

Ambuja Cement (ACEM IN)

Rating: BUY | CMP: Rs545 | TP: Rs658

April 30, 2025

Q4FY25 Result Update

☑ Change in Estimates | ☑ Target | ■ Reco

Change in Estimates

	Cu	rrent	Pre	evious
	FY26E	FY27E	FY26E	FY27E
Rating	E	BUY	- 1	BUY
Target Price	(558	(643
Sales (Rs. m)	4,41,322	4,72,664	4,29,108	4,70,831
% Chng.	2.8	0.4		
EBITDA (Rs. m)	86,418	1,03,675	91,552	1,03,174
% Chng.	(5.6)	0.5		
EPS (Rs.)	15.7	17.4	17.3	16.5
% Chng.	(9.3)	5.5		

Key Financials - Consolidated

Y/e Mar	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E
Sales (Rs. m)	3,31,596	3,42,184	4,41,322	4,72,664
EBITDA (Rs. m)	63,995	51,443	86,418	1,03,675
Margin (%)	19.3	15.0	19.6	21.9
PAT (Rs. m)	32,920	36,411	38,550	42,915
EPS (Rs.)	15.0	14.8	15.7	17.4
Gr. (%)	8.0	(1.3)	5.9	11.3
DPS (Rs.)	1.8	2.0	2.2	2.4
Yield (%)	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4
RoE (%)	9.0	7.7	7.0	7.3
RoCE (%)	13.0	5.6	9.2	10.0
EV/Sales (x)	3.3	3.7	3.0	2.7
EV/EBITDA (x)	16.9	24.5	15.3	12.5
PE (x)	36.4	36.9	34.8	31.3
P/BV (x)	2.9	2.5	2.4	2.2

Key Data	ABUJ.BO ACEM IN
52-W High / Low	Rs.707 / Rs.453
Sensex / Nifty	80,218 / 24,329

Market Cap Rs.1,342bn/ \$ 15,785m Shares Outstanding 2,463m 3M Avg. Daily Value Rs.1553.62m

Shareholding Pattern (%)

Promoter's	67.57
Foreign	8.60
Domestic Institution	17.30
Public & Others	6.53
Promoter Pledge (Rs bn)	_

Stock Performance (%)

	1M	6M	12M
Absolute	1.2	(4.3)	(13.8)
Relative	(2.3)	(4.5)	(20.8)

Tushar Chaudhari

tusharchaudhari@plindia.com | 91-22-663222391

Satyam Kesarwani

satyamkesarwani@plindia.com | 91-22-66322218

Strong volume and pricing led recovery

Quick Pointers:

- ACEM's capacity has reached 100mtpa; added ~32mtpa in past 30 months mostly inorganic; reiterated its LT target of Rs500/t savings by FY28.
- Added 367mt of new limestone reserves in Q4FY25; total reserves reached
 ~9bt.

Ambuja Cements (ACEM) delivered strong cons operating performance in Q4FY25 with 13% YoY volume growth (18.7mt aided by MSA and recently acquired assets). The recent uptick in cement pricing aided NSR. Increase in volumes resulted in lower operating costs delivering EBITDA/t of Rs999. Going forward, focus would remain on ramping up of Penna and Sanghi assets which are at 45-50% utilization. Penna clinker units already achieved 75-80% CU and with ACC phasing out older unfeasible clinker units, ACEM would utilize Penna and Sanghi clinker units for feeding grinding units across regions. ACEM maintained its long-term efficiency gain target of Rs500/t through long term supplier agreements, group supply chain synergies, operational efficiencies and improvement in green power. Mgmt. reiterated its confidence of reducing its total cost to Rs3,650/t levels over FY28E and achieved Rs150 savings till the end of FY25. With the completion of Orient deal and 2.4mtpa Farakka GU commissioning, ACEM has crossed the 100mtpa capacity mark and with ongoing expansions it would reach 118mtpa by end-FY26.

With stable domestic cement demand, we believe ACEM would keep gaining market share aided by ramping up of Penna/Sanghi assets and expect a strong 15%+ volume CAGR over FY25–27E. We remain positive on the stock despite some delays in brownfield expansions as the volume delivery remains strong. Gradual improvement in green power mix and targeted synergy benefits would keep driving EBITDA growth over the next few years. We expect ACEM revenue/ EBITDA/ PAT to deliver CAGR of 17%/42%/11% over FY25-27E. The stock is trading at EV of 16.6x/13.7x FY26E/FY27E EBITDA. Maintain 'Buy' with revised TP of Rs658 (Rs643 earlier) valuing at 17x EV of Mar'27E EBITDA.

- Cons revenue aided by strong volume & pricing: Cons. revenue grew 11% YoY to Rs99bn (up 16% QoQ) on strong volume growth and rising cement prices. Average cement realization has improved 2.6% QoQ to Rs 5,288/t (-1% YoY; Ple Rs5,256). Cons. volumes grew 13% YoY to 18.7mt (up 13% QoQ; PLe 18.6mt).
- EBITDA/t aided by strong operating leverage: EBITDA grew 10% YoY to Rs18.7bn (up 111% QoQ; PLe Rs15.8bn) on better volume growth and improved cement realization. P&F costs/t grew 1% YoY to Rs1,229 while freight cost/t declined 2% YoY to Rs1,249. RM costs/t increased 2% YoY to Rs977. Other expenses declined by 8% YoY to Rs644 on higher volumes. Resultant, ACEM delivered EBIDTA/t of Rs999/t (-2% YoY/+86% QoQ; Vs PLe of Rs 849/t). Cons. reported PAT declined 14% YoY to Rs13.2bn (PLe 12.1bn) boosted by several one-off items pertaining to earlier years.

■ Green power share improve gradually driving margins: WHRS power share increased from 12.5% to 17.3% YoY, Solar power mix increased from 2.4% to 8.2% YoY, taking the green power share up by 10.5 pp to 26.1%. with ongoing planned green power plant capacity expansion, ACEM expects to achieve 60% green power mix by FY28. Out of planned 1 GW RE power by FY28 at capex of Rs60bn, 200MW Solar and 99MW of wind power in Khavda, Gujarat was commissioned during FY25. Change in the fuel basket has aided reducing kiln fuel cost by 14% YoY from Rs. 1.84 to Rs. 1.58/k Kcal during Q4FY25.

Exhibit 1: New upcoming capacities

Expansion Project	Clinker (MTPA)	Cement (MTPA)	Expected Completion	Status Update
Bhatapara Line 3 (CU)	4.0	-		Bhatapara (87% overall
Sankrail (GU)	-	2.4	Q1 FY26	erection work), Sankrail (88%
Sindri (GU)	-	1.6	Q1 FY26	overall progress; major equipments installed and
Salai Banwa (GU)	-	2.4	Q2 FY26	under progress for dry run
Bathinda	-	1.2	Q3 FY26	
Marwar (GU)	-	2.4	Q3 FY26	Maratha line 2 (76% major equipment ordered, 44% civil
Maratha Line 2 (CU)	4.0	-	Q4 FY26	work completed)
Dahej Line-2 (GU)	-	1.2	Q3 FY26	
Kalamboli (Blending)	-	1.0	Q4 FY26	Civil work is in progress, delivery of major equipments has commenced
Jodhpur (Penna IU)	3.0	2.0	Q3 FY26	Jodhpur (95% civil work done, major equipment ordered,
Krishnapatnam Penna (GU)	-	2.0	Q2 FY26	48% mechanical erection work completed
Warsiliganj (GU)	-	2.4	Q4 FY26	Civil work is in progress, delivery of major equipments commenced
Total	11	18.6		

Source: Company, PL

Q4FY25 Conference Call Highlights:

- Mgmt. expects the cement industry to grow by 8% in FY26 and anticipates ACEM to outpace the industry, driven by accelerated growth, cost efficiencies, and Adani group synergies.
- ACEM added 367mt of new limestone reserves in Q4FY25; total reserves reached ~9bt. ACEM is bidding for coal mines in the auctions conducted by the government.
- Fuel costs reduced by 14% YoY to Rs1.58/kcal from Rs1.84/kcal in Q4FY24.
- Direct dispatch to customers increased by 600bps to 58%. Primary lead distance stood at 265km (from 280km YoY), whereas secondary lead distance stood at 46km (48km YoY). ACEM expects to reduce lead distance by 100km to 170KM by FY28.
- Cumulative cement volumes from Penna and Sanghi stood at 1.6mt in Q4, with capacity utilization at 45–50% and 40–45%, respectively.
- FY26 Capex is expected at Rs90bn, including Rs60bn for growth and Rs25– 30bn for efficiency.
- ACEM has received all 11 GPWIS rakes which are running in approved circuits, which will enable cost efficient clinker movement from the mother plants. Additionally, 26 BCFC rakes were ordered for transporting fly ash from thermal plants; 8 have been delivered in FY25.
- With the completion of the Orient acquisition, commissioning of the Farakka grinding unit, and debottlenecking at various plants, ACEM's capacity has reached 100mtpa. With additional grinding units at Sankrail and Sindri set to be commissioned in Q1FY26, ACEM is expected to reach 118mtpa by the end of FY26.
- Blended cement mix for the quarter was 82%, whereas premium share increased to 29-30% in Q4FY25.
- ACEM expects to achieve 1000MW of RE capacity by FY26, out of which 200MW of solar power and 99MW of wind power in Khavda have already been commissioned and fully commissioned by Q2FY26. WHRS capacity currently stands to ~218MW which will take care of 30% of power requirement.
- ACEM has identified at 9 additional grinding units locations for which land acquisitions and statutory approvals for these projects are under progress.
- Management reiterated its confidence of reducing its total cost to Rs3,650/t over FY28E through long term supplier agreements, supply chain synergies and operational efficiencies.



Exhibit 2: Q4FY25 Result Overview – Consolidated

Y/e March (Rs mn)	4QFY25	4QFY24	YoY gr. (%)	4QFY25E	% Var.	3QFY25	QoQ gr. (%)	FY25	FY24	YoY gr. (%)
Net Sales	98,886	88,940	11.2	97,718	1.2	85,022	16.3	3,40,804	3,31,596	2.8
Raw Material	18,268	15,864	15.2	20,126	(9.2)	17,861	2.3	66,105	49,228	34.3
% of Net Sales	18.5	17.8		20.6		21.0		19.4	14.8	
Staff Costs	3,555	3,142	13.1	3,456	2.8	3,823	(7.0)	14,034	13,528	3.7
% of Net Sales	3.6	3.5		3.5		4.5		4.1	4.1	
Power & Fuel	22,988	20,179	13.9	22,751	1.0	20,816	10.4	82,648	81,093	1.9
% of Net Sales	23.2	22.7		23.3		24.5		24.3	24.5	
Freight	23,361	21,191	10.2	22,108	5.7	20,438	14.3	83,012	80,006	3.8
% of Net Sales	23.6	23.8		22.6		24.0		24.4	24.1	
Other Expenses	12,039	11,577	4.0	13,485	(10.7)	13,229	(9.0)	44,943	43,746	2.7
% of Net Sales	12.2	13.0		13.8		15.6		13.2	13.2	
Total Expenditure	80,211	71,953	11.5	81,926	(2.1)	76,167	5.3	2,90,741	2,67,601	8.6
EBITDA	18,676	16,987	9.9	15,792	18.3	8,855	110.9	50,063	63,995	(21.8)
Margin (%)	18.9	19.1		16.2		10.4		14.7	19.3	
Depreciation	7,864	4,531	73.6	6,773	16.1	6,640	18.4	24,697	16,234	52.1
EBIT	10,812	12,456	(13.2)	9,019	19.9	2,215	388.1	25,365	47,761	(46.9)
Other income	5,733	2,335	145.5	8,050	(28.8)	7,729	(25.8)	20,749	11,664	77.9
Interest	143	929	(84.6)	683	(79.1)	670	(78.7)	2,159	2,764	(21.9)
PBT	16,402	13,861	18.3	16,385	0.1	9,274	76.9	43,955	56,662	(22.4)
Extraordinary income/(expense)	1,347	2,116	(36.3)	-	NA	14,057	(90.4)	15,222	2,116	619.5
PBT (After EO)	17,749	15,977	11.1	16,385	8.3	23,331	(23.9)	59,178	58,777	0.7
Tax	4,622	754	513.3	4,260	8.5	(2,840)	(262.7)	7,661	11,626	(34.1)
% PBT	26.0	4.7		26.0		-12.2		12.9	19.8	
Reported PAT	13,127	15,224	(13.8)	12,125	8.3	26,171	(49.8)	51,516	47,151	9.3
Minority Interest	3,260	4,706	(30.7)	5,048	(35.4)	5,048	(35.4)	9,910	11,613	(14.7)
Share of profit in JV/Associates	47	34	35.9	-		30	58.0	132	229	(42.3)
Net Profit Attributable to shareholders	9,914	10,552	(6.0)	7,078	40.1	21,153	(53.1)	41,739	35,768	16.7
Adjusted PAT	8,596	5,308	61.9	6,750	27.4	1,659	418	21,870	29,413	(25.6)

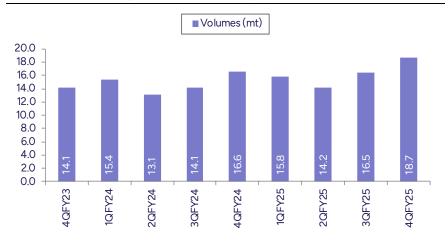
Source: Company, PL

Exhibit 3: Operating Metrics

Y/e March	4QFY25	4QFY24	YoY gr. (%)	4QFY25E	% Var.	3QFY25	QoQ gr. (%)	FY25	FY24	YoY gr. (%)
Volume (mn te)	18.7	16.6	12.7	18.6	0.6	16.5	13.3	65.2	59.2	10.1
Net Realisations/t (Rs)	5,288	5,358	(1.3)	5,256	0.6	5,153	2.6	5,227	5,601	(6.7)
EBITDA/t (Rs)	999	1,023	(2.4)	849	17.6	537	86.1	768	1,081	(29.0)

Source: Company, PL

Exhibit 4: Cons Vol. grew 13% YoY aided by MSA and better demand



Source: Company, PL

Exhibit 5: 2.6% QoQ uptick in NSR led by price hikes during the quarter



Source: Company, PL

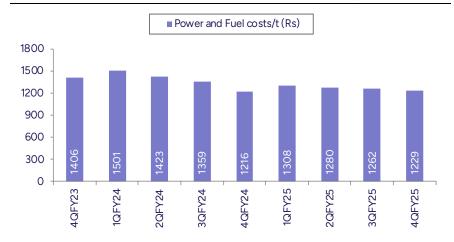
Exhibit 6: RM costs/t grew 2% YoY on higher MSA volume



Source: Company, PL

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Exhibit 7: Power and fuel costs/t declined 1% YoY led by change in fuel basket



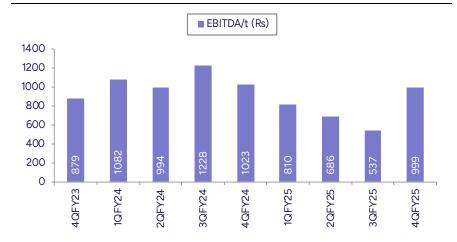
Source: Company, PL

Exhibit 8: Freight cost/t declined 2% YoY led by decline in lead distance



Source: Company, PL

Exhibit 9: EBITDA/t declined 2.4% YoY despite lower costs



Source: Company, PL

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Financials

Ì	ncome	Statement	(Pem)	۱
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Income Statement (Rs m)				
Y/e Mar	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E
Net Revenues	3,31,596	3,42,184	4,41,322	4,72,664
YoY gr. (%)	(14.8)	3.2	29.0	7.1
Cost of Goods Sold	49,228	65,274	86,763	90,035
Gross Profit	2,82,369	2,76,910	3,54,559	3,82,629
Margin (%)	85.2	80.9	80.3	81.0
Employee Cost	13,528	14,034	17,260	20,346
Other Expenses	2,04,846	2,11,433	2,50,880	2,58,608
EBITDA	63,995	51,443	86,418	1,03,675
YoY gr. (%)	24.9	(19.6)	68.0	20.0
Margin (%)	19.3	15.0	19.6	21.9
Depreciation and Amortization	16,234	24,783	33,464	41,139
EBIT	47,761	26,659	52,954	62,535
Margin (%)	14.4	7.8	12.0	13.2
Net Interest	2,764	2,159	2,558	2,707
Other Income	11,664	26,543	12,811	11,503
Profit Before Tax	54,546	59,092	68,207	76,332
Margin (%)	16.4	17.3	15.5	16.1
Total Tax	11,626	7,640	16,616	19,726
Effective tax rate (%)	21.3	12.9	24.4	25.8
Profit after tax	42,920	51,452	51,592	56,606
Minority interest	11,612	9,910	9,800	10,449
Share Profit from Associate	229	132	28	28
Adjusted PAT	32,920	36,411	38,550	42,915
YoY gr. (%)	19.5	10.6	5.9	11.3
Margin (%)	9.9	10.6	8.7	9.1
Extra Ord. Income / (Exp)	(1,383)	5,263	3,270	3,270
Reported PAT	31,537	41,674	41,819	46,184
YoY gr. (%)	22.1	32.1	0.3	10.4
Margin (%)	9.5	12.2	9.5	9.8
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	-	-
Total Comprehensive Income	31,537	41,674	41,819	46,184
Equity Shares O/s (m)	2,198	2,463	2,463	2,463
EPS (Rs)	15.0	14.8	15.7	17.4

Source: Company Data, PL Research

Balance Sheet Abstract (Rs m)

Balance Sheet Abstract (Rs	m)			
Y/e Mar	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E
Non-Current Assets				
Gross Block	4,25,956	5,53,285	7,85,285	8,60,285
Tangibles	4,25,956	5,53,285	7,85,285	8,60,285
Intangibles	-	-	-	-
Acc: Dep / Amortization	1,02,071	1,26,855	1,60,319	2,01,458
Tangibles	1,02,071	1,26,855	1,60,319	2,01,458
Intangibles	-	-	-	-
Net fixed assets	3,23,885	4,26,431	6,24,966	6,58,827
Tangibles	3,23,885	4,26,431	6,24,966	6,58,827
Intangibles	-	-	-	-
Capital Work In Progress	40,708	98,204	6,204	1,204
Goodwill	-	-	-	-
Non-Current Investments	12,688	38,160	38,160	38,160
Net Deferred tax assets	(15,122)	(24,032)	(24,032)	(24,032)
Other Non-Current Assets	26,806	49,444	49,444	49,444
Current Assets				
Investments	7,587	18,222	18,222	18,222
Inventories	36,086	42,480	54,787	58,678
Trade receivables	12,131	15,903	14,509	15,540
Cash & Bank Balance	1,10,689	61,722	47,197	57,093
Other Current Assets	24,597	39,818	39,818	39,818
Total Assets	6,52,978	8,09,454	9,12,379	9,56,057
Equity				
Equity Share Capital	4,395	4,926	4,926	4,926
Other Equity	4,10,155	5,29,506	5,65,907	6,06,130
Total Networth	4,14,551	5,34,433	5,70,833	6,11,056
Non-Current Liabilities				
Long Term borrowings	2,000	268	42,268	32,268
Provisions	2,560	2,541	2,541	2,541
Other non current liabilities	-	1,552	1,552	1,552
Current Liabilities				
ST Debt / Current of LT Debt	-	-	-	-
Trade payables	31,088	27,595	42,319	45,324
Other current liabilities	88,391	1,07,692	1,07,692	1,07,692
Total Equity & Liabilities	6,52,978	8,09,454	9,12,379	9,56,057

Source: Company Data, PL Research



Cash	Flow	(Rs m)	

Y/e Mar	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E
PBT	59,006	59,224	68,207	76,332
Add. Depreciation	16,234	24,783	33,464	41,139
Add. Interest	2,764	2,159	2,558	2,707
Less Financial Other Income	11,664	26,543	12,811	11,503
Add. Other	(14,331)	(25,979)	(12,811)	(11,503)
Op. profit before WC changes	63,673	60,188	91,418	1,08,675
Net Changes-WC	1,941	(34,012)	3,810	(1,916)
Direct tax	(9,156)	(3,802)	(16,616)	(19,726)
Net cash from Op. activities	56,458	22,374	78,613	87,033
Capital expenditures	(99,801)	(1,39,376)	(1,40,000)	(70,000)
Interest / Dividend Income	-	-	-	-
Others	10,296	64,065	12,811	11,503
Net Cash from Invt. activities	(89,504)	(75,311)	(1,27,189)	(58,497)
Issue of share cap. / premium	66,610	83,391	-	-
Debt changes	(1,533)	(20,083)	42,000	(10,000)
Dividend paid	(5,848)	(5,630)	(5,419)	(5,961)
Interest paid	(2,341)	(1,758)	(2,558)	(2,707)
Others	-	-	-	-
Net cash from Fin. activities	56,888	55,920	34,024	(18,668)
Net change in cash	23,842	2,983	(14,553)	9,868
Free Cash Flow	11,634	(64,497)	(61,387)	17,033

Source: Company Data, PL Research

Quarterly Financials (Rs m)

Y/e Mar	Q1FY25	Q2FY25	Q3FY25	Q4FY25
Net Revenue	83,115	73,781	85,022	98,886
YoY gr. (%)	(4.6)	(0.6)	4.6	11.2
Raw Material Expenses	15,773	14,202	17,861	18,268
Gross Profit	67,342	59,579	67,161	80,618
Margin (%)	81.0	80.8	79.0	81.5
EBITDA	12,798	9,734	8,855	18,676
YoY gr. (%)	(23.2)	(25.2)	(48.9)	9.9
Margin (%)	15.4	13.2	10.4	18.9
Depreciation / Depletion	4,674	5,520	6,640	7,864
EBIT	8,124	4,215	2,215	10,812
Margin (%)	9.8	5.7	2.6	10.9
Net Interest	678	669	670	143
Other Income	3,547	3,740	7,729	5,733
Profit before Tax	10,993	7,469	23,331	15,054
Margin (%)	13.2	10.1	27.4	15.2
Total Tax	3,131	2,398	(2,840)	4,973
Effective tax rate (%)	28.5	32.1	(12.2)	33.0
Profit after Tax	7,862	5,071	26,171	10,081
Minority interest	-	-	-	-
Share Profit from Associates	34	22	30	47
Adjusted PAT	7,896	5,093	26,201	10,128
YoY gr. (%)	(30.5)	(48.4)	140.5	(33.6)
Margin (%)	9.5	6.9	30.8	10.2
Extra Ord. Income / (Exp)	-	-	-	-
Reported PAT	7,896	5,093	26,201	10,128
YoY gr. (%)	(30.5)	(48.4)	140.5	(33.6)
Margin (%)	9.5	6.9	30.8	10.2
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	-	-
Total Comprehensive Income	7,896	5,093	26,201	10,128
Avg. Shares O/s (m)	2,463	2,463	2,463	2,463
EPS (Rs)	3.2	2.1	10.6	4.1

Source: Company Data, PL Research

Key Financial Metrics

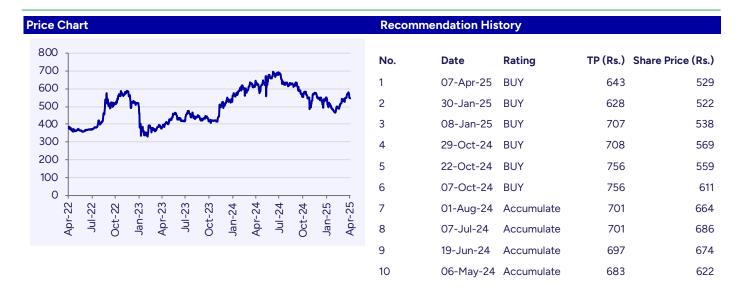
Y/e Mar	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E
Per Share(Rs)	1124	1123	TTZOL	112/6
EPS	15.0	14.8	15.7	17.4
CEPS	22.4	24.8	29.2	34.1
BVPS	188.6	217.0	231.7	248.1
FCF	5.3	(26.2)	(24.9)	6.9
DPS	1.8	2.0	2.2	2.4
Return Ratio(%)				
RoCE	13.0	5.6	9.2	10.0
ROIC	15.1	5.9	7.9	8.4
RoE	9.0	7.7	7.0	7.3
Balance Sheet				
Net Debt : Equity (x)	(0.3)	(0.1)	0.0	(0.1)
Net Working Capital (Days)	19	33	22	22
Valuation(x)				
PER	36.4	36.9	34.8	31.3
P/B	2.9	2.5	2.4	2.2
P/CEPS	24.4	21.9	18.6	16.0
EV/EBITDA	16.9	24.5	15.3	12.5
EV/Sales	3.3	3.7	3.0	2.7
Dividend Yield (%)	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4

Source: Company Data, PL Research

Key Operating Metrics

Y/e Mar	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E
Cons. Volume (mt)	59	65	82	86
Cons. Net Realisations (Rs/t)	5,601	5,248	5,393	5,507
Cons. EBITDA/ t (Rs/t)	1,081	789	1,056	1,208

Source: Company Data, PL Research



Analyst Cayaraga Universa

Sr. No.	Company Name	Rating	TP (Rs)	Share Price (Rs)
1	ACC	BUY	2,383	1,938
2	Ambuja Cement	BUY	643	529
3	Dalmia Bharat	Accumulate	2,117	1,974
4	Hindalco Industries	BUY	736	620
5	Jindal Stainless	BUY	655	581
6	Jindal Steel & Power	Accumulate	963	915
7	JSW Steel	Accumulate	1,150	1,044
8	National Aluminium Co.	BUY	181	159
9	NMDC	Accumulate	69	68
10	Nuvoco Vistas Corporation	Accumulate	357	316
11	Shree Cement	Reduce	28,336	30,788
12	Steel Authority of India	Hold	118	116
13	Tata Steel	BUY	173	138
14	Ultratech Cement	BUY	13,668	12,114

PL's Recommendation Nomenclature (Absolute Performance)

Buy : > 15% Accumulate 5% to 15% +5% to -5% Hold Reduce -5% to -15% Sell < -15%

Not Rated (NR) No specific call on the stock **Under Review (UR)** : Rating likely to change shortly



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