total Assets
TD	=	Total Debt
V	=	Value of Firm
WACC	=	Weighted Average Cost of Capital

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CHAPTER - I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

The commercial bank has been a vital ingredient for economic development. They are intermediaries, which mobilize funds through the prudent combination of investment portfolios in advanced countries. Whereas in Nepal the role of joint venture banks are still to be realized as an essential machine of mobilizing internal saving through various banking schemes in the economy. Hence, to uplift the backward economic condition of the country, the process of capital accumulation among other pre-requisites, should be expedited.

Capital accumulation plays an essential role in acceleration of the economic growth of nations. But the capacity of saving in the developing country is quite low with a relatively higher marginal propensity of consumption. As a result developing countries are badly trapped into the vicious circle of poverty. The basic problem of these countries is raising the level of saving and investments. In order to collect the enough saving and put them into productive channels, financial institutions like banks are necessary. It will be utilized within the economy and will either be diverted abroad or used for productive consumption or speculative activities.

“Capital structure concept holds a major place in the financial management. Capital structure refers the proportion of debt and equity capital. A perfect balance between debt and equity is required to ensure the trade-off between risk and return. Thus, optimal capital structure means the capital structure having reasonable proportion of debt and equity. An optimal financial structure makes better use of society’s fund of capital resources, and thus it increases the total wealth of society” (*Solomon; 1969: 92*). Also, by increasing the firm’s opportunity to engage in future wealth-creating investment, it increases the economy’s rate of investment and growth.

Commercial banks are the suppliers of finance for trade and industry, which plays vital role in the economic and financial life of the country. They help in the formation of capital by investing the savings in productive areas. Rural people of under developed countries like Nepal need various banking facilities to enhance its economy. In most of the countries, the banks are generally concentrated in urban and semi-urban sectors. They neglect rural sector due to heavy risk and low return, which is in fact, without it, other sectors of economy cannot be flourished.

The concept of banking is developed from the history with the effort of ancient gold smith who developed the practices of storing people's gold and valuables. They received valuables and used to issue a receipt to the depositors. As such receipts are good for payment equipment to the amount mentioned, it become like the modern cheque, as a medium of exchange and means of payment.

The history of the systematic development of commercial banks in Nepal as compared to other developed countries is of recent origin. In Nepal, efforts are being made to accelerate the pace of economic development after the adaptation of first five year plan in 1956. Nepal Bank Limited, the first and oldest bank in modern banking history of Nepal, was established in 1937A.D. (30th Kartik, 1994 B.S) with 51% government equity. Nepal Bank Limited also used to function as central bank of the country up to 2012 B.S. On 2013 B.S, Nepal Rastra Bank was established as central bank of Nepal under the Nepal Rastra Bank Act 2012. Government initiated some corrective measures to stabilize the economy with the assistance of IMF standby arrangement in mid 1980s. In F/Y 1985, it subsequently embarked upon structured adjustment program encompassing measures to increase domestic resource mobilization, strengthen financial sectors and liberalize industrial and trade policies. Since then several financial institutions and commercial joint venture banks have been established in the process of development and liberalization policy for the economic development of the nation.

The commercial bank collect the scattered saving and place them into productive channels. They hold the deposit of many persons, government establishments and business units. They make funds available through their lending and investing activities

to borrowers, individuals, business firms and government establishments. In doing so, they assist both the flows of goods and services from the government. They are media through which monetary policy is affected. These banks are resource for development. It maintains economic confidence of various segments and extends credit to people.

At present altogether 26 commercial banks are operating in Nepal. The condition of two oldest public sector banks is bad at the moment. But the third public sector development bank, ADB/N (Agriculture Development Bank Limited) which is also operating as a commercial banking and is still doing well despite political and bureaucratic interference and internal problems. The remaining private sector banks are all in a profitable position even when there is cut through neck competition among them. Some development banks and well managed finance companies are also competing with these banks.

1.2 Focus of the Study

As it is a well known fact that the commercial banks can affect the economic condition of the whole country, the effort is made to highlight the capital structure policy of commercial banks expecting that the study can balance the proportion of the equity and debt capital used by the commercial banks. Banking in this era has a new meaning and dimension which is now offering many extra services rather than just accepting deposits and granting loans. So this thesis has been initiated to have a bird eye view on the capital structure of the commercial banks/JVBs, with special reference to NABIL Bank Ltd, Himalayan Bank Ltd and Nepal Investment Bank Ltd. This Thesis tries to evaluate various aspects of capital structure as earning per share of bank, cost of capital, share holder's equity etc. The thesis focuses on the capital structure of Nabil bank Ltd, Himalayan Bank Ltd and Nepal Investment Bank Ltd and examines its financial position in various years by range of capital structure tools and various approaches. It primarily put spot light on the capital structure of Nabil Bank / Himalayan Bank / Nepal Investment Bank and merely focuses on other aspects such as management, profit functions, banks performance etc.

1.3 Statement of the Problems

Capital structure refers to the proportion of different types of securities issued by the firm like common shares, long term debt, preference share capital, debentures and retained earnings. We know that major portion of the capital comprises of owners fund and creditors fund. The owners expect dividend and appreciation in the share price whereas creditors expect interest and return of the fund at the mentioned time. So the capital structure of the firm is important factor in determining the success of the firms. The firm is successful if it can optimize its capital structure and the capital is optimal when the overall cost of capital of the firm is minimized and profitability is maximized. So, analysis of the capital structure of the selected CBs will help optimal capital structure, which minimizes cost of capital and maximizes profitability.

- Always being controversy in capital structure between financial theorists and corporate manager. So, there is number of capital structure theories proposed by different personalities. This is the area in which several theoretical and empirical works have been done by different personalities.
- Capital structure theories developed so far are clung to the question of existence of the optimal capital structure. Most of the theoretical and empirical debuts so far are revolved around the maximization of the value of firms through the judicious composition of its debt and equity fund.
- Net income (NI) approach and Traditional theory of capital structure claims that there is the existence of the optimal capital structure. They contend that proper mix of debt and equity can maximize the value of the firms.
- Whereas, net operating income (NOI) approach and M-M hypothesis contend that capital structure is irrelevant to the value and cost of capital of the firm. According to the NOI approach, cost of equity increases linearly as debt increases in the capital structure.
- M-M hypothesis states that there is no level optimal capital structure. They support the NOI approach by providing logically consistent behavioral justifications in its favor. Between the two extreme views, we have the middle position of intermediate version advocated by the traditional writers. Thus, there exists an optimum capital structure at which the cost of capital is low.

- As different approaches hold different beliefs related to the impact of capital structure on the value of the firm, this thesis has been commenced, analyzing different aspect of commercial bank's capital structure which is done by taking Nabil Bank Ltd, Himalayan Bank Ltd and Nepal Investment Bank Ltd as reference.

Thus this thesis has been commenced, analyzing different aspect of commercial bank's capital structure which is done by taking Nabil Bank Ltd, Himalayan Bank Ltd and Nepal Investment Bank Ltd as reference and has been tried to map out the current capital structure and the solvency as well as the relationship between debt equity ratio, long term debt to debt ratio, debt ratio, Return on Assets and Return on Equity of these three commercial banks.

1.4 Objectives of the Study

The main objective of this study is to analyze capital structures of sample banks, more specifically the objectives are as follow

- To examine the capital structure of commercial banks.
- To examine the correlation and the significance of their relationship between different ratios related to capital structure.
- To analyze the debt servicing capacity of the sample banks.
- To analyze effect of capital structure on ROA, ROE and Dividend payout Ratio.

1.5 Significance of the Study

The study has been done in reference to the periodical performance of Nabil Bank Ltd, Himalayan Bank Ltd and Nepal Investment Bank Ltd. The study has tried to focus on capital structure of the bank so the study could be significant in revising the banks capital structure for past five years at a glance. The study could be beneficial to various groups of people in following ways

- a. Investors: This study provides the valuable information about the debt and equity (leverage) ratio of the selected Nepalese enterprise. Investors will be benefited by such information to perform securities analysis before taking investment decision.

- b. Financial manager: Financial managers of Nepalese enterprise will be benefited because they will get important information regarding optimum capital structure which will help them to make least cost combination of debt and equity.
- c. Future Researchers: Researcher will get additional information in capital structure and cost of capital in the literature of finance. They will be benefited by getting secondary data in this context.

The proposed study will help to enhance the level of understanding in capital structure for other researchers, management scholars and other stakeholders.

1.6 Limitations of the Study

The study has been prepared by the help of the financial reports and publications of the bank. The thesis has been initiated with view of tracing out different aspect of capital structure of the bank and the calculation has been done by the figures given by the bank. Further, the study has been initiated by the student rather than by some economic or financial analyst so the study has some of its own limitations as stated below:-

- As mentioned earlier, this thesis is based on secondary data (published annual reports of commercial banks), journals, newspapers, magazines etc and unpublished thesis.
- The study covers only 8 years data, beginning from 2001/02 to 2008/09.
- The study covers only the capital structure of the bank and ignores other aspects of banks.
- Among 26 commercial banks, three of them are studied due to time and resources constraints. Thus, we cannot have a true picture of the overall conditions of commercial banks in Nepalese banking sector and the average performances of this bank is not the average of all the commercial banks in Nepal. Thus, the findings of the study cannot be generalized.
- To some extent, the data published on the websites may vary sometimes, with that of the annual reports of commercial banks. So, the data from the websites are considered as authentic one.

1.7 Organization of the Study

The entire study is divided into 5 chapters. Brief information of what each chapter contains is given below.

Chapter I: Introduction

It is an introductory chapter, which includes general background of bank. It also discusses about focus and significance of study, statement of problem, objective and limitation of the study.

Chapter II: Review of Literature

This chapter deals with the review of literature. It includes reexamination or appraisal of the existing works in relevant areas and includes the concept of commercial banks, its roles, and a review of previous thesis too.

Chapter III: Research Methodology

It is concerned with research methodology. It includes research design, sources of data, population and sample and method of analysis.

Chapter IV: Data Presentation & Analysis

This is the heart of the chapter as it is concerned with presentation and analysis of relevant data and information. In order to find out the true picture of the capital structure of NABIL Bank, Himalayan Bank Ltd and Nepal Investment Bank Ltd, various financial and statistical tools and techniques are used. Thus, this chapter is concerned with the findings of the analysis.

Chapter V: Summary, Conclusion and Recommendations

This chapter summarizes the overall picture of the study, draws conclusions, offer suggestions and recommendations for improvement in the future.

CHAPTER - II

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

This chapter has been classified into the following subchapters:

- Conceptual Frame work
- Review of Independent studies
- Review of Previous Thesis

2.1 Conceptual Frame Work

2.1.1 Meaning of Capital Structure and Financial Structure

“Capital structure refers to the mix of long term sources of funds, such as debentures, long term debt, preference share capital and equity share capital including reserves and surplus” (*Pandey; 1999:18*).

“The optimum capital structure may be defined as that capital structure or combination of debt and equity that leads to the maximum value of the firm” (*Khan and Jain; 1990:487*).

“Erza Soloman expresses the optimum capital structure and its implications as: optimum leverage can be defined as that mix of debt and equity which will maximize the market value of the claims and ownership interest represented on the credit side of the balance sheet” (*Solomon; 1969:132*). Further, the advantages of having an optimum does exist, is two fold: it maximizes the value of the company and hence the wealth of its owners, it minimizes the company’s cost of capital which in turn increases its ability to final new wealth creating investment opportunities. Also, by increasing the firm’s opportunity to engage in future wealth –creating investment, it increases the economy’s rate of investment and growth

Capital Structure refers to the relationship among various long term forms of financing which includes mainly three types securities i.e. equity shares, preference shares and debenture (*Pandey; 1998:258-259*). It is sometimes known as financial plan, refers to the

composition of long term sources of funds such as debentures, long term debt, preference share capital and equity share capital including reserves and surplus.

1.1.1 Financial Structure

Financial structure refers to the composition of all sources and amount of funds collected to use or invest in business. In other words, financial structure refers to the 'Capital and Liabilities side of Balance Sheet'. Therefore, it includes shareholder's funds, long-term loans as well as short-term loans. It is different from capital structure as capital structure includes only the long-term sources of financing while financial structure includes both long term and short-term sources of financing. Thus, a firm's capital structure is only a part of its financial structure.

1.1.2 Features of Optimal Capital Structure

The optimal capital structure is the structure (combination of debt and equity) that maximizes the price of the firm's stock. Hence, it maximizes shareholders wealth and minimizes the firm's cost of capital. There are also some other features of optimal capital structure, which are discussed below.

1. Return

The capital structure of the company should be most advantageous. Subject to other considerations, it should generate maximum returns to the shareholders without additional cost to them.

2. Risk

Optimal capital structure should be less risky. The use of excessive debt threatens the solvency of the company. Company should use debt to that extent up to which debt does not add significant risk, otherwise its use should be avoided.

3. Flexibility

The capital structure should be flexible. Flexibility in capital structure helps to grab market opportunity as company can raise required funds whenever it is needed for profitable investment opportunities. It also helps to reduce costs (Cost of debt and preferred stock) when fund raised from debt and preferred stock are no more required in the business.

4. Capacity

The capital structure should be determined within the debt capacity of the company, and this capacity should not be exceeded. The debt capacity of a company depends on its ability to generate future cash flows. It should have enough cash to pay creditors' fixed charges and principal sum.

5. Control

Control power is the one of the most concerned part for the management. Management always wants to maintain control over the firm. The capital structure should involve minimum risk of loss of control of the company. Issue of excess equity shares to new investors may bring threats to the control by existing manager.

Determinants for Capital Structure Decisions

In addition to the types of analysis discussed above, firms generally consider the following factors when making capital structure decisions:

1. Sales stability: A firm whose sales are relatively stable can safely take on more debt and incur higher fixed charges than a company with unstable sales. Utility companies, because of their stable demand, have historically been able to use more financial leverage than industrial firms.
2. Asset structure: Firms whose assets are suitable as security for loans tend to use debt rather heavily. General- purpose assets that can be used by many businesses make good collateral, whereas special-purpose assets do not. Thus, real estate

companies are usually highly leveraged, whereas companies involved in technological research are not.

3. Operating leverage: Other things the same, a firm with less operating leverage is better able to employ financial leverage because it will have less business risk.
4. Growth rate: Other things the same, faster-growing firms must rely more heavily on external capital. Further, the flotation costs involved in selling common stock exceed those incurred when selling debt, which encourages rapidly growing firms to rely more heavily on debt. At the same time, however, these firms often face greater uncertainty, which tends to reduce their willingness to use debt.
5. Profitability: One often observes that firms with very high rates of return on investment use relatively little debt. Although there is no theoretical justification for this fact, one practical explanation is that very profitable firms such as Intel, Microsoft, and Coca-Cola simply do not need to do much debt financing. Their high rates of return enable them to do most of their financing with internally generated funds.
6. Taxes: Interest is a deductible expense, and deductions are most valuable to firms with high tax rates. Therefore, the higher a firm's tax rate, the greater the advantage of debt.
7. Control: The effect of debt versus stock on a management's control position can influence capital structure. If management currently has voting control (over 50 percent of the stock) but is not in a position to buy any more stock, it may choose debt for new financings. On the other hand, management may decide to use equity if the firm's financial situation is so weak that the use of debt might subject it to serious risk of default, because if the firm goes into default, the managers will almost surely lose their jobs. However, if too little debt is used, management runs the risk of a takeover. Thus, control considerations could lead to the use of either debt or equity, because the type of capital that best protects management will vary from situation to situation. In any event, if management is at all insecure, it will consider the control situation.
8. Management attitudes: Since no one can prove that one capital structure will lead to higher stock prices than another, management can exercise its own judgment about

the proper capital structure. Some management tends to be more conservative than others, and thus use less debt than the average firm in their industry, whereas aggressive managements use more debt in the quest for higher profits.

9. Lender and rating agency attitudes: Regardless of managers' own analyses of the proper leverage factors for their firms, lenders' and rating agencies' attitudes frequently influence financial structure decisions. In the majority of cases, the corporation discusses its capital structure with lenders and rating agencies and gives much weight to their advice. For example, one large utility was recently told by Moody's and Standard & Poor's that its bonds would be downgraded if it issued more bonds. This influenced its decision to finance its expansion with common equity.
10. Market conditions: Conditions in the stock and bond markets undergo both long- and short- run changes that can have an important bearing on a firm's optimal capital structure. For example, during a recent credit crunch, the junk bond market dried up, and there was simply no market at a "reasonable" interest rate for any new long-term bonds rated below triple B. Therefore, low rated companies in need of capital were forced to go to the stock market or to the short-term debt market, regardless of their target capital structures. When conditions eased, however, these companies sold bonds to get their capital structures back on target.
11. The firm's internal condition: A firm's own internal condition can also have a bearing on its target capital structure. For example, suppose a firm has just successfully completed an R&D program, and it forecasts higher earnings in the immediate future. However, the new earnings are not yet anticipated by investors, hence are not reflected in the stock price. This company would not want to issue stock- it would prefer to finance with debt until the higher earnings materialize and are reflected in the stock price. Then it could sell an issue of common stock, retire the debt, and return to its target capital structure. This point was discussed earlier in connection with asymmetric information and signaling.
12. Financial flexibility: An astute corporate treasurer made this statement to the authors:

13. Our company can earn a lot more money from good capital budgeting and operating decisions than from good financing decisions. Indeed, we are not sure exactly how financing decisions affect our stock price, but we know for sure that having to turn down a promising venture because funds are not available will reduce our long –run profitability. For this reason, my primary goal as treasurer is to always be in a position to raise the capital needed to support operations.

We also know that when times are good, we can raise capital with either stocks or bonds, but when times are bad, suppliers of capital are much more willing to make funds available if we give them a secured position, and this means debt. Further, when we sell a new issue of stock, this sends a negative “signal” to investors, so stock sales by a mature company such as ours is not desirable.

2.1.2 Approaches to Capital Structure

There are number of capital structure theories proposed by different individuals which also create some controversy due to different concepts of capital structure theory hold by different personalities. This is the area in which several theoretical and empirical works have been done by different personalities. Capital structure theories developed so far revolve around the question of existence of the optimal capital structure. Most of the theoretical and empirical debuts so far are revolved around the maximization of the value of firms through the judicious composition of its debt and equity fund. Net income (NI) approach and Traditional theory of capital structure claims that there is the existence of the optimal capital structure. They contend that proper mix of debt and equity can maximize the value of the firms. Whereas, net operating income (NOI) approach and M-M hypothesis contend that capital structure is irrelevant to the value and cost of capital of the firm. According to the NOI approach, cost of equity increases linearly as debt increases in the capital structure. The use of debt does not affect the value of the firm as the benefit of debt capital is just offset by the increase in the cost of equity. (Ezra Solomon, 1969) Likewise, M-M hypothesis states that there is no level optimal capital structure. They support the NOI approach by providing logically consistent behavioral

justifications in its favor. Between the two extreme views, we have the middle position of intermediate version advocated by the traditional writers.

This section is developed to discuss briefly about the theoretical concept regarding the theories of capital structure and financial leverage. All the approaches are based on some common assumptions, which are as follows:

Basic Assumptions and Definitions

1. Two types of capital are employed, long term debt and shareholders equity.
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 selling debts to repurchase common stocks or stock to retire debt.
4. All investors have the same subjective probability distribution of expected future operating earnings (EBIT) for a given firm, that is, investors have homogeneous expectations.
5. The operating earnings of the firm are not expected to grow, that is, the firm's expected EBIT is same in all future periods.
6. The firm's business risk is constant over time and is independent of its capital structure and financial risk.
7. The firm is expected to continue indefinitely.

In addition to above assumption, the following symbols are employed.

S= Total market value of the Stocks (Equity)

B= Total market value of the Bonds (Debt)

V= Total market value of the Firm = B+S

EBIT = Earnings before Interest and Taxes = Net Operating Income (NOI)

I=Interest Payments

- Debt

Cost of debt (k_d) = Interest/Debt = I/B

So, Value of Debt (B) = Interest/ k_d = I/ k_d

- Equity or common stock

$$\text{Cost of equity capital } (k_s) = d_1 / P_o + g$$

Where,

d_1 = next dividend

P_o = Correct price per share.

g = expected growth rate.

- Overall or Weighted Average cost of capital

$$K = K_d(B/V) + K_s(S/V)$$

$$= K_d(B)/B+S + K_s(S)/B+S$$

- The Total value of the firm is thus,

$$V = B + S$$

$$= I/K_d + EBIT - I/K_s$$

2.1.2.1 Traditional Approach

“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 of every firm. This approach very clearly implies that the cost of capital decreases within the reasonable limit of debt and then increases with leverage” (*Barges; 1983:44*). Thus, an optimum capital structure exists, and it occurs when the cost of capital is minimum or the value of firm is maximum.

According to this view, 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 and 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 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.

The statement that debt funds are cheaper than equity funds carries the clean implication that the cost of debt plus the increased cost of equity together on the weighted basis will be less than the cost of equity which existed on the equity before debt financing. 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.

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_e) 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” (*Soloman; 1969:139*). 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 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 (*Pandey; 1999:358*). 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

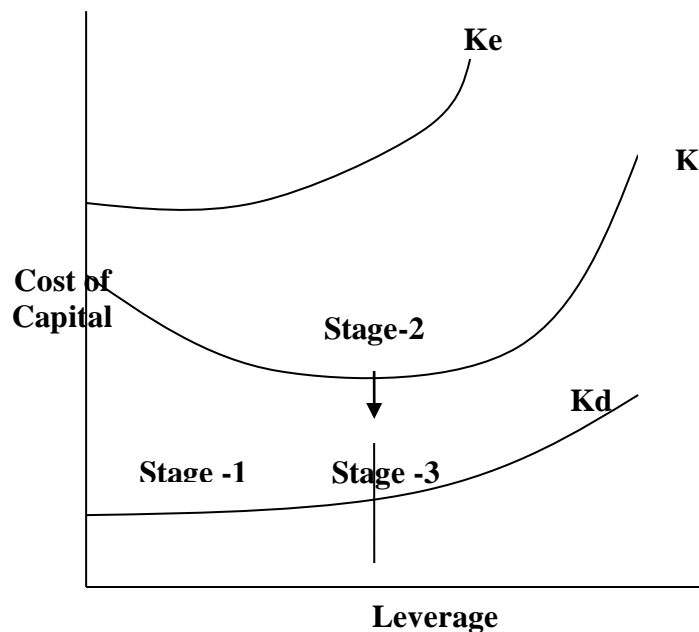
the range of such debt level or at a specific point, the value of the firm will be maximum or the cost of capital will be minimum.

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: 2.1

The effect of Leverage on Cost of Capital under Traditional Theory



In figure 2.1, it is assumed that K_e 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_e does not entirely offset the use of cheaper debt funds. As a result, K declines with moderate use of leverage (*Srivastav; 1984:881*). After a point, however, the increase in K_e 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.

2.1.2.2 Net Income Approach

David Durand proposed the Net Income Approach. This approach states 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 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_e) and cost of debt (K_d), the overall cost of capital (K) declines whit 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 if firm. It means that a firm attends an optimal capital structure when it uses 100% debt financing. Running a business with 100% debt financing, however, is quite uncommon in the real world.

This approach is base on the following assumptions:

1. The cost of equity and debt remain constant 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.

The firm can achieve optimal structure by making judicious use of debt and equity and attempt to maximize the market price of its stock (*Durand; 1959:91-116*).

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 (*Pandey; 1999:26*). 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.

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

Figure: 2.2

The effect of Leverage on Cost of Capital

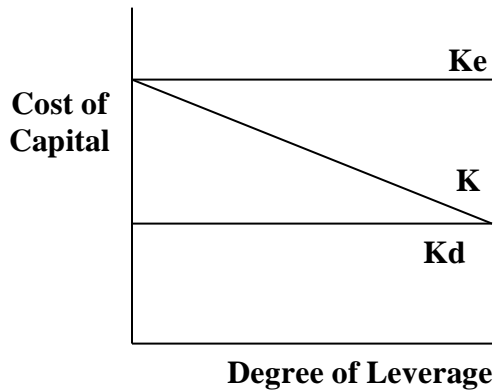


Figure: 2.3

The effect of leverage on Total Market Value of the Firm

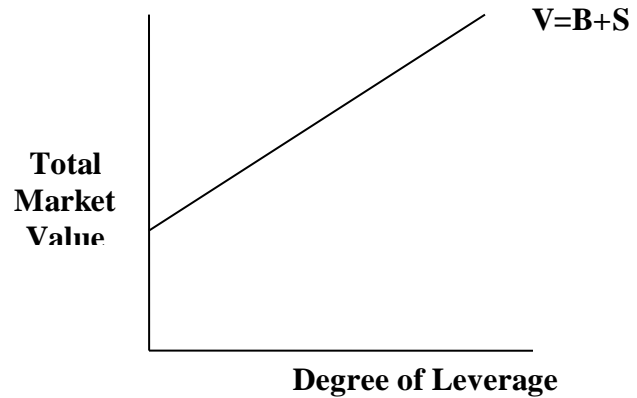


Figure 2.2 shows a continuous decrease in K with the increase in debt-equity ratio, since any decrease in K directly contributes to the value of the firm. It increases with the increase in the debt-equity ratio (figure 2.3). Thus the financial leverage, according to the NI approach is an important variable 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 crucial assumption that the use of debt does not change the risk perception of the investor (*Pandey; 1999:26*). Consequently, the interest rate of debt (K_d) and the equity capitalization rate (K_e) 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).

2.1.2.3 Net Operating Income Approach (NOI)

NOI approach is another behavioral approach suggested by Durand 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 (*Khan & Jain; 1997:481*). 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.

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 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 (*Pandey; 1999:31*). This approach says that the cost of equity increases 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 (K).

The NOI approach is based on the following assumptions:

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_e .

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:

$$K_s = K + (K - K_d)B/S$$

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

Figure: 2.4
The effect of Leverage of Cost of Capital

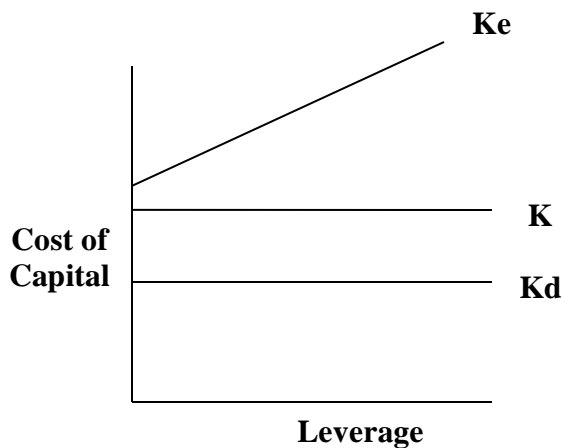
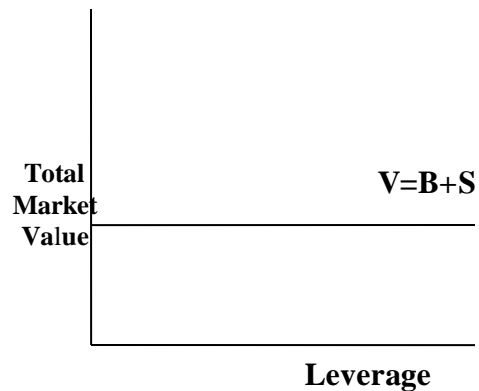


Figure: 2.5
The effect of Leverage on value of firm



In the figure 2.4, it is shown that the curve K and K_d are parallel to the horizontal x-axis and K_s is increasing continuously. This is because K and K_d remains constant under all the circumstances but the K_e increases with the degree of increase in the leverage (*Gitman; 1998:791*). Thus, there is no single point or range where the capital structure is optimum. It is known obviously from figure 2.4 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.

2.1.2.4 Modigliani-Miller Approach (MM approach)

The Modigliani-Miller thesis relating to the relation is akin to net operating income approach. MM approach, supporting the net operating income approach, argues that, in the absence of taxes, total market value and cost of capital of 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 MM contend that cost of capital is equal to the capitalization rate of 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 a conservation of investment value. The MM cost of capital hypotheses can be best expressed in terms of their proposition I and II (*Modigliani & Miller; 1958:261 297*). However, the following assumptions 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 hypothesis.

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 in to homogenous risk classes. Firms would be considered to belong to a homogenous risk class as their expected earnings, adjust 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 earning to the shareholders, i.e. divided 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 has the same exception of firm's net operating income with which to evaluate the value of any firm.

Proposition I

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. This is their proposition I (*Pandey; 1999:34*). In equation this can be expressed as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Value of the Firm} &= \text{Market value of debt} + \text{Market value of Equity} \\ &= \text{Expected net operating income} / \text{Expected overall capitalization rate} \\ &= \frac{\text{EBIT}}{\text{EBT}} \end{aligned}$$

For an unleveled Firm,

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

Where,

$K = K_s$ in case of unleveled firm.

Proposition I can be expressed in terms of the firm's overall capitalization rate, K , which is the ratio of Net operating income (EBIT) to the market value of all its securities, i.e.;

$$K = \text{NOI} / \text{S+B}$$

$$= \text{NOI} / V$$

K can also be expressed as

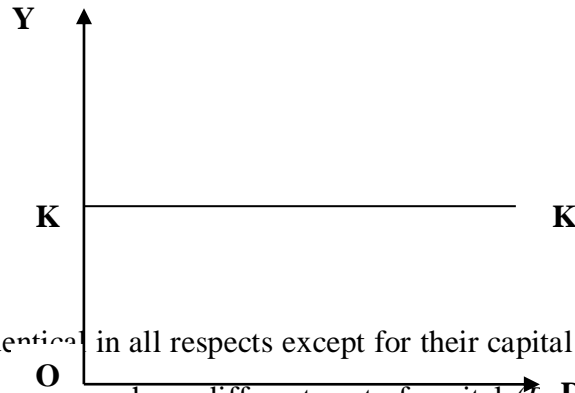
$$K = K_e(S) / \text{S+B} + K_d(B) / \text{S+B}$$

It means K is the weighted average of the expected rate of return on 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.

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

Figure: 2.6

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 (F. D/V 1999:37). But if there is 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.

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 rise 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. The equation for the cost of equity can be derived from the definition of the average cost of capital.

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

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

$$K_e = \frac{K(1+D)}{S} - \frac{K_d(D)}{S}$$

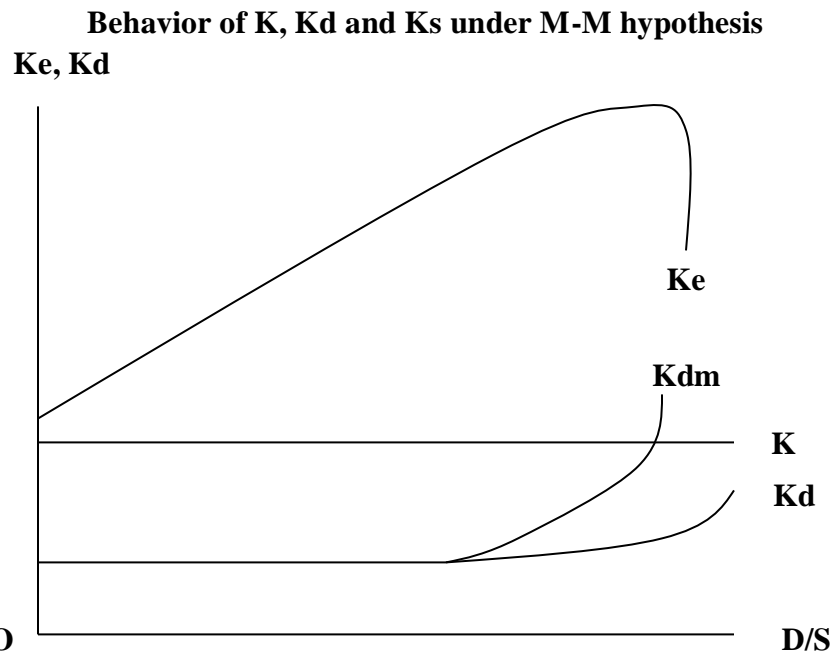
$$K_e = \frac{K + (K - K_e)B}{S}$$

$$K_e \text{ (Cost of Equity)} = \frac{NOI - I}{S} = \frac{NI}{S}$$

The above equation states that for any firm in a given risk class the cost of equity, K_e , 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 the 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_e is a function of leverage, K will remain constant as K_e will increase at a decreasing rate to compensate. This can be shown as:

Figure: 2.7



It is clear from the figure that K_e will increase till the marginal rate of interest (K_{dm}) is below the cost of capital. As soon as, the marginal rate of interest cuts the Cost of Capital, K_e will start falling (*Pandey; 1999:37*).

2.1.2.5 Financial Leverage

Financial leverage involves the use of funds obtained at fixed costs in the hope of increasing the return to stockholders. Weston and Brigham (*Weston and Brigham; 1981:556*) defined financial leverage as the ratio of total debt to total assets or total value of the firm. The use of the fixed charges sources of funds, such as debt and preference share capital along with the owner's equity in the capital structure, is described as financial leverage or 'trading on equity' (*Pandey ; 1999:23*). Trading on equity is derived from the fact that it is the owner's equity that is used as a basis to raise debt, i.e. the equity that is traded upon. The supplier of debt has limited participation in the company's profit, therefore, debt holder will insist on protection in earnings and value represented by ownership capital.

2.2 Review of Independent Studies

In the Modigliani and Miller's first study they used the previous works of "Allen And Smith" in support of their independence hypotheses in the first part of their work M – M tested their proposition I, the cost of capital is irrelevant to the firms capital structure by correlation after tax cost of capital with leverage B/V they found that the correlation coefficient are statically in significant and positive in sign. The regression line doesn't consist of curvilinear "U" Shaped cost of capital key of traditional view, when the data are shown in scatter diagram.

In the second part of their study, they tested their proposition II the expected yield on common share is a 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 increases Modigliani and Miller second study.

M – M, were conducting the second study in 1963 with correcting their original hypotheses for corporate income taxes and expected cost of capital to be affected by leverage for its tax advantages, therefore they wanted to test whether leverage had 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 is significant only because of the tax advantage involved (*Modigliani & Miller; 1958:261*).

Vanhorn, has also presented controversial decision about capital structure. According to him financial signaling occurs when capital structure change conveys information to security holders (*Van Horne; 1985:277*). It assuming as symbolic information between management and stock holders management behavior result in debt issue being regarded on good news by investors and stock issue as bad news empirical evidence seems to be consistent with the nations.

Weston (1963), in "A Test of Cost of Capital Proposition" made some important-improvement in the cost of capital modes. He included firm size and growth as additional explanatory in his model.

He found the regression co-efficient of leverage to be positive and significant, when he used M – M model. However when the multiple regression was shown he found that the correlation coefficient is significant and the regression co-efficient of leverage is negative and significant when the influence of growth is isolated leverage is found to be negative correlation with the cost of capital. He concluded that the apparent lack of influence of leverage on the overall cost of capital observed by M – M was due to the negative correlation of leverage with earning growth Weston also listed M – M proposition II.

Wiper (1960), in “*Financial Structure and Value of the Firm*” has made a test to empirical relationship between financial structure and value of the firm he tried to eliminate the principle problem of empirical study on the leverage and attempted to offer what were hoped to be more, alternative’s in determining the relationship between leverage and cost of capital. He found the share holder’s wealth can be enhanced by judicious by judicious use of debt financing.

Sharma and Rao, (1969), in “*Leverage and the Value of the Firm*” concluded the list of M-M hypothesis on the influence of debt on the value of a firm to a non-regulated industry. They argued that estimate of cost of capital arrived at through the model will be accurate only when their hypothesis on debt and dividends are correct this is an essential condition for the employment of the model.

Calculation of variables was done in exactly the same ways done by M.M. with two exceptions. They experimented with total assets and sale for deflecting the variables and the result are meaningful when fixed of total assets of fixed assets was used as the growth variable the result were some what inconsistent with economic reasoning they therefore took the earning froth rate as the growth variable because this would and account growth of earning due both to the utilization of existing capacity and to the additional of new capacity they include that debt has non tax advantage also thus this paper-support-that the investors refer corporate to personal leverage and therefore the value of a firm sizes up to leverage rate considered prudent.

Rao and Litzaberge, (1970) in, "*Leverage and the Cost of Capital in Less Developed Capital Market Comment*" conduct the study of the effect of capital structure on the cost of capital in loss developed and less efficient capital market (India) and in highly developed and efficient capital market(US) They used 28 India utilize and 77 American utilized. They conducted the study for five cross section years 1962-1966. They found that the result for the American utilities are constant to the M-M proposition except for the advantage of debt financing the cost of capital independent of capital structure and result also supported that the M-M hypothesis that investors are different for the firm's dividend policy in case of India utilities, the result are in consistent to the M-M approach and support the traditional belief the judicious use of financial leverage will lower the firms cost of capital and investors have a reference for current dividends. In conclusion, they contended that the M-M approach after allowing for the tax advantage of debt the firms cost of capital is independent of capital structure does not appear to be applicable in the case of a developing economy.

Shrestha, (1985), conducted a thesis research on, "*Analysis of Capital Structure in Selected Public Enterprises*". The study found that the public enterprises have a very confusing capital structure. In many instances adhoeism became the basis of capital structure and in that also most of them want to eliminate debt if possible to relieve financial obligations. Further more, the determination of capital structure is greatly influenced by the inflow of International Donor Agency long term credit through the medium of His Majesty's Government of Nepal (HMG). In a way, neither the public enterprises nor HMG developed criteria in determine capital structure nor this is the reason as to why debt equity ratio became a ticklish problem. Also true that the calculation of equity capitalization rate and overall capitalization rate according to given data provide very fantastic results in many cases, although they carry valid and meaningful results in some instances. As such, the use of Net Operation Income Approach and Net Income Approach on the whole is more an academic exercise rather than proving much valid. While determined and there is growing tendency among most of public enterprises to have least combination of debt with equity to escape financial

obligations as far as possible. Again, it is an implied fact that the contribution of debt to procurement of assets shows significant deviations. The earning of the public enterprises in most cases does not prove satisfactory except in limited few. There are many unfavorable side effects such as growing accumulated losses climbing greater heights and little maintenance of tax provisions.

He suggested that debt equity ratio neither should neither be highly levered to create too much financial obligations that lie beyond capacity to meet nor should it be much low levered to infuse operational strategy to bypass responsibilities without performance (*The Nepalese Journal of Public Administration, March 1985*).

Shrestha, (1999), conducted a thesis research on, “*Focus on Capital Structure (Selected and listed Public companies)*”. She found that in Nepalese public enterprises the definition of capital structure is not a problem but what matters is the problem of putting the definition of capital structure into practice. As for instance, public enterprises as well as listed public limited companies have higher debt equity mix. As a result their liabilities have increased together with higher fix charges due to failure to utilize borrowed capital properly. Thus in market circle investors often express dissatisfaction for not getting expected return as per commitment made by the listed companies in the prospectus to the investing public. This is even very serious in government owned companies.

The researcher clearly suggested that the capital structure of both selected public enterprises and listed companies have high proportion of debt mixed with equity. Most of them have to face high interest burden on one side and increasing accumulated losses on the other hand. She further suggests to the government that it is important to monitor the use of debt and its impact on the overall earnings of enterprises. This factor has been neglected by HMG. The bitter experience reveals that government in these enterprises has not been able to specify the capital structure mix (*Pravaha Journal of Management, Vol 10: 1, 1999*)

2.3 Review of Thesis

Pathak, (1995), conducted research on, “*Study on Capital Structure Management of Gorakhkali Rubber Udyog Ltd*” The basic objective was to analyze the debt equity ratio, interest coverage ratio with some of the measures to improve the policy. He had analyzed all the variables in the form of ratio analysis.

- In his findings especially to the capital structure and profitability position, following issues has drawn.
- As compared to the shareholder’s equity and the trend of debt –equity the ratio was increasing everyday.
- Company’s debt serving capacity was very poor due to the negative interest coverage ratio.
- The operational performance was not satisfactory due to negative earnings and low volume of sales revenue.
- The company was not able to utilize its capacity more than 50% which result the huge losses.
- At last, he suggested lowering down the amount of debt and obtaining additional funds through issue of equity share, improving its working capital and reducing over staff, making strategic plans and developing the motivations management.

Shrestha, (1999) , conducted his research on, “*Comparative Evaluation of Capital Structure Between Selected Manufacturing and Trading Companies of Nepal*” has access on debt serving capacity of the companies and as well as return on equity, debt ratio, following the calculation earning before interest and tax , earning per share.

He also observed that manufacturing companies had a higher risk with higher return on the interest and debt and low dividend. The study further indicated that the amount of profit earned could only meet the interest and because of that had to suffer losses.

It has concluded that there was not enough return to pay interest, debt and dividend for both types of companies although maintaining a high risk of debt.

And he finally recommended for a regular check up the level of debt, earning before interest and tax (EBIT), earning before tax (EBT) and earning per share (EPS) by monitoring authority, so that the companies would not fall into a weaker position.

Prashai, (1999), has made a study on, *“The Capital Structure of Nepal Bank Ltd”*. The basic objective of the study made by him was to analyze the interrelationship and trends among some of the component parts of capital and assets structure and to provide suggestions for the development of an appropriate capital structure.

It has used financial tools such as ratio analysis and statistical tools such as Karl Pearson’s co- efficient ratio percentage, Index and average to analyze the relation between various variables.

It is known that the bank is composition of loan and advances, cash investment and other assets. Between all these components, loan and advance are the major portions. During the study, total assets and capitals are in increasing trend. But increasing rate of component is different. So the interrelationship of the component is fluctuating. The average growth rate of total deposits and other liabilities is higher than the average growth rate of net profit, and higher than the growth rate of total expenses. The total income and total expenses aren’t under control of the bank, and the net profit is only 40.64% of the total income. 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.

Kafle, (2001), has conducted research on *“A Comparative Analysis of Capital Structure Between Lumbini Sugar Factory Limited and Birjung Sugar Factory Limited”*. The purpose of this study was to analyze the various ratio of capital structure decision, net worth, earning before interest and tax and to suggest measures to improve the policy of the companies.

According to him both the companies were facing serious deterioration in earnings according to the net operating income approach. He noted down both the companies had defective capital structure as debt equity ratio were not so much satisfactory. Birgunj

Sugar Factory had high debt equity ratio indicating more financial risk while Lumbini Sugar Mills had low debt equity ratio which indicates access power of equity holders. And both the companies were unable to pay interest because they were operating at loss. As Birgunj sugar Factory was highly levered Lumbini Sugar Factory was unlevered both the companies had defective capital structure.

Kafle suggested that it should change the debt equity ratio for sound capital structure management to maintain it in 1:1 ratio.

Neupane, (2002), conducted research on, "*A Study on Capital & Assets Structure of Nepal Bank Limited*". The basic objective of this study was to analysis interrelation between different ratio, analysis of component parts of capital structure; debt equity ratio, net worth, deposit/investment ratio etc. According to him the research analyzed the different financial aspects of Nepal Bank Limited.

He remarked that the total deposit and total investment were not significantly related. He concluded that the net worth was used in unproductive assets of the bank and further commended that the bank needs to have productive use of its net worth.

Shah, (2006), made the study on, "*A Study of the Capital Structure of Selected Manufacturing Companies*" with a purpose to access the debt serving capacity of the mentioned manufacturing companies, examine 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.

The methodology used in the study included both financial as well as statistical tools. The financial tools used were ratio analysis and statistical tools used were correlation coefficient and regression analysis.

The study revealed that Nepal lever Ltd has not been using long term debt and it was fully equity based. 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 Arun Vanaspati Udhyog has a fluctuation Debt Equity ratio. Its long term debt is decreasing and only creditors make a small share of equity.

Research Gap

There are various studies accepted on capital structure management of various state owned banks and public limited companies of Nepal. Most of the study indicates that a sound principle of capital structure and its management haven't been followed by the enterprises in Nepal. The basic objective in all of the studies shows analysis of components parts of capital structure ratios, its interrelationship, debt serving capacity, relation between return on equity-debt, earning before tax and interest. However, their study reveals that they have not been using long term debt effectively. The net worth of the bank was used in unproductive assets, shows low debt equity ratio. Even then, different studies have been carried out regarding the subject matter of gap structure previously by different researchers. But, the research gap among the previous studies and this current study lies firstly in fiscal years under which the current study has undertaken. Secondly, the sample companies are new from the previous studies. Previously made studies included manufacturing companies, bank etc. The current study however is a comparative study of capital structure of three commercial banks. The researcher may feel comfort if the gap created by the previous studies can be filled up. Besides the analysis of capital structure ratios this study has made an attempt to analyze the effect of capital structure on the value of the companies. Further, this study will help research student to carry further studies as well as, it will helpful to the interested groups in the selected companies to analyze their position at present and search for the prospective investors.

CHAPTER - III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The present researcher has followed analytical as well as descriptive methodology and the chapter is composed of six sections.

3.1 Research Design

To fulfill the objectives of the study certain research design is essential so the analysis of this study is based on the nature of data and tools for analysis. To fulfill the objectives of the study it emphasizes on analytical as well as descriptive research design.

3.2 Nature and Sources of Data

The study is based on historical or “Secondary Data”. This secondary data is extensively used in this. The raw secondary data is not modified to some extent for the study purpose. Mostly data is collected from the “Balance Sheet”. Income statement and profit and loss account of commercial banks. Some other necessary data in this study have also been supplemented from Nepal Stock Exchange Ltd. and various related journal in management and other publication to some extent necessary primary data are also collected by interviewing related commercial Banks Manager and other Personal.

3.3 Required Tools for the Analysis

Different tools have been selected according to the nature of data as well as subject matter. The major tools employed for the analysis of the data is the ratio analysis which established the quantities or numerical relationship between two variable of the financial statement. Besides there the statistical tools and in software SPSS version 2007 are also used.

3.3.1 Financial Tools

The Financial Tools are: ratio analysis, leverage analysis, EBIT-EPS analysis and others.

3.3.1.1 Ratio Analysis

Ratio Analysis is the powerful tool of financial analysis. Financial ratio presents the relationship between two accounting figure expressed mathematically. Ratio analysis is defined as the systematic use of ratio to interpret the financial statements so that the strengths and weakness of a firm as well as its historical performance and current financial condition can be determined.

The required financial ratios for this study are enabling in detail as follows:

a. Debt Equity Ratio (Leverage Ratio)

Leverage Ratio measures the contribution of financing by owners compared with financial provided by the outsiders. They also provide some measure of the debt financing by the calculation of the coverage of fixed charge. It is one of the most popular tools of the long term financial solvency of the firm. It can be calculated by the long term debt divided by shareholders' equity. In the calculation , shareholders' equity preference share capital accumulated losses, discount on issue of share etc, so the shareholders' equity is defined as net worth and D/E ratio also called debt to net worth ratio related with the total debt. This debt equity measures the claim of the creditors an owner against the company's assets. In this study following leverage ratios have been calculated.

$$\text{Debt Equity Ratio} = \frac{\text{Long Term Debt}}{\text{Shareholder's equity}}$$

A high Debt equity ratio indicates that the claim of creditors is greater than that of the owners and vice-versa.

b. Debt to Total Capital Ratio

The relationship between creditor's funds and owner's capital can also express in term of debt to total capital ratio one approach is to relate the long term debt to the permanent capital of the firm. This ratio highlights the need of long term debt in the capital employed by the firm. Long term debt includes the debt, which matures in more than one

accounting period whereas capital employed includes long term debt and share holder's equity of the firm. This ratio is called the long term debt to capital debt ratio. Larger the ratio, larger the proportion of long term debt in the capital employed and vice versa. It is calculated by dividing 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.

$$\text{Debt to Capital Ratio} = \frac{\text{Long Term Debt}}{\text{Permanent Capital}}$$

Permanent Capital consists of shareholders equity as well as long term debt.

c. Total Debt to Total Asset Ratio

The total debt of the firm comprises long term debt plus current liabilities while total assets consist of permanent capital plus current liabilities. Assets may be described as valuable resources owned by a business which have been acquired at a measurable money cost. Assets as an economic resource satisfy three requirements. They are firstly, the resources must be valuable or it may provide future benefits to the operations of the firms; secondly, the resources must be owned, and thirdly the resources must be acquired at a measurable money cost. When intangible assets are the significant, they are frequently deducted from net worth to obtain the tangible net worth of the firm. A comparison of debt ratio for a given company with those of similar firms gives us a general indication, of the credit worthiness and financial risk of the firm. The reason, that is a general indication, is that the assets and cash flows of the firm provide the wherewithal for payment of debt.

This can be calculated as:

$$\text{TD/ TA Ratio} = \frac{\text{Total Debt}}{\text{Total Assets}}$$

The ratio however gives some what similar in dictation as debt equity ratio.

d. Long Term Debt to Total Debt Ratio (LTD / TD)

The relationship between long term debt and total debt has a decisive impact on the financial structure of all two companies under study. Debt is considered as the total debt, which includes all secured and unsecured loan. Within these two types of loan there comes long term, short term debt, debenture, overdraft etc. It is externally borrowed from financial institute. Debt capital is the capital to which a fixed rate of interest should be paid. Interest paid for debt is deductible expenses. It can save the tax. Debt capital is a cheap means of financing. But there is a risk in holding debt capital. Risk in the sense of timely payment of interest and the redeemable value at the end of maturity period. Debt capital should be limited up to a level, which the earning capacity of the firm can support. Otherwise, the company has to sell its assets and be forced to go into liquidation. The ratio of long term debt to total debt indicates what percentage of company's total debts is included in the form of long term debt. It is calculated as;

$$\text{LTD/ TD} = \frac{\text{Long Term Debt}}{\text{Total Debt}}$$

e. The Degree of Financial Leverage (DFL)

The degree of financial leverage at a particular EBIT level is measured by the percentage change in earning per share relative to the percentage change in EBIT. The company needs a lot of funds to operate activities these funds are collected from different sources having different rates. On the way to profitability, the company can use equity capital. In the process of profit planning, it tries to increase the amount of profit, but different kinds of leverage considered. Degree of financial leverage is one kind of leverage. Degree of financial leverage (DFL) measures proportionate change in EPS as a result of given change in EBIT. The financial leverage measures the financial risk arises due to the interest. Higher the financial leverage higher the financial risk. The financial leverage exists when the company as debt capital in the composition of capital structure. The extra amount of investment by debt capital can be measured only with the help of financial leverage this may be calculated as:.

$$\text{Degree of Financial Leverage} = \frac{\% \text{ Change in EPS}}{\% \text{ change in EBIT}}$$

$$\text{Degree of Financial Leverage} = \frac{\text{EBIT}}{\text{EBT}}$$

Where, R represents fixed financial costs which are interest and preference dividend.

f. Interest Coverage Ratio

It is also known as time interest earned ratio. This ratio measures the debt servicing capacity of a firm in so far as fixed interest on long term loan is earned. It is determined by dividing the operating profits or earning before interest and taxes (EBIT) by the fixed interest charges on loans. The interest coverage ratio shows many firms the interest charges are covered by funds that are ordinarily available to pay the interest. This is calculated as,

$$\text{Interest Coverage Ratio} = \frac{\text{EBIT}}{\text{Interest}}$$

This ratio is very useful in determining whether a borrower is going to be able to service interest payments on a loan. In other words, the ratio is designed to relate the financial charges of a firm to its ability to service them. This ratio also known to determine whether a firm has the ability to meet its long term obligations A high interest coverage ratio indicates the company's strong debt servicing capacity.

g. Earning Per Share (EPS)

Earning per share refers the rupee amount earned per share of common stock outstanding. It measures the return of each equity shareholders. The higher earning indicates the better achievements of the profitability of the banks by mobilizing their funds and vice versa. This ratio can be computed by dividing the earning available to common shareholders by the total number of common stock outstanding of banks. Thus,

$$\text{EPS} = \frac{\text{Earning Available to Common Stock Holders}}{\text{Number of Common Stock Outstanding}}$$

h. Dividend Per Share (DPS)

Dividend per share indicates the rupee earnings actually distributed to common stockholders per share held by them. It measures the dividend distribution to each equity shareholders. Generally, the higher DPS creates positive attitude of the shareholders toward the bank, which consequently helps to increase the market value of the shares.

Thus,

$$\text{DPS} = \frac{\text{Total Amount of Dividend Paid to Ordinary Shareholders}}{\text{Number of Ordinary Shares Outstanding}}$$

3.3.1.2. Profitability Ratio

Profitability Ratio gives final answers about how effectively the firm is being managed. In the study following profitability ratio are calculated.

a. Return on Total Assets

It is also known as Return to Investment or R_o 1 before tax basis. 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 bank assets. The ratio explains net income for each unit of assets. Higher ratio indicates efficiency in utilizing its overall resources and vice versa.

$$\text{Return on Total Assets} = \frac{\text{EBIT}}{\text{Total Assets}}$$

While on after tax basis, because of the tax shelter benefit of interest, we add the after tax interest expenses to net income for the numerator of the ratio.

$$\text{Return on Total Assets} = \frac{\text{Net Profit after tax}}{\text{Total Assets}}$$

b. Return on Net worth (Ordinary Shareholders Equity)

The ratio of net profit taxes to net worth measure the state of return on the stock holder's investment is computed by dividing EAT with net worth. This ratio tells us the earning power on shareholders equity and is frequently used in comparing two or more firms in an industry. It also indicates that the funds supplied by owners. The higher ratio indicates that the funds using have effective in the company. It reflects the extent to which the objective of profit maximization has been achieved. Here net worth represents only equity capital.

$$\text{Return on Share Holder's Equity} = \frac{\text{Net profit after tax}}{\text{Share Holder's Equity}}$$

3.4 Statistical Tools

Mandy statistical tools are often employed in the analysis and interpretation of data as an aid to management and managerial decision. Following statistical are used more systematically in this chapter.

3.4.1 Correlation Coefficient (r)

Correlation coefficient measures the relationship between two variables, when they are so related that the change in value of one variable is accompanied by the change in the value of the other. It contributes to the understanding of economic behavior, aids in locating the critical important variables on which others depend, may reveal to the economist the connection by which disturbances spread stabilizing forces may become effective. Although there are three types of correlation i.e simple, partial and multiple but here the focus is on simple correlation based on "Pearson's coefficient of correlation".

The correlation co-efficient denoted by r and shows the direction of relationship between coefficients.

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

Where,

r = Pearson's correlation coefficient

N = No. of Observation

X, Y = Variables.

If one variable increases or decreases then r will fall between 0 and 1 i.e. the inverse relationship exists on the other side, if one variable increases the other also increases and the value of r will be ranged between 0 and 1 i.e. the relationship exists.

Decision criteria

When the value of $r = +1$, the variables are perfectly correlated

When the value of $r = -1$, the variables have perfect negative correlation

When the value of $r = 0$, there is no correlation between the variables.

If $-1 < r < 0$ then two variables either increase or decrease but it is the opposite direction.

3.4.2 Probable Error (P.E)

The probable error of the coefficient of correlation helps in interpreting its value with the help of probable error it is possible to determine the reliability of the value of the coefficient is done for as it depends on the condition of random sampling. The P.E of the coefficient of correlation is obtained as follows.

$$\text{P.E. (r)} = 6 \times 0.6745 \frac{(1-r^2)}{\sqrt{N}}$$

Where,

r=correlation coefficient

N=no. of parts of observation

Note:

- If the value of r is less than the P.E. 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 P.E. the coefficient of correlation is practically certain i.e. the value of r is significant.

3.4.3 Simple Regression Analysis

It is a statistical tool which helps to estimate or predict the one variable when the value of other variable is known. The unknown variable which we have to predict is called dependent variable and the variable whose value is known is called independent variable. The analysis used to describe the average relationship between two variables is known as simple linear regression analysis.

Regression equation of y on x:

$$y = a + bx$$

Regression Constant (a)

Regression constant synonymous with the numerical constant determines the distance of the fitted line directly above or below the origin. The value of the constant which is the intercept of the model indicates the average level of dependent variable when independent variable (s) is zero. In other words, a constant indicates the mean or average effect on dependent variable if all variables omitted from the model.

Regression Coefficient (b)

The regression coefficient of each dependent variable indicates the marginal relationship between that variable and value of dependent variable, holding constant the effect of all other independent variable in the regression model. In other words, the coefficient describes how much change in independent variables; affect the value of dependent variables estimate. It is also known that the numerical constant which determines the changes in dependent variable per unit changes in independent variables (i.e. slope of the line).

CHAPTER - IV

DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

4.1 Introduction

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

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.

4.2 Presentation and Analysis of Data

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. The analyses in this chapter are divided into following sections, which is directly and indirectly related to the capital structure.

4.2.1 Capital Structure Analysis

4.2.1.1 Debt Equity Ratio

Table: 4.1

Comparative Debt – Equity Ratio

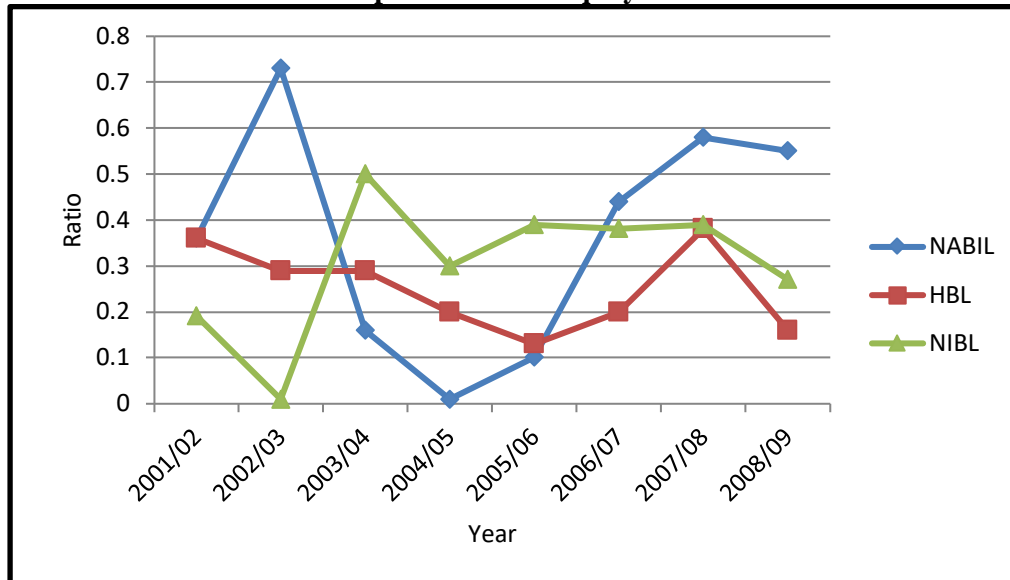
Fiscal Year	Debt Equity Ratio (times)		
	NABIL	HBL	NIBL
2001/02	0.36	0.36	0.19
2002/03	0.73	0.29	0.01
2003/04	0.16	0.29	0.50
2004/05	0.01	0.20	0.30
2005/06	0.10	0.13	0.39
2006/07	0.44	0.20	0.38
2007/08	0.58	0.38	0.39
2008/09	0.55	0.16	0.27

Average	0.35	0.25	0.30
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Source: Annual Reports (Refer Appendix 1)

Figure: 4.1

Comparative Debt Equity Ratio



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

The table shows that D/E ratio of NABIL is 0.36, 0.73, 0.16, 0.01, 0.09, 0.44, 0.58 & 0.55 in fiscal years 2001/02 to 2008/09 respectively. The average D/E ratio of NABIL is 36.66%. It shows that creditors have 36.66% claims on assets where the last three years ratio are lower than average ratio, it indicates that claim of owners is higher than the creditors. It also indicates that the company has lesser amount to be paid as interest on debt.

Calculated value of HBL shows D/E ratio have decreasing trend upto year 2008/09 except in year 2007/08. D/E ratio is 0.29 in the year 2002/03 which remains constant 0.29 in F/Y 2003/04 too. The ratio decreases to 0.20 in following year then again decreases to 0.17 in the year 2005/06. The average D/E ratio is 25.4% which implies that the claim of creditors is 25.00% in compare to owner of the company.

In case of NIBL, above calculation shows that D/E ratio have fluctuating trend over the study period. The table shows that D/E ratio of NIBL is 0.19 in the year 2001/02 and then it decreases to 0.01 in the year 2002/03. Then it increases to 0.50 in the year 2003/04. In the year 2004/05 it decreases to 0.30 after which its D/E ratio increases to 0.39 in the year 2005/06 and same in fluctuating regularly till 2008/09. This shows that NIBL have very fluctuating trend of D/E ratio. The average D/E ratio is 30.00% which implies that the claim of creditors is 30.00% in compare to owner of the company.

Between NABIL, HBL and NIBL, HBL has lowest D/E ratio.

4.2.1.2 Long Term Debt to Capital Employed Ratio

Table: 4.2

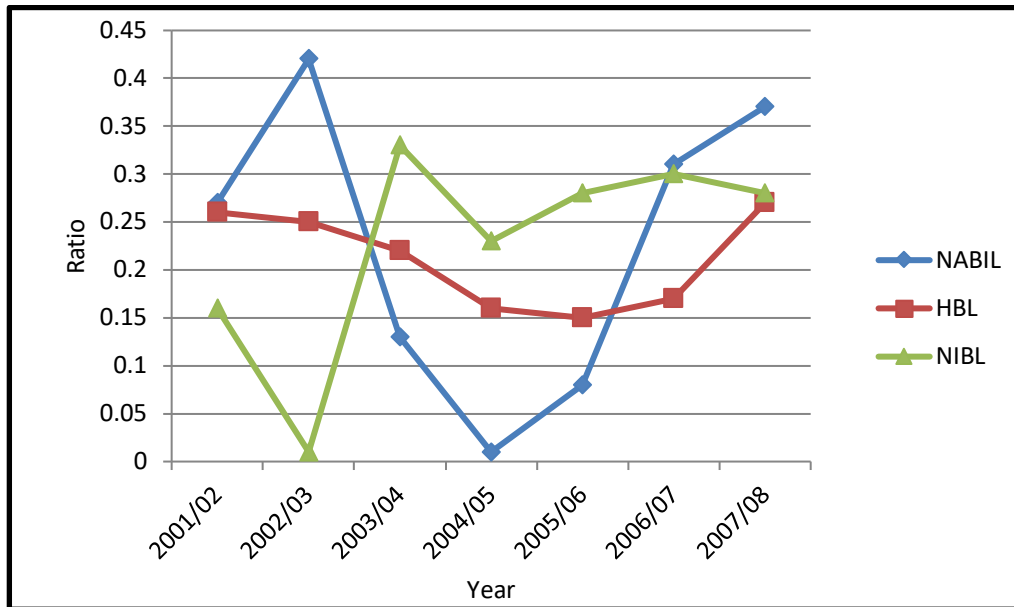
Comparative Long Term Debt to Capital Employed Ratio

Fiscal Year	Long Term Debt to Capital Employed Ratio (times)		
	NABIL	HBL	NIBL
2001/02	0.27	0.26	0.16
2002/03	0.42	0.25	0.01
2003/04	0.13	0.22	0.33
2004/05	0.01	0.16	0.23
2005/06	0.08	0.15	0.28
2006/07	0.31	0.17	0.30
2007/08	0.37	0.27	0.28
2008/09	0.36	0.14	0.21
Average	1.95	0.20	0.23

Source: Annual Reports (Refer Appendix 2)

Figure: 4.2

Comparative Long Term Debt to Capital Employed Ratio



NABIL has fluctuating trend of long term debt to capital employed ratio. In F/Y 2001/02 the ratio is 0.27 that means long term debt to capital employed is 27% and owner of companies contributed remaining 73%. In the following year 2002/03 the ratio increases to 0.42 and in F/Y 03/04, 04/05, 05/06, 06/07, 07/08 & 08/09 ratio are 0.13, 0.01, 0.08, 0.31, 0.37 & 0.36 respectively. The average ratio shows a ratio of 19.5%.

The Table 4.2 shows that HBL have a decreasing trend in term of LTD to capital employed ratio till year 2006/07 and in 2007/08 increment upto 0.27 then also in declining phase of 0.14 in 2008/09. In F/Y 2001/02 the ratio is 0.26 that means 26% of capital is employed by long-term debt and remaining is contributed by shareholder's equity. And the ratio is decreasing year by year gradually. The average ratio is 20.00%.

In case of NIBL also ratio of LTD to capital employed is in fluctuating trend as that of NABIL. In F/Y 2001/02 the ratio is 0.16 that means long term debt to capital employed is 16% and owner of the company contributed remaining 84%. In the following year 2002/03 the ratio decreases to 0.01 and in F/Y 03/04, 04/05, 05/06, 06/07, 07/08 & 08/09 ratio are 0.33, 0.23, 0.28, 0.30, 0.28 and 0.21 respectively. The average ratio shows the ratio of 23.00%. Between NABIL, HBL and NIBL, HBL shows highest ratio which means NIBL has higher amount of capital financed by long term debt.

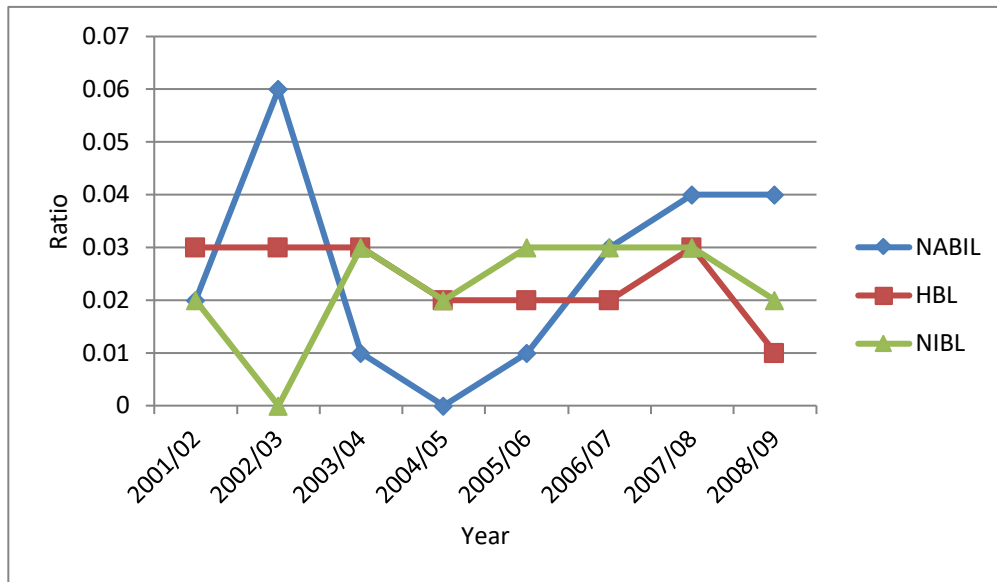
4.2.1.3 Debt to Total Assets Ratio

Table: 4.3
Debt to Total Asset Ratio

Fiscal Year	Debt To Total Asset Ratio (percentage)		
	NABIL	HBL	NIBL
2001/02	0.02	0.03	0.02
2002/03	0.06	0.03	0.00
2003/04	0.01	0.03	0.03
2004/05	0.00	0.02	0.02
2005/06	0.01	0.02	0.03
2006/07	0.03	0.02	0.03
2007/08	0.04	0.03	0.03
2008/09	0.04	0.01	0.02
Average	0.03	0.04	0.02

Source: Annual Reports (refer appendix 3)

Figure: 4.3
Debt to Total Asset Ratio



The Table 4.3 shows Debt to Total Assets ratio of NABIL is in fluctuating trend. In F/Y 2001/02 its ratio is 0.02 where as it increases to 0.06 in next year. The ratios are 0.01, 0.06, 0.01, 0.03, 0.04 & 0.04 in following respective years 03/04, 04/05, 05/06, 06/07, 07/08 & 08/09. The average ratio is 0.03 i.e. 3%.

Debt to Asset ratio of HBL is quite steady in last five years still the ratio is very low. In F/Y 2001/02 its ratio is 0.03 and it remains constant for three years which then decreases to 0.02 in following year. The ratio again increases in year 2006/07 then follows same in year 2007/08 & 2008/09 in decreasing phase for last two years. The average ratio of HBL is 0.04 i.e. 4%.

By the above calculation we can say that Debt to Total Assets ratio of NIBL is in fluctuating trend as that of NABIL but not as fluctuating as that of NABIL. In F/Y 2001/02 Debt to Total asset ratio of NIBL is 0.02 which means only 2% of total fund is provided by the creditors. In the following year it decreases to 0% and then again increases to 0.03 in the F/Y 2003/04. The LTD to TA ratio is 0.02 and 0.03 in the year 2004/05 and 2005/06 respectively and stand constant upto year 2007/08. The LTD to TA ratio decreases in year 2008/09. The average ratio for the period is 2%.

The debt to asset ratio of NABIL, HBL and NIBL is insignificant because long term debt is negligible compared to total asset.

However, average Debt asset ratio of HBL is higher than NABIL and NIBL..

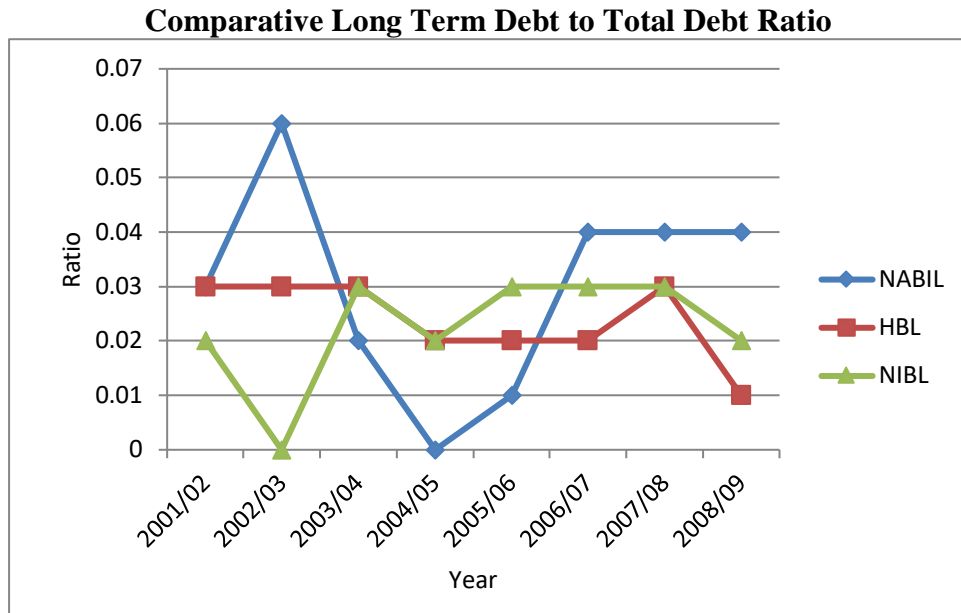
4.2.1.4 Long Term Debt to Total Debt Ratio

Table: 4.4
Comparative Long Term Debt to Total Debt

Fiscal Year	Long Term Debt to Total Debt (percentage)		
	NABIL	HBL	NIBL
2001/02	0.03	0.03	0.02
2002/03	0.06	0.03	0.00
2003/04	0.02	0.03	0.03
2004/05	0.00	0.02	0.02
2005/06	0.01	0.02	0.03
2006/07	0.04	0.02	0.03
2007/08	0.04	0.03	0.03
2008/09	0.04	0.01	0.02
Average	0.03	0.02	0.02

Source: Annual Reports (refer appendix 4)

Figure: 4.4



The trend analysis of the company reveals that NABIL has quite fluctuating trend of LTD/TD ratio. The above calculation shows that the ratio of LTD/TD of NABIL is 0.03 in F/Y 2001/02. This means contribution of long term debt is 0.03 and remaining is contributed by current liabilities. The ratio is 0.06 in year 02/03 which decreases to 0.02 in F/Y 03/04. Then after it decreases to 0% in the following year and then again increases to 0.01 in the year 2005/06 and stable to 0.04 till the year 2008/09. The average ratio is 3%.

Similarly, HBL has constant trend of LTD/TD ratio. In the fiscal year 2001/02 the ratio is 0.03 that indicated contribution of long term debt in total debt and remaining portion is contributed by current liabilities. It remains constant for three years and then decreases to 0.02 for the last two F/Y and again 0.03 and 0.01 in year 2007/08 & 2008/09 respectively. The average ratio is 2.4%.

Similarly, NIBL also have the fluctuating trend of LTD to TD ratio for the five sample years. It is 0.02 for the F/Y 2001/02 which indicates contribution of long term debt in total debt is only 2% and remaining part is current liabilities. The ratio then is 0.0, 0.03,

0.02, 0.03, 0.03, 0.03 and 0.02 for the F/Y 2002/03, 2003/04, 2004/05, 2005/06, 2006/07, 2007/08 & 2008/09 respectively. The average ratio is 2%.

From the above calculation we can say that NIBL is low levered firm with comparison to rest two firms since it has used less long term debt than that of NABIL and HBL.

4.2.1.5 Interest Coverage Ratio

Table: 4.5

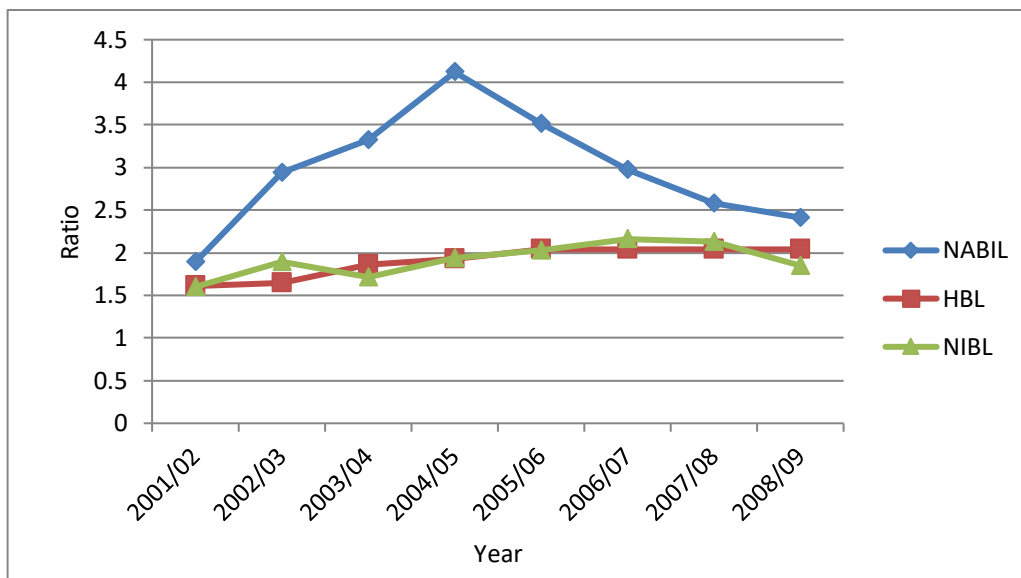
Interest Coverage Ratio

Fiscal Year	Interest Coverage ratio (times)		
	NABIL	HBL	NIBL
2001/02	1.89	1.61	1.60
2002/03	2.94	1.65	1.90
2003/04	3.33	1.86	1.71
2004/05	4.12	1.93	1.94
2005/06	3.52	2.04	2.03
2006/07	2.97	2.04	2.16
2007/08	2.58	2.04	2.13
2008/09	2.41	2.04	1.85
Average	2.97	1.90	1.92

Source: Profit and Loss Statement (refer appendix 6)

Figure: 4.5

Comparative Interest Coverage Ratio



In the table 4.5 the average ratio of NABIL is 2.97 which imply no. of times of interest covered by its EBIT. The interest coverage ratio of NABIL shows increasing trend beside last F/Y. The ICR of NABIL in year 2001/02 is 1.89 times which increases to 2.94 times in F/Y 02/03 and 3.33 times in 03/04. Then it increases to 4.12 times in 04/05 and 3.52 times in the year 05/06 then in the decreasing trend of 2.97, 2.58 and 2.41 in F/Y 06/07, 07/08 and 08/09 respectively. It shows that NABIL is capable and it is good indication because higher ratio is preferable.

In case of HBL the ICR is 1.61, 1.65, 1.86, 1.93, 2.04 times in the year 2001/02, 02/03, 03/04, 04/05, 05/06 respectively and constant of 0.24 times till year 2008/09. Here the ratio shows increasing trend. The average calculated ratio is 1.90 times. This implies company's available profit can meet the debt amount.

In case of NIBL the ICR is 1.60, 1.90, 1.71, 1.94, 2.03, 2.16, 2.13 and 1.85 times in the year 2001/02, 02/03, 03/04, 04/05, 05/06, 06/07, 07/08 and 08/09 respectively. Here the ratio shows slightly fluctuating trend. But it is in increasing trend in year 2009/07 and slowly in decreasing phase in year 2007/08 and 2008/09 and also the available profit can meet the debt amount.

The ratio between three banks shows that there is enough profit to meet the claim of the creditors. Between three firms the ICR of NABIL is greater.

4.2.1.6 Return on Share Holders' Equity

Table: 4.6

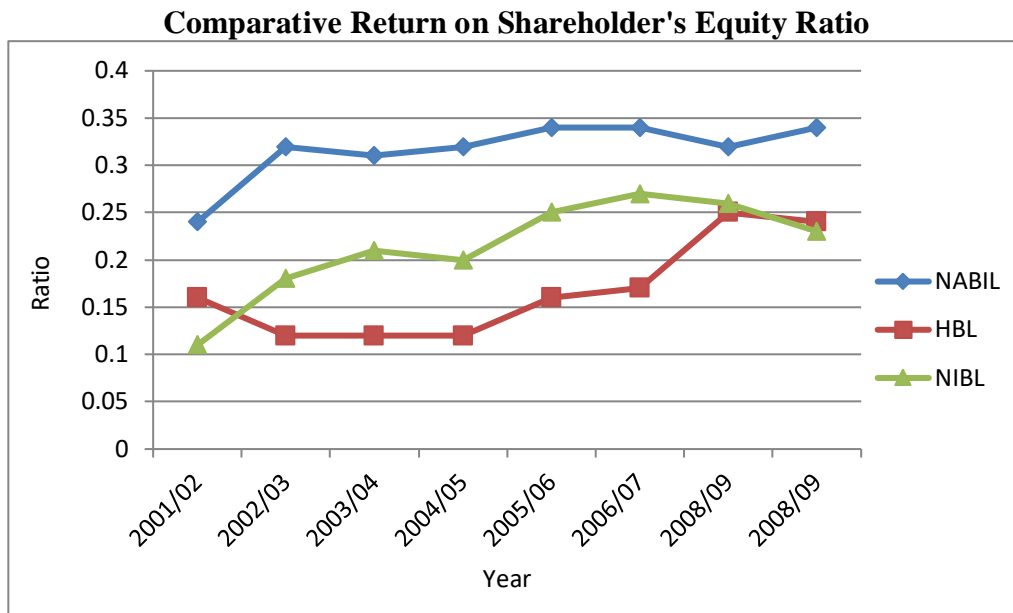
Return on Shareholder's Equity

Fiscal Year	Return on Shareholder's Equity (times)		
	NABIL	HBL	NIBL
2001/02	0.24	0.16	0.11
2002/03	0.32	0.12	0.18
2003/04	0.31	0.12	0.21
2004/05	0.32	0.12	0.20

2005/06	0.34	0.16	0.25
2006/07	0.34	0.17	0.27
2008/09	0.32	0.25	0.26
2008/09	0.34	0.24	0.23
Average	0.32	0.17	0.21

Source: Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Statement (refer appendix 7)

Figure: 4.6



The Table 4.6 exhibits return's on shareholder's equity of sample companies. In the context of NABIL, it has a fluctuating trend. In the fiscal year 2001/02, the ratio is 24% that imply that one hundred investment by shareholder's equity earned 124. In F/Y 2002/03 it increased to 32% then decreased to 31% in next year. Again it increased to 32% in F/Y 04/05 and further increased to 34% in 06/07. But decreases in year 07/08 to 32% and again increases to 34% in year 08/09. And al The average ratio is 32.00%.

Similarly, HBL shows decreased ratio at the beginning then it remain constant at 12% till 04/05 that means shareholders earn Rs112 investing one hundred. After that ROE increased up to 16% in F/Y 05/06. Then in increasing trend of 17% & 25% in year 06/07& 07/08 respectively. And in the year 2008/09 ROE is 24%. Its average ratio is 17.00%.

In case of NIBL, ROE is in increasing trend for first two years and then it reaches to 0.21 in the F/Y 2003/04. Then it decreases to 0.20 in the following year. ROE of NIBL then again increases to 0.25 and 0.27 in year 05/06 and 06/07 respectively. And again decreases to 0.26 & 0.23 in the last two year of sample period 07/08 & 08/09. The average ROE is 21%. By analyzing the above calculation, it is found that the return earned by shareholders of NABIL is highly greater.

4.2.1.7 Return on Total Assets

Table: 4.7

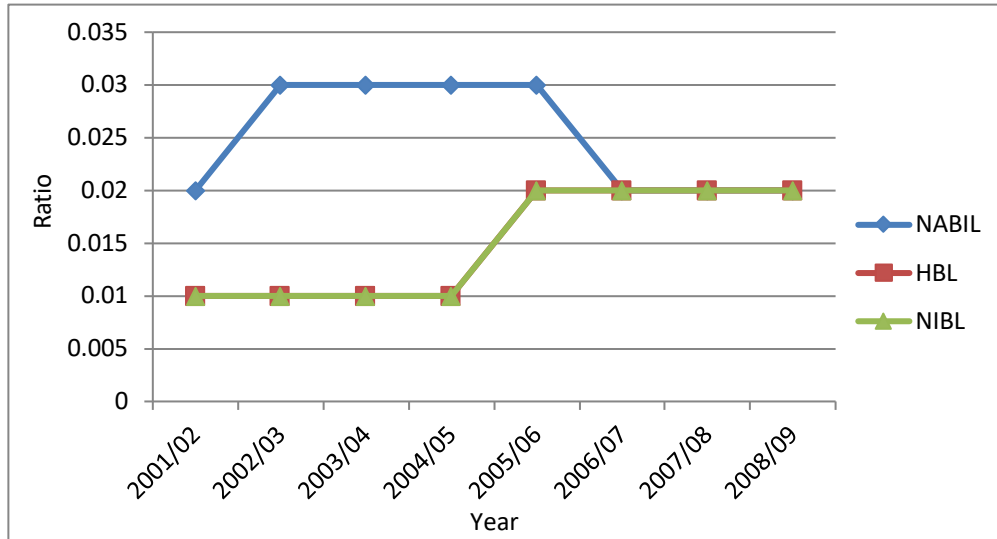
Return on Total Assets

Fiscal Year	Return on Total Assets (times)		
	NABIL	HBL	NIBL
2001/02	0.02	0.01	0.01
2002/03	0.03	0.01	0.01
2003/04	0.03	0.01	0.01
2004/05	0.03	0.01	0.01
2005/06	0.03	0.02	0.02
2006/07	0.02	0.02	0.02
2007/08	0.02	0.02	0.02
2008/09	0.02	0.02	0.02
Average	0.03	0.03	0.02

Source: Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Statement (refer appendix 8)

Figure: 4.7

Comparative Return on Total Assets Ratio



The Table 4.7 shows the comparative position of return on Total Assets of NABIL, HBL and NIBL. From the table ROA of NABIL in the F/Y 2001/02, 02/03, 03/04, 04/05 and 05/06 are 0.02, 0.03, 0.03, 0.03 and 0.03 respectively. And decrease in constant ratio 0.02 in year 06/07, 07/08 and 08/09. Its average ratio is 0.03. The overall trend is first increasing then remains constant.

Similarly, ROA of HBL in the year 2001/02, 02/03, 03/04, 04/05, 05/06, 06/07 is 0.01 and 0.02 in last two years respectively and the average return is 0.03. The overall trend is first decreasing then constant and increased in last two F/Y.

In case of NIBL, ROA in the F/Y 2001/02, 02/03, 03/04, 04/05 are 0.01, 0.01, 0.01, 0.01 and in year 05/06 to 08/09 remains constant to 0.02. The average ratio is 0.02. The overall trend is constant for first four financial years and then increased by 0.02 in last 4 yrs F/Y.

The averages return of NABIL & HBL is equal and higher compared to NIBL.

4.2.1.8 Earning Per Share (EPS) Analysis

Table: 4.8

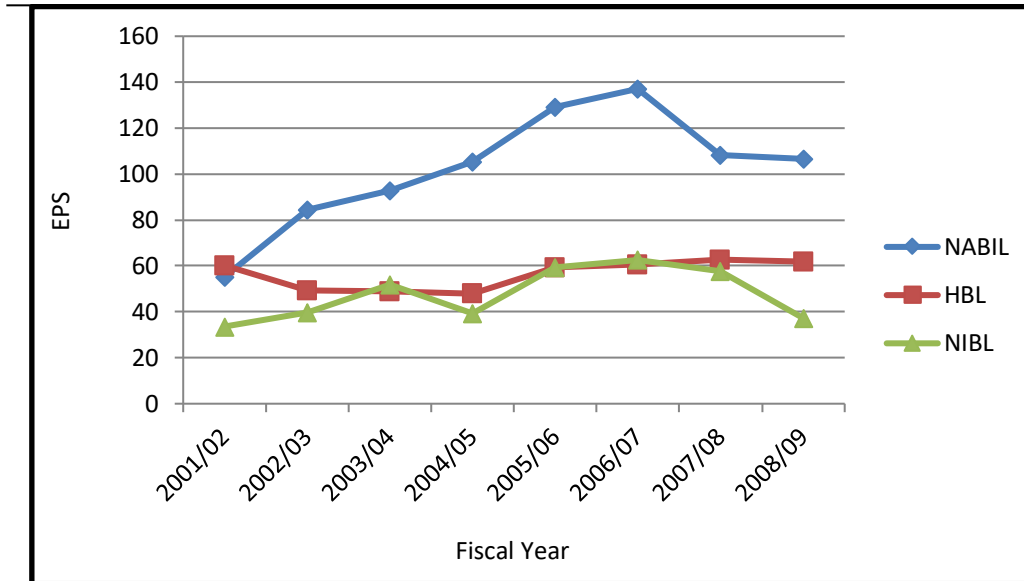
Comparative Earning Per Share

Fiscal Year	Earning Per Share (In Rupees)		
	NABIL	HBL	NIBL
2001/02	55.25	60.26	33.59
2002/03	84.66	49.45	39.56
2003/04	92.61	49.05	51.70
2004/05	105.49	47.91	39.50
2005/06	129.21	59.24	59.35
2006/07	137.08	60.66	62.57
2007/08	108.31	62.74	57.87
2008/09	106.79	61.90	37.42
Average	102.43	56.40	47.70

Source: Annual Reports

Figure: 4.8

Comparative Earning Per Share



The Earning per share of NABIL are Rs 55.25, Rs 84.66, Rs 92.61, Rs 105.49, Rs 129.21, Rs 137.08, Rs 108.31, Rs 106.79 in the F/Y 2001/02, 02/03, 03/04, 04/05, 05/06, 06/07, 07/08 and 08/09 respectively. The average EPS is Rs 102.43. The overall trend is increasing. The highest EPS is Rs 137.08 in F/Y 06/07.

Similarly, the earning per share of HBL in the years 2001/02, 02/03, 03/04, 04/05, 05/06, 06/07, 07/08 and 08/09 are Rs 60.26, Rs 49.45, Rs 49.05, Rs47.91, Rs 59.24, Rs 60.66, Rs 62.74 and Rs 61.90 respectively. The average EPS is Rs 56.40. Here the overall trend is fluctuating. EPS decreases from Rs 60.26 in the F/Y 2001/02 to Rs 47.91 in the year 04/05.

The Earning per share of NIBL are Rs 33.59, Rs 39.56, Rs 51.70, Rs 39.50, 59.35, 62.57, 57.87 and 37.42 in the F/Y 2001/02, 02/03, 03/04, 04/05, 05/06, 06/07, 07/08 and 08/09 respectively. The average EPS is Rs 44.70. Here the overall trend is fluctuating. EPS first increases and reaches to Rs 62.57 in 2006/07 and then it decrease in the following year.

Between all three banks EPS of NABIL has the highest Rs 102.43 average which shows NABIL is most profitable.

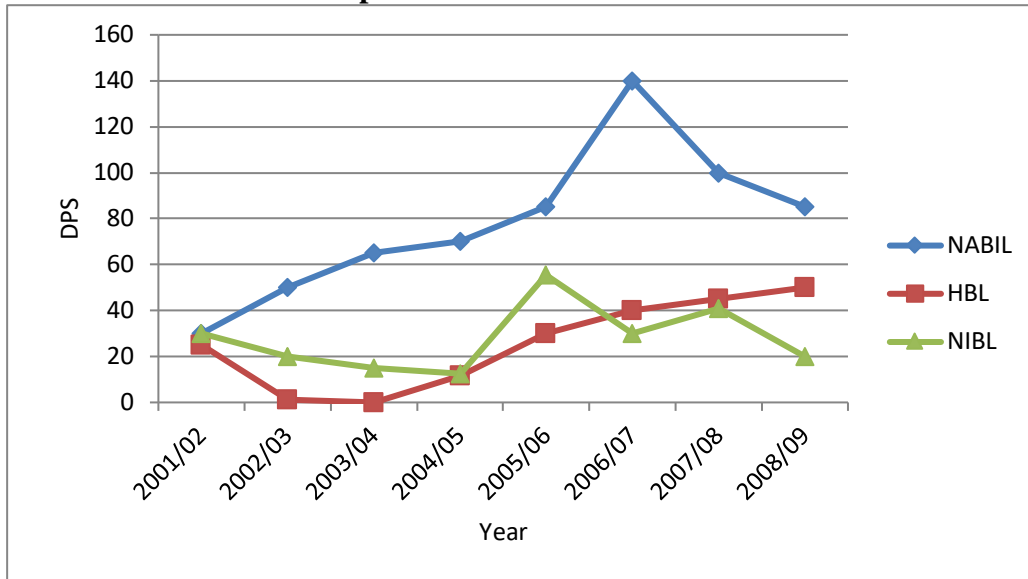
4.2.1.9 Dividend Per Share (DPS) Analysis

Table 4.9
Comparative Dividend per Share

Fiscal Year	Dividend Per Share (In Rupees)		
	NABIL	HBL	NIBL
2001/02	30	25	30
2002/03	50	1.32	20
2003/04	65	0	15
2004/05	70	11.58	12.50
2005/06	85	30	55.46
2006/07	140	40	30
2007/08	100	45	40.83
2008/09	85	50	20
Average	78.13	25.36	27.97

Source: Annual Reports

Figure 4.9
Comparative Dividend Per Share



The dividend per share of NABIL are Rs 30, Rs 50, RS 65, Rs 70, Rs 85, Rs 140, Rs 100 & Rs 85 in the years 2001/02, 02/03, 03/04, 04/05, 05/06, 06/07, 07/08 and 08/09 respectively. The average DPS is Rs 78.13 The highest DPS paid is in the last financial year 06/07.

Similarly, HBL shows a DPS of Rs 25, Rs 1.32, Rs 0.00, Rs 11.58, Rs 30, Rs 40, Rs 45, and Rs 50 in the F/Y 2001/02, 02/03, 03/04, 04/05, 05/06, 06/07, 07/08 and 08/09. The average DPS is Rs 25.36. HBL has paid a highest dividend of Rs 50 in the year 08/09 whereas it has paid no dividend at all in the year 03/04.

The dividends per share of NIBL are Rs 20, Rs 30, Rs 15, Rs 12.50, Rs 55.46, Rs 30, Rs 40.83 and Rs 20 in the F/Y 2001/02, 02/03, 03/04, 04/05, 05/06, 06/07, 07/08 and 08/09 respectively. The average DPS is Rs 27.97. The highest DPS paid is in the last financial year 05/06.

The table shows that NABIL has paid the highest average dividend of Rs 60.

It shows that the more investors are likely to be attracted in investing at NABIL.

4.2.2 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 the owner's 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

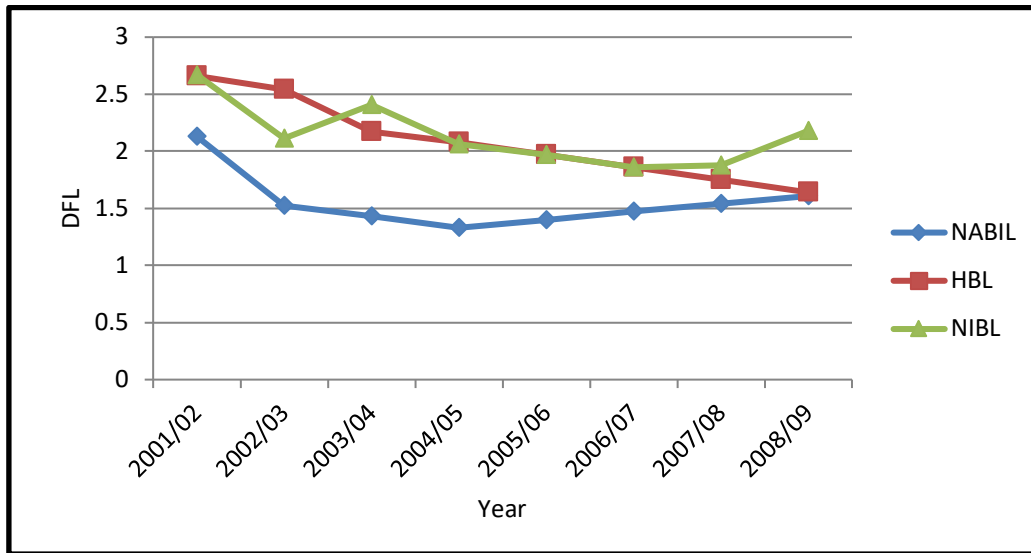
Either dividing percentage change in EPS by percentage change into EBIT or dividing percentage change into EBT by EBIT can calculate degree of financial leverage. In this analysis of financial leverage second method is chosen. High the financial leverage, high will be the financial risk and also high will be the shareholders' return. The degree of financial leverage of Sample Company is presented below:

Table: 4.10
Degree of Financial Leverage

Fiscal Year	Degree of Financial Leverage (times)		
	NABIL	HBL	NIBL
2001/02	2.13	2.66	2.67
2002/03	1.52	2.54	2.11
2003/04	1.43	2.17	2.41
2004/05	1.33	2.08	2.06
2005/06	1.40	1.97	1.97
2006/07	1.47	1.86	1.86
2007/08	1.54	1.75	1.88
2008/09	1.61	1.64	2.18
Average	1.55	2.08	2.14

Source: Annual Reports (Refer Appendix 5)

Figure: 4.10
Comparative Degree of Financial Leverage



Above calculated DFL of NABIL has decreasing trend in first four years of sample period and is increased in last F/Y. In the fiscal year 2001/02 the DFL is 2.13 times. In second year the DFL is 1.52 times in the fiscal year 2003/04, 04/05, 05/06 the DFL is 1.43, 1.33 and 1.40 times respectively. And DFL is 1.47, 1.54 & 1.61 in year 06/07, 07/08 & 08/09 respectively. The average DFL is 1.55 times.

The trend of HBL is quite constant. The DFL of HBL in the fiscal year 2001/02, 02/03, 03/04, 04/05, 05/06, 06/07, 07/08 and 08/09 are 2.66, 2.54, 2.17, 2.08, 1.97, 1.86, 1.75 and 1.64 times respectively. The average DFL of HBL is 2.08 times.

The trend of NIBL is also quite constant. In case of NIBL, DFL in the fiscal year 2001/02, 02/03, 03/04, 04/05, 05/06, 06/07, 07/08 and 08/09 are 2.67, 2.11, 2.41, 2.06, 1.97, 1.86, 1.88 and 2.18 respectively. The average DFL of NIBL is 2.14 times.

Analyzing the above data, it is found that the DFL of NIBL is greater than NABIL and HBL. It shows that NIBL has greater burden of financial charges.

4.2.3 Correlation Analysis

Correlation analysis enables us to have an idea about the degree and direction of the relationship between 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 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 the focus is on simple correlation based on 'Pearson's Coefficient of Correlation'. In the following section correlation between different variables are calculated and presented of the sample companies.

4.2.3.1 Correlation of Nabil Bank

Table: 4.11

Correlation of Nabil Bank

	LTDCE	DE	DA	LTDTD	ICR	ROE	ROA
LTDCE	1	.989(**)	.948(**)	.971(**)	-.742(*)	.050	-.592
DE	.989(**)	1	.981(**)	.977(**)	-.657	.096	-.488
DA	.948(**)	.981(**)	1	.966(**)	-.535	.206	-.335
LTDTD	.971(**)	.977(**)	.966(**)	1	-.631	.090	-.416
ICR	-.742(*)	-.657	-.535	-.631	1	.445	.779(*)
ROE	.050	.096	.206	.090	.445	1	.162
ROA	-.592	-.488	-.335	-.416	.779(*)	.162	1

*** Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).*

** Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).*

Source: SPSS Programs

Table 4.11 represents that debt equity ratio of Nabil bank is positively correlated with long term debt to capital employed ratio, Debt assets ratio and long term debt to total debt ratio whereas it is negatively correlated with interest coverage ratio, return on equity and return on assets. Similarly long term debt to capital employed ratio is positively correlated to Debt assets and Long term debt to total assets ratio but negatively correlated with return on assets and return on equity. Debt assets is positively correlated with long term debt to total debt ratio and negatively correlated with Interest coverage ratio, ROE and ROA. Long term debt to total debt ratio is negatively correlated with Interest coverage ratio, ROE and ROA. Interest coverage ratio is positively correlated with ROE and ROA. Finally ROE is also positively correlated with ROA.

4.2.3.2 Correlation of Himalayan Bank

Table: 4.12
Correlation of Himalayan Bank

	LTDCE	DE	DA	LTDTD	ICR	ROE	ROA
LTDCE	1	.977(**)	.908(**)	.908(**)	-.619	-.039	.029
DE	.977(**)	1	.877(**)	.877(**)	-.533	.053	.099
DA	.908(**)	.877(**)	1	1.000(**)	-.622	-.368	-.311
LTDTD	.908(**)	.877(**)	1.000(**)	1	-.622	-.368	-.311
ICR	-.619	-.533	-.622	-.622	1	.556	.475
ROE	-.039	.053	-.368	-.368	.556	1	.901(**)
ROA	.029	.099	-.311	-.311	.475	.901(**)	1

** Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

* Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

Source: SPSS Programs

From the table 4.12 it can be concluded that the debt equity ratio of Himalayan bank is positively correlated with long term debt to capital employed ratio, debt assets ratio and long term debt to total debt ratio whereas it is negatively correlated with interest coverage ratio, ROE and ROA. Long term debt to capital employed ratio is positively correlated with debt ratio and debt to total debt ratio but is negatively correlated with interest coverage ratio, ROE and ROA. Debt ratio is perfectly positively correlated with long term debt to total assets and negatively correlated with interest coverage ratio, ROE and ROA. Long term debt to total debt ratio is negatively correlated with interest coverage, ROE and ROA. Interest coverage ratio is positively correlated with ROE and ROA. Finally ROE is perfectly positively correlated with ROA.

4.2.3.3 Correlation of Nepal Investment Bank Ltd

Table: 4.13
Correlation of Nepal Investment Bank Ltd

	LTDCE	DE	DA	LTDTD	ICR	ROE	ROA
LTDCE	1	.992(**)	.970(**)	.970(**)	.285	.591	.444
DE	.992(**)	1	.949(**)	.949(**)	.290	.612	.412
DA	.970(**)	.949(**)	1	1.000(**)	.283	.537	.516
LTDTD	.970(**)	.949(**)	1.000(**)	1	.283	.537	.516
ICR	.285	.290	.283	.283	1	.851(**)	.699
ROE	.591	.612	.537	.537	.851(**)	1	.795(*)
ROA	.444	.412	.516	.516	.699	.795(*)	1

*** Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).*

** Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).*

Source: SPSS Programs

Looking at the table 4.13 of Nepal Investment Bank Ltd. the correlation of Debt equity ratio is positive with long term debt to capital employed, Debt assets and long term debt to total debt ratio, interest coverage, ROE and ROA. Similarly the long term debt to capital employed ratio is positively correlated with Debt assets, long term debt to total debt, ROE, ROA and interest coverage ratio. Debt assets ratio is perfectly positively correlated with long term debt to total debt positively correlated with ROE, ROA and interest coverage ratio. Long term debt to total debt ratio is positively correlated with interest coverage and positively correlated with ROE and ROA. Interest coverage ratio is positively correlated with both ROE and ROA. Finally ROE is also positively correlated with ROA.

4.2.3.4 Overall Correlation

Table: 4.14

Overall Correlation

	LTDCE	DE	DA	LTDTD	ICR	ROE	ROA
LTDCE	1	.984(**)	.936(**)	.946(**)	-.234	.248	.024
DE	.984(**)	1	.944(**)	.948(**)	-.130	.334	.113
DA	.936(**)	.944(**)	1	.967(**)	-.182	.159	.022
LTDTD	.946(**)	.948(**)	.967(**)	1	-.111	.241	.101
ICR	-.234	-.130	-.182	-.111	1	.749(**)	.828(**)
ROE	.248	.334	.159	.241	.749(**)	1	.856(**)
ROA	.024	.113	.022	.101	.828(**)	.856(**)	1

Source: SPSS Programs

Looking at the overall correlation of the bank, we can conclude that Debt Equity Ratio is positively correlated with Long term debt to capital employed, Debt asset ratio, Long term debt to total debt ratio, ROE and ROA where as it is negatively correlated with Interest coverage ratio. Long term debt to capital employed ratio is positively correlated with Debt asset ratio and Long term debt to total debt ratio, and negatively correlated with Interest coverage ratio, ROE and ROA. Debt asset ratio is positively correlated with

long term debt to total debt ratio and negatively correlated with Interest coverage ratio, ROE and ROA. Long term debt to total debt ratio is negatively with Interest coverage ratio and ROA and positively with ROA. Interest coverage ratio is positively correlated with ROE and ROA. ROE is positively correlated with ROA.

4.2.4 Simple Regression Analysis

Table gives the result of simple regression analysis, in which ROE, ROA and Dividend payout Ratio are dependent variable and debt equity ratio is independent variable for all the banks.

Results of Simple Regression Analysis of the Selected Variables

Table: 4.15

Debt Equity (DE) is Regressed on Return on Equity (ROE)

Regression Equation: dependent variable = a + b1 (independent variable)

Variables	Constant (a)	Coefficient (b)	Bank
ROE=a+b ₁ DE	.311	.012	NABIL
ROE=a+b ₁ DE	.156	.034	HBL
ROE=a+b ₁ DE	.150	.205	NIBL

Source: SPSS Programs

Table 4.15 shows that there is positive effect of debt equity ratio in ROE in NABIL, HBL and NIBL. The constant value represents that if debt equity is zero the value of ROE will be .311, .156 and .150 for NABIL, HBL and NIBL respectively.

Table: 4.16

Debt Equity (DE) is Regressed on Return on Assets (ROA)

Variables	Constant (a)	Coefficient (b)	Bank
ROA=a+b ₁ DE	.029	-.010	NABIL
ROA=a+b ₁ DE	.011	.005	HBL
ROA=a+b ₁ DE	.011	.014	NIBL

Source: SPSS Programs

Looking at table 4.16 coefficient beta means that ROA will decline by -.010 with every unit increase in debt equity ratio for NABIL and HBL respectively whereas the value .014 of NIBL represent that ROA will increase by .014 with increase in one unit of debt

equity ratio. Similarly, the constant value .029, .011 and .011 represents the value of ROA for NABIL, HBL and NIBL in the absence of debt equity ratio.

Table: 4.17
Debt Equity (DE) is Regressed on Dividend Payout Ratio (DPR)

Variables	Constant (a)	Coefficient (b)	Bank
DPR=a+b ₁ DE	.678	1.62	NABIL
DPR=a+b ₁ DE	.618	-.767	HBL
DPR=a+b ₁ DE	.655	-.233	NIBL

Source: SPSS Programs

In the table 4.17 the relationship between DPR and DE ratio is analyzed. Debt equity ratio of all the banks has negative effect in dividend payout ratio. It means that as the debt ratio increases by one unit dividend payout ratio will decline by -.162, -.767 and -.233 for NABIL, HBL and NIBL respectively. Similarly, the value of constant .678, .618 and .655 are the value of dividend payout ratio when debt equity ratio is zero.

4.3 Major Findings of the Study

- The average Debt equity ratio of NABIL is 27.2%. It shows that the creditors of NABIL have 27.2% claims on the assets of NABIL , where the last three years ratio are lower than average ratio , it indicates that claim of owners is higher than the creditors. The average D/E ratio of HBL is 25% which implies that the claim of creditors is 25% in compare to owner of the company. The average D/E ratio of NIBL is 30% which implies that the claim of creditors is 30% in compare to owner of the company.
- Long term Debt to capital employed ratio highlights the portion of fund financed by long term Debt in the capital employed by the firm. The data shows NABIL has fluctuation trend. Its average ratio is 19.5%. Similarly, trend of Long term Debt to capital employed ratio of HBL shows a decreasing trend. Its average ratio is 20%. And in case of NIBL the ratio is in fluctuating trend. Its average ratio is 23% which implies portion of fund financed by long term debt in the capital employed is 23% in average for the sample period.

- The Debt to Asset ratio of NABIL, HBL and NIBL is insignificant because long term Debt is negligible compared to Total assets. Overall debt asset ratio of NABIL is low. Its average ratio is 3%. Similarly, Debt asset ratio of HBL is quite steady even their ratios are low. The average ratio of HBL is 4%. On the other hand the average Debt to Asset ratio of NIBL is similar to NABIL which is 2%.
- Long term Debt to Total Debt ratio indicates what percentage of Total Debt is covered by long term debt of the firm. The trend analysis of NABIL shows fluctuating LTD/TD ratio. LTD/TD in 2001/02 is 0.03 that means contribution of LTD is 0.03 and the remaining portion contributed by current liabilities. NABIL has 3% of average ratio. HBL shows constant ratio. Its average ratio is 2.4%. NIBL also shows the fluctuating trend of LTD/TD ratio. Its average ratio is 2%. In these cases the total debt is contributed by current liabilities to large extent.
- The average interest coverage ratio of NABIL is 2.97 which imply no. of times of interest covered by its EBIT. The interest coverage ratio of NABIL shows an decreasing trend besides last F/Y. It shows the capabilities of NABIL. In case of HBL, the average ratio is 1.90; this implies company's available profit can meet the debt amount. The interest coverage ratio of NIBL shows slightly fluctuating trend and its average ratio is 1.92. ICR of NABIL is found to be greater than HBL and NIBL.
- Return on shareholder's equity of NABIL has fluctuating trend. The average ratio is 32%. Similarly, HBL shows decreased ratio in first two years then it increases in last two fiscal year. Its average ratio is 17%. ROE of NIBL shows fluctuating trend. Its average ratio is 21%. Analyzing between three companies return earned by shareholders of NABIL is highly greater.
- Comparative position of return on Total Asset of NABIL shows average of 0.03. The overall trend is first decreasing then constant. Similarly, ROA of HBL is first decreasing then constant and increased in last F/Y .Its average return is 0.02. In case

of NIBL its average return is 0.012. Its overall trend is first constant and then increased to 0.02 in the last F/Y. The average return of NABIL & HBL is higher compared to NIBL.

- Earning per share of an organization shows how much earning belongs to the ordinary share holders. The average earning per share of Nabil is Rs 102.43. Similarly, the average earning per share of HBL is Rs 56.40. And that of NIBL is Rs 47.70. Between them NABIL has the higher EPS.
- The average dividend per share of NABIL is Rs 78.13 .Similarly, HBL shows an average DPS is Rs 25.36. And that of NIBL is Rs 27.97. Between three of them, NABIL has paid higher dividend.
- Individual value of the firm trend of NABIL shows increasing trend. The average value of NABIL is Rs 6441.498 million. Similarly, value of HBL has decreased in first financial year and increased gradually. Its average value is Rs 5850.97 million. The average value of NIBL is Rs 3985.064 and it shows an increasing trend of value of firm. NABIL has optimum capital structure compared to HBL and NIBL.
- When the company employs debt or other fund carrying fixed charges in the capital structure, financial leverage exists. From the degree of financial leverage, it can be concluded that HBL is bearing high financial risk because it has used more long term debt. NABIL and NIBL have employed lesser long term debt than that of HBL so they have lesser financial risk.
- The correlation between debt equity ratio with ROE and ROA is negative for NABIL and HBL whereas it is positive for NIBL.
- The regression analysis shows debt equity ratio has negative effect on ROE and ROA in NABIL and HBL whereas it is positive for NIBL but all the banks' dividend pay out ratio has negative effect from debt equity ratio.

CHAPTER - V

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This is the concluding chapter of this study. This chapter is divided into three sections; Summary, Conclusion and Recommendations. In this chapter, the study has been summarized in brief and some recommendations have been given which could be useful to stakeholders and to concern companies as well.

5.1 Summary

The capital structure of a firm involves the choice of an appropriate mix of different sources of funds i.e. owner funds and outsider funds. The selection of the capital structure will obviously depends on the bearing that it has on the firm's objectives of maximizing of shareholder's wealth. A financial mix which leads to maximization of shareholders wealth as reflected in the market price of share is termed as an optimal capital structure. An ideal capital structure should be determination of proper balance between borrower's fund, i.e. debt capital and owner's fund i.e. equity, which maximize the shareholders wealth and minimizes the composite cost of capital.

This study, to analyze about capital structure, three commercials banks; Nabil Bank Ltd, Himalayan Bank Ltd and Nepal Investment Bank Ltd have been taken. To make the study more reliable, the whole study has been divided into five chapters. This study endeavors to evaluate capital structure of commercials banks with reference to the sample companies. The main objectives of the study are to evaluate and analyze capital structure ratios of commercials banks under study. For the realistic study, review of various books, research studies and articles have been used. Various sequential steps to adopt a systematic analysis have been explained in the third chapter. Most of the data used in this study are secondary in nature. Eight years data are taken as sampled years, which are analyzed by using financial and statistical tools such as Ratio analysis, Leverage analysis, Correlation analysis and Regression Analysis etc. It employed simple regression model to evaluate the relationship between debt equity ratio with Return on Equity, Return on Assets and Dividend Payout Ratio. Calculation was done by using Excel and SPSS

software which are presented in the appendix. Finally, Summary, Conclusion and Recommendations of the study are presented separately to understand instantly about the whole study.

5.2 Conclusion

It's a renowned fact, whether we like it or not, the globalization of JVBs /CB is a reality. The growth and increasing integration of the world's economy has been parallel by expansion of global banking activities. Nepal, though a developing country couldn't deny the fact that JVBs/CB has running potentially, which is responded by extending loans and developing new, highly innovative financial techniques that laid the foundation for totally new approaches to the provision of banking services. On the basis of entire research study, some conclusion has been deduced.

This study is particularly deals with conclusion about "A Study of capital structure management of commercials banks – Himalayan Bank Ltd, Nabil Bank Ltd and Nepal Investment Bank Ltd". The Capital Structure decision is crucial because of the need to maximize returns to various organizational constituencies, and also because of the impact such a decision has on an organization's ability to deal with its competitive environment. This present study evaluated the capital structure ratios and the relationship between capital structure and profitability of firms. The study reveals that the companies are financially leveraged with a large percentage of total debt being short term. Commercial bank has been using debt. The higher D/E ratio constitutes that the outsider's claim in total assets of the banks in owner's claim.

On an average NABIL constitutes 0.35 times of D/E ratio compare to 0.25 times of D/E ratio of HBL and 0.30 times of D/E ratio of NIBL. The ICR shows that all the three banks are able in paying interest but in comparison NABIL is operating efficiently. The average ROE of the NABIL, HBL and NIBL are 0.32, 0.17 and 0.21 times respectively. The debt ratio of NABIL and HBL is found to be negatively correlated with ROE and ROA whereas it is positively correlated with NIBL. Simple regression analysis between debt

equity ratio with ROE and ROA also showed the similar results and the Dividend Payout Ratio was found to be negatively affected by debt equity ratio for all the banks.

5.3 Recommendations

In this section of the study, it endeavors to recommend few points that can be helpful to stakeholders as well as to the company. These recommendations are 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:

- The Debt ratio of about 33% is considered appropriate (source; J. Fred Weston and T.E. Copeland “Managerial Finance” Second U.K. edition). So this 33% ratio can be assumed as standard ratio while analyzing. With comparison to above standard three of the firm have low ratio. This shows that the share of total assets financed by outsider’s fund is very low. It indicates that the owner’s claim on total assets of the company is higher than creditors claim. If the company is unsuccessful to yield a substantial percentage of return, the owners should bear heavy losses but the creditors incur only the moderate loss. Therefore, it is recommended that all the three firms mainly Nabil bank should raise their debt ratio.
- Banks should be aware that the debt financing results in tax saving on interest charges that would help to maximize profit.
- The capital structure of the banks are found to be unstable over the study period so company should try to use stable capital structure as far as possible.
- It is recommended that capital structure decision of commercial banks should be based on different factors like the agency cost, cost of capital and value of the firm. Optimal capital structure minimizes agency cost, cost of capital and maximizes value of the firm.
- Share holder’s wealth can be enhanced by judicious use of debt financing.
- The cost of capital should be considered while taking financing decision by the commercial banks.

- Lowering down the amount of debt and obtaining the additional funds through issue of equity share, improving its working capital and making strategic plans and developing the motivations management.

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Appendix 8

Return on Total Assets (ROA)

Nabil Bank (NBL)

(Rs. In Million)

F/Y	NetProfitAfterTax	Total Assets	ROA
2001/02	271.64	17629.26	0.02
2002/03	416.24	16562.62	0.03
2003/04	455.32	16745.49	0.03
2004/05	518.64	17186.33	0.03
2005/06	635.30	21330.00	0.03
2006/07	674.00	27621.00	0.02
2007/08	746.47	37133.00	0.02
2008/09	1031.69	43867.00	0.02

Himalayan Bank(HBL)

(Rs. In Million)

F/Y	NetProfitAfterTax	Total Assets	ROA
2001/02	235.02	21315.84	0.01
2002/03	212.13	24198.00	0.01
2003/04	263.05	25729.80	0.01
2004/05	308.27	28871.34	0.01
2005/06	457.45	30579.80	0.01
2006/07	491.82	33519.14	0.01
2007/08	635.86	36175.53	0.02
2008/09	752.83	40046.68	0.02

Nepal Investment Bank(NIBL)

(Rs. In Million)

F/Y	NetProfitAfterTax	Total Assets	ROA
2001/02	57.11	4973.89	0.01
2002/03	116.82	9014.24	0.01
2003/04	152.67	13255.49	0.01
2004/05	232.15	16063.54	0.01
2005/06	350.54	21330.14	0.02

2006/07	501.39	27591.00	0.02
2007/08	696.73	38874.00	0.02
2008/09	900.62	53011.00	0.02