

***ADVANCED CAPITAL
BUDGETING DECISIONS***

CLASS 8-HW-Q19

Topic Inflation & Capital Budgeting

Question 19:

A firm has projected the following cash flows from a project under evaluation:

Year	₹ lakhs
0	(70)
1	30
2	40
3	30

The above cash flows have been made at expected prices after recognizing inflation. The firm's cost of capital is 10%. The expected annual rate of inflation is 5%.

Show how the viability of the project is to be evaluated.

(Source: ICAI)

ANSWER:

It is stated that the cash flows have been adjusted for inflation; hence they are "nominal". The cost of capital or discount rate is "real". In order to be compatible, the cash flows should be converted into "real flow". This is done as below:

Year	Nominal cash flows	Adjusted Inflation* factor	Real cash flows	PVF @ 10%	PV of cash flows
0	(70)	—	(70)	1.000	(70)
1	30	0.952	28.56	0.909	25.96
2	40	0.907	36.28	0.826	29.97
3	30	0.864	25.92	0.751	19.47
Total					75.40
Less: Cash out flow					70.00
NPV (+)					5.40

* $1/1.05$; $1/(1.05)^2$; $1/(1.05)^3$;

Advise: With positive NPV, the project is financially viable.

Alternatively, instead of converting cash flows into real terms, the discount rate can be converted into nominal rate. Result will be the same.

An alternative solution is presented herewith

Alternative solution:

Year	Nominal cash flows	PVF @ 15.50% adjusted by the inflation factor i.e. 5%*	PV of cash flows
1	30	0.866	25.98
2	40	0.749	29.96

3	30	0.649	<u>19.47</u>
		Cash inflow	75.41
		Less: Cash out flow	<u>70.00</u>
		Net present value	<u>5.41</u>

$$* \frac{0.909}{1.05} = 0.866, \frac{0.826}{1.1025} = 0.749, \frac{0.751}{1.1576} = 0.649$$

Advise: With positive NPV, the project is financially viable.