

IRB InvIT Fund — Oct 2022 Quarterly Analysis

1. VERDICT & BUSINESS QUALITY SNAPSHOT

The punchline. Read this first — it frames everything below.

Result: Inline **One-line:** The Trust has successfully navigated the "Revenue Cliff" following the expiry of its two largest assets, sustaining a ₹2.00/unit distribution through aggressive traffic recovery (+25-50% YoY across key stretches) and high inflation-linked tariff hikes (10.16%).

Dimension	This Quarter	Signal / Evidence	Sentiment
Beat/Miss vs Guidance	Inline	Quarterly DPU of ₹2.00 is consistent with the ₹7–9/year "new normal" guidance.	□
Earnings Quality	Moderate	EBITDA fell 23% YoY due to asset expiries; Income is inflated by non-cash items (₹1.8 Cr H1FY23 vs ₹94 Cr H1FY22).	□
Guidance Confidence	Neutral	No timeline provided for the next "drop-down" asset; reliance on existing 5 assets for current yield is high.	□
Management Credibility	Strong	Disciplined adherence to distribution policy (minimum 90% NDCF) and smooth handover of legacy assets to NHAI.	□
Business Quality Signal	Stable	Operational portfolio is high-margin (83% EBITDA) but the "handover risk" of Omalur-Salem (Jan-27) is approaching.	□
Key Q&A Exchange	N/A	Section not applicable — investor presentation only.	—
The Street's Primary Anxiety	Yield Dilution	Concern that asset expiries would collapse the DPU; management maintained ₹2.00 by utilizing SPV debt repayments.	□
Capital Cycle Stage	Consolidation	Building debt capacity (D/E 0.28x) for the next phase of inorganic acquisition from the Sponsor.	□
Margin / Return Ratio Trajectory	Stable	Project-level EBITDA margins remain robust at >80% despite the loss of high-volume stretches.	→
Pricing Power	Expanding	Successful pass-through of 10.16% WPI-linked tariff hike effective April 1, 2022.	□
FCF Conversion & Quality	Strong	NDCF (₹260.3 Cr) exceeds Consolidated PAT (₹176.4 Cr), reflecting strong cash generation over accounting profits.	□
Competitive Moat Signals	Stable	Strategic locations (Golden Quadrilateral) benefit from macro-economic traffic recovery.	→
Balance Sheet Strength	Strong	AAA/AA ratings; Net debt reduced by 8.7% YoY to ₹1,160.2 Cr.	□
Working Capital Efficiency	Stable	Toll model ensures immediate cash; NDCF includes ₹144.1 Cr of debt repayment from SPVs.	→
Mgmt Guidance Track Record	Reliable	Consistent distribution track record since listing in 2017.	□
Key Vulnerability / Red Flag	Asset Depletion	The Trust is a "melting cube" without new acquisitions; remaining portfolio life is ~17 years.	□
Management Tone	Confident (PPT)	Focus on ESG standards and re-tolling of Pathankot-Amritsar.	□

Sentiment: □ Neutral

Key Takeaways: * **Positives:** Traffic momentum is exceptionally strong; Tumkur-Chitradurga (the new anchor asset) saw H1FY23 car traffic grow 35.7% YoY. The 10.16% tariff hike implemented in April provides a significant revenue cushion. The Trust has de-leveraged significantly (D/E 0.28x), providing ₹4,500 Cr+ in headroom for future acquisitions. * **Negatives:** The exit of Surat-Dahisar and Bharuch-Surat is now fully reflected, causing a 23% YoY drop in H1 EBITDA. The portfolio is now concentrated in just 5 assets, increasing the impact of any localized disruptions (e.g., historical farmer protests). * **The Street's Primary Concern:** Investors remain focused on the "Reinvestment Risk." While organic traffic growth is healthy, the current portfolio cannot grow DPU significantly. The catalyst for a re-rating remains the acquisition of high-yield BOT/TOT assets from IRB Infrastructure (Sponsor). * **Forward Watchpoint:** Monitoring the bidding activity of the Sponsor. The InvIT's future depends on the Sponsor winning new projects and dropping them into the Trust at accretive valuations.

2. BUSINESS PERFORMANCE

2A. KEY METRICS

DATA SOURCE: Concall not available — Mgmt Commentary column absent.

Metric	Current H1FY23	YoY Change	QoQ Change	Trend	Mgmt Commentary
Total Income (₹Cr)	920.9	↑ 38.6%	N/A	↑	Includes non-cash fair valuation income.
EBITDA (₹Cr)	417.2	↓ 23.3%	N/A	↓	Impact of exit of 2 major BOT assets.
EBITDA Margin %	45.3%*	↓ 3650 bps	N/A	↓	*Note: Consolidated EBITDA margin diluted by notional accounting items.
PAT (₹Cr)	176.4	↓ 2.4%	N/A	→	Decline offset by lower depreciation (-42%).
NDCF (₹Cr)	260.3	↑ 4.4%	N/A	↑	Cash flows remain resilient despite asset expiries.
Distribution per Unit (₹)	4.05 (H1)	↓ 17.3%	↓ 11.1%	↓	Q2 DPU held at ₹2.00 (vs Q1 FY23 ₹2.00).
Net Debt (₹Cr)	1,160.2	↓ 8.7%	N/A	↑	Net of cash and bank balances.
Interest Coverage (x)	3.51x	↓ 10%	N/A	↓	Calculated using PBT + Interest / Interest.
Traffic Growth (MAV %)	~14%	↑	N/A	↑	MAV traffic at Tumkur rose from 1.8M to 2.1M YoY.
Net Debt/Equity (x)	0.28	↓ 6.6%	N/A	↑	Conservative leverage allows for expansion.

2B. SEGMENT BREAKDOWN (Project-wise EBITDA Q2FY23)

Project	Revenue (₹ Cr)	EBITDA (₹ Cr)	Margin	Trend	vs Avg	Key Development
Tumkur Chitradurga	164.7	155.8	94.6%	↑	High	Emerged as the primary cash engine (+28.5% total traffic).
Jaipur Deoli	Not in doc	12.1	—	↑	Neutral	Benefited from 25% YoY traffic recovery.
Pathankot Amritsar	Not in doc	15.9	—	↑	Neutral	Toll collection stabilized post-farmer protests.
Omalur-Salem	Not in doc	16.4	—	↑	Neutral	Traffic up 35% YoY; concession ends Jan 2027.
Talegaon Amravati	Not in doc	41.8	—	↑	Neutral	Consistent performance on East-West corridor.

3. MANAGEMENT OUTLOOK & EXECUTION TRACKER

Dimension	Category	Management Target / Claim	Required Run-Rate / Mathematical Feasibility	Historical Delivery	Risk Flag
Guidance	Distribution	Sustain quarterly DPU.	Q2 at ₹2.00 matches H1 run-rate; NDCF covers 100% of payout.	Delivered	Low
Guidance	Tariff Revision	Implementation of 14.87% hike for Pathankot (Sept).	Already effective as of Sept 1, 2022.	Delivered	Low
Strategy	Capital Allocation	90% NDCF Payout.	NDCF (₹260.3 Cr) vs Payout (~₹234 Cr) implies ~90% ratio.	Delivered	Low
Strategy	Acquisitions	Fund through debt/internal accruals.	D/E of 0.28x provides ~₹4,500 Cr headroom before hitting 49% cap.	Ready	Medium
Macro	Traffic Recovery	"Robust traffic history" across Golden Quadrilateral.	H1FY23 traffic across all assets is back to pre-covid levels.	Delivered	Low
Balance	Leverage	Maintain Credit Rating.	AAA/AA ratings reaffirmed by India Ratings and CARE.	Delivered	Low

4. ANALYST Q&A

Section not applicable — investor presentation only. No concall conducted or available.

5. WHAT CHANGED vs PRIOR QUARTER

What Changed	Prior Quarter (Q1FY23)	This Quarter (Q2FY23/H1FY23)	Direction
Portfolio Composition	Included partial Surat-Dahisar revenue.	Zero revenue from Surat-Dahisar (Fully Handed Over).	□
Tariff Tailwinds	10.16% WPI Hike (April).	Additional 14.87% hike for Pathankot-Amritsar (Sept).	↑
Distribution Split	Int: □1.20	Cap Red: □0.80	Int: □1.25
Traffic Volume (Tumkur)	3.29M (Q1 only)	7.17M (H1 Total)	↑
Net Debt/Equity	0.30x (FY22)	0.28x (H1FY23)	↑
Remaining Portfolio Life	~18 years	~17 years (Anticipated extension of time included).	↓

Investor Notes: * **Earnings Quality:** The CFO-to-PAT ratio (using NDCF as proxy) is **1.47x**. This high conversion is typical for infrastructure assets where non-cash depreciation is significant, but it confirms that the DPU is backed by hard cash, not accounting maneuvers. * **The "Yield Gap":** The exit of Surat-Dahisar has removed the most significant volume generator from the portfolio. While traffic growth on other assets is filling the gap, the Trust's ability to maintain a □2.00 DPU long-term depends on Pathankot-Amritsar maintaining its post-protest momentum. * **Thesis Monitorable:** The "Capital Reduction" component of the distribution (□0.75 in Q2) is a return of capital, not just return on capital. This is expected in a BOT model but underscores the need for inorganic growth to replace the depleting asset base. The massive debt headroom is the primary "option value" for unit-holders.