

CCIL All Sovereign Bonds Index (CASBI) for Indian Bond Markets

This index is designed to capture the performance of the bond market due to broad movement of rates across tenors. The index comprises 31 securities spread across all tenors. The price movements are captured in the Principal Returns Index while the Total Returns Index provides the change due to both price movements and accrued interest.

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The Clearing Corporation of India Ltd.



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1. INTRODUCTION

The government securities market is considered as the backbone of fixed income securities market and is the prime funding avenue for the government. In the Indian context, the government securities markets singularly dominates the transactions in the fixed income market and is thus a prime source of information on financial market's interest rate expectations. The Indian bond market has grown exponentially in the past few years and holds the fourth position with respect to outstanding government debt after Japan, China, and South Korea. As on March 31, 2018, outstanding government debt stood at Rs.51.86 trillion.

The central government and the state governments borrow through issuing sovereign securities and state development loans (SDLs). The central government also issues treasury bills of maturity less than a year. These securities are issued in the primary market through normal auctions. The RBI conducts the auctions of marketable dated securities through a pre-announced half-yearly indicative calendar. There exists an active secondary market for government securities and they are traded and reported on the Negotiated Dealing System-Order Matching (NDS-OM). NDS-OM accounts for approximately 75% of the market share.

ABOUT CCIL

The Clearing Corporation of India Ltd. (CCIL) was set up in 2001 to provide an institutional infrastructure for the clearing and settlement of transactions in government securities, money market instruments, foreign exchange and other related products with the objective of bringing about efficiency to the transaction settlement process, and mitigating the systemic risk emanating from settlement related problems and counter party risk. CCIL is a payment system operator, authorized by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) under PSS Act 2007 to provide guaranteed settlement in TREP securities, Forex and Rupee Derivatives market. In view of its critical importance to the Indian financial system, CCIL has been designated as a critical Financial Market Infrastructure (FMI) by the RBI and it has given CCIL the status of a Qualifying Central Counterparty (QCCP) on January 1, 2014.

CCIL offers guaranteed settlement services for government securities comprising of outright and repo and TREP markets in the money market segment. In the forex market, it offers guaranteed settlement to all interbank USD/INR forex transactions, inclusive of USD/INR forward transactions. It also offers settlement services to rupee derivative and cross currency transactions. CCIL through its subsidiary Clearcorp Dealing Systems (India) Ltd. (Clearcorp) manages trading platforms in the Money and G-Sec market on behalf of the RBI and also owns trading platforms in the fixed income, money, forex, and derivative markets. CCIL also manages the trade repository for the interest rate, forex and credit derivatives market in India, which has enhanced the level of transparency in the markets through data dissemination and publication. CCIL's wholly owned subsidiary Legal entity Identifier India Limited (LEIL) is the Local Operating Unit (LOU) in India for issuing globally compatible Legal Entity Identifiers (LEIs) in India.

2. RATIONALE

The sovereign bond market is the most liquid segment of the bond market. A sovereign bond index serves as an indicator for market performance and development. The performance of the bond portfolios which are driven by their coupons as well as the appreciation of the asset, are monitored by the indices. A well-constructed bond index mirrors the economic policy changes of the government and structural reforms, which have a bearing on the interest rate in the economy.

CCIL is the Central Counterparty for all transactions in the Indian Government Securities market and follows the process of netting through novation to provide guaranteed settlement for all secondary market transactions. The trading information is used to compute the volume weighted average prices of all traded securities. The theoretical price of the securities is also computed using an YTM Curve model developed internally.

In order to capture the performance of bond market due to rate movement across all tenors, the following index is envisaged:

1. CCIL All Sovereign Bond Index (CASBI): This index comprises of 31 securities across all the tenors of the government securities market.

3. DATA DETAILS

- **Data Source**

Trades executed and reported on the Negotiated Dealing System- Order Matching (NDS-OM) platform are considered for index computation.

- **Issuer**

Only securities issued by the Government of India are considered.

- **Price Details**

Volume weighted average market price (VWAP) of securities are considered for computation of the Index. In case VWAP is not available for any particular day for any security, model price of the corresponding security is used.

4. INDEX LOGIC

- **Bond Inclusion Criteria**

The index comprises 31 securities across all the tenors issued by the central government. It takes into account all outstanding bonds at the beginning of the month subject to the conditionality of 3 remaining coupon cycles.

- **Bond Exclusion criteria**

Special securities like OIL bonds, Inflation Indexed bonds, Fertilizer bonds, Floating rate bonds, and bonds issued to specific organization(s) are excluded from the CCIL All Sovereign Bond Index constituents. Security-wise individual trades having volume less than Rs.5 crore are also excluded.

- **Base Date and Value**

For the calculation of CCIL All Sovereign Bond Index, December 31, 2003 has been selected as a base date with a base value of 1000.

- **Weighting Scheme**

Market capitalization based weighting scheme is applied to each security. The weight assigned to each security is determined as ratio of individual security's market capitalization to the total market capitalization of all securities constituting the index.

$$w_i = \frac{Price_i * Outstanding Amount_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n Price_i * Outstanding Amount_i}$$

- **Calculation Details**

CCIL All Sovereign Bond Index reflects the change in the value of the index due to the price movements and accrued interest through the Total Return Index (TRI) and Principal Return Index (PRI). Dirty price and clean price of a bond are weighed depending on the share of the security's market capitalization in the market capitalization of the portfolio. In addition, the market capitalization weighted duration, yield and coupon of the entire portfolio are also computed.

Total Return Index: The total return index is the absolute return that the bond portfolio offers and it includes coupon accrued and capital gains / (losses). In this index the coupon accrued for a security in the portfolio is distributed among the other securities as per their weight in the index based on their market capitalization. The total return index is calculated every day by multiplying the previous day's index value by the ratio of the portfolio's weighted average gross price to the previous day's weighted average gross price. The gross price is adjusted for loss of accrued interest on the coupon payment day.

$$TR_{I,t} = TR_{I,t-1} \times \{ (\sum_{I=1}^n WGP_{i,t}) / \sum_{I=1}^n WGP_{i,t-1} \}$$

where, WGP is the weighted average dirty price of all the securities in the portfolio and also includes the distribution of the coupon accrued in case of a coupon payment on a security on a particular day. TR is the Total Return Index as of that day.

Principal Return Index: The principal return index is calculated every day by multiplying the previous day's index value by the ratio of the portfolio's weighted average clean price to the previous day's weighted average clean price.

$$PR_{I,t} = PR_{I,t-1} \times \left\{ \frac{\sum_{I=1}^n WCP_{i,t}}{\sum_{I=1}^n WCP_{i,t-1}} \right\}$$

where, WCP is the weighted average clean price of all the securities in the portfolio. PR is the Principal Return Index as of that day.

Duration: Duration is used to measure the effective life of the bond and is an indicator of the interest rate risk of a portfolio. Duration of the index is calculated as the sum of the weighted duration of individual bonds in the basket.

$$D = \sum_{I=1}^n D_i W_i$$

where, D_i is the duration of the component bond i and W_i is the relevant weight based on market capitalization of bond i .

Coupon: The coupon of the portfolio is the weighted average coupon of the outstanding of all the bonds in the index portfolio.

$$C = \sum_{I=1}^n C_i W_i$$

where, C_i is the coupon of the bond i and W_i is the relevant weight based on market capitalization of bond i .

5. INDEX REBALANCING

CCIL All Sovereign Bond Index is rebalanced at the start of every new month i.e., on first day of the month.

6. TREATMENT OF HOLIDAYS / NON-WORKING DAYS

CCIL All Sovereign Bond Index values are estimated for all calendar days. Immediate previous working day's prices are used to estimate index value for holidays/ non-working days.

7. INDEX RELEASES

- Index values are released at the end of each working day. On holidays/ non-working days index value gets released on the immediate next working day.
- Index value is available each working day on CCIL web portal www.ccilindia.com

TECHNICAL NOTE:

CCIL > Research > CCIL Publications > Monthly > Research Articles > Fixed Income > CCIL All Sovereign Bond Indices (CASBI), Sep 2006, Golaka C. Nath, Aparna Vachharajani, Gaurav Yadav

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